

Improved local models and new Bell inequalities via Frank-Wolfe algorithms

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Discrete Optimization x Machine Learning

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What is this talk about?

Introduction

*Given a quantum state $|\phi\rangle$ is it (are its correlations) truly quantum (**non-local**) or just classical (**local**) in complicated form?*

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- Non-locality problem central in quantum physics: Every entangled pure quantum state is non-local but for mixed quantum states (NP-)hard to decide.
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Today:

- An optimization perspective on the non-locality problem
- Frank–Wolfe approach (what else did you expect?)
- Myriad of new non-locality thresholds
- Improvement of the Grothendieck constant of order 3

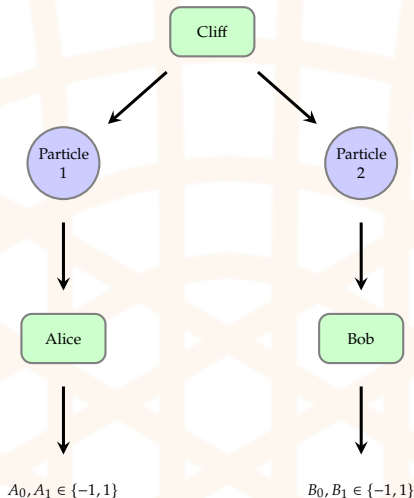
(Hyperlinked) References are not exhaustive; check references contained therein.



Let's play a game

Bell Experiment - Classical Setup

- Cliff prepares **pair of particles** with properties $a_0, a_1 \in \{-1, 1\}$ for Particle 1 and properties $b_0, b_1 \in \{-1, 1\}$ for Particle 2, sends one to Alice and one to Bob.



Assumptions.

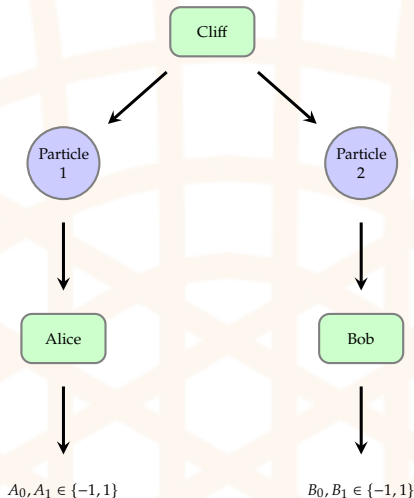
Realism: Properties exist irrespective of observation.

Locality: Alice's and Bob's measurements do not influence each other.

[Bell, 1964, Nielsen and Chuang, 2001]

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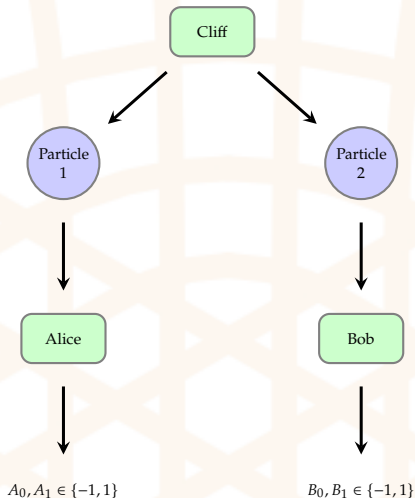
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- Alice and Bob choose **two binary measurements** $A_0, A_1 \in \{-1, 1\}$ and $B_0, B_1 \in \{-1, 1\}$ each.
- Alice and Bob pick one of their measurements randomly, results in 4 combinations:
 $(A_0, B_0), (A_0, B_1), (A_1, B_0), (A_1, B_1)$



Assumptions.

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Bell's Theorem - Classical Correlations

Consider **linear combination** of property values:

$$a_0b_0 + a_1b_0 + a_0b_1 - a_1b_1$$

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⇒ (One out of many) Bell inequalities, in fact CHSH inequality.

[Clauser et al., 1969b]

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Note.

For the initiated: corresponds to a facet of the corresponding cut/correlation polytope.

For the uninitiated: don't ask.

Quantum Mechanics = Linear algebra on steroids: Quick Recap

- **Ket and Bra.** Elements in a Hilbert space, e.g., $|\phi\rangle$, can be represented as $|\phi\rangle = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \alpha_i |i\rangle$, with associated bra as $\langle\phi| = (\alpha_0^*, \dots, \alpha_{N-1}^*)^T$.

- **Representation.** $|\phi\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_0 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_{N-1} \end{pmatrix}$ and $\langle\phi| = (\alpha_0^*, \dots, \alpha_{N-1}^*)$.

- **Linearity.** $|a\phi + b\gamma\rangle = a|\phi\rangle + b|\gamma\rangle$ and $\langle a\phi + b\gamma| = a^*\langle\phi| + b^*\langle\gamma|$.

- **Inner Product:** $\langle i | j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$ and $\langle\psi | \phi\rangle = (\beta_0^*, \dots, \beta_{N-1}^*)^T \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_0 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_{N-1} \end{pmatrix} = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \beta_i^* \alpha_i$.

- **Density Matrix:** $|\phi\rangle \langle\phi|$ for a state $|\phi\rangle$.

- **Observable M :** Orthogonal projection matrices P_i with $I = \sum_i P_i$ and $P_i^2 = P_i$ and $M = \sum_i \lambda_i P_i$ with $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}$ (distinct) outcomes.

- **Expected value of measurement with M :** $\text{tr}(M |\phi\rangle \langle\phi|)$.

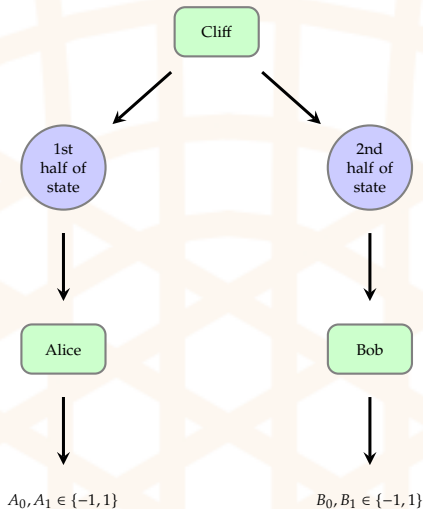
[See my blog for a short overview]

Bell Experiment - Quantum Setup

- Cliff prepares **bipartite quantum state**:

$$|\phi\rangle \doteq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle|1\rangle - |1\rangle|0\rangle),$$

sends first half to Alice and second half to Bob.



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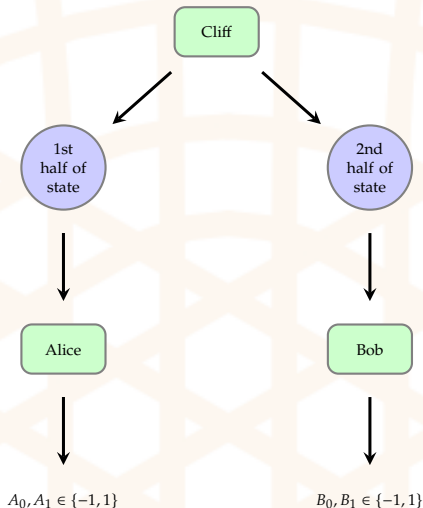
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- Alice and Bob choose **two observables** each (with eigenvalues ± 1):

$$A_0 \doteq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad A_1 \doteq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$B_0 \doteq \frac{-A_1 - A_0}{\sqrt{2}} \quad \text{and} \quad B_1 \doteq \frac{A_1 - A_0}{\sqrt{2}}.$$



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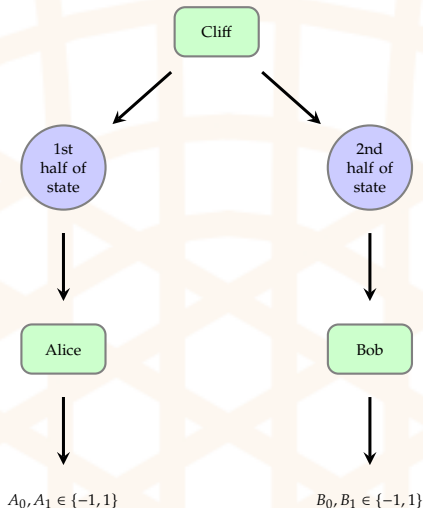
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Bell's Theorem - Quantum Correlations

Observe. Expected values of measurements:

$$\text{tr}(A_0 \otimes B_0 |\phi\rangle \langle \phi|) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

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⇒ Quantum violation of CHSH(!). This is **non-locality**.

After two seconds of meditation. Define the **Local Polytope** for m measurements

$$\mathcal{L}_m \doteq \text{conv}(ab^T \mid a, b \in \{-1, 1\}^m).$$

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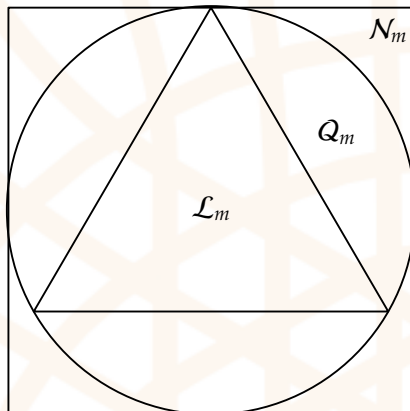
What we did is to test whether the “correlation matrix” associated with the density $|\phi\rangle\langle\phi|$ is contained in \mathcal{L}_m (here with $m = 2$) via the separating hyperplane:

$$a_0b_0 + a_1b_0 + a_0b_1 - a_1b_1 \leq 2,$$

which is the CHSH inequality.

⇒ Our game today: **Membership problem over \mathcal{L}_m .**

Bell's Theorem - Geometry



Where does your correlation matrix lie? ($m = \#$ measurements)

- \mathcal{L}_m : Local polytope (\equiv cut polytope on bipartite graph $K_{m,m}$) = classical correlations
- \mathcal{Q}_m : Approximable by sequence of SDPs = quantum correlations
- \mathcal{N}_m : No-signaling polytope (\equiv rooted semimetric polytope) = no-signaling

for more background see [Avis and Ito, 2006]



Short detour: The Approximate Carathéodory Problem

The Approximate Carathéodory Problem

Problem and Guarantee

Problem. Find $x \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{V})$ with low cardinality satisfying $\|x - x^*\|_p \leq \epsilon$.

Theorem (Approximate Carathéodory guarantee)

Let $p \geq 2$. Then there exists $x \in \text{conv}(\mathcal{V})$ with cardinality $O(pD_p^2/\epsilon^2)$ satisfying $\|x - x^*\|_p \leq \epsilon$, where $D_p = \sup_{v,w \in \mathcal{V}} \|w - v\|_p$.

- This result is independent of the space dimension n
- The bound is tight
- Probabilistic proof
(not ‘implementable’ b/c exact convex combination as input)
- Deterministic proof
(via variant of Mirror Descent)
- Algorithmic proof with many additional configurations
(via Frank–Wolfe algorithm)

[Mirrokni et al., 2017]

[Pisier, 1981, Barman, 2015]

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[Combettes and Pokutta, 2023]

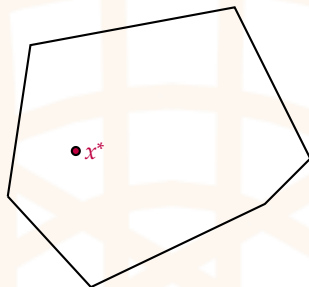
Solving the Approximate Carathéodory via Conditional Gradients

The Approximate Carathéodory Problem

$$f(x) = \|x - x^*\|_2^2$$

Algorithm Frank-Wolfe Algorithm (FW)

- 1: $x_0 \in \mathcal{V}$
 - 2: **for** $t = 0$ **to** $T - 1$ **do**
 - 3: $v_t \leftarrow \arg \min_{v \in \mathcal{V}} \langle \nabla f(x_t), v \rangle$
 - 4: $x_{t+1} \leftarrow x_t + \gamma_t(v_t - x_t)$
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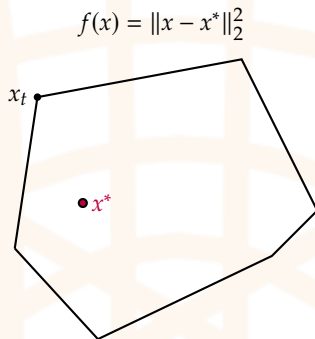
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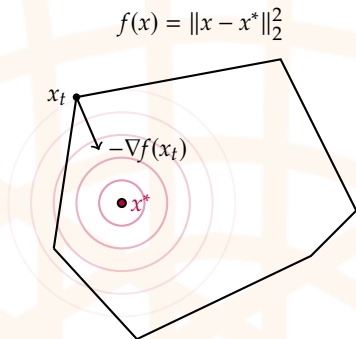
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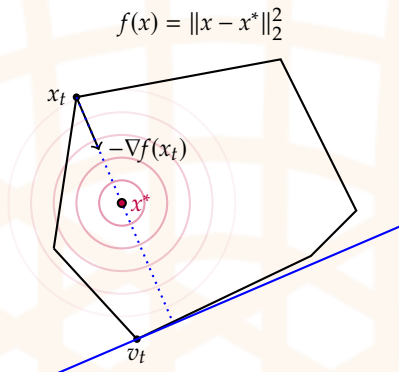
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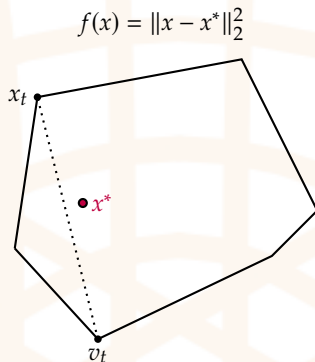
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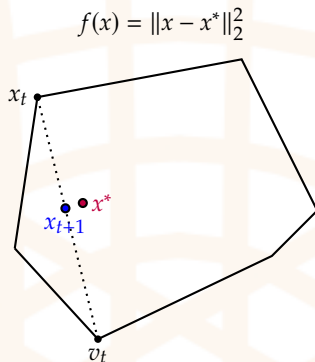
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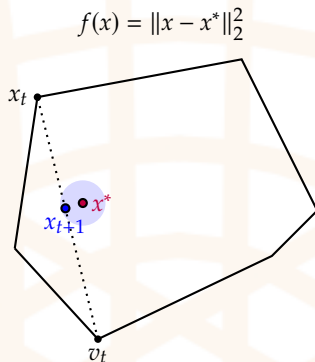
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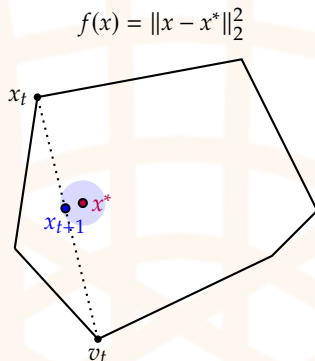
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- FW minimizes f over $\text{conv}(\mathcal{V})$ by sequentially picking up vertices
- Only accesses $\text{conv}(\mathcal{V})$ via linear minimization
- The final iterate x_T has cardinality at most $T + 1$
- For membership: provides **convex combination decomposition** of x^*
- For non-membership: provides **separating hyperplane** with normal $\nabla f(x_t)$

[Frank and Wolfe, 1956, Levitin and Polyak, 1966]

Back to our problem...

Our task

Given state $|\phi\rangle$ decide whether its correlations are **local** or **non-local**.

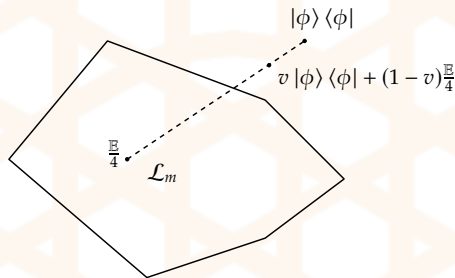
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Slightly refined question. At which **visibility** v do the (correlations of the) mixed state

$$\rho_v \doteq v |\phi\rangle \langle \phi| + (1 - v) \frac{\mathbb{E}}{4}$$

become non-local, where \mathbb{E} is the all-1 matrix (i.e., trivial correlation).



Our task—mathematically

Given density ρ_v :

- **Non-locality.** Find an appropriate m , compute correlation matrix $p \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ from ρ_v , and show that there exist a separating hyperplane M , so that

$$\operatorname{tr}(Md) \leq 1 \quad \forall d \in \mathcal{L}_m \quad \text{and} \quad \operatorname{tr}(Mp) > 1 \quad \text{which implies} \quad v_\rho \leq \frac{1}{\operatorname{tr}(Mp)}.$$

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- **Locality.** Harder as we would need to show for $m = \infty$. Solution: use approximation with finite measurements m and work-in approximation factor $\alpha < 1$. Solve approximate Carathéodory for p over \mathcal{L}_m to obtain convex decomposition (= deterministic strategy). Provides lower bound on $\alpha^2 v \leq v_\rho$.

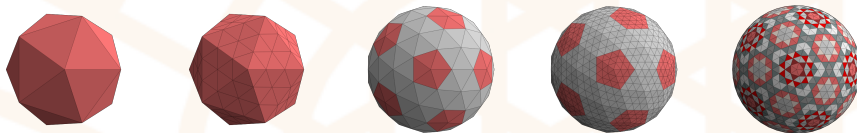


Figure: Polyhedral approximations of Bloch sphere (measurements). Right-most polyhedron has a shrinking factor (also called inradius) of 0.9968.
[Images via Sébastien's polyhedronisme].

Some more technicalities...

Non-locality (upper bounds).

- The LMO over \mathcal{L}_m is NP-hard \Rightarrow FW (even advanced variants) too slow.
- Thus use approximation / heuristic as LMO $\Rightarrow Q \subseteq \mathcal{L}_m$.
- Obtained hyperplane $\text{tr}(Mx) \leq 1$ might not be valid for \mathcal{L}_m .
- Can be fixed by “pushing out” M via *one* optimization over \mathcal{L}_m
 \Rightarrow solve QUBO problem.
- Pushed out inequality might not be separating. Didn't happen and can be easily checked.

Some more technicalities...

Non-locality (upper bounds).

- The LMO over \mathcal{L}_m is NP-hard \Rightarrow FW (even advanced variants) too slow.
- Thus use approximation / heuristic as LMO $\Rightarrow Q \subseteq \mathcal{L}_m$.
- Obtained hyperplane $\text{tr}(Mx) \leq 1$ might not be valid for \mathcal{L}_m .
- Can be fixed by “pushing out” M via *one* optimization over \mathcal{L}_m
 \Rightarrow solve QUBO problem.
- Pushed out inequality might not be separating. Didn't happen and can be easily checked.

Locality (lower bounds).

- We need a **rational decomposition** of p into deterministic strategies.
- Require a rational approximation of the convex multipliers.
- (Usually) does not degrade visibility bound.

Results

After several months of computation...

Werner state visibility v_c^{Wer} .

	v_c^{Wer}	Reference	#Inputs	Year
Upper bounds	0.7071	Clauser et al. [1969a]	2	1969
	0.7056	Vértesi [2008]	465	2008
	0.7054	Hua et al. [2015]	∞	2015
	0.7012	Brierley et al. [2016]	42	2016
	0.6964	Diviánszky et al. [2017]	90	2017
	0.6955	This work: Designolle et al. [2023]	97	2023
Lower bounds	0.6875		406 $\sim \infty$	
	0.6829	Hirsch et al. [2017]	625 $\sim \infty$	2017
	0.6595	Acín et al. [2006] using Krivine [1979]	∞	2006 1979
	0.5	Werner [1989]	∞	1989

Table: Successive refinements of the bounds on v_c^{Wer} , the nonlocality threshold of the two-qubit Werner states under projective measurements. Using m measurements to simulate all projective ones is denoted by $m \sim \infty$.

Results

After several months of computation...

Bonus. Grothendieck constant of order 3 satisfies

$$K_G(3) = \frac{1}{v_c^{\text{Wer}}}.$$

Thus. Currently tightest bounds

$$1.4376 \approx \frac{1}{v_{\text{up}}} \leq K_G(3) \leq \frac{1}{v_{\text{low}}} \approx 1.4546.$$

[see also Grothendieck inequality on Wikipedia]

Results

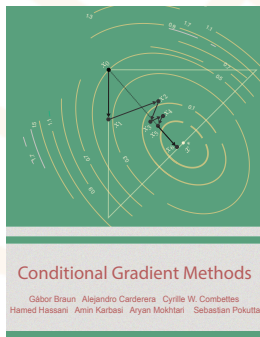
After several months of computation...

First strong non-locality bounds for tripartite W and GHZ state.

	v_c^{GHZ}	Reference	#Inputs	Year
Upper	0.5	Greenberger et al. [1989]	2	1989
	0.4961	Vértesi and Pál [2011]	5	2011
	0.4932	Brierley et al. [2016]	16	2016
	0.4916	This work	16	2023
Lower	0.4688		$61 \sim \infty$	
	0.232	Cavalcanti et al. [2016]	$12 \sim \infty$	2016
	0.2	Dür and Cirac [2000]	Entnglmnt threshold	2000

	v_c^W	Reference	#Inputs	Year
Upper	0.6442	Sen [De]	2	2003
	0.6007	Gruca et al. [2010]	5	2010
	0.5956	Pandit et al. [2022]	6	2022
	0.5482	This work	16	2023
Lower	0.4861		$46 \sim \infty$	
	0.228	Cavalcanti et al. [2016]	$12 \sim \infty$	2016
	0.2096	Szalay [2011]	Entnglmnt threshold	2011

Thank you!



Conditional Gradient Methods

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<https://conditional-gradients.org/>
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.14103>

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