

# Uncertainty relations with the variance and the quantum Fisher information

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# Outline

## 1 Motivation

- How can we improve uncertainty relations?

## 2 Background

- Quantum Fisher information
- Uncertainty relations

## 3 Uncertainty relations with the variance and the QFI

- Uncertainty relations based on a convex roof of the bound
- Cramér-Rao bound based on a convex roof
- Uncertainty relations based on a concave roof of the bound
- Uncertainty relations with several variances and the QFI
- Simple observation to prove more relations
- Metrological usefulness and entanglement conditions

# How can we improve uncertainty relations?

- There are many approaches to improve uncertainty relations.
- We show a method that replaces the variance with the quantum Fisher information in some well known uncertainty relations.
- We use convex/concave roofs over the decompositions of the density matrix.

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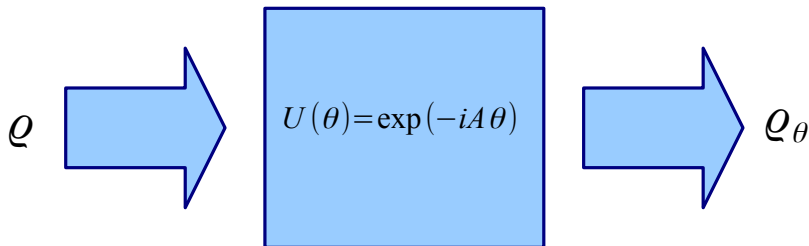
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# Quantum metrology

- Fundamental task in metrology



- We have to estimate  $\theta$  in the dynamics

$$U = \exp(-iA\theta).$$

# The quantum Fisher information

- Cramér-Rao bound on the precision of parameter estimation

$$(\Delta\theta)^2 \geq \frac{1}{mF_Q[\varrho, A]},$$

where  $F_Q[\varrho, A]$  is the **quantum Fisher information**, and  $m$  is the number of independent repetitions.

- The quantum Fisher information is

$$F_Q[\varrho, A] = 2 \sum_{k,l} \frac{(\lambda_k - \lambda_l)^2}{\lambda_k + \lambda_l} |\langle k|A|l \rangle|^2,$$

where  $\varrho = \sum_k \lambda_k |k\rangle\langle k|$ .

# Most important characteristics used for estimation

The quantum Fisher information is the convex roof of the variance

$$F_Q[\varrho, A] = 4 \min_{p_k, \Psi_k} \sum_k p_k (\Delta A)_k^2,$$

where

$$\varrho = \sum_k p_k |\Psi_k\rangle \langle \Psi_k|.$$

[GT, D. Petz, Phys. Rev. A 87, 032324 (2013); S. Yu, arXiv1302.5311 (2013);  
GT, I. Apellaniz, J. Phys. A: Math. Theor. 47, 424006 (2014)]

- Extended convexity for non-unitary dynamics.

[S. Alipour, A. T. Rezakhani, Phys. Rev. A 91, 042104 (2015).]

- Convex roof over purifications.

[R. Demkowicz-Dobrzański, J. Kołodyński, M. Guţă, Nature Comm. 2012.]

## Similar relation for the variance

The quantum Fisher information is the convex roof of the variance

$$(\Delta A)^2_{\varrho} = \max_{p_k, \Psi_k} \sum_k p_k (\Delta A)^2_k,$$

where

$$\varrho = \sum_k p_k |\Psi_k\rangle \langle \Psi_k|.$$

[GT, D. Petz, Phys. Rev. A 87, 032324 (2013);

GT, I. Apellaniz, J. Phys. A: Math. Theor. 47, 424006 (2014)]



## A single relation for the QFI and the variance

The previous statements can be concisely reformulated as follows. For any decomposition  $\{p_k, |\psi_k\rangle\}$  of the density matrix  $\varrho$  we have

$$\frac{1}{4}F_Q[\varrho, A] \leq \sum_k p_k (\Delta A)_{\psi_k}^2 \leq (\Delta A)_{\varrho}^2,$$

where the upper and the lower bounds are both **tight**.

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# Robertson-Schrödinger inequality

The Robertson-Schrödinger inequality is defined as

$$(\Delta A)_{\varrho}^2 (\Delta B)_{\varrho}^2 \geq \frac{1}{4} |L_{\varrho}|^2,$$

where the lower bound is given by

$$L_{\varrho} = \sqrt{|\langle \{A, B\} \rangle_{\varrho} - 2\langle A \rangle_{\varrho} \langle B \rangle_{\varrho}|^2 + |\langle C \rangle_{\varrho}|^2},$$

$\{A, B\} = AB + BA$  is the anticommutator, and we used the definition

$$C = i[A, B].$$

Important:  $L_{\varrho}$  is neither convex nor concave in  $\varrho$ .

# Heisenberg uncertainty

The Heisenberg inequality is defined as

$$(\Delta A)^2_{\varrho}(\Delta B)^2_{\varrho} \geq \frac{1}{4}|\langle C \rangle_{\varrho}|^2,$$

where we used the definition

$$C = i[A, B].$$

## The two inequalities together

We have two inequalities

$$(\Delta A)_\varrho (\Delta B)_\varrho \geq \frac{1}{4} |L_\varrho|^2 \geq \frac{1}{4} |\langle C \rangle_\varrho|^2.$$

The Heisenberg uncertainty can be saturated only if

$$|L_\varrho| = |\langle C \rangle_\varrho|.$$

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# Robertson-Schrödinger inequality for $\varrho_k$

- Consider a decomposition to mixed states

$$\varrho = \sum_k p_k \varrho_k.$$

- For such a decomposition, for all  $\varrho_k$  the Robertson-Schrödinger inequality holds

$$(\Delta A)^2_{\varrho_k} (\Delta B)^2_{\varrho_k} \geq \frac{1}{4} |L_{\varrho_k}|^2.$$

- Let us consider the inequality

$$\left( \sum_k p_k a_k \right) \left( \sum_k p_k b_k \right) \geq \left( \sum_k p_k \sqrt{a_k b_k} \right)^2,$$

where  $a_k, b_k \geq 0$ .

# New inequality from decompositions

- Consider a decomposition to mixed states

$$\varrho = \sum_k p_k \varrho_k.$$

- For such a decomposition, for all  $\varrho_k$  the Robertson-Schrödinger inequality holds

$$(\Delta A)_{\varrho_k}^2 (\Delta B)_{\varrho_k}^2 \geq \frac{1}{4} |L_{\varrho_k}|^2.$$

- Let us consider the inequality

$$\left( \sum_k p_k a_k \right) \left( \sum_k p_k b_k \right) \geq \left( \sum_k p_k \sqrt{a_k b_k} \right)^2,$$

where  $a_k, b_k \geq 0$ .



# Uncertainty with the variance and the QFI

- Hence, we arrive at

$$\left[ \sum_k p_k (\Delta A)^2_{\varrho_k} \right] \left[ \sum_k p_k (\Delta B)^2_{\varrho_k} \right] \geq \frac{1}{4} \left[ \sum_k p_k L_{\varrho_k} \right]^2.$$

- We can choose the decomposition such that

$$\sum_k p_k (\Delta B)^2_{\varrho_k} = F_Q[\varrho, B]/4.$$

- Due to the concavity of the variance we also know that

$$\sum_k p_k (\Delta A)^2_{\varrho_k} \leq (\Delta A)^2.$$

- Hence, it follows that

$$(\Delta A)^2_{\varrho} F_Q[\varrho, B] \geq \left( \sum_k p_k L_{\varrho_k} \right)^2.$$

- In order to use the previous inequality, we need to know the decomposition  $\{p_k, \varrho_k\}$  that minimizes it.

# Uncertainty with the variance and the QFI II

- We can have a inequality where we do not need to know that decomposition

$$(\Delta A)^2_{\varrho} F_Q[\varrho, B] \geq \left( \min_{\{p_k, \varrho_k\}} \sum_k p_k L_{\varrho_k} \right)^2.$$

- On the right-hand side, the bound is defined based on a convex roof.
- We know that

$$L_{\psi_k} \geq |\langle C \rangle_{\psi_k}|$$

holds.

# Uncertainty with the variance and the QFI II

- Then, we can obtain the inequality

$$(\Delta A)^2_{\varrho} F_Q[\varrho, B] \geq \left( \min_{\{p_k, |\psi_k\rangle\}} \sum_k p_k |\langle C \rangle_{\psi_k}| \right)^2,$$

- Using

$$\sum_k p_k |\langle C \rangle_{\psi_k}| \geq \left| \sum_k p_k \langle C \rangle_{\psi_k} \right| \equiv |\langle C \rangle_{\varrho}|,$$

we arrive at the improved Heisenberg-Robertson uncertainty

$$(\Delta A)^2_{\varrho} F_Q[\varrho, B] \geq |\langle C \rangle_{\varrho}|^2.$$

# Uncertainty with the variance and the QFI III

- The Heisenberg uncertainty

$$(\Delta A)^2_{\varrho}(\Delta B)^2_{\varrho} \geq \frac{1}{4}|\langle i[A, B] \rangle_{\varrho}|^2.$$

- The improved Heisenberg uncertainty

$$(\Delta A)^2_{\varrho} F_Q[\varrho, B] \geq |\langle i[A, B] \rangle_{\varrho}|^2.$$

- It has been derived originally with a different method in

F. Fröwis, R. Schmied, and N. Gisin, Phys. Rev. A 92, 012102 (2015).

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# Cramér-Rao bound

- Error propagation formula

$$(\Delta\theta)_A^2 = \frac{(\Delta A)^2}{|\partial_\theta \langle A \rangle|^2} = \frac{(\Delta A)^2}{|\langle C \rangle|^2}.$$

- If we measure  $A$ , then the precision of the estimation is bounded as

$$(\Delta\theta)^2 \geq \frac{1}{m}(\Delta\theta)_A^2,$$

where  $m$  is the number of independent repetitions.

- Cramér-Rao bound based on a convex roof

$$(\Delta\theta)^2 \geq \frac{1}{m} \times \frac{1}{4 \min_{\{p_k, |\psi_k\rangle\}} \left[ \sum_k p_k (\Delta B)_{\psi_k}^2 \right]}.$$

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# Uncertainty relation based on a concave roof

- For any decomposition  $\{p_k, \varrho_k\}$  we have

$$(\Delta A)^2(\Delta B)^2 \geq \frac{1}{4} \left( \sum_k p_k L_{\varrho_k} \right)^2.$$

- We can even take a concave roof on the right-hand side

$$(\Delta A)^2_{\varrho}(\Delta B)^2_{\varrho} \geq \frac{1}{4} \left( \max_{\{p_k, \varrho_k\}} \sum_k p_k L_{\varrho_k} \right)^2,$$



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# Uncertainty relations with a variance and the QFI

- Similar ideas work even for a sum of two variances. For example, for a continuous variable system

$$(\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta p)^2 \geq 1$$

holds, where  $x$  and  $p$  are the position and momentum operators.

- Hence, for any decompositions of the density matrix it follows that

$$\sum_k p_k (\Delta x)^2_{\psi_k} + \sum_k p_k (\Delta p)^2_{\psi_k} \geq 1$$

- For one of the two operators, say, for  $p$ , we can choose the decomposition that leads to the minimal value for the average variance, i.e., the QFI over four.
- Then, since  $\sum_k p_k (\Delta x)^2_{\psi_k} \leq (\Delta x)^2$  holds, it follows that

$$(\Delta x)^2 + \frac{1}{4} F_Q[\varrho, p] \geq 1.$$

# Uncertainty relations with two variances and the QFI

- Similar reasoning works for the uncertainty relations for the sum of three variances. Let us start from the relation for pure states

$$(\Delta J_x)^2 + (\Delta J_y)^2 + (\Delta J_z)^2 \geq j,$$

where  $J_l$  are the spin components fulfilling

$$J_x^2 + J_y^2 + J_z^2 = j(j+1)\mathbb{1}.$$

- We can improve the relation above based on similar ideas, arriving at

$$(\Delta J_x)^2 + (\Delta J_y)^2 + \frac{1}{4}F_Q[\varrho, J_z] \geq j.$$

- See parallel publication in

# Uncertainty relations with two variances and the QFI II

- For a spin- $j$  particle, the following inequality bounds from below the metrological usefulness of the state

$$F_Q[\varrho, J_z] \geq 4j - 4(\Delta J_x)^2 - 4(\Delta J_y)^2 =: B_{FQ}.$$

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# Simple observation to prove more relations

- Let us consider a relation

$$\underbrace{(\Delta A)^2}_{\text{variance}}_{\varrho} \geq \underbrace{g(\varrho)}_{\text{convex in } \varrho},$$

which is true for pure states.

- If  $g(\varrho)$  is convex in density matrices, then

$$\frac{1}{4}F_Q[\varrho, A] \geq g(\varrho)$$

holds for mixed states.

- Proof.*  $\frac{1}{4}F_Q[\varrho, A]$  is given as a convex roof of the variance.
- It is the largest convex function that equals  $(\Delta A)^2_{\varrho}$  for all pure states.  $\square$

# Simple observation to prove more relations II

- Let us consider a relation

$$(\Delta A)_{\varrho}^2 \geq g(\varrho),$$

which is true for pure states.

- If  $g(\varrho)$  is not convex in  $\varrho$ , the inequality

$$\frac{1}{4}F_Q[\varrho, A] \geq \min_{\{p_k, |\psi_k\rangle\}} \sum_k p_k g(|\psi_k\rangle)$$

still holds.

- Proof.* If  $g(\varrho)$  is not convex in  $\varrho$ , then its convex roof is never larger than the left-hand side for pure states.  $\square$

# Repeating the proof for the two variances and the QFI

- We rewrite the relation with three variances as

$$\underbrace{(\Delta J_x)^2}_{\text{variance}} \geq j - \underbrace{(\Delta J_y)^2 - (\Delta J_z)^2}_{\text{convex in } \varrho},$$

- The right-hand side is convex in  $\varrho$  and the left-hand side is a variance.
- Hence,

$$\frac{1}{4}F_Q[\varrho, J_z] \geq j - (\Delta J_x)^2 - (\Delta J_y)^2.$$



# Extreme spin squeezing

- For a particle with spin- $j$

$$\underbrace{(\Delta J_x)^2}_{\text{variance}} \geq \underbrace{j F_j(\langle J_z \rangle / j)}_{\text{convex in } \varrho}$$

holds, where  $F_j(X)$  is a convex function defined as

$$F_j(X) = \min_{\varrho: \langle J_z \rangle = Xj} \frac{(\Delta J_x)^2}{j}.$$

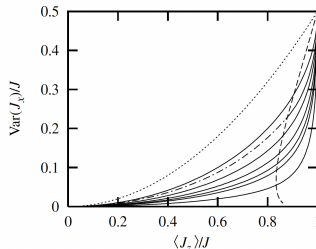


FIG. 1. Maximal squeezing for different values of  $J$ . The curves starting at the origin represent the minimum obtainable variance as a function of the mean spin. Starting from above, the curves represent  $J = 1/2, 1, 3/2, 2, 3, 4, 5$ , and  $10$ . The dotted curve for  $J = 1/2$  is the limit identified in Ref. [11]. The solid

# Application for extreme spin squeezing

- The metrological usefulness of a state is bounded with the spin-length as

$$F_Q[\varrho, J_x] \geq 4jF_j(\langle J_z \rangle / j).$$

- *Proof.* For the components of the angular momentum

$$(\Delta J_x)^2 \geq jF_j(\langle J_z \rangle / j)$$

holds. Then, it follows

$$\frac{1}{4}F_Q[\varrho, J_x] \geq jF_j(\langle J_z \rangle / j).$$



# Application for extreme spin squeezing II

- It is clear that if  $\langle J_z \rangle > 0$  then  $F_j(\langle J_z \rangle / j) > 0$ . Hence, it follows that  $F_Q[\varrho, J_x] > 0$ .
- Thus, if the z-component of the angular momentum has a non-zero expectation value then the state can be used for metrology with the Hamiltonian  $J_x$ .

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- Bosonic mode, canonical  $x$  and  $p$  operators. For coherent states,  $|\alpha\rangle$

$$(\Delta x)^2 = (\Delta p)^2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

holds. For mixtures of coherent states

$$\varrho_{\text{mc}} = \sum_k p_k |\alpha_k\rangle \langle \alpha_k|$$

due to the concavity of the variance and the convexity of the QFI

$$(\Delta x)^2, (\Delta p)^2 \geq \frac{1}{2}, \quad F_Q[x, \varrho], F_Q[p, \varrho] \leq 2.$$

# CV systems II

- For a mixture of products of coherent states  $\alpha_k^{(l)}$  of the form

$$\varrho_{\text{sepc}} = \sum_k p_k |\alpha_k^{(1)}\rangle\langle\alpha_k^{(1)}| \otimes |\alpha_k^{(2)}\rangle\langle\alpha_k^{(2)}|$$

for the the collective quantities

$$[\Delta(x_1 \pm x_2)]^2 \geq 1; \quad [\Delta(p_1 \pm p_2)]^2 \geq 1.$$

Moreover,

$$F_Q[\varrho, p_1 \pm p_2] \leq 4; \quad F_Q[\varrho, x_1 \pm x_2] \leq 4.$$

For such states the multi-variable Glauber-Sudarshan  $P$  function is non-negative.

- Let us now consider entanglement detection in two-mode systems with uncertainty relations.
- A well-known entanglement criterion is

$$[\Delta(x_1 + x_2)]^2 + [\Delta(p_1 - p_2)]^2 \geq 2.$$

If a quantum state violates it, then it is entangled.

L.-M. Duan, G. Giedke, J. I. Cirac, and P. Zoller, Phys. Rev. Lett. 84, 2722 (2000);  
R. Simon, Phys. Rev. Lett. 84, 2726 (2000).

# CV systems IV

- For a two-mode state, the following uncertainty relation holds

$$[\Delta(x_1 + x_2)]^2 + [\Delta(p_1 - p_2)]^2 \geq 4/F_Q[\varrho, p_1 + p_2] + 4/F_Q[\varrho, x_1 - x_2].$$

As a consequence, states violating the entanglement condition are metrologically more useful than states that are the mixtures of products of coherent states.

*Proof.* We start from the relations

$$\begin{aligned} [\Delta(x_1 + x_2)]^2 F_Q[\varrho, p_1 + p_2] &\geq 4, \\ [\Delta(p_1 - p_2)]^2 F_Q[\varrho, x_1 - x_2] &\geq 4. \end{aligned}$$

- Then, in both inequalities we divide by the term containing the QFI. Finally, we sum the two resulting inequalities.



# CV systems V

- The violation of the entanglement criterion given implies the violation of one of the inequalities for the QFI.
- Thus, violation of the uncertainty relation-based entanglement condition also means that the state has larger metrological usefulness than mixtures of products of coherent states.  $\square$
- We did not prove that violating the entanglement condition leads to larger metrological usefulness than that of separable states in general.
- Even for pure product states  $F_Q[\varrho, x_1 \pm x_2]$  or  $F_Q[\varrho, p_1 \pm p_2]$  can be arbitrarily large for two bosonic modes.

# Summary

- We showed how to derive new uncertainty relations with the variance and the quantum Fisher information based on simple convexity arguments.

See:

Géza Tóth and Florian Fröwis,

Quantum states with a positive partial transpose  
are useful for metrology,

[Phys. Rev. Research 4, 013075 \(2022\).](#)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!