The quantum first detection problem

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The name of the game

Asymptotics of the first detection probability in systems with absolutely continuous energy spectra

The total detection probability in finite dimensional systems

When does a system/particle starting in $|\psi_{in}\rangle$ first reach $|\psi_d\rangle$?

When is the output of a quantum computer available?

Krovi and Brun 2006; Ruschhaupt, Muga, and Hegerfeldt 2009; Grünbaum et al. 2013; Sinkovicz et al. 2015; S. Dhar, Dasgupta, and A. Dhar 2015.

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What one does not measure, thereof one must be silent.

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$$\hat{U} = e^{-i\tau \hat{H}} \qquad \qquad \hat{D} = |\psi_{\mathsf{d}}\rangle\!\langle\psi_{\mathsf{d}}|$$

Detection protocol



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$$\mu(\lambda) := \langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | \delta(\hat{U} - e^{-i\lambda}) | \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \rangle, \quad \mu(\lambda)\nu(\lambda) := \langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | \delta(\hat{U} - e^{-i\lambda}) | \psi_{\mathsf{in}} \rangle$$

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$$\mu(\lambda) := \langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | \delta(\hat{U} - e^{-i\lambda}) | \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \rangle \,, \quad \mu(\lambda)\nu(\lambda) := \langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | \delta(\hat{U} - e^{-i\lambda}) | \psi_{\mathsf{in}} \rangle$$

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- Only total overlaps matter $\sum_{m} \langle \psi_{d} | E_{l,m} \rangle \langle E_{l,m} | \psi_{in} \rangle$

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- Only total overlaps matter $\sum_{m} \langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | E_{l,m} \rangle \langle E_{l,m} | \psi_{\mathsf{in}} \rangle$
- Equivalent energy levels: $E_l = E_{l'} \mod 2\pi/\tau$









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Asymptotics of the first detection probability in systems with absolutely continuous energy spectra

The total detection probability in finite dimensional systems

$$\hat{H} = \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} \left[2 \left| x \right\rangle \! \left\langle x \right| - \left| x \right\rangle \! \left\langle x + 1 \right| - \left| x \right\rangle \! \left\langle x - 1 \right| \right]$$

Thiel, Barkai, and Kessler 2018.

Tight-binding model on the infinite line



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$$\mu(\tau E_l^* \pm \epsilon) \sim M_+ \epsilon^{\frac{d_S}{2} - 1} \qquad \qquad E_l^* \dots \text{ van Hove singularities} \\ d_S \dots \text{ spectral dimension}$$





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$$F_n \sim \frac{1}{n^{\max(4-d_S,d_S)}} \left| \sum_l C_l e^{-in\tau E_l^*} \right|^2$$



Thiel, Kessler, and Barkai 2018.

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Facchi and Pascazio 2003; Krovi and Brun 2006; Caruso et al. 2009; Grünbaum et al. 2013; Novo et al. 2015; Thiel, Mualem, et al. 2019.

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$$|\beta\rangle \in \mathcal{H}_B \Rightarrow P_{\mathsf{det}}(\beta) = 1, \quad |\delta\rangle \in \mathcal{H}_D \Rightarrow P_{\mathsf{det}}(\delta) = 0$$

The total detection probability

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$$P_{\mathsf{det}}(\psi_{\mathsf{in}}) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} F_n(\psi_{\mathsf{in}}) = \langle \psi_{\mathsf{in}} | \hat{P}_{\mathcal{H}_B} | \psi_{\mathsf{in}} \rangle = \sum_l' \frac{\left| \langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | \hat{P}_l | \psi_{\mathsf{in}} \rangle \right|^2}{\langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | \hat{P}_l | \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \rangle}$$

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$$\begin{split} \mathcal{H}_B &= \mathrm{span}\{\hat{P}_l \left| \psi_{\mathrm{d}} \right\rangle\} \\ P_{\mathrm{det}}(\psi_{\mathrm{in}}) &= \sum_l' \frac{\left| \left\langle \psi_{\mathrm{d}} \right| \hat{P}_l \left| \psi_{\mathrm{in}} \right\rangle \right|^2}{\left\langle \psi_{\mathrm{d}} \right| \hat{P}_l \left| \psi_{\mathrm{d}} \right\rangle} \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{H}_B &= \operatorname{span}\{\hat{P}_l \left| \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \right\rangle\} = \operatorname{span}\{\hat{H}^k \left| \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \right\rangle\}\\ P_{\mathsf{det}}(\psi_{\mathsf{in}}) &= \sum_l' \frac{\left| \left\langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \right| \hat{P}_l \left| \psi_{\mathsf{in}} \right\rangle \right|^2}{\left\langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \right| \hat{P}_l \left| \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \right\rangle} \end{split}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}_B &= \operatorname{span}\{\hat{P}_l |\psi_{\mathsf{d}}\rangle\} = \operatorname{span}\{\hat{H}^k |\psi_{\mathsf{d}}\rangle\}\\ \langle\psi_{\mathsf{d}}|\psi_{\mathsf{in}}\rangle|^2 &+ \frac{|\langle\psi_{\mathsf{in}}|(\mathbb{1}-\hat{D})\hat{H}|\psi_{\mathsf{d}}\rangle|^2}{\operatorname{Var}[\hat{H}]_{\psi_{\mathsf{d}}}} \leq P_{\mathsf{det}}(\psi_{\mathsf{in}}) = \sum_l' \frac{|\langle\psi_{\mathsf{d}}|\hat{P}_l|\psi_{\mathsf{in}}\rangle|^2}{\langle\psi_{\mathsf{d}}|\hat{P}_l|\psi_{\mathsf{d}}\rangle}\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{H}_B = \operatorname{span}\{\hat{P}_l |\psi_{\mathsf{d}}\rangle\} = \operatorname{span}\{\hat{H}^k |\psi_{\mathsf{d}}\rangle\}$$

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$$\mathcal{H}_{B} = \operatorname{span}\{\hat{P}_{l} |\psi_{\mathsf{d}}\rangle\} = \operatorname{span}\{\hat{H}^{k} |\psi_{\mathsf{d}}\rangle\}$$

$$|\langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | \psi_{\mathsf{in}} \rangle|^{2} + \frac{|\langle \psi_{\mathsf{in}} | (\mathbb{1} - \hat{D}) \hat{H} | \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \rangle|^{2}}{\operatorname{Var}[\hat{H}]_{\psi_{\mathsf{d}}}} \leq P_{\mathsf{det}}(\psi_{\mathsf{in}}) = \sum_{l}' \frac{|\langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | \hat{P}_{l} | \psi_{\mathsf{in}} \rangle|^{2}}{\langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | \hat{P}_{l} | \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \rangle}$$
$$\varphi_{n}(1) = \varphi_{n}(7)$$



 $|3\rangle$

 $|5\rangle$

 $|4\rangle$

$$\mathcal{H}_{B} = \operatorname{span}\{\hat{P}_{l} | \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \rangle\} = \operatorname{span}\{\hat{H}^{k} | \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \rangle\}$$

$$|\langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | \psi_{\mathsf{in}} \rangle|^{2} + \frac{|\langle \psi_{\mathsf{in}} | (\mathbb{1} - \hat{D}) \hat{H} | \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \rangle|^{2}}{\operatorname{Var}[\hat{H}]_{\psi_{\mathsf{d}}}} \leq P_{\mathsf{det}}(\psi_{\mathsf{in}}) = \sum_{l}' \frac{|\langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | \hat{P}_{l} | \psi_{\mathsf{in}} \rangle|^{2}}{\langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | \hat{P}_{l} | \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \rangle}$$
$$\varphi_{n}(1) = \varphi_{n}(7)$$
$$|\psi_{\pm}\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|1\rangle \pm |7\rangle)$$

 $|4\rangle$

$$\mathcal{H}_{B} = \operatorname{span}\{\hat{P}_{l} | \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \rangle\} = \operatorname{span}\{\hat{H}^{k} | \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \rangle\}$$

)

$$|\langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | \psi_{\mathsf{in}} \rangle|^{2} + \frac{|\langle \psi_{\mathsf{in}} | (\mathbb{1} - \hat{D}) \hat{H} | \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \rangle|^{2}}{\operatorname{Vaf}[\hat{H}]_{\psi_{\mathsf{d}}}} \leq P_{\mathsf{det}}(\psi_{\mathsf{in}}) = \sum_{l}' \frac{|\langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | \hat{P}_{l} | \psi_{\mathsf{in}} \rangle|^{2}}{\langle \psi_{\mathsf{d}} | \hat{P}_{l} | \psi_{\mathsf{d}} \rangle}$$

$$\varphi_{n}(1) = \varphi_{n}(7)$$

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$$|\psi_{\pm}\rangle \in \mathcal{H}_{D}$$

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$$\varphi_n(1) = \varphi_n(7)$$

$$|\psi_{\pm}\rangle:=\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|1\rangle\pm|7\rangle)$$

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 ν ...number of physically equivalent states



$$\mathcal{H}_{B} = \operatorname{span}\{\hat{P}_{l} |\psi_{\mathsf{d}}\rangle\} = \operatorname{span}\{\hat{H}^{k} |\psi_{\mathsf{d}}\rangle\}$$

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 $\mathcal{S}_{|\psi_{\mathsf{d}}\rangle} := \{ \hat{S} \in \mathcal{A} | 0 = [\hat{S}, \hat{D}] \, \}$

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 $\nu = \dim\{\mathcal{S}_{|\psi_{\mathsf{d}}\rangle} \, |\psi_{\mathsf{in}}\rangle\}$



- ► A detection protocol defines the first "arrival" time
- (Pseudo-)energies and overlaps determine the first detection statistics
- Continuous energy spectra: Power law decay and oscillations from van-Hove singularities
- Finite dimensional systems: Dark and bright space, P_{det}, Krylov and symmetry bound

You've made it! Thank you for the attention!

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