

Distance Measures for Quantum Information

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- $D(p_x, q_x) = \max_S |\sum_{x \in S} p_x - \sum_{x \in S} q_x|$ over all subsets S of the index set $\{x\}$, \rightarrow relation to distinguishability.

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Note that these are *static* measures of distance between probability distributions.

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$$D(X, \hat{X}) = P(X \neq Y)$$

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Proof. Key step, $\rho - \sigma \rightarrow Q - S$.

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Proof - Along similar lines, use the previous properties. Corollary:

$$D(\rho_A, \sigma_A) \leq D(\rho_{AB}, \sigma_{AB})$$

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- ③ $A(\rho, \sigma) := \arccos F(\rho, \sigma)$ is a metric on $\text{Dens}(\mathcal{H})$

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The left side of the inequality can be proved using POVMs and simple mathematical manipulation.


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Illustrations

- Depolarizing Channel
- Phase Damping Channel
- Gate Fidelities

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With this and the previous slide, we can talk about how well a source is preserved under a channel with the following quantity

$$\bar{F} := \sum_j p_j F(\rho_j, \mathcal{E}(\rho_j))^2$$

This is called the *ensemble average fidelity*. Provided $\bar{F} \approx 1$ one can be confident that the source is being preserved by the channel.

Defining a quantum information source - Attempt (2)

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We define *entanglement fidelity*,

$$\begin{aligned} F_e(\rho, \mathcal{E}) &:= F(|RQ\rangle, |RQ'\rangle) \\ &= \langle RQ | [(I_R \otimes \mathcal{E})(|RQ\rangle \langle RQ|)] | RQ \rangle \end{aligned}$$

where $\rho = \text{Tr}_R(|RQ\rangle \langle RQ|)$. It can be shown that only the choice of ρ and \mathcal{E} affect the EF, not the choice of purification.

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- 2 $F_e(\rho, \mathcal{E}) \leq (F(\rho, \mathcal{E}(\rho)))^2$. Intuitively, attempt (2) is stronger than attempt (1). It is tougher to preserve the entanglement and the state than just the state.
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Thus, $F_e \leq \bar{F}$!

Concluding Remarks

Thus, any quantum channel \mathcal{E} which does a good job of preserving the entanglement between a source described by a density operator and a reference system will automatically do a good job of preserving an ensemble source described by probabilities p_j and states ρ_j such that $\rho = \sum_j p_j \rho_j$. In this sense the notion of a quantum source based on entanglement fidelity is a more stringent notion than the ensemble definition.