

The states input to the quantum dephasing channel obtained from Eq. (29) are

$$\begin{aligned}\rho_{S,1} &= \text{Tr}_R(|\Phi_1\rangle\langle\Phi_1|) = \cos^2\theta|0\rangle\langle 0| + \sin^2\theta|1\rangle\langle 1|, \\ \rho_{S,2} &= \text{Tr}_R(|\Phi_2\rangle\langle\Phi_2|) = \sin^2\theta|0\rangle\langle 0| + \cos^2\theta|1\rangle\langle 1|, \\ \rho_{S,3} &= \text{Tr}_R(|\Phi_3\rangle\langle\Phi_3|) = \cos^2\theta|0\rangle\langle 0| + \sin^2\theta|1\rangle\langle 1|, \\ \rho_{S,4} &= \text{Tr}_R(|\Phi_4\rangle\langle\Phi_4|) = \sin^2\theta|0\rangle\langle 0| + \cos^2\theta|1\rangle\langle 1|,\end{aligned}\quad (\text{A2})$$

therefore, for all $\rho_{S,i}$

$$S(\rho_{S,i}) = -[\cos^2\theta \log_2 \cos^2\theta + \sin^2\theta \log_2 \sin^2\theta]. \quad (\text{A3})$$

This results in the following expression for the first term in Eq. (8):

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_i p_i(x_1, x_2) S(\rho_{S,i}) \\ = -(\cos^2 x_1 \cos^2 x_2 + \sin^2 x_1 \cos^2 x_2 \\ + \cos^2 x_1 \sin^2 x_2 + \sin^2 x_1 \sin^2 x_2) \\ \times [\cos^2\theta \log_2 \cos^2\theta + \sin^2\theta \log_2 \sin^2\theta], \\ = -[\cos^2\theta \log_2 \cos^2\theta + \sin^2\theta \log_2 \sin^2\theta],\end{aligned}\quad (\text{A4})$$

where we have used the normalization $\sum_{i=1}^4 p_i(x_1, x_2) = 1, \forall x_1, x_2$. This yields the first term in Eq. (30).

Next we calculate the second term in Eq. (8). The output state is

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}(\sum_i p_i(x_1, x_2) \rho_{S,i}) \\ = \sum_{i,j} K_{ij} (\sum_i p_i(x_1, x_2) \rho_{S,i}) K_{ij}^\dagger,\end{aligned}\quad (\text{A5})$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_i p_i(x_1, x_2) \rho_{S,i} \\ = [\cos^2\theta(\cos^2 x_1 \cos^2 x_2 + \cos^2 x_1 \sin^2 x_2) \\ + \sin^2\theta(\sin^2 x_1 \sin^2 x_2 + \sin^2 x_1 \cos^2 x_2)]|0\rangle\langle 0| \\ + [\cos^2\theta(\sin^2 x_1 \sin^2 x_2 + \sin^2 x_1 \cos^2 x_2) \\ + \sin^2\theta(\cos^2 x_1 \cos^2 x_2 + \cos^2 x_1 \sin^2 x_2)]|1\rangle\langle 1| \\ = (\cos^2\theta \cos^2 x_1 + \sin^2\theta \sin^2 x_1)|0\rangle\langle 0| \\ + (\cos^2\theta \sin^2 x_1 + \sin^2\theta \cos^2 x_1)|1\rangle\langle 1|.\end{aligned}\quad (\text{A6})$$

Since this state is diagonal (“classical”) it is invariant under the dephasing channel with Kraus operators given by Eq. (18). Therefore the eigenvalues of the output state (A5) are

$$\begin{aligned}v_1 &= \cos^2\theta \cos^2 x_1 + \sin^2\theta \sin^2 x_1, \\ v_2 &= \cos^2\theta \sin^2 x_1 + \sin^2\theta \cos^2 x_1,\end{aligned}\quad (\text{A7})$$

and

$$S[\mathcal{E}(\sum_i p_i(x_1, x_2) \rho_{S,i})] = -\sum_{i=1}^2 v_i \log_2 v_i. \quad (\text{A8})$$

Finally, we calculate the third term in Eq. (8):

$$\begin{aligned}(\mathcal{E} \otimes I)(|\Phi_i\rangle\langle\Phi_i|) \\ = \sum_{i,j} (K_{ij} \otimes I)(|\Phi_i\rangle\langle\Phi_i|)(K_{ij}^\dagger \otimes I),\end{aligned}\quad (\text{A9})$$

which for all $|\Phi_i\rangle$ has eigenvalues $\omega_1 = \omega_2 = 0$ and ω_3, ω_4 are given in Eq. (31). The third term in Eq. (8) is thus

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_i p_i(x_1, x_2) S[(\mathcal{E} \otimes I)(|\Phi_i\rangle\langle\Phi_i|)] \\ = -\sum_{i=1}^4 \omega_i \log_2 \omega_i,\end{aligned}\quad (\text{A10})$$

where, as for Eq. (A4), we have used the normalization $\sum_{i=1}^4 p_i = 1$. This yields the third term in Eq. (30).

Thus, indeed only the second term in Eq. (8) depends on x_1, x_2 , and for a given value of θ , the classical capacity assisted by limited entanglement is maximized by maximizing Eq. (A8). The maximum is attained when the output state (A5) is fully mixed, i.e., when its eigenvalues $v_1 = v_2 = 1/2$. This occurs when $x_1 = x_2 = \frac{\pi}{4}$, i.e., when we have an equiprobable ensemble of the states. This gives rise to the 1 in Eq. (30).

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