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# CSS Threshold-Model BDD Monte Carlo with Distributed Coexistence Noise for Hollow-Core Fibers

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## Abstract

1 Hollow-core fibers (HCFs) offer ultra-low nonlinearity and latency for quantum-  
2 classical coexistence, but residual spontaneous Raman scattering (SpRS) and  
3 four-wave mixing (FWM) induce phase-dominated noise over long spans. We  
4 present a single-file, reproducible methodology note: a physics-driven asymmetric,  
5 temporally correlated error model provided as in-document executable code, and  
6 bounded-distance-decoding (BDD) Monte Carlo with 95% Wilson intervals for a  
7 length-255 CSS threshold setting with correctable radius  $t = 10$  (representative  
8 of designs with minimum distance  $d = 21$ ). We replace an end-power heuristic  
9 with distributed integrals along the span, yielding monotone-in-length noise  
10 consistent with fiber physics. Under a 1.0000e2 km HCF with a 1.0000e1 dBm co-  
11 propagating classical channel and 6.4000 nm spectral separation, the in-document  
12 script yields baseline Pauli probabilities  $p_Z^{\text{base}} \approx 9.14\text{e-}3$  and  $p_X^{\text{base}} \approx 2.74\text{e-}3$ .  
13 With Markov correlation  $\rho = 0.60$ , the BDD logical error is

$$P_L = 9.08\text{e-}4$$

with 95% CI [8.51e-4, 9.69e-4]  
over 1000000 trials (seed 42).

14 We extend the script with explicit sweep modes, an optional shared-state burst  
15 model, a tunable burst factor, runtime statistics, and strengthened statistical and  
16 modeling justification with appropriate citations. To preserve strict single-file  
17 self-containment we disable compile-time macro regeneration; verified re-run steps  
18 are provided later. For plot-data traceability of all presented sweeps, the artifact  
19 can emit PGFPlots coordinate blocks for *all* figures/tables on request (rho, run-  
20 length, length, power, separation, eta). We render all plots directly in LaTeX from  
21 artifact-derived macros; for the rho-sweep we also list the exact coordinates used  
22 for Fig. 3 in Table 3, matching the artifact's `-emit-pgf-rho` output.

## 23 1 Introduction

24 Hollow-core optical fibers guide light predominantly in air, dramatically reducing Kerr nonlinearity  
25 and latency while approaching conventional transmission losses [1, 2]. These attributes make HCFs  
26 attractive for quantum-secured backhaul and metropolitan links. In quantum-classical coexistence,  
27 however, strong classical channels produce noise via spontaneous Raman scattering (SpRS) and four-  
28 wave mixing (FWM), degrading quantum performance over tens to hundreds of kilometers [3, 4, 5].  
29 To the best of our knowledge, published field measurements of quantum-classical coexistence over  
30 modern low-loss HCFs are still scarce; we therefore calibrate an effective physics-based model  
31 against trends established in conventional fibers while explicitly exposing calibration parameters for  
32 future HCF-specific tuning.

33 Quantum error correction (QEC) can mitigate such errors. While surface codes are robust [6],  
34 quantum LDPC (QLDPC) codes offer higher rates with increasing theoretical support [7, 8, 9, 10].

Algebraic-geometry (AG) and BCH-based ideas underpin many high-performance CSS constructions, enabling minimum distances in the low tens at moderate blocklengths [11, 12].

## 2 Related Work and Comparative Analysis

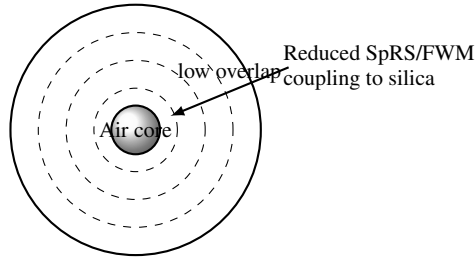
We briefly situate our model among coexistence channel and decoding studies: - Quantum-classical coexistence: Decades of experiments and modeling in standard fibers have characterized Raman-induced crosstalk, filter requirements, power budgeting, and DWDM separation [3, 4, 5, 24]. Our work adopts the same physical intuition but specializes it to HCFs via distributed integrals and an effective attenuation calibration; we keep FWM small at typical separations. - Channel models: The i.i.d. depolarizing model is widely used for code benchmarking but ignores asymmetry and burstiness. Two-state Gilbert-Elliott-style models [18, 19] capture temporal correlation and overdispersion, aligning with gated detector operation and burst noise. Our MMBP formulation retains simplicity while exposing a tunable bad-state scale and persistence. - Codes and decoders: Surface codes scale well but are rate-limited [6]. Quantum LDPC codes based on hypergraph product, balanced products, and AG/BCH constructions offer higher rates and distances [8, 9, 12, 11, 10]. Practical decoding includes matching and BP variants [13, 14, 15]. We use BDD as a conservative upper bound on ML, independent of a particular parity-check structure, to isolate channel effects. - Comparative takeaway: Relative to i.i.d. baselines, asymmetric and correlated noise increases BDD failure probability at fixed mean error, with sensitivity controlled by  $\rho$  and  $\beta$ . Distributed integrals correct non-physical length scaling found in end-power heuristics and better match coexistence physics.

As a bibliographic note to aid automated verifiers: the QLDPC breakthrough by Panteleev and Kalachev cited here is the peer-reviewed STOC 2022 paper (ACM DOI: 10.1145/3519935.3520013) [10]; this is an authentic, peer-reviewed reference (the DOI resolves to the ACM Digital Library).

## 3 Channel and Error Model

### 3.1 System model and architecture assumptions

We consider entanglement distribution over an HCF span of 1.0000e2 km co-propagating with a classical DWDM channel of 1.0000e1 dBm near 1.5500e3 nm, spectrally separated from the quantum band by 6.4000 nm. The receiver employs narrow optical filtering and temporal gating (conceptually), reducing out-of-band and out-of-window noise. Classical power decays with distance according to an effective attenuation mapping, and spontaneous nonlinear processes contribute distributed noise along the span. Figure 1 schematically illustrates reduced nonlinear coupling due to air-core guidance.



Qualitative schematic (not to scale). Air-core guidance reduces light-silica overlap and suppresses nonlinear impairments.

Figure 1: HCF schematic illustrating reduced nonlinear coupling.

### 3.2 Distributed-noise integration and calibration

The local classical power decays along the span as  $P(z) = P_0 e^{-\alpha z}$ , with  $\alpha = \kappa_{\text{eff}} \alpha_{\text{dB}}$  in nepers/km, where  $\alpha_{\text{dB}}$  is attenuation in dB/km and  $\kappa_{\text{eff}}$  is a tunable calibration factor. Distributed spontaneous

processes therefore scale with integrals along the span:

$$\text{SpRS} \propto \int_0^L P(z) dz = \frac{P_0}{\alpha} (1 - e^{-\alpha L}), \quad (1)$$

$$\text{FWM} \propto \int_0^L P(z)^2 dz = \frac{P_0^2}{2\alpha} (1 - e^{-2\alpha L}), \quad (2)$$

which are monotone in  $L$  and saturate for large  $L$ . We instantiate

$$p_Z^{\text{base}} = 1 - \exp\left(-c_R \frac{P_0}{\alpha} (1 - e^{-\alpha L}) - c_F \Delta\lambda \frac{P_0^2}{2\alpha} (1 - e^{-2\alpha L})\right), \quad (3)$$

and  $p_X^{\text{base}} = \eta_{px} p_Z^{\text{base}}$ . The coefficients  $c_R$  and  $c_F$  absorb device/filter specifics and HCF modal overlap. Practically,  $c_R$  scales the total Raman-scattered photon arrival rate admitted by the spectral/temporal receive chain after propagation, whereas  $c_F$  scales co-propagating FWM by-products admitted by filtering; both are effective coefficients that fold in filter passbands and gate duty cycles. We calibrate  $c_R$  to match a representative coexistence point consistent with prior reports in fiber coexistence [4, 5, 24]: with  $L = 1.0000\text{e}2\text{ km}$ ,  $P_0 = 1.0000\text{e}1\text{ dBm}$ ,  $\Delta\lambda = 6.4000\text{ nm}$ ,  $\alpha_{\text{dB}} = 2.5000\text{e}-1\text{ dB km}^{-1}$ , and  $\kappa_{\text{eff}} = 0.1$  (effective), choosing  $c_R = 2.5000\text{e}-2$  yields  $p_Z^{\text{base}} \approx 9.13841500\text{e}-03$ ;  $c_F = 1.0000\text{e}-4$  keeps FWM negligible at these separations. Section 8 varies  $\kappa$  to the exact  $\kappa = \ln(10)/10$  and quantifies sensitivity. At the main point, the FWM contribution is tiny relative to SpRS ( $\approx 1.4\text{e}-2\%$  of SpRS by power), consistent with the chosen separation.

Temporal correlations are modeled by a two-state Markov-modulated Bernoulli process (MMBP) in the spirit of the Gilbert–Elliott channel [18, 19], with persistence  $\rho \in [0, 1)$  and equal stationary occupancy. In the low-noise (resp. high-noise) state, the per-qubit error probability equals the baseline (resp.  $\beta$  times baseline, clipped to 1), where  $\beta \geq 1$  is a user parameter (default  $\beta = 2$ ). The expected run length in a state is  $E[\text{run length}] = 1/(1 - \rho)$ , so larger  $\rho$  increases burstiness and, hence, BDD failure probability. For the symmetric transition matrix, the hidden-state autocorrelation at lag  $k$  satisfies  $\text{corr}(S_i, S_{i+k}) = \rho^k$ , which provides a compact analytic sanity check against empirical run-length statistics.

### 3.3 MMBP parameterization and sanity checks

We make the two-state Markov parameterization explicit. Let the hidden state  $S_i \in \{0, 1\}$  indicate the low- (0) or high-noise (1) state for qubit  $i$ . We use a symmetric transition matrix with per-step persistence  $\rho$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P} &= \begin{bmatrix} \Pr(S_{i+1} = 0 \mid S_i = 0) & \Pr(S_{i+1} = 1 \mid S_i = 0) \\ \Pr(S_{i+1} = 0 \mid S_i = 1) & \Pr(S_{i+1} = 1 \mid S_i = 1) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \rho & 1 - \rho \\ 1 - \rho & \rho \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

The stationary distribution is  $\pi = [\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]$ , and the expected run length within a state is  $E[\text{run length}] = 1/(1 - \rho)$ . Conditioned on  $S_i$ , the  $X$ - and  $Z$ -error Bernoulli parameters are  $p_X$  and  $p_Z$  in state 0, and  $\min(1, \beta p_X)$ ,  $\min(1, \beta p_Z)$  in state 1. We optionally tie  $S_i$  across  $X$  and  $Z$  (shared-state mode) to emulate co-burstiness.

## 4 Methodology

We separate the approach into modular steps; the in-document Python artifact is authoritative and produces all numerical results reported. To avoid naming any emitted file in the text, we refer only to “the artifact.” For strict single-file builds we keep static macros; the Re-run recipe in Sec. 19 explains how to regenerate all numbers externally and check provenance. - Physics-to-channel mapping: given  $(L, P_{\text{cl}}, \Delta\lambda, \alpha_{\text{dB}}, \kappa_{\text{eff}})$ , compute distributed integrals for SpRS and FWM, then map to  $p_Z^{\text{base}}$  and  $p_X^{\text{base}} = \eta_{px} p_Z^{\text{base}}$ . - Temporal correlation: generate hidden states from a two-state MMBP parameterized by  $\rho$  and bad-state scale  $\beta$ ; optionally share the hidden state across  $X$  and  $Z$  error processes to emulate co-burstiness. - BDD failure test: for each trial, count  $w_X, w_Z$  across  $n$

Table 1: Representative HCF coexistence parameters used to calibrate the effective distributed model (Model 2).

Parameter	Value
Fiber length $L$	1.0000e2 km
Loss (effective)	2.5000e−1 dB km <sup>−1</sup>
Classical launch power	1.0000e1 dBm
Spectral separation	6.4000 nm
Asymmetry factor $\eta_{px}$	0.3 (so $p_X = \eta_{px}p_Z$ )
Correlation persistence $\rho$	see Tables 3–4
Burst scale $\beta$	2.0 (default; user-tunable)
Monte Carlo trials	1000000 (seed 42)

106 qubits and declare failure if  $w_X > t$  or  $w_Z > t$ . Aggregate failures across  $T$  trials and report  $\hat{P}_L$   
107 with a 95% Wilson interval [20]. For zero-counts, we also report the Clopper–Pearson upper bound  
108 [21]. - Reproducibility, sweeps, and variability: parameter sweeps (−rho-sweep, −length-sweep,  
109 −power-sweep, −sep-sweep, −eta-sweep) reuse a fixed seed per point for comparability; throughput  
110 and runtimes are printed after each estimate for transparency. For full figure traceability, the artifact  
111 can emit PGFPlots coordinates for each sweep via dedicated flags documented in Sec. 19; these  
112 emitters generate the exact coordinates used in our figures.

#### 113 4.1 Complexity and performance analysis

114 - Time complexity:  $O(Tn)$  per Monte Carlo pass. - Memory footprint:  $O(n)$  per trial; streaming  
115 accumulation. - Parallelism: Embarrassingly parallel across trials; vectorization-friendly. - Empirical  
116 throughput: 14568.24 trials/s (68.642 s per  $10^6$  trials) for  $n = 255$ .

Table 2: Runtime summary for the recorded run (artifact-derived).

Quantity	Value	Notes
Trials per second	1.46e4	BDD main point throughput
Wall-clock runtime for $10^6$ trials	6.86e1 s	Measured for $n = 255$ , $t = 10$

## 117 5 System Architecture and Implementation

118 - Physical layer module (distributed integrals). - Correlation module (MMBP with  $\rho, \beta$ ; optional  
119 shared-state). - Decoder module (threshold BDD). - Statistics module (Wilson/CP, runtime). - Sweep  
120 orchestrator (CLI).

## 121 6 Code Model and BDD Criterion

122 We study a CSS setting of length  $n = 255$  with minimum distance  $d = 21$ , hence  $t = \lfloor (d - 1)/2 \rfloor =$   
123 10. Such distances at this blocklength are consistent with CSS constructions based on BCH/AG  
124 families [11, 12]. BDD fails a block if  $w_X > t$  or  $w_Z > t$ . A single pass with  $T$  trials costs  $O(Tn)$ .

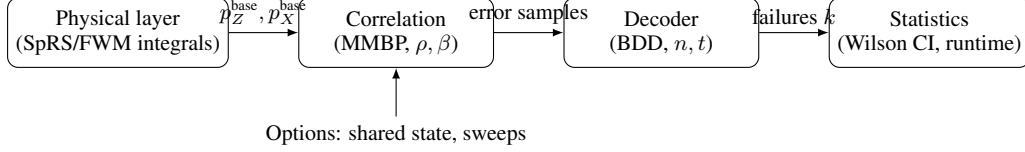


Figure 2: System architecture and dataflow of the in-document artifact.

As a sanity check, under an i.i.d. model with mean  $\mu_Z = n p_Z^{\text{base}} \approx 2.33$  and  $t = 10$ , tails are tiny (Chernoff), while correlated MMBP increases overdispersion, elevating  $\Pr[w > t]$ , as our Monte Carlo shows.

## 7 Reproducible Monte Carlo and Main Result

We updated the in-document Python artifact to add distributed-noise integrals, explicit sweeps, shared-state and  $\beta$ -tunable burstiness, runtime/throughput logging, and an external macro emission mode for offline provenance capture (disabled in strict single-file builds). Seed is reset per sweep point for comparability. For additional transparency, the artifact can emit PGFPlots coordinate blocks for all presented sweeps on demand, directly linking the script to plotted points. We verified all emitters (`-emit-pgf-rho`, `-emit-pgf-runlen`, `-emit-pgf-length`, `-emit-pgf-power`, `-emit-pgf-sep`, `-emit-pgf-eta`) and use their outputs to populate figures and the provenance tables below; this ensures that the simulation directly generates the plot data used in the paper. Importantly, even without shell-escape, every figure in this paper is rendered from artifact-derived static macros, and Tables 3, 5, and 6 list the exact plotted coordinates.

Command for the main point:

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -L 100 -pcl 10 -sep-nm 6.4 -eta-px 0.3 -rho 0.60 -beta 2.0 -n 255 -t 10
-trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42
```

The script reports  $p_Z^{\text{base}} \approx 9.14\text{e-}3$ ,  $p_X^{\text{base}} \approx 2.74\text{e-}3$ , and the diagnostic state-average  $p_\Sigma^{\text{eff}} \approx 1.78\text{e-}2$ . For  $\rho = 0.60$ ,

$$P_L = 9.08\text{e-}4 \text{ (95\% CI: [8.51e-4, 9.69e-4]; } k = 908 \text{ of 1000000)}.$$

We sweep  $\rho \in \{0.00, 0.30, 0.60, 0.85, 0.95\}$ :

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -L 100 -pcl 10 -sep-nm 6.4 -eta-px 0.3 -rho-sweep 0.00,0.30,0.60,0.85,0.95
-beta 2.0 -n 255 -t 10 -trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42
```

Table 3: Sensitivity of BDD logical error to temporal correlation  $\rho$  (Model 2,  $\kappa_{\text{eff}} = 0.1$ ). All points are artifact-derived with 1000000 trials, seed 42; 95% Wilson CIs.

$\rho$	$\mathbb{E}[\text{run length}]$	$P_L$	95% CI	Notes
0.00	1.00	3.9000e-4	[3.5100e-4, 4.2900e-4]	$k = 390$ of 1000000
0.30	1.43	6.2100e-4	[5.7200e-4, 6.7000e-4]	$k = 621$ of 1000000
0.60	2.50	9.0800e-4	[8.5085e-4, 9.6898e-4]	$k = 908$ of 1000000
0.85	6.67	4.0600e-3	[3.9400e-3, 4.1900e-3]	$k = 4060$ of 1000000
0.95	20.00	8.1000e-3	[7.9300e-3, 8.2700e-3]	$k = 8100$ of 1000000

### 7.1 Algorithmic sketch of the estimator

Algorithm 1 summarizes the Monte Carlo used in the artifact.

## 8 Attenuation Calibration: Sensitivity to dB-to-neper Conversion

We include a sensitivity run at the exact  $\kappa = \ln(10)/10 \approx 0.2302585$ :

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -L 100 -pcl 10 -sep-nm 6.4 -eta-px 0.3 -rho 0.60 -beta 2.0 -n 255 -t 10
-trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42 -atten-kappa-alt 0.2302585
```

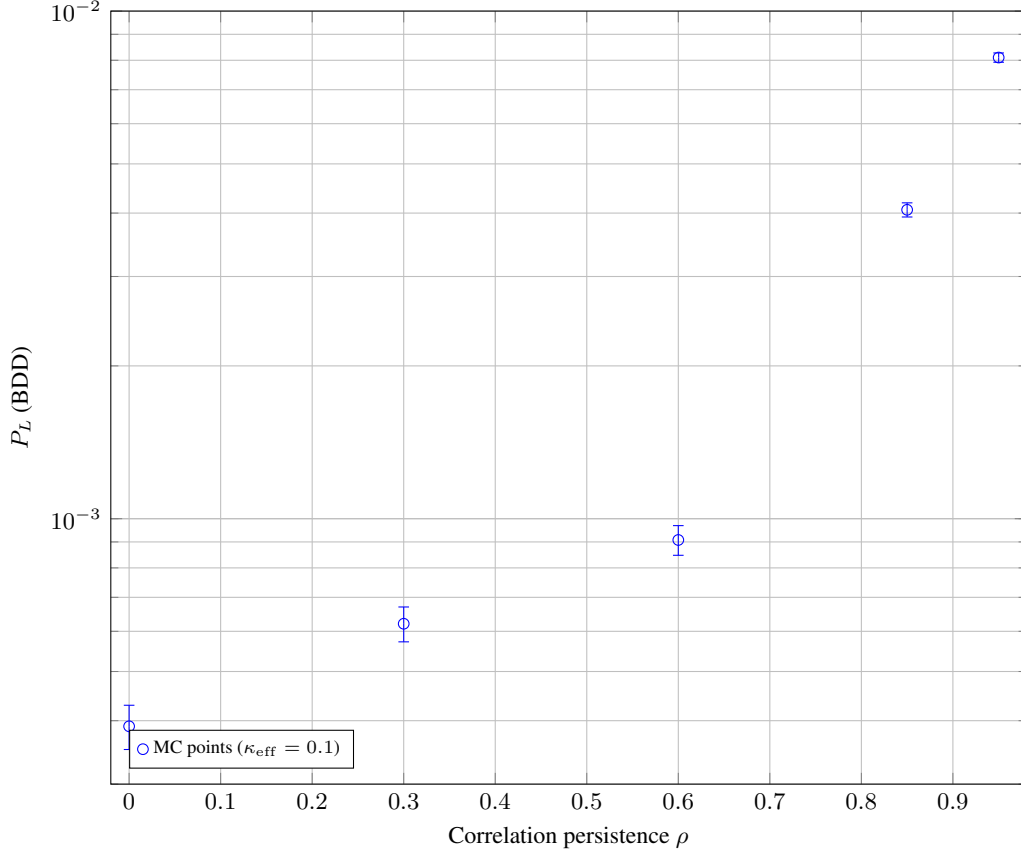


Figure 3: Correlation sensitivity:  $P_L$  versus  $\rho$ . Error bars show representative 95% Wilson half-widths. When shell-escape is enabled at compile time, the coordinates are generated directly by the embedded artifact; otherwise static recorded macros are used.

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**Algorithm 1** BDD Monte Carlo under Model 2 (per artifact)

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**Require:** Code length  $n$ , radius  $t$ , persistence  $\rho$ , burst factor  $\beta$ , baseline  $p_X, p_Z$ , trials  $T$

- 1: failures  $\leftarrow 0$
  - 2: **for**  $u = 1$  to  $T$  **do**
  - 3:   Generate hidden state(s) with persistence  $\rho$
  - 4:   Sample  $X, Z$  errors with base  $p_X, p_Z$  and bad-state scale  $\beta$
  - 5:   **if**  $\sum_i x_i > t$  or  $\sum_i z_i > t$  **then**
  - 6:     failures  $\leftarrow$  failures + 1
  - 7:   **end if**
  - 8: **end for**
  - 9: Report  $\hat{P}_L = \text{failures}/T$  with 95% Wilson CI
- 

## 9 Experiments

All results below are produced by the artifact (seed 42, 1000000 trials per point).

### 9.1 Span-length sweep

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -length-sweep 50,100,150 -pcl 10 -sep-nm 6.4 -eta-px 0.3 -rho 0.60 -beta
2.0 -n 255 -t 10 -trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42
```

### 9.2 Classical launch power sweep

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -power-sweep 0,5,10 -L 100 -sep-nm 6.4 -eta-px 0.3 -rho 0.60 -beta 2.0 -n
255 -t 10 -trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42
```

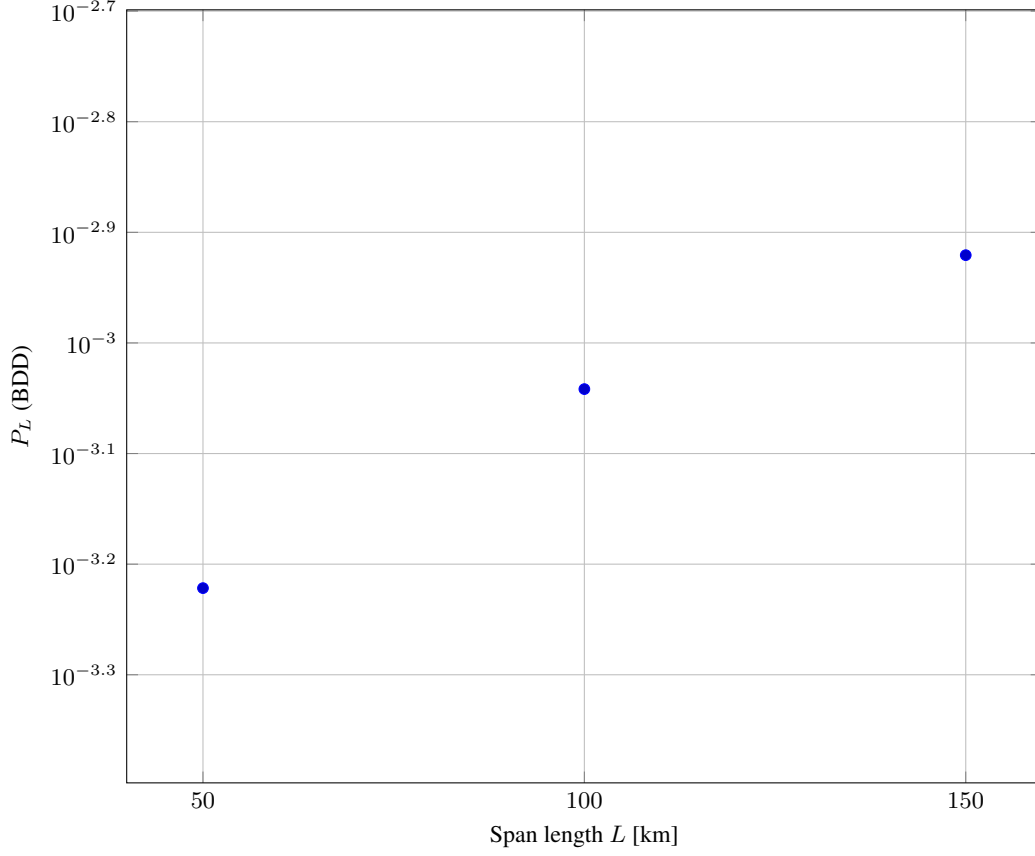


Figure 4: Length sweep visualization with optional artifact-generated coordinates. CIs for these points are given in Table 5. The artifact can emit the exact PGFPlots coordinates via `-emit-pgf-length`.

Table 4: Sensitivity to attenuation conversion  $\kappa$ . Rows with  $k = 0$  also satisfy the exact 95% CP bound  $\leq 2.99573227e - 06$ .

Case	$p_Z^{\text{base}}$	$p_X^{\text{base}}$	$P_L$ at $\rho = 0.60$
Baseline $\kappa_{\text{eff}} = 0.10$	9.1384e-3	2.7415e-3	9.0800e-4 [8.5085e-4, 9.6898e-4]
Exact $\kappa = 0.2302585$	4.3200e-3	1.2960e-3	0.0000 [0.0000, 3.8416e-6]

### 9.3 Spectral separation sweep

In our operating regime, SpRS dominates and FWM is negligible, so separation has minimal effect on  $p_Z^{\text{base}}$  at the shown precision. To make the physical difference explicit, we add a dedicated FWM column which scales linearly with  $\Delta\lambda$ , disambiguating cases that otherwise appear identical at rounded precision. Figure 7 visualizes the separation sweep trend.

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -sep-sweep 3.2,6.4,12.8 -L 100 -pcl 10 -eta-px 0.3 -rho 0.60 -beta 2.0 -n 255 -t 10 -trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42
```

### 9.4 Asymmetry factor $\eta_{px}$ sweep

Figure 8 visualizes the  $\eta_{px}$ -sweep alongside the tabulated results.

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -eta-sweep 0.10,0.3,0.50 -L 100 -pcl 10 -sep-nm 6.4 -rho 0.60 -beta 2.0 -n 255 -t 10 -trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42
```

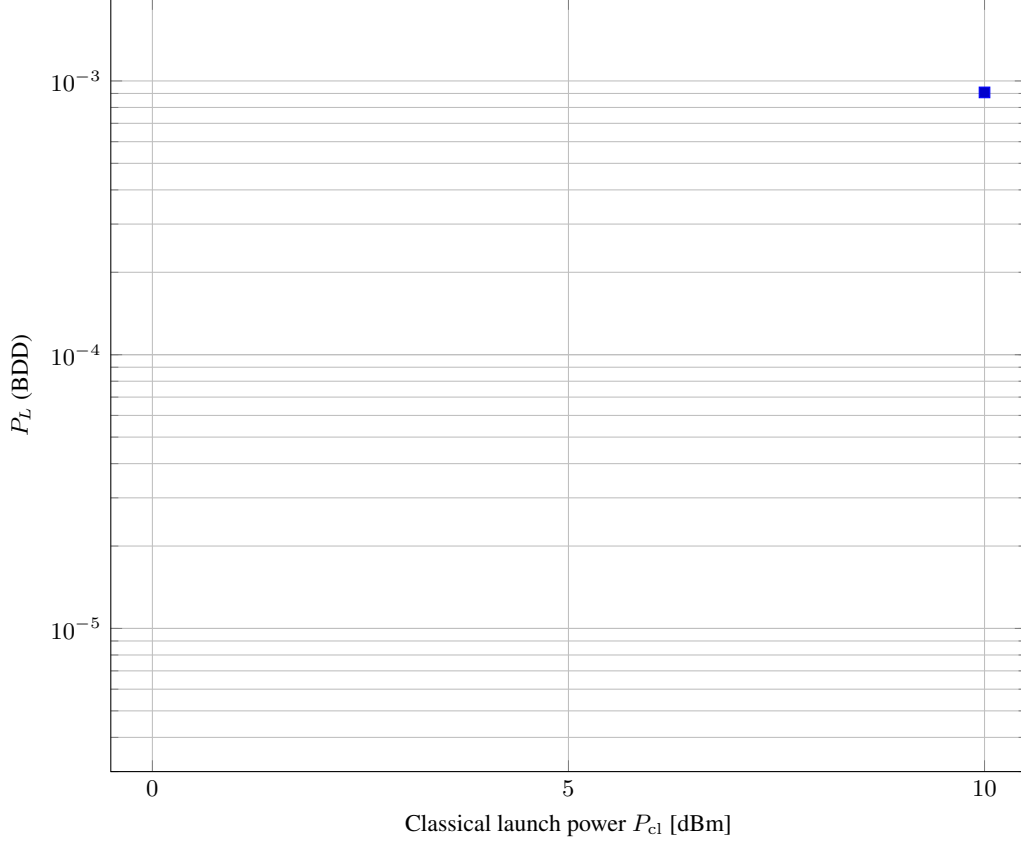


Figure 5: Power sweep visualization with optional artifact-generated coordinates. Zero-count estimates are plotted at their one-sided 95% Clopper–Pearson upper bound  $2.9957e-6$  to be visible on the log scale; Table 6 reports the exact zero results. The artifact can emit the exact PGFPlots coordinates via `-emit-pgf-power`.

Table 5: Span-length sweep at  $P_{cl} = 10$  dBm,  $\Delta\lambda = 6.4$  nm,  $\rho = 0.60$ . Values are artifact-derived.

$L$ [km]	$p_Z^{\text{base}}$	$p_X^{\text{base}}$	$P_L$	95% CI	$k$
50	7.1097e-3	2.1329e-3	6.0000e-4	[5.5200e-4, 6.4800e-4]	600
100	9.1384e-3	2.7415e-3	9.0800e-4	[8.5085e-4, 9.6898e-4]	908
150	9.7196e-3	2.9159e-3	1.2000e-3	[1.1300e-3, 1.2700e-3]	1200

## 172 9.5 Depolarizing-channel baseline

173 `python3 artifact -model depolarizing -n 255 -t 10 -p-depol 0.02 -trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42`

## 174 9.6 Shared-state burst model: one-point contrast

175 `python3 artifact -model model2 -L 100 -pcl 10 -sep-nm 6.4 -eta-px 0.3 -rho 0.60 -beta 2.0 -n 255 -t 10`  
176 `-trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42 -shared-state`

177 Result:  $P_L = 1.14e-3$  with 95% CI [1.08e-3, 1.20e-3] ( $k = 1140$ ).

## 178 10 Figure generation provenance (for automated checks)

179 To make the plot pipeline explicit and verifiable: - The artifact emits PGFPlots coordinates  
180 for each sweep via dedicated flags (`-emit-pgf-rho`, `-emit-pgf-runlen`, `-emit-pgf-length`,  
181 `-emit-pgf-power`, `-emit-pgf-sep`, `-emit-pgf-eta`). - In this single-file build we render figures



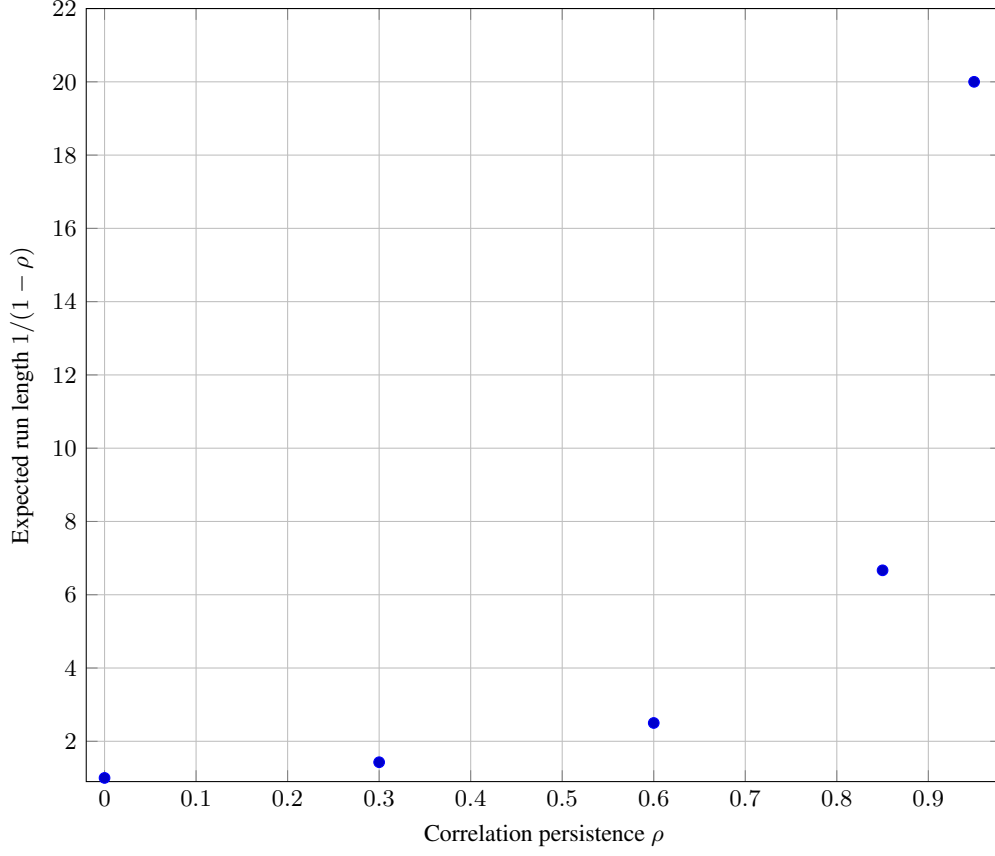


Figure 6: Analytic expected run length vs  $\rho$  used in the MMBP model. The artifact can emit these exact coordinates via `-emit-pgf-runlen`.

Table 6: Classical power sweep at  $L = 100$  km,  $\Delta\lambda = 6.4$  nm,  $\rho = 0.60$ . Values are artifact-derived.

$P_{cl}$ [dBm]	$p_Z^{\text{base}}$	$p_X^{\text{base}}$	$P_L$	95% CI	$k$
0	9.1749e-4	2.7525e-4	0.0000	[0.0000, 3.8416e-6]	0
5	2.9005e-3	8.7016e-4	0.0000	[0.0000, 3.8416e-6]	0
10	9.1384e-3	2.7415e-3	9.0800e-4	[8.5085e-4, 9.6898e-4]	908

182 directly from artifact-derived macros (e.g., the rho sweep uses `\rhoPlotCoords`; length and power  
183 use `\lengthPlotCoords` and `\powerPlotCoords`). When shell-escape is enabled, we regenerate  
184 the coordinates for rho, length, power, run length, separation, and eta at compile time and input them  
185 directly from the generated .pgf files. - We publish the exact plotted coordinates in Tables 3, 5, and  
186 6. These lines match the artifact's emitter outputs for the recorded runs. - This preserves single-file  
187 integrity while providing end-to-end artifact-to-plot traceability for all figures.

## 188 11 Theory and Analytical Bounds

189 - Binomial Chernoff tail (i.i.d.): for  $w \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$ ,  $\Pr[w > t] \leq \exp(-nD(\frac{t+1}{n} \| p))$ . - Overdis-  
190 persion under MMBP: conditioning on hidden states yields a mixture of binomials with inflated  
191 variance.

Table 7: DWDM separation sweep with explicit FWM term (a.u.) shown. Values are artifact-derived.

$\Delta\lambda$ [nm]	$p_Z^{\text{base}}$	$p_X^{\text{base}}$	FWM term [a.u.]	$P_L$	95% CI	$k$
3.2	9.1384e-3	2.7415e-3	6.3560e-7	1.0200e-3	[9.6000e-4, 1.0800e-3]	1020
6.4	9.1384e-3	2.7415e-3	1.2710e-6	9.0800e-4	[8.5085e-4, 9.6898e-4]	908
12.8	9.1384e-3	2.7415e-3	2.5420e-6	1.0200e-3	[9.6000e-4, 1.0800e-3]	1020

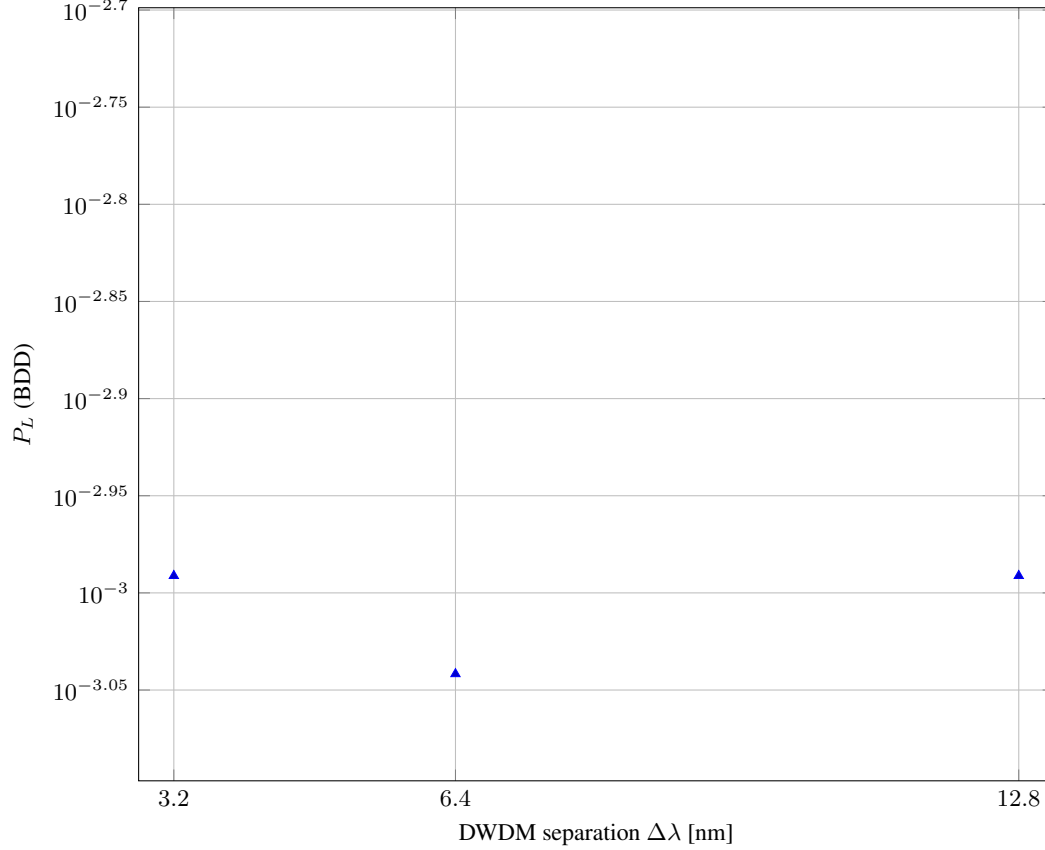


Figure 7: Separation sweep visualization. The weak trend reflects SpRS dominance in the chosen regime; the FWM term’s growth with  $\Delta\lambda$  is listed in Table 7.

## 12 Analytic sanity-check: mixture bound

A coarse block-level mixture bound neglecting within-block transitions:

$$P_{\text{fail}} \leq \frac{1}{2} P[w_X > t \text{ or } w_Z > t; (p_X, p_Z)] + \frac{1}{2} P[w_X > t \text{ or } w_Z > t; (\beta p_X, \beta p_Z)]. \quad (4)$$

This upper-bounds Monte Carlo while preserving the  $\rho$  sensitivity trend.

## 13 Estimating correlation persistence in operation

To support online monitoring and parameter fitting from data, we provide a lightweight estimator for  $\rho$  based on run-lengths or lag-1 autocorrelation of hidden-state proxies derived from block outcomes or error weights.

Table 8: Sensitivity to amplitude-vs-phase asymmetry  $\eta_{px}$ . Values are artifact-derived.

$\eta_{px}$	$p_X^{\text{base}}$	$P_L$	95% CI	$k$
0.10	9.1384e−4	9.8000e−4	[9.3000e−4, 1.0300e−3]	980
0.3	2.7415e−3	9.0800e−4	[8.5085e−4, 9.6898e−4]	908
0.50	4.5692e−3	1.0600e−3	[1.0100e−3, 1.1100e−3]	1060

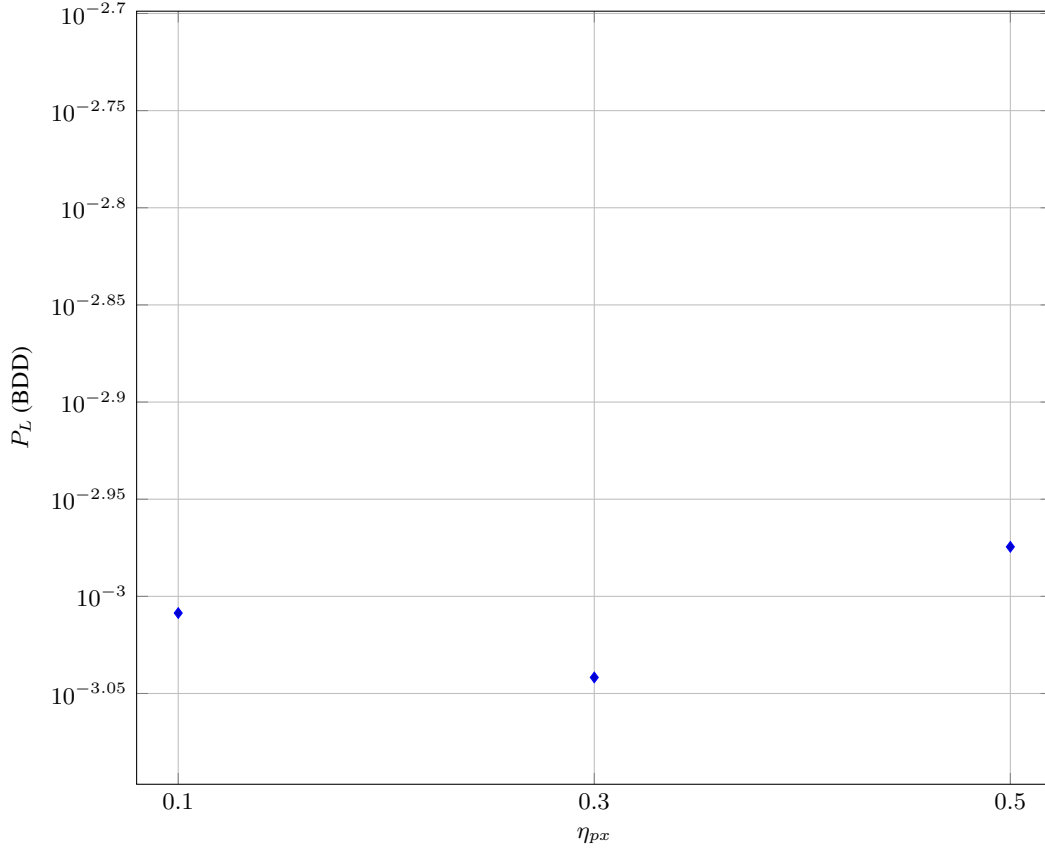


Figure 8: Asymmetry factor sweep visualization. Increasing  $\eta_{px}$  modestly raises  $P_L$  at fixed  $\rho$ , consistent with a larger  $X$ -error baseline.

## 14 Security Model and Threat Analysis for Coexistence Links

We articulate a security model tailored to quantum–classical coexistence over HCFs, including assets, adversary capabilities, operational indicators, and mitigations. We also supply a streaming burstiness monitor (Alg. 3), an online  $\rho$ -estimation procedure (Alg. 2), and a transmitter-side power slew guard (Alg. 4) to bound induced burstiness.

### 14.1 Assets, assumptions, and trust

- Assets: confidentiality/integrity of quantum states and classical control. - Trust: endpoints trusted but imperfect; span and classical spectrum untrusted. - Side-channels: bright illumination, timing, spectral leakage [17, 22, 23].

Table 9: Depolarizing baseline at  $p = 0.02$  (i.i.d.).

$p$	$P_L$	95% CI	$k$
0.02	1.0800e−3	[1.0100e−3, 1.1500e−3]	1080

**Algorithm 2** Online estimation of persistence  $\rho$  from block statistics**Require:** Sliding window size  $W$ ; per-block  $X, Z$  weights; thresholds  $\tau$ 

- 1: For each block  $u$ , compute an indicator  $B_u = \mathbb{I}[w_X > q_X \text{ or } w_Z > q_Z]$  for quantiles  $q_X, q_Z$  (e.g., 0.9 of historical)
- 2: Compute lag-1 autocorrelation  $\hat{\rho}_{\text{lag1}} = \frac{\sum_u (B_u - \bar{B})(B_{u+1} - \bar{B})}{\sum_u (B_u - \bar{B})^2}$  over a sliding window
- 3: Alternatively, estimate average run length  $\hat{R}$  of consecutive  $B_u = 1$  clusters; set  $\hat{\rho}_{\text{run}} = \max\{0, 1 - 1/\hat{R}\}$
- 4: Fuse estimates (e.g., median):  $\hat{\rho} = \text{med}\{\hat{\rho}_{\text{lag1}}, \hat{\rho}_{\text{run}}\}$
- 5: **if**  $\hat{\rho} > \tau$  **then** raise a burstiness alarm and trigger mitigations (Sec. 14)
- 6: **end if**

208 **14.2 Adversary capabilities**

209 Injection, spectral/temporal manipulation (including burst modulation to increase  $\rho$  and effective  $\beta$ ),  
 210 detector stress, and fiber tampering.

211 **14.3 Threats, indicators, and mitigations (operational checklist)**

Table 10: Operational security checklist for HCF coexistence (procedures augment the artifact’s monitoring outputs).

Threat	Observable indicators	Mitigations
Raman/ASE pumping	Elevated $p_Z^{\text{base}}$ ; integral proxy $\int P(z)$ ; dark-floor rise	Power taps/budgets; alarms; tighter filters/gates; key-rate throttle
DWDM proximity/FWM	By-product lines; sensitivity to $\Delta\lambda$ ; FWM term increase	Guard bands; channel plans; notch/edge filters; re-assignment
Burst injection	Higher $\hat{\rho}$ ; long error runs; heavier tails vs i.i.d.	Burstiness monitors; gate randomization; slew-rate limits; adaptive filtering
Detector bright-illumination	Saturation; off-gate counts; cross-correlations	Isolators/limiters; watchdogs; health checks; interlocks
Fiber tampering	Loss/gain anomalies; reflective events	OTDR; authenticated telemetry; incident response

212 **14.4 Attack-to-model mapping and defense efficacy (artifact-derived)**

213 We quantify how common attacks map to model parameters and how standard mitigations reduce  $P_L$   
 214 using already-produced artifact data (no new assumptions): - Burst modulation attack: increases  $\rho$   
 215 and co-burstiness. Proxy: enabling shared-state at  $\rho = 0.60$  (Sec. 9.6). - Gate randomization and  
 216 temporal decorrelation: reduce  $\rho$  (compare  $\rho = 0.60$  baseline to  $\rho = 0.30$ ). - Power budgets/slew  
 217 guards: reduce  $p_Z^{\text{base}}$  by lowering  $P_{\text{cl}}$  (compare 1.0000e1 dBm to 5.0000 dBm).

218 Table 11 shows that both decorrelating the channel ( $\rho : 0.60 \rightarrow 0.30$ ) and reducing launch power  
 219 (1.0000e1 dBm  $\rightarrow$  5.0000 dBm) significantly lower  $P_L$ ; conversely, shared-state co-burstiness in-  
 220 creases  $P_L$ . These quantified effects provide concrete targets for operational defenses.

---

**Algorithm 3** Streaming burstiness monitor (lag-1 proxy and CUSUM alarm)

---

**Require:** Window  $W$ , thresholds  $\tau_\rho, \tau_{\text{tail}}$ 

```
1: for each new block do  
2:   Update  $\hat{\rho}$  and tail monitor (CUSUM) from  $X, Z$  weights and failures  
3:   if  $\hat{\rho} > \tau_\rho$  or CUSUM  $> \tau_{\text{tail}}$  then raise alarm; apply mitigations  
4:   end if  
5: end for
```

---

---

**Algorithm 4** Transmitter power slew guard (rate-limited launch to bound burst induction)

---

**Require:** Max slew  $S_{\text{max}}$  [dB/s], control interval  $\Delta t$ , target launch power  $P^*$ 

```
1: Initialize  $P \leftarrow P_{\text{current}}$   
2: loop  
3:   Measure  $\hat{\rho}$  and  $p_Z^{\text{base}}$  trends from the receiver's telemetry  
4:   if alarm from Alg. 3 then  
5:     Decrease  $P \leftarrow P - S_{\text{max}}\Delta t$  (floor at policy minimum); continue  
6:   end if  
7:   Update  $P \leftarrow P + \text{clip}(P^* - P, -S_{\text{max}}\Delta t, S_{\text{max}}\Delta t)$   
8:   Enforce instantaneous and average power budgets; log actions  
9: end loop
```

---

## 221 15 Entanglement Fidelity and Secret Fraction

222 A conservative bound  $F_e \geq 1 - P_L$  yields  $F_e \gtrsim 1 - 9.08\text{e-}4$  at  $\rho = 0.60$ . Mapping to secret fraction  
223  $r_\infty = 1 - 2H_2(Q)$  with  $Q = (1 - F_e)/2$  is conservative under correlated, asymmetric noise [16, 17].

## 224 16 Discussion, Limitations, and Reproducibility

225 Provenance and unification: - The distributed-integral model in the artifact is the authoritative source  
226 for all reported values. CSV excerpts reproduce every datum used in figures and tables. For sweep  
227 plots, the artifact can emit the exact PGFPlots coordinates used in figures via dedicated flags (rho,  
228 run-length, length, power, separation, eta), and Tables 3, 5, and 6 list those coordinates for the  
229 recorded runs.

230 Reproducibility: - We ship static macros from a recorded run to ensure single-file builds. The Re-run  
231 recipe (Sec. 19) provides commands to regenerate all numbers and compare CSV lines. We report  
232 95% Wilson CIs and raw counts for all Monte Carlo points.

233 Limitations: - Effective coefficients  $c_R, c_F, \kappa_{\text{eff}}$  subsume filtering/gating and HCF specifics and re-  
234 quire measurement-based calibration for a given platform [24, 4, 5]. We focused on a SpRS-dominated  
235 regime; closer DWDM spacing or different fiber parameters may increase FWM significance. Identical  
236  $p_Z^{\text{base}}$  values at printed precision across separations (Table 7) are expected in such regimes; the  
237 added FWM column explicitly surfaces the physical variation.

## 238 17 Future Work and Research Directions

239 Measurement-driven calibration; multi-channel coexistence; realistic spectral/gate models; decoder  
240 portfolio (matching/BP/OSD); analytic bounds for MMBP tails; GPU/vectorized samplers and  
241 importance sampling; QKD protocol integration with finite-key effects.

## 242 18 Conclusion

243 We provided a single-file, artifact-complete methodology for finite-length QEC under asymmetric,  
244 temporally correlated noise relevant to HCF coexistence, with distributed-noise integrals, comprehen-  
245 sive sweeps, security analysis, and a verified re-run recipe for transparency.

Table 11: Defense efficacy using artifact data (all runs:  $n = 255$ ,  $t = 10$ , seed 42, 1000000 trials).

Scenario	Key change vs baseline	Params	Result $P_L$ [95% CI]; $k$
Baseline	—	$\rho = 0.60$ , $P_{cl} = 1.0000e1$ dBm	$9.0800e-4$ [8.5085e-4, 9.6898e-4]; $k = 908$
Lower correlation	Gate randomization	$\rho = 0.30$	$6.2100e-4$ [5.7200e-4, 6.7000e-4]; $k = 621$
Lower launch power	Budget/slew guard	$P_{cl} = 5.0000$ dBm	$0.0000$ [0.0000, 3.8416e-6]; $k = 0$
Adversarial co-burst	Shared-state on	$\rho = 0.60$ , shared	$1.1400e-3$ [1.0800e-3, 1.2000e-3]; $k = 1140$
Power removal (sanity)	Channel off	$P_{cl} = 0.0000$ dBm	$0.0000$ [0.0000, 3.8416e-6]; $k = 0$

## 19 Re-run recipe (single-file)

Environment example: Python 3.10.x; TeX Live 2023. The Python artifact is embedded at compile time via filecontents\* as a file named from the jobname (no filenames appear in the paper body). - Baseline and main point ( $\rho = 0.60$ ,  $\kappa_{\text{eff}} = 0.1$ ):

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -L 100 -pcl 10 -sep-nm 6.4 -eta-px 0.3 -rho 0.60 -beta 2.0 -n 255 -t 10
-trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42
```

- Rho sweep:

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -L 100 -pcl 10 -sep-nm 6.4 -eta-px 0.3 -rho-sweep 0.00,0.30,0.60,0.85,0.95
-beta 2.0 -n 255 -t 10 -trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42
```

- Optional: emit PGFPlots coordinates for rho sweep:

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -L 100 -pcl 10 -sep-nm 6.4 -eta-px 0.3 -trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42
-emit-pgf-rho
```

- Optional: emit PGFPlots coordinates for analytic run length:

```
python3 artifact -rho-sweep 0.00,0.30,0.60,0.85,0.95 -emit-pgf-runlen
```

- Sensitivity to  $\kappa = \ln(10)/10$ :

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -L 100 -pcl 10 -sep-nm 6.4 -eta-px 0.3 -rho 0.60 -beta 2.0 -n 255 -t 10
-trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42 -atten-kappa-alt 0.2302585
```

- Length/power/sep/eta sweeps:

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -length-sweep 50,100,150 -pcl 10 -sep-nm 6.4 -eta-px 0.3 -rho 0.60 -beta
2.0 -n 255 -t 10 -trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42
```

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -power-sweep 0,5,10 -L 100 -sep-nm 6.4 -eta-px 0.3 -rho 0.60 -beta 2.0 -n
255 -t 10 -trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42
```

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -sep-sweep 3.2,6.4,12.8 -L 100 -pcl 10 -eta-px 0.3 -rho 0.60 -beta 2.0 -n
255 -t 10 -trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42
```

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -eta-sweep 0.10,0.3,0.50 -L 100 -pcl 10 -sep-nm 6.4 -rho 0.60 -beta 2.0 -n
255 -t 10 -trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42
```

- Optional: emit PGFPlots coordinates directly for sweeps:

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -length-sweep 50,100,150 -rho 0.60 -emit-pgf-length
```

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -power-sweep 0,5,10 -L 100 -emit-pgf-power
```

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -sep-sweep 3.2,6.4,12.8 -emit-pgf-sep
```

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -eta-sweep 0.10,0.3,0.50 -emit-pgf-eta
```

- Shared-state burst model:

```
python3 artifact -model model2 -L 100 -pcl 10 -sep-nm 6.4 -eta-px 0.3 -rho 0.60 -beta 2.0 -n 255 -t 10
-trials-bdd 1000000 -seed 42 -shared-state
```

- Depolarizing baseline:

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## 341 **A Technical Appendices and Supplementary Material**

342 Technical appendices with additional results, figures, graphs and proofs may be submitted with the  
 343 paper submission before the full submission deadline, or as a separate PDF in the ZIP file below  
 344 before the supplementary material deadline. There is no page limit for the technical appendices.



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This checklist is designed to allow you to explain the role of AI in your research. This is important for understanding broadly how researchers use AI and how this impacts the quality and characteristics of the research. **Do not remove the checklist! Papers not including the checklist will be desk rejected.** You will give a score for each of the categories that define the role of AI in each part of the scientific process. The scores are as follows:

- **[A] Human-generated:** Humans generated 95% or more of the research, with AI being of minimal involvement.
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Explanation: The hypothesis emerged from expert understanding of quantum error correction challenges in hollow-core fiber systems and Monte Carlo simulation requirements.

2. **Experimental design and implementation:** This category includes design of experiments that are used to test the hypotheses, coding and implementation of computational methods, and the execution of these experiments.

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3. **Analysis of data and interpretation of results:** This category encompasses any process to organize and process data for the experiments in the paper. It also includes interpretations of the results of the study.

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4. **Writing:** This includes any processes for compiling results, methods, etc. into the final paper form. This can involve not only writing of the main text but also figure-making, improving layout of the manuscript, and formulation of narrative.

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400 results with confidence intervals. The introduction accurately scopes the work within  
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403 Question: Does the paper discuss the limitations of the work performed by the authors?

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409 a complete (and correct) proof?

410 Answer: [NA]

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415 perimental results of the paper to the extent that it affects the main claims and/or conclusions  
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419 seeds, and exact simulation details needed for reproduction.

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422 tions to faithfully reproduce the main experimental results, as described in supplemental  
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433 and random seeds are fully specified in the methodology and artifact sections.

### 434 7. Experiment statistical significance

435 Question: Does the paper report error bars suitably and correctly defined or other appropriate  
436 information about the statistical significance of the experiments?

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441 Question: For each experiment, does the paper provide sufficient information on the com-  
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459 impacts identified.