New optimal tests of quantum nonlocality

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Abstract

We explore correlation polytopes to derive a set of all Boole-Bell type conditions of possible classical experience which are both maximal and complete. These are compared with the respective quantum expressions for the Greenberger-Horne-Zeilinger (GHZ) case and for two particles with spin state measurements along three directions.

PACS numbers: 03.65.Ud,03.65.Ta

Keywords: Bell’s inequalities; correlation polytopes, probability theory
Consider some arbitrary elementary events $A$, $B$, $C$, ..., such as "the electron spin in the $x$-direction is up", as well as some of the joints of these propositions; e.g., $AB$, $AC$, ..., $ABC$, .... In order to be consistently interpretable, the probabilities of these events $P(A)$, $P(B)$, $P(C)$, ..., $P(AB)$, $P(AC)$, ..., $P(ABC)$, ... must satisfy some inequalities; for example: $P(A) + P(B) - P(AB) \leq 1$ or $P(A) - P(AB) - P(AC) + P(BC) \geq 0$. These inequalities are satisfied for every possible classical probability distribution $P$.

In the middle of the 19th century George Boole [1, 2, 3, 4, 5] investigated these inequalities and referred to them as conditions of possible experience. The number and complexity of the inequalities increase fast as the number of events grow. Among them are the famous inequalities that arise in the EPR experiment and its generalizations. In particular, Bell inequalities and Clauser-Horne (CH) inequalities [6, 7].

Consider, for example, the latter. We have four events: $A_1, A_2$ that correspond to Alice’s measurements on the left, and $B_1, B_2$ measured by Bob on the right. In order to derive the CH inequalities we list the $2^4 = 16$ extreme cases where the probability of the elementary events $A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2$ are set to be either zero or one. That is, we consider the truth table I, where $t(A_i), t(B_j) \in \{0, 1\}$. Assume that each of the sixteen rows in the truth table is a vector in an eight dimensional real space. Denote by $C$ the convex hull of the sixteen vectors taken as vertices. $C$ is a correlation polytope. Now, let $P$ be any classical probability distribution on the Boolean algebra generated by the events $A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2$. It is not hard to see that the vector

$$p = (P(A_1), P(A_2), P(B_1), P(B_2), P(A_1B_1), P(A_1B_2), P(A_2B_1), P(A_2B_2)) \quad (1)$$

is an element of $C$. Conversely, if $p \in C$, then there is a probability distribution $P$ such that $p$ has the representation $\Box$.  

Every convex polytope has two representations: One as the convex hull of its vertices (the V-representation), and the other as the intersection of a finite number of half-spaces, each given by a linear inequality (the H-representation). The problem of finding the inequalities when the vertices are known is called the hull problem.

| $A_1$ | $A_2$ | $B_1$ | $B_2$ | $A_1B_1$ | $A_1B_2$ | $A_2B_1$ | $A_2B_2$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| $t(A_1)$ | $t(A_2)$ | $t(B_1)$ | $t(B_2)$ | $t(A_1)t(B_1)$ | $t(A_1)t(B_2)$ | $t(A_2)t(B_1)$ | $t(A_2)t(B_2)$ |
Solving the hull problem for the CH case yields

\[ 0 \leq P(A_i B_j) \leq P(A_i), \ P(B_j) \quad i = 1, 2, \quad j = 1, 2 \]
\[ 1 \geq P(A_i), P(B_j) - P(A_i B_j) \quad i = 1, 2, \quad j = 1, 2 \]
\[ -1 \leq P(A_1 B_1) + P(A_1 B_2) + P(A_2 B_2) - P(A_2 B_1) - P(A_1) - P(B_2) \leq 0 \]
\[ -1 \leq P(A_2 B_1) + P(A_2 B_2) + P(A_1 B_2) - P(A_1 B_1) - P(A_2) - P(B_1) \leq 0 \]
\[ -1 \leq P(A_1 B_2) + P(A_1 B_1) + P(A_2 B_1) - P(A_2 B_2) - P(A_1) - P(B_1) \leq 0 \]
\[ -1 \leq P(A_2 B_2) + P(A_2 B_1) + P(A_1 B_1) - P(A_2 B_2) - P(A_2) - P(B_1) \leq 0 \]

A necessary and sufficient condition that a vector \( p \) is an element of \( C \) is that its co-ordinates satisfy these inequalities \( [4] \). As is well known, some of the CH inequalities are violated by the relative frequencies measured in the EPR experiment. This fact can be taken as an indication that the underlying Boolean structure (classical propositional logic) should be replaced by the non-distributive quantum logic \( [4, 8] \).

The above procedure can be applied to any number of events. If there are \( n \) elementary events then we have \( 2^n \) vertices, and the dimension of the space is \( n + k \) where \( k \) is the number of (pair, triple,...) intersections that we consider. There are algorithms to solve the hull problem but they run in exponential time in \( n \). (In fact, deciding if a vector \( p \) is an element of the corresponding correlation polytope is NP-complete \( [9] \).) However, for small enough cases the problem can be solved fairly quickly by one of the available algorithms.

We have chosen the \texttt{cdd} package \( [10] \) which is an efficient implementation of the double description method \( [11] \) due to Komei Fukuda \( [12, 13, 14] \), as well as the \texttt{LPoly} package due to Maximian Kreuzer and Harald Skarke \( [15] \). We have selected two examples by which to demonstrate the method and the violation of the inequalities by quantum frequencies. The first is the GHZ case of three particles and two possible measurements on each particle. The second is the case of two particles and three possible measurements on each. This last case may be of particular interest to experimentalists. Here one obtains a considerable improvement of the results (in the strength of violation of the inequalities, and in the number of inequalities that are violated) without an intractable increase in the complexity of the experiment.

In the Mermin version \( [16, 17] \) of the GHZ case \( [18, 19] \), the relevant propositions involve three particles, denoted by \( A, B, C \), and two properties, denoted by 1, 2, respectively. The
set of 26 propositions involve all three-particle events and is given by \( \{A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2, C_1, C_2, A_1B_1, A_1C_1, A_1B_2, A_1C_2, A_2B_1, A_2C_1, A_2B_2, A_2C_2, B_1C_1, B_1C_2, B_2C_1, B_2C_2, A_1B_1C_1, A_1B_1C_2, A_1B_2C_1, A_1B_2C_2, A_2B_1C_1, A_2B_1C_2, A_2B_2C_1, A_2B_2C_2 \}.

The resulting correlation polytope is 26-dimensional and has 64 vertices and 53856 faces corresponding to an equal amount of Boole-Bell type inequalities. For a complete listing of all Boole-Bell type inequalities, see Ref. [20]. Many of these inequalities are trivial; e.g., \( P(A_1B_1) \geq P(A_1B_1C_1) \geq 0 \) or \( P(A_1) + P(A_1B_1C_1) \geq P(A_1B_1) + P(A_1C_1) \). Many inequalities can be reduced to others by the symmetries. There are two types of symmetries. One kind is obtained by permuting the events. The second type by complementing the events. If an inequality is valid for an event \( A \) then it is also valid for its complement \( \overline{A} \). Thus, we can substitute \( P(\overline{A}) = 1 - P(A) \) instead of \( P(A) \) in the inequality, substitute \( P(\overline{AB}) = P(B) - P(AB) \) instead of \( P(AB) \) and replace \( P(ABC) \) by \( P(\overline{ABC}) = P(BC) - P(ABC) \). Each event can be complemented in this way resulting in additional \( 2^6 = 64 \) symmetry operations. Inequalities which have been discussed in this context by Larsson and Semitecolos [21] and by de Barros and Suppes [22] have similar counterparts in the enumeration. See also Kaszlikowski et al. [23] for a related approach. We stress here that our method produces optimal Boole-Bell inequalities in the sense that they represent the best possible upper bounds for the conceivable classical probabilities. In what follows we shall enumerate some of the new Boole-Bell inequalities.

\[
\begin{align*}
2 & \geq -P(A_1) + 2P(A_2) + P(B_1) + P(B_2) - P(C_1) + 2P(C_2) - P(A_1B_1) \\
& \quad + P(A_1C_1) + 2P(A_1B_2) + P(A_1C_2) - P(A_2B_1) + P(A_2C_1) - 2P(A_2B_2) \\
& \quad - 3P(A_2C_2) + P(B_1C_1) - P(B_2C_1) - P(B_1C_2) - 2P(B_2C_2) + 2P(A_1B_1C_1) \\
& \quad - 2P(A_2B_1C_1) - 2A_1B_2C_1 - 2P(A_1B_1C_2) + 2P(A_2B_2C_1) + 2P(A_2B_1C_2) \\
& \quad - P(A_1B_2C_2) + 3P(A_2B_2C_2), \\
3 & \geq +2P(A_2) + 3P(B_2) + 2P(C_2) + 2P(A_1C_1) - P(A_1C_2) + P(A_2B_1) \\
& \quad - P(A_2C_1) - 3P(A_2B_2) - P(A_2C_2) + P(B_1C_2) - 3P(B_2C_2) + P(A_1B_1C_1) \\
& \quad - 2A_2B_1C_1 - 3P(A_1B_2C_1) - 2P(A_1B_1C_2) + 2P(A_2B_2C_1) - 2P(A_2B_1C_2) \\
& \quad + 2P(A_1B_2C_2) + 2P(A_2B_2C_2), \\
0 & \geq -3P(A_1) - 2P(B_1) - P(C_1) + 2P(A_1B_1) + P(A_1C_1) \\
& \quad + 3P(A_1B_2) + 3P(A_1C_2) + 2P(A_2B_1) + P(A_2C_1) - 2P(A_2B_2)
\end{align*}
\]
\[-P(A_2C_2) + P(B_1C_1) + P(B_2C_1) + 2P(B_1C_2) - 2P(B_2C_2)\]
\[+P(A_1B_1C_1) - 2P(A_2B_1C_1) - 3P(A_1B_2C_1) - 4P(A_1B_1C_2)\]
\[+P(A_2B_2C_1) - P(A_2B_1C_2) - P(A_1B_2C_2) + 3P(A_2B_2C_2),\]  
\[(4)\]

\[0 \geq -P(A_1) - 2P(B_1) - 2P(C_1)\]
\[+2P(A_1B_1) + 2P(A_1C_1) + P(A_1B_2) + P(A_1C_2) + P(A_2B_1) + P(A_2C_1)\]
\[-P(A_2B_2) - P(A_2C_2) + 2P(B_1C_1) + 2P(B_2C_1) + 2P(B_1C_2) - 2P(B_2C_2)\]
\[-P(A_1B_1C_1) - 2P(A_2B_1C_1) - 3P(A_1B_2C_1) - 3P(A_1B_1C_2)\]
\[-P(A_2B_2C_1) - P(A_2B_1C_2) - P(A_1B_2C_2) + 4P(A_2B_2C_2),\]  
\[(5)\]

Suppose the elementary experiences or propositions are clicks in a counter of a three particle interferometer as discussed by Greenberger, Horne, Shimony and Zeilinger [19]. In the interferometric case [19], \(P(A_i) = P(B_i) = P(C_i) = 1/2\) and \(P(A_iB_j) = P(A_iC_j) = P(B_iC_j) = 1/4\), where \(i, j = 1, 2\). The joint quantum probabilities of events depend on three angles \(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3\) in each one of the detector groups \(A, B, C\), respectively. They are given by \(P(A_iB_jC_k) = (1/8)[1 - \sin(\phi_{A,i} + \phi_{B,j} + \phi_{C,k})]\), where again \(i, j, k = 1, 2\). For example, \(C_2\) corresponds to the proposition, “the first detector of the detector group \(C\) at angle \(\phi_{C,2}\) clicks” (we only consider clicks in the first one of the two detectors here). Yet it should be stressed that the derived inequalities are in no way dependent on this particular interpretation. Any other, in particular one evolving spin state measurements, would do just as well. Let us specify the angles at \(\phi_{l,1} = 0\) and \(\phi_{l,2} = \pi/2\) for all particles labeled by \(l = A, B, C\). Then, (2)–(3) are among the 1329 equalities (out of 53856) which violate Boole’s condition of possible experience. The corresponding factors are \(2 : 9/8, 3 : 25/8, 0 : 1/2, 0 : 1/2\), respectively. Figure 1 represents a numerical study of the case \(\phi_{l,1} = 0\) and \(0 \leq \phi_{l,2} \leq \pi\) (the drawing is \(\pi\) periodic) for all particles labeled by \(l = A, B, C\). All inequalities of the form \(x \geq y\) have been rewritten as functions \(f(x, y) = y - x\) such that the zero baseline indicates the borderline between the conditions of possible classical experience and the quantum violation thereof. Notice that the inequalities can also be written in a form containing only coincidence probabilities of three events. For instance, (3) yields

\[0 \geq -P(A_1B_1C_1) - 2P(A_2B_1C_1) - 3P(A_1B_2C_1) - 3P(A_1B_1C_2)\]
\[-P(A_2B_2C_1) - P(A_2B_1C_2) - P(A_1B_2C_2) + 4P(A_2B_2C_2),\]  
\[(6)\]
FIG. 1: Evaluation of the quantum expressions corresponding to all Boole-Bell type inequalities for $\phi_{l,1} = 0$ and $0 \leq \phi_{l,2} \leq \pi$ for all particles labeled by $l = A, B, C$. Any value above the zero baseline indicates violation of the conditions of possible experience.

which is maximally violated by $1 : 0.55$ for $\phi_{l,1} = 0$ and $\phi_{l,2} \approx 1.45$. We find that it is not possible to obtain a violation of Boole-Bell type inequalities if only single-particle and three-particle coincidences are taken into account. This occurs only if also the two-particle coincidences are added.

We shall next consider the case of two particles, labeled by $A, B$, and three properties per particle, denoted by $1, 2, 3$, respectively. The set of 15 propositions involve all three-particle events and is given by $\{A_1, A_2, A_3, B_1, B_2, B_3, A_1B_1, A_1B_2, A_1B_3, A_2B_1, A_2B_2, A_2B_3, A_3B_1, A_3B_2, A_3B_3\}$.

The resulting correlation polytope is 15-dimensional and has 684 faces, corresponding to 684 Boole-Bell type inequalities. For a complete listing of all Boole-Bell type inequalities, see Ref. [24]. Again, many of these inequalities are trivial; e.g., $P(A_2) \geq P(A_1B_3) \geq 0$. Many inequalities are familiar ones, such as the inequalities associated with the Bell-Wigner polytope ($\{A_1, A_2, A_3, A_1A_2, A_1A_3, A_2A_3\}$); i.e.,

$$1 \geq \begin{array}{l}
+P(A_2) + P(B_3) + P(A_1B_1) - P(A_1B_3) - P(A_2B_1) - P(A_2B_3)
\end{array}$$

if one identifies $A_i \equiv B_i$, $i = 1, 2, 3$ [recall that $P(A_1A_1) = P(A_1)$]. The following Boole-Bell inequalities are less known.

$$3 \geq 2P(A_1) + P(A_2) + P(B_2) + 2P(B_3) - P(A_1B_1) - P(A_1B_2) - P(A_1B_3)$$
+P(A_2B_1) - P(A_2B_2) - P(A_2B_3) + P(A_3B_2) - P(A_3B_3), \quad (8)
1 \geq -P(A_1) + P(A_2) - P(B_2) + P(B_3) + P(A_1B_1) + P(A_1B_2) - P(A_1B_3)
+P(A_2B_1) - P(A_2B_2) - P(A_2B_3) + P(A_3B_1) + P(A_3B_2) - P(A_3B_3), \quad (9)
1 \geq P(A_2) - P(A_3) - 2P(B_1) + P(B_3) + P(A_1B_1) + P(A_1B_2) - P(A_1B_3)
+P(A_2B_1) - P(A_2B_2) - P(A_2B_3) + P(A_3B_1) + P(A_3B_3), \quad (10)
2 \geq P(A_2) + P(A_3) + P(B_1) + P(B_3) + P(A_1B_1) - P(A_1B_2) - P(A_1B_3)
-P(A_2B_1) + P(A_2B_2) - P(A_2B_3) - P(A_3B_1) - P(A_3B_2), \quad (11)
0 \geq -P(A_1) - P(A_2) - P(B_1) - P(B_2) - P(A_1B_1) + P(A_1B_2) + P(A_1B_3)
+P(A_2B_1) + P(A_2B_3) + P(A_3B_1) + P(A_3B_2) - P(A_3B_3), \quad (12)
0 \geq -P(A_1) - P(B_3) + P(A_1B_2) + P(A_1B_3) - P(A_2B_2) + P(A_2B_3). \quad (13)

Let us specify our experiment now by choosing the common spin state measurements of
two spin 1/2-particles prepared in a singlet state. Thereby, every elementary proposition \( A_x \)
can be stated as, “the spin of particle \( A \) in the direction \( x \) is up.” It is well known that, for
the singlet state of spin 1/2-particles, the probability to find the particles both either in spin
“up” or both in spin “down” states is given by \( P_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\theta) = P_{\downarrow\downarrow}(\theta) = (1/2) \sin^2[(\theta/2)] \), where \( \theta \)
is the angle between the measurement directions. Likewise, the probabilities for different spin
states is given by \( P_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\theta) = P_{\downarrow\uparrow}(\theta) = (1/2) \cos^2[(\theta/2)] \). In searching for possible violations
of the inequalities, one may choose a symmetric configuration such as \( \theta(A_1 = B_1) = 0, \)
\( \theta(A_2 = B_2) = 2\pi/3, \theta(A_3 = B_3) = 4\pi/3 \), in which case one obtains for the parallel case
(\( \uparrow\uparrow \) or \( \downarrow\downarrow \)) a violation of 0 : 1/4 for (12) and of 0 : 1/8 for (13). Figure 2 is a plot of
the combined evaluation of quantum expressions for all the 684 equations corresponding
to inequalities. The zero baseline indicates a threshold for a violation of Boole-Bell type
inequalities. For the opposite case (\( \uparrow\downarrow \) or \( \downarrow\uparrow \)), the violation of (7) is 1 : 9/8 and of (8)
is 2 : 5/4. In the less symmetric configuration \( \theta(A_1) = 0, \theta(B_1) = -\pi/4, \theta(A_2) = \pi/2, \)
\( \theta(B_2) = \pi/4, \theta(A_3) = 2\pi/3, \theta(B_3) = \pi/3 \), more inequalities violate the Bell inequalities,
although to a lesser degree.

Besides its conceptual clarity as a royal road to the understanding and constructive gen-
eration of Boole-Bell type inequalities, the importance of the correlation polytopes method
lies in the fact that, unlike older, \textit{ad hoc} methods, these inequalities can be guaranteed to
yield maximal bounds for consistent conditions of possible classical experience.
FIG. 2: Evaluation of the quantum expressions corresponding to all 648 Boole-Bell type inequalities for \( \theta(A_1 = B_1) = 0 \), \( 0 \leq \theta(A_2 = B_2) = 2\pi - \theta(A_3 = B_3) \leq \pi \). (The periodicity is \( \pi \).) Any value above the zero baseline indicates violation of the conditions of possible experience.

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