

Quantum Entanglement Lecture 7 2006-11-06

*review 2 slit experiment*

*formal calculation of probability that electron found at m  
destroying the interference pattern*

*shrodinger's cat is not in a superposition of alive and dead*

*classical entropy*

*Trace of a matrix*

*quantum density matrix*

*Quantum mechanical entropy of a density matrix*

Prof. Leonard Susskind; videos on [Stanford on iTunes U](#)

[Susskind's Blog: Physics for Everyone](#)

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**01:00 review 2 slit experiment.**

states change in a linear way

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & & m \\
 0 & \begin{array}{c} A \\ B \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

electron emitted at 0, has equal probability of going through A or B (quantum superposition – add amplitudes)

$$|0\rangle \rightarrow |A\rangle + |B\rangle$$

$$|A\rangle \rightarrow \sum_n \psi_n |m\rangle$$

if electron goes through A, the quantum probability of arriving at the  $m^{\text{th}}$  position:

$$|B\rangle \rightarrow \sum_n \phi_n |m\rangle$$

or, if started at B, then will arrive a position m with probability amplitudes:

$$P_m^A = \psi_m^* \psi_m$$

if slot B is closed, then probability arrive at the  $m^{\text{th}}$  position is  $P_m^A$ ;

$$P_m^B = \phi_m^* \phi_m$$

similarly if slot A closed,  $P_m^B$  is  $\phi^* \phi$

06:50 In classical statistics, if both holes open, the the classical probability of arriving a position m would be the sum of the individual probabilities;  $P_a + P_b$

07:00 in quantum probability, going through A or B (both holes open)

$$|A\rangle + |B\rangle \rightarrow \sum_n (\psi_n + \phi_n) |m\rangle$$

A or B is sum of all probabilities at m

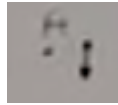
the probability is the amplitude squared  $(\psi + \phi)^* \cdot (\psi + \phi)$   
 which is the sum of the two individual trajectories plus the interference trajectory of going through A  
 $(\psi^* \phi)$  and going through B  $(\psi \phi^*)$

$$P_m^{A+B} = \psi_m^* \psi_m + \phi_m^* \phi_m + \psi_m^* \phi_m + \psi_m \phi_m^*$$

If we position at  $m=0$  (equal distance between A B) the  $\psi \phi$  amplitudes will be equal which gives us 4  
 four times the probability, not twice as in classical.

09:45 you can also, by inserting things or changing wave phase, make  $\psi = -\phi$ ; in which case you will  
 get zero probability (destructive interference)

10:00 what happens if someone records whether electron goes through A or B; i.e. add something that



flips, records, ..., if electron goes through A recording device at slot A to determine if  
 electron goes through A

so now we have a different set of conditions. if the electron leaves point 0 with spin down (1) if it goes  
 through A will be flipped up (2) if through B left as down:

$$|0d\rangle \rightarrow |Au\rangle + |Bd\rangle$$

The two states A and B are correlated and entangled with the spin.  
 now states are different at position  $m$ , depending on {A up} or {B down}

$$|Au\rangle \rightarrow \sum_n \psi_n |m_u\rangle$$

$$|Bd\rangle \rightarrow \sum_n \phi_n |m_d\rangle$$

**20:00 formal calculation of probability that electron found at  $m$**

using probability operator

- 1) find sub space;
- 2) find orthogonal basis for that subspace;
- 3) calculate probability operator as a sum of dyads  $|i\rangle\langle i|$

2 ways electron found at  $m$ , spin up or spin down. we need to build the projection operator onto the  
 state where the electron is at point  $m$ .

$$\left\{ |m_u\rangle\langle m_u| + |m_d\rangle\langle m_d| \right\}$$

$\mathbb{P}$  projection operator at  $m$  ( $|m_u\rangle\langle m_u| + |m_d\rangle\langle m_d|$ )

eq. as above, but now we have to sum both states – not a simple probability as  $|\text{ket}\rangle$  vectors are  
 different final state is sum of states through A, through B

state vector;

$$\left\{ \sum_n \psi_n |m_u\rangle + \phi_n |m_d\rangle \right\}$$

RH  $\sum \psi_n |m_u\rangle + \phi_n |m_d\rangle$  summed over  $n$

on other side, the conjugate to calculate the probability.

LH

$$\psi_n^* \langle n u | + \phi_n^* \langle n d | \left\{ \psi_n^* \langle n u | + \phi_n^* \langle n d | \right.$$

$$\{ \psi_n^* \langle n u | + \phi_n^* \langle n d | \} | m u \rangle \langle m u | + | m d \rangle \langle m d | \{ \sum \psi_n | n u \rangle + \phi_n | n d \rangle \}$$

### 22:00 *destroying the interference pattern*

24:00 Calculating – you only get a contribution when up=up (down=down) and when the state vector position “n” is equal to “m” of our test position. when equal, the probability is 1 (because cross interference terms vanish)

$$\psi_m^* \psi_m + \phi_m^* \phi_m$$

the probability is square of amplitude; same as classical so- if you do a measurement the same as classical probability.

### **The measurement destroys the interference pattern (entangled state)**

30:00 another way to destroy the interference pattern is by the electron emitting a photon as it goes through A or B. For a slow electron this probability is low (~ 1 in 100) but if you increase the energy of an electron the probability is higher and would be enough to destroy the interference pattern.

32:00 this also means you have to use a large number of electrons in the experiment to overcome this “accelerating electron emitting a photon effect”

34:00 if you collect statistics from only when the photon was emitted then you would find that the interference pattern was worse. Some problem though because a photon emitted from A may not be completely orthogonal to a photon emitted from B so you may still have some interference from the photons.

35:00 another effect is the interference destruction from the atmosphere. The atmosphere acts like a continual measurement thus constantly destroying the interference patterns.

37:00 collapse of the wave packet means you get rid of the additive expression and thus eliminate cross terms:

$$\sum_n (\psi_n + \phi_n) | m \rangle$$

additive function of interference ( $\sum (\psi_m + \phi_m) | m \rangle$ )

$$\psi_n^* \psi_m + \psi_n^* \phi_m$$

cross terms attributed to additive packet ( $+ \psi_m^* \phi_m + \psi_m \phi_m^*$ )

### 41:20 *shrodinger’s cat is not in a superposition of alive and dead.*

The cat is entangled with another system. The composite system is in a superposition of |live unfired> |dead fired>

l,d=cat alive,dead. u,f=gn unfired,fired

$$|u\rangle \rightarrow \alpha|du\rangle + \beta|df\rangle \quad ||u\rangle \rightarrow \alpha|du\rangle + \beta|df\rangle$$

49:00 if you add further measurement devices. schrodinger looks into box thus entangling the cat, gun, and him – and then someone watches schrodinger, etc..

--- because of linearity of actions all come out to be the same thing

50:00 measurement differences classical <-> quantum

- a classical experiment can always be measured without disturbing the system.
- in a quantum experiment the measurement is not done until entanglement is established;
- and it is that entanglement that disturbs the system;
- Also destroys any previous entanglement.

60:00 entropy

64:00 how do you determine degree of entanglement between two systems?

this measurement is call *entanglement entropy*.

**66:00 classical entropy, probability just uses boolean set theory.**

entropy is a state of the system together with your state of knowledge about the system.

the less you know, the more its entropy. The more you know, the less its entropy.

68:00 say we have a finite system of N states; we know the system is in one of the (small) n states;

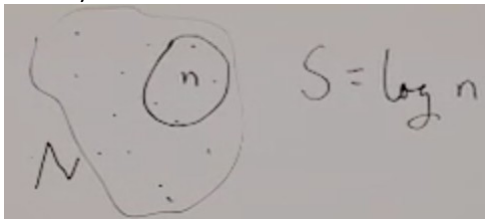
--- the smaller the area of little n; the more defined is the state of the system .

n is a measure of our degree of ignorance about the system.

--- if little n is one state, then the entropy is 1

--- if little n = big N, then we know nothing and the entropy is maximum;

69:00 S is a measure of entropy. use log because total number of states is exponential (state1 \* state2 \* state3 \* ... 2<sup>3</sup>)



classical: use set theory to measure entropy

72:00 probability of being in state i is 1/n if i is in the subset n. otherwise the probability is zero (n being the subset where we know the system is in).

$$P(i) = \frac{1}{n} \text{ if } i \in n$$

$$P(i) = 0 \text{ if } i \notin n$$

probability of i being in n

74:00 formula for general probability distribution. Probability of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  state times the logarithm of the probability of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  state. note probability is  $< 1$  so log is negative.

$$S = -\sum_i P_i \log P_i$$

general probability distribution

75:00 probability of a state inside  $n$  (contribution of any state within subset " $n$ ")

$\mathbb{P}$  of 1 state inside  $n$ :  $S = -\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \log\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) = \left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \log(n)$  as  $-\log\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) = \log(n)$

$\mathbb{P}$  of all  $n$  states in  $n$ :  $S = n\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \log(n) = \log(n)$

**In the case of a probability distribution of either zero or one, the probability is normal classical probability**

78:00 the difference between maximum entropy and actual entropy is called information.

**80:00 definition: Trace of a matrix**

let  $M$  be any matrix;

$i$  is any diagonal element

trace of  $M$  is  $\langle i | M | i \rangle$

$$\sum_i \langle i | M | i \rangle = \text{Tr } M$$

trace is sum of diagonal elements

the trace of  $M$  is independent of the basis vectors. all basis vectors give same trace.

83:00 if  $M$  is a diagonal matrix (say a Hermitian) then the diagonal elements are the eigenvalues.

*The sum of the eigenvalues equals the trace of the matrix.*

**87:00 quantum density matrix.**

you use this when you do not know what state a system is in but you do know the probability of being in one state or the other.

90:00 someone has prepared the system along one of the basis vectors  $i$  with a probability of  $P_i$ .

92:00 probability matrix – trace is  $(\sum P_i) = 1$

$$\rho = \begin{pmatrix} P_1 & 0 & & \\ 0 & P_2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & P_n \end{pmatrix}$$

trace of  $\mathbb{P}$  matrix = 1 (i.e. sum of probabilities = 1)

say we have an observable  $F$  (is also a Hermitian operator) then the average of  $F$  is just that expectation value of the state  $\langle i | F | i \rangle$

93:50 Definition the average of  $F$  is the trace times the product of  $F$  and  $\rho$ .

$$\bar{F} = \text{Tr} F \rho$$

average of vector  $F = \text{Tr}(F\rho)$

$$\sum_i \langle i | F \rho | i \rangle$$

take the basis, take the expectation and sum over  $i$

$$I = \sum_i |i\rangle\langle i|$$

the unit vector is formed from the DYAD of the basis unit vectors.

inserting between  $F$  and  $P$  (because a unit vector can be inserted anywhere)

$$\sum_{i,j} \langle i | F | j \rangle \langle j | \rho | i \rangle$$

---only valid if  $i = j$

but  $\langle j | \rho | i \rangle$  is just  $P_i$  (diagonal) and  $\langle i | F | i \rangle$  is  $F_i$  – expectation value. which summed gives the  $\text{Tr} F \rho$  (trace being sum of values)

$$\langle i | F | i \rangle \rho_i$$

which is the quantum mechanical version of the classic probability:

$$\sum_i F_i P_i$$

classical probability function  $\times$  probability of the function

another analogy: classical probabilities sum to one; density matrix trace sums to one.

### 99:00 Quantum mechanical entropy of a density matrix

- if any of the (diagonal)  $\rho$  is equal to 1, then the entropy is zero.
- if all equal then the probability is the log of the number of states

entropy is the trace  $\text{Tr}$  times the density matrix  $\rho$  times the log density matrix  $\rho$

$$S = -\text{Tr} \rho \log \rho$$

