

Universal measuring devices and quantum calibration

Nottingham, School of Mathematical Sciences (December 17 2003)

Giacomo Mauro D'Ariano

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Istituto Nazionale di Fisica della Materia

Università di Pavia

Center for Photonic Communication and Computing

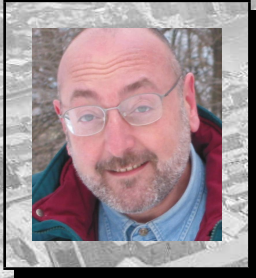
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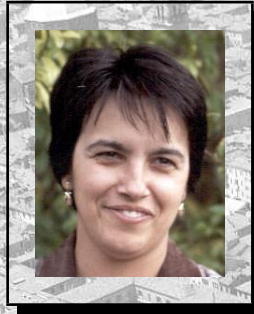
QUIT (Quantum Information Theory)



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G. M. D'Ariano (full prof.)



C. Macchiavello (researcher)



M. F. Sacchi (postdoc)



P. Perinotti (postdoc)



O. Rudolph (ATESIT)



G. Chiribella (PhD student)



P. Lo Presti (PhD student)



F. Buscemi (PhD student)



M. Medici (secretary)



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The fun with **Quantum Information** is that you can study the foundations of the enigmatic world of Quantum Mechanics, and, at the same time, you make something useful for practical applications

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Universal quantum detectors

Definition:

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By a universal detector we can determine the expectation value $\langle O \rangle$ of an arbitrary operator O of a quantum system just by using a different *data-processing* for each O .

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for a suitable ***data-processing*** $f_i(\nu, O)$ of the outcome i .

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- In terms of the system only:

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the POVM $\{\Xi_i[\nu]\}$ is **informationally complete**.

Notation for entangled states

- **Hilbert-Schmidt** isomorphism: $|\Psi\rangle\rangle \in H \otimes K \iff \Psi$ operator from K to H

$$|\Psi\rangle\rangle = \sum_{nm} \Psi_{nm} |n\rangle \otimes |m\rangle \iff \Psi = \sum_{nm} \Psi_{nm} |n\rangle \langle m|. \quad (3)$$

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- Partial trace rules

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}_K[|A\rangle\rangle \langle\langle B|] &= AB^\dagger, \\ \text{Tr}_H[|A\rangle\rangle \langle\langle B|] &= (B^\dagger A)^\top, \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

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- Multiplication rules (for fixed reference basis in the two Hilbert spaces):

$$(A \otimes B)|C\rangle\rangle = |AC B^\top\rangle\rangle, \quad (6)$$

$$|A\rangle\rangle \equiv (A \otimes I)|I\rangle\rangle \equiv (I \otimes A^\top)|I\rangle\rangle, \quad |I\rangle\rangle = \sum_n |n\rangle \otimes |n\rangle, \quad (7)$$

$$(U \otimes U^*)|I\rangle\rangle = |I\rangle\rangle, \quad U^* \doteq (U^\dagger)^\top. \quad (8)$$

Frames of operators

- A sequence of operators $\{\Xi_i\}$ is a frame for a Banach space of operators if there are constants $0 < a \leq b < +\infty$ s.t. for all operators A one has

$$a\|A\|^2 \leq \underbrace{\sum_i |\langle A, \Xi_i \rangle|^2}_{\text{Bessel series}} \leq b\|A\|^2. \quad (9)$$

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- Then, there exists a dual frame $\{\Theta_i\}$ such that every operator A can be expanded as follows

$$A = \sum_i \text{Tr}[\Theta_i^\dagger A] \Xi_i. \quad (11)$$

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$$|\Theta_i\rangle\rangle = F^{-1}|\Xi_i\rangle\rangle + |Y_i\rangle\rangle - \sum_j \langle\langle \Xi_j | F^{-1} |\Xi_i\rangle\rangle |Y_j\rangle\rangle, \quad (13)$$

Y_i arbitrary Bessel, and $F^{-1}|\Xi_i\rangle\rangle$ canonical dual frame.

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- For exact frames there is only the canonical dual frame. Alternate duals are useful for optimization.

Universal quantum detectors

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namely $\{\Xi_i[\nu]\}$ is a **positive frame**, and the data-processing rule is given in terms of the dual frame

$$f_i(\nu, O) = \mathrm{Tr} \left[\Theta_i^\dagger[\nu] O \right]. \quad (16)$$

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- The POVM $\{\Xi_i[\nu]\}$ is necessarily not orthogonal.

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one has

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- It follows that $\{\Pi_i\}$ is universal iff both $\{\Psi_j^{(i)}\}$ and $\{\Xi_i[\nu]\}$ are operator frames.

Universal POVM's: the Bell case

POVM on $H \otimes H$: $\Pi_i = \frac{\alpha_i}{d} |U_i\rangle\rangle\langle\langle U_i|$, $d = \dim(H)$, $\alpha_i > 0$, U_i unitary. (19)

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- Special case: $\{U_i\}$ UIR of some group G .

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- One can prove that the Bell POVM is necessarily orthogonal and it is universal, with ancilla state ν satisfying $\text{Tr}[U_\alpha^\dagger \nu^\top] \neq 0$ for all α .

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- Dual set (unique) for data-processing:

$$\Theta_\alpha[\nu] = \frac{1}{d} \sum_{\beta=1}^{d^2} \frac{U_\beta e^{-ic(\beta,\alpha)}}{\text{Tr}[U_\beta \nu^*]} . \quad (20)$$

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$$F = \int d\alpha (U_\alpha \otimes U_\alpha^*) |\nu^\top\rangle\rangle \langle\langle \nu^\top | (U_\alpha^\dagger \otimes U_\alpha^\top) = P + \frac{1}{a} P^\perp, \quad (21)$$

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$$\Theta_\alpha^0[\nu] = a U_\alpha \nu^\top U_\alpha^\dagger + b I, \quad b = \frac{\operatorname{Tr}[(\nu^\top)^2] - d}{d \operatorname{Tr}[(\nu^\top)^2] - 1}. \quad (22)$$

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- **Other examples:** $SU(2)$ UIR's on H with $\dim(H) > 2$, ...

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Universal POVM's: the separable case

For $\dim(K) \geq \dim(H)^2$ one can obtain "separable" universal POVM's.

- **Example:** observable operator frame on H

$$C(l) = \sum_k c_k(l) |c_k(l)\rangle \langle c_k(l)|, \quad l = 1, 2, \dots, L \geq \dim(H)^2. \quad (25)$$

- By taking $\dim(K) = L$, one has the following orthogonal POVM for $H \otimes K$

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- Data-processing function:

$$f_{k,l}(\nu, O) = \frac{\text{Tr}[C^\dagger(l)O]}{\langle l|\nu|l\rangle} c_k(l), \quad \langle l|\nu|l\rangle \neq 0 \quad \forall l. \quad (28)$$

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8. *Weakly universal* POVM's: the ancilla state ν depends on the operator O to be estimated.

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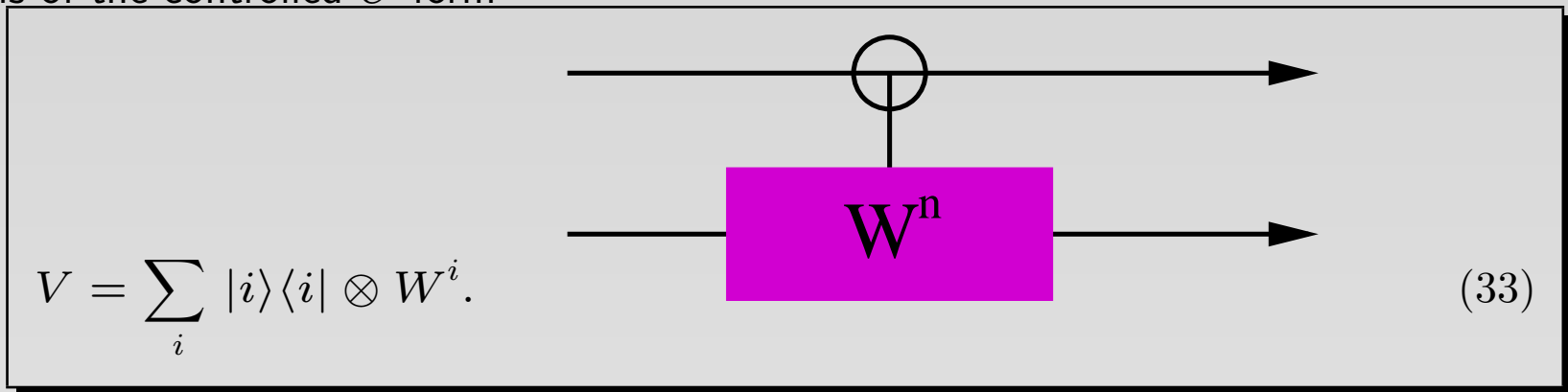
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- *Nonorthogonal extremal POVM's* are generally not connected by unitary transformations.

Convex structure of POVM's

Theorem 1 *The extremality of the POVM $\mathbf{P} = \{P_n\}_{n \in E = \{1, 2, \dots\}}$ is equivalent to the nonexistence of non trivial solutions \mathbf{D} for the equation*

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Theorem 2 (Parthasaraty) *A POVM \mathbf{P} is extremal iff the operators $|v_i^{(n)}\rangle\langle v_j^{(n)}|$ are linearly independent, for all eigenvectors $|v_j^{(n)}\rangle$ of P_n .*

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This means that a POVM with too many elements (i. e. $N > d^2$) will be decomposable into several POVM's, each with less than d^2 non-vanishing elements.

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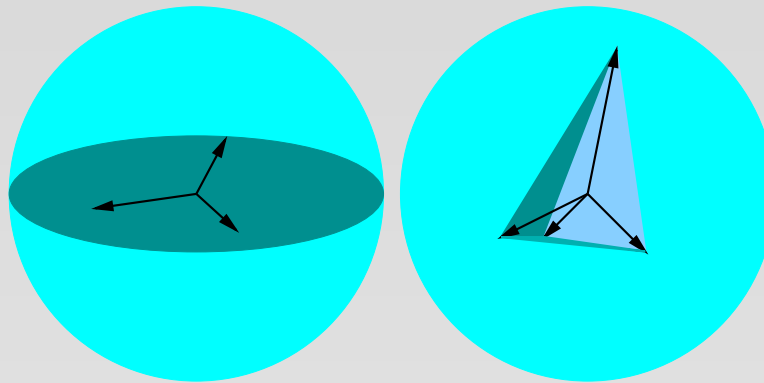
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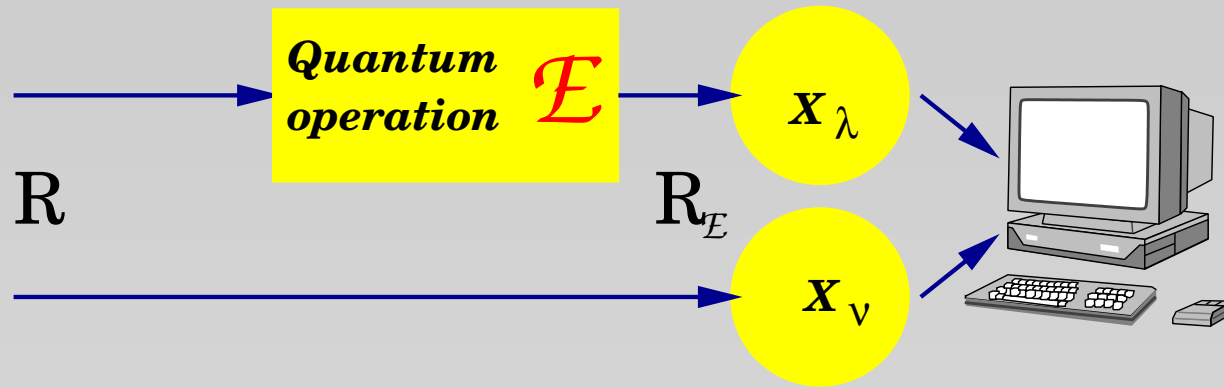
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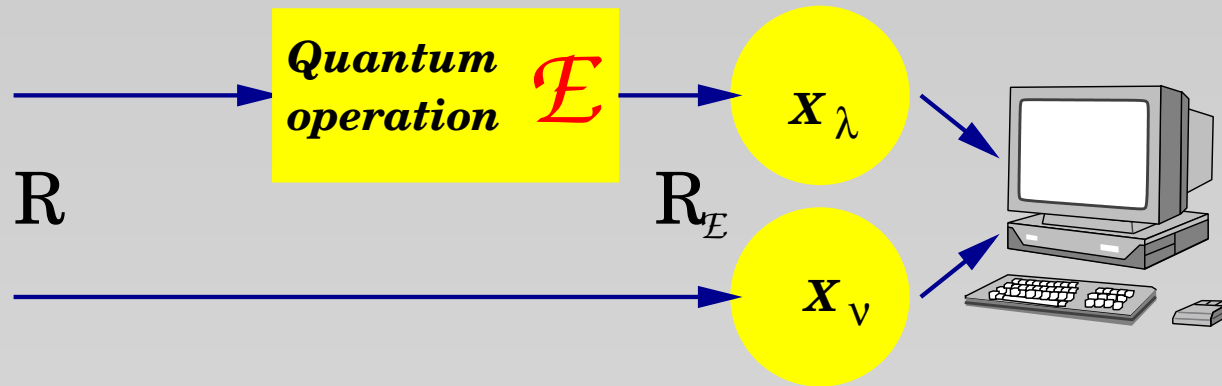
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Tomography of quantum operations



$$R_{\mathcal{E}} \doteq \mathcal{E} \otimes \mathcal{I}(R) \quad (42)$$

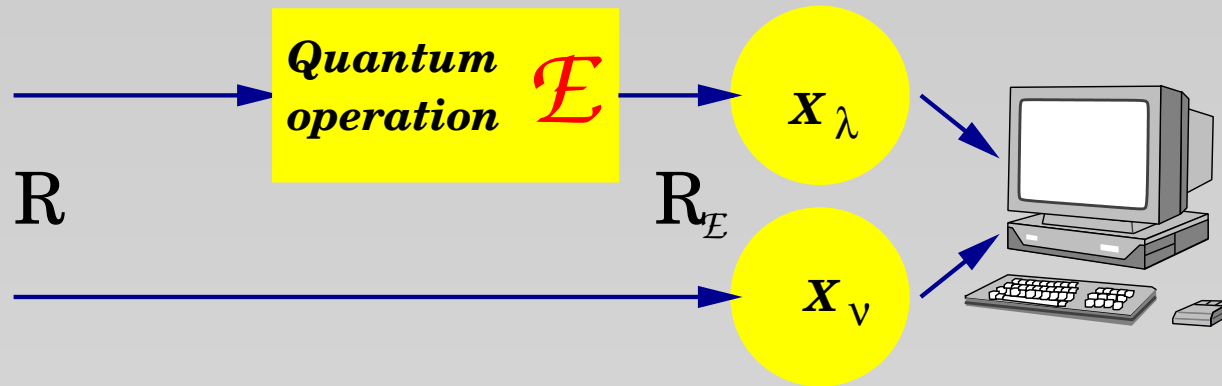
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The quantum operation \mathcal{E} is extracted from the output state as follows

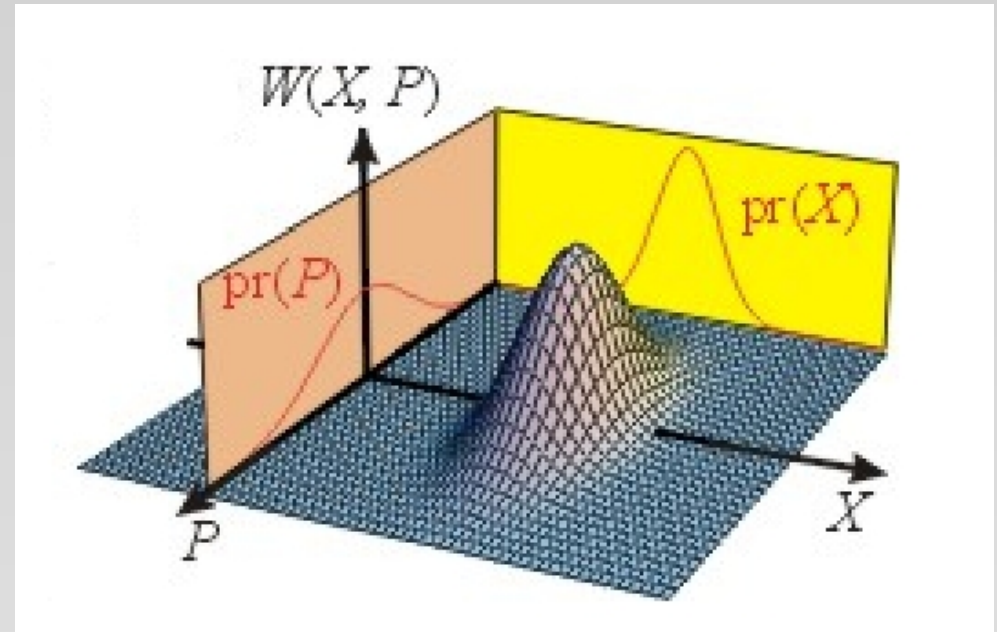
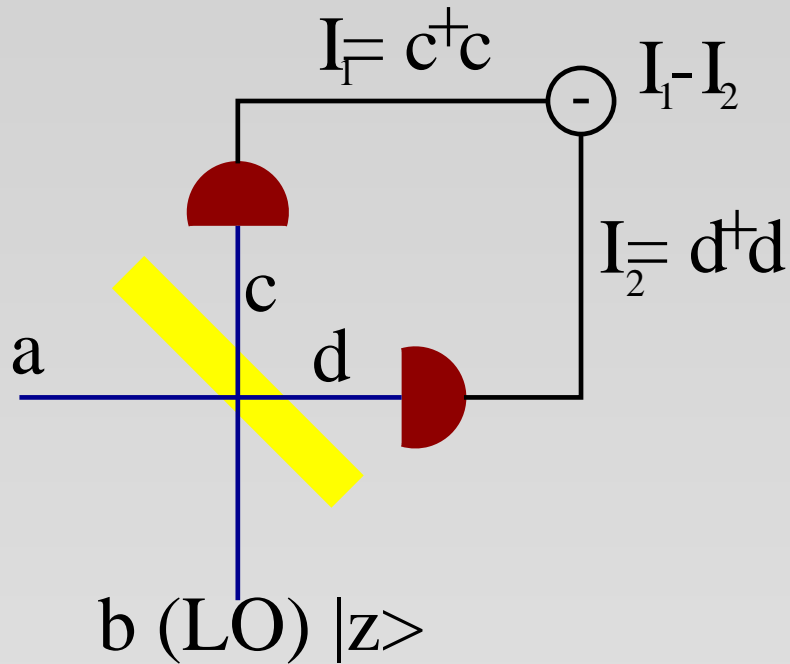
$$\mathcal{E}(\rho) = \text{Tr}_2[(I \otimes \rho^\top) \mathcal{I} \otimes \mathcal{R}^{-1}(R_{\mathcal{E}})], \quad \mathcal{R}(\rho) = \text{Tr}_1[(\rho^\top \otimes I)R]. \quad (43)$$

Homodyne tomography

- In quantum optics for each field mode a **quorum** \equiv {quadratures}

$$X_\phi = \frac{1}{2} (a^\dagger e^{i\phi} + a e^{-i\phi}) \equiv Q \cos \phi + P \sin \phi.$$

$$\langle H \rangle = \int_0^\pi \frac{d\phi}{\pi} \langle E_H(X_\phi; \phi) \rangle, \quad E_H(x; \phi) = \frac{1}{4} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dk |k| \text{Tr}[H e^{ikX_\phi}] e^{-ikx}.$$



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Pauli matrices I , σ_x , σ_y , σ_z orthonormal basis for the qubit operator space:

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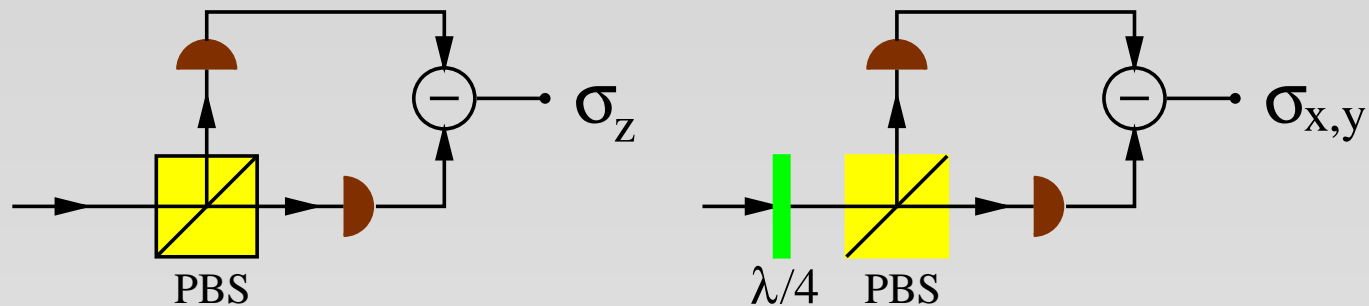
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- In Quantum Optics the qubits are encoded on polarization of single photons:

$$\sigma_z = h^\dagger h - v^\dagger v,$$

$$|\uparrow\rangle \equiv |1\rangle_h |0\rangle_v, \quad |\downarrow\rangle \equiv |0\rangle_h |1\rangle_v,$$

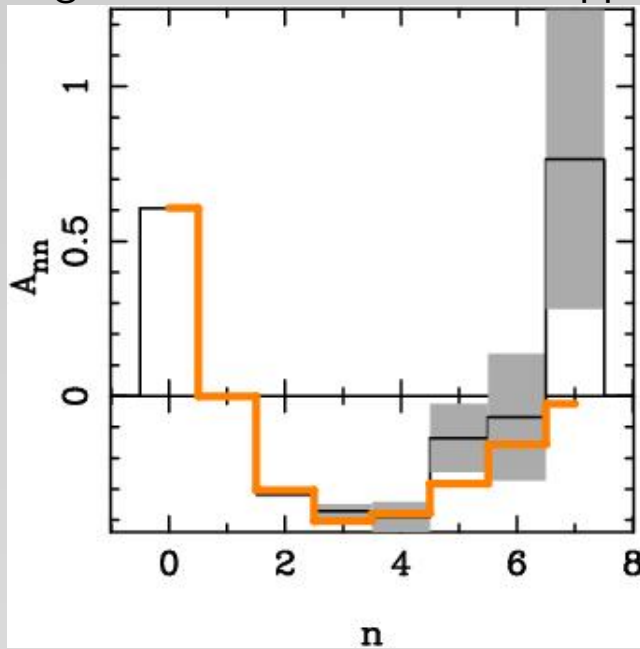


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- The set of faithful states \mathcal{R} is *dense* within the set of all bipartite states.

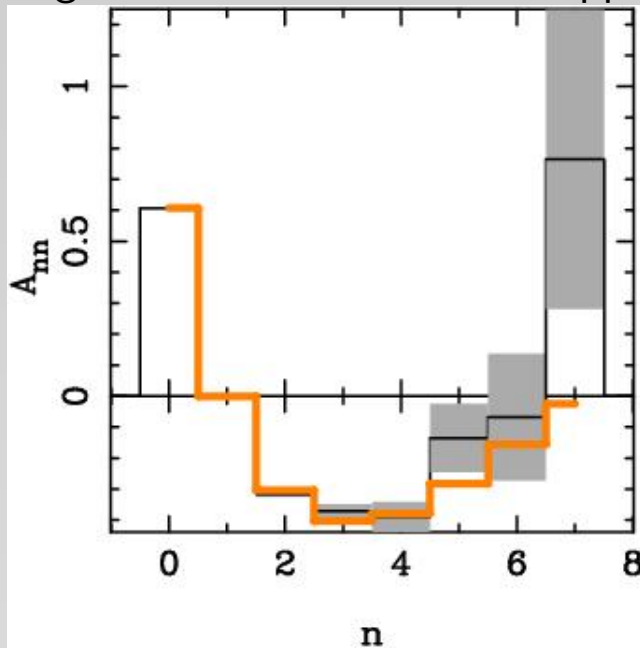
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- However, the knowledge of the map \mathcal{E} from a measured $R_{\mathcal{E}}$ will be affected by increasingly large statistical errors for \mathcal{R} approaching a non-invertible map.



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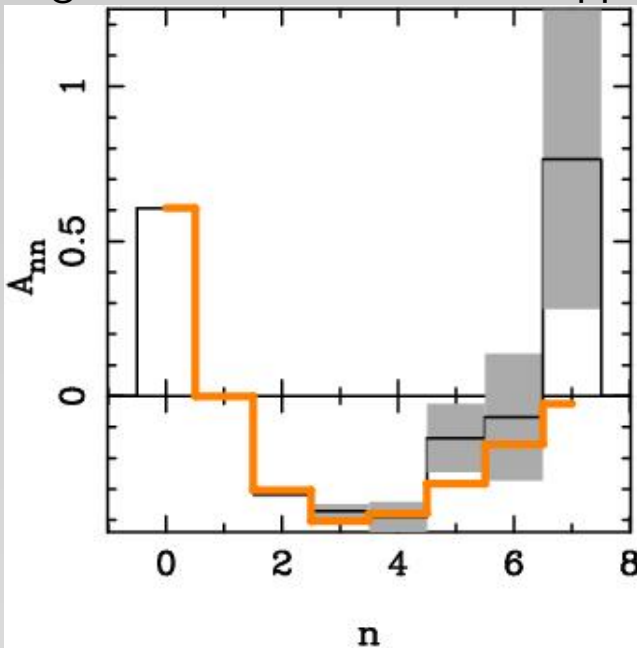
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- However, the knowledge of the map \mathcal{E} from a measured $R_{\mathcal{E}}$ will be affected by increasingly large statistical errors for \mathcal{R} approaching a non-invertible map.



- Therefore, most mixed separable states are faithful! [e. g. Werner states are a. a. faithful].

Faithful states

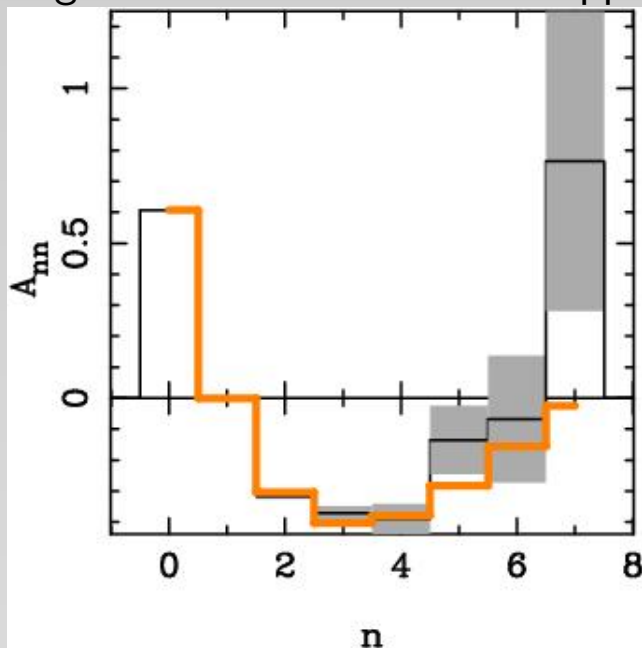
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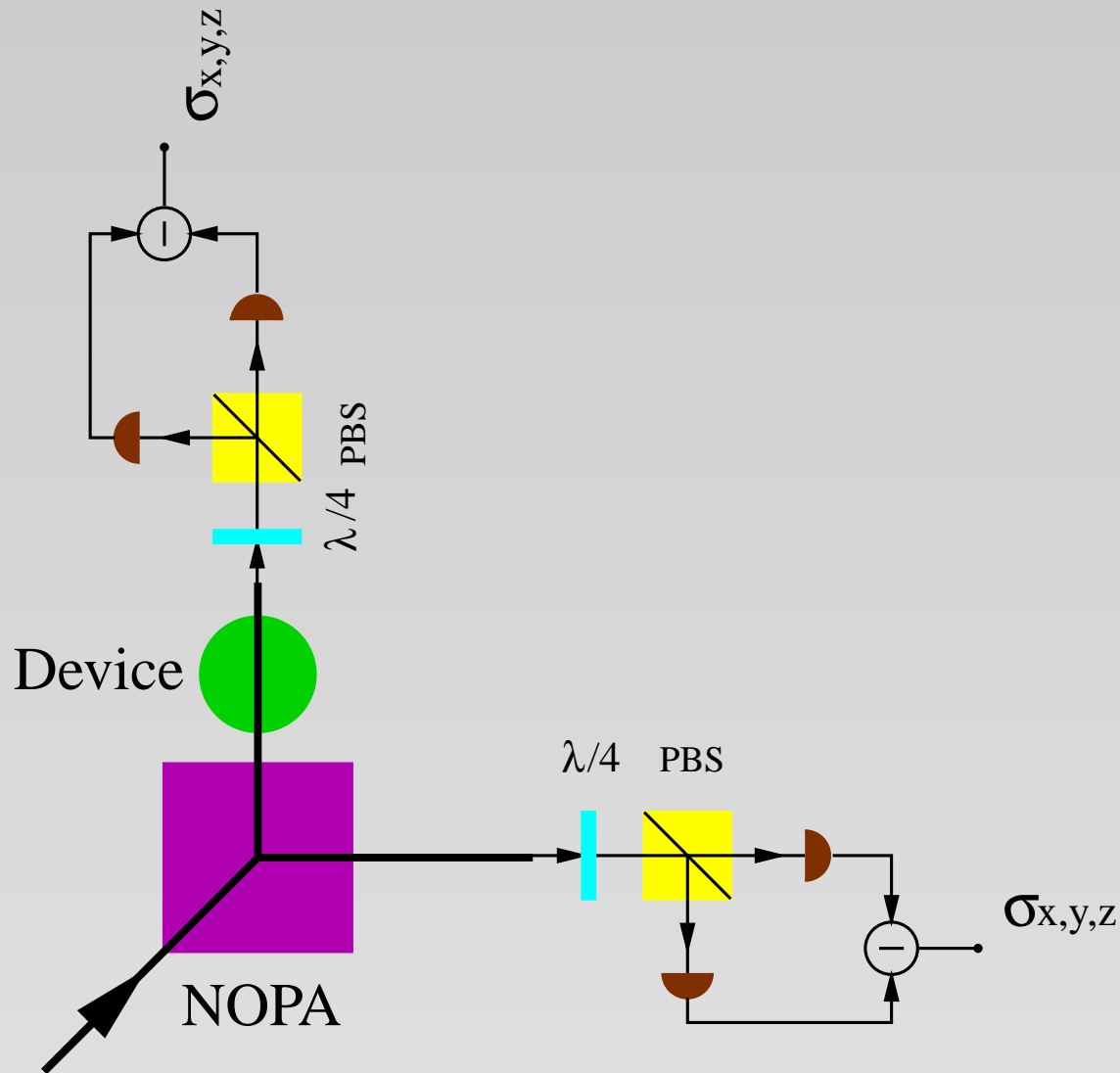
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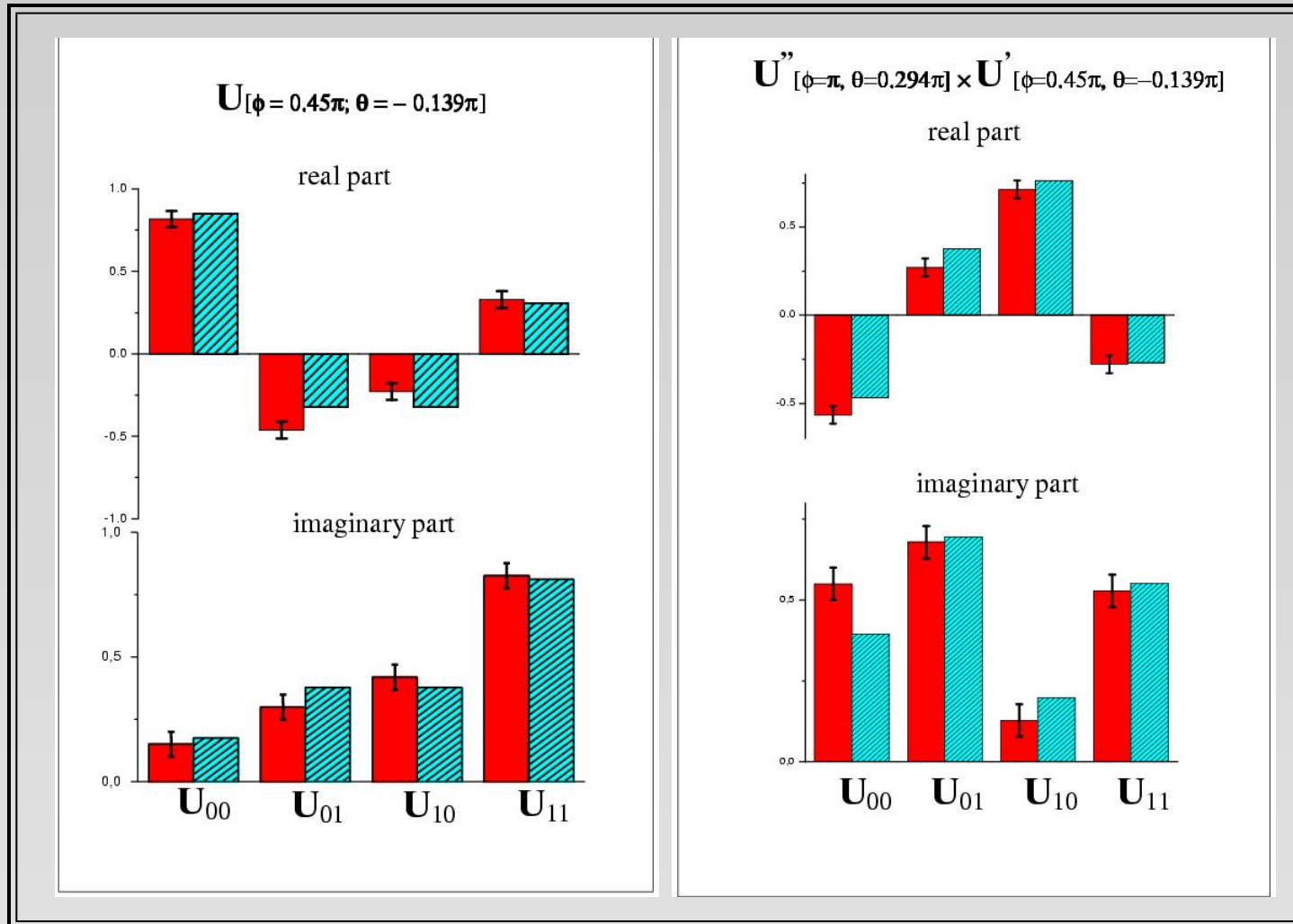
- Therefore, most mixed separable states are faithful! [e. g. Werner states are a. a. faithful].
- The most "efficient" states are the maximally entangled ones.
- For $d = \infty$ faithfulness depends also on the matrix representation [e. g. Gaussian displacement noise with $\bar{n} > \frac{1}{2}$].

Tomography of a single qubit quantum device

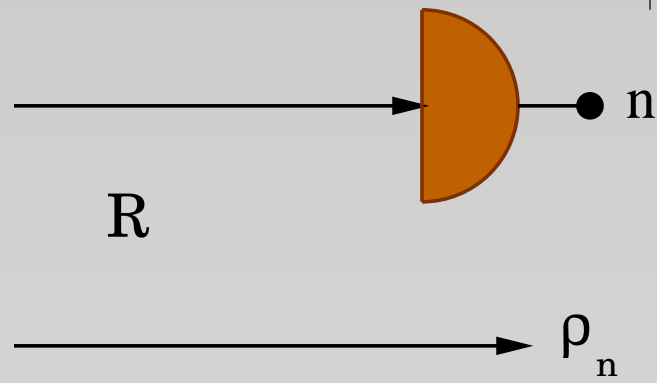


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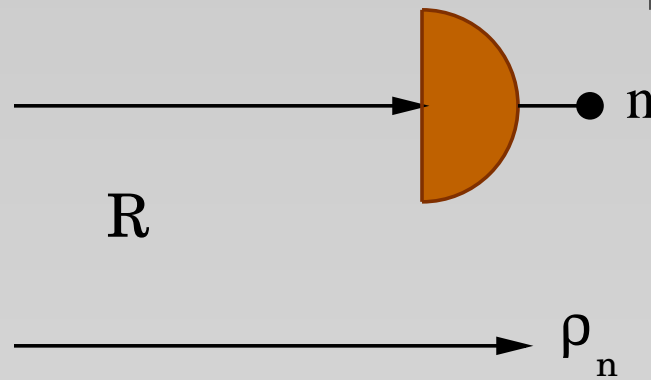
Experiment performed in Roma La Sapienza



Absolute Quantum Calibration of a POVM



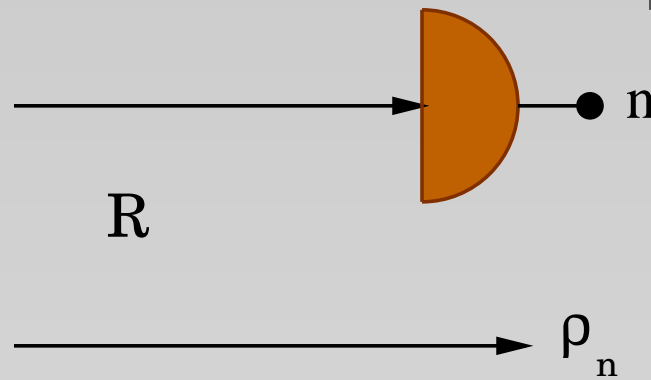
Absolute Quantum Calibration of a POVM



In terms of the POVM $\mathbf{P} \doteq \{P_n\}$ of the detector, the outcome n will occur with probability $p(n)$ corresponding to the conditioned state ρ_n given by

$$p(n) = \text{Tr}[(P_n \otimes I)R], \quad \rho_n = \frac{\text{Tr}_1[(P_n \otimes I)R]}{\text{Tr}[(P_n \otimes I)R]}, \quad (44)$$

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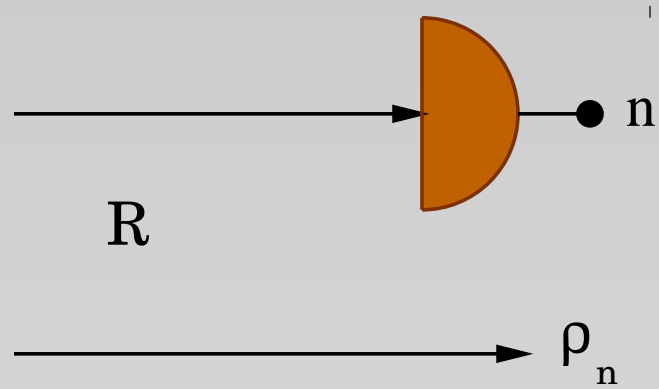
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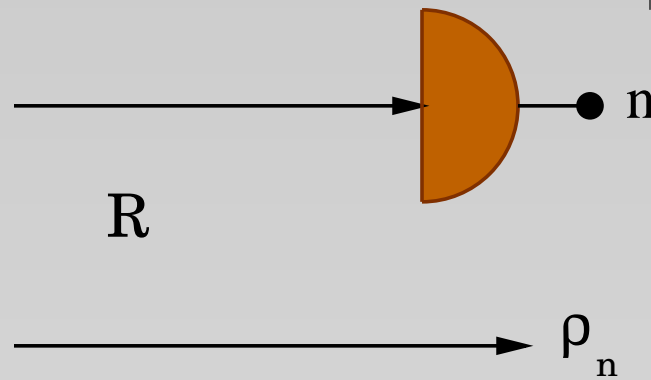
from which we can obtain the POVM as follows

$$P_n = p(n)[\mathcal{R}^{-1}(\rho_n)]^\top, \quad \mathcal{R}(\rho) = \text{Tr}_1[(\rho^\top \otimes I)R]. \quad (45)$$

Absolute Quantum Calibration of Observable

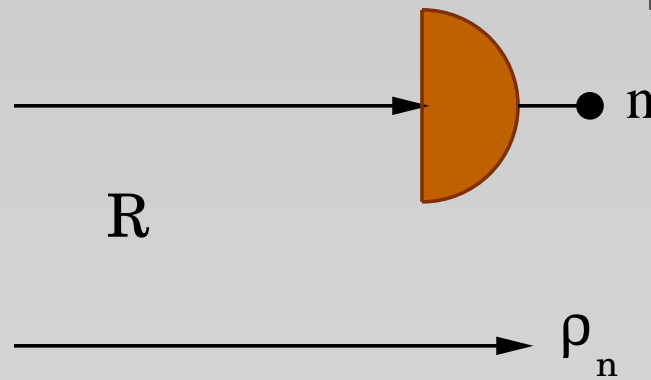


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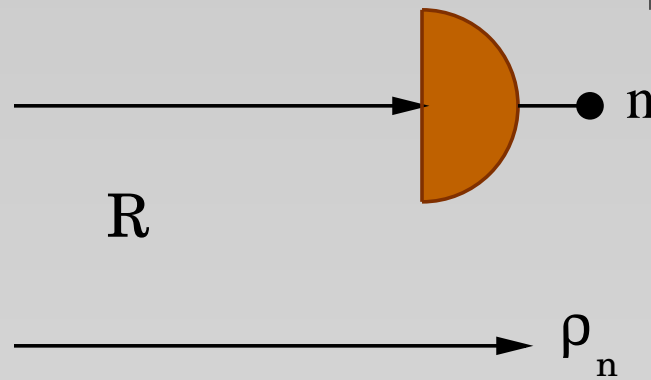
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Absolute Quantum Calibration of Observable



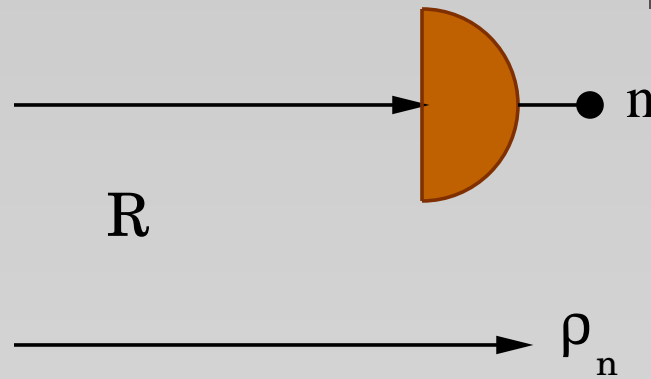
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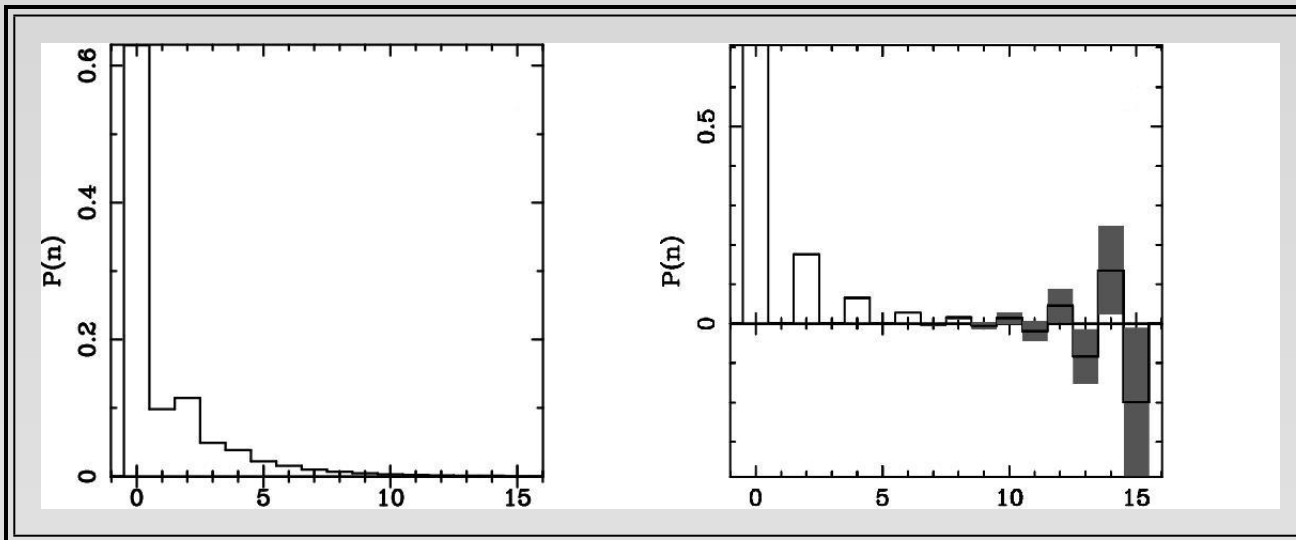


- From tomographic data one can recognize when the POVM is actually an "observable". This happens when the POVM is commutative.
- Then the POVM corresponds to any observable $K = \{|k\rangle\langle k|\}$ which commutes with $\{P_n\}$. From tomographic data one reconstructs the matrix elements $\langle k|P_n|k\rangle$ corresponding to the conditioned probability distribution $p(n|k) = \langle k|P_n|k\rangle$.

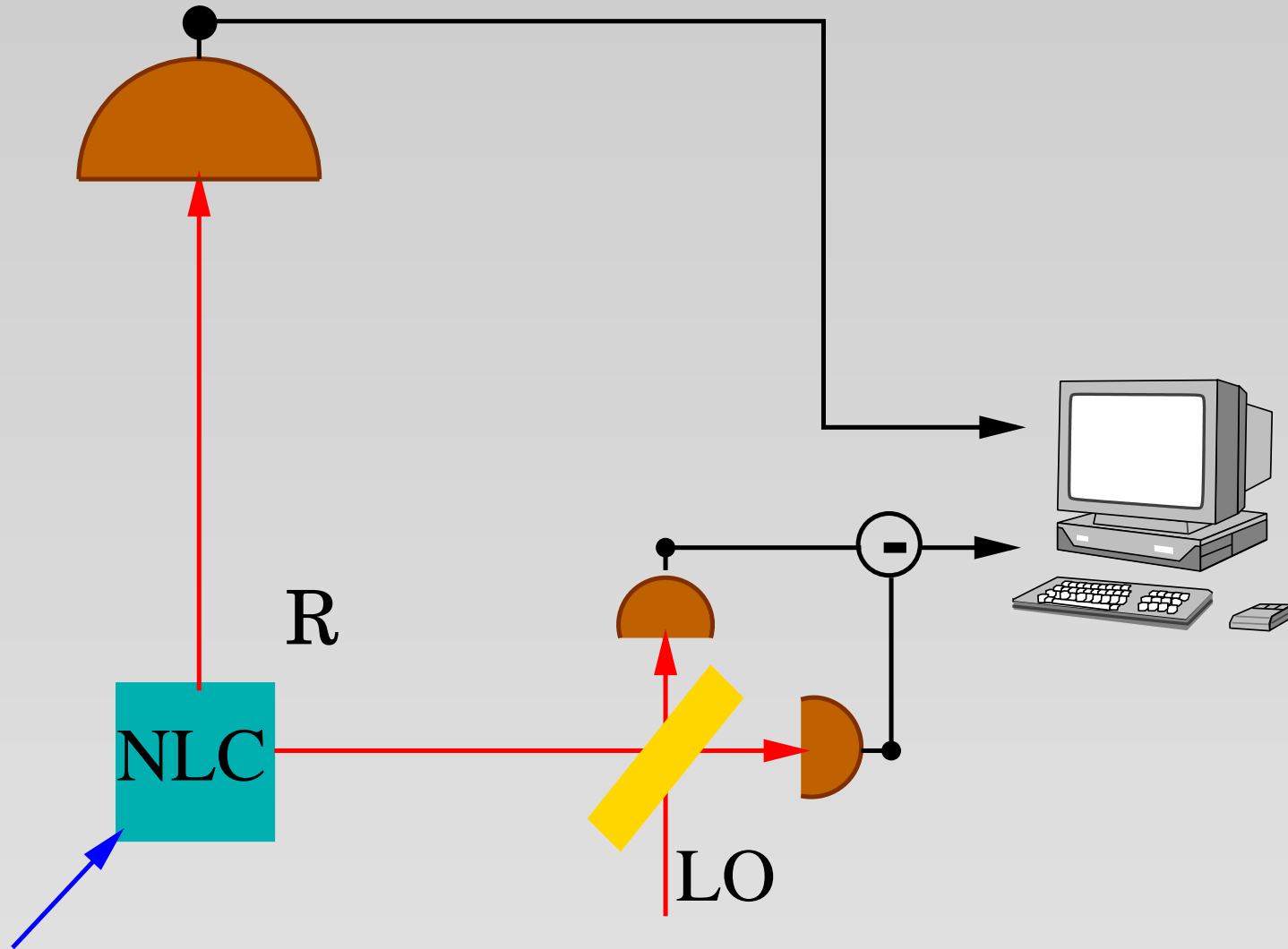
Absolute Quantum Calibration of Observable



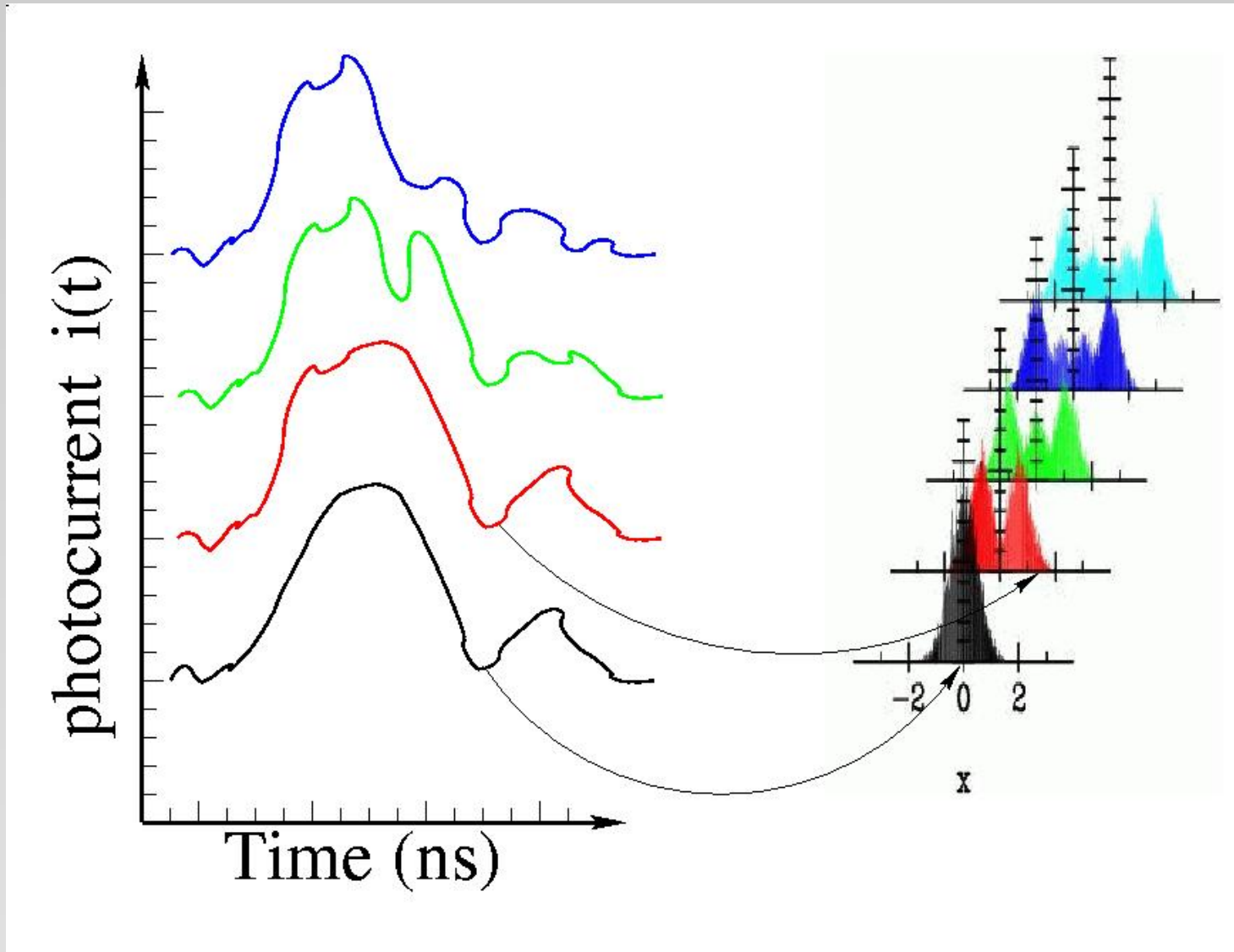
- The conditioned probability $p(n|k)$ from the tomographic calibration will allow "unbiasing" the detector measurements.



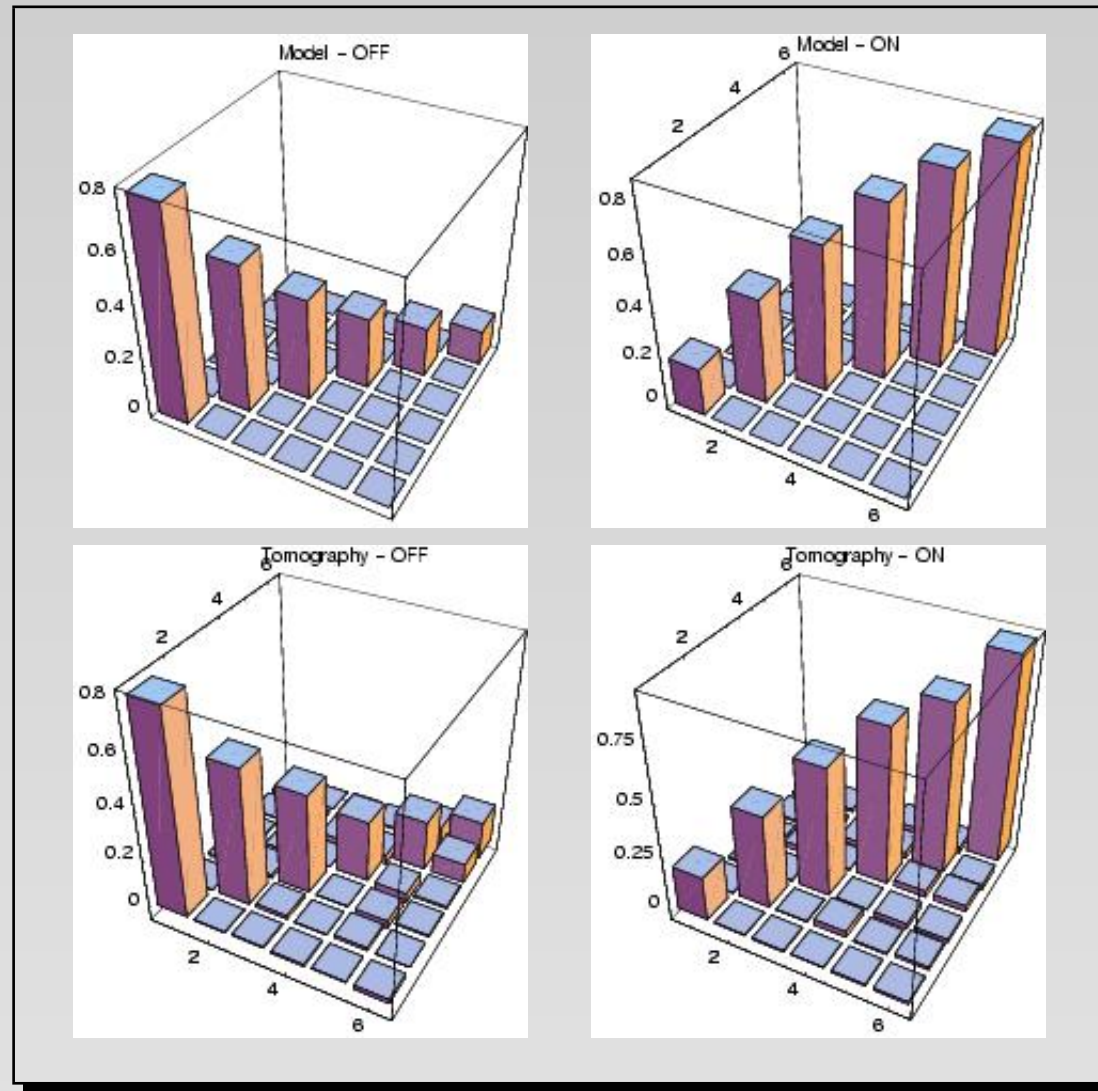
Absolute calibration of a photodetector



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Homodyne calibration of a photodetector

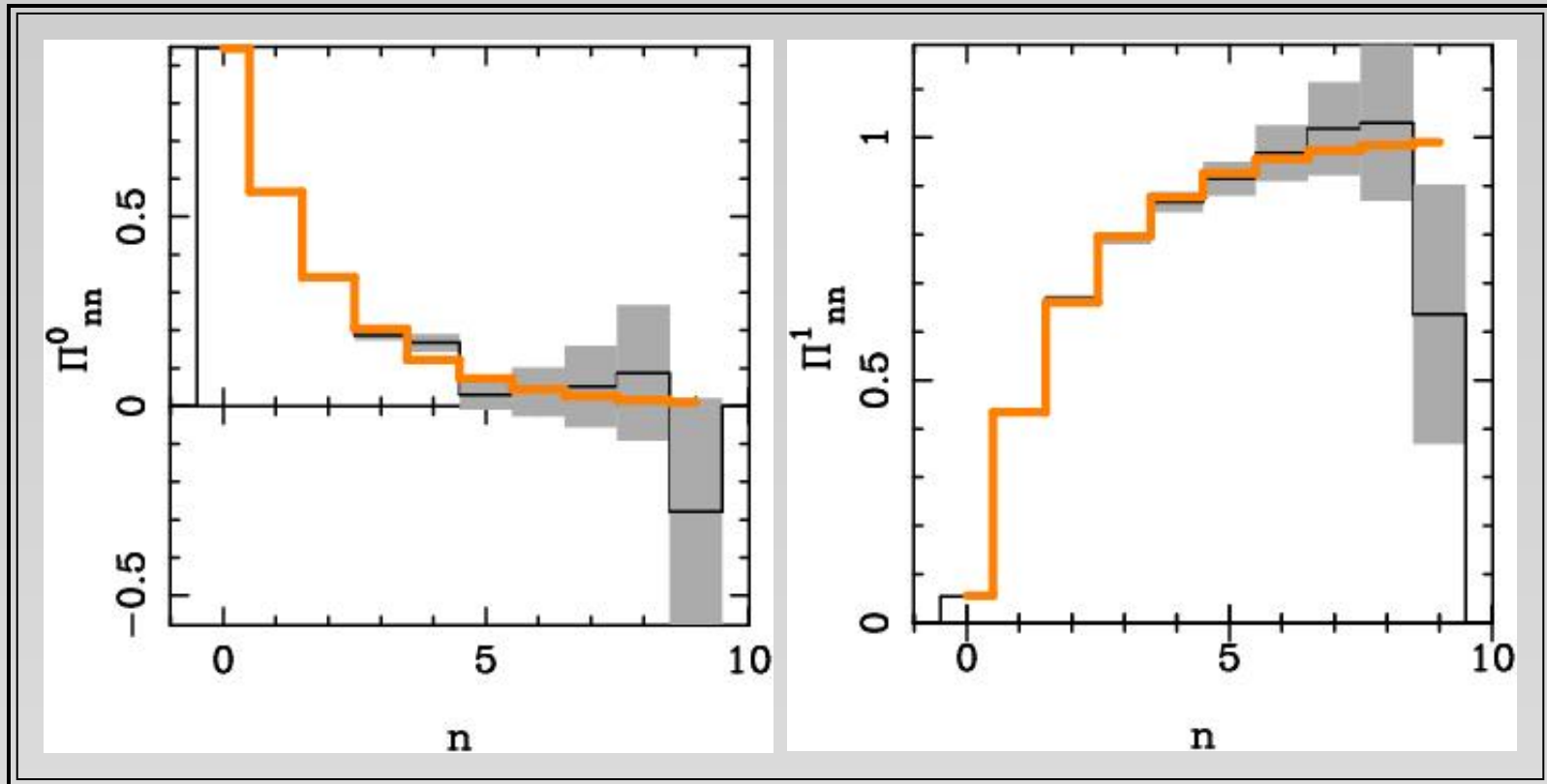


Figure 1: Homodyne tomography of an On/Off photo-detector with quantum efficiency $\eta = 0.4$ and thermal noise photon number $\nu = 0.1$. The reconstruction is obtained by pattern-function averaging of $1.5 \cdot 10^6$ data, for homodyne quantum efficiency $\eta = 0.9$ and twin beam thermal photon $\bar{n} = 3$.

Homodyne calibration of a photodetector

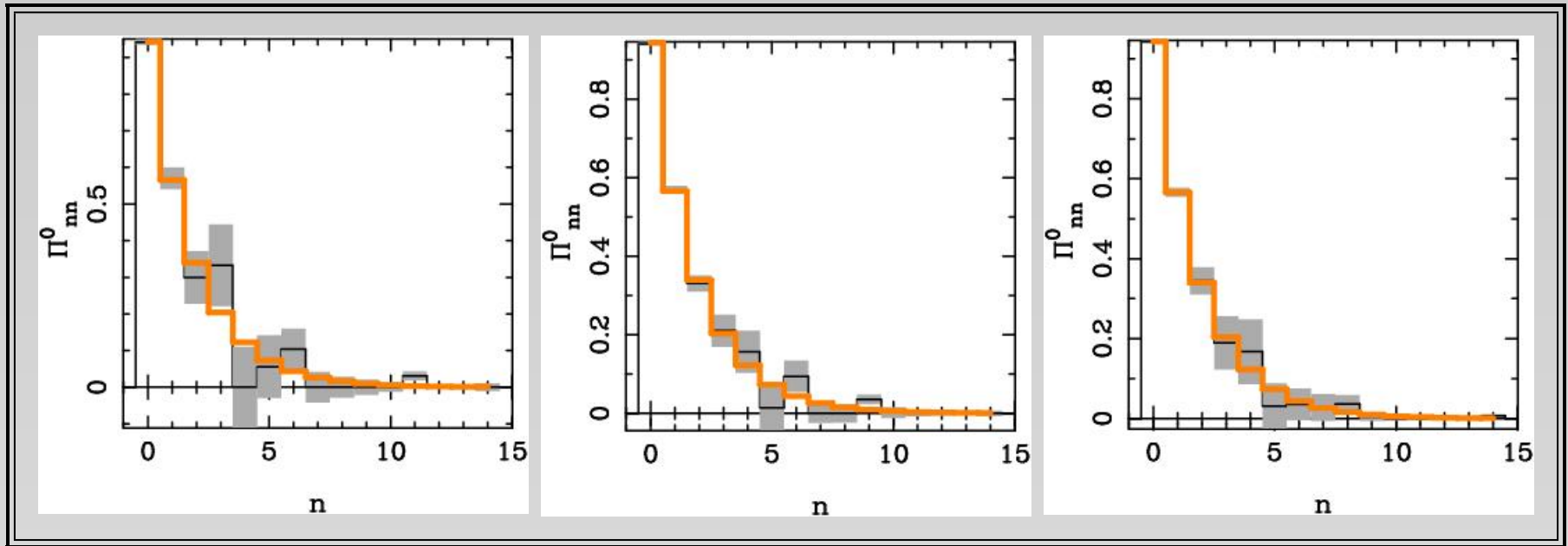
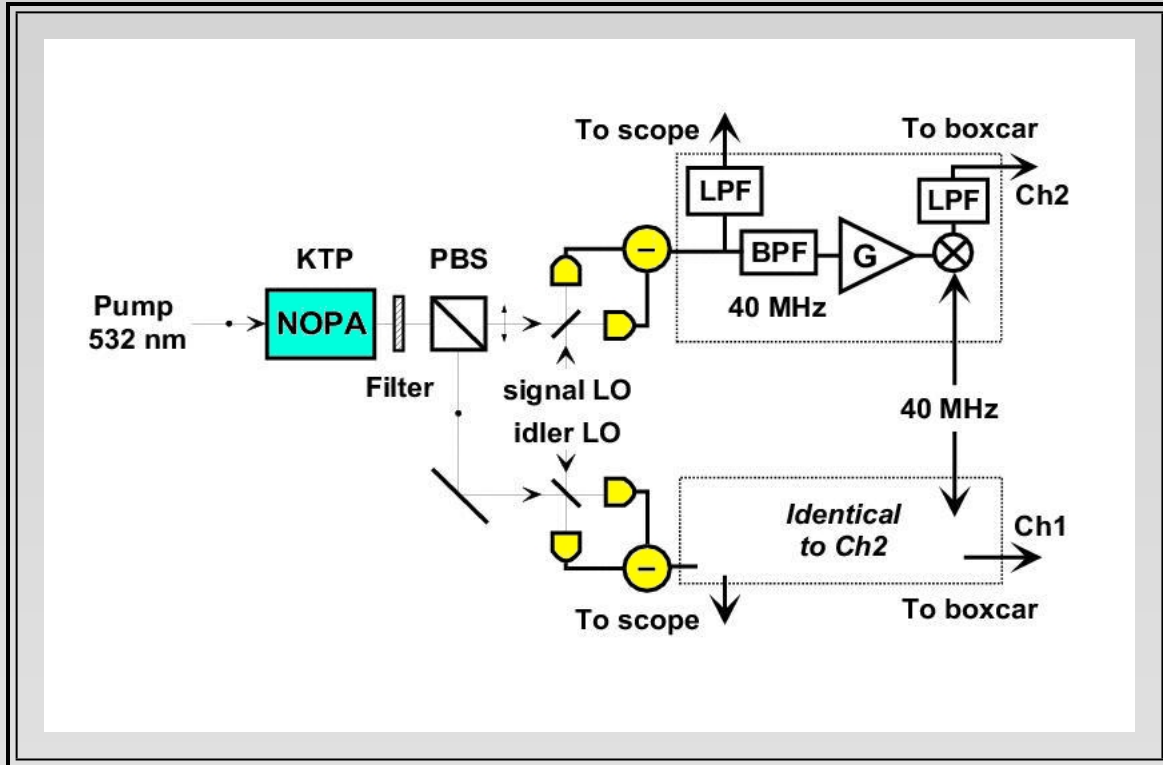


Figure 2: Homodyne tomography of an On/Off photodetector with quantum efficiency $\eta = 0.4$ and thermal noise photon number $\nu = 0.1$, with $\bar{n} = 3$ photons in the twin-beam. The ML estimation of the diagonal of the only Off POVM element are reported for different values of sample size N and homodyne quantum efficiency η_H . Left: $N = 10^5$, $\eta_H = 0.7$; Middle: $N = 10^4$, $\eta_H = 0.9$; Right: $N = 10^6$, $\eta_H = 0.7$.

NWU experiment on twin beam

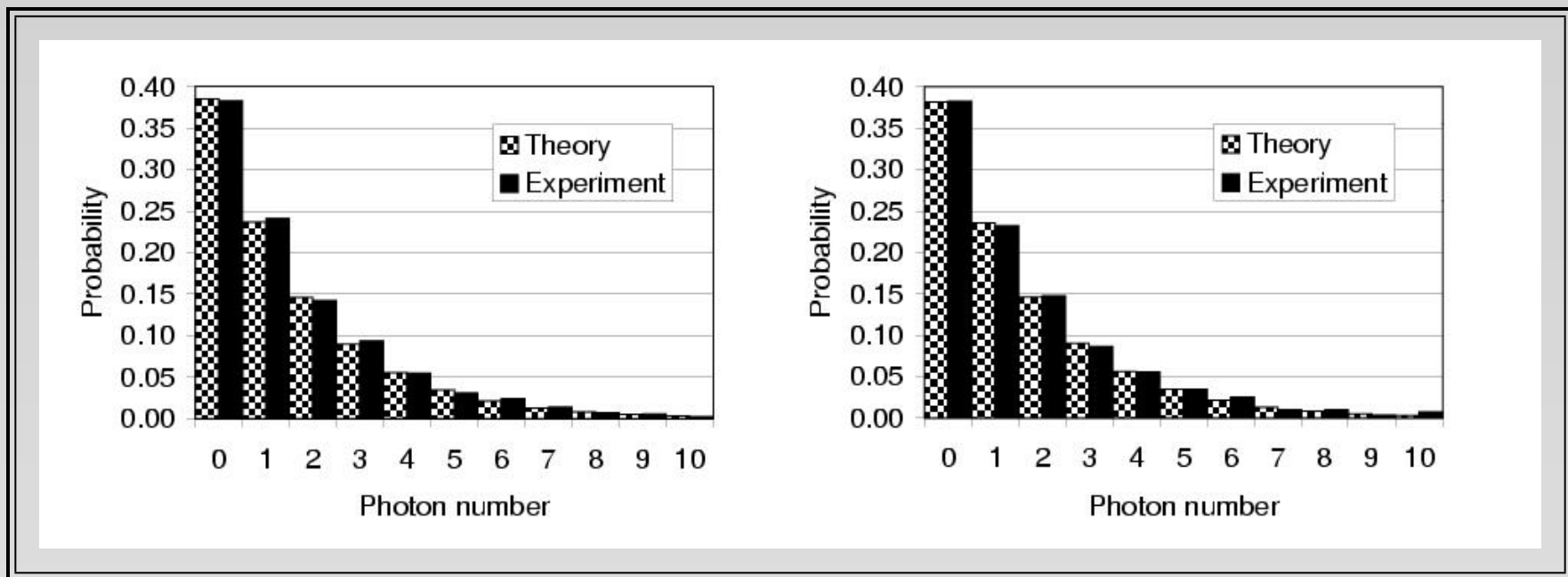
A schematic of the experimental setup. NOPA, non-degenerate optical parametric amplifier; LOs, local oscillators; PBS, polarizing beam splitter; LPFs, low-pass filters; BPF, band-pass filter; G, electronic amplifier. Electronics in the two channels are identical. The measured distributions exhibit up to 1.9 dB of quantum correlation between the signal and idler photon numbers, whereas the marginal distributions are thermal as expected for parametric fluorescence.



Measurement of the joint photon-number probability distribution for a twin-beam from nondegenerate downconversion

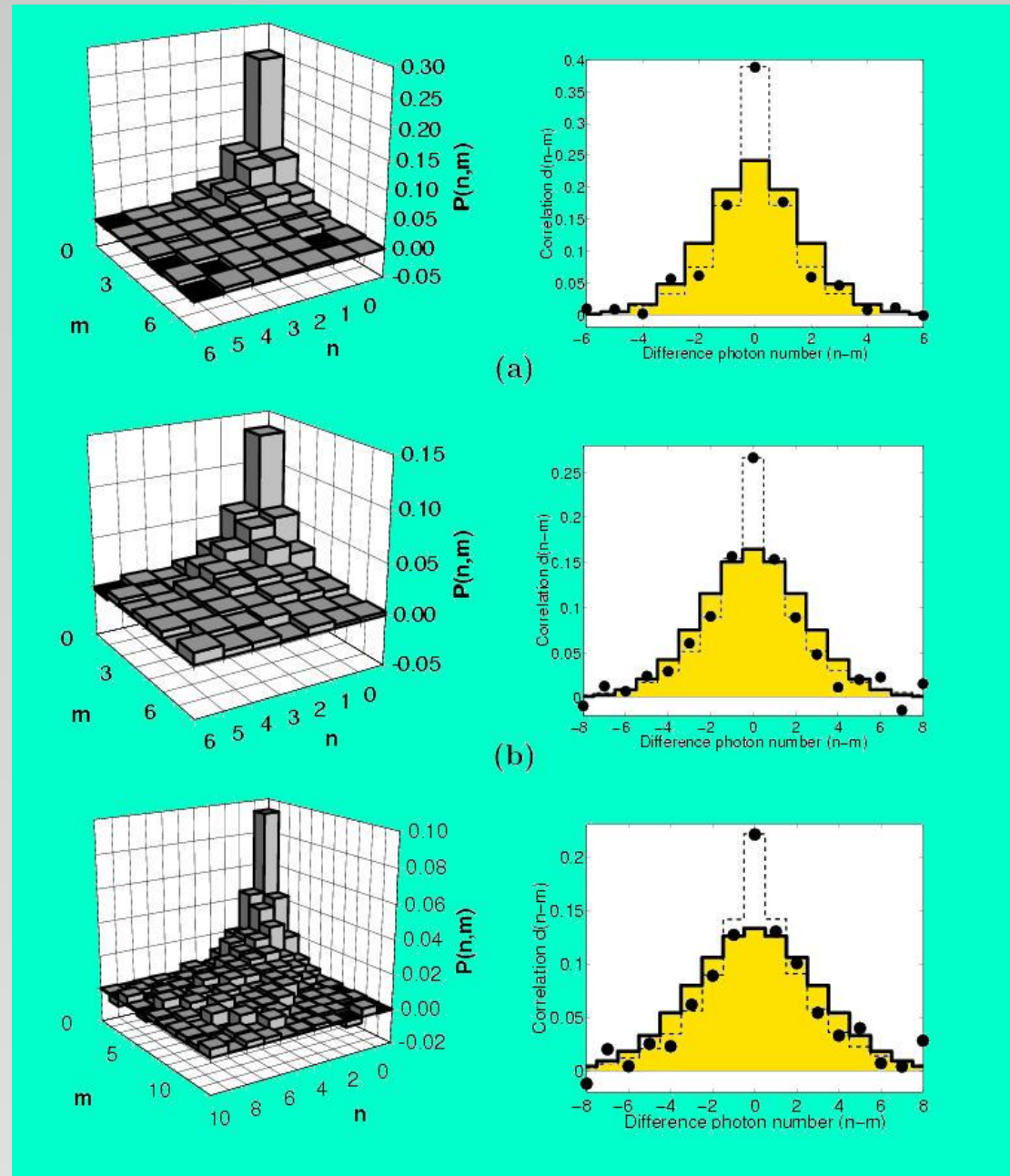
NWU experiment on twin beam

Marginal distributions for the signal and idler beams. Theoretical distributions for the same mean photon numbers are also shown [Phys. Rev. Lett. **84** 2354 (2000)].



Results

Left: Measured joint photon-number probability distributions for the twin-beam state. Right: Difference photon number distributions corresponding to the left graphs (filled circles, experimental data; solid lines, theoretical predictions; dashed lines, difference photon-number distributions for two independent coherent states with the same total mean number of photons and $\bar{n} = \bar{m}$.) (a) 400000 samples, $\bar{n} = \bar{m} = 1.5$, $N = 10$; (b) 240000 samples, $\bar{n} = 3.2$, $\bar{m} = 3.0$, $N = 18$; (c) 640000 samples, $\bar{n} = 4.7$, $\bar{m} = 4.6$, $N = 16$. [back to photodetector calibration]



Conclusions

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Universal quantum detectors

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 - (e) Pure ancillary states are "optimal".

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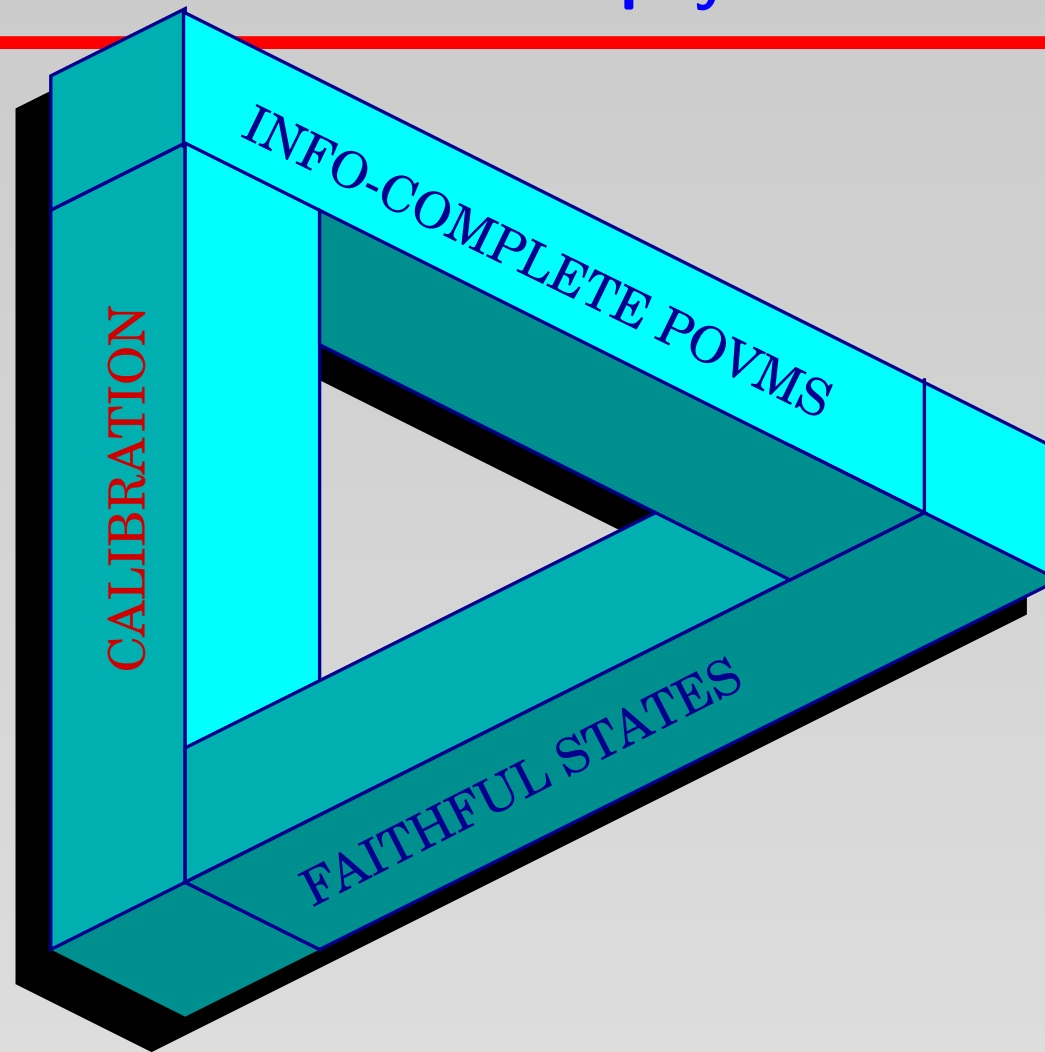
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2. In particular one can perform an **absolute calibration of a photodetector**.
3. **The method is robust** to detection noise and to mixing of the input state.

Quantum Mechanics: physical axioms?



Informationally complete POVM's = **calibrators**: *"the quantum standards of the International Bureau of Weights and Measures à Paris"* — Chris Fuchs.

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