Quantum Noise and Counting Statistics
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3rd NTT-BRL School “Decoherence and Noise in Quantum Systems”

- Background on electron shot noise exp/th
  - Scattering matrix approach; current partition, binominal statistics

- Counting statistics:
  - Generating function for counting statistics
  - Passive current detector; Keldysh partition function representation

- Tunneling
  - Odd vs even moments, nonequilibrium FDT theorem
  - Third moment $S_3$

- Driven many-body systems
  - Coherent many-body states — noise-minimizing current pulses
  - Many particle problem → one particle problem (the determinant formula)
  - Phase-sensitive noise, ‘Mach-Zender effect’, orthogonality catastrophe
  - Coherent electron pumping
Noise Introduction

Fluctuating current $I(t)$

Correlation function $G_2(\tau) = \overline{I(t)I(t + \tau)}$ (time average, stationary flow)

Temporal correlations due to quantum statistics and/or source

Electrons counted in a flow, integrity preserved, without being pulled out of a many-body system, no single-electron resolution yet — ensemble average picture (but, turnstiles)

Noise spectrum $S(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-i\omega\tau} S(\tau) d\tau$,
where $S(\tau) = \langle \langle I(t)I(t + \tau) \rangle \rangle = \overline{I(t)I(t + \tau)} - \overline{I}^2$
**Electron transport**

Coherent elastic scattering (mesoscopic systems, point contacts, etc.) — scattering matrix approach

Interactions (nanotubes, quantum wires, QHE edge states) — Luttinger liquid theory, QHE fractional charge theories

Quantum systems driven out of equilibrium (quantum dots, pumps, turnstiles, qubits)

Current autocorrelation function:

\[ G_2(\tau) = \langle \frac{1}{2} (I(t)I(t+\tau) + I(t+\tau)I(t)) \rangle \]

(Note: no normal ordering, electrons counted without being destroyed)

If you’re an electron,
**Mesoscopic Transport (Crash Course)**

A quintessential example (point contact): 1d single channel QM scattering on a barrier, \(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\psi'' + U(x)\psi = \epsilon\psi\). Scattering states in asymptotic form:

\[
\begin{align*}
\begin{array}{c}
e^{ikx} \\
i^{1/2}e^{-ikx}
\end{array}
\end{align*}
\begin{array}{c}
\text{Functions}
\end{array}
\begin{align*}
\begin{array}{c}
u_k(x)
\end{array}
\end{align*}
\begin{array}{c}
t^{1/2}e^{ikx}
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\text{Functions}
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i^{1/2}e^{ikx}
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\begin{align*}
\begin{array}{c}
e^{ikx}
\end{array}
\end{align*}
\begin{array}{c}
i^{1/2}e^{-ikx}
\end{array}
\end{align*}

Express electric current through \(\psi(x) = \sum_k \left( \hat{a}_k u_k(x) + \hat{b}_k v_k(x) \right) \): \[
\hat{j}(x) = \frac{e}{2m} \left( -\psi^+(x) \partial_x \psi(x) + \text{h.c.} \right) = e \sum_{k,k'} e^{i(k-k')x} \frac{k + k'}{2m} \psi^+_k(x) \psi_k(x)
\]

\[
\hat{j}(x) = \sum_{k,k'} \frac{k + k'}{2m} e^{i(k-k')x} \begin{pmatrix} a_{k'}^+ \\ b_{k'}^+ \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t & i \sqrt{r}t \\ -i \sqrt{r}t & r-1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_k \\ b_k \end{pmatrix} \quad (x \gg 0)
\]

Time-averaged current (at \(eV \ll E_F\) only energies near \(E_F\) contribute):

\[
\langle \hat{j}(x) \rangle = ev_F \sum_k t \langle a_{k}^+ a_{k} \rangle + (r - 1) \langle b_{k}^+ b_{k} \rangle = ev_F t \int \frac{dk}{2\pi\hbar} [n_L(\epsilon) - n_R(\epsilon)] = (et/\hbar) \int [f(\epsilon - eV) - f(\epsilon)] \, d\epsilon = \frac{e^2}{h} t V
\]

Ohm’s law: \(I = gV\) (\(IR = V\)) with conductance \(g = 1/R = \frac{e^2}{h} t\) (Landauer)

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L Levitov, Nov 2, 2005, 3-rd NTT BRL School
Multiterminal system, reservoirs, scattering states

Single channel S-matrix: \( S = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{t} & i\sqrt{r} \\ i\sqrt{r} & \sqrt{t} \end{pmatrix} \) (optical beam splitter)

Scattering manifest in transport — quantization of \( g \) in point contacts of adjustable width (many parallel channels which open one by one as a function of \( V_{\text{gate}} \))

\[
g = \frac{2e^2}{h} \sum_n t_n
\]

Conductance quantum: \( 2e^2/h = 1/13 \text{ k}\Omega^{-1} \)
adapted from van Wees et al. (1991)
Electron beam partitioning

Incident electrons transmitted/reflected with probabilities $t, r = 1 - t$;

At $T = 0$, bias voltage $eV = \mu_L - \mu_L$, transport only at $\mu_R < \epsilon < \mu_L$: (i) Fully filled Fermi at $\epsilon < \mu_L, \mu_R$; (ii) All empty states at $\epsilon > \mu_L, \mu_R$.

Mean current $I = 2eN_{L \rightarrow R} = e \int_{\mu_R}^{\mu_L} t \frac{de}{2\pi \hbar} = \frac{e^2}{\hbar} tV$ (two spin channels)

Noiseless source (zero temperature) — **binomial statistics** with the number of attempts during time $\tau$: $N_\tau = (\mu_L - \mu_R)\tau / 2\pi \hbar = eV \tau / h$

Transmitted charge $\langle Q \rangle = 2eN_\tau \tau = (2e^2 / h)V \tau$ — agrees with microscopic calculation!
Mesoscopic noise

Find noise power spectrum for a single channel conductor (no spin):

\[ S_\omega = \langle \langle \hat{j}(t)\hat{j}(0) + \hat{j}(0)\hat{j}(t) \rangle \rangle e^{-i\omega t} dt \]

\[ \hat{j}(t) = \sum_{k,k'} e v_F e^{-i(\epsilon_k - \epsilon_{k'}) t} \left( \begin{array}{c} a_{k'}^+ \\ b_{k'}^+ \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{cc} t & i\sqrt{r}t \\ -i\sqrt{r}t & r - 1 \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{c} a_k \\ b_k \end{array} \right) \]

\[ S_{\omega = 0} = \sum_{k,k'} (e v_F)^2 \delta(\epsilon_k - \epsilon_{k'}) \langle \langle \left( \begin{array}{c} a_{k'}^+ \\ b_{k'}^+ \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{cc} t & i\sqrt{r}t \\ -i\sqrt{r}t & r - 1 \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{c} a_k \\ b_k \end{array} \right) \right|^2 \rangle \rangle = \sum_{k} e^2 v_F \langle \langle t(a_k^+a_k - b_k^+b_k) + i\sqrt{r}t(a_k^+b_k - b_k^+a_k) \rangle \rangle \times \text{[h.c.]} \rangle \rangle

Averaging with the help of Wick’s theorem, obtain

\[ S_0 = \frac{e^2}{2} \int d\epsilon \left[ t^2(n_L(1 - n_L) + n_R(1 - n_R)) + rt(n_L(1 - n_R) + n_R(1 - n_L)) \right] \]

For reservoirs at equilibrium, with \( n_{L,R}(\epsilon) = f(\epsilon = \frac{\epsilon}{2} eV) \), have

\[ S_0 = \frac{e^2}{h} \left[ t^2 kT + rteV \coth \frac{eV}{2kT} \right] = \begin{cases} gkT & eV \ll kT, \text{ thermal noise;} \\ r e^2 g eV & eV \gg kT, \text{ shot noise} \end{cases} \]

Note: \( S_0(eV \gg kT) = r e^2 I \) — Shottky noise, suppressed by \( r = 1 - t \) (Lesovik ’89)
Noise due to electron beam partitioning

Incident electrons with $\mu_R < \epsilon < \mu_L$ transmitted/ reflected with probabilities $t$, $r = 1 - t$ (No transport at $\epsilon < \mu_L, \mu_R$ and $\epsilon > \mu_L, \mu_R$)

Noiseless source (zero temperature) — binomial statistics with the number of attempts during time $\tau$: $N_\tau = (\mu_L - \mu_R)\tau / 2\pi\hbar = eV\tau / \hbar$

Probability of $m$ out of $N_\tau$ electrons to be transmitted:
$P_m = C_N^m t^m r^{N-m}$ ($C_N^m = N! / m!(N-m)!$ — binomial coefficients)

Mean value: $\overline{m} = \sum_0^N mP_m = t\partial_t (t + r)^N = tN$
Variance: $\delta m^2 = m^2 - \overline{m}^2 = (t\partial_t)^2 (t + r)^N - \overline{m}^2 = rtN$

— agrees with microscopic calculation!
Noise in a point contact, experiment

\[
S_0 = \sum_n \frac{2e^2}{\hbar} t_n (1 - t_n) \quad \text{minima on QPC conductance plateaus} \quad \text{(adapted from Reznikov et al. '95)}
\]
Example from optics: photon beam splitter with noiseless source

Consider $n$ identical photons, in a number state $|n\rangle$, incident on a beam splitter.

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
    a_{\text{in}} \\
    b_{\text{in}}
\end{pmatrix}
= \begin{pmatrix}
    \sqrt{t} & i\sqrt{r} \\
    i\sqrt{r} & \sqrt{t}
\end{pmatrix}
\begin{pmatrix}
    a_{\text{out}} \\
    b_{\text{out}}
\end{pmatrix}
\]

\[|n\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}}(a_{\text{in}}^+)^n|0\rangle\]

\[= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}}(\sqrt{t}a_{\text{out}}^+ + i\sqrt{r}b_{\text{out}}^+)^n|0\rangle\]

\[= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}}\left(\sum_{m=0}^{n} i^{n-m}C_n^m t^m/2 r^{(n-m)/2}(a_{\text{out}}^+)^m(b_{\text{out}}^+)^{n-m}|0\rangle\right)\]

\[= \sum_{m=0}^{n} i^{n-m} \left(C_n^m\right)^{1/2} t^m/2 r^{(n-m)/2}|n, n-m\rangle\]

Probability to transmit $m$ out of $n$ photons is $P_m = C_n^m t^m r^{n-m}$ — binomial statistics

Coherent, but noiseless, source $\rightarrow$ classical beam partitioning
SHOT NOISE HIGHLIGHTS (FOR EXPERTS)

- Noise suppression relative to Scottky noise $S_2 = eI$ (tunneling current). In a point contact $S_2 = (1 - t)eI$ (Lesovik '89, Khlus '87)

- Multiterminal, multichannel generalization; Relation to the random matrix theory; Universal 1/3 reduction in mesoscopic conductors (Büttiker '90, Beenakker '92)

- Measured in a point contact (Reznikov '95, Glattli '96)

- Measured in a mesoscopic wire (Steinbach, Martinis, Devoret '96, Schoelkopf '97)

- Fractional charge noise in QHE (Kane, Fisher '94, de Picciotto, Reznikov '97, Glattli '97 ($\nu = 1/3$), Reznikov '99($\nu = 2/5$))

- Phase-sensitive (photon-assisted) noise (Schoelkopf '98, Glattli '02)

- Noise in NS structures, charge doubling (Kozhevnikov, Schoelkopf, Prober '00)

- Luttinger liquid, nanotubes (Yamamoto, '03)

- QHE system; Kondo quantum dots; Noise near $0.7e^2/h$ structure in QPC (Glattli '04)

- Third moment $S_3$ measurement (Reulet, Prober '03, Reznikov '04)
Experimental issues, briefly

- Actually measured is not electric current but EM field. Photons detached from matter, transmitted by $\sim 1 \text{ m}$, amplified, and detected;

- Matter-to-field conversion harmless if there is no backaction;

- Device $+$ leads $+$ environment. Engineer the circuit so that the interesting noise dominates (e.g. a tunnel junction or point contact of high impedance)

- Detune from $1/f$ noise

- Limitations due to heating and detection sensitivity
FULL COUNTING STATISTICS
COUNTING STATISTICS GENERATING FUNCTION

Probability distribution $P_n \rightarrow$ cumulants $m_k = \langle \langle n^k \rangle \rangle$

$m_1 = \bar{n}$, the mean value;
$m_2 = \delta n^2 = n^2 - \bar{n}^2$, the variance;
$m_3 = \delta n^3 = (n - \bar{n})^3$, the skewness;
...

Generating function $\chi(\lambda) = \sum_n e^{i\lambda k} P_k$ (defined by Fourier transform),

$$\ln [\chi(\lambda)] = \sum_{k > 0} \frac{m_k}{k!} (i\lambda)^k$$

While $P_n$ is more easy to measure, $\chi(\lambda)$ is more easy to calculate!

The advantage of $\chi(\lambda)$ over $P_n$ similar to partition function in a ‘grand canonical ensemble’ approach

Ex I: Binomial distribution, $P_n = C_N^n p^n (1 - p)^{N-n}$ with $N$ the number of attempts, $p$ the success probability $\rightarrow \chi(\lambda) = (pe^{i\lambda} + 1 - p)^N$

Ex II: Poisson distribution, $P_n = \frac{\bar{n}^n}{n!} e^{-\bar{n}}$, $\chi(\lambda) = \exp(\bar{n}(e^{i\lambda} - 1))$
**Counting statistics, microscopic formula I**

**WANTED:** A microscopic expression for the generating function
\[ \chi(\lambda) = \sum_q P(q) e^{i\lambda q} \] for a generic many-body system

Spin 1/2 coupled to current: \( \mathcal{H}_{el,spin} = \mathcal{H}_{el}(p - a\sigma_3, q) \)

Counting field \( a = -\frac{\lambda}{2}\hat{x}\delta(x - x_0) \) measures current through cross-section \( x = x_0 \)

**Ex.** Coupling to classical current \( \mathcal{H} = \frac{\lambda}{2}\sigma_3 I(t) \); time evolution of spin:
\[ |\uparrow\rangle = e^{-i\theta(t)/2}|\uparrow\rangle, \quad |\downarrow\rangle = e^{i\theta(t)/2}|\downarrow\rangle \]

Spin precesses in the \( XY \) plane, precession angle \( \theta(t) = \lambda \int_0^t I(t')dt' \) measures time-dependent transmitted charge

**Disclaimer:** This clarifies the microscopic picture of current fluctuations, but may not describe realistic measurement!
Counting statistics, microscopic formula II

In QM current is an operator and \([I(t), I(t')]\) \(\neq 0\) → Need a more careful analysis!

Spin density matrix evolution (ensemble-averaged):

\[
\rho(t) = \langle e^{-i\mathcal{H}_t} \rho_0 e^{i\mathcal{H}_t} \rangle_{\text{el}} = \begin{pmatrix}
\rho_{\uparrow\uparrow}^{(0)} & \langle e^{i\mathcal{H}_t} \rho_{\downarrow\uparrow}^{(0)} e^{-i\mathcal{H}_t} \rangle_{\text{el}} \\
\langle e^{i\mathcal{H}_t} \rho_{\downarrow\uparrow}^{(0)} e^{-i\mathcal{H}_t} \rangle_{\text{el}} & \rho_{\downarrow\downarrow}^{(0)}
\end{pmatrix}
\]

\[
\langle \ldots \rangle_{\text{el}} = \text{Tr}_{\text{el}}(\ldots \rho_{\text{el}})
\]

Examine the classical current case: spin precesses by \(\theta_n = \lambda n\) for \(n\) transmitted particles.

\[
\rho(t) = \sum_n P_n \begin{pmatrix}
\rho_{\uparrow\uparrow}^{(0)} & e^{-i\theta_n} \rho_{\downarrow\uparrow}^{(0)} \\
e^{i\theta_n} \rho_{\downarrow\uparrow}^{(0)} & \rho_{\downarrow\downarrow}^{(0)}
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
\rho_{\uparrow\uparrow}^{(0)} & \langle e^{i\lambda n} \rangle_{\text{el}} \\
\langle e^{-i\lambda n} \rangle_{\text{el}} & \rho_{\downarrow\downarrow}^{(0)}
\end{pmatrix}
\]

Identify \(\langle e^{i\theta(t)} \rangle = \langle e^{i\lambda q} \rangle\) with \(\chi(\lambda)\), the generating function
Main result:

$\chi(\lambda)$ is given by Keldysh partition function

$$\chi(\lambda) = \langle e^{i\mathcal{H}_0 - \lambda t} e^{-i\mathcal{H}_0 t} \rangle_{el} = \left\langle T_K \exp \left( -i \int_{C_{0,t}} \hat{\mathcal{H}}_\lambda (t') dt' \right) \right\rangle_{el}$$

with the counting field $\lambda(t) = \pm \lambda$ antisymmetric on the forward and backward parts of the Keldysh contour $C_{0,t} \equiv [0 \rightarrow t \rightarrow 0]$

Properties:

1. Normalization: $\sum_q P_q = 1$, since $\chi(\lambda = 0) = 1$
2. $P_q = \int e^{-iq\lambda} \chi(\lambda) \frac{d\lambda}{2\pi} \geq 0$
3. Charge quantization: $\chi(\lambda)$ is $2\pi$-periodic in $\lambda$ (for noninteracting particles)

Features:

— Describes not just spin 1/2 but a wide class of passive charge detectors, such as heavy particle $\mathcal{H} = \frac{p^2}{2M} - \lambda f(t)q$ at large $M$ (no recoil);
— Minimal backaction, measurement affects only forward scattering: $[\mathcal{H},\sigma_z] = 0$;
— Good for generic many-body system
**COMPARE: LARMOR CLOCK FOR QM COLLISION**

Nuclear reaction, tunneling, resonance scattering, etc. — How long does it take?

Add a fictitious spin $1/2$ to particle: $U(x) \rightarrow U_{eff} = U(x) + \frac{1}{2} \omega(x) \sigma_z$ with fictitious field $\omega(x)$ nonzero in the spatial region of interest.

Spin precesses about the $Z$ axis during collision: precession angle measures time. Analysis similar to passive detector (one particle!) yields

$$\chi(\omega) = \text{Tr}(S^{-1}_{-\omega} S_{\omega} \rho) = \int e^{-i\omega \tau} P(\tau) d\tau$$

with $P(\tau)$ interpreted as probability to spend time $\tau$ in the region of interest

Resonance scattering: $S(\epsilon) = \frac{\epsilon - \epsilon_0 + i\gamma/2}{\epsilon - \epsilon_0 - i\gamma/2}$ gives $\chi(\omega) = \frac{\omega - \Delta - i\gamma}{\omega - \Delta + i\gamma} \times \frac{\omega + \Delta - i\gamma}{\omega + \Delta + i\gamma}$ with detuning $\Delta = 2(\epsilon - \epsilon_0)$. Obtain positive or negative probabilities! (Caution)
Variety of topics

- Driven many-body systems. For noninteracting particles (fermions or bosons) $\chi(\lambda)$ can be expressed through time-dependent one-particle $S$-matrix. Pumps, coherent current pulses, photon-assisted noise → next lecture
- Mesoscopic noise in normal and superconducting systems (Nazarov, Nagaev)
- Mesoscopic photon sources (Beenakker)
- Entangled EPR states, counting statistics (Fazio)
- Spin current noise (Lamacraft)
- Backaction of spin 1/2 counter (Muzykantsky)
- Role of environment (Kindermann)
- Quantum information/entropy (Callan & Wilczek, Vidal, Kitaev)
- Orthogonality catastrophe, Fermi-edge singularity
COUNTING STATISTICS OF TUNNELING CURRENT

Focus on the tunneling problem (generic interacting system). Tunneling Hamiltonian

\[ \hat{H} = \hat{H}_1 + \hat{H}_2 + \hat{V} \]

where \( \hat{H}_{1,2} \) and \( \hat{V} = \hat{J}_{12} + \hat{J}_{21} \) describe leads and tunneling coupling). The counting field \( \lambda(t) \) is added to the phase of the tunneling operators \( \hat{J}_{12}, \hat{J}_{21} \) as

\[ \hat{V}_\lambda = e^{i\frac{\lambda(t)}{2}} \hat{J}_{12}(t) + e^{-i\frac{\lambda(t)}{2}} \hat{J}_{21}(t) \]

with \( \lambda_{0<t<\tau} = \lambda \). (Justified using one-particle tunneling problem.)

Transform the bias voltage into a phase factor, \( \hat{J}_{12} \to \hat{J}_{12} e^{-ieVt}, \hat{J}_{21} \to \hat{J}_{21} e^{ieVt} \). In the interaction representation, write

\[ \chi(\lambda) = \left\langle T_K \exp \left( -i \int_{C_{0,t}}^{t'} \hat{V}_{\lambda(t')}(t') dt' \right) \right\rangle \]

using cumulant expansion, as a sum of linked cluster diagrams.
The lowest order in the tunneling coupling $\hat{J}_{12}$, $\hat{J}_{21}$ is given by linked clusters of order two. Obtain $\chi(\lambda) = e^{W(\lambda)}$, where

$$W(\lambda) = -\frac{1}{2} \oint \oint_{C_{0,t}} \langle T_K \hat{V}_{\lambda(t')} (t') \hat{V}_{\lambda(t'')}(t'') \rangle \, dt' \, dt''$$

More explicitly,

$$W(\lambda) = (e^{i\lambda} - 1)N_{1\rightarrow2}(t) + (e^{-i\lambda} - 1)N_{2\rightarrow1}(t)$$

$$N_{1\rightarrow2} = \int_0^t \int_0^t \langle \hat{J}_{21}(t') \hat{J}_{12}(t'') \rangle \, dt' \, dt'' \quad N_{2\rightarrow1} = \int_0^t \int_0^t \langle \hat{J}_{12}(t') \hat{J}_{21}(t'') \rangle \, dt' \, dt''$$

with $N_{j\rightarrow k}(t) = n_{jk} t$ the mean particle number transmitted between the contacts in a time $t$ (cf. Kubo formula).

Resulting counting statistics is bi-directional Poissonian:

$$\chi(\lambda) = \exp [(e^{i\lambda} - 1)N_{1\rightarrow2}(t) + (e^{-i\lambda} - 1)N_{2\rightarrow1}(t)]$$

True in any interacting system, in the tunneling regime.
**Nonequilibrium Fluctuation-Dissipation Theorem**

The cumulants are generated as $\ln \chi(\lambda) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(i\lambda)^k}{k!} \frac{\langle \delta q^k \rangle}{q_0^k}$ with $q_0$ the tunneling charge. Obtain

$$\langle \langle \delta q^k \rangle \rangle = q_0^k \begin{cases} (n_{12} - n_{21}) t, & k \text{ odd} \\ (n_{12} + n_{21}) t, & k \text{ even} \end{cases}$$

Setting $k = 1, 2$, relate $n_{12} \pm n_{21}$ with the time-averaged current and the low frequency noise power:

$$n_{12} - n_{21} = I/q_0, \quad n_{12} + n_{21} = S_2/q_0^2.$$

Relate the second and the first correlator:

$$S_2 = \langle \langle \delta q^2 \rangle \rangle / t = (N_{1 \rightarrow 2} + N_{2 \rightarrow 1})/(N_{1 \rightarrow 2} - N_{2 \rightarrow 1}) q_0 I = \coth(eV/2k_B T) q_0 I$$

Nyquist for $eV < k_B T$, Schottky for $eV > k_B T$.

A universal relation — holds for any $I-V$ characteristic (linear response not required, *cf.* FDT in equilibrium)
Primary Electronic Thermometry Using the Shot Noise of a Tunnel Junction

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We present a thermometer based on the electrical noise from a tunnel junction. In this thermometer, temperature is related to the voltage across the junction by a relative noise measurement with only the use of the electron charge, Boltzmann’s constant, and assumption that electrons in a metal obey Fermi-Dirac statistics. We demonstrate proof-of-concept operation of this primary thermometer over four orders of magnitude in temperature, with as high as 0.1\% accuracy and 0.02\% precision in the range near 1 kelvin. The self-calibrating nature of this sensor allows for a much faster and simpler measurement than traditional Johnson noise thermometry, making it potentially attractive for metrology and for general use in cryogenic systems.

Fig. 3. Normalized junction noise plotted versus normalized voltage at various temperatures.
**Generalized Schottky formula for $S_3$**

Relate the third cumulant $\langle \delta q^3 \rangle \equiv (\delta q - \bar{q})^3 = S_3t$ with $\langle \delta q \rangle = It$. Obtain a Schottky-like relation for the third correlator spectral power $S_3$:

$$S_3 \equiv \langle \delta q^3 \rangle / t = q_0^2 I$$

— independent of the mean/variance ratio $(n_{12} - n_{21})/(n_{12} + n_{21})$.

Since $N_{1\rightarrow 2}/N_{2\rightarrow 1} \equiv n_{12}/n_{21} = \exp(eV/k_BT)$ (detailed balance), the relation $S_3 = q_0^2 I$ holds at any voltage/temperature ratio.

Good for using shot noise to determine particle charge in Luttinger liquids and fractional QHE (heating limitation: $S_2 = q_0 I$ requires $eV > k_BT$).

A possibility to measure tunneling quasiparticle charge at temperatures $k_B T \geq eV$
The 3-rd correlator in terms of the counting distribution profile:

\[ \langle q \rangle = It = \text{mean}; \langle \delta q^2 \rangle = S_2t = \text{variance}; \langle \delta q^3 \rangle = S_3t = \text{skewness} \]

The third moment determines skewness of the distribution \( P(q) \) profile. This is illustrated by a bi-directional Poissonian distribution and a Gaussian with the same mean and variance. For \( S_3 > 0 \) the peak tails are stretched more to the right than to the left.
Measurement of $S_3$ in a Tunnel Junction:

Low impedance (50 Ohm) tunnel junction (B. Reulet et. al., PRL 91, 196601 (2003)) — strong coupling to environment;

High impedance junction (M. Reznikov et. al., PRL 95, 176601 (2005)):

Transmitted charge distribution and its moments $S_2$ and $S_3$. Poisson behavior $S_3 = e^2 I$ confirmed.
TUNNELING SUMMARY:

1) The counting statistics of tunneling current is bi-directional Poissonian, universally and independently of the character of interactions and thus of the form of $I-V$ dependence.

2) Nonequilibrium FDT relation $S_2 = \coth(eV/2k_BT)q_0I$

3) Shottky-like relation for the third correlator $S_3 = q_0^2 I$ at both large and small $eV/k_BT$. 
Fluctuations in a driven electron system

Current pulse (due to voltage pulse $V(t)$) in a single channel conductor (e.g. quantum wire or quantum point contact):

(i) Pulse charge

$$\Delta Q = e(N_e - N_h) = \frac{e^2}{h} \int V(t)dt$$

— total area, independent of pulse profile (no scattering!);

(ii) Total excitation number, “unhappiness,”

$$S = N_e + N_h = \int \int \frac{1 - \exp\left(i\phi(t, t')\right)}{(t-t')^2}dt\,dt', \quad \phi(t, t') = \frac{e}{\hbar} \int_t^{t'} V(\tau)\,d\tau$$

— depends on the pulse profile, phase-sensitive;

Minimize $S/\Delta Q$?
Minimizing unhappiness

Find noise-minimizing pulse shapes: 
\[ \int_0^{t_1} \int_{t_2}^{2 \pi n} \frac{1 - \exp \left( i \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \frac{e}{\hbar} V(t') \, dt' \right)}{(t_1 - t_2)^2} \, dt_1 \, dt_2 \rightarrow \min \]
— an interesting variational problem, solved by pulses of integer area \( 2\pi n \):

\[ V(t) = \frac{\hbar}{e} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{2\tau_i}{(t - t_i)^2 + \tau_i^2} \quad (\tau_i > 0) \]

Lorentzian pulses (overlapping or nonoverlapping)

Degeneracy: \( S_{\min} = n \), the same for all \( t_i, \tau_i \);

Orthogonality catastrophe (log divergence) in \( S \) for noninteger pulses;
Coherent time-dependent many-body states

For one Lorentzian pulse have $eS/\Delta Q = 1$:

---

- A many-body state with exactly one excitation above the Fermi level;
- No particle-hole pairs excited, Fermi sea unperturbed;
- A many-particle state which conspires to behave as single electron: second quantization undone (cf. QM coherent states of Harmonic Oscillator).
- Fully entangled? Minimally entangled?
- Probe by noise!

A Quantum Newton’s Cradle
**Counting statistics of a driven many-body system**

Time-dependent external field and scattering (noninteracting fermions)

We obtain the generating function in the form of a **functional determinant** in the single-particle Hilbert space:

\[
\chi(\lambda) = \det \left( \mathbf{1} + n(t, t') \left( \hat{T}_\lambda(t) - \mathbf{1} \right) \right)
\]

\[
\hat{T}_\lambda(t) = S_{-\lambda}(t) S_{\lambda}(t), \quad S_{\lambda}(t)_{ij} = e^{i \lambda_i^4} S(t)_{ij} e^{-i \lambda_j^4}
\]

with reservoirs density matrix \( n(t, t')_{T=0} = \frac{i}{2\pi(t-t'+i\delta)} = \sum_{\epsilon<0} e^{-i\epsilon(t-t')}, \) a time-dependent S-matrix \( S(t) \) and separate \( \lambda_i \) for each channel.

Time-dependent field (voltage \( V(t), \) etc.) included in \( S_{\lambda}(t). \) **No time delay:** \( S(t, t') \approx S(t)\delta(t - t') \) (instant scattering apprx. — nonessential)
SIMPLE AND NOT-SO-SIMPLE FACTS FROM MATRIX ALGEBRA

Useful relations between 2-nd quantized and single-particle operators:

\[ A \rightarrow \Gamma(A) = \sum_{i,j=1}^{N} A_{ij} a_i^+ a_j \]

(mapping of matrices \( N \times N \rightarrow 2^N \times 2^N \))  \( Klich \ '02 \).

\[ \text{Tr} \ e^{\Gamma(A)} = \det \ (1 + e^A) \]

— fermion partition function \( Z = \text{Tr} \ e^{-\beta \mathcal{H}} \) with \( -\beta \mathcal{H} = \Gamma(A) \)

**Note:** For \( A = 0 \) obtain \( 2^N = 2^N \)

\[ \text{Tr} \left( e^{\Gamma(A)} e^{\Gamma(B)} \right) = \det \ (1 + e^A e^B) \]

\[ \text{Tr} \left( e^{\Gamma(A)} e^{\Gamma(B)} e^{\Gamma(C)} \right) = \det \ (1 + e^A e^B e^C) \]

... Proven using Baker-Hausdorff series for \( \ln(e^X e^Y) \) (commutator algebra for \( X, Y \) the same as for \( \Gamma(X), \Gamma(Y) \))
Deriving the determinant formula I

Write c.s. generating function as

\[ \chi(\lambda) = \text{Tr} \left( \rho e^{i\mathcal{H} - \lambda t} e^{-i\lambda t} \right) \]

with \( \mathcal{H}_{\pm \lambda} = \Gamma(h_{\pm \lambda}), \rho = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-\beta \mathcal{H}_0} \). Obtain

\[ \chi = Z^{-1} \det \left( 1 + e^{-\beta h_0} e^{ih - \lambda t} e^{-ih t} \right) = \det \left[ \left( 1 + e^{-\beta h_0} \right)^{-1} \left( 1 + e^{-\beta h_0} e^{ih - \lambda t} e^{-ih t} \right) \right] \]

Finally, with \( \hat{n} = (1 + e^{\beta h_0})^{-1} \), have

\[ \chi(\lambda) = \det \left( 1 - \hat{n} + \hat{n} e^{ih - \lambda t} e^{-ih t} \right) \]
Deriving the determinant formula II

Relate forward-and-backward evolution in time with scattering operator:

\[
\langle t' | e^{i \hbar - \lambda t} e^{-i \hbar \lambda t} | t \rangle = S_{-\lambda}^{-1}(t) S_{\lambda}(t) \delta(t - t')
\]

with \( |t\rangle \) a wavepacket arriving at scatterer at time \( t \).

\[
\chi(\lambda) = \det \left( 1 - \hat{n} + \hat{n} S_{-\lambda}^{-1} S_{\lambda} \right)
\]

A single-particle quantity — Fermi-statistics accounted for by \( \det \)!  

(Generalize to bosons: \( \det(1 + ...) \longrightarrow \det(1 - ...)^{-1} \) )
A more intuitive approach: DC transport

For elastic scattering different energies contribute independently:

\[ \chi(\lambda) = \prod_{\epsilon} \chi_{\epsilon}(\lambda), \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \chi(\lambda) = \exp \left( t \int \ln \chi_{\epsilon}(\lambda) \frac{d\epsilon}{2\pi \hbar} \right), \]

(quasiclassical \( d\nu = d\epsilon dt / 2\pi \hbar \)).

Sum over all multiparticle processes:

\[ \chi_{\epsilon}(\lambda) = \sum_{i_1, \ldots, i_k, j_1, \ldots, j_k} e^{\frac{i}{2}(\lambda_{i_1} + \ldots + \lambda_{i_k} - \lambda_{j_1} - \ldots - \lambda_{j_k})} P_{i_1, \ldots, i_k | j_1, \ldots, j_k}, \]
with the rate of $k$ particles transit $i_1, \ldots, i_k \rightarrow j_1, \ldots, j_k$ is given by

$$P_{i_1, \ldots, i_k | j_1, \ldots, j_k} = \left| S_{i_1, \ldots, i_k}^{j_1, \ldots, j_k} \right|^2 \prod_{i \neq i_\alpha} (1 - n_i(\epsilon)) \prod_{i = i_\alpha} n_i(\epsilon).$$

with $S_{i_1, \ldots, i_k}^{j_1, \ldots, j_k}$ antisymmetrized product of $k$ single particle amplitudes.

This is equal to our determinant (Proven by reverse engineering)

Positive probabilities!
POINT CONTACT (BEAM SPLITTER): 2 × 2 MATRICES

\[
\chi_\epsilon(\lambda) = (1 - n_1)(1 - n_2) + (|S_{11}|^2 + e^{i\frac{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1}{2}}|S_{21}|^2)n_1(1 - n_2) \\
+ (|S_{22}|^2 + e^{i\frac{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2}{2}}|S_{12}|^2)n_2(1 - n_1) + |\text{det } S|^2 n_1 n_2,
\]

with \( n_{1,2}(\epsilon) = f(\epsilon \mp \frac{1}{2}eV) \) and \( S_{i,j} \) is unitary: \(|S_{1i}|^2 + |S_{2i}|^2 = 1, |\text{det } S| = 1. \)

Simplify: \( \chi_\epsilon(\lambda) = 1 + t(e^{i\lambda} - 1)n_1(1 - n_2) + t(e^{-i\lambda} - 1)n_2(1 - n_1) \) Here \( t = |S_{21}|^2 = |S_{12}|^2 \) is the transmission coefficient and \( \lambda = \lambda_2 - \lambda_1. \)

At \( T = 0, \) since \( n_F(\epsilon) = 0 \) or 1, for \( V > 0 \) have

\[
\chi_\epsilon(\lambda) = \begin{cases} 
    e^{i\lambda}t + 1 - t, & |\epsilon| < \frac{1}{2}eV; \\
    1, & |\epsilon| > \frac{1}{2}eV
\end{cases}
\]

Full counting statistics: \( \chi_\tau(\lambda) = (e^{i\lambda}p + 1 - p)^{\text{N}(\tau)} \) — binomial, with the number of attempts \( \text{N}(\tau) = (eV/h)\tau. \)

Similar at \( V < 0, \) with \( e^{i\lambda} \rightarrow e^{-i\lambda} \) (DC current sign reversal).
Note: the noninteger number of attempts is an artifact of a quasiclassical calculation. More careful analysis gives a narrow distribution $P_N$ of the number of attempts peaked at $\overline{N} = N(\tau)$, and the generating function as a weighted sum $\sum_N P_N \chi_N(\lambda)$. The peak width is a sublinear function of the measurement time $\tau$ (in fact, $\delta N^2_{T=0} \propto \ln \tau$), the statistics still binomial, to leading order in $t$. 
**Strategies for handling the determinant**

Two strategies:

1) For periodic $S(t)$, in the frequency representation $\hat{n}$ is diagonal, $n(\omega) = f(\omega)$, while $S(t)$ has matrix elements $S_{\omega',\omega}$ with discrete frequency change $\omega' - \omega = n\Omega$, with $\Omega$ the pumping frequency. In this method the energy axis is divided into intervals $n\Omega < \omega < (n+1)\Omega$, and each interval is treated as a separate conduction channel with time-independent $S$-matrix $S_{\omega',\omega}$.

2) The determinant can also be analyzed directly in the time domain:

\[
\partial_\lambda \ln \chi(\lambda) = \text{Tr} \left[ (1 + n(T_\lambda - 1))^{-1} \partial_\lambda T_\lambda \right]
\]

with $T_\lambda(t, t') = S_{-\lambda}(t)S_\lambda(t)\delta(t - t')$, $n(t, t') = \frac{i}{2\pi}(t - t' + i\delta)^{-1}$.

The problem of inverting the integral operator $R = 1 + n(T_\lambda - 1)$ is the so-called Riemann-Hilbert problem (matrix generalization of Wiener-Hopf, well-studied, exact and approximate solutions can be constructed)
Phase-sensitive noise

Charge flow induced by voltage pulse $V(t)$ in a point contact

A pulse $V(t)$ corresponds to a step $\Delta \theta$ in the forward scattering phase:

$$S(t) = \left( e^{-i\theta(t)\sqrt{t}} \begin{pmatrix} i \sqrt{r} & i \sqrt{r} \\ i \sqrt{r} & e^{i\theta(t)\sqrt{t}} \end{pmatrix} \right) \theta(t) = \frac{e}{\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^{t} V(t')dt'$$

The mean transmitted charge $\overline{q} = te\Delta \theta/2\pi$ — independent of pulse shape

In contrast, the variance $\overline{\delta q^2}$ exhibits complex dependence:

$$\overline{\delta q^2} = 2t(1-t)e^{2} \int \int \frac{1-e^{i\theta_{12}}}{(t_1 - t_2)^2}dt_1dt_2 \quad \theta_{12} = \frac{e}{\hbar} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} V(t')dt'$$

Gives $\overline{\delta q^2} \propto (1 - \cos \Delta \theta) \ln(t_{max}/t_0) + \text{const} — \text{periodic in the pulse area and log-divergent } (t_{max} \sim \hbar/k_BT)$

Interpret the log as orthogonality catastrophe: long-lasting change of scatterer at $\Delta \theta \neq 2\pi n$ causes infinite number of soft particle-hole excitations

Shot noise is phase-sensitive — Mach-Zender effect in electron noise
Counting statistics for coherent time-dependent states

Variance of transmitted charge $\delta q^2 = e^2 t(1 - t)n$ — independent of pulse parameters $t_i, \tau_i$, same value as for binomial distribution with the number of attempts $n$

Binomial counting statistics from the functional determinant (exactly solvable Riemann-Hilbert problem):

$$\chi(\lambda) = (t e^{i\lambda} + 1 - t)^n$$

Interpretation: pulses $\simeq$ independent attempts to transmit charge

Coherent current pulses:

Noise reduced as much as the beam splitter partition noise permits

Similarity to coherent states (QM uncertainty minimized)

Many-body pulses which behave like single particles. Entanglement? Bosons or fermions? More work needed...
MEASUREMENT OF PHASE SENSITIVE NOISE

Instead of a train of pulses (which is difficult to realize) used a combination of DC and AC voltage, \( V = V_{DC} + V_{AC} \cos \Omega t \) — oscillations in noise power (Bessel functions), while DC current is ohmic:

\[
\frac{\partial S_0}{\partial V_{DC}} = \frac{2}{\pi} e^3 \left( \sum_m t_m (1 - t_m) \right) \sum_n J_n^2 (V_{AC}/\hbar \Omega) \theta (eV_{DC} - n\hbar \Omega)
\]

Observed in mesoscopic wires (Schoelkopf '98), point contacts (Glattli '02)

FIG. 1. Theoretical and experimental variation of differential shot noise versus voltage, with 20 GHz ac excitation.

FIG. 2. Differential noise \((dS/dV)\) at a voltage of \(\sim 40\, \mu V\) as a function of the applied microwave power. Solid curves show the measured noise for microwave frequencies of 20 and 25 GHz, while the dashed lines are calculated according to Eq. (1). For high applied frequencies, the data show a damped oscillatory behavior consistent with the expected Bessel functions.
CASE STUDIES

(i) Voltage pulses of different signs (D Ivanov, H-W Lee, and LL, PRB 56, 6839 (1997)):

\[ V(t) = \frac{\hbar}{e} \left( \frac{2\tau_1}{(t-t_1)^2 + \tau_1^2} - \frac{2\tau_2}{(t-t_2)^2 + \tau_2^2} \right) \]

give rise to the counting distribution

\[ \chi(\lambda) = 1 - 2F + F(e^{i\lambda} + e^{-i\lambda}), \quad F = t(1-t) \left| \frac{z_1^* - z_2}{z_1 - z_2} \right|^2 \]

with \( z_{1,2} = t_{1,2} + i\tau_{1,2} \). The quantity \( A = |...|^2 \) is a measure of pulses' overlap in time: \( A = 0 \) (full overlap), \( A = 1 \) (no overlap).

Note: \( \chi(\lambda) \) factorizes for nonoverlapping pulses

(ii) Two-channel model of electron pump (D Ivanov and LL, JETP Lett 58, 461 (1993)):

\[ S(\tau) \equiv \begin{pmatrix} r & t' \\ t & r' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} B + be^{-i\Omega\tau} & \bar{A} + \bar{a}e^{i\Omega\tau} \\ A + ae^{-i\Omega\tau} & -B - be^{i\Omega\tau} \end{pmatrix}, \]

L Levitov, Nov 2, 2005, 3-rd NTT BRL School
which is unitary provided \(|A|^2 + |a|^2 + |B|^2 + |b|^2 = 1, \ A\bar{a} + B\bar{b} = 0\) (time-independent parameters).

For \(T = 0\) and \(\mu_L = \mu_R\) the charge distribution for \(m\) pumping cycles is described by

\[
\chi(\lambda) = (1 + p_1(e^{i\lambda} - 1) + p_2(e^{-i\lambda} - 1))^m
\]

with \(p_1 = |a|^4/(|a|^2 + |b|^2)\) and \(p_2 = |b|^4/(|a|^2 + |b|^2)\): at each pumping cycle an electron is pumped in one direction with probability \(p_1\), or in the opposite direction with probability \(p_2\), or no charge is pumped with probability \(1 - p_1 - p_2\).

Also can be solved at \(\mu_L \neq \mu_R\): more complicated statistics.
COUNTING STATISTICS OF A CHARGE PUMP
DC current from an AC-driven open quantum dot. (Exp: Marcus group '99)

The time-averaged pumped current is a purely geometric property of the path in the S-matrix parameter space, insensitive to path parameterization (Brouwer '98, Buttiker'94).

Noise dependence on the pumping cycle? Bounds on the ratio noise/current?

Here, consider generic but small path $V_1(t), V_2(t)$:
COUNTING STATISTICS FOR A GENERIC PUMPING CYCLE

Focus on the weak pumping regime, a small loop in the matrix parameter space: \( S(t) = e^{A(t)} S(0) \) with perturbation \( A(t) \) (antihermitian, \( \text{tr} A^\dagger A \ll 1 \)) and \( S(0) \) is the S-matrix in the absence of pumping.

Expand \( \ln \chi(\lambda) = \det \left( \hat{1} + n(t, t') \left( S^\dagger_\lambda(t) S_\lambda(t) - \hat{1} \right) \right) \) in \( A(t) \):

\[
\ln \chi = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \left( \hat{n} \left( A^2_\lambda + A^2_{-\lambda} - 2 A_{-\lambda} A_\lambda \right) \right) - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\hat{n} B_\lambda)^2
\]

with \( A_\lambda(t) = e^{i \frac{\lambda}{4} \sigma^3} A(t) e^{-i \frac{\lambda}{4} \sigma^3}, \quad B_\lambda(t) = A_\lambda(t) - A_{-\lambda}(t) \)

Using \( \hat{n}^2_{T=0} = \hat{n}_{T=0} \), separate a commutator:

\[
\ln \chi(\lambda) = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \left( \hat{n} [A_\lambda, A_{-\lambda}] \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{tr} \left( \hat{n}^2 B^2_\lambda \right) - \text{tr}(\hat{n} B_\lambda)^2 \right)
\]

The commutator is regularized as the Schwinger anomaly (splitting points, \( t', t'' = t \pm \epsilon/2 \)), which gives

\[
\frac{1}{2} \int n(t', t'') \text{tr} \left( A_{-\lambda}(t'') A_\lambda(t') - A_\lambda(t'') A_{-\lambda}(t') \right) dt
\]
Average over small $\epsilon$ (insert additional integrals over $t'$, $t''$, or just replace $A_\lambda(t) \to \frac{1}{2} (A_\lambda(t) + A_\lambda(t'))$, etc.) In the limit $\epsilon \to 0$, obtain

$$ (\ln \chi)_1 = \frac{i}{8\pi} \int \text{tr} \left( A_\lambda \partial_t A_\lambda - A_\lambda \partial_t A_{\lambda} \right) dt $$

The second term of $\ln \chi$ is rewritten as

$$ (\ln \chi)_2 = \frac{1}{4(2\pi)^2} \int \int \frac{\text{tr} \left( B_\lambda(t) - B_\lambda(t') \right)^2}{(t - t')^2} dt dt' $$

Now, combine $(\ln \chi)_1$ with $(\ln \chi)_2$, and simplify
**Bi-directional Poissonian statistics**

Convenient decomposition \( A = a_0 + z + z^\dagger \), such that \([\sigma_3, a_0] = 0\), \([\sigma_3, z] = -2z\), \([\sigma_3, z^\dagger] = 2z^\dagger\), gives

\[
A_\lambda \equiv e^{-i\frac{\lambda}{4}\sigma_3} A e^{i\frac{\lambda}{4}\sigma_3} = a_0 + e^{i\frac{\lambda}{2}z^\dagger} + e^{-i\frac{\lambda}{2}z}
\]

\[
B_\lambda = \left( e^{i\frac{\lambda}{2}} - e^{-i\frac{\lambda}{2}} \right) W, \quad W \equiv z^\dagger - z
\]

In this representation,

\[
\ln \chi = \frac{\sin \lambda}{8\pi} \int \text{tr} ([\sigma_3, W] \partial_t W) \, dt + \frac{(1 - \cos \lambda)}{2(2\pi)^2} \int \int \frac{\text{tr} (W(t) - W(t'))^2}{(t - t')^2} \, dt \, dt'
\]

The first term is identical to the Brouwer result (invariant under reparameterization and has a purely geometric character), the second term describes noise.

**Note the \( \lambda \)-dependence:** \( u(e^{i\lambda} - 1) + v(e^{-i\lambda} - 1) \to 2P \) statistics

\[
\chi(\lambda) = \exp \left( u(e^{i\lambda} - 1) + v(e^{-i\lambda} - 1) \right)
\]
Prove that

1) \( u, v \geq 0 \) for generic pumping cycle \( W(t) \);

2) \( u = 0 \) or \( v = 0 \) for special paths \( W(t) \) holomorphic in the upper/lower half-plane of complex time \( t \);

Then the ratio \( \frac{\text{current}}{\text{noise}} = (u - v)(u + v) \) is maximal or minimal (equal \( \pm q_0^{-1} \) per cycle), when \( u = 0 \) or \( v = 0 \). The counting statistics in this case is pure poissonian.
Example of a single channel system (two leads) driven by \( V_1(t) = a_1 \cos(\Omega t + \theta), \) \( V_2(t) = a_2 \cos(\Omega t). \) The pumping cycle:

\[
W(t) = \begin{pmatrix}
0 & \hat{z}(t) \\
\hat{z}^*(t) & 0 
\end{pmatrix}, \quad \hat{z}(t) = z_1 V_1(t) + z_2 V_2(t), \quad (z_1,2 \text{ system parameters})
\]

Current to noise ratio, \( I/J = q_0^{-1}(u - v)/(u + v) \), as a function of the driving signal parameters for a single channel pump. The two harmonic signals driving the system are characterized by relative amplitude and phase, \( w = (V_1/V_2)e^{i\theta}. \) Maximum and minimum, as a function of \( w \), are \( I/J = \pm q_0^{-1}. \)
**Pump noise summary:**

1) Pumping noise is super-poissonian; counting statistics is double-poissonian;

2) The current/noise ratio can be maximized by varying the pumping cycle (relative amplitude or phase of the driving signals);

3) Extremal cycles correspond to poissonian counting statistics with a universal ratio

\[
\frac{\text{current}}{\text{noise}} = \pm q_0^{-1}
\]

(another generalization of the Schottky formula).