

# Theory of quantum entanglement

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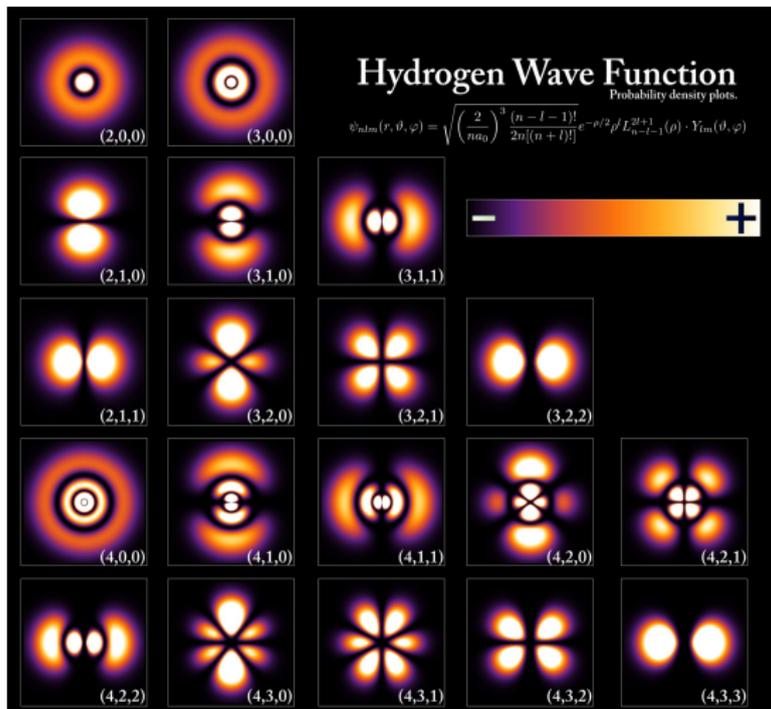
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- **Quantum entanglement** is a resource for quantum information processing (basic protocols like teleportation and super-dense coding)
- Has applications in quantum computation, quantum communication, quantum networks, quantum sensing, quantum key distribution, etc.
- Important to understand entanglement in a **quantitative** sense
- Adopt **axiomatic** and **operational** approaches
- This tutorial focuses on entanglement in non-relativistic quantum mechanics and finite-dimensional quantum systems

# Quantum states...



(Image courtesy of [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quantum\\_state](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quantum_state))

# Quantum states

- The state of a quantum system is given by a square matrix called the **density matrix**, usually denoted by  $\rho$ ,  $\sigma$ ,  $\tau$ ,  $\omega$ , etc. (also called *density operator*)
- It should be **positive semi-definite** and have **trace equal to one**. That is, all of its eigenvalues should be non-negative and sum up to one. We write these conditions symbolically as  $\rho \geq 0$  and  $\text{Tr}\{\rho\} = 1$ . Can abbreviate more simply as  $\rho \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H})$ , to be read as “ $\rho$  is in the set of density matrices.”
- The dimension of the matrix indicates the number of distinguishable states of the quantum system.
- For example, a physical *qubit* is a quantum system with dimension two. A classical bit, which has two distinguishable states, can be embedded into a qubit.

# Interpretation of density operator

- The density operator, in addition to a description of an experimental procedure, is all that one requires to predict the (probabilistic) outcomes of a given experiment performed on a quantum system.
- It is a generalization of (and subsumes) a probability distribution, which describes the state of a classical system.
- All probability distributions can be embedded into a quantum state by placing the entries along the diagonal of the density operator.

- A **probabilistic mixture** of two quantum states is also a quantum state. That is, for  $\sigma_0, \sigma_1 \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $p \in [0, 1]$ , we have

$$p\sigma_0 + (1 - p)\sigma_1 \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}).$$

- The set of density operators is thus **convex**.

# Mixed states and pure states

- A density operator can have dimension  $\geq 2$  and can be written as

$$\rho = \sum_{i,j} \rho^{ij} |i\rangle\langle j|,$$

where  $\{|i\rangle \equiv e_i\}$  is the standard basis and  $\rho^{ij}$  are the matrix elements.

- Since every density operator is positive semi-definite and has trace equal to one, it has a **spectral decomposition** as

$$\rho = \sum_x p_X(x) |\phi_x\rangle\langle\phi_x|,$$

where  $\{p_X(x)\}$  are the non-negative eigenvalues, summing to one, and  $\{|\phi_x\rangle\}$  is a set of orthonormal eigenvectors.

- A density operator  $\rho$  is **pure** if there exists a unit vector  $|\psi\rangle$  such that  $\rho = |\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$  (rank = 1) and otherwise it is **mixed** (rank  $> 1$ ).

# Multiple quantum systems...



IBM 65-qubit universal quantum computer (released September 2020)

- If the state of Alice's system is  $\rho$  and the state of Bob's system is  $\sigma$  and they have never interacted in the past, then the state of the joint Alice-Bob system is

$$\rho_A \otimes \sigma_B.$$

- We use the system labels to say who has what.

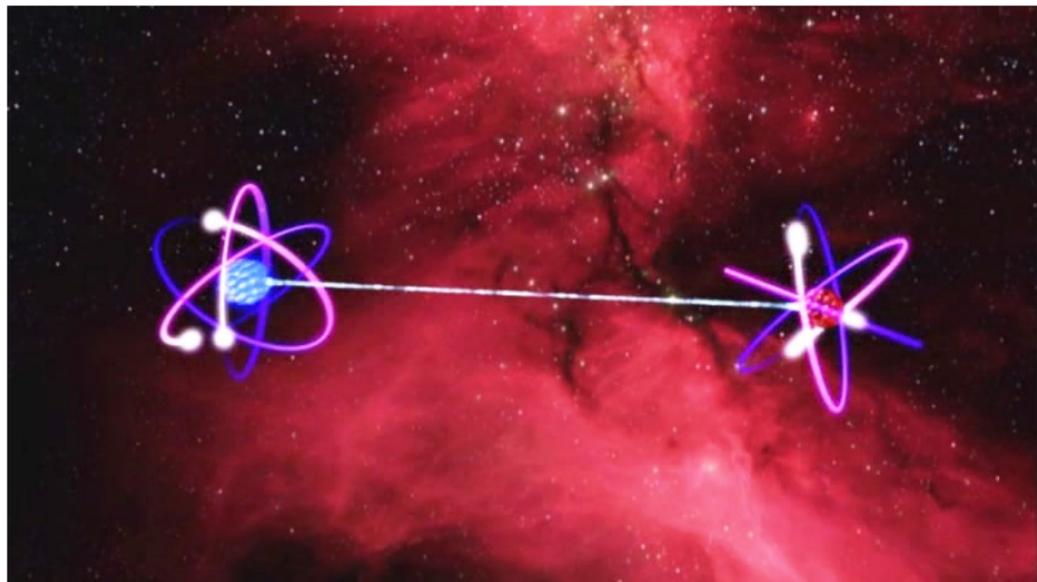
# Composite quantum systems (ctd.)

- More generally, a generic state  $\rho_{AB}$  of a bipartite system  $AB$  acts on a tensor-product Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}_{AB} \equiv \mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$ .
- If  $\{|i\rangle_A\}_i$  is an orthonormal basis for  $\mathcal{H}_A$  and  $\{|j\rangle_B\}_j$  is an orthonormal basis for  $\mathcal{H}_B$ , then  $\{|i\rangle_A \otimes |j\rangle_B\}_{i,j}$  is an orthonormal basis for  $\mathcal{H}_{AB}$ .
- **Generic state**  $\rho_{AB}$  can be written as

$$\rho_{AB} = \sum_{i,j,k,l} \rho^{i,k,j,l} |i\rangle\langle k|_A \otimes |j\rangle\langle l|_B$$

where  $\rho^{i,k,j,l}$  are matrix elements

# Quantum entanglement...



Depiction of quantum entanglement taken from  
<http://thelifeofpsi.com/2013/10/28/bertlmanns-socks/>

# Separable states and entangled states

- If Alice and Bob prepare states  $\rho_A^x$  and  $\sigma_B^x$  based on a random variable  $X$  with distribution  $p_X$ , then the state of their systems is

$$\sum_x p_X(x) \rho_A^x \otimes \sigma_B^x.$$

- Such states are called **separable states** [Wer89] and can be prepared using local operations and classical communication (**LOCC**). No need for a quantum interaction between  $A$  and  $B$  to prepare these states.
- By spectral decomposition, every separable state can be written as

$$\sum_z p_Z(z) |\psi^z\rangle\langle\psi^z|_A \otimes |\phi^z\rangle\langle\phi^z|_B,$$

where, for each  $z$ ,  $|\psi^z\rangle_A$  and  $|\phi^z\rangle_B$  are unit vectors.

- **Entangled states** are states that cannot be written in the above form.

## Example of entangled state

- A prominent example of an entangled state is the *e*bit (eee · bit):

$$|\Phi\rangle\langle\Phi|_{AB},$$

where  $|\Phi\rangle_{AB} \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|00\rangle_{AB} + |11\rangle_{AB})$ .

- In matrix form, this is

$$|\Phi\rangle\langle\Phi|_{AB} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- To see that this is entangled, consider that for every  $|\psi\rangle_A$  and  $|\phi\rangle_B$

$$|\langle\Phi|_{AB}|\psi\rangle_A \otimes |\phi\rangle_B|^2 \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

- $\Rightarrow$  impossible to write  $|\Phi\rangle\langle\Phi|_{AB}$  as a separable state.

# Tool: Schmidt decomposition

## Schmidt decomposition theorem

Given a two-party unit vector  $|\psi\rangle_{AB} \in \mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$ , we can express it as

$$|\psi\rangle_{AB} \equiv \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \sqrt{p_i} |i\rangle_A |i\rangle_B, \text{ where}$$

- probabilities  $p_i$  are real, strictly positive, and normalized  $\sum_i p_i = 1$ .
- $\{|i\rangle_A\}$  and  $\{|i\rangle_B\}$  are orthonormal bases for systems  $A$  and  $B$ .
- $[\sqrt{p_i}]_{i \in \{0, \dots, d-1\}}$  is the vector of Schmidt coefficients.
- Schmidt rank  $d$  of  $|\psi\rangle_{AB}$  is equal to the number of Schmidt coefficients  $p_i$  in its Schmidt decomposition and satisfies

$$d \leq \min \{ \dim(\mathcal{H}_A), \dim(\mathcal{H}_B) \}.$$

- Pure state  $|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|_{AB}$  is entangled iff  $d \geq 2$ .

## Tool: Partial trace

- The **trace** of a matrix  $X$  can be realized as

$$\text{Tr}[X] = \sum_i \langle i|X|i\rangle,$$

where  $\{|i\rangle\}_i$  is an orthonormal basis.

- **Partial trace** of a matrix  $Y_{AB}$  acting on  $\mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$  can be realized as

$$\text{Tr}_A[Y_{AB}] = \sum_i (\langle i|_A \otimes I_B) Y_{AB} (|i\rangle_A \otimes I_B),$$

where  $\{|i\rangle_A\}_i$  is an orthonormal basis for  $\mathcal{H}_A$  and  $I_B$  is the identity matrix acting on  $\mathcal{H}_B$ .

- Both trace and partial trace are **linear operations**.

# Interpretation of partial trace

- Suppose Alice and Bob possess quantum systems in the state  $\rho_{AB}$ . We calculate the density matrix for Alice's system using partial trace:

$$\rho_A \equiv \text{Tr}_B[\rho_{AB}].$$

- We can then use  $\rho_A$  to predict the outcome of any experiment performed on Alice's system alone.
- Partial trace generalizes marginalizing a probability distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Tr}_Y \left[ \sum_{x,y} p_{X,Y}(x,y) |x\rangle\langle x|_X \otimes |y\rangle\langle y|_Y \right] \\ &= \sum_{x,y} p_{X,Y}(x,y) |x\rangle\langle x|_X \text{Tr}[|y\rangle\langle y|_Y] \\ &= \sum_x \left[ \sum_y p_{X,Y}(x,y) \right] |x\rangle\langle x|_X = \sum_x p_X(x) |x\rangle\langle x|_X, \end{aligned}$$

where  $p_X(x) \equiv \sum_y p_{X,Y}(x,y)$ .

# Purification of quantum noise...



Artistic rendering of the notion of purification  
(Image courtesy of seaskylab at FreeDigitalPhotos.net)

# Tool: Purification of quantum states

- A **purification** of a state  $\rho_S$  on system  $S$  is a pure quantum state  $|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|_{RS}$  on systems  $R$  and  $S$ , such that

$$\rho_S = \text{Tr}_R[|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|_{RS}].$$

- **Simple construction:** take  $|\psi\rangle_{RS} = \sum_x \sqrt{p(x)} |x\rangle_R \otimes |x\rangle_S$  if  $\rho_S$  has spectral decomposition  $\sum_x p(x) |x\rangle\langle x|_S$ .
- Two different states  $|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|_{RS}$  and  $|\phi\rangle\langle\phi|_{RS}$  purify  $\rho_S$  iff they are related by a unitary  $U_R$  acting on the reference system. Necessity:

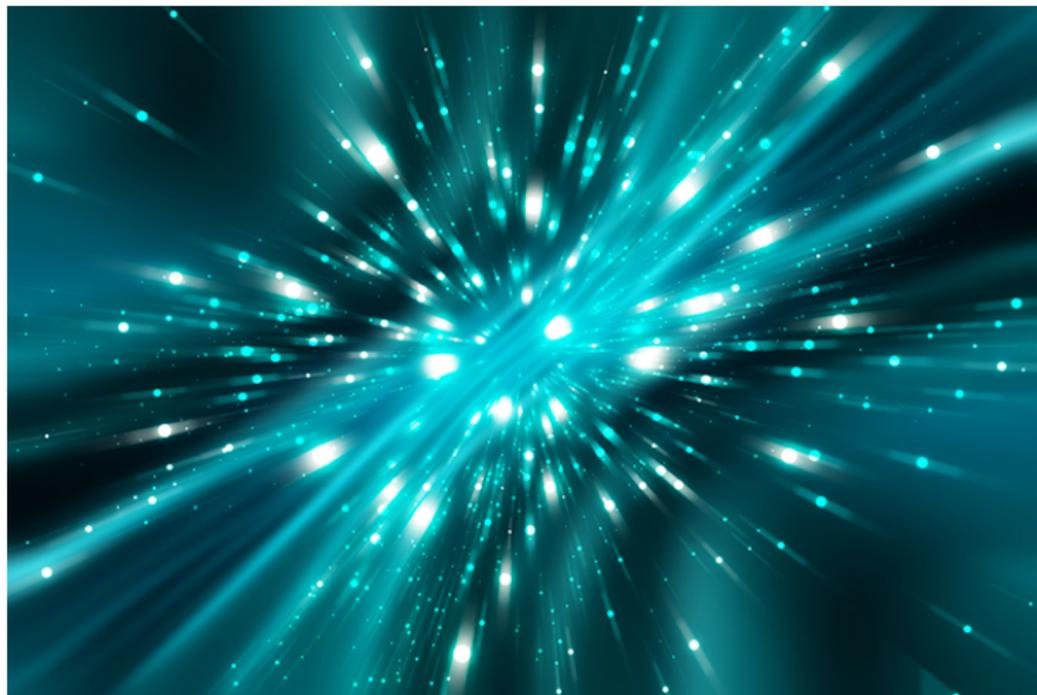
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}_R[(U_R \otimes I_S)|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|_{RS}(U_R^\dagger \otimes I_S)] &= \text{Tr}_R[(U_R^\dagger U_R \otimes I_S)|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|_{RS}] \\ &= \text{Tr}_R[|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|_{RS}] \\ &= \rho_S. \end{aligned}$$

To prove sufficiency, use Schmidt decomposition.

# Uses and interpretations of purification

- The concept of purification is one of the most often used tools in quantum information theory.
- This concept does not exist in classical information theory and represents a **radical departure** (i.e., in classical information theory it is not possible to have a definite state of two systems such that the reduced systems are individually indefinite).
- Physical interpretation: Noise or mixedness in a quantum state is due to entanglement with an inaccessible reference / environment system.
- Cryptographic interpretation: In the setting of quantum cryptography, we assume that an eavesdropper Eve has access to the full purification of a state  $\rho_{AB}$  that Alice and Bob share. This means physically that Eve has access to every other system in the universe that Alice and Bob do not have access to!
- Advantage: only need to characterize Alice and Bob's state in order to understand what Eve has.

# Quantum channels...



Artistic rendering of a quantum channel  
(Image courtesy of Shutterstock / Serg-DAV)

# Classical channels

- Classical channels model evolutions of classical systems.
- What are the requirements that we make for classical channels?
  - 1) They should be **linear maps**, which means they respect convexity.
  - 2) They should take probability distributions to probability distributions (i.e., they should output a legitimate state of a classical system when a classical state is input).
- These requirements imply evolution of a classical system is specified by a **conditional probability matrix**  $N$  with entries  $p_{Y|X}(y|x)$ , so that the input-output relationship of a classical channel is given by

$$p_Y = N p_X \quad \iff \quad p_Y(y) = \sum_x p_{Y|X}(y|x) p_X(x).$$

# Quantum channels

- Quantum channels model evolutions of quantum systems.
- We make similar requirements:
- A quantum channel  $\mathcal{N}$  is a **linear map** acting on the space of (density) matrices:

$$\mathcal{N}(p\rho + (1-p)\sigma) = p\mathcal{N}(\rho) + (1-p)\mathcal{N}(\sigma),$$

where  $p \in [0, 1]$  and  $\rho, \sigma \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H})$ .

- We demand that a quantum channel should take quantum states to quantum states.
- This means that it should be **trace (probability) preserving**:

$$\text{Tr}[\mathcal{N}(X)] = \text{Tr}[X]$$

for all  $X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  (linear operators, i.e., matrices).

# Complete positivity

- Other requirement is **complete positivity**.
- We can always expand  $X_{RS} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}_R \otimes \mathcal{H}_S)$  as

$$X_{RS} = \sum_{i,j} |i\rangle\langle j|_R \otimes X_S^{i,j},$$

and then define

$$(\text{id}_R \otimes \mathcal{N}_S)(X_{RS}) = \sum_{i,j} |i\rangle\langle j|_R \otimes \mathcal{N}_S(X_S^{i,j}),$$

with the interpretation being that “nothing (identity channel) happens on system  $R$  while the channel  $\mathcal{N}$  acts on system  $S$ .”

- A quantum channel should also be **completely positive**:

$$(\text{id}_R \otimes \mathcal{N}_S)(X_{RS}) \geq 0,$$

where  $\text{id}_R$  denotes the identity channel acting on system  $R$  of arbitrary size and  $X_{RS} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}_R \otimes \mathcal{H}_S)$  is such that  $X_{RS} \geq 0$ .

# Quantum channels: completely positive, trace-preserving

- A map  $\mathcal{N}$  satisfying the requirements of linearity, trace preservation, and complete positivity takes all density matrices to density matrices and is called a **quantum channel**.
- To check whether a given map is completely positive, it suffices to check whether

$$(\text{id}_R \otimes \mathcal{N}_S)(|\Phi\rangle\langle\Phi|_{RS}) \geq 0,$$

where

$$|\Phi\rangle_{RS} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{d}} \sum_i |i\rangle_R \otimes |i\rangle_S$$

and  $d = \dim(\mathcal{H}_R) = \dim(\mathcal{H}_S)$ .

- Interpretation: the state resulting from a channel acting on one share of a maximally entangled state completely characterizes the channel.

## Structure theorem for quantum channels

Every quantum channel  $\mathcal{N}$  can be written in the following form:

$$\mathcal{N}(X) = \sum_i K_i X K_i^\dagger, \quad (1)$$

where  $\{K_i\}_i$  is a set of Kraus operators, with the property that

$$\sum_i K_i^\dagger K_i = I. \quad (2)$$

The form given in (1) corresponds to complete positivity and the condition in (2) to trace (probability) preservation. This decomposition is not unique, but one can find a minimal decomposition by taking a spectral decomposition of  $(\text{id}_R \otimes \mathcal{N}_S)(|\Phi\rangle\langle\Phi|_{RS})$ .

# Unitary channels

- If a channel has one Kraus operator (call it  $U$ ), then it satisfies  $U^\dagger U = I$  and is thus a unitary matrix.<sup>1</sup>
- Unitary channels are **ideal, reversible channels**.
- Instruction sequences for quantum algorithms (to be run on quantum computers) are composed of ideal, unitary channels.
- So if a quantum channel has more than one Kraus operator (in a minimal decomposition), then it is non-unitary.

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<sup>1</sup>It could also be part of a unitary matrix, in which case it is called an “isometry.”

# Measurement channels

- **Measurement channels** take quantum systems as input and produce classical systems as output.
- A measurement channel  $\mathcal{M}$  has the following form:

$$\mathcal{M}(\rho) = \sum_x \text{Tr}[M^x \rho] |x\rangle\langle x|,$$

where  $M_x \geq 0$  for all  $x$  and  $\sum_x M^x = I$ .

- Can also interpret a measurement channel as returning the classical value  $x$  with probability  $\text{Tr}[M^x \rho]$ .
- We depict them as



# Quantum instrument

- A **quantum instrument** is a quantum channel with a quantum input and two outputs: one classical and one quantum [DL70, Oza84].
- It is a measurement in which we record not only the classical data, but also keep the post-measurement state in a quantum system
- Evolves an input state  $\rho$  as follows:

$$\rho \rightarrow \sum_x \mathcal{M}^x(\rho) \otimes |x\rangle\langle x|$$

where  $\{\mathcal{M}^x\}_x$  is a set of completely positive maps such that the sum map  $\sum_x \mathcal{M}^x$  is trace preserving.

- Probability of obtaining outcome  $x$ :

$$\text{Tr}[\mathcal{M}^x(\rho)]$$

and post-measurement state in this case is

$$\frac{\mathcal{M}^x(\rho)}{\text{Tr}[\mathcal{M}^x(\rho)]}$$

# Purifications of quantum channels

- Recall that we can purify quantum states and understand noise as arising due to entanglement with an inaccessible reference system.
- We can also purify quantum channels and understand a noisy process as arising from a unitary interaction with an inaccessible environment.

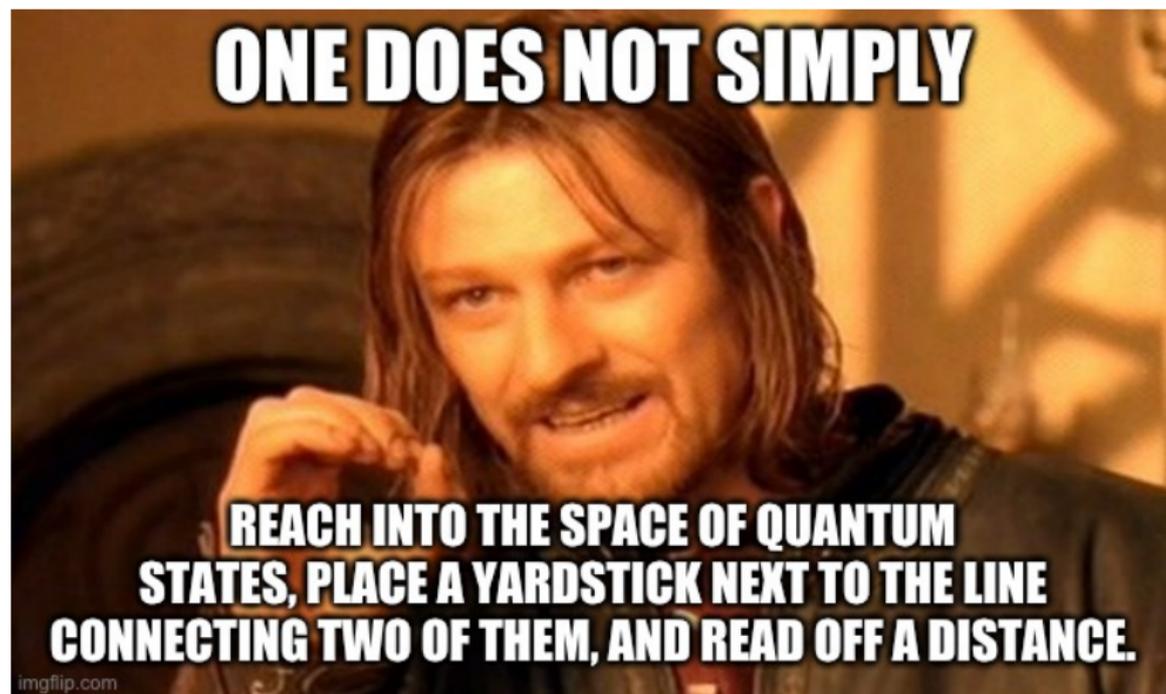
## Stinespring's theorem [Sti55]

For every quantum channel  $\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B}$ , there exists a pure state  $|0\rangle\langle 0|_E$  and a unitary matrix  $U_{AE \rightarrow BE'}$ , acting on input systems  $A$  and  $E$  and producing output systems  $B$  and  $E'$ , such that

$$\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B}(\rho_A) = \text{Tr}_{E'}[U_{AE \rightarrow BE'}(\rho_A \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_E)(U_{AE \rightarrow BE'})^\dagger].$$

# Summary of quantum states and channels

- Every quantum state is a positive, semi-definite matrix with trace equal to one.
- Quantum states of multiple systems can be separable or entangled.
- Quantum states can be purified (this notion does not exist in classical information theory).
- Quantum channels are completely positive, trace-preserving maps.
- Preparation channels take classical systems to quantum systems, and measurement channels take quantum systems to classical systems.
- Quantum channels can also be purified (i.e., every quantum channel can be realized by a unitary interaction with an environment, followed by partial trace). This notion also does not exist in classical information theory.



(Image courtesy of <https://imgflip.com/memegenerator/One-Does-Not-Simply> and quote from page 1 of Fuchs' thesis: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/quant-ph/9601020>)

# Function of a diagonalizable matrix

- If an  $n \times n$  matrix  $D$  is diagonal with entries  $d_1, \dots, d_n$ , then for a function  $f$ , we define

$$f(D) = \begin{bmatrix} g(d_1) & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & g(d_2) & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & g(d_n) \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $g(x) = f(x)$  if  $x \in \text{dom}(f)$  and  $g(x) = 0$  otherwise.

- If a matrix  $A$  is diagonalizable as  $A = KDK^{-1}$ , then for a function  $f$ , we define

$$f(A) = Kf(D)K^{-1}.$$

- Evaluating the function only on the support of the matrix allows for functions such as  $f(x) = x^{-1}$  and  $f(x) = \log x$ .

# Trace distance

- Define the **trace norm** of a matrix  $X$  by  $\|X\|_1 := \text{Tr}[\sqrt{X^\dagger X}]$ .
- Trace norm induces **trace distance** between two matrices  $X$  and  $Y$ :

$$\|X - Y\|_1.$$

- For two density matrices  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$ , the following bounds hold

$$0 \leq \frac{1}{2} \|\rho - \sigma\|_1 \leq 1.$$

LHS saturated iff  $\rho = \sigma$  and RHS iff  $\rho$  is orthogonal to  $\sigma$ .

- For commuting  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$ , normalized trace distance reduces to variational distance between probability distributions along diagonals.
- Has an operational meaning as the bias of the optimal success probability in a hypothesis test to distinguish  $\rho$  from  $\sigma$  [Hel67, Hol72].
- Does not increase under the action of a quantum channel:

$$\|\rho - \sigma\|_1 \geq \|\mathcal{N}(\rho) - \mathcal{N}(\sigma)\|_1.$$

- **Fidelity**  $F(\rho, \sigma)$  between density matrices  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$  is [Uhl76]

$$F(\rho, \sigma) := \|\sqrt{\rho}\sqrt{\sigma}\|_1^2.$$

- For pure states  $|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$  and  $|\phi\rangle\langle\phi|$ , reduces to squared overlap:

$$F(|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|, |\phi\rangle\langle\phi|) = |\langle\psi|\phi\rangle|^2.$$

- For density matrices  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$ , the following bounds hold:

$$0 \leq F(\rho, \sigma) \leq 1.$$

LHS saturated iff  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$  are orthogonal and RHS iff  $\rho = \sigma$ .

- Fidelity does not decrease under the action of a quantum channel  $\mathcal{N}$ :

$$F(\rho, \sigma) \leq F(\mathcal{N}(\rho), \mathcal{N}(\sigma)).$$

- **Uhlmann's theorem** [Uhl76] states that

$$F(\rho_S, \sigma_S) = \max_{U_R} |\langle \psi |_{RS} U_R \otimes I_S | \phi \rangle_{RS}|^2,$$

where  $|\psi\rangle_{RS}$  and  $|\phi\rangle_{RS}$  purify  $\rho_S$  and  $\sigma_S$ , respectively.

- A core theorem used in quantum Shannon theory, and in other areas such as quantum complexity theory and quantum error correction.
- Since it involves purifications, this theorem has no analog in classical information theory.

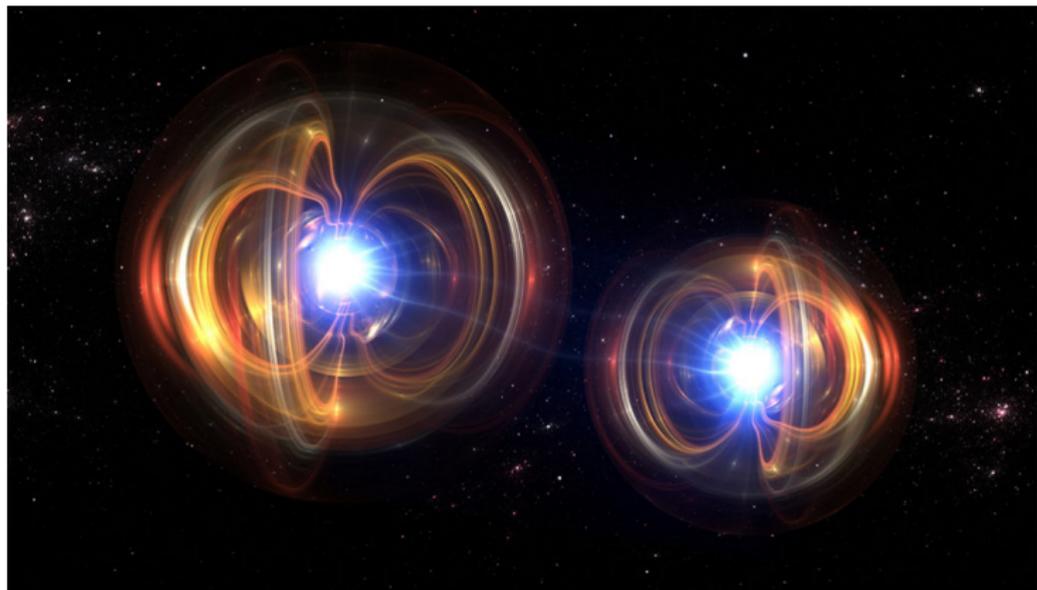
# Relations between fidelity and trace distance

- Trace distance is useful because it obeys the triangle inequality, and fidelity is useful because we have Uhlmann's theorem.
- The following inequalities relate the two measures [FvdG98], which allow for going back and forth between them:

$$1 - \sqrt{F(\rho, \sigma)} \leq \frac{1}{2} \|\rho - \sigma\|_1 \leq \sqrt{1 - F(\rho, \sigma)}.$$

- **Sine distance**  $\sqrt{1 - F(\rho, \sigma)}$  [Ras06] has both properties (triangle inequality and Uhlmann's theorem).

# Entanglement theory...



(Image courtesy of Jurik Peter / Shutterstock)

## Reminder of separable and entangled states

- If Alice and Bob prepare states  $\rho_A^x$  and  $\sigma_B^x$  based on a random variable  $X$  with distribution  $p_X$ , then the state of their systems is

$$\sum_x p_X(x) \rho_A^x \otimes \sigma_B^x.$$

- Such states are called **separable states** [Wer89] and can be prepared using local operations and classical communication (no need for a quantum interaction between  $A$  and  $B$  to prepare these states).
- Pure state entangled iff Schmidt rank  $\geq 2$  (thus, easy to decide if a pure state is entangled)

# Motivation from Bell experiment

- **Bell experiment** [Bel64] consists of spatially separated parties  $A$  and  $B$  performing local measurements on a state  $\rho_{AB}$ .
- $A$  flips a coin and gets outcome  $x$ .
- Then performs a measurement  $\{\Gamma_a^{(x)}\}_a$  with outcome  $a$ .
- $B$  flips a coin and gets outcome  $y$ .
- Then performs a measurement  $\{\Omega_b^{(y)}\}_b$  with outcome  $b$ .
- Conditional probability of observing  $a$  and  $b$  given  $x$  and  $y$ :

$$p(a, b|x, y) = \text{Tr}[(\Gamma_a^{(x)} \otimes \Omega_b^{(y)})\rho_{AB}]$$

## Motivation from Bell experiment (ctd.)

- Separable states have **local hidden variable theory** in a Bell experiment (AKA shared randomness strategy)
- Suppose that  $\rho_{AB}$  is separable, so that

$$\rho_{AB} = \sum_{\lambda} p(\lambda) \sigma_A^{\lambda} \otimes \omega_B^{\lambda}$$

- Then conditional probability given by

$$p(a, b|x, y) = \sum_{\lambda} p(\lambda) p(a|x, \lambda) p(b|y, \lambda)$$

$$\text{where } p(a|x, \lambda) = \text{Tr}[\Gamma_a^{(x)} \sigma_A^{\lambda}], \quad p(b|y, \lambda) = \text{Tr}[\Omega_b^{(y)} \omega_A^{\lambda}]$$

- Using a separable state, correlations achievable are simulable by a classical strategy

# Loophole-free Bell test...



Picture of loophole-free Bell test at TU Delft  
(Image taken from <http://hansonlab.tudelft.nl/loophole-free-bell-test/>)

# NP-hardness of deciding entanglement

- **Computationally hard** to decide if a state is separable or entangled.
- More precisely, consider the following computational decision problem:
- Given a mathematical description of the density operator  $\rho_{AB}$  as a matrix of rational entries and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Decide whether

$$\rho_{AB} \in \text{SEP}(A:B)$$

or

$$\inf_{\sigma_{AB} \in \text{SEP}(AB)} \frac{1}{2} \|\rho_{AB} - \sigma_{AB}\|_1 \geq \varepsilon.$$

- Decision problem NP-hard to solve for  $\varepsilon \leq \frac{1}{\text{poly}(d_A, d_B)}$  [Gur04, Gha10].
- This means that if widely believed conjectures in theoretical computer science are true, the best classical or quantum algorithms will have running time exponential in  $d_A \times d_B$ .

# Positive partial transpose criterion

- Even if it is NP-hard to decide whether a state is separable or entangled, we can look for one-way criteria.
- **Positive partial transpose** criterion [Per96, HHH96]
- The following transpose map is a positive map:

$$T(X) := \sum_{i,j} |i\rangle\langle j| X |i\rangle\langle j|$$

- That is,  $T(X) \geq 0$  if  $X \geq 0$
- The transpose map is called “partial transpose” if it acts on one share of a bipartite operator  $X_{AB}$ :

$$T_B(X_{AB}) := (\text{id}_A \otimes T_B)(X_{AB}) = \sum_{i,j} (I_A \otimes |i\rangle\langle j|_B) X_{AB} (I_A \otimes |i\rangle\langle j|_B)$$

- A state that has a positive partial transpose is said to be a PPT state

## Positive partial transpose criterion (ctd.)

- A separable state  $\sigma_{AB}$  has a positive partial transpose because

$$\begin{aligned} T_B(\sigma_{AB}) &= T_B\left(\sum_{\lambda} p(\lambda)\rho_A^{\lambda} \otimes \omega_B^{\lambda}\right) \\ &= \sum_{\lambda} p(\lambda)\rho_A^{\lambda} \otimes T_B(\omega_B^{\lambda}) \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- Thus,  $\text{SEP} \subset \text{PPT}$
- Containment is **strict** because  $\exists$  PPT entangled states [Hor97]
- Contrapositive: if  $\rho_{AB}$  has a **negative partial transpose**, then it is entangled
- Example: Applying  $T_B$  to maximally entangled state gives an operator proportional to unitary SWAP operator, which has negative eigenvalues

# Computational complexity and PPT states

- Much easier computationally to work with PPT than with SEP
- For a Hermitian operator  $M_{AB}$ , consider the optimizations

$$\max_{\sigma_{AB} \in \text{SEP}} \text{Tr}[M_{AB}\sigma_{AB}] \quad \text{vs.} \quad \max_{\sigma_{AB} \in \text{PPT}} \text{Tr}[M_{AB}\sigma_{AB}]$$

- The first is NP-hard, while the second is efficiently computable as a **semi-definite program**:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\sigma_{AB} \in \text{PPT}} \text{Tr}[M_{AB}\sigma_{AB}] = \\ \max_{\sigma_{AB}} \{ \text{Tr}[M_{AB}\sigma_{AB}] : \sigma_{AB} \geq 0, T_B(\sigma_{AB}) \geq 0, \text{Tr}[\sigma_{AB}] = 1 \} \end{aligned}$$

# Resource theory of entanglement...



(Image courtesy of <https://journals.aps.org/rmp/abstract/10.1103/RevModPhys.91.025001>)

# Resource theory of entanglement

- Idea of general **resource theory** is that some states are free and others are resourceful [CG19].
- **Resource theory of entanglement** was the first resource theory considered in QIT [BDSW96]
- Entanglement is useful for tasks like teleportation [BBC<sup>+</sup>93], super-dense coding [BW92], and quantum key distribution [Eke91], so these are the resourceful states
- Separable states are the free states
- What are the free operations?

- In the theory of entanglement and quantum communication, one often assumes that Alice and Bob can communicate classical data for free.
- Paradigm is local op.'s and classical comm. (LOCC) [BDSW96].
- A **one-way LOCC channel** from Alice to Bob consists of Alice performing a quantum instrument, sending classical outcome to Bob, who performs a quantum channel conditioned on the classical data.
- An **LOCC channel** consists of finite, but arbitrarily large number of 1-way LOCC channels from Alice to Bob and then from Bob to Alice.

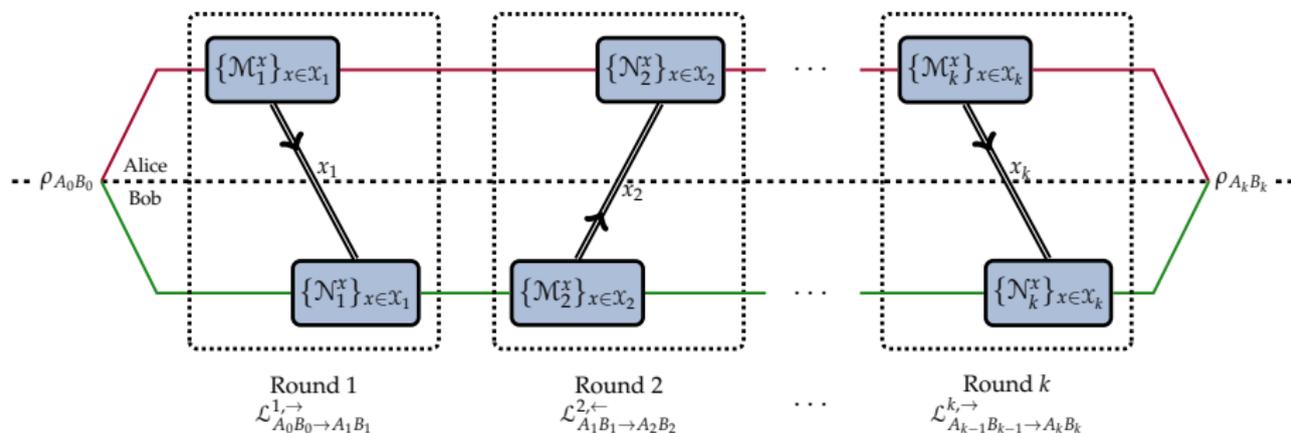
- An **LOCC channel** can be written as a separable channel  $\mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}$ :

$$\mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}(\rho_{AB}) = \sum_z (\mathcal{E}_{A \rightarrow A'}^z \otimes \mathcal{F}_{B \rightarrow B'}^z)(\rho_{AB}),$$

where  $\{\mathcal{E}_{A \rightarrow A'}^z\}_z$  and  $\{\mathcal{F}_{B \rightarrow B'}^z\}_z$  are sets of completely positive, trace non-increasing maps, such that  $\mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}$  is a completely positive, trace-preserving map (quantum channel).

- However, the converse is not true. There exist separable channels that are not LOCC channels [BDF<sup>+</sup>99]

# Depiction of LOCC



(Figure designed by Sumeet Khatri)

# LOCC channels preserve the set of separable states

- If  $\sigma_{AB}$  is separable and an LOCC channel  $\mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}$  acts on it, the resulting state is separable because

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}(\sigma_{AB}) &= \sum_z (\mathcal{E}_{A \rightarrow A'}^z \otimes \mathcal{F}_{B \rightarrow B'}^z) \left( \sum_\lambda p(\lambda) \rho_A^\lambda \otimes \omega_B^\lambda \right) \\ &= \sum_{z,\lambda} p(\lambda) \mathcal{E}_{A \rightarrow A'}^z(\rho_A^\lambda) \otimes \mathcal{F}_{B \rightarrow B'}^z(\omega_B^\lambda)\end{aligned}$$

- Thus, one cannot create entanglement by the action of LOCC on separable states.
- So it is reasonable for LOCC to be the set of free operations in the resource theory of entanglement, due to this property in addition to the physical motivation

## Basic axiom for entanglement measure [HHHH09]

An **entanglement measure**  $E$  is a function that does not increase under the action of LOCC. That is,  $E$  is an entanglement measure if the following inequality holds for every state  $\rho_{AB}$  and LOCC channel  $\mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}$ :

$$E(A; B)_\rho \geq E(A'; B')_\omega$$

where  $\omega_{A'B'} := \mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}(\rho_{AB})$ .

- Implies that  $E$  is minimal and constant on separable states because one can get from one separable state to another by LOCC:

$$E(A; B)_\sigma = c \quad \forall \sigma_{AB} \in \text{SEP}(A: B)$$

- Conventional to set  $c = 0$
- Thus,  $E(A; B)_\rho \geq 0$  for every state  $\rho_{AB}$
- and  $E(A; B)_\sigma = 0$  if  $\sigma_{AB} \in \text{SEP}(A: B)$

# Other desirable properties for an entanglement measure

## Faithfulness

$E(A; B)_\sigma = 0$  if and only if  $\sigma_{AB} \in \text{SEP}(A; B)$

## Invariance under classical communication

$$E(A; B)_\rho = E(A; B)_{\rho^x} = \sum_x p(x) E(A; B)_{\rho^x}$$

for a classical–quantum state:

$$\rho_{XAB} := \sum_x p(x) |x\rangle\langle x|_X \otimes \rho_{AB}^x$$

## Other desirable properties (ctd.)

### Convexity

For a convex combination  $\bar{\rho} := \sum_x p(x) \rho_{AB}^x$  of states,

$$\sum_x p(x) E(A; B)_{\rho^x} \geq E(A; B)_{\bar{\rho}}$$

### Additivity

For a tensor-product state  $\rho_{A_1 A_2 B_1 B_2} = \tau_{A_1 B_1} \otimes \omega_{A_2 B_2}$ ,

$$E(A_1 A_2; B_1 B_2)_{\rho} = E(A_1; B_1)_{\tau} + E(A_2; B_2)_{\omega}$$

# Selective LOCC monotonicity

- Let  $\{\mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}^x\}_x$  be a collection of maps, such that  $\mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}^{\leftrightarrow}$  is an LOCC channel of the form:

$$\mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}^{\leftrightarrow} = \sum_x \mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}^x,$$

where each map  $\mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}^x$  is completely positive such that the sum map  $\mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}^{\leftrightarrow}$  is trace preserving.

- Furthermore, each map  $\mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}^x$  can be written as follows:

$$\mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}^x = \sum_y \mathcal{E}_{A \rightarrow A'}^{x,y} \otimes \mathcal{F}_{B \rightarrow B'}^{x,y},$$

where  $\{\mathcal{E}_{A \rightarrow A'}^{x,y}\}_x$  and  $\{\mathcal{F}_{B \rightarrow B'}^{x,y}\}_x$  are sets of completely positive maps.

## Selective LOCC monotonicity (ctd.)

- Set  $p(x) := \text{Tr}[\mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}^x(\rho_{AB})]$ , and for  $x$  such that  $p(x) \neq 0$ , set

$$\omega_{AB}^x := \frac{1}{p(x)} \mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow A'B'}^x(\rho_{AB}).$$

- If the classical value of  $x$  is not discarded, then the given state  $\rho_{AB}$  is transformed to the ensemble  $\{(p(x), \omega_{AB}^x)\}_x$  via LOCC.
- $E$  satisfies **selective LOCC monotonicity** if

$$E(\rho_{AB}) \geq \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}: p(x) \neq 0} p(x) E(\omega_{AB}^x),$$

for every ensemble  $\{(p(x), \omega_{AB}^x)\}_{x \in \mathcal{X}}$  that arises from  $\rho_{AB}$  via LOCC as specified above.

- Interpretation: *Entanglement does not increase on average under LOCC*

# Proving convexity and selective LOCC monotonicity

- Let  $E$  be a function that, for every bipartite state  $\rho_{AB}$ , is
  - 1 invariant under classical communication and
  - 2 obeys data processing under local channels, in the sense that

$$E(A; B)_\rho \geq E(A'; B')_\omega,$$

for all channels  $\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow A'}$  and  $\mathcal{M}_{B \rightarrow B'}$ , where

$$\omega_{A'B'} := (\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow A'} \otimes \mathcal{M}_{B \rightarrow B'}) (\rho_{AB}).$$

- Then  $E$  is **convex** and is a **selective LOCC monotone**.

# Operational approach to quantifying entanglement

- **Axiomatic approach** to quantifying entanglement starts with the basic axiom and lists out properties that are desirable for an entanglement measure to obey
- A conceptually different approach is the **operational approach**: Certain information-theoretic tasks quantify the amount of entanglement present in a quantum state
- These approaches intersect when trying to establish bounds on the optimal rates of the operational tasks
- Most prominent tasks are **entanglement distillation** and **entanglement dilution**

# Entanglement distillation

- **One-shot distillable entanglement** of a bipartite state  $\rho_{AB}$ :

$$E_D^\varepsilon(A; B)_\rho := \sup_{d \in \mathbb{N}, \mathcal{L} \in \text{LOCC}} \left\{ \log_2 d : \frac{1}{2} \left\| \mathcal{L}_{AB \rightarrow \hat{A}\hat{B}}(\rho_{AB}) - \Phi_{\hat{A}\hat{B}}^d \right\|_1 \leq \varepsilon \right\},$$

where  $\Phi_{\hat{A}\hat{B}}^d := \frac{1}{d} \sum_{i,j} |i\rangle\langle j|_A \otimes |i\rangle\langle j|_B$

- **Distillable entanglement** of  $\rho_{AB}$ :

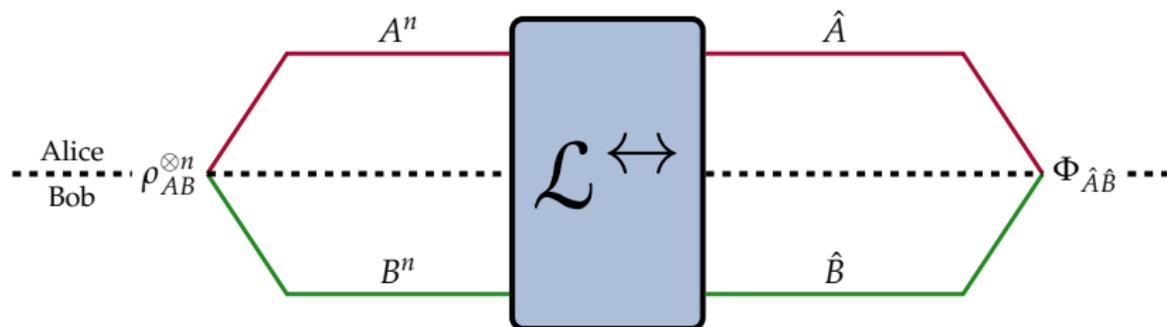
$$E_D(A; B)_\rho := \inf_{\varepsilon \in (0,1)} \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} E_D^\varepsilon(A^n; B^n)_{\rho^{\otimes n}}$$

where  $E_D^\varepsilon(A^n; B^n)_{\rho^{\otimes n}}$  evaluated on  $\rho_{AB}^{\otimes n}$

- **Strong converse distillable entanglement** of  $\rho_{AB}$ :

$$\tilde{E}_D(A; B)_\rho := \sup_{\varepsilon \in (0,1)} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} E_D^\varepsilon(A^n; B^n)_{\rho^{\otimes n}}$$

# Depiction of entanglement distillation



(Figure designed by Sumeet Khatri)

- **One-shot entanglement cost** of a bipartite state  $\rho_{AB}$ :

$$E_C^\varepsilon(A; B)_\rho := \inf_{d \in \mathbb{N}, \mathcal{L} \in \text{LOCC}} \left\{ \log_2 d : \frac{1}{2} \left\| \mathcal{L}_{\hat{A}\hat{B} \rightarrow AB}(\Phi_{\hat{A}\hat{B}}^d) - \rho_{AB} \right\|_1 \leq \varepsilon \right\},$$

- **Entanglement cost** of  $\rho_{AB}$ :

$$E_C(A; B)_\rho := \sup_{\varepsilon \in (0,1)} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} E_C^\varepsilon(A^n; B^n)_{\rho^{\otimes n}}$$

- **Strong converse entanglement cost** of  $\rho_{AB}$ :

$$\tilde{E}_C(A; B)_\rho := \inf_{\varepsilon \in (0,1)} \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} E_C^\varepsilon(A^n; B^n)_{\rho^{\otimes n}}$$

# Relating distillable entanglement and entanglement cost

- For all  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2 \geq 0$  such that  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2 \leq 1$ , [Wil20]

$$E_D^{\varepsilon_1}(A; B)_\rho \leq E_C^{\varepsilon_2}(A; B)_\rho + \log_2\left(\frac{1}{1 - \varepsilon'}\right),$$

where  $\varepsilon' := (\sqrt{\varepsilon_1} + \sqrt{\varepsilon_2})^2$

- **Second law like statement:** *cannot get out much more entanglement than we invest*
- Applying definitions, conclude that

$$E_D(A; B)_\rho \leq E_C(A; B)_\rho.$$

- Asymptotically, cannot get out more than we invest

# Bounding distillable entanglement and entanglement cost

- **Difficult to compute** distillable entanglement and entanglement cost
- Next best approach: Establish lower and upper bounds
- Upper bound on  $E_C$ : **Entanglement of formation** [BDSW96]
- Upper bound on  $E_D$ : **Rains relative entropy** [Rai01, ADMVW02]
- Upper bound on  $E_D$  & lower bound on  $E_C$ : **Squashed entanglement**
- Each of these is an entanglement measure

# Entanglement entropy

- Recall **Schmidt-rank entanglement criterion** for pure bipartite states  $\psi_{AB}$ :  $\psi_{AB}$  is entangled if and only if its Schmidt rank  $\geq 2$
- Use entropy of reduced state to decide whether  $\psi_{AB}$  is entangled:

$$H(A)_\psi := -\text{Tr}[\psi_A \log_2 \psi_A]$$

where  $\psi_A = \text{Tr}_B[\psi_{AB}]$ . Called **entropy of entanglement**

- $H(A)_\psi = 0$  if  $\psi_{AB}$  is separable and  $H(A)_\psi > 0$  if  $\psi_{AB}$  is entangled
- For pure bipartite states, entanglement theory simplifies immensely:

$$E_D(A; B)_\psi = E_C(A; B)_\psi = H(A)_\psi$$

for every pure bipartite state  $\psi_{AB}$  [BBPS96].

# Entanglement of formation

- To get an entanglement measure for a mixed state  $\rho_{AB}$ , take so-called convex roof of entanglement entropy [BDSW96]:

$$E_F(A; B)_\rho := \inf_{\{(p(x), \psi_{AB}^x)\}_x} \left\{ \sum_x p(x) H(A)_{\psi^x} : \rho_{AB} = \sum_x p(x) \psi_{AB}^x \right\}$$

Decompose  $\rho_{AB}$  into a convex combination of pure states and evaluate expected entanglement entropy.

- Called **entanglement of formation**

# Properties of entanglement of formation

- $E_F$  monotone under selective LOCC, convex, subadditive, and faithful.
- Reduces to entropy of entanglement for pure bipartite states
- $E_F$  is **non-additive** [Sho04, Has09].
- Also NP-hard to compute in general [Hua14], but can calculate it for certain special classes of states.

# Entanglement of formation and entanglement cost

- Entanglement of formation is an upper bound on entanglement cost:

$$E_F(A; B)_\rho \geq E_C(A; B)_\rho,$$

for every bipartite state  $\rho_{AB}$  [BDSW96].

- Regularized entanglement of formation is equal to entanglement cost [HHT01]:

$$E_C(A; B)_\rho := E_F^{\text{reg}}(A; B)_\rho,$$

where

$$E_F^{\text{reg}}(A; B)_\rho := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} E_F(A^n; B^n)_{\rho^{\otimes n}}$$

Another simple entanglement measure for a bipartite state  $\rho_{AB}$  is **logarithmic negativity** [VW02, Ple05]:

$$E_N(A; B)_\rho := \log_2 \|T_B(\rho_{AB})\|_1$$

# Properties of logarithmic negativity

- Non-negative:  $E_N(A; B)_\rho \geq 0$  for every state  $\rho_{AB}$
- Faithful on PPT states:  $E_N(A; B)_\rho = 0$  if and only if  $\rho_{AB}$  is PPT
- Selective LOCC monotone [Pl05]
- Upper bound on distillable entanglement [VW02]:

$$E_D(A; B)_\rho \leq E_N(A; B)_\rho$$

- This implies that PPT states have no distillable entanglement!
- However, there are better entanglement-measure upper bounds for the distillable entanglement

- **Quantum relative entropy** of a state  $\rho$  and a positive semi-definite operator  $\sigma$  is defined as [Ume62]

$$D(\rho||\sigma) := \text{Tr}[\rho(\log_2 \rho - \log_2 \sigma)]$$

- Standard definition with operational meaning [HP91, ON00]

# Properties of quantum relative entropy

- **Data-processing inequality** for quantum relative entropy: Let  $\rho$  be a state,  $\sigma$  a positive semi-definite operator, and  $\mathcal{N}$  a quantum channel. Then [Lin75]

$$D(\rho\|\sigma) \geq D(\mathcal{N}(\rho)\|\mathcal{N}(\sigma))$$

- For every state  $\rho$  and positive semi-definite operator  $\sigma$  satisfying  $\text{Tr}[\sigma] \leq 1$ ,

$$D(\rho\|\sigma) \geq 0$$

and

$$D(\rho\|\sigma) = 0 \text{ if and only if } \rho = \sigma$$

# Relative entropy of entanglement

**Relative entropy of entanglement** of a bipartite state  $\rho_{AB}$   
[VPRK97, VP98]:

$$E_R(A; B)_\rho := \inf_{\sigma_{AB} \in \text{SEP}(A:B)} D(\rho_{AB} \| \sigma_{AB})$$

# Properties of relative entropy of entanglement

- LOCC monotone: consequence of data-processing of relative entropy and set of separable states preserved by LOCC
- Selective LOCC monotone: from data-processing inequality, joint convexity of relative entropy
- Convex
- Faithful on separable states
- Reduces to entropy of entanglement for pure bipartite states
- Upper bound on distillable entanglement

- For every bipartite state  $\rho_{AB}$ ,

$$E_F(A; B)_\rho \geq E_R(A; B)_\rho$$

- Simple proof: Let  $\{(p(x), \psi_{AB}^x)\}_x$  be an arbitrary pure-state decomposition of  $\rho_{AB}$ . Then

$$\sum_x p(x) H(A)_{\psi^x} = \sum_x p(x) E_R(A; B)_{\psi^x} \geq E_R(A; B)_\rho$$

We used the fact that REE equals entropy of entanglement for pure states and REE is convex

**Rains relative entropy** [Rai01, ADMVW02]:

$$R(A; B)_\rho := \inf_{\sigma_{AB} \in \text{PPT}'(A:B)} D(\rho_{AB} \| \sigma_{AB})$$

where

$$\text{PPT}'(A : B) := \{\sigma_{AB} : \sigma_{AB} \geq 0, E_N(\sigma_{AB}) \leq 0\}$$

# Properties of Rains relative entropy

- LOCC monotone: follows from data processing for relative entropy and the fact that  $\text{PPT}'(A : B)$  is preserved under LOCC
- Reduces to entropy of entanglement for pure bipartite states
- Rains relative entropy is a tighter upper bound on distillable entanglement than other entanglement measures [Rai01]:

$$E_D(A; B)_\rho \leq R(A; B)_\rho \leq \min\{E_R(A; B)_\rho, E_N(A; B)_\rho\}$$

with  $R(A; B)_\rho \leq E_R(A; B)_\rho$  following because

$$\text{SEP}(A : B) \subset \text{PPT}(A : B) \subset \text{PPT}'(A : B),$$

## Calculating Rains relative entropy

Can be calculated efficiently using Matlab, with CVX, CVXQuad, and QuantInf packages [Wil18]:

```
na = 2; nb = 2;
rho = randRho(na*nb); % Generate random state

cvx_begin sdp
    variable tau(na*nb,na*nb) hermitian ;
    minimize ( quantum_rel_entr(rho, tau)/ log(2) );
    tau >= 0;
    norm_nuc(Tx(tau, 2, [ na nb ])) <= 1;
cvx_end

rains_rel_ent = cvx_optval;
```

# Squashed entanglement...



Alice



Eve



Bob

(Image courtesy of <https://levelup.gitconnected.com/quantum-key-distribution-for-everyone-f08dd5646f33>)

- **Mutual information** of a bipartite state  $\rho_{AB}$  defined as [Str65]

$$I(A; B)_\rho := D(\rho_{AB} \| \rho_A \otimes \rho_B)$$

- As it turns out, this has an equivalent expression

$$I(A; B)_\rho = \inf_{\sigma_A, \tau_B} D(\rho_{AB} \| \sigma_A \otimes \tau_B)$$

- Measures how distinguishable the state  $\rho_{AB}$  is from a product state
- This is not useful as a measure of entanglement because it measures all correlations, including classical correlations

# Mutual information and separable states

- Suppose that  $\rho_{AB}$  is a separable state, so that we can write it as

$$\rho_{AB} = \sum_x p(x) \sigma_A^x \otimes \tau_B^x.$$

- There exists an extension of this state to a classical system  $X$ :

$$\omega_{ABX} := \sum_x p(x) \sigma_A^x \otimes \tau_B^x \otimes |x\rangle\langle x|_X$$

- Conditioned on value in classical system, state is product and thus

$$\sum_x p(x) I(A; B)_{\sigma_A^x \otimes \tau_B^x} = 0$$

# Conditional mutual information

- **Conditional mutual information** of a tripartite state  $\kappa_{ABE}$  is defined as

$$I(A; B|E)_{\kappa} := H(AE)_{\kappa} + H(BE)_{\kappa} - H(ABE)_{\kappa} - H(E)_{\kappa}$$

- **Strong subadditivity** entropy inequality [LR73a, LR73b]:

$$I(A; B|E)_{\kappa} \geq 0$$

for every tripartite state  $\kappa_{ABE}$ .

For a classical–quantum state of the form  $\kappa_{ABX}$ , where

$$\kappa_{ABX} := \sum_x p(x) \kappa_{AB}^x \otimes |x\rangle\langle x|_X$$

the conditional mutual information evaluates to

$$I(A; B|X)_\kappa = \sum_x p(x) I(A; B)_{\kappa^x}$$

# Squashed entanglement with classical extension

- Motivated by this, we could define an entanglement measure for a bipartite state  $\rho_{AB}$  as

$$E_{\text{sq},c}(A; B)_\rho := \frac{1}{2} \inf_{\omega_{ABX}} \{I(A; B|X)_\omega : \text{Tr}_X[\omega_{ABX}] = \rho_{AB}\}$$

where the extension system  $X$  is classical

- It is equal to zero for every separable state, by picking the extension system as we did previously
- It is also a selective LOCC monotone

# Squashed entanglement

- **Squashed entanglement** measure for a bipartite state  $\rho_{AB}$  defined as

$$E_{\text{sq}}(A; B)_\rho := \frac{1}{2} \inf_{\omega_{ABE}} \{I(A; B|E)_\omega : \text{Tr}_E[\omega_{ABE}] = \rho_{AB}\}$$

where the extension system  $E$  is quantum [CW04] (see also [Tuc99, Tuc02])

- Infimum seems to be necessary because no known upper bound on size of quantum system  $E$  in the optimization

# Properties of squashed entanglement

- Reduces to entanglement entropy for pure states [CW04]
- Selective LOCC monotone [CW04]
- Convex [CW04]
- Additive [CW04]
- Faithful [BCY11, LW18]
- Upper bound on distillable entanglement and lower bound on entanglement cost [CW04]:

$$E_D(A; B)_\rho \leq E_{\text{sq}}(A; B)_\rho \leq E_C(A; B)_\rho$$

# Example: Generalized amplitude damping channel (GADC)

**Generalized amplitude damping channel** (GADC) is a two-parameter family of channels described as follows:

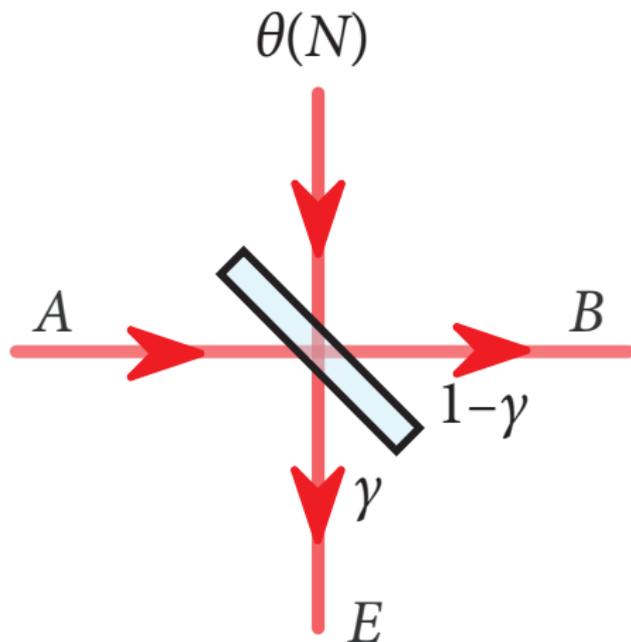
$$\mathcal{A}_{\gamma, N}(\rho) = A_1 \rho A_1^\dagger + A_2 \rho A_2^\dagger + A_3 \rho A_3^\dagger + A_4 \rho A_4^\dagger,$$

where  $\gamma, N \in [0, 1]$  and

$$A_1 = \sqrt{1-N} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{1-\gamma} \end{pmatrix}, \quad A_2 = \sqrt{\gamma(1-N)} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$A_3 = \sqrt{N} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{1-\gamma} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A_4 = \sqrt{\gamma N} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

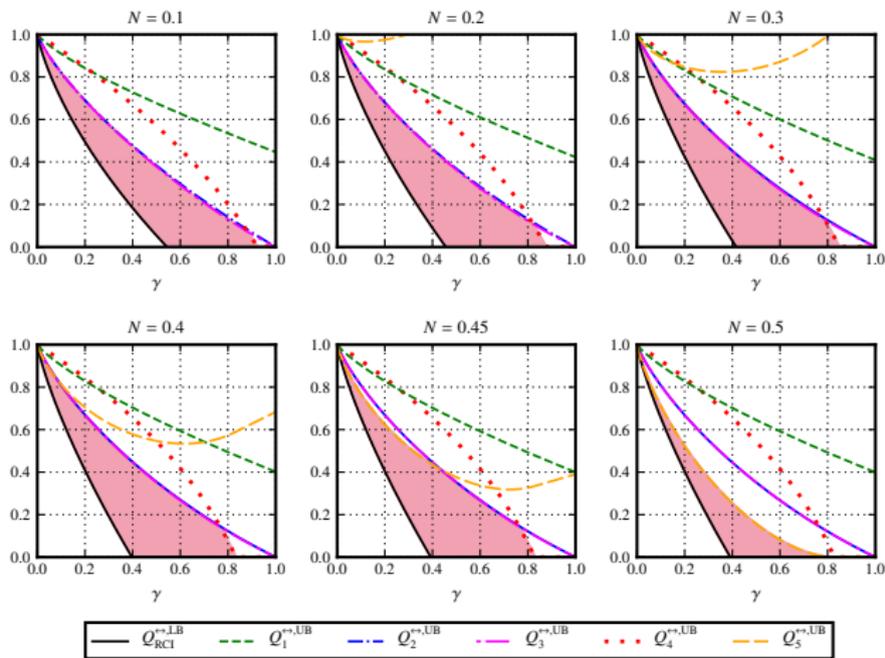
The parameter  $\gamma$  characterizes loss, and  $N$  describes environmental noise.

# Physical realization of GADC by beamsplitter interaction



for qubit thermal state  $\theta(N) = (1 - N)|0\rangle\langle 0| + N|1\rangle\langle 1|$

# Bounds on distillable entanglement of GADC [KSW20]



**Figure:** Distillable entanglement lies in the shaded region of each plot. Squashed entanglement bounds are in blue and magenta. Rains-like bound in gold (from approximately teleportation-simulable channel argument).

# Example: Dephased Bell state

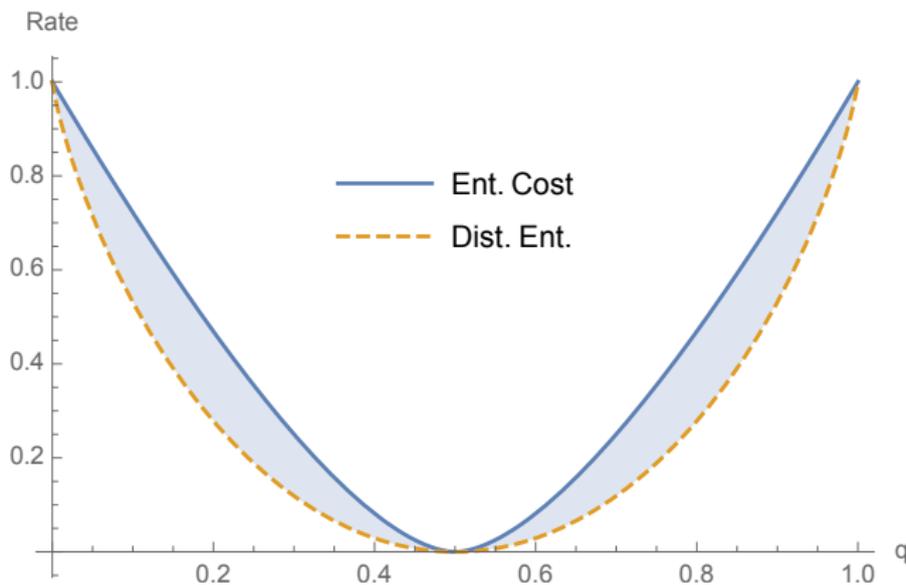


Figure: Plot of distillable entanglement and entanglement cost of the dephased Bell state  $(1 - q)\Phi_{AB} + qZ_B\Phi_{AB}Z_B$ , where  $\Phi_{AB} := \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j \in \{0,1\}} |i\rangle\langle j|_A \otimes |i\rangle\langle j|_B$ .

# Summary of entanglement measures

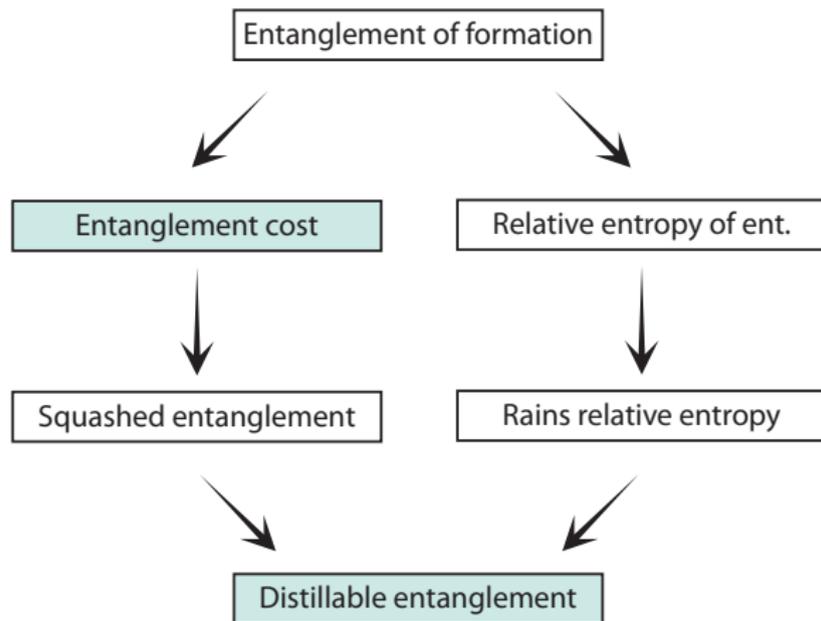


Figure: Arrow  $\rightarrow$  indicates  $\geq$  and light blue ones are operational measures

# Conclusion

- Entanglement is a resource for operational tasks like teleportation, super-dense coding, and quantum key distribution
- Goal of entanglement theory is to quantify entanglement
- Two approaches: axiomatic and operational approaches
- Entanglement measures like entanglement of formation, squashed entanglement, and Rains relative entropy are useful and serve as bounds on operational entanglement measures like distillable entanglement and entanglement cost

# Open questions

- Are there other interesting and useful entanglement measures?  
Efficiently computable and operationally meaningful (See [WW20] for recent progress)
- Find examples of states for which we can calculate squashed entanglement
- Squashed entanglement not even known to be computable. Is it uncomputable?
- What is the relevance of these entanglement measures in other areas of physics?

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