

Invariant theory and the measurement of quantum entanglement

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- Einstein: "Spooky action at a distance."

Pure State Entanglement

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- The set of unit vectors identified if they differ by a phase.
- The set of one dimensional subspaces.
- Thus there is an action of $GL(\mathcal{H})$ on the states.

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- Natural questions:
 - How does one tell if a state is entangled?
 - Are there natural levels of entanglement?

- We look at EPR from the perspective of entanglement. We denote spin down by $|0\rangle$ and spin up by $|1\rangle$. The Hilbert space of spins of the electron is \mathbb{C}^2 with orthonormal basis $|0\rangle, |1\rangle$. That is qubits.

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- Thus the state of the two electrons is entangled by the vague definition.

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- We will consider SL to be the product of the $SL(\mathcal{H}_i)$ in this lecture.
- We note that the product states form a single orbit under the action of SL. So an SL invariant function on \mathcal{H} is constant on the product states.
- Observe that the product states form the image, \mathcal{U} , of the Segre imbedding of $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{H}_1) \times \cdots \times \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{H}_m)$ in $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{H})$.

- If $I_{\mathcal{U}}$ is the homogeneous ideal of \mathcal{U} in the polynomials on \mathcal{H} and if f is homogeneous function in $I_{\mathcal{U}}$ then $f(\mathcal{U}) = 0$. So if one such function on state v is non-zero the state is entangled.

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- Returning to two qubits. We note that if

$$v = \sum a_{ij} |ij\rangle = a_{00} |00\rangle + a_{01} |01\rangle + a_{10} |10\rangle + a_{11} |11\rangle.$$

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- One checks that in the case of qubits $I_{\mathcal{U}}$ is the ideal generated by f . Furthermore f is invariant under changes by SL.

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- We will come back to Kemph-Ness. But first what about entanglement in 3 qubits?

- By three qubits we mean $\mathcal{H}^3 = \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$. The action of SL is by outer tensor product action. If $v \in \mathcal{H}_3$ then we can write

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- Polarizing f on \mathcal{H}^2 we have a non-degenerate SL invariant, symmetric, bilinear form on \mathcal{H}^2 which we denote by (\dots, \dots) . This leads to the tangle

$$\varphi(v) = \det \begin{bmatrix} (v_0, v_0) & (v_0, v_1) \\ (v_1, v_0) & (v_1, v_1) \end{bmatrix}.$$

An SL invariant homogeneous of degree 4 and known classically as the hyperdeterminant of a $2 \times 2 \times 2$ matrix.

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- If $v = v_1 \otimes v_2 \otimes v_3$ with $v_i \neq 0$. Then there exists an element of SL that will transform v to $|0\rangle \otimes |0\rangle \otimes |0\rangle = |000\rangle$ so $\varphi(v) = 0$.

- The state studied by Greenberger, Horne and Zeilinger:

$$GHZ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|000\rangle + |111\rangle)$$

has $v_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |00\rangle$, $v_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |11\rangle$. Thus

$$\varphi(GHZ) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{bmatrix} = -\frac{1}{4}.$$

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- Furthermore, if $[GHZ]$ is the class of GHZ in $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{H}^3)$ then the set $SL \cdot [GHZ]$ is open and dense in $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{H}_3)$. Implying that the algebra of SL invariants is generated by φ . Kempf-Ness implies that $\frac{1}{4}$ is the maximum value and that the set of $v \in \mathcal{H}_3$, $\|v\| = 1$ with $|\varphi(v)| = \frac{1}{4}$ is exactly $(U(2) \otimes U(2) \otimes U(2)) GHZ$.

- If we consider the hypersurface $\varphi = 0$ there is a state

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- This state is entangled and many physicists list it and GHZ as equally entangled.

The Kempf-Ness Theorem

Let G be a connected reductive algebraic subgroup of $GL(\mathcal{H})$ (This implies that we may and do assume that if $g \in G$ then so is $g^* = g^\dagger$.) Set $K = U(\mathcal{H}) \cap G$. We say that $v \in \mathcal{H}$ is *critical* if $\langle Xv | v \rangle = 0$ for all $X \in \text{Lie}(G)$. We note that the set of critical points is invariant under the action of K . Here is the theorem.

Theorem

Let G, K be as above. Let $v \in \mathcal{H}$.

1. v is critical if and only if $\|gv\| \geq \|v\|$ for all $g \in G$.
2. If v is critical and $w \in Gv$ is such that $\|v\| = \|w\|$ then $w \in Kv$.
3. If Gv is closed then there exists a critical element in Gv .
4. If v is critical then Gv is closed.

- If $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{H}_m$ and $G = SL(\mathcal{H}_1) \otimes \cdots \otimes SL(\mathcal{H}_m)$ then the hypotheses of the above theorem are satisfied.

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- If ϕ is a homogeneous SL-invariant of degree $d > 0$ and if v is a state with $\phi(v) \neq 0$ then

$$\phi\left(\frac{gv}{\|gv\|}\right) = \|gv\|^{-d} \phi(gv) = \|gv\|^{-d} \phi(v).$$

Thus v maximizes $|\phi|$ on the set

$$\left\{ \frac{gv}{\|gv\|} \mid g \in G \right\}$$

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- For 2 and 3 qubits respectively and $v = EPR$ or GHZ we have $\left\{ \frac{gv}{\|gv\|} \mid g \in G \right\} = \{u \in \mathcal{H} \mid \|u\| = 1, h(u) \neq 0\}$, $h(u) = (u, u)$ or h is the tangle.

- If v is a state in $\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{H}_m$ the j -th factor of dimension d_j then we can expand v in terms of an orthonormal basis of \mathcal{H}_1 , $|0\rangle, |1\rangle, \dots, |d_j - 1\rangle$ as

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- This means that if I consider v to be a bipartite state by permuting the i -th factor to be first and thinking of the state as an element of

$$\mathcal{H}_i \otimes \left(\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \widehat{\mathcal{H}}_i \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{H}_m \right)$$

The reduced trace of v is $\frac{1}{d_i} I$.

- We can rephrase this as follows: If ν is a state then for each i there is an operator $T_{i,\nu} : \mathcal{H}_i \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \widehat{\mathcal{H}_i} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{H}_m$ that sends $|j\rangle$ to ν_{ij} . The reduced trace is the operator $T_i^\dagger T_i$.

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- If there exists a closed non-zero SL orbit then $2 \dim H_i \leq \dim \mathcal{H}$ for all i .

- We can rephrase this as follows: If ν is a state then for each i there is an operator $T_{i,\nu} : \mathcal{H}_i \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \widehat{\mathcal{H}}_i \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{H}_m$ that sends $|j\rangle$ to ν_{ij} . The reduced trace is the operator $T_i^\dagger T_i$.
- The von Neumann Entropy of the mixed state (i.e. a non-negative operator of trace 1), $A = T_i^\dagger T_i$, is

$$-\text{tr} A \log A.$$

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- If there exists a closed non-zero SL orbit then $2 \dim H_i \leq \dim \mathcal{H}$ for all i .
- This is precisely the condition for the existence of the $d_1 \times d_2 \times \cdots \times d_m$ hyperdeterminant.

Another basic result in the theory is the extended Hilbert-Mumford theorem (which is used in the proof of the hard part of the Kempf-Ness Theorem). Let G, \mathcal{H} be as in the Kempf-Ness theorem. Then one knows that a G orbit contains a unique closed orbit in its closure.

Theorem

Let $v \in \mathcal{H}$ and let Gv be the closed orbit in \overline{Gv} . Then there exists an algebraic group homomorphism $\varphi : \mathbb{C}^\times \rightarrow G$ such that $\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \varphi(z)v \in Gv$. Furthermore φ can be chosen so that $\varphi(\bar{z}) = \varphi(z)^$.*

- We also note that in the context of the theorems the set of zeros of homogeneous polynomial invariants of positive degree is called the null cone. The only closed orbit in the null cone is $\{0\}$.

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- For 3 qubits the invariants are polynomials in the tangle so the W state is in the null cone. Thus the Hilbert-Mumford theorem implies the existence of $\varphi : \mathbb{C}^\times \rightarrow G$ such that $\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \varphi(z)W = 0$.

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- Relative to the reduced trace we can choose any k of the factors of $\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{H}_m$, $\mathbf{i} = i_1 < \cdots < i_k$ and consider $\mathbf{j} = j_1 < \cdots < j_{m-k}$ the complementary indices and get a linear map

$$T_{\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}} : \mathcal{H}_{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{H}_{i_k} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{j_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{H}_{j_{m-k}}.$$

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- Set $d_{\mathbf{i}} = \dim \mathcal{H}_{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{H}_{i_k}$ then assuming $d_{\mathbf{i}} \leq d_{\mathbf{j}}$ we can ask does there exist a state such that $T_{\mathbf{i},\mathbf{j}}^\dagger T_{\mathbf{i},\mathbf{j}} = \frac{1}{d_{\mathbf{i}}} I$ for all such choices of \mathbf{i} ?

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- Rains has shown that if $|0\rangle \mapsto u, |1\rangle \mapsto v$ defines the perfect 5 qubit error correcting code then the orbit of u (or v) is described by this condition. For 6 qubits we have

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- For 4 qubits no such state exists. One can show that there are 90 orbit types using Kostant-Rallis theory for the group D_4 .

- The Bell states

$$u_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle \otimes |0\rangle + |1\rangle \otimes |1\rangle), u_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle \otimes |0\rangle - |1\rangle \otimes |1\rangle),$$

$$u_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle \otimes |1\rangle + |0\rangle \otimes |1\rangle), u_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle \otimes |1\rangle - |0\rangle \otimes |1\rangle).$$

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- The 4 dimensional space A with basis $v_j = u_j \otimes u_j$ is particularly interesting.
- The polynomial invariants under SL are generated by 4 invariants, f_2, f_4, ph, f_6 , whose restriction to the elements $\sum x_i v_i$ are given as

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- A complete discussion of entanglement for 4 qubits can be found in my paper with Gilad Gour, "All maximally entangled 4 qubit states" most easily found on the archive.

Among the 9 closed orbit types 2 examples stand out.

$$L = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (v_0 + \omega v_1 + \omega^2 v_2), \omega = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{3}},$$

$$M = \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} v_0 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (v_1 + v_2 + v_3).$$

The various total entropies that depend on parameters have values running between the value at each of these. That both maximize total Von Neumann 2,2 entropy and considering other total 2,2 entropies of states with maximal Von Neuman 2,2 entropy one is maximal and the other is minimal.