

Experimental security analysis of a four-photon private state

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Bell's inequalities



A: $\theta_a = 45^\circ$

A': $\theta_a = 0^\circ$

B: $\theta_b = 22.5^\circ$

B': $\theta_b = 67.5^\circ$

Clauser-Horne-Shimony-Holt inequality is violated!

$$\langle AB \rangle + \langle A'B \rangle + \langle AB' \rangle - \langle A'B' \rangle = 2\sqrt{2}$$

Quantum cryptography

A. K. Ekert, Phys. Rev. Lett. **67**, 661 (1991)

For each photon pair Alice and Bob select randomly measurement bases...



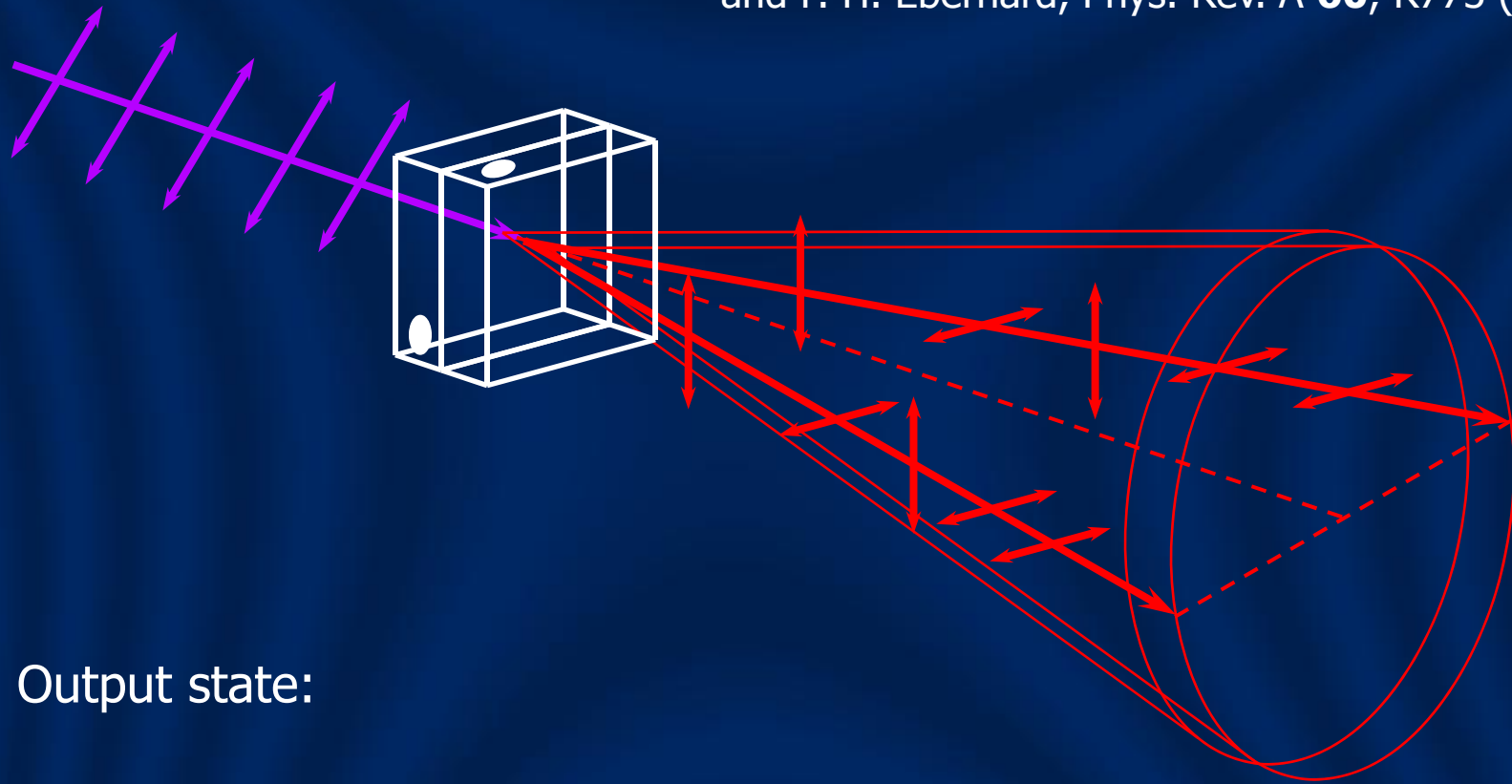
...and compare measurements over a public channel afterwards.

Perfect correlations → one-time pad

Security test

Entangled photon pairs

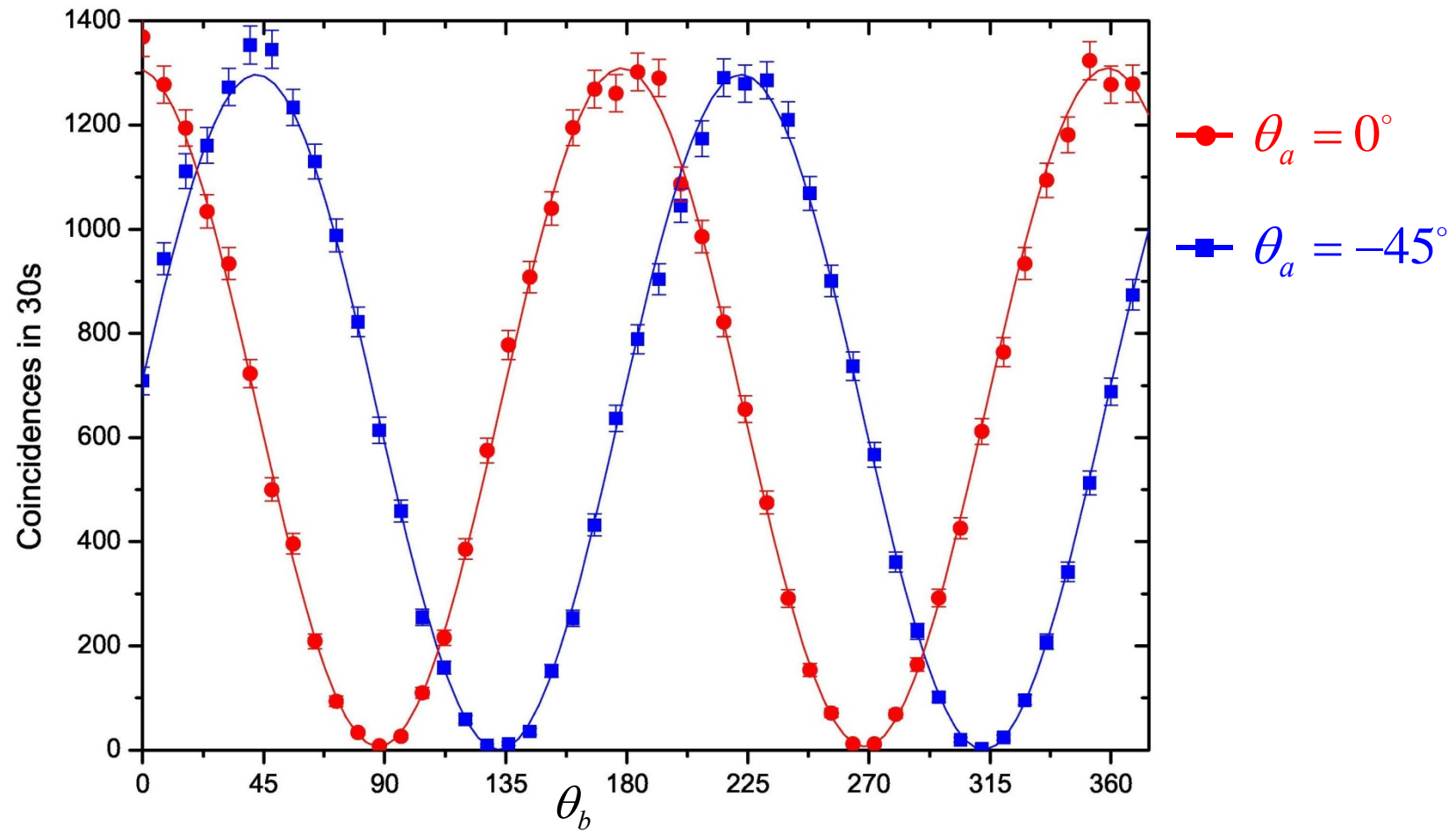
P. G. Kwiat, E. Waks, A. G. White, I. Appelbaum,
and P. H. Eberhard, Phys. Rev. A **60**, R773 (1999)



Output state:

$$|\Phi_+\rangle \propto |\leftrightarrowleftrightarrow\rangle + |\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$$

Correlation measurements

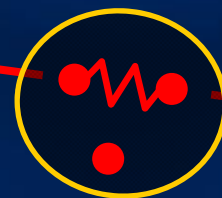


Entanglement monogamy



Alice

$$|\Phi_+\rangle_{AB} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|00\rangle_{AB} + |11\rangle_{AB})$$



Eve



Bob

- Even when the pair has been prepared by Eve...
- ...if Alice and Bob verify that the systems arrived in a maximally entangled pure state...
- ...measurement results will be known *only* to Alice and Bob.

Statistical mixture

Define: $|\Phi_{\pm}\rangle_{AB} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|00\rangle_{AB} \pm |11\rangle_{AB})$

Equally weighted mixture: $\frac{1}{2}|\Phi_{+}\rangle_{AB}\langle\Phi_{+}| + \frac{1}{2}|\Phi_{-}\rangle_{AB}\langle\Phi_{-}|$
 $= \frac{1}{2}(|00\rangle_{AB}\langle 00| + |11\rangle_{AB}\langle 11|)$
 $= \text{Tr}_E(|\Psi\rangle_{ABE}\langle\Psi|)$



Alice

Eve



Bob

$$|\Psi\rangle_{ABE} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|000\rangle_{ABE} + |111\rangle_{ABE})$$

Density matrix

Maximally entangled state

$$|\Phi_+\rangle_{AB}\langle\Phi_+|$$

$$\begin{array}{l} |00\rangle \\ |01\rangle \\ |10\rangle \\ |11\rangle \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \cdot & \cdot & \frac{1}{2} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \frac{1}{2} & \cdot & \cdot & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Statistical mixture

$$\frac{1}{2}\left(|\Phi_+\rangle_{AB}\langle\Phi_+| + |\Phi_-\rangle_{AB}\langle\Phi_-|\right)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Correlations between measurement outcomes in the key basis
- Security tested by the violation of Bell's inequalities
(If trusting quantum theory, could be also tested by measurements in the $(|0\rangle \pm |1\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$ basis.)

Noisy entanglement

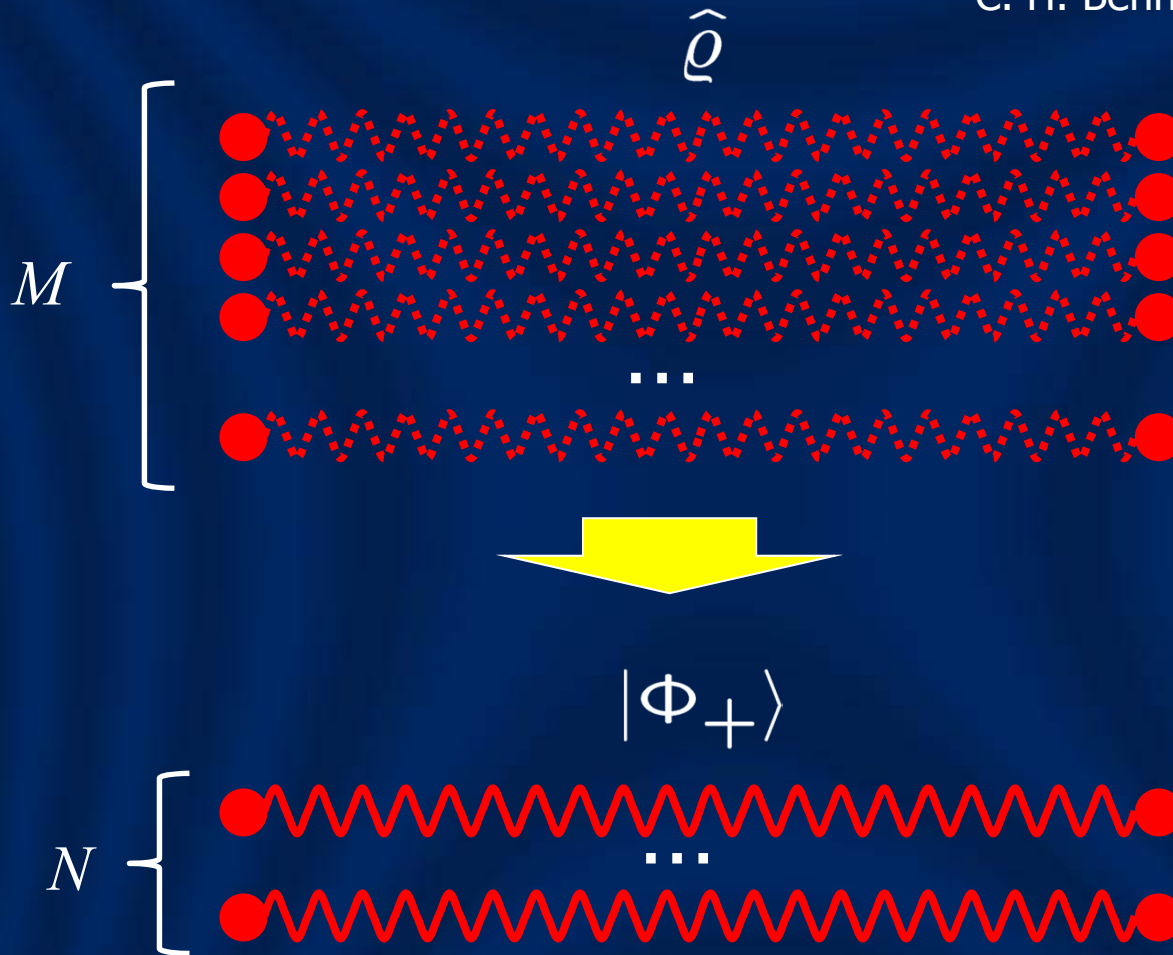
$$\frac{1}{4}|\Phi_+\rangle_{AB}\langle\Phi_+| + \frac{3}{4}|\Phi_-\rangle_{AB}\langle\Phi_-|$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \cdot & \cdot & \frac{1}{4} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \frac{1}{4} & \cdot & \cdot & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

How much secure key can be extracted from a noisy state?

Distillation

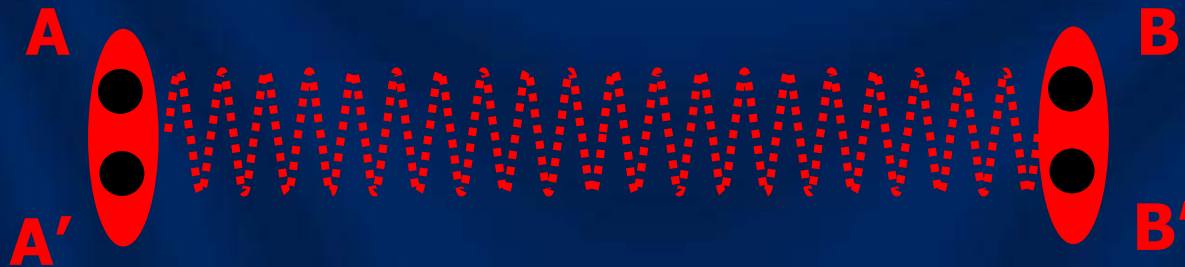
C. H. Bennett *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett.
76, 722 (1996)



Distillable entanglement:
$$E_D(\hat{\rho}) = \lim_{M \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N}{M}$$

Example I

$$|\Phi_{\pm}\rangle_{AB} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|00\rangle_{AB} \pm |11\rangle_{AB})$$



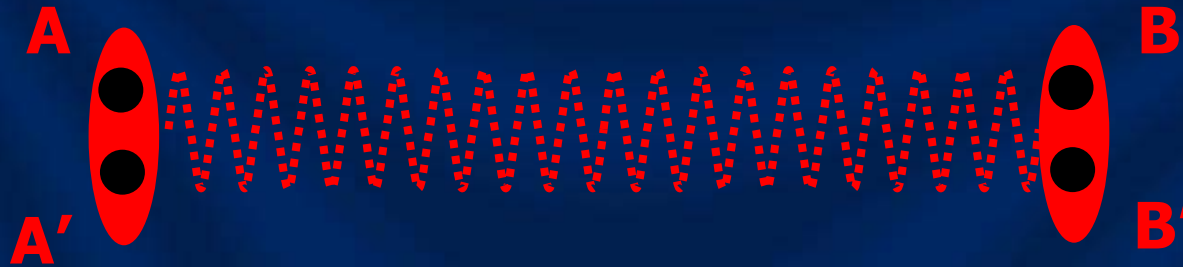
$$\hat{\varrho}_{AA'BB'} = \frac{3}{4}|\Phi_{+}\rangle_{AB}\langle\Phi_{+}| \otimes \hat{\varrho}_{A'B'}^{(+)} + \frac{1}{4}|\Phi_{-}\rangle_{AB}\langle\Phi_{-}| \otimes \hat{\varrho}_{A'B'}^{(-)}$$

Shield states:

$$\hat{\varrho}_{A'B'}^{(+)} = |00\rangle_{A'B'}\langle 00|, \quad \hat{\varrho}_{A'B'}^{(-)} = |11\rangle_{A'B'}\langle 11|$$

enable Alice and Bob to distinguish locally $|\Phi_{\pm}\rangle_{AB}$ and generate the key using the standard strategy. Hence $E_D = 1$

Example II



What if

$$\hat{\rho}_{A'B'}^{(+)} = \frac{1}{3}(\hat{\mathbb{1}} - |\Psi_{-}\rangle_{A'B'}\langle\Psi_{-}|)$$

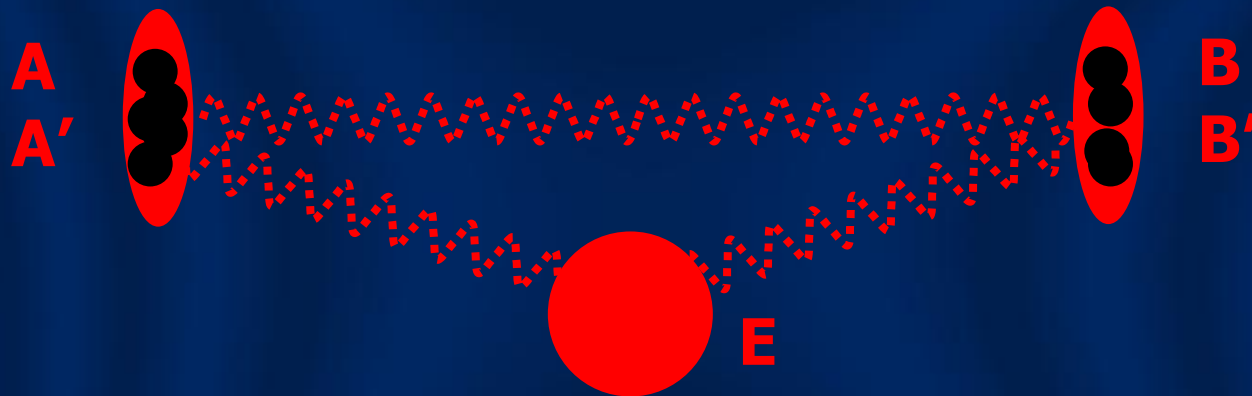
$$\hat{\rho}_{A'B'}^{(-)} = |\Psi_{-}\rangle_{A'B'}\langle\Psi_{-}| \quad |\Psi_{-}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|01\rangle - |10\rangle)$$

- States $\hat{\rho}_{A'B'}^{(+)}$ and $\hat{\rho}_{A'B'}^{(-)}$ cannot be discriminated unambiguously using local operations and classical communication.
- Distillable entanglement bounded by log-negativity:

$$E_D \leq \log_2 3 - 1 \approx 0.585$$

Eavesdropping

K. Horodecki, M. Horodecki, P. Horodecki, and J. Oppenheim,
Phys. Rev. Lett. **94**, 160502 (2005)



The worst case scenario: all the noise is controlled by Eve

$$\hat{\rho}_{AA'BB'} = \text{Tr}_E(|\psi\rangle_{AA'BB'E}\langle\psi|)$$

Alice → Eve channel

Alice measures an outcome a with a probability

$$p_a = \text{Tr}_{A'BB'E} \left({}_A \langle a | \Psi \rangle \langle \Psi | a \rangle_A \right)$$



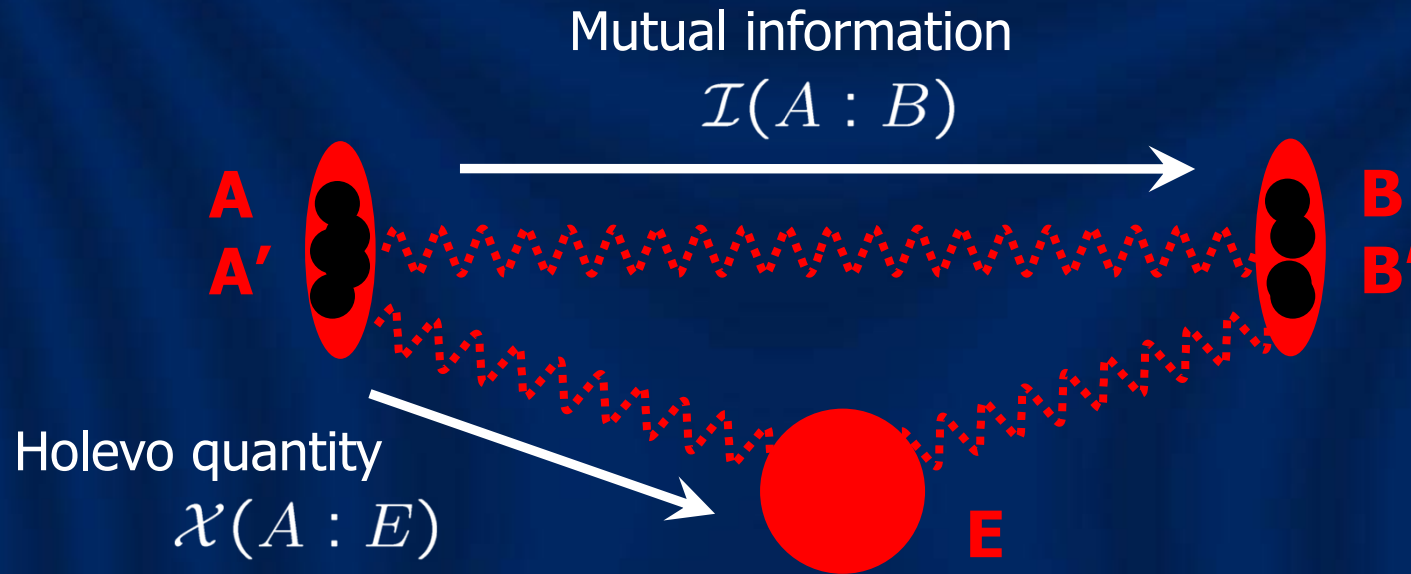
Eve infers a from the conditional state of her subsystem E :

$$\hat{\rho}_E^{(a)} = \frac{1}{p_a} \text{Tr}_{AA'BB'} [|\Psi\rangle \langle \Psi| (|a\rangle_A \langle a| \otimes \hat{I}_{A'BB'})]$$

Holevo quantity:

$$\mathcal{X}(A : E) = S \left(\sum_a p_a \hat{\rho}_E^{(a)} \right) - \sum_a p_a S \left(\hat{\rho}_E^{(a)} \right)$$

Key rate



Key rate $K_D \geq \mathcal{I}(A : B) - \mathcal{X}(A : E)$

For Example II, Eve's subsystem contains no information about outcomes of Alice's measurement on her qubit, hence $K_D = 1$.

Shield

Without the shield:

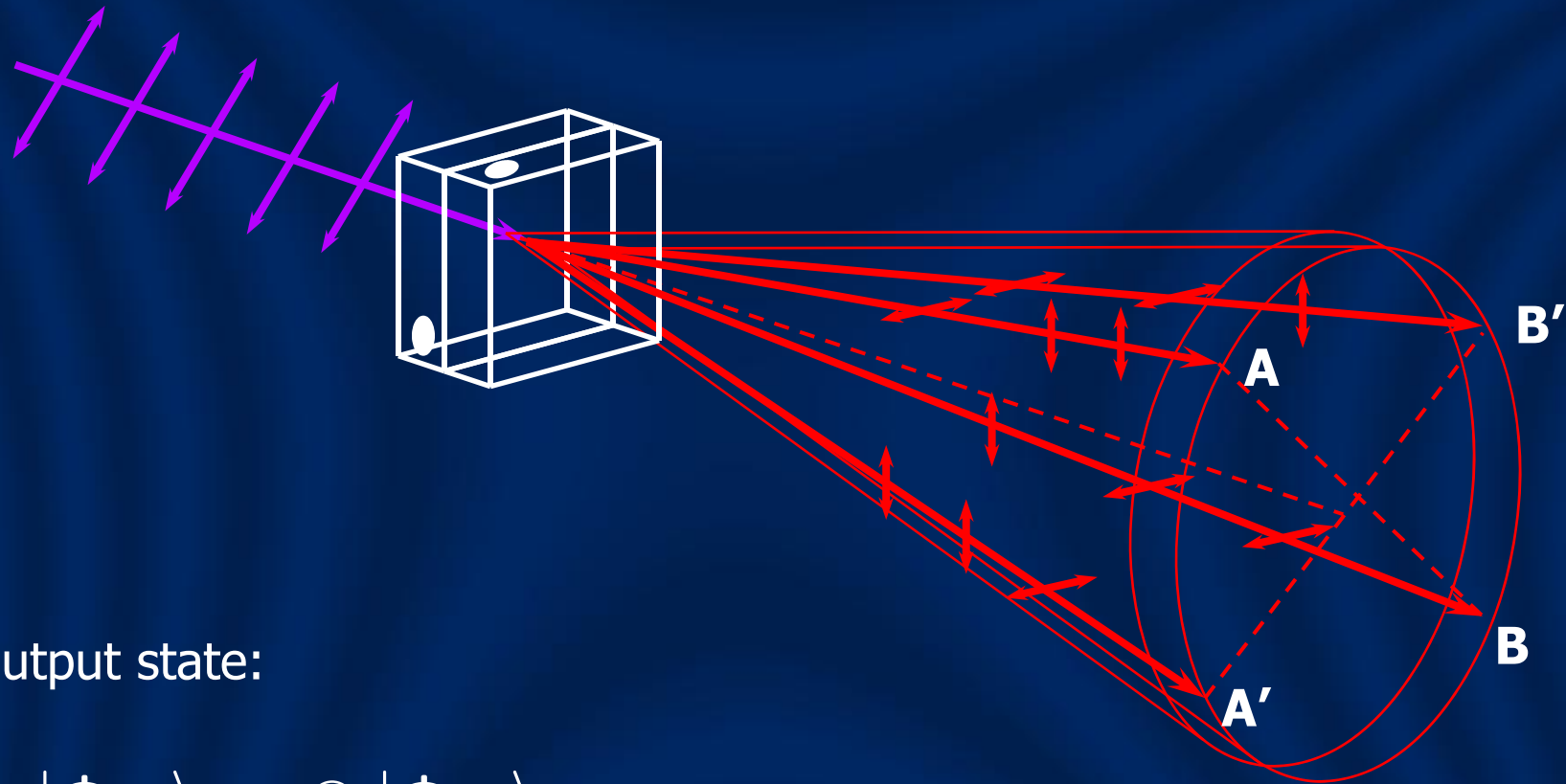
$$\text{Tr}_{A'B'}(\hat{\rho}_{AA'BB'}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \cdot & \cdot & \frac{1}{4} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \frac{1}{4} & \cdot & \cdot & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

■ key ■ security

The complete

$$\hat{\rho}_{AA'BB'} = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} \frac{1}{8} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \frac{1}{8} & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \frac{1}{8} & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \frac{1}{8} \end{array} & & \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} \frac{1}{8} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \frac{1}{8} & \cdot \\ \cdot & \frac{1}{8} & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \frac{1}{8} \end{array} & B \\ \hline \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \hline \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} \frac{1}{8} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \frac{1}{8} & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \frac{1}{8} & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \frac{1}{8} \end{array} & & \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} \frac{1}{8} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \frac{1}{8} & \cdot \\ \cdot & \frac{1}{8} & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \frac{1}{8} \end{array} & B \\ \hline \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \hline \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 10 \\ 11 \end{matrix}$$

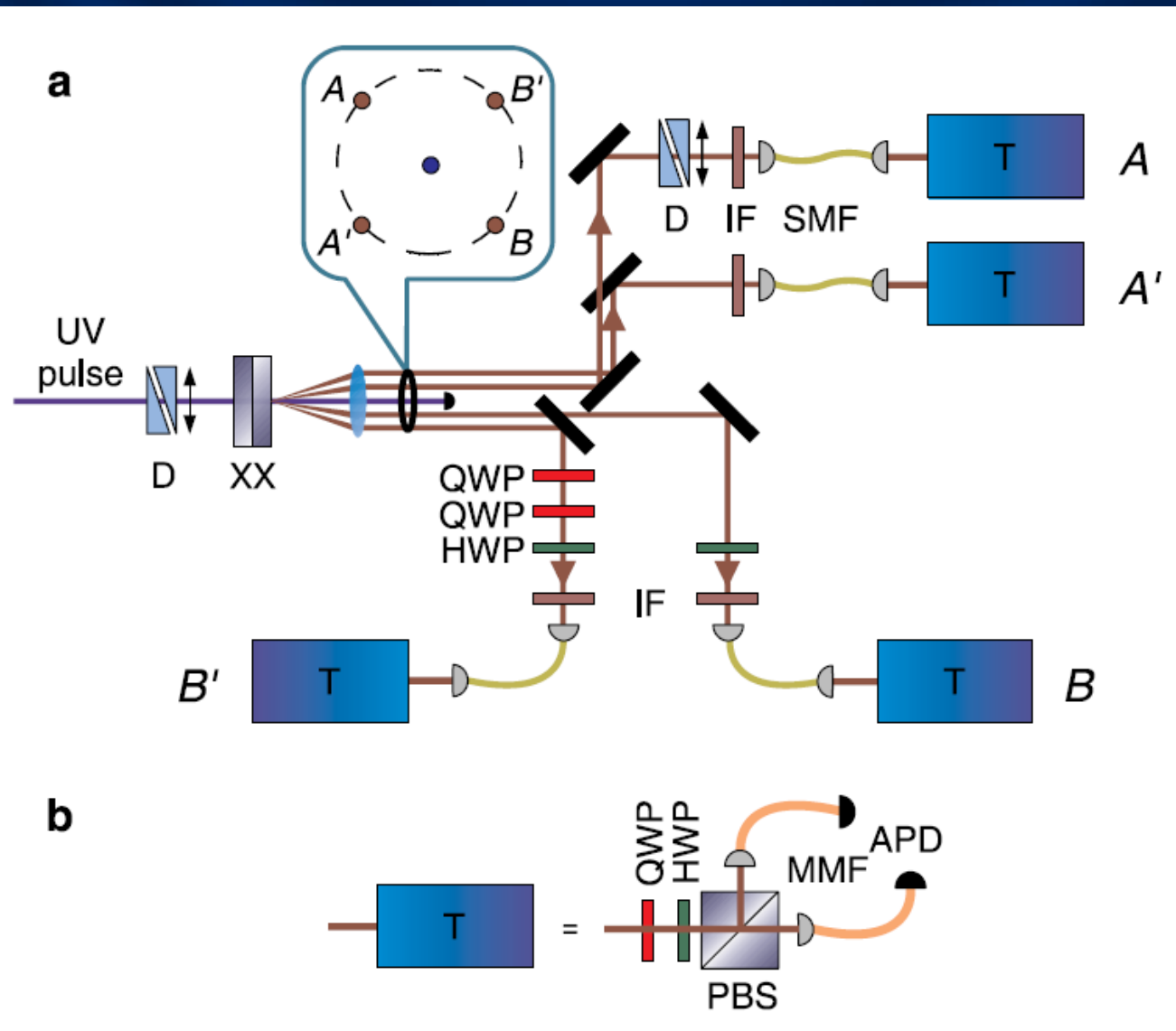
Double photon pairs



Output state:

$$|\Phi_+\rangle_{AB} \otimes |\Phi_+\rangle_{A'B'}$$

Experimental setup



Quantum state tomography

Projective qubit measurements: $\hat{\sigma}_x, \hat{\sigma}_y, \hat{\sigma}_z$

Four-qubit POVM:

$$\hat{M}_i = |\pm_{i_A}\rangle \otimes |\pm_{i_{A'}}\rangle \otimes |\pm_{i_B}\rangle \otimes |\pm_{i_{B'}}\rangle$$

$3^4 = 81$ measurement bases

$3^4 \times 2^4 = 1296$ event types

Probability of an outcome i :

$$p(i|\hat{\rho}) = \text{Tr}(\hat{M}_i \hat{\rho})$$

n_i : number of events i

$$\sum_i n_i \approx 5 \times 10^5$$



Density matrix
estimate $\hat{\rho}$

Maximum likelihood reconstruction

Probability of an outcome i :

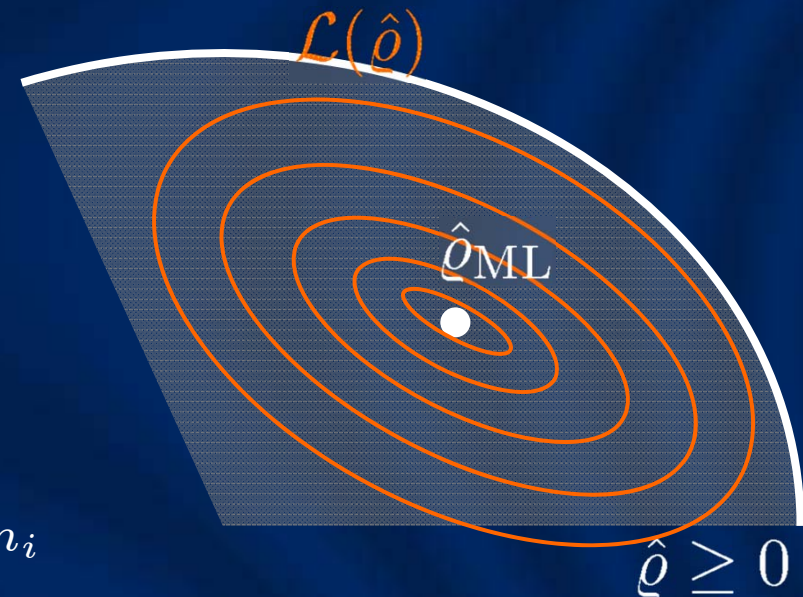
$$p(i|\hat{\varrho}) = \text{Tr}(\hat{M}_i \hat{\varrho})$$

n_i – number of events i

Likelihood function:

$$\mathcal{L}(\hat{\varrho}) = p(\{n_i\}|\hat{\varrho}) = \prod_i [p(i|\hat{\varrho})]^{n_i}$$

Maximum-likelihood estimate $\hat{\varrho}_{\text{ML}}$
maximizes $\mathcal{L}(\hat{\varrho})$

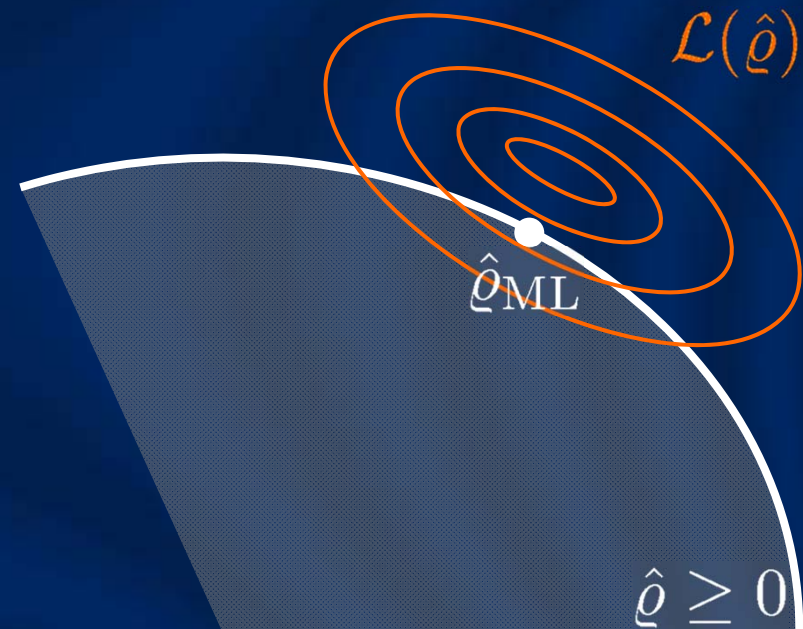


ML: Parametrisation

K. Banaszek, G. M. D'Ariano, M. G. A. Paris, and M. F. Sacchi,
Phys. Rev. A **61**, 010304(R) (1999)

Ensuring positivity: $\hat{\rho} = \hat{T}^\dagger \hat{T}$, $\hat{T} = \blacktriangledown$

Task: maximize $\log \mathcal{L}(T^\dagger T)$
with a constraint $\text{Tr}(T^\dagger T) = 1$



PRO: - Guaranteed positivity

CON: - Impractical in higher dimensions (>6 qubits)
- Underestimates errors, difficult to include uncertainty of the measuring device (Monte Carlo simulations)
- Biased towards low-rank matrices for undersampled data

Bayesian approach

K. Audenaert and S. Scheel, New J. Phys. **11**, 023028 (2009)

A priori distribution $p(\hat{\rho})$

A posteriori: $p(\hat{\rho}|\{n_i\}) \propto p(\{n_i\}|\hat{\rho})p(\hat{\rho})$

Estimate: $\hat{\rho}_{\text{Bayes}} = \int d\rho \hat{\rho} p(\hat{\rho}|\{n_i\})$

- Gaussian approximation
- Truncated to positive definite density operators

PRO:

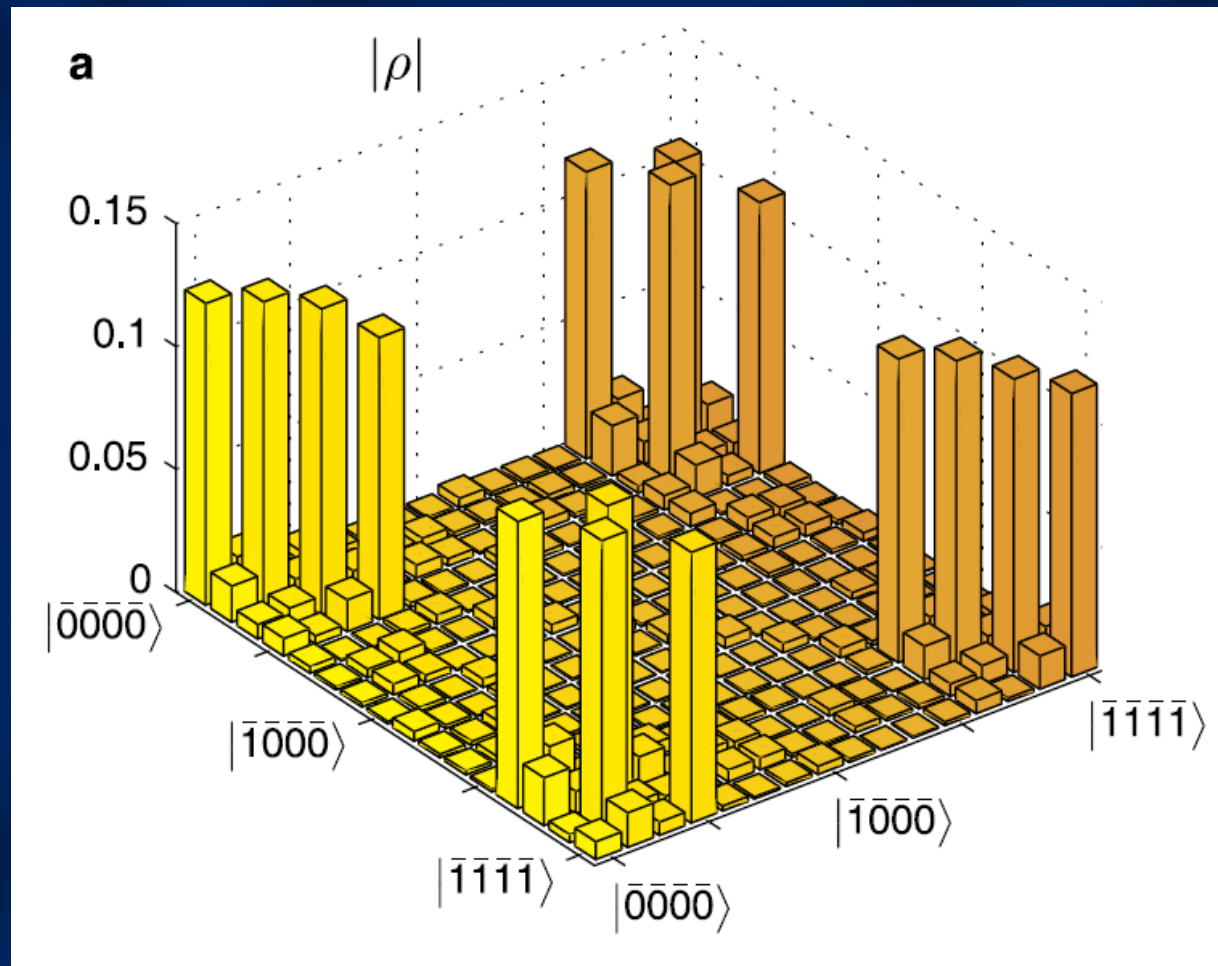
- Clear statistical interpretation
- Provides uncertainty
- No numerical optimisation

CON:

- Difficult to normalise probability distribution
- A priori distribution not well defined

State reconstruction

K. Dobek, M. Karpiński, R. Demkowicz-Dobrzański, K. Banaszek,
and P. Horodecki, Phys. Rev. Lett. **106**, 030501 (2011)



Privacy characterisation

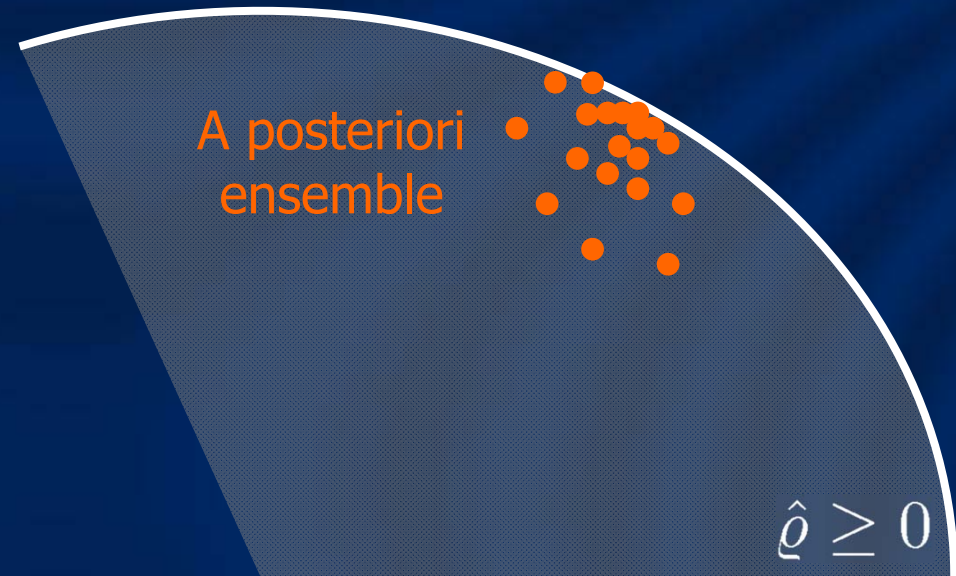
Warning:

$$\langle f(\hat{\rho}) \rangle \neq f(\langle \hat{\rho} \rangle)$$

More conservative

Distillable entanglement: $E_D \leq 0.581(4)$

Key (cqq scenario): $K \geq 0.690(7)$



Distillation protocol

$$\hat{\rho}_{AA'BB'} = \frac{1}{4}|\Phi_+\rangle_{AB}\langle\Phi_+| \otimes (\hat{\mathbb{1}}_{A'B'} - |\Psi_-\rangle_{A'B'}\langle\Psi_-|) \\ + \frac{1}{4}|\Phi_-\rangle_{AB}\langle\Phi_-| \otimes |\Psi_-\rangle_{A'B'}\langle\Psi_-|$$

Measure qubits $A'B'$ in the same basis.

50%

50%

Identical outcomes

Opposite outcomes

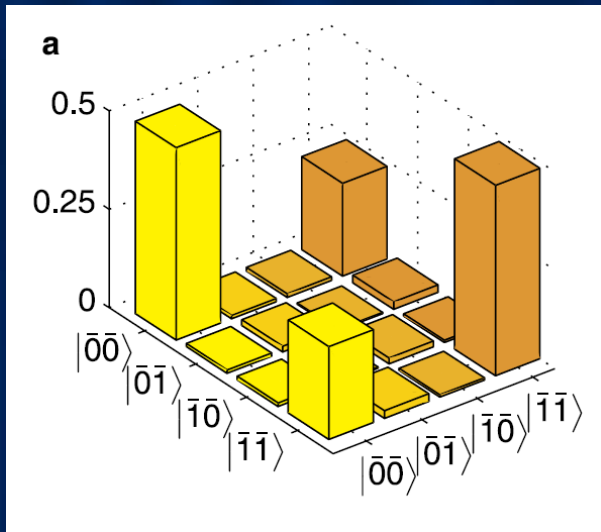
$$\hat{\rho}_{AB} = |\Phi_+\rangle\langle\Phi_+|$$

$$\hat{\rho}_{AB} = \frac{1}{2}(|00\rangle\langle 00| + |11\rangle\langle 11|)$$

Single-copy distillation

Reduced density matrix $\hat{\rho}_{AB}$

average

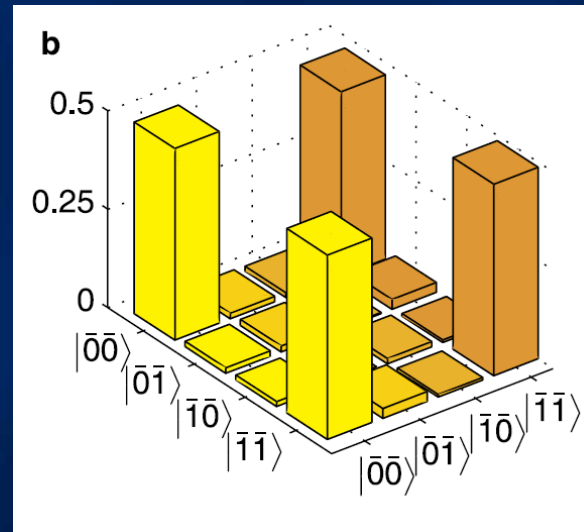


$$K = 0$$

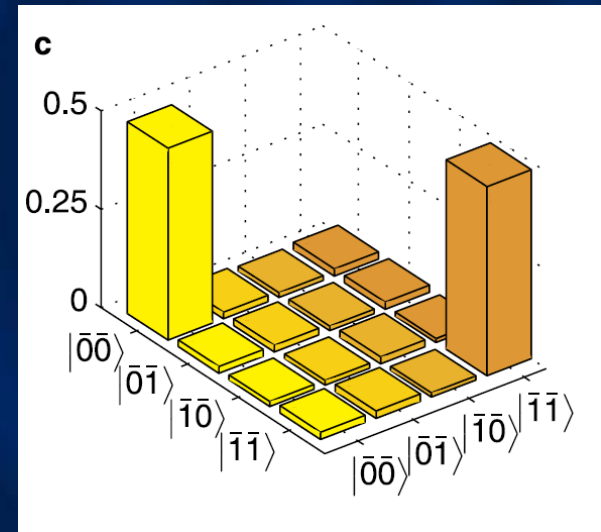
conditional

identical outcomes A'B'

opposite outcomes A'B'



$$K = 0.354(5)$$



Cryptographic key

Optimal strategy

Raw key: 3716 bits



2726 bits



Secure key: 2164 bits

Distillation-based approach

Raw key: 1859 bits



≈ 1300 bits



Secure key: < 650 bits

Error correction

Privacy amplification

Witnessing privacy

$$\hat{\varrho}_{AA'BB'} = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{A}_{00,00} & \hat{A}_{00,01} & \hat{A}_{00,10} & \hat{A}_{00,11} \\ \hat{A}_{01,00} & \hat{A}_{01,01} & \hat{A}_{01,10} & \hat{A}_{01,11} \\ \hat{A}_{10,00} & \hat{A}_{10,01} & \hat{A}_{10,10} & \hat{A}_{10,11} \\ \hat{A}_{11,00} & \hat{A}_{11,01} & \hat{A}_{11,10} & \hat{A}_{11,11} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$K(\hat{\varrho}_{AA'BB'}) \geq K(\hat{\sigma}_{AB})$$

where

$$\hat{\sigma}_{AB} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} p_+ & \cdot & \cdot & c_+ \\ \cdot & p_- & c_- & \cdot \\ \cdot & c_- & p_- & \cdot \\ c_+ & \cdot & \cdot & p_+ \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} p_+ &= \|\hat{A}_{00,00} + \hat{A}_{11,11}\| \\ c_+ &= \|\hat{A}_{00,11} + \hat{A}_{11,00}\| \end{aligned}$$

Single witness

K. Banaszek, K. Horodecki, and P. Horodecki,
Phys. Rev. A **85**, 012330 (2012)

Suppose we have measured

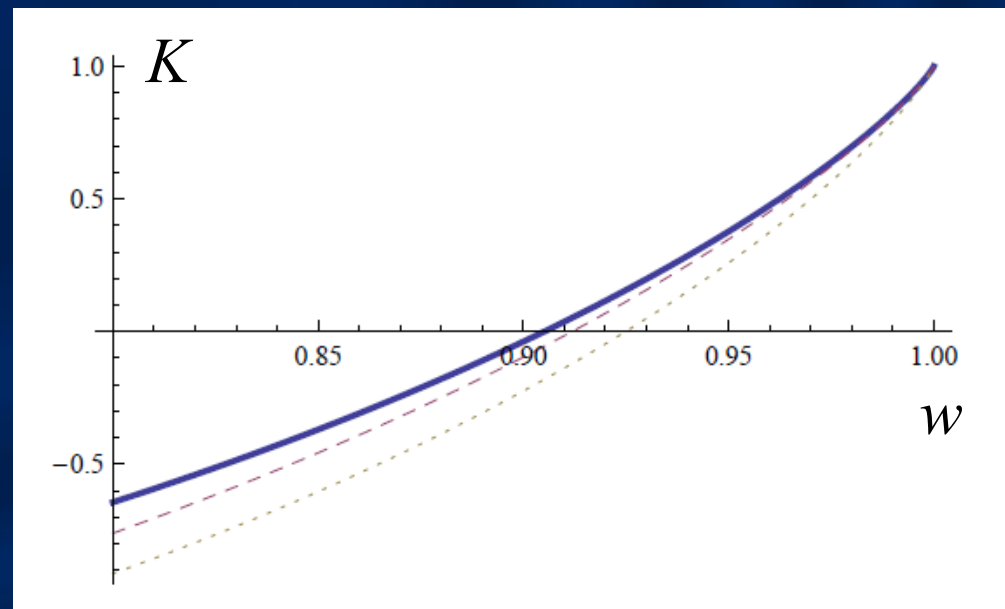
$$w = \left| \left\langle (\sigma_A^x \otimes \sigma_B^x - \sigma_A^y \otimes \sigma_B^y) \otimes \hat{U}_{A'B'} \right\rangle \right|$$

where $\hat{U}^\dagger \hat{U} \leq \hat{I}$

We have:

$$p_+ \geq c_+ \geq w$$

Take the worst-case
scenario for p_- , c_-



Two observables

K. Banaszek, K. Horodecki, and P. Horodecki,
Phys. Rev. A **85**, 012330 (2012)

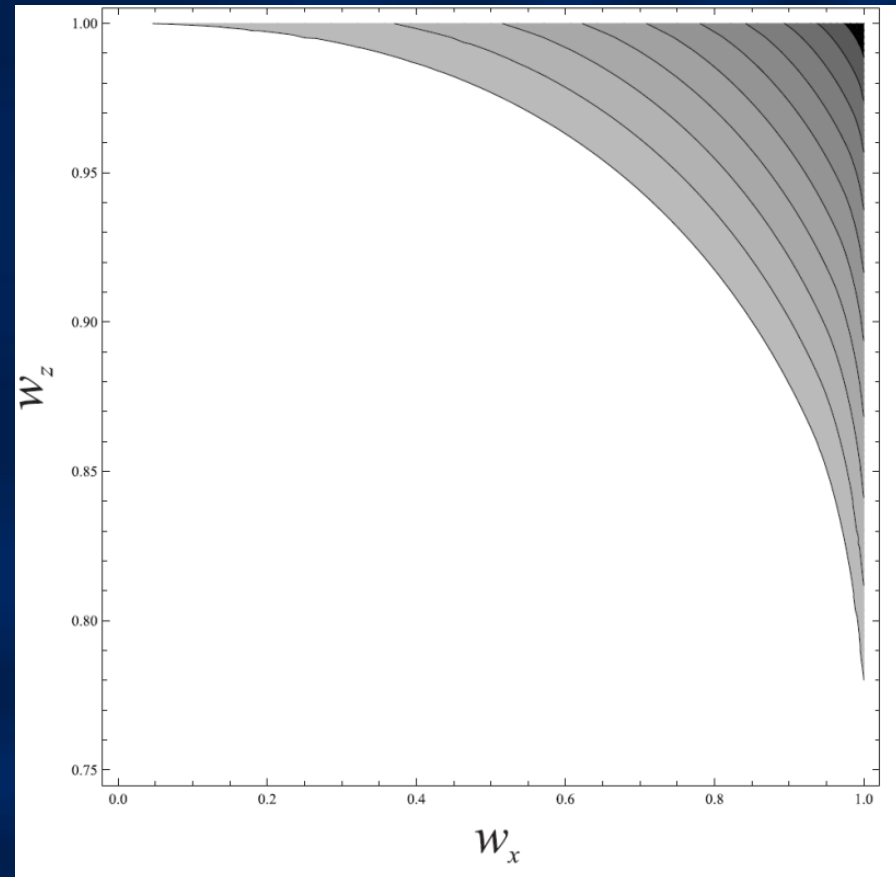
$$w_x = \left| \left\langle \sigma_A^x \otimes \sigma_B^x \otimes \hat{U}_{A'B'} \right\rangle \right| \quad w_z = \left| \left\langle \sigma_A^z \otimes \sigma_B^z \otimes \hat{I}_{A'B'} \right\rangle \right|$$

We have:

$$c_+ + c_- \geq w_x$$

$$p_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2}(1 \pm w_z)$$

$$c_- \leq p_-$$



Conclusions

- Experimental demonstration of the separation between distillable entanglement and cryptographic key contents
- Practical comparison of quantum state reconstruction methods for a noisy multiqubit state
- Full privacy analysis based on the reconstructed state
- Evaluation of highly non-linear information theoretic quantities
- Implementation of a simple entanglement distillation protocol
- Witnessing privacy with few observables
- Multiple degrees of freedom?