

# 1 Introduction

One of the foundations of classical mechanics is a principle of local realism. Locality stands that any object can be affected only by its nearest local space and there is no action that can be transferred faster than the light speed. Realism refers to a philosophical position that all objects have their own attributes which are independent from any measurements and have pre-existing values. These postulates are not only confirmed by classical physical experiments, intuitively they are plausible assumptions on the real world.

According to the Heisenberg principle of quantum mechanics both position and momentum (and any other pair which has nonzero commutator) cannot be known simultaneously. It means that for a quantum system, the values of position and momentum cannot be assigned to it before measurement. Thus, as a consequence of the Heisenberg principle, in quantum world there is no place for realism.

However, his position was criticised by Einstein, Podolsky and Rosen (EPR paradox) [1]. They showed using quantum mechanics formalism and hypothetical experiment that it is possible to know both position and momentum for one particle by measurement of the entangled particle. The paradox shows that either quantum mechanics is incomplete and there are some yet unknown parameters ("hidden variables") or the locality assumption is wrong.

Further evidence of contradiction between classical and quantum models of real world was given by Bell and other authors in the form of statistical inequalities which can be tested experimentally. At the very beginning the question about the existence of locality and realism seemed to be a philosophical question about the nature of the reality, but after it was formulated using mathematical formalism and then tested experimentally. The first experiments were made by Freedman and Clauser in 1972 and despite the fact, that Bell's inequalities were violated according to quantum mechanics predictions in most of experiments, the process is still ongoing.

The main reason of further tests is that as any experiment Bell's test cannot be performed with 100% efficiency of detectors and without any noise in the detector response. Considering efficiency and background Eberhard developed his inequality [2] that can be used for experiments without efficiency loophole. One of the experiment using this special Bell inequality is described in [3].

This thesis is devoted to mathematical modelling of parameters which are used by experimenters as the detection efficiency and setting of angles of polarization beam splitters.

## 2 Required elements of functional analysis and theory of generalized functions

### 2.1 Hilbert space and linear operator on it

Here we present some basic definitions of function analysis which can be used in quantum mechanics formalism. Our presentation will be brief and not detailed, see, e.g. [4], for details.

**Definition 2.1.** For the complex vector space  $V$  inner (scalar) product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is a map  $V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  that satisfies conditions:

1. Conjugate symmetry -  $\langle x, y \rangle = \overline{\langle y, x \rangle}$ ,
2. It is positively defined -  $\langle x, y \rangle \geq 0$  and  $\langle x, y \rangle = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y$ ,
3. Linearity -  $\langle x, ay \rangle = a\langle x, y \rangle$  where  $a \in \mathbb{C}$ , and  $\langle x, y_1 + y_2 \rangle = \langle x, y_1 \rangle + \langle x, y_2 \rangle$ .

**Definition 2.2.** Hilbert space  $H$  is a complex vector space with an inner product which is complete with respect to the norm  $\|x\| = \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle}$

The space  $H = \mathbb{C}^n$  with an inner product defined by  $\langle \psi, \varphi \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \overline{\psi_i} \varphi_i$ . Another well-known example is the functional space  $H = L_2(\mathbb{R}^n, dx)$  of square integrable function with respect to the Lebegue measure. In this space inner product is defined by  $\langle \psi, \varphi \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \overline{\psi(x)} \varphi(x) dx$ .

Another important notion which is widely used in quantum mechanics theory is the notion of a linear operator.

**Definition 2.3.** Linear operator  $A$  on a Hilbert space  $H$  is a map  $H \rightarrow H$  that has the following properties:

1.  $\forall \psi_1, \psi_2 \in H : A(\psi_1 + \psi_2) = A\psi_1 + A\psi_2$
2.  $\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{C}, \psi \in H : A(\lambda\psi) = \lambda A\psi$

**Definition 2.4.** For a linear operator  $A$ , its adjoint operator  $A^*$  is denoted with the aid of the equality  $\langle A\psi, \varphi \rangle = \langle \psi, A^*\varphi \rangle$ . Operator  $A$  is called self-adjoint if  $A^* = A$ .

**Definition 2.5.** Let  $V$  be a vector space over  $\mathbb{C}$  and let  $A$  be an operator on  $V$ .

1. A scalar  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  if there exists a nonzero vector  $\psi \in V$  for which

$$A\psi = \lambda\psi.$$

2. Such a vector  $\psi$  is called an eigenvector of  $A$ .
3. In some cases there are several different eigenvectors associated with the same eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . They together with the zero vector form a subspace of  $V$  called the eigenspace of  $\lambda$ .
4. The set of all eigenvalues of an operator is called the spectrum.

For self-adjoint operators in Hilbert space the following theorem holds.

**Theorem 2.1.** *For every self-adjoint operator  $A$  in complex Hilbert space  $H$ :*

1. All its eigenvalues are real,
2. In  $H$  there is an orthonormal basis consisting of its eigenvectors.

Another useful operator on Hilbert space is a projector operator.

**Definition 2.6.** *Let  $H_0$  be a linear subspace of  $H$ . Operator  $\pi : H \rightarrow H - H_0$  is called a projector if  $\pi^* = \pi$  and  $\pi^2 = \pi$ . It projects  $H$  orthogonally onto  $H_0 = \pi(H)$ .*

Let  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  be a basis in  $H$  and  $\{e_1, \dots, e_m\}$  a basis in  $H_0$ . If  $e_j \in H_0$  then  $\pi e_j = e_j$  and if  $e_j \in H_0^\perp$  then  $\pi e_j = 0$ . For an arbitrary element  $\psi \in H$ , the projector operator acts as:

$$\pi\psi = \sum_{i=1}^m z_i e_i, \text{ where } z_i = \langle e_i, \psi \rangle.$$

## 2.2 Tensor product

Let  $H_1$  be a vector space with an orthogonal basis system  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  and let  $H_2$  be another vector space with an orthogonal basis  $\{f_1, \dots, f_m\}$ . We will use formal symbol  $\otimes$  to construct a new orthogonal basis from the set of ordered pairs  $(e_i, f_j)$  in a new vector space:

$$\{e_i \otimes f_j | e_i \in H_1, f_j \in H_2\}. \quad (1)$$

**Definition 2.7.** *The set of formal sums of the form*

$$\psi = \sum_{i,j} z_{i,j} e_i \otimes f_j, \quad \sum_{i,j} |z_{i,j}|^2 < \infty, \quad z_{i,j} \in \mathbb{C} \quad (2)$$

*with naturally defined operation of addition and multiplication by scalar is called the tensor product of  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  and denoted by the symbol  $H = H_1 \otimes H_2$*

If  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  are Hilbert spaces then  $H = H_1 \otimes H_2$  is also Hilbert space with the inner product defined by

$$\langle \psi, \varphi \rangle = \left\langle \sum_{i,j} z_{i,j} e_i \otimes f_j, \sum_{k,l} v_{k,l} e_k \otimes f_l \right\rangle = \sum_{i,j} \sum_{k,l} \overline{z_{i,j}} v_{k,l} \langle e_i \otimes f_j, e_k \otimes f_l \rangle,$$

where a scalar product of basis vectors is defined by

$$\langle e_i \otimes f_j, e_k \otimes f_l \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle e_i, e_k \rangle \cdot \langle f_j, f_l \rangle = \delta_{i,k} \delta_{j,l}.$$

For the elements  $\psi_1, \psi_2$  from spaces  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ , correspondingly, the tensor product is given by

$$\psi_1 \otimes \psi_2 = \left( \sum_i x_i e_i \right) \otimes \left( \sum_j y_j f_j \right) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{i,j} x_i y_j \cdot e_i \otimes f_j \in H_1 \otimes H_2. \quad (3)$$

Elements of  $H = H_1 \otimes H_2$  which can be written in the form (3) are called factorizable elements. But space  $H$  does not consist only of factorizable elements. Here we construct an example of a vector that cannot be written in the form (3).

Consider Hilbert space  $H_1 \otimes H_2$ , where  $H_i$  are Hilbert spaces with the basis  $\{e_1, e_2\}$ . Let us show that the following quantum state  $\psi$  is not factorizable

$$\psi = \frac{e_1 \otimes e_2 + e_2 \otimes e_1}{2} \neq \psi_1 \otimes \psi_2$$

for any pair  $\psi_1, \psi_2$ .

*Proof.* Let assume that  $\psi$  can be represented as  $\psi = \psi_1 \otimes \psi_2$  where  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  are represented as

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_1 &= a_1 e_1 + a_2 e_2, \quad a_i \in \mathbb{C}, \quad |a_1|^2 + |a_2|^2 = 1 \\ \psi_2 &= b_1 e_1 + b_2 e_2, \quad b_i \in \mathbb{C}, \quad |b_1|^2 + |b_2|^2 = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Such a  $\psi$  can be represented as

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_1 \otimes \psi_2 &= (a_1 e_1 + a_2 e_2) \otimes (b_1 e_1 + b_2 e_2) = \\ &= a_1 b_1 \cdot e_1 \otimes e_1 + a_1 b_2 \cdot e_1 \otimes e_2 + a_2 b_1 \cdot e_2 \otimes e_1 + a_2 b_2 \cdot e_2 \otimes e_2. \end{aligned}$$

One should solve the following system of equations to find the coefficients  $a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2$ :

$$\begin{cases} a_1 b_2 = \frac{1}{2} \\ a_2 b_1 = \frac{1}{2} \\ a_1 b_1 = 0 \\ a_2 b_2 = 0 \end{cases}$$

which is inconsistent. Therefore  $\psi$  is not factorizable.  $\square$

**Definition 2.8.** Consider two linear operators  $A_1 : H_1 \rightarrow H_1$  and  $A_2 : H_2 \rightarrow H_2$ . The tensor product of these operators is defined by the equality

$$(A_1 \otimes A_2)(\psi_1 \otimes \psi_2) = A_1\psi_1 \otimes A_2\psi_2.$$

### 3 Mathematical formalism of quantum mechanics

#### 3.1 Postulates of quantum mechanics

The mathematical formalism of quantum mechanics can be formulated as a list of postulates [5] which are based on the theory of self-adjoint operator on complex Hilbert space  $H$ .

**Postulate 1:** A quantum state  $\psi$  is a vector of a complex Hilbert space such that  $\langle \psi, \psi \rangle = 1$ . This vector completely describes the state of a quantum system.

**Postulate 2:** A physical observable  $a$  is represented as a self-adjoint operator  $A$  in  $H$ . Different observables are represented by different operators.

**Postulate 3:** If an observable is represented by the operator  $A$  then results of observation are given by the spectrum of  $A$ . In case of totally discrete spectrum the self-adjoint operator can be written in the form

$$A = \sum_m a_m \pi_m^A$$

where  $\pi_m^A$  is an orthogonal projector onto an eigenspace corresponding to the eigenvalue  $a_m$ .

**Postulate 4:** Born's rule - if  $A$  is a self-adjoint operator with discrete spectrum then the probability to obtain an eigenvalue  $a_m$  after measurement can be calculated by using the formula

$$P(a = a_m) = \|\pi_m^A \psi\|^2.$$

**Postulate 5:** Consider a quantum state  $\psi$  and a self-adjoint operator  $A$ . Eigenvectors of  $A$  with its eigenvalues  $\{a_m\}$  form a basis in the Hilbert

space  $H$ :  $\{\varphi : A\varphi = a_m\varphi\}$  so this state can be represented as  $H = H_1 \oplus H_2 \oplus \dots H_k$ . Projector  $\pi_m^A : H \rightarrow H_m$  equals to

$$\pi_m^A = \sum_{l=1}^{n_m} \langle \psi, \varphi_{ml} \rangle \varphi_{ml}$$

where  $\varphi_{ml}$  -  $l$ -th eigenvector from  $H_m$ . Then quantum state of a system collapses to state  $\psi_m$ :

$$\psi_m = \frac{\pi_m^A \psi}{\|\pi_m^A \psi\|}$$

after a measurement with a result  $A \rightarrow a_m$ .

**Postulate 6:** The time evolution of the quantum state  $\psi$  satisfies the Schrödinger equation

$$i\hbar \frac{d}{dt} \psi(t) = \mathcal{H} \psi(t)$$

with the initial condition  $\psi(0) = \psi_0$  and where  $\mathcal{H}$  is a self-adjoint operator representing the energy of the system.

**Postulate 7:** If there are two quantum systems in Hilbert spaces  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ , then the state space of the compound system is given by  $H_1 \otimes H_2$ .

**Definition 3.1.** If a state  $\psi \in H_1 \otimes H_2$  is not factorizable in the form  $\psi = \psi_1 \otimes \psi_2$  where  $\psi_1 \in H_1, \psi_2 \in H_2$  then it is called entangled.

Consider Hilbert 2-dimensional spaces  $H_1 = H_2$  the basis  $\{e_1, e_2\}$ . One of the examples of entanglement is

$$\psi = \frac{e_1 \otimes e_2 + e_2 \otimes e_1}{2}.$$

It was shown before that in that state  $\psi$  cannot be factorizable as  $\psi = \psi_1 \otimes \psi_2$ .

Another example is  $\psi = e_1 \otimes e_2 + e_1 \otimes e_1 + 2e_2 \otimes e_1$ .

### 3.2 Density operator

To describe a behaviour of a systems in entangled state we will use the notion of a density operator from [5].

For a pure state  $\psi$  we can define an orthogonal projection operator:  $P_\psi : P_\psi \varphi = \langle \psi, \varphi \rangle \psi$ . It has following properties:

1.  $P_\psi$  is hermitian.

$$\text{Proof. } \langle P_\psi \varphi, v \rangle = \langle \langle \psi, \varphi \rangle \psi, v \rangle = \overline{\langle \psi, \varphi \rangle} \langle \psi, v \rangle = \langle \psi, v \rangle \langle \varphi, \psi \rangle = \langle \varphi, \langle \psi, v \rangle \psi \rangle = \langle \varphi, P_\psi v \rangle \quad \square$$

2.  $P_\psi \geq 0$ .

$$\text{Proof. } \langle P_\psi \varphi, \varphi \rangle = \overline{\langle \psi, \varphi \rangle} \langle \psi, \varphi \rangle = |\langle \psi, \varphi \rangle|^2 \geq 0 \quad \square$$

3.  $\text{Tr } P_\psi = 1$  where  $\text{Tr } A = \sum_k \langle A e_k, e_k \rangle$  and  $\{e_k\}$  is an orthogonal basis.

$$\text{Proof. } \text{Tr } P_\psi = \sum_{k=1}^n \langle \langle \psi, e_k \rangle \psi, e_k \rangle = \sum_k \overline{\langle \psi, e_k \rangle} \langle \psi, e_k \rangle = \sum_k \psi_k^2 = 1 \quad \square$$

4.  $P_\psi^2 = P_\psi$

$$\text{Proof. } P_\psi^2 \varphi = \langle \psi, \langle \psi, \varphi \rangle \psi \rangle \psi = \langle \psi, \varphi \rangle \langle \psi, \psi \rangle \psi = \langle \psi, \varphi \rangle \psi = P_\psi \varphi \quad \square$$

In the common case for any state(entangled or pure) we can construct an operator

$$\rho = \sum_i p_i P_{\psi_i},$$

where  $p_i$  represents probability to obtain  $\psi_i$  after a measurement.

One can easily show that operator  $\rho$  satisfies properties 1-3 using corresponding properties 1-3 for each operator  $P_{\psi_i}$ . In the common case property 4 of projection operator is violated. For example, let us take density operator  $\rho = \frac{1}{2}P_{\psi_1} + \frac{1}{2}P_{\psi_2}$  where  $\psi_1 = (1, 0)^T$  and  $\psi_2 = (0, 1)^T$ . Let's find the square of this operator:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho^2 \varphi &= \frac{1}{2} \langle \psi_1, \rho \varphi \rangle \psi_1 + \frac{1}{2} \langle \psi_2, \rho \varphi \rangle \psi_2 = \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \langle \psi_1, \frac{1}{2} \langle \psi_1, \varphi \rangle \psi_1 + \frac{1}{2} \langle \psi_2, \varphi \rangle \psi_2 \rangle \psi_1 + \frac{1}{2} \langle \psi_2, \frac{1}{2} \langle \psi_1, \varphi \rangle \psi_1 + \frac{1}{2} \langle \psi_2, \varphi \rangle \psi_2 \rangle \psi_2 = \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \langle \psi_1, \langle \psi_1, \varphi \rangle \psi_1 \rangle \psi_1 + \frac{1}{4} \langle \psi_1, \langle \psi_2, \varphi \rangle \psi_2 \rangle \psi_1 + \frac{1}{4} \langle \psi_2, \langle \psi_1, \varphi \rangle \psi_1 \rangle \psi_2 + \frac{1}{4} \langle \psi_2, \langle \psi_2, \varphi \rangle \psi_2 \rangle \psi_2 \end{aligned}$$

The final result is:

$$\rho^2 \varphi = \frac{1}{4} \langle \psi_1, \varphi \rangle \psi_1 + \frac{1}{4} \langle \psi_2, \varphi \rangle \psi_2 = \frac{1}{2} \rho \neq \rho.$$

Density operator  $\rho$  also can be written in the form  $\rho = \sum_i p_i |e_i\rangle \langle e_i|$  where  $|e_i\rangle$  denotes vector and  $\langle e_i|$  scalar product with the vector  $e_i$ .

### 3.3 Elements of quantum probability theory

In quantum mechanics the result of measurement depends on a state of a system which was before it collapsed to some pure state according to the measure result. It means that values of quantum probabilities, expectations, standard deviations etc. depend not only on observable but also on the initial state of the system which is described by density operator.

Consider  $A$  - observable with eigenvalues  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  and eigenvectors  $\{f_1, \dots, f_n\}$ ,  $\psi$  - state of a system. Then the probability to obtain  $a_i$  after a measure is given by

$$P(A = a_i) = |\langle \psi, f_i \rangle|^2 = \text{Tr } \rho_\psi A_i$$

where  $A_i = |f_i\rangle\langle f_i|$ .

*Proof.*  $\text{Tr } \rho_\psi A_i = \sum_j \langle \rho_\psi A_i f_j, f_j \rangle = \langle \langle \rho_\psi, f_i \rangle, f_i \rangle = \langle \langle \psi, f_i \rangle \psi, f_i \rangle = \overline{\langle \psi, f_i \rangle} \langle \psi, f_i \rangle = |\langle \psi, f_i \rangle|^2.$  □

For the mixture state probability by definition is given by the same formula

$$P(A = a_i) = \text{Tr } \rho |f_i\rangle\langle f_i|.$$

Quantum expectation value is defined by the following formula

$$\overline{A_\rho} \equiv \langle A \rangle = \langle A \rho, \rho \rangle = \text{Tr } \rho A.$$

Quantum dispersion is defined the same was as in classical probability theory:

$$\sigma_{A_\rho}^2 = \overline{(A_\rho - \overline{A_\rho})^2} = \overline{A_\rho^2} - \overline{A_\rho}^2.$$

### 3.4 Heisenberg's uncertainty principle

Uncertainty principle of quantum mechanics states that there is a limit of a precision with which some of physical parameters of a system can be known together. This limit does not depend on a precision of used measurement devices or on a level of technology, it is fundamental and presents in any case.

For the first time uncertainty principle was formulated by Werner Heisenberg in 1927. He discovered that the more precisely the position of a particle can be measured, the less precisely the momentum can be determined.

In 1928 it was formulated as an inequality:

$$\sigma_x \sigma_p \geq \frac{\hbar}{2},$$



where  $\sigma_x$  is a standard deviation of position,  $\sigma_p$  is a standard deviation of momentum and  $\hbar$  is a Planck constant.

The most general form of uncertainty principle is given by Schrödinger inequality:

$$\sigma_A^2 \sigma_B^2 \geq \left| \frac{1}{2} \langle \{A, B\} \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle \right|^2 + \left| \frac{1}{2i} \langle [A, B] \rangle \right|^2, \quad (4)$$

where  $[A, B] = AB - BA$  - commutator operator and  $\{A, B\} = AB + BA$  - anti-commutator operator.

*Proof.* For the derivation of the inequality we will use Cauchy-Schwartz inequality for scalar product:

$$|\langle f, g \rangle|^2 \leq \langle f, f \rangle \langle g, g \rangle. \quad (5)$$

Quantum dispersion  $\sigma_A^2$  of self-adjoint operator  $A$  can be found using formula:

$$\sigma_A^2 = \langle (A - \langle A \rangle)^2 \psi, \psi \rangle = \langle (A - \langle A \rangle) \psi, (A - \langle A \rangle) \psi \rangle.$$

We denote  $f = (A - \langle A \rangle) \psi$ ,  $g = (B - \langle B \rangle) \psi$ , then for the left side of (5) we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle f, g \rangle|^2 &= |\langle (A - \langle A \rangle) \psi, (B - \langle B \rangle) \psi \rangle|^2 = |\langle (B - \langle B \rangle)(A - \langle A \rangle) \psi, \psi \rangle|^2 = \\ &= |\langle BA \psi, \psi \rangle - \langle B \rangle \langle A \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle + \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle|^2 = |\langle BA \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle|^2. \end{aligned}$$

As any other complex number the left side of inequality can be written as

$$|\langle f, g \rangle|^2 = \left| \frac{1}{2} (\langle f, g \rangle + \overline{\langle f, g \rangle}) \right|^2 + \left| \frac{1}{2i} (\langle f, g \rangle - \overline{\langle f, g \rangle}) \right|^2,$$

where  $\overline{\langle f, g \rangle}$  is described by

$$\overline{\langle f, g \rangle} = \overline{\langle BA \psi, \psi \rangle} - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle = \langle \psi, BA \psi \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle = \langle AB \psi, \psi \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle.$$

Putting it all together to the inequality (5) we have an expression from Schrödinger inequality (4):

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \frac{1}{2} (\langle BA \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle + \langle AB \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle) \right|^2 + \left| \frac{1}{2i} (\langle BA \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle - \langle AB \rangle + \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle) \right|^2 \leq \sigma_A^2 \sigma_B^2 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \left| \frac{1}{2} \langle \{A, B\} \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle \right|^2 + \left| \frac{1}{2i} \langle [A, B] \rangle \right|^2 \leq \sigma_A^2 \sigma_B^2 \end{aligned}$$

□

In quantum mechanics position operator has the form

$$(\hat{x}f) = x \cdot f(x)$$

and momentum operator is defined by

$$(\hat{p}f) = \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{df}{dx}.$$

It the common case Robertson inequality can be derived from (4):

$$\sigma_A^2 \sigma_B^2 \geq \frac{1}{4} |[A, B]|^2.$$

Commutator operator of position and momentum is

$$[\hat{x}, \hat{p}]f(x) = (\hat{x}\hat{p} - \hat{p}\hat{x})f(x) = x \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{df(x)}{dx} - \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{dx f(x)}{dx} = i\hbar I f(x),$$

where  $I$  is an identity operator. Then in this case Robertson inequality becomes Heisenberg's uncertainty principle:

$$\sigma_A^2 \sigma_B^2 \geq \frac{1}{4} \hbar^2.$$

From the derivation of Heisenberg's principle it is clear that one can construct nontrivial Robertson inequality for every operators  $A$  and  $B$  which have nonzero commutator. It is also clear that the result formula does not depend on technology or any conditions during measurement, it is a fundamental property for some pairs of quantum operators such as position and momentum.

## 4 Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen paradox

Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen paradox(EPR-paradox) was published in 1935 as the criticism of some statements in the Copenhagen interpretation of quantum mechanics. The main principle of this interpretation holds that any quantum system can be described as wave-function and after measure it collapses to one of its eigenstates with some probabilities. Moreover, Heisenberg's uncertainty principle stands that position of a particle and its momentum are incompatible and they cannot be measured jointly with good precision. Einstein was not agree with probabilistic measurement outcomes and his paper was an attempt to show contradictions in quantum mechanics.

The article is based on a thought experiment with the following initial conditions. Consider two systems  $S_1, S_2$ , both with the state space  $L_2(\mathbb{R})$  and the source which produces particles for these systems. Superposition of these systems can be represented as a quantum state from the tensor product of its single Hilbert spaces. Operator will  $A$  denote an observable on  $S_1$  with its eigenvalues  $\{a_k\}$  and eigenvectors  $\{\varphi_k(x_1)\}$ . Operator  $B$  will denote another observable on the same system with eigenvalues  $\{b_k\}$  and eigenvectors  $\{\psi_k(x_1)\}$ .

In the common case of two Hilbert spaces  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  and their basis vectors  $\{e_k\}$  and  $\{f_k\}$  respectively the state  $\varphi = \varphi_1 \otimes \varphi_2$  can be represented in the form:

$$\varphi = \sum_{k,m} c_{k,m} e_k \otimes f_m.$$

If  $H_1 = H_2 = L_2(\mathbb{R})$  its tensor product is  $L_2(\mathbb{R}) \otimes L_2(\mathbb{R}) = L(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . For this space such state  $\varphi$  can be represented in the form

$$\varphi(x_1, x_2) = \sum_{k,m} c_{k,m} e_k(x_1) f_m(x_2)$$

or for the continuous case it is

$$\varphi(x_1, x_2) = \int u(x, x_1) v(x, x_2) dx.$$

Suppose we want to execute the measurement of  $A$ . Before measure the particle is in the state  $\psi(x_1, x_2) = \sum_k v_k(x_2) \varphi_k(x_1)$ . According to von Neumann projection postulate after measurement the system will collapse to the precise state  $\psi = \varphi_m(x_1) v_m(x_2)$ . It means that after measuring on  $S_1$  the second system will also have determinate state  $v_m(x_2)$ . But in conditions where two detector are very far from each other (so they cannot have impact on each other according to locality principle) it means that the second system has to have such state  $v_m(x_2)$  not only before measurement but always.

Suppose after all that we've changed our decision and we want to measure  $B$  on  $S_1$  instead of  $A$ . By analogy for the previous consideration, after measure the system will collapse to the state  $\psi = \zeta_n(x_1) u_n(x_2)$  which means that in this case the second system will have state  $u_n(x_2)$ . And again, it has to have such state independently of the measurement on the first system i.e. it stands in this state even before any measurements.

After that thought experiments we can conclude that the second system has 2 wave-functions  $v_m(x_2)$  and  $u_n(x_2)$ . The paradox is that we can construct such states that cannot be known simultaneously according to the

Heisenberg's principle. Here we present an example from the original paper [1].

Consider the state  $\psi(x_1, x_2) = \int e^{\frac{ip}{\hbar}(x_1+x_2-x_0)}$  where  $x_0$  is a constant. On one side, it can be represented in the form  $\psi(x_1, x_2) = \int \varphi(p, x_1)v(p, x_2)dp$  where  $\varphi(p, x_1) = e^{\frac{ip}{\hbar}x_1}$  and  $v(p, x_2) = e^{\frac{ip}{\hbar}(x_2-x_0)}$ .

Momentum operator is defined by  $\hat{p} = \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{d}{dx}$ . Its eigenfunction is  $\psi = e^{\frac{i\lambda}{\hbar}x}$  for eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . After the measure of  $A$  in the first system its state will collapse to its eigenfunction  $\varphi(p, x_1) = e^{\frac{ip}{\hbar}x_1}$ . The state of the second system  $v(p, x_2) = e^{\frac{ip}{\hbar}(x_2-x_0)}$  is an eigenfunction of momentum operator, corresponding to the eigenvalue  $-p$ .

On another side considering state can be represented as  $\psi(x_1, x_2) = \delta(x_1 + x_2 - x_0) = \hbar \int \delta(x - x_1)\delta(x - x_2 + x_0)dx = \int \zeta(x, x_1)u(x, x_2)dx$ .

Position operator in the second system is defined by  $\hat{x}_2 f = x_2 f$ . Its eigenfunction is  $\delta(x - \lambda)$  for the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . After the measure of  $B$  in the first system its state will collapse to the eigenfunction  $\zeta(x, x_1) = \delta(x - x_1)$ . The state of the second system  $u(x, x_2) = \delta(x - x_2 + x_0)$  is also an eigenfunction of position operator, corresponding to the eigenvalue  $x + x_0$ .

At this point authors conclude that both position and momentum in the second system are elements of reality since they couldn't be affected by measures on the first system. But Heisenberg's principle stands that they can't be known both i.e. can't be both elements of reality simultaneously.

The question of this paradox - do quantum mechanics provide a complete description of the physical reality. But since local realism assumption is used, another explanation of this paradox can be found with rejection of the local realism.

## 5 Bell inequalities

One of possible solutions of the EPR-paradox is that the quantum mechanics theory is not complete, the actual state of a system is described not only by its quantum state  $\psi$  but also by some hidden, i.e. yet unknown, variables. In this case all probabilistic predictions of quantum mechanics can be explained by existing of some unknown degrees of freedom. Using that assumption one can conclude that reality can still have deterministic nature as well as probabilistic.

John Bell in his paper [6] assumed that there are some hidden variables  $\omega$  and measurement results are random variables which depend on it. He

formulated statistical inequality that contradicts with quantum mechanical predictions.

Covariance of two variables can be found using the following classical probabilistic formula:

$$\langle \xi, \eta \rangle = \int_{\Omega} \xi(\omega) \eta(\omega) dP(\omega).$$

**Theorem 5.1.** *Consider  $\xi_a(\omega)$ ,  $\xi_b(\omega)$ ,  $\xi_c(\omega)$  be discrete random variables which can only be equal  $\pm 1$ . Then the following inequality is performed:*

$$|\langle \xi_a, \xi_b \rangle - \langle \xi_c, \xi_b \rangle| \leq 1 - \langle \xi_a, \xi_c \rangle.$$

*Proof.* Using covariation formula we obtain:

$$|\langle \xi_a, \xi_b \rangle - \langle \xi_c, \xi_b \rangle| = \left| \int_{\Omega} \xi_a \xi_b dP - \int_{\Omega} \xi_c \xi_b dP \right| = \left| \int_{\Omega} (\xi_a - \xi_c) \xi_b dP \right|.$$

After multiplying it by  $\xi_a^2 = 1$  we have:

$$\left| \int_{\Omega} (1 - \xi_a \xi_c) \xi_a \xi_b dP \right|.$$

And finally, using that  $|\xi_i| = 1$  we get the desired result:

$$\left| \int_{\Omega} (1 - \xi_a \xi_c) \xi_a \xi_b dP \right| \leq \left| \int_{\Omega} (1 - \xi_a \xi_c) dP \right| = 1 - \langle \xi_a, \xi_c \rangle.$$

□

After Bell's paper some other inequalities were formulated. Wigner inequality is more suitable for testing.

**Theorem 5.2.** *For random variables from the previous theorem the following inequality is performed:*

$$P(\xi_a = +1, \xi_b = +1) + P(\xi_b = -1, \xi_c = +1) \geq P(\xi_a = -1, \xi_c = +1).$$

*Proof.* The first probability can be written as

$$P(\xi_a = +1, \xi_b = +1) = P(\xi_a = +1, \xi_b = +1, \xi_c = +1) + P(\xi_a = +1, \xi_b = +1, \xi_c = -1),$$

analogously, the second one can be written as

$$P(\xi_b = -1, \xi_c = +1) = P(\xi_a = +1, \xi_b = -1, \xi_c = +1) + P(\xi_a = -1, \xi_b = -1, \xi_c = +1).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
& P(\xi_a = +1, \xi_b = +1) + P(\xi_b = -1, \xi_c = +1) = P(\xi_a = +1, \xi_b = +1, \xi_c = +1) + \\
& + P(\xi_a = +1, \xi_b = +1, \xi_c = -1) + P(\xi_a = +1, \xi_b = -1, \xi_c = +1) + P(\xi_a = -1, \xi_b = -1, \xi_c = +1) = \\
& = P(\xi_a = +1, \xi_c = +1) + P(\xi_a = +1, \xi_b = +1, \xi_c = -1) + P(\xi_a = -1, \xi_b = -1, \xi_c = +1) \geq \\
& \geq P(\xi_a = +1, \xi_c = +1).
\end{aligned}$$

□

Another example of an inequality of Bell type is Clauser-Horne-Shimony-Holt inequality.

**Theorem 5.3.** *For every random variables  $\xi_j(\omega)$  and  $\xi'_j(\omega)$  such as  $|\xi_j(\omega)| \leq 1$  and  $|\xi'_j(\omega)| \leq 1$  the following inequality is performed*

$$\langle \xi_1, \xi'_1 \rangle + \langle \xi_1, \xi'_2 \rangle + \langle \xi_2, \xi'_1 \rangle - \langle \xi_2, \xi'_2 \rangle \leq 2$$

*Proof.* For real numbers bounded by 1 the following inequality holds:

$$\xi_1 \xi'_1 + \xi_1 \xi'_2 + \xi_2 \xi'_1 - \xi_2 \xi'_2 \leq 2.$$

After integrating it we obtain Clauser-Horne-Shimony-Holt inequality.

□

One of the main points why Bell inequality is so interesting is that such statistical inequalities can be tested in experiments. And if classical and quantum predictions are incompatible one can check that experiment results satisfies one of predictions. But if we want to compare results of two theories we have to present a mechanism of mapping between two models. To connect quantum mechanics predictions and classical probability theory Bell made some assumptions and with them and quantum mechanic formalism these inequalities are violated. Some experiments were performed and their results also violate inequalities from the classical probability theory.

Let us construct an example of such violation from [5]. Consider a two-particle system in state  $\psi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|+ -\rangle - |- +\rangle)$  and a spin operator that measures a spin of one particle

$$\sigma(\theta) = \cos \theta \sigma_z + \sin \theta \sigma_x,$$

where  $\sigma_x$  and  $\sigma_z$  - Pauli matrices:

$$\sigma_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

So for the whole system operator  $\sigma(\theta) \otimes I$  measures a spin of the first particle and  $I \otimes \sigma(\theta)$  of the second particle. Then

$$P_\psi(\sigma(\theta_1) = +1, \sigma(\theta_2) = +1) = \cos^2 \frac{\theta_1 - \theta_2}{2},$$

$$P_\psi(\sigma(\theta_3) = +1, \sigma(\theta_2) = -1) = \sin^2 \frac{\theta_3 - \theta_2}{2},$$

$$P_\psi(\sigma(\theta_1) = +1, \sigma(\theta_3) = +1) = \cos^2 \frac{\theta_1 - \theta_3}{2}.$$

In this case Wigner inequality has the form:

$$\cos^2 \frac{\theta_1 - \theta_2}{2} + \sin^2 \frac{\theta_3 - \theta_2}{2} \geq \cos^2 \frac{\theta_1 - \theta_3}{2}.$$

We take  $\theta_1 = 0$ ,  $\theta_2 = 6\theta$ ,  $\theta_3 = 2\theta$  and we get the following inequality which is violated for some sufficiently large  $\theta$ :

$$\cos^2 3\theta + \sin^2 2\theta \geq \cos^2 \theta.$$

This violation is called Bell theorem. If this theorem is correct then quantum mechanics, or locality, or realism is wrong, as they are mutually exclusive.

Here there are some popular interpretations of Bell's results:

1. Quantum mechanics is complete and nonlocal so it cannot be reduced to the classical theory. If this interpretation is true then the state of a partial cannot be represented as random variable  $\xi_a(\omega)$  so inequalities cannot be applied to the real measurements. This is the most popular interpretation.
2. Quantum mechanics is incomplete and any complete classical theory is nonlocal. If this interpretation is true then the state of a partial cannot be represented as  $\xi_a(\omega)$  because it depends of another partial  $b$ . The representation as  $\xi_{a,b}(\omega)$  doesn't give us the same inequalities so there is no paradox between experiments and classical probability theory.
3. Some of Bell's assumptions about accordance between classical and quantum models are wrong. If this interpretation is true then there is no paradox because its proof is incorrect.

In [5] it is shown that in Bell's theory there can be some incorrect assumptions in the way of accordance between classical and quantum probabilities.

Firstly, It can be contradicted that classical(an integral) and quantum equalities for covariations are equal.

$$\int_{\Omega} \xi_a(\omega)\xi_b(\omega)dP_{\rho}(\omega) \equiv Tr\rho\hat{a}\hat{b}$$

But for other variants of Bell theorem this postulate was replaced by less controversial.

Secondly, domains of classical and quantum variables can be nonequal. There are two systems - the observed and the observer. The probability measure of states for observed partials concerns microscopic world and the observed probabilities concern macroscopic devices. These two systems can have different degrees of freedom, another parameters or possible values. It's hard to determine dependency between them as in theory there is nothing about it.

Moreover, in experimental tests of Bell's inequality statistical data was used. That means that a lot of single experiments were made and their results depended of states of observing devices and assumed hidden variables. So there was different physical context of those experiments. If we fix quantum state  $\rho$  it is not necessary that it will always correspond to the fixed classical probability distribution because with hidden variable quantum mechanics is only projection and there is no one to one correspondence. There is one to one correspondence only between classical state  $\xi$  and a pair  $(\rho, C)$  - quantum state and a context. Using that one can see that Bell's inequality is correct only if contexts of different experiments are the same. Because of many parameters probability to get that is zero. So considering context of experiments Bell's inequality has another form and not violated by experiments.

Another problem with Bell inequalities is experimental data precision. To check something detectors have to have enough efficiency and not give false positive results. Since there is no device without these problems, it is better to have a statistical model which can deal with such experimental errors. One of such models was presented in the Eberhard's article [2].

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