

Quantum sensing and metrology: the quantum Cramer-Rao bound and beyond

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Summer School

New Advances in quantum information science and quantum technology







Quantum sensing and metrology: the Quantum Cramer-Rao Bound and Beyond

Basic ideas about measurement and estimation

Classical estimation theory

Quantum estimation theory and the Cramer-Rao bound to precision in quantum metrology

Examples of applications

Quantum sensing and metrology beyond the Cramer-Rao bound



(tum.de)



Do we measure physical quantities?





Or perhaps we are mostly estimating them?





ínfluence on a dífferent quantity

 $p(x|\lambda)$

 $\boldsymbol{\chi} \mapsto \widehat{\lambda} = f(\boldsymbol{\chi})$

 $\mathbf{S}_{\lambda} \quad \mathbf{X} \quad \mathbf{X} = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$

dírect measurements
 índírect measurements

choice of the measurement

choice of the estimator

<u>global</u> estimation theory (when you have no a priori information) look for a measurement which is optimal in average (over the possible values of the parameter)

<u>Local</u> estimation theory (when you have some a priori information) Look for a measurement which is optimal for a specific value of the parameter (better, but...) local estimation theory: Cramer - Rao bound

varíance of unbíased estímators

 $\operatorname{Var}_{\lambda}[\widehat{\lambda}] \ge \frac{1}{MF(\lambda)}$

M -> number of measurements

F-> Fisher Information

 $F(\lambda) = \int dx \ p(x|\lambda) \left[\partial_{\lambda} \log p(x|\lambda)\right]^2$

local estimation theory: Cramer - Rao bound

The proof of the Cramer-Rao bound is obtained by observing that given two functions $f_1(x)$ and $f_2(2)$ the average

$$\langle f_1,f_2
angle = \int\!\!dx\, p(x|\lambda)\; f_1(x)\; f_2(x)$$

defines a scalar product. Upon chosing $f_1(x) = \hat{\lambda}(x) - \lambda$ and $f_2(x) = \partial_\lambda \ln p(x|\lambda)$ we have

$$x\,\partial_{\lambda}p(x|\lambda)=0 egin{array}{c} ||f_1||^2 = extsf{Var}(\lambda)\ ||f_2||^2 = F(\lambda)\ \langle f_1,f_2
angle = 1 \end{array}$$

 $x_1, x_2, ..., x_M$ independent we have $p(x_1, x_2, ..., x_M | \lambda) = \prod_{k=1}^M \log p(x_k | \lambda)$ and, in turn,

$$egin{aligned} F_M(\lambda) &= \int\!\!dx_1...dx_M\,p(x_1,x_2,...,x_M|\lambda)\left[\partial_\lambda\ln p(x_1,x_2,...,x_M|\lambda)
ight]^2 \ &= M\int\!\!dx\,p(x|\lambda)\left[\partial_\lambda\ln p(x|\lambda)
ight]^2 = MF(\lambda)\,. \end{aligned}$$

Optimal estimation scheme (classical)



Optimal measurement -> maximum Fisher (no recipes on how to find it)

Optimal estimator -> saturation of CR inequality (e.g. Bayesian or MaxLik asymptotically)

- What about time and temperature in quantum mechanics?
- The "resources" involved in quantum-enahnced technology are entanglement, nonlocality, entropy, interferometric phase-shift, etc.. In general they are not observable quantities in strict sense (do not correspond to a selfadjoint operator)

- No correspondence principle
- No uncertainty relations

- What about time and temperature in quantum mechanics?
- The "resources" involved in quantum-enahnced technology are entanglement, nonlocality, entropy, interferometric phase-shift, etc.. In general they are not observable quantities in strict sense (do not correspond to a selfadjoint operator)

Quantum estimation theory

$$\bigwedge_{\lambda} \longrightarrow \{\Pi_x\}_{x \in \mathcal{X}}$$
$$\chi = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$$

Optimal measurements

Ultimate bounds to precision

$$\bigwedge_{\lambda} \longrightarrow \{\Pi_x\}_{x \in \mathcal{X}}$$
$$\chi = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$$

Probability density $p(x|\lambda) = \mathrm{Tr}\left[arrho_{\lambda} \, \Pi_x ight]$

Let's go quantum (local) (1)

$$\bigwedge_{\lambda} \longrightarrow \{\Pi_x\}_{x \in \mathcal{X}}$$
$$\chi = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$$

probability density $p(x|\lambda) = \operatorname{Tr} \left[\varrho_{\lambda} \Pi_{x} \right]$ symm. log. derivative (SLD) $\frac{L_{\lambda}\varrho_{\lambda} + \varrho_{\lambda}L_{\lambda}}{2} = \frac{\partial \varrho_{\lambda}}{\partial \lambda}$

selfadjoint, zero mean $\operatorname{Tr}\left[arrho_{\lambda} L_{\lambda}
ight]=0$

Fisher information $F(\lambda) = \int dx \frac{\operatorname{Re}\left(\operatorname{Tr}\left[\varrho_{\lambda}\Pi_{x}L_{\lambda}\right]\right)^{2}}{\operatorname{Tr}\left[\varrho_{\lambda}\Pi_{x}\right]}$

Let's go quantum (local) (2)

$$\begin{split} F(\lambda) &\leq \int dx \, \left| \frac{\operatorname{Tr}\left[\varrho_{\lambda}\Pi_{x}L_{\lambda}\right]}{\sqrt{\operatorname{Tr}\left[\varrho_{\lambda}\Pi_{x}\right]}} \right|^{2} \begin{array}{l} \text{parameter} \\ \text{independent POVM} \\ &= \int dx \, \left| \operatorname{Tr}\left[\frac{\sqrt{\varrho_{\lambda}}\sqrt{\Pi_{x}}}{\sqrt{\operatorname{Tr}\left[\varrho_{\lambda}\Pi_{x}\right]}} \sqrt{\Pi_{x}}L_{\lambda}\sqrt{\varrho_{\lambda}} \right] \right|^{2} \\ &\leq \int dx \operatorname{Tr}\left[\Pi_{x}L_{\lambda}\varrho_{\lambda}L_{\lambda} \right] \\ &= \operatorname{Tr}\left[L_{\lambda}\varrho_{\lambda}L_{\lambda} \right] = \operatorname{Tr}\left[\varrho_{\lambda}L_{\lambda}^{2} \right] \end{split}$$

Helstrom 1976 Braunstein & Caves 1994

Físher vs Quantum Físher

 $F(\lambda) \leq H(\lambda) \equiv \operatorname{Tr}[\varrho_{\lambda}L_{\lambda}^{2}] = \operatorname{Tr}[\partial_{\lambda}\varrho_{\lambda}L_{\lambda}]$

ultimate bound on precision $Var(\lambda) \geq \frac{1}{MH(\lambda)}$

Optimal estimation scheme (quantum, local)

$$\bigwedge_{\lambda} \longrightarrow \{\Pi_x\}_{x \in \mathcal{X}}$$

$$\chi = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$$

Optimal measurement -> Fisher = quantum Fisher It is projective! The spectral measure of the SLD

Optimal estimator -> saturation of CR inequality (classical postprocessing, e.g. Bayesian or MaxLix)

$$\boldsymbol{\chi} \mapsto \widehat{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} = f(\boldsymbol{\chi})$$

General formulas (basís indepedent)





Lyapunov equation





Quantum Fisher Information

$$H(\lambda) = 2 \int_0^\infty dt \operatorname{Tr} \left[\partial_\lambda \varrho_\lambda \exp\{-\varrho_\lambda t\} \partial_\lambda \varrho_\lambda \exp\{-\varrho_\lambda t\} \right]$$

General formulas

Family of quantum states
$$arrho_{\lambda} = \sum_n arrho_n |\psi_n
angle \langle \psi_n |$$

$$\sim \rightarrow$$

Symmetric logarithmic derivative $L_{\lambda} = \sum_{p} \frac{\partial_{\lambda} \varrho_{p}}{\varrho_{p}} |\psi_{p}\rangle \langle \psi_{p}| + 2 \sum_{n \neq m} \frac{\varrho_{n} - \varrho_{m}}{\varrho_{n} + \varrho_{m}} \langle \psi_{m} |\partial_{\lambda} \psi_{n}\rangle |\psi_{m}\rangle \langle \psi_{n}|$

Quantum Fisher Information

$$H(\lambda) = \sum_{p} \frac{\left(\partial_{\lambda} \varrho_{p}\right)^{2}}{\varrho_{p}} + 2\sum_{n \neq m} \frac{\left(\varrho_{n} - \varrho_{m}\right)^{2}}{\varrho_{n} + \varrho_{m}} \left|\langle \psi_{m} | \partial_{\lambda} \psi_{n} \rangle\right|^{2}$$

General formulas

Family of quantum states
$$arrho_{\lambda} = \sum_n arrho_n |\psi_n
angle \langle \psi_n |$$

$$\overset{}{\overset{}}_{\lambda} \overset{}{\overset{}}$$

Symmetric logarithmic derivative $L_{\lambda} = \sum_{p} \frac{\partial_{\lambda} \varrho_{p}}{\varrho_{p}} |\psi_{p}\rangle \langle \psi_{p}| + 2 \sum_{n \neq m} \frac{\varrho_{n} - \varrho_{m}}{\varrho_{n} + \varrho_{m}} \langle \psi_{m} |\partial_{\lambda} \psi_{n}\rangle |\psi_{m}\rangle \langle \psi_{n}|$



$$H(\lambda) = 8 \lim_{\epsilon \to 0} \frac{1 - F(\varrho_{\lambda}, \varrho_{\lambda+\epsilon})}{\epsilon^2}$$

Applications

Quantum Interferometry Estimation of Gaussian states and operations Coupling constants (e.g. nonlinear interactions) Wave function of finite-dimensional systems Estimation of entanglement (and discord) Estímation in quantum critical systems Assessing quantum probes for complex systems Assessing quantum resources in metrology Assessing local vs global measurements Assessing criticality as a resource in metrology Probing quantum phase transitions Probing Hamiltonian terms New physics at gravity/QM interface

Estímation of entanglement (@INRIM)



 $|\psi_{\phi}\rangle = \cos\phi|HH\rangle + \sin\phi|VV\rangle$

 $D_{\phi} = \cos^2 \phi |HH\rangle \langle HH| + \sin^2 \phi |VV\rangle \langle VV|$

$$arrho_{\epsilon} = p |\psi_{\phi}\rangle \langle \psi_{\phi}| + (1-p)D_{\phi}$$

 $\epsilon = p \sin 2\phi$

optimal estimation by visibility measurements

Físher information is monotone with entanglement

Estímation of entanglement is inherently inefficient





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Quantum probes for complex systems



Quantum probes for complex systems

Quantum probes for the cutoff frequency of Ohmic environments

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Quantum thermometry by single-qubit dephasing

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Eur. Phys. J. Plus 134, 284 (2019)

Quantum metrology out of equilibrium

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Physica A 525, 825 (2019)

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Universal Quantum Magnetometry with Spin States at Equilibrium

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Quantum probes for complex systems

Continuous-variable quantum probes for structured environments

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The walker speaks its graph: global and nearly-local probing of the tunnelling amplitude in continuous-time quantum J. Phys. A: Math. Theor. 52 (2019) 10530

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The quantum walker probes her coin parameter

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Parameter-dependent measurements: no Cramer-Rao



Estimation of the direction of an external field



Parameter-dependent measurements: no Cramer-Rao



Parameter-dependent measurements

 $\int dx \,\Pi(x) = \mathbb{I}$

 $\int dx \, m_{\lambda}(x) \, \Pi_{\lambda}(x) = \mathbb{I}$

Parameter-dependent <u>sample space</u> (possible also in classical estimation problem)

Parameter-dependent <u>POVM</u> (an entirely novel quantum degree of freedom) New bound for parameter dependent sample space

$$\int dx \left[m_{\lambda}(x) |x\rangle \langle x | = \mathbb{I} \right]$$

$$\operatorname{Var}(\hat{\lambda}) \geq \frac{1}{M F_{X}^{m_{\lambda}}}$$

$$F_{X}^{m_{\lambda}} = \int dx m_{\lambda}(x) \frac{[\operatorname{tr}(\Pi(x)\partial_{\lambda}\rho_{\lambda})]^{2}}{\operatorname{tr}(\Pi(x)\rho_{\lambda})} + \mathscr{I}_{m}$$

$$\geq 0$$

$$\mathscr{I}_{m} = \int dx m_{\lambda}(x) \operatorname{tr}(\Pi(x)\rho_{\lambda}) (\partial_{\lambda} \log m_{\lambda}(x))^{2}$$

L Seveso et al Phys. Rev. A 95, 012111 (2017)

New bound for parameter dependent sample space

$$\begin{split} \int dx \, m_{\lambda}(x) \, |x\rangle \, \langle x| &= \mathbb{I} \\ \operatorname{Var}(\hat{\lambda}) \geq \frac{1}{M \, F_{X}^{m_{\lambda}}} \\ F_{X}^{m_{\lambda}} &= \int dx \, m_{\lambda}(x) \, \frac{[\operatorname{tr}(\Pi(x)\partial_{\lambda}\rho_{\lambda})]^{2}}{\operatorname{tr}(\Pi(x)\rho_{\lambda})} + \mathscr{I}_{m} \\ \geq 0 \end{split} \qquad \begin{array}{l} F(\lambda) \leq \int dx \, \left| \operatorname{tr}(\underline{H}(x)\partial_{\lambda}\rho_{\lambda}) \right|^{2} \\ f(x) \leq \int dx \, \operatorname{tr}(\underline{H}(x)\partial_{\lambda}\rho_{\lambda}) \\ F_{X}^{m_{\lambda}} &= \int dx \, m_{\lambda}(x) \, \frac{[\operatorname{tr}(\Pi(x)\partial_{\lambda}\rho_{\lambda})]^{2}}{\operatorname{tr}(\Pi(x)\rho_{\lambda})} + \mathscr{I}_{m} \\ \geq 0 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{l} \operatorname{Achievable ?} \\ \operatorname{what about optimal measurement?} \\ \mathcal{I}_{m} &= \int dx \, m_{\lambda}(x) \, \operatorname{tr}(\Pi(x)\rho_{\lambda}) \, (\partial_{\lambda} \log m_{\lambda}(x))^{2} \\ \end{array} \end{split}$$

L Seveso et al Phys. Rev. A 95, 012111 (2017)

Parameter-dependent measurements

 $dx m_{\lambda}(x) \Pi_{\lambda}(x) = \mathbb{I}$ Parameter-dependent sample space (possíble also in classical

estimation problem)

Parameter-dependent <u>POVM</u> (an entirely novel quantum degree of freedom) New bound for parameter dependent POVMS

$$F_X(\lambda) = \int d\nu \left\{ \frac{[\operatorname{tr}(\Pi_\lambda(x)\partial_\lambda\rho_\lambda)]^2}{\operatorname{tr}(\Pi_\lambda(x)\rho_\lambda)} + \frac{[\operatorname{tr}(\partial_\lambda\Pi_\lambda(x)\rho_\lambda)]^2}{\operatorname{tr}(\Pi_\lambda(x)\rho_\lambda)} + \frac{2\operatorname{tr}(\Pi_\lambda(x)\partial_\lambda\rho_\lambda)\operatorname{tr}(\partial_\lambda\Pi_\lambda(x)\rho_\lambda)}{\operatorname{tr}(\Pi_\lambda(x)\rho_\lambda)} \right\}$$

$$F_X(\lambda) \le \left[\sqrt{H(\lambda)} + \sqrt{\mathscr{K}_X(\lambda)}\right]^2$$

 $\mathscr{K}_X(\lambda) = 4 \int dx \left\langle \partial_\lambda x | \rho_\lambda | \partial_\lambda x \right\rangle$

(projective POVMS)

Achievable ? What about optimal measurement?

L Seveso et al Phys. Rev. A 95, 012111 (2017)

New bound for parameter dependent POVMs

- gravimetry with a quantum mechanical oscillator

$$\mathcal{H} = p^2/2m + kx^2/2 + mgx$$

- prepare the oscillator in a coherent state

$$H(g) = 8m/\omega^3 \sin^2 \omega t/2$$

$$F_{\mathcal{H}}(g)=2m/\omega^3$$
 measurement of energy (Hamíltonían)

New bound for parameter dependent POVMS



New bound: estimating a Hamiltonian parameter beyond CR

 $H \equiv H_{\xi} \qquad H \neq \xi G$



CTRL-energy measurements



regular strategies New bound: estimating a Hamiltonian parameter beyond CR

PROPOSITION 1. Given a finite-dimensional quantum system with Hamiltonian $H_{\xi} \in \text{Her}_d(\mathbb{C})$ and general parameter $\xi \in \Xi$, the performance of any non-regular estimation strategy based on a controlled energy measurement $\mathcal{M}_{V,\xi}$ is bounded as follows. The maximum extractable information \mathcal{G}_{ξ} obeys the inequality

$$\mathcal{G}_{\xi} \leq \left(\sigma[\mathfrak{g}_{U,\xi}] + \sigma[\mathfrak{g}_{S,\xi}]\right)^2$$
,

where $U_t = exp(-itH)$ is the unitary encoding, S_{ξ} is the similarity transformation diagonalizing H_{ξ} , $\mathfrak{g}_{U,\xi}$ (resp., $\mathfrak{g}_{S,\xi}$) is the generator of U_t (resp., S_{ξ}), i.e.

$$\mathfrak{g}_{U,\xi} = i\partial_{\xi}U_t U_t^{\dagger} , \qquad \mathfrak{g}_{S,\xi} = i\partial_{\xi}S_{\xi}S_{\xi}^{\dagger} ,$$

and $\sigma(\cdot)$ denotes the spectral gap.

Estimation of the direction of an external field



NV-center (in diamond) magnetometry

$$H_{NV} = \mu B_z S_z + D S_z^2 + E \left(S_x^2 - S_y^2 \right)$$
$$D \simeq \pi \times 1.44 GHz \quad E \simeq \pi \times 50 kHz$$



Quantum estimation theory provides a set of fundamental tools and ideas of general interest for quantum information and quantum technology

Parameter dependent quantum measurements are not bounded by the QCR bound and may be realised in practice: metrology may be more quantum-enhanced than previously thought.















































Funding



Ads



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General Physics. Quantum Physics including Quantum Information and Open Quantum Systems. Quantum Optics. Foundations.

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