

Supplementary material: Disti-mator

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1 Bell vectorization

This section summarizes the code in the file `vectorizedBell.py`.

1.1 Bell diagonal states

The Bell-diagonal state is given by

$$\rho_D(\mathbf{q}) = q_1|\Phi^+\rangle\langle\Phi^+| + q_2|\Phi^-\rangle\langle\Phi^-| + q_3|\Psi^+\rangle\langle\Psi^+| + q_4|\Psi^-\rangle\langle\Psi^-|$$

where $\mathbf{q} = [q_1; q_2; q_3; q_4]$ and $q_1 + q_2 + q_3 + q_4 = 1$ (we use semicolons for clarity). Here, we set $|\Phi^\pm\rangle = (|00\rangle \pm |11\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$ and $|\Psi^\pm\rangle = (|01\rangle \pm |10\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$. In this analysis, we assign a source-target pair $\rho_{A_1 B_1}(\mathbf{q}) \otimes \rho_{A_2 B_2}(\tilde{\mathbf{q}})$, defined over $\mathcal{H}_{A_1} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{B_1} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{A_2} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{B_2}$, to a Bell vector $\mathbf{q} \otimes \tilde{\mathbf{q}}$, defined in \mathbb{R}^{16} , where

$$\mathbf{q} \otimes \tilde{\mathbf{q}} := [q_1; q_2; q_3; q_4] \otimes [\tilde{q}_1; \tilde{q}_2; \tilde{q}_3; \tilde{q}_4].$$

We keep the order of the entries based on how the tensor product is evaluated.

1.2 Noise contribution in the state preparation stage

The relevant function here is `noisyPreparation`.

Each distillation round needs N source-target pairs $\rho_{A_1 B_1} \otimes \rho_{A_2 B_2}$. We suppose that each pair is not prepared at the same time, say the target pair is generated at time t after the source pair. Thus, the source pair have been subjected to noise while being distributed, which we model as a combination of depolarizing and dephasing channels on each side. Let $\lambda = (1 - e^{-\frac{t}{T_1}})$ be the depolarizing parameter, with characteristic time T_1 , and let $\zeta = \frac{1}{2}(1 - e^{-\frac{t}{T_2}})$ be the dephasing parameter, with characteristic time T_2 . We assume that the time it took to distribute the target pair is significantly smaller than the characteristic times. Then,

$$\rho_{A_1 B_1} \otimes \rho_{A_2 B_2} \mapsto [(\Delta_{\text{dph}, A_1}^{\zeta_A} \circ \Delta_{\text{dpo}, A_1}^{\lambda_A}) \otimes (\Delta_{\text{dph}, B_1}^{\zeta_B} \circ \Delta_{\text{dpo}, B_1}^{\lambda_B})](\rho_{A_1 B_1}) \otimes \rho_{A_2 B_2} = \rho_{A_1 B_1}^* \otimes \rho_{A_2 B_2},$$

where

$$\Delta_{\text{dpo}, B_1}^{\lambda_B}(\rho_{A_1 B_1}) = (1 - \lambda_B)\rho_{A_1 B_1} + \lambda_B \text{Tr}_{B_1}(\rho_{A_1 B_1}) \otimes \frac{I_{B_1}}{2} = (1 - \lambda_B)\rho_{A_1 B_1} + \lambda_B \frac{I_{A_1 B_1}}{4} =: \rho'_{A_1 B_1},$$

followed by

$$\Delta_{\text{dph}, B_1}^{\zeta_B}(\rho'_{A_1 B_1}) = (1 - \zeta_B)\rho'_{A_1 B_1} + \zeta_B I_{A_1} \otimes Z_{B_1} \rho'_{A_1 B_1} I_{A_1} \otimes Z_{B_1} =: \rho''_{A_1 B_1}.$$

Then,

$$\Delta_{\text{dpo}, A_1}^{\lambda_A}(\rho''_{A_1 B_1}) = (1 - \lambda_A)\rho''_{A_1 B_1} + \lambda_A \frac{I_{A_1}}{2} \otimes \text{Tr}_{A_1}(\rho''_{A_1 B_1}) = (1 - \lambda_A)\rho_{A_1 B_1} + \lambda_A \frac{I_{A_1 B_1}}{4} =: \rho'''_{A_1 B_1},$$

and finally,

$$\Delta_{\text{dph}, A_1}^{\zeta_A}(\rho'''_{A_1 B_1}) = (1 - \zeta_A)\rho'''_{A_1 B_1} + \zeta_A Z_{A_1} \otimes I_{B_1} \rho'''_{A_1 B_1} Z_{A_1} \otimes I_{B_1} =: \rho^*_{A_1 B_1}.$$

In terms of Bell vectors,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{\text{dpo}}^{\lambda_B}(\rho) &\mapsto \mathbf{q}' := \left[\frac{\lambda_B}{4} + (1 - \lambda_B)q_1; \frac{\lambda_B}{4} + (1 - \lambda_B)q_2; \frac{\lambda_B}{4} + (1 - \lambda_B)q_3; \frac{\lambda_B}{4} + (1 - \lambda_B)q_4 \right], \\ \Delta_{\text{dph}}^{\zeta_B}(\rho) &\mapsto \mathbf{q}' := [(1 - \zeta_B)q_1 + \zeta_B q_2; (1 - \zeta_B)q_2 + \zeta_B q_1; (1 - \zeta_B)q_3 + \zeta_B q_4; (1 - \zeta_B)q_4 + \zeta_B q_3]. \end{aligned}$$

1.3 Noisy local rotations

The relevant function here is `noisyRotationX`.

In some of the distillation setups, we require local rotations prior to local controlled gates in order to get the desired distillation statistics. For some Bell-diagonal state ρ_{AB} , we describe the action of a noisy local rotations as

$$\Lambda_{R_x}^{m_A, m_B}(\rho_{AB}) = (1 - m_A)(1 - m_B)R_x\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\right) \otimes R_x\left(+\frac{\pi}{2}\right) \rho_{AB} R_x\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^\dagger \otimes R_x\left(+\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^\dagger \\ + [m_A + m_B - m_A m_B] \frac{I_{AB}}{4}$$

for $0 \leq m_i \leq 1$. Let $\mathbf{q} = [q_1; q_2; q_3; q_4]$ be the associated Bell vector to ρ_{AB} . Then,

$$\Lambda_{R_x}^{m_A, m_B}(\rho_{AB}) \mapsto \mathbf{q}' := (1 - m_A)(1 - m_B)[q_1; q_4; q_3; q_2] + \frac{m_A + m_B - m_A m_B}{4} [1; 1; 1; 1]$$

1.4 Noisy CNOT

The relevant function here is `noisyCNOT`.

In a distillation setup, Alice and Bob perform a bilocal XOR, i.e., a CNOT operation, on their respective halves. We describe the action of both noisy CNOT operations on $\rho = \rho_{A_1 B_1} \otimes \rho_{A_2 B_2}$ in terms of the parameters y_A and y_B , where $0 \leq y_i \leq 1$:

$$\Lambda_{\text{CNOT}}^{y_A, y_B}(\rho) = (1 - y_A)(1 - y_B)(\text{CNOT}_{A_1 A_2} \otimes \text{CNOT}_{B_1 B_2})\rho(\text{CNOT}_{A_1 A_2} \otimes \text{CNOT}_{B_1 B_2}) \\ + [y_A + y_B - y_A y_B] \frac{I_{A_1 A_2 B_1 B_2}}{16}$$

For noisy CNOT operations, we take the following operation on the Bell vector:

$$(\text{CNOT}_{A_1 A_2} \otimes \text{CNOT}_{B_1 B_2})\rho(\text{CNOT}_{A_1 A_2} \otimes \text{CNOT}_{B_1 B_2}) \\ \mapsto [q_1 \tilde{q}_1; q_2 \tilde{q}_2; q_1 \tilde{q}_3; q_2 \tilde{q}_4; q_2 \tilde{q}_1; q_1 \tilde{q}_2; q_2 \tilde{q}_3; q_1 \tilde{q}_4; q_3 \tilde{q}_3; q_4 \tilde{q}_4; q_3 \tilde{q}_1; q_4 \tilde{q}_2; q_4 \tilde{q}_3; q_3 \tilde{q}_4; q_4 \tilde{q}_1; q_3 \tilde{q}_2]$$

1.5 Noisy measurements

The relevant functions here are `noisyMeasurementZtarget` and `noisyMeasurementXsource`.

Finally, we consider a noisy Z -measurement scenario. Here, we take the stochastic map $|0\rangle \mapsto |0\rangle$ and $|1\rangle \mapsto |1\rangle$, each with probability η_z , and $|0\rangle \mapsto |1\rangle$ and $|1\rangle \mapsto |0\rangle$, each with probability $1 - \eta_z$. So, the associated POVMs when measuring the target pair are

$$I_{A_1 B_1} \otimes M_{A_2 B_2}^{00}(\eta_z^A, \eta_z^B) = I_{A_1 B_1} \otimes (\eta_z^A \eta_z^B |00\rangle\langle 00| + (1 - \eta_z^A)(1 - \eta_z^B) |11\rangle\langle 11| \\ + \eta_z^A (1 - \eta_z^B) |01\rangle\langle 01| + (1 - \eta_z^A) \eta_z^B |10\rangle\langle 10|), \\ I_{A_1 B_1} \otimes M_{A_2 B_2}^{11}(\eta_z^A, \eta_z^B) = I_{A_1 B_1} \otimes ((1 - \eta_z^A)(1 - \eta_z^B) |00\rangle\langle 00| + \eta_z^A \eta_z^B |11\rangle\langle 11| \\ + (1 - \eta_z^A) \eta_z^B |01\rangle\langle 01| + \eta_z^A (1 - \eta_z^B) |10\rangle\langle 10|).$$

Similarly, we consider a noisy X -measurement scenario. Here, we take the stochastic map $|+\rangle \mapsto |+\rangle$ and $|-\rangle \mapsto |-\rangle$, each with probability η_x , and $|+\rangle \mapsto |-\rangle$ and $|-\rangle \mapsto |+\rangle$, each with probability $1 - \eta_x$. Thus, the associated POVMs when measuring the source pair are

$$M_{A_1 B_1}^{++}(\eta_x^A, \eta_x^B) \otimes I_{A_2 B_2} = (\eta_x^A \eta_x^B |++\rangle\langle ++| + (1 - \eta_x^A)(1 - \eta_x^B) |--\rangle\langle --| \\ + \eta_x^A (1 - \eta_x^B) |+-\rangle\langle +-| + (1 - \eta_x^A) \eta_x^B |-+\rangle\langle -+|) \otimes I_{A_2 B_2}, \\ M_{A_1 B_1}^{--}(\eta_x^A, \eta_x^B) \otimes I_{A_2 B_2} = ((1 - \eta_x^A)(1 - \eta_x^B) |++\rangle\langle ++| + \eta_x^A \eta_x^B |--\rangle\langle --| \\ + (1 - \eta_x^A) \eta_x^B |+-\rangle\langle +-| + \eta_x^A (1 - \eta_x^B) |-+\rangle\langle -+|) \otimes I_{A_2 B_2}.$$

We have to be careful at this step because of the entangling CNOT operations. That is, if $f_{\text{CNOT}}^{y_A, y_B}$ is the corresponding operation of $\Lambda_{\text{CNOT}}^{y_A, y_B}$ on \mathbb{R}^{16} , then $f_{\text{CNOT}}^{y_A, y_B}(\mathbf{q} \otimes \tilde{\mathbf{q}}) = \mathbf{f} \neq \mathbf{q}' \otimes \tilde{\mathbf{q}}'$ following our earlier discussion. Then, for a noisy Z measurement on the target pair,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Tr}(I_{A_1 B_1} \otimes [M_{A_2 B_2}^{00}(\eta_z^A, \eta_z^B) + M_{A_2 B_2}^{11}(\eta_z^A, \eta_z^B)]) \\ &= (1 - \eta_z^B - \eta_z^A(1 - 2\eta_z^B))(f_1 + f_2 + f_5 + f_6 + f_9 + f_{10} + f_{13} + f_{14}) \\ &+ (\eta_z^B + \eta_z^A(1 - 2\eta_z^B))(f_3 + f_4 + f_7 + f_8 + f_{11} + f_{12} + f_{15} + f_{16}). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, for a noisy X measurement on the source pair,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Tr}([M_{A_1 B_1}^{++}(\eta_x^A, \eta_x^B) + M_{A_1 B_1}^{--}(\eta_x^A, \eta_x^B)] \otimes I_{A_2 B_2}) \\ &= (1 - \eta_x^B - \eta_x^A(1 - 2\eta_x^B))(f_1 + f_2 + f_3 + f_4 + f_9 + f_{10} + f_{11} + f_{12}) \\ &+ (\eta_x^B + \eta_x^A(1 - 2\eta_x^B))(f_5 + f_6 + f_7 + f_8 + f_{13} + f_{14} + f_{15} + f_{16}), \end{aligned}$$

where f_i is the i -th component of \mathbf{f} . Multiplying each result by $1/2$ gives the measurement statistics for $\{00\}$ and $\{++\}$, respectively.

2 Distillation protocols

This section summarizes the code in the file `distillationExperiment.py`.

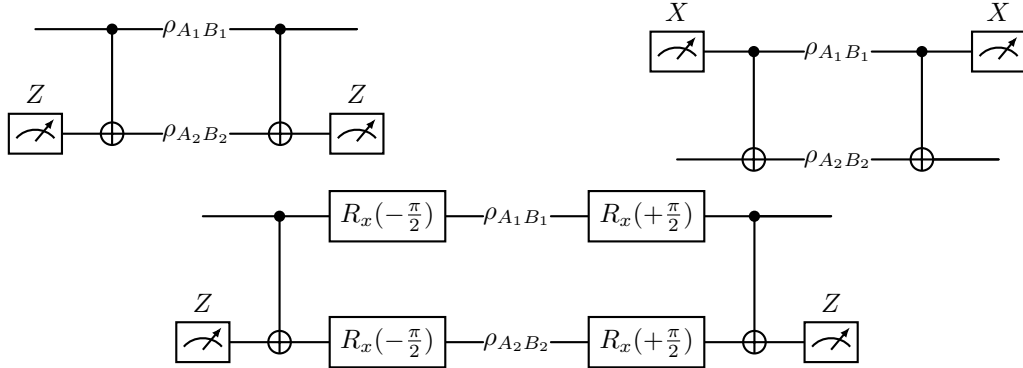


Figure 1: Distillation protocols for this work.

2.1 First distillation statistics

The relevant function here is `protocolExp1`. The first distillation protocol is described in Fig. 1 top left. The corresponding success probability $p^{(1)}$ is described by

$$p^{(1)} = \text{Tr} \left[I_{A_1 B_1} \otimes M_{A_2 B_2}^{00}(\eta_z^A, \eta_z^B) \Lambda_{\text{CNOT}}^{y_A, y_B} \left([(\Delta_{\text{dph}, A_1}^{\zeta_A} \circ \Delta_{\text{dpo}, A_1}^{\lambda_A}) \otimes (\Delta_{\text{dph}, B_1}^{\zeta_B} \circ \Delta_{\text{dpo}, B_1}^{\lambda_B})](\rho_{A_1 B_1}) \otimes \rho_{A_2 B_2} \right) \right].$$

In the noiseless case, and $\rho_{A_2 B_2} = \rho_{A_1 B_1}(\mathbf{q})$, we find that

$$p^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2} ((q_1 + q_2)^2 + (q_3 + q_4)^2) =: \frac{1}{2} (x_1^2 + (1 - x_1)^2).$$

Following the results in the main text, we also expect that $p^{(1)} = p^{(1)}(x_1)$ in the noisy scenario, with the given set of gates.

2.2 Second distillation statistics

The relevant function here is `protocolExp2`. The second distillation protocol is described in Fig. 1 top right. The corresponding success probability $p^{(1)}$ is described by

$$p^{(2)} = \text{Tr} \left[M_{A_1 B_1}^{++}(\eta_x^A, \eta_x^B) \otimes I_{A_2 B_2} \Lambda_{\text{CNOT}}^{y_A, y_B} \left([(\Delta_{\text{dph}, A_1}^{\zeta_A} \circ \Delta_{\text{dpo}, A_1}^{\lambda_A}) \otimes (\Delta_{\text{dph}, B_1}^{\zeta_B} \circ \Delta_{\text{dpo}, B_1}^{\lambda_B})] (\rho_{A_1 B_1}) \otimes \rho_{A_2 B_2} \right) \right].$$

In the noiseless case, and $\rho_{A_2 B_2} = \rho_{A_1 B_1}(\mathbf{q})$, we find that

$$p^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2} ((q_1 + q_3)^2 + (q_2 + q_4)^2) =: \frac{1}{2} (x_2^2 + (1 - x_2)^2).$$

Following the results in the main text, we also expect that $p^{(2)} = p^{(2)}(x_2)$ in the noisy scenario, with the given set of gates.

2.3 Third distillation statistics

The relevant function here is `protocolExp3`. The third distillation protocol is described in the bottom circuit in Fig. 1. The corresponding success probability $p^{(3)}$ is described by

$$p^{(3)} = \text{Tr} \left[I_{A_1 B_1} \otimes M_{A_2 B_2}^{00}(\eta_z^A, \eta_z^B) \times \right. \\ \left. \times \Lambda_{\text{CNOT}}^{y_A, y_B} \circ (\Lambda_{R_x}^{m_A, m_B} \otimes \Lambda_{R_x}^{m_A, m_B}) \left([(\Delta_{\text{dph}, A_1}^{\zeta_A} \circ \Delta_{\text{dpo}, A_1}^{\lambda_A}) \otimes (\Delta_{\text{dph}, B_1}^{\zeta_B} \circ \Delta_{\text{dpo}, B_1}^{\lambda_B})] (\rho_{A_1 B_1}) \otimes \rho_{A_2 B_2} \right) \right].$$

In the noiseless case, and $\rho_{A_2 B_2} = \rho_{A_1 B_1}(\mathbf{q})$, we find that

$$p^{(3)} = \frac{1}{2} ((q_1 + q_4)^2 + (q_2 + q_3)^2) =: \frac{1}{2} (x_3^2 + (1 - x_3)^2).$$

Following the results in the main text, we also expect that $p^{(3)} = p^{(3)}(x_3)$ in the noisy scenario, with the given set of gates.

3 Inversion strategies

This section summarizes the code in the files `wernerEstimation.py` and `bellDiagEstimation.py`.

3.1 Werner state estimation I

As a special case, we consider a Werner state. Here,

$$q_1 = F, \quad q_2 = q_3 = q_4 = \frac{1 - F}{3}.$$

where F is the fidelity with respect to $|\Phi^+\rangle$. Taking $F = 1 - \frac{3w}{4}$, where w is the Werner parameter, we have

$$\rho_{AB}(w) = (1 - w)|\Phi^+\rangle\langle\Phi^+| + w \frac{I_{AB}}{4}.$$

Our goal is to determine an estimation \hat{w} following the first distillation protocol (Section 2.1), with some precision ϵ_w which we fix. Since a successful distillation happens when $F > 1/2$, we only consider the range $0 \leq w < 2/3$. We take both the source and target pairs to be the same right after generation. Also, the precision $\epsilon^{(1)}$ on $p^{(1)}$ is expected to be dependent on \hat{w} and ϵ_w .

The inversion strategy that we adopt involves a bisection search algorithm. For the required ϵ_w , the number of iterations needed is bounded by

$$n_{1/2} \leq \left\lceil \log_2 \left(\frac{b_0 - a_0}{\epsilon_w} \right) \right\rceil = \left\lceil \log_2 \left(\frac{2}{3\epsilon_w} \right) \right\rceil,$$

where we have chosen $a_0 = 0$ and $b_0 = 2/3$ as the initial endpoints of the search.

The function for this inversion strategy is `invertWernerParamI` in `wernerEstimation.py`, with \hat{w} as the output. For the associated left- and right-side precision in $\hat{p}^{(1)}$, we can evaluate them via the function `protocolExp1` in `distillationExperiment.py`, with the Bell vectors corresponding to $\hat{w} \pm \epsilon_w$ as inputs, and then determine the distance of the results from $\hat{p}^{(1)}$.

3.2 Werner state estimation II

For this inversion strategy, the precision $\epsilon^{(1)}$ for the empirical success probability is given instead of ϵ_w . We still use the same estimation method in the previous section to search for \hat{w} , as well as for $\hat{w}_p(\geq \hat{w})$ that corresponds to $\hat{p}^{(1)} - \epsilon^{(1)}$, and $\hat{w}_m(\leq \hat{w})$ that corresponds to $\hat{p}^{(1)} + \epsilon^{(1)}$ (since $p^{(1)}$ is monotonically decreasing with w). However, we have to take note that the precision of the bisection method should neither match $|\hat{w} - \hat{w}_p|$ nor $|\hat{w} - \hat{w}_m|$. We expect that the order of the precision of the estimation via distillation matches that of tomography. Thus, as a rule of thumb, we set the precision of the search as $\epsilon_w \leq 10^{-2}\epsilon^{(1)}$. After the search, we finally set $\epsilon_w \leq \max(|\hat{w} - \hat{w}_p|, |\hat{w} - \hat{w}_m|)$.

The function for this inversion strategy is `invertWernerParamII` in `wernerEstimation.py`, with $\hat{w}, \hat{w}_p, \hat{w}_m$ as the outputs.

3.3 Bell-diagonal state estimation I

We extend the inversion strategy to the general Bell-diagonal scenario. Given that $p^{(j)} = p^{(j)}(x_j)$, we can independently do a bisection search for the estimation \hat{x}_j given some empirical $\hat{p}^{(j)}$. Then, we determine the estimated vector $\hat{\mathbf{q}} = [\hat{q}_1; \hat{q}_2; \hat{q}_3; \hat{q}_4]$ via

$$\begin{aligned} q_1 &= \frac{1}{2}(-1 + x_1 + x_2 + x_3), \\ q_2 &= \frac{1}{2}(1 + x_1 - x_2 - x_3), \\ q_3 &= \frac{1}{2}(1 - x_1 + x_2 - x_3), \\ q_4 &= \frac{1}{2}(1 - x_1 - x_2 + x_3). \end{aligned}$$

We set the precision of the bisection method to be ϵ_j , with $|x_j - \hat{x}_j| \leq \epsilon_j$, and with the number of iterations needed $n_{1/2,j}$ bounded by

$$n_{1/2,j} \leq \left\lceil \log_2 \left(\frac{b_0 - a_0}{\epsilon_j} \right) \right\rceil = \left\lceil \log_2 \left(\frac{1}{2\epsilon_j} \right) \right\rceil.$$

Here, we have chosen $a_0 = 1/2$ and $b_0 = 1$ as the initial endpoints of the search. Because the x_j 's can be searched independently, we can parameterize the Bell vectors as $[x_1; 0; 1 - x_1; 0]$, $[x_2; 1 - x_2; 0; 0]$, and $[x_3; 1 - x_3; 0; 0]$ for the first, second, and third distillation protocols, respectively (since $x_j = q_1 + q_{j+1}$).

The function for this inversion strategy is `invertBellProtocolI` in `bellDiagEstimation.py`, with $\hat{\mathbf{x}} := [x_1; x_2; x_3]$ as the output. For the associated left- and right-side precision in $\hat{p}^{(j)}$, we can evaluate them via the functions `protocolExp1`, `protocolExp2`, and `protocolExp3` in `distillationExperiment.py`. Again, because of $p^{(j)} = p^{(j)}(x_j)$, we only need to consider $[x_1 \pm \epsilon_1; 0; 1 - (x_1 \pm \epsilon_1); 0]$, $[x_2 \pm \epsilon_1; 1 - (x_2 \pm \epsilon_1); 0; 0]$, and $[x_3 \pm \epsilon_1; 1 - (x_3 \pm \epsilon_1); 0; 0]$, respectively. Finally, we evaluate the Bell vector $\hat{\mathbf{q}}$ via $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$, which is facilitated by the function `convertToQ` in `bellDiagEstimation.py`.

3.4 Bell-diagonal state estimation II

For this inversion strategy, the precision $\epsilon^{(j)}$ for the empirical success probability is given instead of ϵ_j . We still use the same estimation method in the previous section to search for \hat{x}_j , as well as for $\hat{x}_{j,p}(\geq \hat{x}_j)$ that corresponds to $\hat{p}^{(j)} + \epsilon^{(j)}$, and $\hat{x}_{j,m}(\leq \hat{x}_j)$ that corresponds to $\hat{p}^{(j)} - \epsilon^{(j)}$ (since $p^{(j)}$ is monotonically increasing with x_j). Again, we have to take note that the precision of the bisection method should neither match $|\hat{x}_j - \hat{x}_{j,p}|$ nor $|\hat{x}_j - \hat{x}_{j,m}|$. We expect that the order of the precision of the estimation via distillation

matches that of tomography. Thus, as a rule of thumb, we set the precision of the search as $\epsilon_j \leq 10^{-2}\epsilon^{(j)}$. After the search, we finally set $\epsilon_j \leq \max(|\hat{x}_j - \hat{x}_{j,p}|, |\hat{x}_j - \hat{x}_{j,m}|)$.

The function for this inversion strategy is `invertBellProtocolII` in `bellDiagEstimation.py`, with $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = [x_1; x_2; x_3]$, $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_p := [x_1 + \epsilon_1; x_2 + \epsilon_2; x_3 + \epsilon_3]$, $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_m := [x_1 - \epsilon_1; x_2 - \epsilon_2; x_3 - \epsilon_3]$ as the outputs.