

From Statistical Decision Theory to Bell Nonlocality

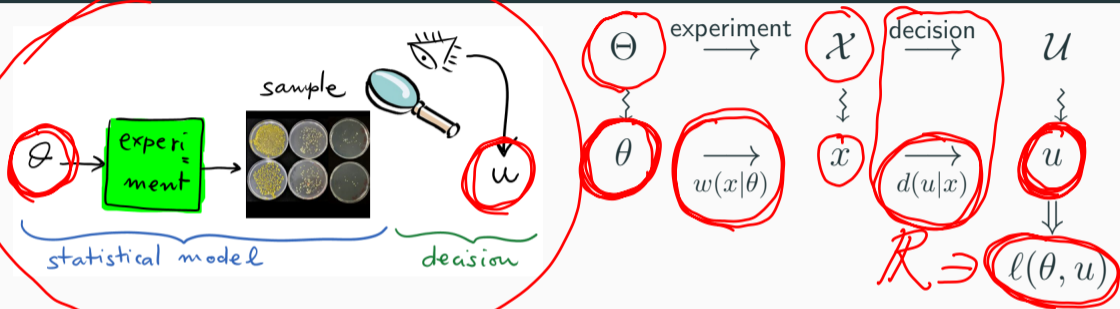
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Introduction

Statistical Decision Problems

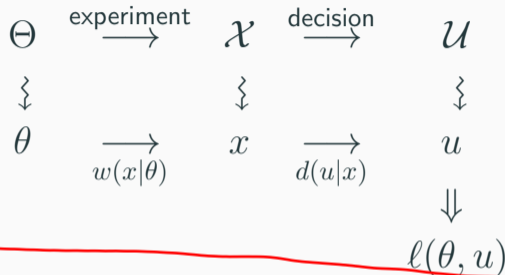


Definition (Statistical Models and Decisions Problems)

A **statistical experiment** (i.e., statistical model) is a triple $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{X}, w \rangle$, a **statistical decision problem** (i.e., **statistical game**) is a triple $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{U}, l \rangle$.

How Much Is an Experiment Worth?

- the experiment *is given*, i.e., it is the “resource”
- the decision instead *can be optimized*



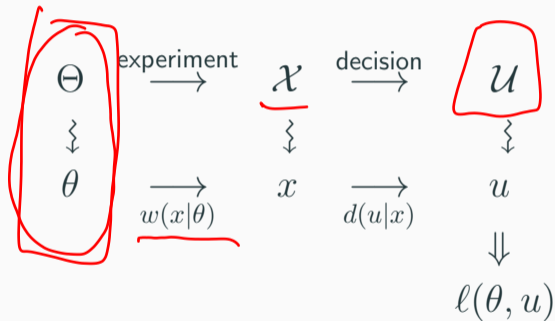
Definition (Expected Payoff)

The **expected payoff** of a statistical experiment $\mathbf{w} = \langle \Theta, \mathcal{X}, w \rangle$ w.r.t. a decision problem $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{U}, \ell \rangle$ is given by

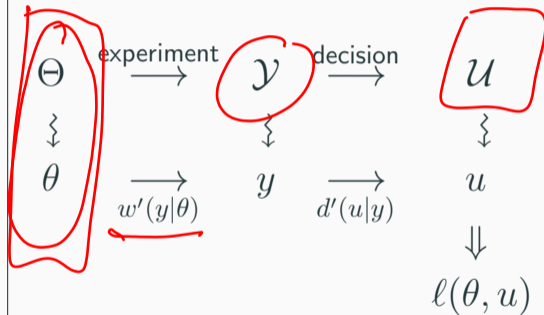
$$\mathbb{E}_{\langle \Theta, \mathcal{U}, \ell \rangle}[\mathbf{w}] \triangleq \max_{d(u|x)} \sum_{u, x, \theta} \ell(\theta, u) d(u|x) w(x|\theta) |\Theta|^{-1}.$$

Comparing Experiments 1/2

experiment $\mathbf{w} = \langle \Theta, \mathcal{X}, w(x|\theta) \rangle$



experiment $\mathbf{w}' = \langle \Theta, \mathcal{Y}, w'(y|\theta) \rangle$



If $\mathbb{E}_{\langle \Theta, \mathcal{U}, \ell \rangle}[\mathbf{w}] \geq \mathbb{E}_{\langle \Theta, \mathcal{U}, \ell \rangle}[\mathbf{w}']$ then experiment $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{X}, w \rangle$ is better than experiment $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{Y}, w' \rangle$ for problem $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{U}, \ell \rangle$.

Comparing Experiments 2/2

Definition (Information Preorder)

If the experiment $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{X}, w \rangle$ is better than experiment $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{Y}, w' \rangle$ for all decision problems $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{U}, \ell \rangle$, then we say that $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{X}, w \rangle$ is more informative than $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{Y}, w' \rangle$, and write

$$\langle \Theta, \mathcal{X}, w \rangle \succeq \langle \Theta, \mathcal{Y}, w' \rangle .$$

Problem. The information preorder is operational, but not really “concrete”. Can we visualize this better?

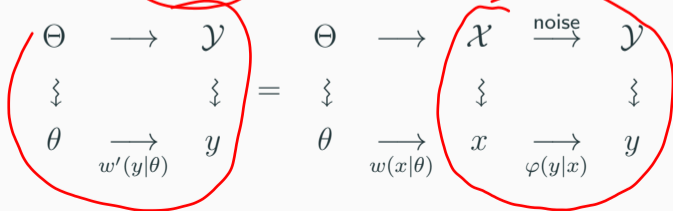
Blackwell's Theorem (1948-1953)

Blackwell-Sherman-Stein Theorem

Given two experiments with the same parameter space, $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{X}, w \rangle$ and $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{Y}, w' \rangle$, the condition $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{X}, w \rangle \succeq \langle \Theta, \mathcal{Y}, w' \rangle$ holds *iff* there exists a conditional probability $\varphi(y|x)$ such that $w'(y|\theta) = \sum_x \varphi(y|x)w(x|\theta)$



David H. Blackwell (1919-2010)

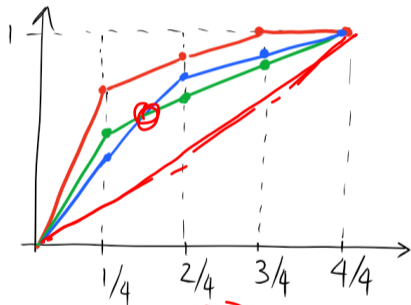


An Important Special Case: Majorization

Lorenz Curves and Majorization Preorder

- two probability distributions, p and q , of the same dimension n
- truncated sums $P(k) = \sum_{i=1}^k p_i^\downarrow$ and $Q(k) = \sum_{i=1}^k q_i^\downarrow$, for all $k = 1, \dots, n$
- p majorizes q , i.e., $p \succeq q$, whenever $P(k) \geq Q(k)$, for all k
- minimal element: uniform distribution $e = n^{-1}(1, 1, \dots, 1)$
- **Hardy, Littlewood, and Pólya (1929):**
 $p \succeq q \iff q = Mp$, for some bistochastic matrix M

Lorenz curve for probability distribution $p = (p_1, \dots, p_n)$:



$$(x_k, y_k) = (k/n, P(k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq n$$

Dichotomies and Tests

- a dichotomy is a statistical experiment with a two-point parameter space: $\langle \{1, 2\}, \mathcal{X}, (w_1, w_2) \rangle$
- a testing problem (or “test”) is a decision problem with a two-point action space $\mathcal{U} = \{1, 2\}$

Definition (Testing Preorder)

Given two dichotomies $\langle \mathcal{X}, (w_1, w_2) \rangle$ and $\langle \mathcal{Y}, (w'_1, w'_2) \rangle$, we write

$$\langle \mathcal{X}, (w_1, w_2) \rangle \succeq_2 \langle \mathcal{Y}, (w'_1, w'_2) \rangle ,$$

whenever

$$\mathbb{E}_{\langle \{1,2\}, \{1,2\}, \ell \rangle} [\langle \mathcal{X}, (w_1, w_2) \rangle] \geq \mathbb{E}_{\langle \{1,2\}, \{1,2\}, \ell \rangle} [\langle \mathcal{Y}, (w'_1, w'_2) \rangle]$$

for all testing problems.

Connection with Majorization Preorder

Blackwell's Theorem for Dichotomies (1953)

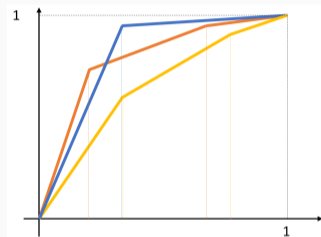
Given two dichotomies $\langle \mathcal{X}, (w_1, w_2) \rangle$ and $\langle \mathcal{Y}, (w'_1, w'_2) \rangle$, the relation $\langle \mathcal{X}, (w_1, w_2) \rangle \succeq_2 \langle \mathcal{Y}, (w'_1, w'_2) \rangle$ holds iff there exists a stochastic matrix M such that $Mw_i = w'_i$.

- **majorization**: $p \succeq q \iff \langle \mathcal{X}, (p, e) \rangle \succeq_2 \langle \mathcal{X}, (q, e) \rangle$
- **thermomajorization**: as above, but replace uniform e with thermal distribution γ_T

Hence, the information preorder is a multivariate version of the majorization preorder, and Blackwell's theorem is a powerful generalization of that by Hardy, Littlewood, and Pólya.

Visualization: Relative Lorenz Curves

- two pairs of probability distributions, $(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2)$ and $(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2)$, of dimension m and n , respectively
- relabel their entries such that the ratios p_1^i/p_2^i and q_1^j/q_2^j are nonincreasing in i and j
- with such labeling, construct the truncated sums $P_{1,2}(k) = \sum_{i=1}^k p_{1,2}^i$ and $Q_{1,2}(k) = \sum_{j=1}^k q_{1,2}^j$
- $(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2) \succeq_2 (\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2)$, if and only if the relative Lorenz curve of the former is never below that of the latter



Relative Lorenz curves:

$$(x_k, y_k) = (P_2(k), P_1(k))$$

The Quantum Case

Quantum Decision Theory (Holevo, 1973)

classical case

- decision problems $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{U}, \ell \rangle$
- experiments $\mathbf{w} = \langle \Theta, \mathcal{X}, \{w(x|\theta)\} \rangle$
- decisions $d(u|x)$
- $p_c(u, \theta) = \sum_x d(u|x) w(x|\theta) |\Theta|^{-1}$
- $\mathbb{E}_{\langle \Theta, \mathcal{U}, \ell \rangle}[\mathbf{w}] = \max_{d(u|x)} \sum \ell(\theta, u) p_c(u, \theta)$

quantum case

- decision problems $\langle \Theta, \mathcal{U}, \ell \rangle$
- quantum experiments $\mathcal{E} = \langle \Theta, \mathcal{H}_S, \{\rho_S^\theta\} \rangle$
- POVMs $\{P_S^u : u \in \mathcal{U}\}$
- $p_q(u, \theta) = \text{Tr}[\rho_S^\theta P_S^u] |\Theta|^{-1}$
- $\mathbb{E}_{\langle \Theta, \mathcal{U}, \ell \rangle}[\mathcal{E}] = \max_{\{P_S^u\}} \sum \ell(\theta, u) p_q(u, \theta)$

Hence, it is possible, for example, to compare quantum experiments with classical experiments, and introduce the information preorder as done before.

Example: Semiquantum Blackwell Theorem

Theorem (FB, 2012)

Given a quantum experiment $\mathcal{E} = \langle \Theta, \mathcal{H}_S, \{\rho_S^\theta\} \rangle$ and a classical experiment $\mathbf{w} = \langle \Theta, \mathcal{X}, \{w(x|\theta)\} \rangle$, the condition $\mathcal{E} \succeq \mathbf{w}$ holds iff there exists a POVM $\{P_S^x\}$ such that $w(x|\theta) = \text{Tr}[P_S^x \rho_S^\theta]$.

Equivalent reformulation

Consider two quantum experiments $\mathcal{E} = \langle \Theta, \mathcal{H}_S, \{\rho_S^\theta\} \rangle$ and $\mathcal{E}' = \langle \Theta, \mathcal{H}_{S'}, \{\sigma_{S'}^\theta\} \rangle$, and assume that the σ 's all commute. Then, $\mathcal{E} \succeq \mathcal{E}'$ holds iff there exists a quantum channel (CPTP map) $\Phi : \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}_S) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}_{S'})$ such that $\Phi(\rho_S^\theta) = \sigma_{S'}^\theta$, for all $\theta \in \Theta$.

The Theory of Quantum Statistical Comparison

- fully quantum information preorder
- quantum relative majorization
- statistical comparison of quantum measurements
(compatibility preorder)
- statistical comparison of quantum channels
(input-degradability preorder, output-degradability preorder, simulability preorder, etc)
- **applications**: quantum information theory, quantum thermodynamics, open quantum systems dynamics, quantum resource theories, quantum foundations, ...
- approximate case

**Application to Quantum Foundations:
Distributed Decision Problems,
i.e.,
Nonlocal Games**

Nonlocal Games

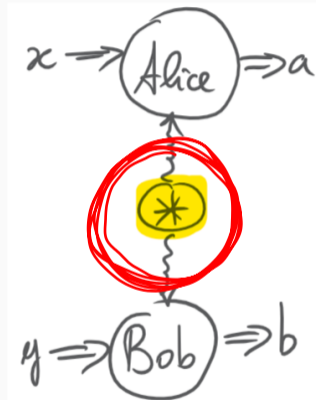
- nonlocal games (Bell tests) can be seen as bipartite decision problems $\langle \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}; \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}; \ell \rangle$ played “in parallel” by non-communicating players

- with a classical source,

$$p_c(a, b|x, y) = \sum_{\lambda} \pi(\lambda) d_A(a|x, \lambda) d_B(b|y, \lambda)$$

- with a quantum source,

$$p_q(a, b|x, y) = \text{Tr} \left[\rho_{AB} (P_A^{a|x} \otimes Q_B^{b|y}) \right]$$



$$\mathbb{E}_{\langle \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}; \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}; \ell \rangle}[*] \triangleq \max_{x, y, a, b} \sum \ell(x, y; a, b) p_{c/q}(a, b|x, y) |\mathcal{X}|^{-1} |\mathcal{Y}|^{-1}$$

Semiquantum Nonlocal Games

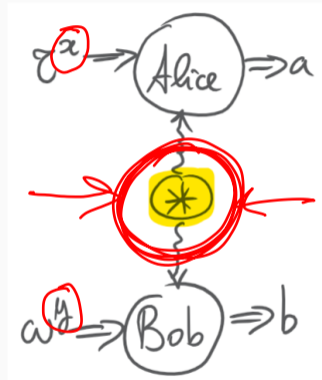
- semiquantum nonlocal games replace classical inputs with quantum inputs: $(\{\tau^x\}, \{\omega^y\}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}; \ell)$

- with a classical source, $p_c(a, b|x, y) =$

$$\sum_{\lambda} \pi(\lambda) \text{Tr} \left[(\tau_X^x \otimes \omega_Y^y) (P_X^a \otimes Q_Y^b) \right]$$

- with a quantum source, $p_q(a, b|x, y) =$

$$\text{Tr} \left[(\tau_X^x \otimes \rho_{AB} \otimes \omega_Y^y) (P_{XA}^a \otimes Q_{BY}^b) \right]$$



$$\mathbb{E}_{\langle \{\tau^x\}, \{\omega^y\}; \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}; \ell \rangle} [*] \triangleq \max_{x, y, a, b} \sum \ell(x, y; a, b) p_{c/q}(a, b|x, y) |\mathcal{X}|^{-1} |\mathcal{Y}|^{-1}$$

Blackwell Theorem for Bipartite States

Theorem (FB, 2012)

Given two bipartite states ρ_{AB} and $\sigma_{A'B'}$, the condition (i.e., “nonlocality preorder”)

$$\mathbb{E}_{\langle \{\tau^x\}, \{\omega^y\}; \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}; \ell \rangle}[\rho_{AB}] \geq \mathbb{E}_{\langle \{\tau^x\}, \{\omega^y\}; \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}; \ell \rangle}[\sigma_{A'B'}]$$

holds for all semiquantum nonlocal games, iff there exist CPTP maps $\Phi_{A \rightarrow A'}^\lambda$, $\Psi_{B \rightarrow B'}^\lambda$ and distribution $\pi(\lambda)$ such that

$$\sigma_{A'B'} = \sum_{\lambda} \pi(\lambda) (\Phi_{A \rightarrow A'}^\lambda \otimes \Psi_{B \rightarrow B'}^\lambda) (\rho_{AB}) .$$

Corollaries

- For any separable state ρ_{AB} ,

non
↓
∴ classical/seper.

$$\mathbb{E}_{\langle\{\tau^x\},\{\omega^y\};\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B};\ell\rangle}[\rho_{AB}] = \mathbb{E}_{\langle\{\tau^x\},\{\omega^y\};\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B};\ell\rangle}[\rho_A \otimes \rho_B]$$
$$= \mathbb{E}_{\langle\{\tau^x\},\{\omega^y\};\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B};\ell\rangle}^{\text{sep}}$$

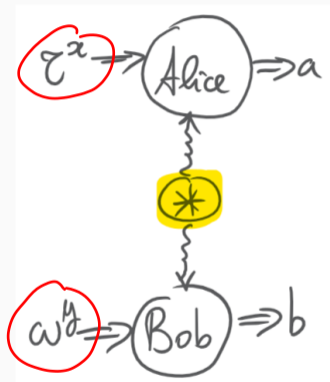
for all semiquantum nonlocal games.

- For any entangled state ρ_{AB} , **there exists** a semiquantum nonlocal game $\langle\{\tau^x\},\{\omega^y\};\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B};\ell\rangle$ such that

$$\mathbb{E}_{\langle\{\tau^x\},\{\omega^y\};\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B};\ell\rangle}[\rho_{AB}] > \mathbb{E}_{\langle\{\tau^x\},\{\omega^y\};\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B};\ell\rangle}^{\text{sep}}$$

Other Properties of Semiquantum Nonlocal Games

- can be considered as measurement device-independent entanglement witnesses (i.e., MDI-EW)
- can withstand losses in the detectors
- can withstand any amount of classical communication exchanged between Alice and Bob (not so conventional nonlocal games!)



Semiquantum Signaling Games

Semiquantum Nonlocality in Time

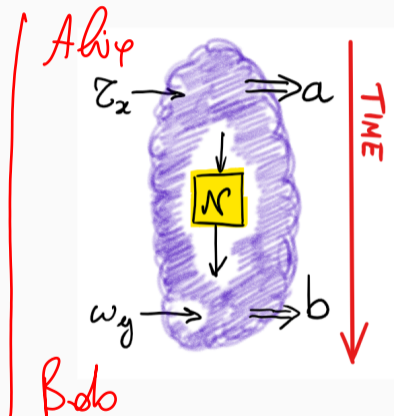
- turn dynamic communication into static memory!

- with unlimited classical memory,

$$p_c(a, b|x, y) \equiv$$

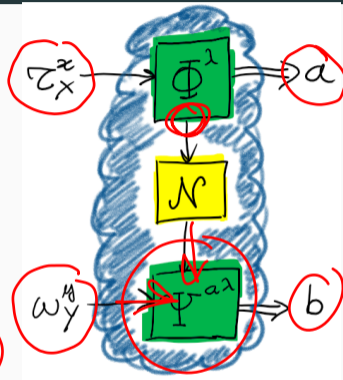
$$\sum_{\lambda} \pi(\lambda) \text{Tr} \left[\tau_X^x P_X^{a|\lambda} \right] \text{Tr} \left[\omega_Y^y Q_Y^{b|a^\lambda} \right]$$

- if, moreover, a quantum memory $\mathcal{N} : A \rightarrow B$ is available, which correlations can be achieved?



Admissible Quantum Strategies

- τ_X^x is fed through an *instrument* $\{\Phi_{X \rightarrow A}^{a|\lambda}\}$, and outcome a is recorded
- the quantum output of the instrument is fed through the quantum memory $\mathcal{N} : A \rightarrow B$
- the output of the memory, together with ω_Y^y , are fed into a final measurement $\{\Psi_{BY}^{b|a,\lambda}\}$, and output b is recorded



$$\sum_a \phi^{a|\lambda}$$

$$p_q(a, b|x, y) = \sum_{\lambda} \pi(\lambda) \text{Tr} \left[\left(\left(\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B} \circ \Phi_{X \rightarrow A}^{a|\lambda} \right) (\tau_X^x) \right) \otimes \omega_Y^y \right] \Psi_{BY}^{b|a,\lambda}$$

Classical vs Quantum Strategies

Classical:

$$p_c(a, b|x, y) = \sum_{\lambda} \pi(\lambda) \text{Tr} \left[\tau_X^x P_X^{a|\lambda} \right] \text{Tr} \left[\omega_Y^y Q_Y^{b|a,\lambda} \right]$$

Quantum:

$$p_q(a, b|x, y) = \sum_{\lambda} \pi(\lambda) \text{Tr} \left[\left(\left\{ \mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B} \circ \Phi_{X \rightarrow A}^{a|\lambda} \right\} (\tau_X^x) \right) \otimes \omega_Y^y \right] \Psi_{BY}^{b|a,\lambda}$$

Classical vs Quantum

Classical strategies correspond to the case in which the channel \mathcal{N} has trivial output (completely depolarizing channel).

Statistical Comparison of Quantum Channels

Theorem (Rosset, FB, Liang, 2018)

Given two channels $\mathcal{N} : A \rightarrow B$ and $\mathcal{N}' : A' \rightarrow B'$, the condition (i.e., “signaling preorder”)

$$\mathbb{E}_{\langle \{\tau^x\}, \{\omega^y\}; \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}; \ell \rangle} [\mathcal{N}] \geq \mathbb{E}_{\langle \{\tau^x\}, \{\omega^y\}; \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}; \ell \rangle} [\mathcal{N}']$$

holds for all semiquantum signaling games, iff there exist a quantum instrument $\{\Phi_{A' \rightarrow A}^a\}$ and CPTP maps $\Psi_{B \rightarrow B'}^a$ such that

$$\mathcal{N}'_{A' \rightarrow B'} = \sum_a \Psi_{B \rightarrow B'}^a \circ \mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B} \circ \Phi_{A' \rightarrow A}^a .$$

Consequences

- by asking quantum questions, it is possible to verify the quantumness in Alice's memory
- similar to Leggett-Garg inequalities, but without loopholes and other conceptual difficulties
- i.e., one of the simplest, non-trivial, time-like Bell tests

Conclusions

Conclusions

- generally speaking, the theory of statistical comparison studies transformation of one “statistical structure” X into another “statistical structure” Y
- equivalent conditions are given in terms of (finitely or infinitely many) *monotones*, e.g., $f_i(X) \geq f_i(Y)$
- such monotones shed light on the “resources” at stake in the operational framework at hand
- statistical comparison is complementary to SDP, which instead searches for *efficiently computable* functions like $f(X, Y)$
- however, SDP does not provide much insight into the resources at stake