# Finite frames and quantum detection 

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## Outline

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3. Equations of motion

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This is an $l^{2}$ theory, but there are relevant analogous $l^{\infty}$ problems, for example finding Grassmannian frames.

## PART 1: Finite frame theory

## Frames

Frames $F=\left\{e_{n}\right\}_{n=1}^{N}$ for $d$-dimensional Hilbert space $H$, e.g., $H=\mathbb{K}^{d}$, where $\mathbb{K}=\mathbb{C}$ or $\mathbb{K}=\mathbb{R}$.

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- $F \subseteq \mathbb{K}^{d}$ is $A$-tight if

$$
\forall x \in \mathbb{K}^{d}, A\|x\|^{2}=\sum_{n=1}^{N}\left|\left\langle x, e_{n}\right\rangle\right|^{2}
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x \longmapsto\left\{\left\langle x, e_{n}\right\rangle\right\} .
$$

- Frame operator $-S=L^{*} L: H \longrightarrow H$, in fact,

$$
S(x)=\sum_{n=1}^{N}\left\langle x, e_{n}\right\rangle e_{n} .
$$

## Tight frames and applications

Theorem $\left\{e_{n}\right\}_{n=1}^{N} \subseteq \mathbb{K}^{d}$ is an $A$-tight frame for $\mathbb{K}^{d} \Longleftrightarrow$

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$$

- Robust transmission of data over erasure channels such as the Internet. [Casazza, Goyal, Kelner, Kovačević]
- Multiple antenna code design for wireless communications. [Hochwald, Marzetta, T. Richardson, Sweldens, Urbanke]
- Multiple description coding. [Goyal, Heath, Kovačević, Strohmer, Vetterli]
- Quantum detection.
- Chandler Davis - mathematics
- Eldar, Forney, Oppenheim - signal processing
- Brandt, Kennedy, Helstrom - quantum mechanics quantum detection


## Finite unit norm tight frames (FUN-TFs)

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- Let $\left\{e_{n}\right\}$ be an A-unit norm TF for any separable Hilbert space $H . A \geq 1$, and $A=1 \Leftrightarrow\left\{e_{n}\right\}$ is an ONB for $H$ (Vitali). Thus, 1-FUN-TF $\Rightarrow$ ONB.


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- The geometry of finite tight frames:
- The vertices of platonic solids are FUN-TFs.
- Points that constitute FUN-TFs do not have to be equidistributed, e.g., ONBs, Grassmanian frames.
- FUN-TFs can be characterized as minimizers of a "frame potential function" (with Fickus) analogous to

Coulomb's Law.

## Frame force and potential energy

A force

$$
F: S^{d-1} \times S^{d-1} \backslash D \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d}
$$

is a central force with potential

$$
P: S^{d-1} \times S^{d-1} \backslash D \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}
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F(a, b)=f(\|a-b\|)(a-b), \quad P(a, b)=p(\|a-b\|) .
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Note that

$$
\nabla_{a} P=-F \Longleftrightarrow p^{\prime}(x)=-x f(x) .
$$

- Coulomb force

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C F(a, b)=(a-b) /\|a-b\|^{3}, \quad f(x)=1 / x^{3}
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- Total potential energy for the frame force of $\left\{x_{n}\right\}_{n=1}^{N} \subset S^{d-1}$

$$
\operatorname{TFP}\left(\left\{x_{n}\right\}\right)=\Sigma_{m=1}^{N} \Sigma_{n=1}^{N}\left|\left\langle x_{m}, x_{n}\right\rangle\right|^{2}
$$

## Local minimizers and frame bounds

Theorem Given $d, N$, and central force $F .\left\{x_{n}\right\}_{n=1}^{N} \subset\left(S^{d-1}\right)^{N}$ a local minimizer for the total potential energy function $\Rightarrow$

$$
\forall m=1, \ldots, N, \exists c_{m} \in \mathbb{R} \text { such that } c_{m} x_{m}=\sum_{n \neq m} F\left(x_{m}, x_{n}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{d}
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(by Lagrange multipliers).

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- By Theorem and frame operator $S=A I$ characterization of $A$-tight we were led to definition of frame force.
- $\left\{x_{n}\right\}_{n=1}^{N} \subset \mathbb{R}^{d}$ with frame operator $S$ implies

$$
\operatorname{TFP}\left(\left\{x_{n}\right\}\right)=\operatorname{Tr}\left(S^{2}\right)
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Theorem Given $d, N$, and frame force $F F .\left\{x_{n}\right\}_{n=1}^{N} \subset\left(S^{d-1}\right)^{N} \Rightarrow$

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N \max \left(1, \frac{N}{d}\right) \leq \operatorname{TFP}\left(\left\{x_{n}\right\}\right) \leq N^{2}
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- This Theorem is a basic input to following characterization.


## Characterization of FUN-TFs

For the Hilbert space $H=\mathbb{R}^{d}$ and $N$, consider

$$
\left\{x_{n}\right\}_{1}^{N} \in S^{d-1} \times \ldots \times S^{d-1}
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and

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Theorem Let $N \leq d$. The minimum value of TFP, for the frame force and $N$ variables, is $N$; and the minimizers are precisely the orthonormal sets of $N$ elements for $\mathbb{R}^{d}$.

Theorem Let $N \geq d$. The minimum value of TFP, for the frame force and $N$ variables, is $N^{2} / d$; and the minimizers are precisely the FUN-TFs of $N$ elements for $\mathbb{R}^{d}$.

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Problem Find these FUN-TFs analytically, effectively, and computationally.

## PART 2: A quantum detection problem

## Positive-operator-valued measures

Let $\mathcal{B}$ be a $\sigma$-algebra of sets of $X$. A positive operator-valued measure (POM) is a function $\Pi: \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(H)$ such that

1. $\forall U \in \mathcal{B}, \Pi(U)$ is a positive self-adjoint operator,
2. $\Pi(\emptyset)=0$ (zero operator),
3. $\forall$ disjoint $\left\{U_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{\infty} \subset \mathcal{B}$ and $x, y \in H$,

$$
\left\langle\Pi\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} U_{i}\right) x, y\right\rangle=\sum_{i=1}^{\infty}\left\langle\Pi\left(U_{i}\right) x, y\right\rangle,
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- A POM $\Pi$ on $\mathcal{B}$ has the property that given any fixed $x \in H, p_{x}(\cdot)=\langle x, \Pi(\cdot) x\rangle$ is a measure on $\mathcal{B}$. (Probability if $\|x\|=1$ ).
- A dynamical quantity $Q$ gives rise to a measurable space $(X, \mathcal{B})$ and POM. When measuring $Q, p_{x}(U)$ is the probability that the outcome of the measurement is in $U \in \mathcal{B}$.


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- Suppose the state of the electron is given by $x \in H$ with unit norm. Then the probability that the electron is found to be in the region $U \in \mathcal{B}$ is given by

$$
p(U)=\langle x, \Pi(U) x\rangle=\int_{U}|x(t)|^{2} d t
$$

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- Clear that $\Pi$ satisfies conditions (1)-(3) for a POM. Since $F$ is Parseval, we have condition (4) $\left(\Pi(X) x=\sum_{i \in X}\left\langle x, e_{i}\right\rangle e_{i}=x\right)$. Thus $\Pi$ defines a POM.


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- Conversely, let $(X, \mathcal{B})$ be a measurable space with corresponding POM $\Pi$ for a $d$ dimensional Hilbert space $H$. If $X$ is countable then there exists a subset $K \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$, a Parseval frame $\left\{e_{i}\right\}_{i \in K}$, and a disjoint partition $\left\{B_{j}\right\}_{j \in X}$ of $K$ such that for all $j \in X$ and $y \in H$,

$$
\Pi(j) y=\sum_{i \in B_{j}}\left\langle y, e_{i}\right\rangle e_{i} .
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## Quantum detection for finite frames

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- Our goal is to determine what state the system is in by performing a "good" measurement. That is, we want to construct a POM with outcomes $X=\mathbb{Z}_{N}$ such that if the state of the system is $x_{i}$ for some $1 \leq i \leq N$, then

$$
p_{x_{i}}(j)=\left\langle x_{i}, \Pi(j) x_{i}\right\rangle \approx \begin{cases}1 & \text { if } i=j \\ 0 & \text { if } i \neq j\end{cases}
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- Since $\left\langle x_{i}, \Pi(i) x_{i}\right\rangle$ is the probability of a successful detection of the state $x_{i}$, then the probability of a detection error is given by

$$
P_{e}=1-\sum_{i=1}^{N} \rho_{i}\left\langle x_{i}, \Pi(i) x_{i}\right\rangle .
$$

## Quantum detection problem

- If we construct our POM using Parseval frames, the error becomes

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& =1-\sum_{i=1}^{N} \rho_{i}\left\langle x_{i},\left\langle x_{i}, e_{i}\right\rangle e_{i}\right\rangle \\
& =1-\sum_{i=1}^{N} \rho_{i}\left|\left\langle x_{i}, e_{i}\right\rangle\right|^{2}
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\end{aligned}
$$

- Quantum detection problem: Given a unit normed set $\left\{x_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N} \subset H$ and positive weights $\left\{\rho_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$ that sum to 1 . Construct a Parseval frame $\left\{e_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$ that minimizes

$$
P_{e}=1-\sum_{i=1}^{N} \rho_{i}\left|\left\langle x_{i}, e_{i}\right\rangle\right|^{2}
$$

over all $N$-element Parseval frames. ( $\left\{e_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$ exists by a compactness argument.)

## Naimark theorem

Naimark Theorem Let $H$ be a $d$-dimensional Hilbert space and let $\left\{e_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N} \subset H$, $N \geq d$, be a Parseval frame for $H$. Then there exists an $N$-dimensional Hilbert space $H^{\prime}$ and an orthonormal basis $\left\{e_{i}^{\prime}\right\}_{i=1}^{N} \subset H^{\prime}$ such that $H$ is a subspace of $H^{\prime}$ and

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\forall i=1, \ldots, N, \mathcal{P}_{H} e_{i}^{\prime}=e_{i},
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where $\mathcal{P}_{H}$ is the orthogonal projection $H^{\prime} \rightarrow H$.

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## Naimark theorem

Naimark Theorem Let $H$ be a $d$-dimensional Hilbert space and let $\left\{e_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N} \subset H$, $N \geq d$, be a Parseval frame for $H$. Then there exists an $N$-dimensional Hilbert space $H^{\prime}$ and an orthonormal basis $\left\{e_{i}^{\prime}\right\}_{i=1}^{N} \subset H^{\prime}$ such that $H$ is a subspace of $H^{\prime}$ and

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- Minimizing $P_{e}$ over all $N$-element Parseval frames for $H$ is equivalent to minimizing $P_{e}$ over all $N$-element orthonormal bases for $H^{\prime}$.
- Thus we simplify the problem by minimizing $P_{e}$ over all $N$-element orthonormal sets in $H^{\prime}$.


## Quantum detection error as a potential

- Treat the error term as a potential.

$$
P=P_{e}=\sum_{i=1}^{N} \rho_{i}\left(1-\left|\left\langle x_{i}, e_{i}^{\prime}\right\rangle\right|^{2}\right)=\sum_{i=1}^{N} P_{i} .
$$

where we have used the fact that $\sum_{i=1}^{N} \rho_{i}=1$ and each

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$$

- For $H^{\prime}=\mathbb{R}^{N}$, we have the relation,

$$
\left\|e_{i}^{\prime}-x_{i}\right\|^{2}=2-2\left\langle x_{i}, e_{i}^{\prime}\right\rangle
$$

where we have used the fact that $\left\|e_{i}^{\prime}\right\|=\left\|x_{i}\right\|=1$. We can rewrite the potential $P_{i}$ as

$$
P_{i}=\rho_{i}\left(1-\left[1-\frac{1}{2}\left\|x_{i}-e_{i}^{\prime}\right\|^{2}\right]^{2}\right) .
$$

A central force corresponds to quantum detection error
Given $P_{i}$, define the function $p_{i}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

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$$
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Hence, the force $F_{i}=-\nabla P_{i}$ is

$$
F_{i}\left(x_{i}, e_{i}^{\prime}\right)=f_{i}\left(\left\|x_{i}-e_{i}^{\prime}\right\|\right)\left(x_{i}-e_{i}^{\prime}\right)=-2 \rho_{i}\left\langle x_{i}, e_{i}^{\prime}\right\rangle\left(x_{i}-e_{i}^{\prime}\right),
$$

a multiple of the frame force! The total force is given by

$$
F=\sum_{i=1}^{N} F_{i} .
$$

## A reformulation of the quantum detection problem

- We reformulate the quantum detection problem in terms of frame force and the Naimark Theorem.
- The given elements $\left\{x_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N} \subset H^{\prime}$ can be viewed as fixed points on the sphere $S^{N-1} \subset H^{\prime}$.


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- The equilibrium position of the points $\left\{e_{i}^{\prime}\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$ is the position where all the forces produce no net motion. In this situation, the potential $P$ is minimized.
- For the remainder, let $\left\{e_{i}^{\prime}\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$ be an ONB for $\mathbb{R}^{N}$ that minimizes $P$. Recall that $\left\{e_{i}^{\prime}\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$ exists by compactness. The quantum detection problem is to construct or compute $\left\{e_{i}^{\prime}\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$.


## PART 3: Equations of motion

A parameterization of $O(N)$

- Consider the orthogonal group

$$
O(N)=\left\{\Theta \in G L(N, \mathbb{R}): \Theta^{\tau} \Theta=I\right\}
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- Since $O(N)$ is an $N(N-1) / 2$-dimensional smooth manifold, we can locally parameterize $O(N)$ by $N(N-1) / 2$ variables, i.e., $\Theta=\Theta\left(q_{1}, \ldots, q_{N(N-1) / 2}\right)$ for each $\Theta \in O(N)$.


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Hence, for all $\theta \in O(N)$ there is a surjective diffeomorphism $b_{\theta}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& O(N) \\
& \cup \\
b_{\theta}: & \mathcal{U}_{\theta} \quad \longrightarrow \mathcal{U} \subset \mathbb{R}^{N(N-1) / 2}
\end{aligned}
$$

for relatively compact neighborhoods $\mathcal{U}_{\theta} \subseteq O(N)$ and $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{N(N-1) / 2}, \theta \in \mathcal{U}_{\theta}$.

A parameterization of ONBs

- Let $\left\{w_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$ be the standard ONB for $H^{\prime}=\mathbb{R}^{N}: w_{i}=(0, \ldots, 0, \underbrace{1}_{i^{\mathrm{th}}}, 0, \ldots, 0)$.


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& \mathbb{R}^{N(N-1) / 2} O(N) \\
& \quad \cup \cup \mathcal{U}_{\theta} \xrightarrow[W_{i}]{ } \quad \begin{array}{l}
\text { U } \\
\quad \underset{b_{\theta}^{-1}=\Theta}{ } \quad H^{\prime}=\mathbb{R}^{N}
\end{array} .
\end{aligned}
$$

where for all $\Psi \in O(N), W_{i}(\Psi)=\Psi w_{i}$.

$$
e_{i}(\vec{q})=e_{i}\left(q_{1}, \ldots, q_{N(N-1) / 2}\right)=W_{i} \circ b_{\theta}^{-1}(\vec{q})=\left(b_{\theta}^{-1}(\vec{q})\right) w_{i} \in \mathbb{R}^{N} .
$$

## Lagrangian dynamics on $O(N)$

- We now convert the frame force $F$ acting on the orthonormal set $\left\{e_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$ into a set of equations governing the motion of the parameterization points $\vec{q}(t)=$ $\left(q_{1}(t), \ldots, q_{N(N-1) / 2}(t)\right)$, see (1). We define the Lagrangian $L$ and total energy $E$ defined for $\vec{q}(t)$ by:

$$
L=T-P_{e}, \quad E=T+P_{e}
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- Using the Euler-Lagrange equations for the potential $P_{e}$

$$
\frac{d}{d t}\left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_{j}}\right)-\frac{\partial L}{\partial q_{j}}=0
$$

we obtain the equations of motion

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} q_{j}(t)=-2 \sum_{i=1}^{N} \rho_{i}\left\langle x_{i}, e_{i}(\vec{q}(t))\right\rangle\left\langle x_{i}, \frac{\partial e_{i}}{\partial q_{j}}(\vec{q}(t))\right\rangle . \tag{1}
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- Choose $\vec{q}^{\prime} \in \mathbb{R}^{N(N-1) / 2}$ such that $e_{i}\left(\vec{q}^{\prime}\right)=e_{i}^{\prime} \in \mathbb{R}^{N}$ for all $i=1, \ldots, N$.


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Remark The definition of $\tilde{q}$ and equation (1) introduce $t$ into play for solving the quantum detection problem.


Theorem Constant function $\tilde{q}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{N(N-1) / 2}$ is a minimum energy solution of (1).

## Results

It can be shown that

- Theorem Denote by $\vec{q}(t)=\left(q_{1}(t), \ldots, q_{N(N-1) / 2}(t)\right)$ a solution of the equations of motion that minimizes the energy $E$ and denote by $\mathcal{P}_{H}$ the orthogonal projection from $H^{\prime}$ into $H$. Then $\vec{q}(t)$ is a constant solution and the set of vectors

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- Theorem A minimum energy solution, a minimizer of $P_{e}$, satisfies the expression

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{N} \rho_{i}\left\langle x_{i}, e_{i}\right\rangle\left\langle x_{i}, \frac{\partial e_{i}}{\partial q_{j}}\right\rangle=0
$$

## Numerical problems

- The use of Lagrangia provides a point of view for computing the TF minimizers of $P_{e}$. (Some independent, direct calculations are possible (Kebo), but not feasible for large values of $d$ and $N$.)
- The minimum energy solution theorem opens the possibility of using numerical methods to find the optimal orthonormal set. For example, a type of Newton's method could be used to find the zeros of the function

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- With the parameterization of $S O(N)$, the error $P_{e}$ is a smooth function of the variables $\left(q_{1}, \ldots, q_{N(N-1) / 2}\right)$, that is,

$$
P_{e}\left(q_{1}, \ldots, q_{N(N-1) / 2}\right)=1-\sum_{i=1}^{N} \rho_{i}\left|\left\langle x_{i}, e_{i}\left(q_{1}, \ldots, q_{N(N-1) / 2}\right)\right\rangle\right|^{2}
$$

A conjugate gradient method can be used to find the minimum values of $P_{e}$.

## Another error criterion

- Problem Given a unit normed set $\left\{x_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N} \subset H$, where $H$ is $d$-dimensional, and positive weights $\left\{\rho_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N} \subset \mathbb{R}$ that sum to 1 . Construct the Parseval frame $\left\{e_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$ that minimizes

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Theorem Let $\left\{x_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$ be a frame for $H$ with frame operator $S .\left\{S^{-1 / 2} x_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$ is the unique Parseval frame such that

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{N}\left\|x_{i}-S^{-1 / 2} x_{i}\right\|^{2}=\inf \left\{\sum_{i=1}^{N}\left\|x_{i}-e_{i}\right\|^{2}:\left\{e_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N} \text { Parseval frame for } H\right\}
$$

and, with $S$ having eigenvalues $\left\{\lambda_{j}\right\}_{j=1}^{d}$,

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{N}\left\|x_{i}-S^{-1 / 2} x_{i}\right\|^{2}=\sum_{j=1}^{d}\left(\lambda_{j}-2 \sqrt{\lambda_{j}}+1\right)
$$

## Geometrically uniform frames

$\mathcal{Q}=\left\{U_{i} \in \mathcal{L}(H): 1 \leq i \leq N\right\}$-finite Abelian group of unitary linear operators.

A set of vectors $\left\{x_{i} \in H: 1 \leq i \leq N\right\}$ is geometrically uniform if there exists $x \in H$ such that

$$
\left\{x_{i}: 1 \leq i \leq N\right\}=\left\{U_{i} x: 1 \leq i \leq N\right\} .
$$

$x$ is a generating vector.

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A set of vectors $\left\{x_{i} \in H: 1 \leq i \leq N\right\}$ is geometrically uniform if there exists $x \in H$ such that

$$
\left\{x_{i}: 1 \leq i \leq N\right\}=\left\{U_{i} x: 1 \leq i \leq N\right\} .
$$

$x$ is a generating vector.

Minimizers of the least-squares error are also minimizers of the quantum detection error when the given set is a geometrically uniform frame. (Bölcskei, Edlar, Forney):

Theorem Let $H$ be a Hilbert space, let $\left\{x_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N} \subset H$ be a frame for $H$, and let $S$ be its frame operator. If $\left\{x_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$ is geometrically uniform then,

1. $\left\{S^{-1 / 2} x_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$ minimizes the detection error $P_{e}$ when the weights are all equal,
2. $\left\{S^{-1 / 2} x_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$ is a geometrically uniform set under the same abelian group $\mathcal{Q}$.
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