Tight Quantum Lower Bound for Approximate Counting with Quantum States

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joint with

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to the state generation and state conversion problems, respectively. Using the ideas by Lee We obtain a version of the bound for general input oracles, which are just arbitrary unitaries. We also generalise the bound to the problem of implementing arbitrary unitary transformations. Similarly to the bound by Lee et al., our bound is a lower bound for exact transformation and an upper bound for approximate transformation. This version of the bound possesses the tight composition property.

Using this construction, we also obtain lower bounds on the quantum query complexity of functions and relations with general input oracles.

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History

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#### 2 1 of 32 🧪 variations.pdf 172,8% -**Q** ≡ -• × Variations on Quantum Adversary Aleksandrs Belovs<sup>\*</sup> Abstract The (negative-weighted) quantum adversary bound is a tight characterisation of the quantum query complexity for any partial function 28 38. We analyse the extent to which this bound can be generalised. Ambainis et al. 3 and Lee et al. 34 generalised this bound to the state generation and state conversion problems, respectively. Using the ideas by Lee et al., we get even further generalisations of the bound. We obtain a version of the bound for general input oracles, which are just arbitrary unitaries. We also generalise the bound to the problem of implementing arbitrary unitary transformations. Similarly to the bound by Lee et al., our bound is a lower bound for exact transformation and an upper bound for approximate transformation. This version of the bound possesses the tight composition property.

Using this construction, we also obtain lower bounds on the quantum query complexity of functions and relations with general input oracles.

# Goal:

Bring the quantum adversary method under common general settings.

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#### Variations on Quantum Adversary

#### Aleksandrs Belovs $^*$

#### Abstract

The (negative-weighted) quantum adversary bound is a tight characterisation of the quantum query complexity for any partial function [28, 38]. We analyse the extent to which this bound can be generalised. Ambainis *et al.* [3] and Lee *et al.* [34] generalised this bound to the state generation and state conversion problems, respectively. Using the ideas by Lee *et al.*, we get even further generalisations of the bound.

We obtain a version of the bound for general input oracles, which are just arbitrary unitaries. We also generalise the bound to the problem of implementing arbitrary unitary transformations. Similarly to the bound by Lee *et al.*, our bound is a lower bound for exact transformation and an upper bound for approximate transformation. This version of the bound possesses the tight composition property.

Using this construction, we also obtain lower bounds on the quantum query complexity of functions and relations with general input oracles.

**Usual Adversary** Tight characterization of quantum query complexity in normal settings:

- $\Box \quad \text{Input: encodes a string } x \text{ as a unitary} \\ O_x \colon |i\rangle |0\rangle \mapsto |i\rangle |x_i\rangle;$
- $\Box$  Output: evaluates a function f(x) when measured.

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"Variations" Adversary Semi-tight characterization when

- $\Box$  Input: arbitrary unitary  $O_x$ ;
- $\Box$  Output: arbitrary unitary  $V_x$ .

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#### Variations on Quantum Adversary

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Using this construction, we also obtain lower bounds on the quantum query complexity of functions and relations with general input oracles.

#### "Variations" Adversary Semi-tight characterization when

- $\Box$  Input: arbitrary unitary  $O_x$ ;
- $\Box$  Output: arbitrary unitary  $V_x$ .

From this, you can derive other versions:

State conversion, state preparation, relation evaluation, ...



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# Can this new method be used for real problems?

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### Suggestion

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#### Quantum Lower Bounds for Approximate Counting via Laurent Polynomials<sup>\*</sup>

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Scott Aaronson<sup>†</sup> Robin Kothari<sup>‡</sup> William Kretschmer<sup>§</sup> Justin Thaler<sup>¶</sup>

#### Abstract

We study quantum algorithms that are given access to trusted and untrusted quantum witnesses. We establish strong limitations of such algorithms, via new techniques based on *Laurent polynomials* (i.e., polynomials with positive and negative integer exponents). Specifically, we resolve the complexity of *approximate counting*, the problem of multiplicatively estimating the size of a nonempty set  $S \subseteq [N]$ , in two natural generalizations of quantum query complexity.

Our first result holds in the standard Quantum Merlin–Arthur (QMA) setting, in which a quantum algorithm receives an untrusted quantum witness. We show that, if the algorithm makes T quantum queries to S, and also receives an (untrusted) m-qubit quantum witness, then either  $m = \Omega(|S|)$  or  $T = \Omega(\sqrt{N/|S|})$ . This is optimal, matching the straightforward protocols where the witness is either empty, or specifies all the elements of S. As a corollary, this resolves the open problem of giving an oracle separation between SBP, the complexity class that captures approximate counting, and QMA.

In our second result, we ask what if, in addition to a membership oracle for S, a quantum algorithm is also given "QSamples"—i.e., copies of the state  $|S\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|S|}} \sum_{i \in S} |i\rangle$ — or even access to a unitary transformation that enables OSampling? We show that even then the algorithm



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### Aaronson et al.

#### Paper



#### Summary

#### Abstract

We study quantum algorithms that are given access to trusted and untrusted quantum witnesses. We establish strong limitations of such algorithms, via new techniques based on *Laurent polynomials* (i.e., polynomials with positive and negative integer exponents). Specifically, we resolve the complexity of *approximate counting*, the problem of multiplicatively estimating the size of a nonempty set  $S \subseteq [N]$ , in two natural generalizations of quantum query complexity.

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#### NB: Dangling modifier...

### Counting



# Counting

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Summary

- Old and well-known problem:
  - $\Box$  Given a subset  $x \subseteq [n]$ ,
  - $\Box$  find |x| with multiplicative precision  $\varepsilon$ .
  - distinguish two cases

$$|x| = k, \text{ or } \\ |x| = k' = (1 + \varepsilon)k$$

Can be done in  $O\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\sqrt{\frac{n}{|x|}}\right)$  queries assuming membership access to x:

Brassard, Høyer, and Tapp (1998).

And this is optimal

Bennett, Bernstein, Brassard, and Vazirani (1997).

### New Life



### **New Life**



What can be more quantum than this

$$|\psi_x
angle = rac{1}{\sqrt{|x|}}\sum_{i\in x}|i
angle$$
 ?

### Main Result



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### **Our Result**

### **Our Settings**

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#### Assume $\varepsilon = 1...$ We consider all $1/k \le \varepsilon \le 1$ .

### **Our Settings**

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Assume  $\varepsilon = 1...$ We consider all  $1/k \le \varepsilon \le 1$ .

> Can have copies of Can reflect about



We add state-generating oracle:  $|0\rangle \mapsto |\psi_x\rangle$ .









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Summary

**Proposition.** It is possible to solve the approximate counting problem using  $O(k \log k)$  classical samples from x.

*Proof.* Sample the elements out of x sufficiently many times. Output that |x| = k if the number of distinct elements observed is at most k, otherwise output that |x| = k'.

The algorithm has 1-sided error.

The analysis follows from the standard coupon collecting problem.

This is the only place where we are tight only up to a log.



# **Matching Upper Bound II**

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**Proposition.** It is possible to solve the approximate counting problem using any of the following input oracles  $O\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\sqrt{\frac{n}{k}}\right)$  times: the state-generating, the reflecting, or the membership one.

*Proof.* For the membership oracle, this is just quantum counting. Otherwise, we reflect about the state  $\psi_x$ , which does not change the way the algorithm works.



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**Proposition.** Assume *t* distinct elements of *x* are given to the algorithm. Then, it is possible to solve the approximate counting problem using any of the following input oracles  $O\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\sqrt{\frac{k}{t}}\right)$  times: the state-generating, or the reflecting one.

*Proof.* Let S be the subset given to us.

Perform amplitude estimation on  $\psi_x$ , where the marked elements are the ones in S.

The amplitude is either  $\sqrt{t/k}$  or  $\sqrt{t/k'}$ .

Since  $\sqrt{t/k} = (1 + \Omega(\varepsilon))\sqrt{t/k'}$ , it takes  $O(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\sqrt{\frac{k}{t}})$  queries to the reflecting or the state-generating oracles to distinguish the two cases.

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# **Techniques**

# **Standard Adversary Bound**

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Spectral formulation of the negative-weighted adversary bound Høyer, Lee, Špalek, 2007

$$\frac{\|\Gamma\|}{\max_{j\in[n]}\|\Gamma\circ\Delta_j\|}$$

X, Y: sets of positive and negative inputs;  $\Gamma$ : real  $X \times Y$ -matrix;  $\Delta_j$ : also  $X \times Y$ -matrix given by

 $\Delta_j \llbracket x, y \rrbracket = \mathbf{1}_{x_j \neq y_j};$ 

 $\Gamma \circ \Delta_i$  is Hadamard product:

 $(A \circ B)[\![x, y]\!] = A[\![x, y]\!]B[\![x, y]\!];$ 

 $||\Gamma||$  is spectral norm.

#### **Standard Input Oracle**

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Group 
$$\Delta^{\mathrm{mem}} = (\Delta^{\mathrm{mem}}_{x,y})_{x \in X, y \in Y}$$
, where

 $\Delta_{x,y}^{\text{mem}} = \bigoplus_{j \in [n]} 1_{x_j \neq y_j} = \begin{pmatrix} 1_{x_1 \neq y_1} & 0 & \cdots & 0\\ 0 & 1_{x_2 \neq y_2} & \cdots & 0\\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots\\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1_{x_n \neq y_n} \end{pmatrix}$ 

Extend Hadamard product notation:

 $(\Gamma \circ \Delta^{\mathrm{mem}})\llbracket x, y \rrbracket = \Gamma\llbracket x, y \rrbracket \Delta^{\mathrm{mem}}_{x, y}.$ 

We have

$$\Gamma \circ \Delta^{\mathrm{mem}} = \bigoplus_{j \in [n]} \Gamma \circ \Delta_j \implies \|\Gamma \circ \Delta^{\mathrm{mem}}\| = \max_{j \in [n]} \|\Gamma \circ \Delta_j\|.$$
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### **Standard Input Oracle**

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Spectral formulation of the negative-weighted adversary bound Høyer, Lee, Špalek, 2007

$$\frac{\|\Gamma\|}{\|\Gamma\circ\Delta^{\mathrm{mem}}\|}$$

We say that  $\Delta^{\mathrm{mem}} = (\Delta^{\mathrm{mem}}_{x,y})_{x \in X, y \in Y}$ , where

$$\Delta_{x,y}^{\text{mem}} = \bigoplus_{j \in [n]} 1_{x_j \neq y_j} = \begin{pmatrix} 1_{x_1 \neq y_1} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1_{x_2 \neq y_2} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1_{x_n \neq y_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

represents the standard input oracle.

### **General Input Oracle**

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General input oracle: arbitrary unitary  $O_x$  with  $x \in X \cup Y$ . Belovs, 2019

 $\frac{\|\Gamma\|}{\|\Gamma\circ\Delta\|}$ 

General input oracle is represented by

 $\Delta_{x,y} = O_x - O_y.$ 

### **General Input Oracle**

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$$\frac{\|\Gamma\|}{\|\Gamma\circ\Delta\|}$$

General input oracle is represented by

$$\Delta_{x,y} = O_x - O_y.$$

We can use for the oracle reflecting about  $\psi_x$ :

$$\Delta_{x,y}^{\text{refl}} = (2\psi_x \psi_x^* - I) - (2\psi_y \psi_y^* - I) = 2(\psi_x \psi_x^* - \psi_y \psi_y^*).$$

# **State-Generating Input Oracle**

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State-generating input oracle: maps  $|0\rangle \mapsto |\psi_x\rangle$ . Belovs, 2019

Is represented by

 $\Delta_{x,y}^{\text{gen}} = (\psi_x \oplus \psi_x^*) - (\psi_y \oplus \psi_y^*).$ 

$$\psi_x \oplus \psi_x^* = \begin{pmatrix} | & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \psi_x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ | & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & - & \psi_x^* & - \end{pmatrix}.$$

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Adversary bound with general input oracles:

 $\|\Gamma\circ\Delta\|$ 

 $\|\Gamma\|$ 

How can we account for several input oracles?

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Adversary bound with general input oracles:

 $\frac{\|\Gamma\|}{\|\Gamma\circ\Delta\|}$ 

How can we account for several input oracles?

$$\begin{split} \|\Gamma\| &= 1 \text{, then the algorithm needs} \\ \left(\frac{1}{\|\Gamma \circ \Delta\|}\right) \text{ queries to solve the problem.} \end{split}$$

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Formulation of the Optimisation Problem	$O\left(\begin{array}{c}1\\1\end{array}\right)$
Copies of the state	$1 \frac{1}{1} \sqrt{\frac{1}{1}} \sqrt{\frac{1}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{1}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{1}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{1}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{1}} $
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	Now assum

Adversary bound with general input oracles:

 $\frac{\|\Gamma\|}{\|\Gamma\circ\Delta\|}$ 

How can we account for several input oracles?

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\|\Gamma\| = 1, then the algorithm needs \left(rac{1}{\|\Gamma \circ \Delta\|}
ight) queries to solve the problem.
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Now assume we have  $\Delta^{(1)}$  and  $\Delta^{(2)}$ .

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Adversary bound with general input oracles:

 $\|\Gamma\circ\Delta\|$ 

How can we account for several input oracles?

If  $\|\Gamma\| = 1$ , then the algorithm has to make

queries to the first oracle; or

 $\left(\frac{1}{\|\Gamma \circ \Delta^{(2)}\|}\right)$  queries to the second oracle

to solve the problem.

### **Formulation of the Optimisation Problem**



# **Copies of the state**

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Summary

With copies of the state  $\psi_x$ , the problem is a state-conversion problem.

Ambainis, Magnin, Rötteler, Roland, 2011

Define the Gram matrix  $\Psi$  with

$$\Psi\llbracket x, y\rrbracket = \langle \psi_x, \psi_y \rangle.$$

The Gram matrix of  $\ell$  copies is  $\Psi^{\circ \ell}$ .

### **Formulation of the Optimisation Problem**

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Let  $\Gamma$  be an  $X \times Y$ -matrix with  $\|\Gamma\| = 1$  and  $\|\Gamma \circ \Psi^{\circ \ell}\| = \Omega(1)$ . Then, having  $\ell$  copies of the state  $\psi_x$ , the algorithm has to make

queries to the membership oracle; or

queries to the reflecting oracle; or

queries to the state-generating oracle

to solve the problem.

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# General Form of $\Gamma$

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The matrix  $\Gamma$  is symmetric with respect to the permutations of [n].

$$\Gamma = \sum_{j=0}^{k} \gamma_j \Phi_j,$$

where  $\Phi_j$  are the isomorphisms between the copies of the irreps of the symmetric group in  $\mathbb{R}^Y$  and  $\mathbb{R}^X$ .

$$\|\Gamma\| = \max_j |\gamma_j|.$$

# Missing steps

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#### Some Quantities

#### Let $k' = (1 + \varepsilon)k$ . Aaronson et al. Our Result Techniques Representation Theory $\phi_{j,0} := \sqrt{\frac{j(k-j+1)(n-k-j+1)}{(n-2j+2)(n-2j+1)k}},$ $\phi'_{j,0} := \sqrt{\frac{j(k'-j+1)}{(n-2j+1)}}$ General Form of $\Gamma$ Missing steps Some Quantities $\phi_{j,1} := \sqrt{\frac{k}{2}},$ $\phi_{j,1}' := \sqrt{\frac{k'}{2}},$ Some Vectors Some Lemmas $\phi_{j,2} := \frac{n-2k}{\sqrt{nk}} \sqrt{\frac{j(n-j+1)}{(n-2j+2)(n-2j)}},$ $\phi_{j,2}' := \frac{n - 2k'}{\sqrt{nk'}} \sqrt{\frac{n}{n}}$ $\phi_{j,3} := \sqrt{\frac{(n-j+1)(k-j)(n-k-j)}{(n-2j+1)(n-2j)k}}, \quad \phi'_{j,3} := \sqrt{\frac{(n-j+1)(n-j+1)(n-2j)k}{(n-2j+1)(n-2j)k}}$

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#### **Some Vectors**

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Representation Theory	$\left(\phi_{i,0}\right)$	$\left(\phi_{i0}^{\prime}\right)$
General Form of $\Gamma$	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i> '
Missing steps	$\phi_i = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \varphi_{j,1} \\ \varphi_{j,1} \end{array} \right]$	$\phi' = \phi'_{j,1}$
Some Quantities	$\varphi_{j} = \phi_{j,2}$	$\varphi_{j} = \phi_{i,2}$
Some Vectors	<i>d</i> : a	$\beta'$
Some Lemmas	$\langle \psi_{j,3} \rangle$	$igvee \psi_{j,3}$ /
Summary	$\left(\gamma_{j-1}\phi_{j,0}\right)$	$\left(\gamma_{j-1}\phi_{j,0}'\right)$
•	$\sim \gamma_i \phi_{i,1}$	$\gamma_i \phi'_{i1}$
•	$\phi_j = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \gamma_j + j, z \\ \gamma_j + \phi_j, z \end{array} \right]$	$\phi'_j = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \gamma_j + j, \gamma_j \\ \gamma_{i'} \phi' \end{array} \right].$
	$\gamma_j arphi_{j,2}$	$\gamma_j \varphi_{j,2}$
	$\langle \gamma_{j+1}\phi_{j,3} \rangle$	$\langle \gamma_{j+1} \phi'_{j,3} / \rangle$

#### Some Lemmas

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Our Result	$\Gamma \circ \Psi = \sum \langle \phi_i, \widetilde{\phi'}_i \rangle \Phi_i$
Techniques	$ \sum_{j=0}^{j=0} (\gamma j) \gamma \gamma j = j$
Representation Theory	
General Form of $\Gamma$	$\ \Gamma \circ \Delta^{\text{gen}}\  = \max \max\{\ \phi'_i - \gamma_i \phi_i\ , \ \gamma_i \phi'_i - \phi_i\ \}$
Missing steps	$j \qquad \qquad$
Some Quantities	$  _{\mathbf{D}} = \mathbf{A} \operatorname{refl}   =   _{\mathcal{I}} (\mathcal{I}^* + \mathcal{I}^*)   _{\mathcal{I}}   _{I$
Some Vectors	$\ 1 \circ \Delta^{\text{res}}\  = \max_{i} \ \varphi_{j} \phi_{j} - \varphi_{j} \phi_{j}\ $
Some Lemmas	J II II
Summary	
•	
	$\ \Gamma \circ \Delta^{\mathrm{mem}}\  = \max_{j} \max\left\{\right.$
• • • •	$\left \frac{\sqrt{(k-j)(n-k'-j)}}{\gamma_i} - \frac{\sqrt{(k'-j)(n-k-j)}}{\gamma_{i+1}}\right .$
•	n-2j $n-2j$ $n-2j$
0 0 0 0	$\left \sqrt{(k'-j)(n-k-j)}\right _{\sim} \sqrt{(k-j)(n-k'-j)} \right _{\sim}$
0 0 0	$\frac{n-2j}{n-2j} = \frac{n-2j}{n-2j}$

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Our Result

Techniques

**Representation Theory** 

Summary

### Summary

#### Aaronson et al.

Our Result

History

Techniques

Representation Theory

Summary

#### Summary

- Demonstrated how to use the new version of the adversary bound
  - $\Box$  for various input oracles;
  - □ to prove trade-offs between them.
- Developed ancillary lemmas for subsets of a uniform set.

#### **Open Problems**

Do we need representation theory?

# Thank you!

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