

Quantum rate distortion coding with auxiliary resources

Mark M. Wilde, Nilanjana Datta, Min-Hsiu Hsieh, and Andreas Winter

Abstract—We extend quantum rate distortion theory by considering auxiliary resources that might be available to a sender and receiver performing lossy quantum data compression. The first setting we consider is that of quantum rate distortion coding with the help of a classical side channel. Our result here is that the regularized entanglement of formation characterizes the quantum rate distortion function, extending earlier work of Devetak and Berger. We also combine this bound with the entanglement-assisted bound from our prior work to obtain the best known bounds on the quantum rate distortion function for an isotropic qubit source. The second setting we consider is that of quantum rate distortion coding with quantum side information (QSI) available to the receiver. In order to prove results in this setting, we first state and prove a quantum reverse Shannon theorem with QSI (for tensor-power states), which extends the known tensor-power quantum reverse Shannon theorem. The achievability part of this theorem relies on the quantum state redistribution protocol, while the converse relies on the fact that the protocol can cause only a negligible disturbance to the joint state of the reference and the receiver's QSI. This quantum reverse Shannon theorem with QSI naturally leads to quantum rate-distortion theorems with QSI, with or without entanglement assistance.

Index Terms—quantum rate distortion, quantum side information, entanglement of purification, isotropic qubit source, quantum reverse Shannon theorem

I. INTRODUCTION

Schumacher proved that the optimal rate of data compression of a memoryless, quantum information source is given by its von Neumann entropy [1]. This data compression limit was evaluated under the requirement that the data compression scheme is *lossless*, in the sense that the information emitted by the source is recovered with arbitrary precision in the limit of asymptotically many copies of the source. However, the lack of sufficient storage could make it necessary to compress a source beyond its von Neumann entropy. By the converse of Schumacher's theorem, this would mean that the information recovered after the compression-decompression scheme would suffer a certain amount of distortion compared to the original

information. In other words, the data compression scheme would be *lossy*.

The theory of lossy quantum data compression is called *quantum rate distortion theory*, in analogy with its classical counterpart developed by Shannon [2]. It deals with the trade-off between the rate of compression and the allowed distortion. The trade-off is characterized by a rate distortion function which is defined as the minimum rate of data compression for a given distortion, with respect to a suitably defined distortion measure.

In the first paper to discuss quantum rate distortion theory, Barnum considered a symbol-wise entanglement fidelity as a distortion measure [3]. With respect to it, he obtained a lower bound on the quantum rate distortion function in terms of an entropic quantity, namely, the coherent information [4]. Even though this was the first result in quantum rate distortion theory, it is unsatisfactory since the coherent information can become negative, whereas the rate distortion function, by its very definition, is always non-negative.

In [5], we obtained an expression for the quantum rate distortion function in terms of the entanglement of purification [6], which, in contrast to the coherent information, is always non-negative. However, our result too is not entirely satisfactory since the expression is given in terms of a regularized formula and hence cannot be effectively computed. Furthermore, there is recent evidence that the entanglement of purification is a non-additive quantity [7], which if true would lead to further complications in evaluating the expression. The search for a single-letter formula for the quantum rate distortion function hence remains an important open problem.

It is often convenient to consider data compression in the communication paradigm, in which a sender (say, Alice) compresses the information emitted by the quantum information source and sends it to a receiver (say, Bob) who then decompresses it. In this setting, one considers Alice and Bob to have additional, auxiliary resources which they can employ to assist them in their compression-decompression task. One such auxiliary resource is prior shared entanglement between Alice and Bob. In [5], we proved that in its presence, the quantum rate distortion function is characterized by a single-letter expression in terms of the quantum mutual information. This expression obviously provides a single-letter lower bound on the unassisted quantum rate distortion function, since, for any given distortion, the extra resource could in principle allow for improved compression. Furthermore, this result demonstrates that the coherent information (at least in the form suggested by Barnum [3]) is irrelevant for the task of unassisted quantum rate distortion coding because half

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the quantum mutual information is a lower bound on the unassisted quantum rate distortion function and it is also an upper bound on the coherent information.

II. SUMMARY OF RESULTS

In this paper, we consider rate-distortion coding in the presence of other auxiliary resources, e.g., access to a noiseless classical side channel or quantum side information. Doing so not only provides new bounds on the unassisted quantum rate distortion function, but it also offers new scenarios that are unique to the quantum setting.

Alice and Bob are said to have a noiseless, forward classical side channel if Alice is allowed unlimited classical communication to Bob. Quantum rate distortion in the presence of such an auxiliary resource was studied for the special case of an isotropic qubit source – i.e., one that produces a maximally mixed state on a qubit system – by Devetak and Berger [8]. We consider the general case of an arbitrary, memoryless quantum information source, and prove that the corresponding rate distortion function is given in terms of a regularized entanglement of formation [9]. This classically-assisted rate distortion function serves as an alternate lower bound to the unassisted quantum rate distortion function, and we show that it can be tighter than the above entanglement-assisted lower bound in some cases.

Quantum rate distortion coding in the presence of quantum side information (QSI) corresponds to the following setting: Suppose a third party (say, Charlie) maps the source state ρ via some isometry to a bipartite state ρ_{AB} , and distributes the systems A and B to Alice and Bob, respectively. The goal is for Alice to transfer her system A to Bob, up to some given distortion, using as little quantum communication as possible. The rate distortion function is then defined as the minimum rate of quantum communication required for this task, evaluated in the limit in which Alice and Bob share asymptotically many copies of the state ρ_{AB} . We obtain an expression for the rate distortion function under the assumption that the protocol causes asymptotically negligible disturbance to the joint state of Bob and a reference system R that purifies the state ρ_{AB} . This assumption may be motivated naturally in light of the fact that Bob may want to reuse his quantum side information in some future information processing task. Furthermore, if we allow Alice and Bob to have sufficient prior shared entanglement in addition to Bob's QSI, then, under the above assumption, the rate distortion function is given by a single-letter expression in terms of the quantum conditional mutual information. A classical analogue of the above problem was solved by Wyner and Ziv [10]. Our results on quantum rate distortion with QSI also generalize Luo and Devetak's results on classical rate distortion in the presence of QSI [11] and our prior results in [12] on quantum-to-classical rate distortion coding with QSI.

The techniques used to prove these results are generalizations of those which we employed in [5] to obtain expressions for the unassisted and entanglement-assisted quantum rate distortion functions. The main ingredient in the proof of the achievability part for the entanglement-assisted case

in [5] is the quantum reverse Shannon theorem [13], [14], which quantifies the minimum rate of quantum communication required from Alice to Bob in order to asymptotically simulate a memoryless quantum channel, when they share entanglement. (It has been pointed out in both [15] and [16] how a reverse Shannon theorem immediately leads to a rate distortion protocol.) Analogously, to establish the achievability of our rate distortion functions in the presence of QSI, we employ a generalization of the quantum reverse Shannon theorem to the case in which Bob has QSI as an auxiliary resource. This theorem constitutes a result which is interesting in its own right, and the protocol of quantum state redistribution [17], [18] plays a key role in the proof of the achievability part. The achievability of the rate distortion function in the unassisted case was proved by using Schumacher compression [5], which can be viewed as a special reverse Shannon theorem where the goal is to simulate the identity channel. Analogously, the achievability of our rate distortion function in the presence of a classical side channel is proved by exploiting a variant of Schumacher compression.

The converse proofs of the results in this paper have certain similarities, using various identities and entropic inequalities, e.g., the quantum-data processing inequality [4], superadditivity of the quantum mutual information, and the Alicki-Fannes inequality [19]. However, a non-trivial aspect of the QSI converse proofs is that they exploit the assumption that the protocol causes only a negligible disturbance to the joint state of the reference system and Bob's QSI. We can then invoke Uhlmann's theorem [20] as in Refs. [21], [12] to demonstrate the existence of a map which does not act at all on Bob's quantum side information, such that the overall map on the source state is close to the original map that acts in part on Bob's quantum side information. As such, this feature of the converse proof is unique to quantum information theory and simply is not present in related classical results [10].

The paper is organized as follows. In Section III, we introduce necessary notation and definitions, especially for the entropic quantities arising in the statements of the theorems. In Section IV, we introduce the basic concepts of quantum rate distortion theory, and unify our results from [5] on unassisted and entanglement-assisted quantum rate distortion functions in order to obtain a trade-off between the rate of compression and the rate of entanglement consumption. We analyse quantum rate distortion in the presence of a classical side channel in Section V and in the presence of QSI in Section VI. The latter section also contains our theorem on the rate distortion function in the presence of both QSI and prior shared entanglement. The necessary generalizations of the quantum reverse Shannon theorem required for our proofs are stated and proved in Section VI-B. We conclude in Section VII with a summary and some open questions.

III. NOTATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

Let $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ denote the algebra of linear operators acting on a finite-dimensional Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , and let $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H})$ denote the set of positive operators of unit trace (density operators) acting on \mathcal{H} . For any given pure state $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ we denote the

projector $|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$ simply as ψ . The trace distance between two operators M and N is given by

$$\|M - N\|_1 \equiv \text{Tr}(|M - N|),$$

where $|C| \equiv \sqrt{C^\dagger C}$. Throughout this paper we restrict our considerations to finite-dimensional Hilbert spaces, and we take the logarithm to base two.

We denote the Hilbert space associated to a quantum system A by \mathcal{H}_A , and the quantum systems corresponding to n copies of a pure state $\psi_{ABC}^{\otimes n}$ by A^n , B^n and C^n . For a multipartite state ρ_{AB} , we unambiguously refer to its reduced states on systems A and B simply as ρ_A and ρ_B , respectively, so that it is implicit that $\rho_A = \text{Tr}_B(\rho_{AB})$ and $\rho_B = \text{Tr}_A(\rho_{AB})$. Moreover, we denote a completely positive trace-preserving (CPTP) map $\mathcal{N} : \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_A) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_B)$ simply as $\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B}$. Similarly we denote an isometry $U : \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_A) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_B \otimes \mathcal{H}_E)$ simply as $U_{A \rightarrow BE}$. The identity map on states in $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A)$ is denoted as id_A .

The von Neumann entropy of a state $\rho \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A)$ is defined as

$$H(\rho) \equiv H(A)_\rho \equiv -\text{Tr}(\rho \log \rho),$$

and satisfies the bound $H(\rho) \leq \log \dim(\mathcal{H}_A)$. The conditional entropy $H(A|B)_\rho$, the quantum mutual information $I(A; B)_\rho$, and the conditional quantum mutual information $I(A; B|C)_\rho$ of a tripartite state ρ_{ABC} are defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} H(A|B)_\rho &\equiv H(AB)_\rho - H(B)_\rho, \\ I(A; B)_\rho &\equiv H(A)_\rho - H(A|B)_\rho, \\ I(A; B|C)_\rho &\equiv H(A|C)_\rho - H(A|BC)_\rho. \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

The entanglement of formation [9] of a bipartite state ρ_{AB} is defined as

$$E_F(\rho_{AB}) \equiv \min_{\{p(x), |\psi_{AB}^x\rangle\}} \sum_x p(x) H(A)_{\psi^x}, \quad (2)$$

where $\{p(x), |\psi_{AB}^x\rangle\}$ is an ensemble of pure states such that $\rho_{AB} = \sum_x p(x) |\psi_{AB}^x\rangle\langle\psi_{AB}^x|$. The entanglement of purification [6] of a bipartite state ρ_{AB} is given by the following expression:

$$E_p(\rho_{AB}) = \min_{\mathcal{N}} H((\text{id}_B \otimes \mathcal{N}_{E \rightarrow E'})(\sigma_{BE}(\rho))), \quad (3)$$

where $\sigma_{BE}(\rho) = \text{Tr}_A(\phi_{ABE}^\rho)$, ϕ_{ABE}^ρ is some purification of ρ_{AB} , and the minimization is over all CPTP maps $\mathcal{N}_{E \rightarrow E'}$ acting on the system E .

We also employ the following lemmas in our proofs.

Lemma 1 (Quantum data processing inequality [4]): If $\omega_{AB'} = (\text{id}_A \otimes \mathcal{N}_{B \rightarrow B'})(\sigma_{AB})$, where $\mathcal{N}_{B \rightarrow B'}$ is a CPTP map, then

$$I(A; B)_\sigma \geq I(A; B')_\omega. \quad (4)$$

Lemma 2 (Alicki-Fannes Inequality [19]): Suppose two states ρ_{AB} and σ_{AB} are close in trace distance:

$$\|\rho_{AB} - \sigma_{AB}\|_1 \leq \varepsilon, \quad \text{for some } \varepsilon \geq 0.$$

Then their respective conditional entropies are close:

$$|H(A|B)_\rho - H(A|B)_\sigma| \leq 4\varepsilon \log |A| + 2h_2(\varepsilon), \quad (5)$$

where $h_2(\varepsilon) \equiv -\varepsilon \log \varepsilon - (1 - \varepsilon) \log(1 - \varepsilon)$ is the binary entropy.

In our converse proofs, we often deal with information quantities evaluated on n systems. For simplicity, rather than listing the precise bound from the Alicki-Fannes inequality, we often just state an upper bound as $n\varepsilon'$, where it is implicit that $\varepsilon' = c_1 \varepsilon \log d + c_2 h_2(\varepsilon)/n$ for positive constants c_1 and c_2 , and d being the dimension of a single system.

Note that it is easy to derive continuity inequalities for the quantum mutual information and the conditional quantum mutual information from the Alicki-Fannes inequality simply by employing the triangle inequality.

Lemma 3 (Superadditivity of q . mutual information [5]): The quantum mutual information is superadditive in the sense that, for any CPTP map $\mathcal{N}_{A_1 A_2 \rightarrow B_1 B_2}$,

$$I(R_1 R_2; B_1 B_2)_\sigma \geq I(R_1; B_1)_\sigma + I(R_2; B_2)_\sigma,$$

where

$$\sigma_{R_1 R_2 B_1 B_2} = \mathcal{N}_{A_1 A_2 \rightarrow B_1 B_2}(\phi_{R_1 A_1} \otimes \phi_{R_2 A_2}),$$

and $\phi_{R_1 A_1}$ and $\phi_{R_2 A_2}$ are pure bipartite states.

We make frequent use of the following lemma in our converse proofs. For completeness, we give its proof.

Lemma 4 (Duality of Conditional Quantum Entropy): For a tripartite pure state ψ_{ABC} ,

$$H(A|B)_\psi = -H(A|C)_\psi.$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} H(A|B)_\psi &= H(AB)_\psi - H(B)_\psi \\ &= H(C)_\psi - H(AC)_\psi \\ &= -H(A|C)_\psi. \end{aligned}$$

■

IV. QUANTUM RATE DISTORTION

Throughout this paper we consider a memoryless quantum information source characterized by a density matrix $\rho \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A)$. We refer to ρ as the *source state* and denote a purification of it by $\psi_{RA}^\rho = |\psi_{RA}^\rho\rangle\langle\psi_{RA}^\rho|$, with R being a purifying reference system isomorphic to A . The state $\rho^n \equiv \rho^{\otimes n} \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A^{\otimes n})$ characterizes n copies of the source. A *source coding* (or *compression-decompression*) scheme of rate R is defined by a block code,¹ which consists of two quantum operations—the encoding and decoding maps. The encoding \mathcal{E}_n is a CPTP map from n copies of the source space to a Hilbert space $\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{Q^n}$ of dimension $\approx 2^{nR}$:

$$\mathcal{E}_n : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A^{\otimes n}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{Q^n}),$$

and the decoding \mathcal{D}_n is a CPTP map from the compressed space to the original Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}_A^{\otimes n}$:

$$\mathcal{D}_n : \mathcal{D}(\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{Q^n}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A^{\otimes n}).$$

¹It should be very clear from the context whether R refers to “rate” or “reference system.”

The average distortion resulting from this compression-decompression scheme is defined as an average [2], [3]:

$$\bar{d}(\rho, \mathcal{D}_n \circ \mathcal{E}_n) \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n d(\rho, \mathcal{F}_n^{(i)}),$$

where $\mathcal{F}_n^{(i)}$ is the “marginal operation” on the i -th copy of the source space induced by the overall operation $\mathcal{F}_n \equiv \mathcal{D}_n \circ \mathcal{E}_n$, and is defined as

$$\mathcal{F}_n^{(i)}(\xi) \equiv \text{Tr}_{A_1 A_2 \dots A_{i-1} A_{i+1} \dots A_n} [\mathcal{F}_n(\rho^{\otimes(i-1)} \otimes \xi \otimes \rho^{\otimes(n-i)})], \quad (6)$$

and for any CPTP map \mathcal{N} ,

$$d(\rho, \mathcal{N}) = 1 - F_e(\rho, \mathcal{N}),$$

with F_e being the entanglement fidelity of \mathcal{N} :

$$F_e(\rho, \mathcal{N}) \equiv \langle \psi_{RA}^\rho | (\text{id}_R \otimes \mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow A}) (\psi_{RA}^\rho) | \psi_{RA}^\rho \rangle. \quad (7)$$

The quantum operations \mathcal{D}_n and \mathcal{E}_n define an (n, R) quantum rate distortion code.

Motivated by the observation that \bar{d} is the average of a linear function of the marginal channels, and by Shannon’s rate distortion theory [2], which allows a general average-type distortion function of input and output, we can generalize the above setting as follows [22], [23], [12]: Let $\Delta \geq 0$ be an observable on RB , which we will (without loss of generality) assume to be non-negative. This distortion observable Δ will define the distortion function between a reference for the input (R) and the output (B) of the compression and decompression maps $\mathcal{E}_n : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A^{\otimes n}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{Q^n})$ and $\mathcal{D}_n : \mathcal{D}(\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{Q^n}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_B^{\otimes n})$, respectively, with R not necessarily equal to B . With this, we can define the distortion of a channel \mathcal{N} with respect to a source ρ , as

$$d(\rho, \mathcal{N}) \equiv \text{Tr}(\Delta_{RB}((\text{id}_R \otimes \mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B})(\psi_{RA}^\rho))),$$

and the average distortion on a block of n as

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{d}(\rho, \mathcal{D}_n \circ \mathcal{E}_n) &\equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n d(\rho, \mathcal{F}_n^{(i)}) \\ &= \text{Tr}(\bar{\Delta}((\text{id}_R \otimes \mathcal{F}_n)((\psi_{RA}^\rho)^{\otimes n}))). \end{aligned}$$

Here, the marginal channels $\mathcal{F}_n^{(i)}$ are now given by

$$\mathcal{F}_n^{(i)}(\xi) \equiv \text{Tr}_{B_1 B_2 \dots B_{i-1} B_{i+1} \dots B_n} [\mathcal{F}_n(\rho^{\otimes(i-1)} \otimes \xi \otimes \rho^{\otimes(n-i)})],$$

and

$$\bar{\Delta} \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{1}^{\otimes(i-1)} \otimes \Delta \otimes \mathbb{1}^{\otimes(n-i)}$$

is the average distortion observable.

Allowing different input and output spaces, and comparing them via the otherwise completely arbitrary observable Δ may look like a drastic departure from the source coding paradigm, but looking at Shannon’s rate distortion theory [2] and its applications reveals that it is indeed very natural – see also the examples below.

For any $R, D \geq 0$, the pair (R, D) is said to be an *achievable* rate distortion pair if there exists a sequence of (n, R) quantum rate distortion codes $(\mathcal{E}_n, \mathcal{D}_n)$ such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \bar{d}(\rho, \mathcal{D}_n \circ \mathcal{E}_n) \leq D. \quad (8)$$

The *quantum rate distortion function* is then defined as

$$R^q(D) = \inf\{R : (R, D) \text{ is achievable}\}.$$

In [5], we proved that the quantum rate distortion function admits the following characterization in terms of the regularized entanglement of purification:

$$R^q(D) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{k} \left[\min_{\mathcal{N}^{(k)} : \bar{d}(\rho, \mathcal{N}^{(k)}) \leq D} E_p(\rho^{\otimes k}, \mathcal{N}^{(k)}) \right]. \quad (9)$$

In the presence of an auxiliary resource, the rate distortion function is defined analogously, the only difference being in the encoding and decoding maps. In particular, if Alice and Bob have prior shared entanglement, then, denoting the entangled systems by T_A and T_B (with T_A being with Alice and T_B being with Bob), the encoding and decoding maps are respectively given by

$$\mathcal{E}_n : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A^{\otimes n} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{T_A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{Q^n}), \quad (10)$$

and

$$\mathcal{D}_n : \mathcal{D}(\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{Q^n} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{T_B}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_B^{\otimes n}). \quad (11)$$

We denote the corresponding entanglement-assisted quantum rate distortion function, for a given distortion $D \geq 0$ and unlimited amount of entanglement, as $R_{ea}^q(D)$. In [5], we proved that the entanglement-assisted quantum rate distortion function is equal to the following single-letter expression:

$$R_{ea}^q(D) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\min_{\mathcal{N} : \bar{d}(\rho, \mathcal{N}) \leq D} I(R; B)_\omega \right]$$

where $\omega_{RB} = \mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B}(\psi_{RA}^\rho)$.

Remark 5: It should be noted that for every choice of distortion observable Δ , the quantum rate distortion function $R^q(D)$ is convex in the distortion D , and likewise the entanglement-assisted rate distortion function $R_{ea}^q(D)$. This is seen by observing that time-sharing codes of rate R_j and distortion D_j ($j = 1, 2$) on fractions λ and $1 - \lambda$ of a block, yields directly a code of rate $\lambda R_1 + (1 - \lambda) R_2$ and distortion $\lambda D_1 + (1 - \lambda) D_2$.

By the above observation and the coding theorem expressed by (9), we can conclude that the regularized expression on the RHS of (9) is convex in D . This is true, even though the convexity of the expression on the RHS of (9) is not immediately evident, since it is known that the entanglement of purification and even its regularization are not convex in the state on which it is being evaluated [6]. In fact, all the coding theorems in this paper contain expressions for the rate distortion function (or for rate regions) that are convex in the distortion parameter D . Indeed, one well-known way of proving convexity of an expression for a rate-distortion function is as outlined in Lemma 14 of [5], and this approach relies on convexity of the underlying information measure with respect to a distortion channel. Thus, for any finite k , the expression in (9) is *not* convex in D because the entanglement of purification is not convex, and it is only in the regularized limit that this expression is convex in D . For the curious reader, we show in Appendix A that the mathematical expression on the RHS of (9) is convex in D .

Example 6: The original distortion measure based on entanglement fidelity is recovered in the case where $A = B$, by letting the distortion observable $\Delta = \mathbb{1} - \psi^\rho$.

Example 7: Given a classical distortion function $d : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, as considered in [2], for input and output alphabets \mathcal{X} and \mathcal{Y} , we consider $\mathcal{H}_A = \mathbb{C}^{\mathcal{X}}$ and $\mathcal{H}_B = \mathbb{C}^{\mathcal{Y}}$, and let

$$\Delta \equiv \sum_{xy} d(x, y) |x\rangle\langle x| \otimes |y\rangle\langle y|.$$

In classical rate distortion theory we also consider an IID source with single-letter marginal probability distribution $P(x)$, giving rise to the diagonal source density $\rho = \sum_x P(x) |x\rangle\langle x|$ and its purification $|\psi_\rho\rangle = \sum_x \sqrt{P(x)} |x\rangle|x\rangle$.

Now, a classical source coding scheme of rate R and distortion D naturally turns into a source code in the above quantum sense, by lifting the stochastic encoding and decoding maps to CPTP maps sending diagonal matrices to diagonal matrices; furthermore the quantum version still has rate R (now qubits) and the same distortion D .

Conversely, given a source code in our above sense, the relation to classical Shannon-style rate distortion coding is a little more subtle. To start, however, we can at least say that without loss of generality the overall map \mathcal{F}_n is a classical channel from \mathcal{X}^n to \mathcal{Y}^n , because we can dephase the input to \mathcal{E}_n in the x -basis, and the output of \mathcal{D}_n in the y -basis, without affecting rate or distortion. The compressed system Q^n may of course still use quantum states in a nontrivial way, for instance if unlimited entanglement is available, to “superdense-code” [24] the classical compressed information of a classical rate distortion code, thus halving the bit rate to the qubit rate. On the other hand, Theorem 3 of [5] shows that this is the only improvement; indeed, the entanglement-assisted rate distortion function is exactly half the classical one $R(D)$ in [2]. From this we can deduce that the unassisted quantum rate distortion function equals the classical one. If we assume the opposite, namely that the former were strictly smaller than the latter, then by invoking remote state preparation of the compressed quantum states at an asymptotic cbit/qubit rate of one [25], and then “superdense-coding” the classical bits, we would get an entanglement-assisted rate distortion code of the same distortion but rate $\frac{1}{2}R^q(D) < \frac{1}{2}R(D)$, resulting in a contradiction.

Example 8: Quantum-to-classical rate distortion [12] is based on an observable of the form

$$\Delta = \sum_y \Delta_y \otimes |y\rangle\langle y|.$$

In [12] a source code for it was *defined* as a measurement (i.e., a qc-channel) taking values in a subset of \mathcal{Y}^n , and as in Example 7, these codes can be understood as quantum rate distortion codes in the above sense. We add as an aside that in the limit of zero distortion, this model can be traced back to the work of Massar and Popescu [26] and of Massar with one of us [27].

However, given a quantum rate distortion code in our present sense, by the same logic as in Example 7, the overall map \mathcal{F}_n is without loss of generality a qc-channel, and the coding part in Theorem 3 of [12] achieves the same classical

communication rates as Theorem 2 in [5] – with the difference that only shared randomness rather than entanglement is required, which then can be removed entirely. With quantum communication assisted by entanglement, we hence get half that rate, $R_{ea}^q(D) = \frac{1}{2}R^{qc}(D)$.

Conversely, assuming that the (unassisted) quantum rate distortion function were strictly smaller than $R^{qc}(D)$, leads to a contradiction along the same lines as in Example 7: we could use entanglement to replace the compressed qubits by cbits at asymptotic exchange rate 1, and by superdense coding would obtain an entanglement-assisted rate distortion code (of the same distortion) of rate $< \frac{1}{2}R^{qc}(D)$, contradicting our conclusion in the previous paragraph.

In summary, the theory of quantum-to-classical rate distortion coding is subsumed in the above general framework.

As reviewed above, in [5] we obtained expressions for the quantum rate distortion function $R^q(D)$ and the entanglement-assisted quantum rate distortion function $R_{ea}^q(D)$ in terms of entropic quantities (note that going to general distortion observables does not change the form of these results). By unifying these results, we obtain a rate region characterizing the quantum communication and entanglement consumption that is necessary and sufficient for lossy compression of an IID quantum source. This is given by Theorem 9 below.

Theorem 9: For a memoryless quantum information source defined by the density matrix $\rho \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A)$ with a purification $|\psi_{RA}^\rho\rangle$, and any given distortion $D \geq 0$, the quantum rate distortion coding region for lossy source coding with noiseless quantum communication, with the help of rate-limited shared entanglement at rate E , is given by the union of the following regions, letting k become arbitrarily large:

$$\begin{aligned} Q &\geq \frac{1}{2k} I(R^k; B^k E_B)_\omega, \\ Q + E &\geq \frac{1}{k} H(B^k E_B)_\omega, \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

where the entropic quantities are with respect to the following state:

$$\omega_{R^k B^k E_A E_B} \equiv V_{E^k \rightarrow E_A E_B}(U_{A^k \rightarrow B^k E^k}^{\mathcal{N}^{(k)}}((\psi_{RA}^\rho)^{\otimes k})), \quad (13)$$

and the union is over all isometric extensions $U^{\mathcal{N}^{(k)}}$ of CPTP maps $\mathcal{N}^{(k)}$ such that $\bar{d}(\rho, \mathcal{N}^{(k)}) \leq D$ and isometries $V_{E^k \rightarrow E_A E_B}$.

Proof: Our proof of these bounds requires just a slight modification of the proofs of the converse theorems in Ref. [5]. Indeed, consider the most general protocol for rate-limited entanglement-assisted quantum rate distortion coding. The protocol begins with the reference and Alice sharing the state $(\psi_{RA}^\rho)^{\otimes n}$. Let R^n denote the reference’s systems, and let A^n denote Alice’s systems. Alice and Bob share entanglement in the systems T_A and T_B before communication begins, and we suppose that the logarithm of the dimension of system T_B is no larger than nE . Alice acts with an encoder (some general CPTP map) on her systems A^n , obtaining a system W . She then sends W to Bob, who subsequently feeds W and T_B into a decoder to produce the system B^n . By Stinespring’s dilation theorem [28], [29], we can simulate this protocol by one in which Alice’s encoder is replaced by an isometric extension

of it, with outputs W and an environment E_1 , and Bob's decoder is replaced by an isometric extension of this decoder, with outputs B^n and an environment E_2 . At the end of the simulation, the state on systems $R^n B^n E_1 E_2$ is a state of the form in (13).

We can now obtain a lower bound on the rate Q of quantum communication as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} nQ &\equiv \log(\dim \mathcal{H}_W) \geq H(W) \\ &= H(WT_B) - H(T_B|W) \\ &\geq H(B^n E_2) - nE. \end{aligned}$$

The first equality is the entropy chain rule. The second inequality follows because $H(WT_B) = H(B^n E_2)$ (considering an isometric extension of the decoder) and because conditioning cannot increase entropy: $H(T_B|W) \leq H(T_B) \leq nE$.

The other bound results as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} 2nQ &\geq 2H(W) \\ &= I(W; R^n T_B E_1) \\ &\geq I(W; R^n T_B) \\ &= I(WT_B; R^n) + I(W; T_B) - I(R^n; T_B) \\ &\geq I(WT_B; R^n) \\ &= I(B^n E_2; R^n). \end{aligned}$$

The first equality follows from the fact that $H(W) = H(R^n T_B E_1)$ and $H(WR^n T_B E_1) = 0$ for a pure state on systems $WR^n T_B E_1$. The second inequality results from applying the quantum data processing inequality. The second equality is an identity. The third inequality follows because systems R^n and T_B are in a product state (implying $I(R^n; T_B) = 0$) and from the fact that $I(W; T_B) \geq 0$. The final equality results because entropy is invariant under isometries (in this case, the isometric extension of the decoder taking systems WT_B to $B^n E_2$). This proves the converse part of this theorem.

The achievability part of this theorem follows simply by picking a map that meets the distortion constraint and applying Theorem 3b of [13]. ■

It is worth remarking that in the case there is sufficient entanglement available, the above theorem reduces to the entanglement-assisted quantum rate distortion function from Theorem 3 of [5], while if there is no entanglement available, then the above theorem reduces to the entanglement of purification characterization from Theorem 5 of [5].

V. CLASSICALLY-ASSISTED QUANTUM RATE DISTORTION

In this section, we consider quantum rate distortion coding in the presence of classical side information. As mentioned in the Introduction, this corresponds to the scenario in which Alice is allowed unlimited, forward classical communication to Bob to assist them in their compression-decompression task. We refer to the corresponding rate distortion function as the *classically-assisted quantum rate distortion function* and denote it by $R_{\rightarrow}^q(D)$ for a given distortion $D \geq 0$. It is defined analogously to $R^q(D)$ (see Section IV), except that the encoding and decoding maps are now given by

$$\mathcal{E}_n : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A^{\otimes n}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{Q^n} \otimes \mathcal{H}_X),$$

and

$$\mathcal{D}_n : \mathcal{D}(\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{Q^n} \otimes \mathcal{H}_X) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A^{\otimes n}),$$

where \mathcal{H}_X denotes the Hilbert space associated with the classical information that Alice sends to Bob. Like the previous rate distortion functions, also $R_{\rightarrow}^q(D)$ is convex for any given distortion observable Δ .

We prove the following theorem, which gives an expression for $R_{\rightarrow}^q(D)$ in terms of the entanglement of formation defined in (2).

Theorem 10: For a memoryless quantum information source defined by the density matrix $\rho \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A)$, and any given distortion $D \geq 0$, the quantum rate distortion function assisted by unlimited, forward classical communication is given by

$$R_{\rightarrow}^q(D) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{k} \min_{\substack{\mathcal{N}^{(k)} : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A^{\otimes k}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_B^{\otimes k}) \\ \bar{d}(\rho, \mathcal{N}^{(k)}) \leq D}} \left[E_F(\rho^{\otimes k}, \mathcal{N}^{(k)}) \right], \quad (14)$$

where $\mathcal{N}^{(k)} : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A^{\otimes k}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_B^{\otimes k})$ is a CPTP map, and

$$E_F(\rho, \mathcal{N}) \equiv E_F(\omega_{RB}) \quad (15)$$

denotes the entanglement of formation of the state

$$\omega_{RB} \equiv (\text{id}_R \otimes \mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B})(\psi_{RA}^{\rho}). \quad (16)$$

Proof: The achievability part of the above theorem was essentially proven by Devetak and Berger [8] for the particular case of a source of isotropic qubits, even though they did not express their result explicitly in the form of the entanglement of formation. Moreover, they did not give a general converse proof. For the sake of completeness, we include a proof of achievability in addition to giving a proof of the converse.

To prove the achievability part, our approach is the same as that of Devetak and Berger [8], namely, to exploit a variant of Schumacher compression with classical communication [1]. To start with, consider $k = 1$ on the RHS of (14), and fix the CPTP map $\mathcal{N} \equiv \mathcal{N}^{(1)}$ such that the minimization on the RHS of this equation is achieved. Every Kraus decomposition of this map $\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B}$ as $\sum_x A_x(\cdot)A_x^{\dagger}$, where $\sum_x A_x^{\dagger}A_x = I$, leads to a pure-state decomposition of the state ω_{RB} :

$$\omega_{RB} = \sum_x (I_R \otimes A_x)(\psi_{RA}^{\rho})(I_R \otimes A_x^{\dagger}).$$

In fact, all the pure-state decompositions of ω_{RB} and the Kraus decompositions of $\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B}$ are in one-to-one correspondence. Note that each operator $(I_R \otimes A_x)(\psi_{RA}^{\rho})(I_R \otimes A_x^{\dagger})$ is of rank one, so that each normalized version is a pure state. Consider the following extension of the above state:

$$\omega_{RBX} = \sum_x (I_R \otimes A_x)(\psi_{RA}^{\rho})(I_R \otimes A_x^{\dagger}) \otimes |x\rangle\langle x|_X, \quad (17)$$

where X denotes a classical register. Note that the above state can be considered to result from the action of a quantum instrument on ψ_{RA}^{ρ} since it has both a quantum and a classical part.

The entanglement of formation of the state ω_{RB} is then equal to

$$E_F(\omega_{RB}) = \min_{\{A_x\}} H(B|X)_{\omega}, \quad (18)$$

where the minimization is over the choice of Kraus operators.

The protocol proceeds as follows. To start with, the reference and Alice share n copies of ψ_{RA}^ρ , which is a purification of the source state $\rho \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A)$. Alice determines the Kraus decomposition of the CPTP map \mathcal{N} (chosen as described above) that minimizes the conditional entropy $H(B|X)_\omega$. Henceforth, we denote the corresponding set of Kraus operators simply as $\{A_x\}$. On every copy of the source state, she performs the quantum instrument given by (17). She then measures the classical register X of each copy of the resulting state ω_{RBX} , thus obtaining a classical sequence $x^n \equiv (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$, where x_i denotes the outcome of measuring the X register of the i^{th} copy of $\omega_{RBX}^{\otimes n}$. From (17) it is clear that the probability that Alice gets an outcome x upon measuring an X register is given by $p_X(x) \equiv \text{Tr}(A_x^\dagger A_x \rho)$. In the large n limit, with high probability, there are approximately $np_X(x)$ states in the length n sequence such that the outcome of the measurement is x (i.e., the sequence x^n will be strongly typical [29] with very high probability). If the sequence Alice obtains is not strongly typical, she aborts the protocol. Otherwise, she groups together the states in the length n sequence with the same measurement outcome and performs Schumacher compression on each of these blocks, compressing each block to approximately $np_X(x)H(B)_{\rho_x}$ qubits, where

$$\rho_x \equiv \frac{1}{p_X(x)} A_x \rho A_x^\dagger \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_B),$$

and $H(B)_{\rho_x} \equiv H(\rho_x)$. She then sends these qubits to Bob, along with the classical sequence x^n representing her measurement outcomes.

Thus, the total rate at which she sends qubits to Bob is given by (18) because

$$\sum_x p_X(x) H(B)_{\rho_x} = H(B|X)_\omega.$$

Conditional on the sequence x^n that he receives, Bob decompresses the qubits in each block (according to Schumacher decompression) and finally discards the classical sequence. The result of this protocol is that, for n large enough, a state very close to $\omega_{RB}^{\otimes n}$ is shared between the reference and Bob. Of course, in the above development, we analyzed the protocol by assuming that each block consists of exactly $np_X(x)$ states, but one can analyze this more carefully (see Ref. [30], for example).

One could then execute the above protocol by blocking k of the states together and by having the CPTP map to be of the form $\mathcal{N}^{(k)} : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_{A^k}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_{B^k})$, (where $\mathcal{H}_{A^k} = \mathcal{H}_A^{\otimes k}$ and $\mathcal{H}_{B^k} = \mathcal{H}_B^{\otimes k}$) acting on each block of k states. By letting k become large, such a protocol leads to the rate in (14) for classically-assisted quantum rate distortion coding.

The converse part of the theorem is proved as follows. The most general protocol begins with many copies of the state ψ_{RA}^ρ being shared between the reference and Alice. The most general map that Alice can perform is a quantum instrument from A^n to a quantum system W and a classical system M . Let this be described by a set of trace non-increasing maps $\{\mathcal{E}_m\}$, with $\sum_m \mathcal{E}_m = I$. She sends the quantum system W and the classical message M to Bob. Hence the rate of

quantum communication is given by $Q \equiv (1/n) \log(\dim \mathcal{H}_W)$. Bob then performs a CPTP map from WM to B^n . For him, performing a CPTP map on a classical system M and a quantum system W is equivalent to performing CPTP maps \mathcal{D}_m , on the quantum system W , conditional on the value m of the classical register M (see, e.g., [31] or Section 4.4.8 of Ref. [29]). Let $\sigma_{R^n B^n}$ denote the state shared by the reference and Bob at the end of the protocol, and let $\mathcal{M}_{A^n \rightarrow B^n}$ denote the classically-coordinated encoding-decoding map:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{R^n B^n} &\equiv (\text{id}_{R^n} \otimes \mathcal{M}_{A^n \rightarrow B^n})(\psi_{RA}^\rho)^{\otimes n}, \\ \mathcal{M}_{A^n \rightarrow B^n} &\equiv \sum_m \mathcal{D}_m \circ \mathcal{E}_m. \end{aligned}$$

Note that the quantum instrument employed by Alice can be simulated by an isometry followed by a von Neumann measurement. Specifically, we can consider Alice to perform an isometry from A^n to quantum systems W , M' , and an environment E_1 , and then do a von Neumann measurement on M' to get a classical system M . After tracing over the environment E_1 , the original instrument is recovered. However, without loss of generality, we could also consider Alice to perform a von Neumann measurement of E_1 , thus obtaining a classical system L . Let ω denote the state at this point. Observe that the joint state of R^n and W is pure, when conditioned on the classical systems L and M . Each decoding map \mathcal{D}_m can be simulated by Bob by performing an isometry U_m from W to B^n and an environment E_2 . Bob could subsequently perform a von Neumann measurement on E_2 , thus obtaining a classical system K . Let σ denote the state at the end of the protocol. Note that the state on $R^n B^n$ is pure when conditioned on the classical registers MLK . Figure 1 depicts both the original general protocol and the simulation of it outlined in this paragraph.

We can now prove a lower bound on the rate of classically-assisted lossy quantum data compression as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} nQ \equiv \log(\dim \mathcal{H}_W) &\geq H(W)_\omega \\ &\geq H(W|LM)_\omega \\ &= H(R^n|LM)_\omega \\ &\geq H(R^n|LMK)_\sigma \\ &\geq E_F(\sigma_{R^n B^n}) \\ &\geq \min_{\substack{\mathcal{N}^{(n)} \\ d(\rho^{\otimes n}, \mathcal{N}^{(n)}) \leq D}} \left[E_F(\rho^{\otimes n}, \mathcal{N}^{(n)}) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

The second inequality follows because conditioning on classical variables L and M (after Alice's simulation of the encoding) cannot increase entropy. The first equality follows because (as stated above) the joint state of R^n and W is pure, when conditioned on the classical systems L and M . The third inequality follows again because conditioning on the classical register K cannot increase entropy (note that this latter entropy is with respect to the state after Bob's simulation of the decoder). Now, for the fourth inequality, as we stated above, the variables LMK induce a particular pure-state decomposition of the state on $R^n B^n$, and by the definition of entanglement of formation given in (2), the conditional entropy of this particular pure-state decomposition cannot be larger

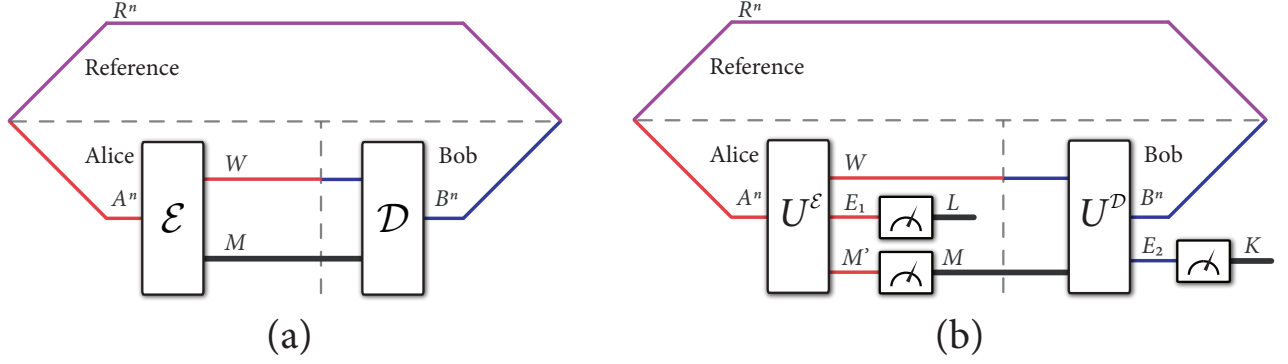


Fig. 1. (a) A general protocol for quantum rate distortion coding with the assistance of a forward classical side channel from Alice to Bob. (b) A simulation of the general protocol in (a), in which Alice and Bob respectively act with isometric extensions of the encoder and decoder in (a).

than the minimal one given by the entanglement of formation. The final bound follows because the map $\sum_m \mathcal{D}_m \circ \mathcal{E}_m$ is a particular CPTP map meeting the distortion constraint $d(\rho^{\otimes n}, \mathcal{N}^{(n)}) \leq D$, and thus the entanglement of formation for the state resulting from this map cannot be larger than the entanglement of formation of the state resulting from the optimal map meeting the distortion constraint. Finally, we divide both sides of the above inequality by n and take the limit as $n \rightarrow \infty$ to obtain the lower bound. ■

We remark that the proof of the achievability part exploits a strategy which is similar in spirit to that used in the proof of the reverse Shannon theorem (see Refs. [9], [32], [33], for example). In particular, we just pick the map that meets the distortion constraint and minimizes the entanglement of formation and simulate this map using classical communication and Schumacher compression.

A. Bounds on the Quantum Rate Distortion Function for an Isotropic Qubit Source

In this subsection we consider the original case of the distortion being based on the entanglement fidelity, i.e., with distortion observable $\Delta = \mathbb{1} - \psi^\pi$, for an isotropic qubit source, meaning that the source state is a maximally mixed qubit state, $\pi \equiv \mathbb{1}/2$. The following theorem provides an exact expression for the entanglement-assisted quantum rate distortion function of an isotropic qubit source.

Theorem 11: For an isotropic qubit source, the entanglement-assisted quantum rate distortion function is equal to

$$R_{ea}^q(D) = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{1}{2} H(\{1 - D, \frac{D}{3}, \frac{D}{3}, \frac{D}{3}\}) & \text{if } 0 \leq D \leq \frac{3}{4}, \\ 0 & \text{if } \frac{3}{4} \leq D \leq 1, \end{cases}$$

where we have used the notation $H(\{\cdot\})$ to denote the Shannon entropy of the probability distribution inside the braces $\{\cdot\}$.

Proof: First, recall the entanglement-assisted rate distortion function from Theorem 3 of [5]:

$$R_{ea}^q(D) = \frac{1}{2} \min_{d(\rho, \mathcal{N}) \leq D} I(R; B)_\omega, \quad (19)$$

where the distortion measure $d(\rho, \mathcal{N})$ is related to the entanglement fidelity:

$$d(\rho, \mathcal{N}) \equiv 1 - F_e(\rho, \mathcal{N}).$$

The mutual information is with respect to the state

$$\omega_{RB} \equiv (\text{id}_R \otimes \mathcal{N}_{A' \rightarrow B})(\psi_{RA'}^\rho),$$

where $\psi_{RA'}^\rho$ is a purification of the source state ρ . For an isotropic qubit source, we have $\rho = \pi \equiv \mathbb{1}/2$ and $\psi_{RA'}^\rho = \Phi_{RA'}$ (a maximally entangled state). For any channel \mathcal{N} , it has a Kraus decomposition as follows:

$$\mathcal{N}(\rho) = \sum_x A_x \rho A_x^\dagger.$$

We also have the well-known formula for the entanglement fidelity (see, e.g., [29]):

$$F_e(\rho, \mathcal{N}) = \sum_x |\text{Tr}(\rho A_x)|^2.$$

Now suppose that there is some channel \mathcal{N} achieving the minimum in (19), with Kraus operators $\{A_x\}$. Consider the channel \mathcal{N}_i defined as follows:

$$\mathcal{N}_i(\rho) \equiv \sigma_i^\dagger \mathcal{N}(\sigma_i \rho \sigma_i^\dagger) \sigma_i,$$

where σ_i , $i = 0, 1, \dots, 11$ are the Clifford unitaries on a single qubit (given explicitly, e.g., in Appendix A of [9]). Thus, its Kraus operators are $\{\sigma_i^\dagger A_x \sigma_i\}$ for any fixed i . For an isotropic qubit source, the channel \mathcal{N}_i has the same entanglement fidelity as the original channel because

$$\begin{aligned} F_e(\pi, \mathcal{N}_i) &= \sum_x |\text{Tr}\{\pi \sigma_i^\dagger A_x \sigma_i\}|^2 = \frac{1}{4} \sum_x |\text{Tr}\{\sigma_i^\dagger A_x \sigma_i\}|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \sum_x |\text{Tr}\{A_x\}|^2 = F_e(\pi, \mathcal{N}). \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

Let \mathcal{N}_{tw} denote the “twirled version” of \mathcal{N} :

$$\mathcal{N}_{\text{tw}}(\rho) \equiv \frac{1}{12} \sum_i \mathcal{N}_i(\rho).$$

A similar calculation as in (20) reveals that the “twirled version” of the channel \mathcal{N} has an entanglement fidelity equal to $F_e(\pi, \mathcal{N})$. Also, it is well known that the Clifford twirled

channel is equal to a depolarizing channel (a probabilistic mixture of the identity channel and the constant channel mapping every input state to the maximally mixed state $\pi = \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{1}$, see, e.g., [9], [34], [35]). Now, each of the channels \mathcal{N}_i leads to the same mutual information as the original channel \mathcal{N} , in the sense that

$$I(R; B)_\omega = I(R; B)_{\omega_i},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\omega &\equiv \omega_{RB} \equiv (\text{id}_R \otimes \mathcal{N}_{A' \rightarrow B})(\Phi_{RA'}), \\ \omega_i &\equiv (\omega_i)_{RB} \equiv (\text{id}_R \otimes (\mathcal{N}_i)_{A' \rightarrow B})(\Phi_{RA'}).\end{aligned}$$

This is due to the fact that, for a maximally entangled state $|\Phi_{RA'}\rangle$, $\mathbb{1}_R \otimes (\sigma_i)_{A'} |\Phi_{RA'}\rangle = (\sigma_i^T)_R \mathbb{1}_{A'} |\Phi_{RA'}\rangle$ (where σ_i^T denotes the transpose of σ_i), and because the von Neumann entropy is invariant under unitaries. However, we know that the twirled channel cannot have a mutual information larger than the original channel's, due to the convexity of mutual information with respect to the states $(\omega_i)_{RB}$:

$$I(R; B)_\omega = \frac{1}{12} \sum_i I(R; B)_{\omega_i} \geq I(R; B)_{\omega_{\text{tw}}},$$

where

$$\omega_{\text{tw}} \equiv (\text{id}_R \otimes (\mathcal{N}_{\text{tw}})_{A' \rightarrow B})(\Phi_{RA'}).$$

This proves that the channel optimizing the expression in (19) for an isotropic qubit source is a depolarizing channel \mathcal{N}_p , hence of the form

$$\mathcal{N}_p(\rho) = (1-p)\rho + \frac{p}{3}(\sigma_X \rho \sigma_X + \sigma_Y \rho \sigma_Y + \sigma_Z \rho \sigma_Z).$$

For these channels, a simple calculation reveals that their entanglement fidelity for an isotropic qubit source is equal to p , because the non-identity Pauli operators are traceless. Thus, for a given distortion D , the channel achieving the minimum mutual information is a depolarizing channel with $p \leq D$. The latter is given by

$$1 - \frac{1}{2}H\left(\{1-p, \frac{p}{3}, \frac{p}{3}, \frac{p}{3}\}\right),$$

thus finishing the proof. \blacksquare

In prior work [8], Devetak and Berger showed that the classically-assisted quantum rate distortion function in Theorem 10 significantly simplifies for an isotropic qubit source. For convenience, we restate their result as the following theorem and provide a simple proof of it below.

Theorem 12 (Devetak and Berger [8]): The classically-assisted quantum rate distortion function for an isotropic qubit source is equal to the following expression:

$$R_{\rightarrow}^q(D) = \begin{cases} h_2\left(\frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{D(1-D)}\right) & : 0 \leq D < \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & : \frac{1}{2} \leq D \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

In the above, $h_2(p) \equiv -p \log p - (1-p) \log(1-p)$ is the binary entropy for any probability p .

Proof: First, recall the general expression for the classically-assisted quantum rate distortion function from Theorem 10. Devetak and Berger have shown that this expression assumes a single-letter form for the case of an isotropic qubit source [8], and we do not reproduce the proof of this statement here.

So, the expression for the classically-assisted quantum rate distortion function in this case reduces to

$$\min_{d(\pi, \mathcal{N}) \leq D} \min_{\{A_x\}} H(B|X)_\omega, \quad (21)$$

where the conditional entropy is with respect to the following state:

$$\omega_{RBX} \equiv \sum_x (I_R \otimes A_x)(\Phi_{RA'})(I_R \otimes A_x^\dagger) \otimes |x\rangle\langle x|_X,$$

and the operators $\{A_x\}_x$ are the Kraus operators for a channel \mathcal{N} meeting the distortion constraint. For simplicity, let us denote the optimal channel meeting the distortion constraint in (21) as \mathcal{N} and the optimal Kraus decomposition for the entanglement of formation as $\{A_x\}_x$, so that $d(\pi, \mathcal{N}) \leq D$. By the same argument as in the previous theorem, the channel with the set of Kraus operators $\{\sigma_i^\dagger A_x \sigma_i\}_x$ for a fixed i causes the same distortion D to an isotropic qubit source while having the same value for the entanglement of formation. Also, by the same argument, the twirled channel with Kraus operators $\{\sigma_i^\dagger A_x \sigma_i / \sqrt{12}\}_{x,i}$ causes the same distortion D as the optimal channel, but this channel can have only a lower value of the entanglement of formation, due to the convexity of the entanglement of formation [9]. Now, the twirled channel is a depolarizing channel causing distortion $\leq D$ to the source, implying that its effect on a maximally entangled state is to produce an isotropic state, i.e., a mixture of Bell states of the following form:

$$(1-p)\Phi_{RA'} + \frac{p}{3}\Psi_{RA'}^+ + \frac{p}{3}\Psi_{RA'}^- + \frac{p}{3}\Phi_{RA'}^-,$$

where $p \leq D$. In the above mixture, it must be the case that $1-D$ is larger than all of the other components whenever $D < 1/2$. In this case, it is well known that the entanglement of formation of such a Bell mixture is equal to the following expression [9]:

$$h_2\left(\frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{D(1-D)}\right).$$

For $D \geq 1/2$, the strategy requiring no quantum communication is very simple, implying that there is no need to explicitly evaluate the expression in the theorem statement. For every copy of the source, Alice just measures it in the basis $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$ and sends the measurement outcome to Bob over the classical channel. Bob then prepares the state $|0\rangle$ or $|1\rangle$ depending on what he receives from Alice, and he forgets what Alice sent to him. This procedure prepares the dephased state $\frac{1}{2}(|0\rangle\langle 0|_R \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_B + |1\rangle\langle 1|_R \otimes |1\rangle\langle 1|_B)$ shared between Bob and the reference, which has distortion $1/2$ from the maximally entangled state. To achieve an even larger distortion with no quantum communication (if one so wishes), Bob could just depolarize his state locally. \blacksquare

The expressions from Theorems 11 and 12 give two lower bounds on the unassisted quantum rate distortion function of an isotropic qubit source, plotted in Figure 2.

We can also obtain an upper bound on the quantum rate distortion function for the isotropic qubit source by computing the unregularized entanglement of purification bound from Theorem 5 of Ref. [5]. In particular, a strategy to achieve the unregularized bound is as follows. The protocol begins with

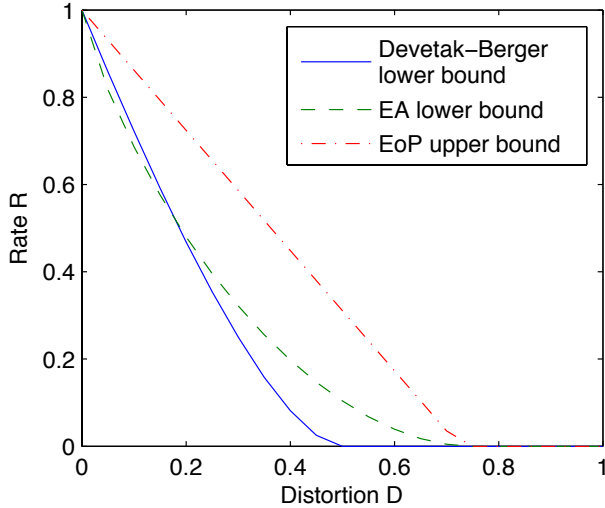


Fig. 2. Bounds on the unassisted quantum rate distortion function for an isotropic qubit source. We have lower bounds from the classically-assisted and entanglement-assisted (EA) quantum rate distortion function of this source. The convexified entanglement of purification (EoP) provides an upper bound on the quantum rate distortion function of this source.

Alice and the reference sharing many copies of a maximally entangled state $\Phi_{RA'}$ (the reduction of each of these to Alice's systems is a maximally mixed state). Given a distortion constraint D , Alice applies some isometric extension of the following depolarizing channel to each of her systems:

$$\mathcal{N}_D(\rho) \equiv (1 - D)\rho + \frac{D}{3}(\sigma_X \rho \sigma_X + \sigma_Y \rho \sigma_Y + \sigma_Z \rho \sigma_Z),$$

resulting in the following state shared between the reference and Alice:

$$(1 - D)\Phi_{RA'} + \frac{D}{3}(\Psi_{RA'}^+ + \Psi_{RA'}^- + \Phi_{RA'}^-). \quad (22)$$

Alice then Schumacher compresses the output of the depolarizing channel and some share of the environment (which she possesses since she performs the isometric extension), and she can do this at a rate equal to the entanglement of purification of the above state. Furthermore, Alice and Bob can time-share between any two strategies of this form, implying that the rates and distortions of the time-shared protocol combine as in Remark 5. The authors of Ref. [6] have already numerically calculated the entanglement of purification of the state in (22) in Figure 1 of their paper. As such, the convex hull of their plot serves equally well as an upper bound on the quantum rate distortion function of the isotropic qubit source, and we have reproduced this plot in our Figure 2 above.²

²The only change we need to make to their plot to suit our purposes is to flip it with respect to the horizontal axis, eliminate values of the entanglement of purification beyond $D = 3/4$, and take the convex hull of the resulting curve. The maximally mixed state on Alice and the reference is a state that meets the distortion constraint at $D = 3/4$ so that at this distortion or beyond, there is no quantum communication needed—Alice simply discards her qubits and Bob prepares the maximally mixed state at his end.

VI. QUANTUM RATE DISTORTION IN THE PRESENCE OF QUANTUM SIDE INFORMATION

In this section we study quantum rate distortion in the case in which Bob has some quantum side information (QSI) about the source, as an auxiliary resource. As mentioned in the Introduction, this corresponds to the following setting: Suppose a third party (say, Charlie) maps the source state ρ via some isometry to a bipartite state ρ_{AB} and distributes the systems A and B to Alice and Bob, respectively. The goal is for Alice to transfer her system A to Bob, up to some given distortion, using as few qubits as possible. The system B , which is in Bob's possession, acts as the quantum side information, and he can make use of it in his decompression task. It is required that the protocol causes only a negligible disturbance to the state of the reference system and Bob's quantum side information, in case Bob might want to use his system in some subsequent quantum information processing task. The above problem is a quantum generalization of the Wyner-Ziv [10] problem and is also a natural extension of the work of Luo and Devetak [11] which dealt with classical rate distortion theory in the presence of QSI (and thus considered Alice to receive a classical system instead of a quantum one).

The rate distortion function, which we denote as $R_{qsi}^q(D)$ for any given distortion $D \geq 0$, is then the minimum rate of quantum communication required for this task, evaluated in the limit in which Alice and Bob share asymptotically many copies of the state ρ_{AB} . It is defined analogously to $R^q(D)$ (see Section IV), except that the encoding and decoding maps are now given by

$$\mathcal{E}_n : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A^{\otimes n}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{Q^n}),$$

and

$$\mathcal{D}_n : \mathcal{D}(\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{Q^n} \otimes \mathcal{H}_B^{\otimes n}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A^{\otimes n}),$$

where $\mathcal{H}_B^{\otimes n}$ denotes the Hilbert space associated with Bob's QSI.

Theorem 16 of Section VI-D gives an expression for $R_{qsi}^q(D)$. Before going over to it, we briefly recall an important protocol of quantum information theory, namely, quantum state redistribution [17], [18]. After doing so, we then employ it in Section VI-B to develop a quantum reverse Shannon theorem in the presence of QSI—the main tool that we use to prove Theorem 16.

A. Quantum State Redistribution

Quantum state redistribution is an important protocol in quantum information theory [17], [18] and is defined as follows. Alice and Bob share many copies of a tripartite state ρ_{ABC} , where Alice holds the systems labeled by A and C , and Bob holds the systems labeled by B . Let the state ρ_{ABC} be purified by a reference system R , the pure state being denoted as ψ_{ABCR} . The task is for Alice to transfer the systems labeled by C to Bob, while keeping the overall purification ψ_{ABCR} approximately unchanged (possibly with the help of prior shared entanglement). The quantity of interest is the minimum rate of quantum communication from Alice to Bob needed to accomplish this task. The rate is evaluated

in the limit of asymptotically many copies of the state ρ_{ABC} that is initially shared between Alice and Bob.

Let Q and E denote the rates of quantum communication and entanglement consumption,³ respectively, required to achieve quantum state redistribution. Devetak and Yard [17] proved that the corresponding resource inequality is given as follows:

$$\psi_{AC|B|R} + Q[q \rightarrow q] + E[qq] \geq \psi_{A|CB|R}, \quad (23)$$

if and only if Q and E satisfy the following inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned} Q &\geq \frac{1}{2}I(R; C|B)_\psi \\ Q + E &\geq H(C|B)_\psi. \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

The meaning of the resource inequality in (23) is that, for n large enough, Q qubits of quantum communication and E_1 ebits of entanglement are sufficient to transfer all n of the C systems from Alice to Bob, while generating an additional E_2 ebits of entanglement, such that $E = E_1 - E_2$. Moreover, the fidelity of this protocol is equal to one in the asymptotic limit, and $\psi_{AC|B|R}$ and $\psi_{A|CB|R}$ denote the states before and after the protocol because Alice begins by holding the systems labeled by AC and ends by holding only the systems labeled by A . From (23)-(24), we infer that if $\frac{1}{2}I(R; C|B)_\psi > H(C|B)_\psi$ then the protocol redistributes the system C to Bob as well as generates entanglement. In this case, the resource inequality takes the form:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{AC|B|R} + \frac{1}{2}I(R; C|B)_\psi[q \rightarrow q] \\ \geq \psi_{A|CB|R} + \left(\frac{1}{2}I(R; C|B)_\psi - H(C|B)_\psi\right)[qq], \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

which can be equivalently written as

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{AC|B|R} + \frac{1}{2}I(R; C|B)_\psi[q \rightarrow q] \\ \geq \psi_{A|CB|R} + \frac{1}{2}(I(B; C)_\psi - I(A; C)_\psi)[qq], \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

which follows from the definitions of the conditional mutual information and the conditional entropy, duality of conditional entropy (Lemma 4), and the fact that ψ_{ABCR} is a pure state.

If, in contrast, $\frac{1}{2}I(R; C|B)_\psi < H(C|B)_\psi$, then entanglement is consumed in order to achieve state redistribution, and the resource inequality can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{AC|B|R} + \frac{1}{2}I(R; C|B)_\psi[q \rightarrow q] \\ + \frac{1}{2}(I(A; C)_\psi - I(B; C)_\psi)[qq] \geq \psi_{A|CB|R}. \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

From (26) and (27) it follows that if Alice and Bob have no prior shared entanglement, then they could still achieve their task of state redistribution: if $\frac{1}{2}I(R; C|B)_\psi \geq H(C|B)_\psi$ then they also generate entanglement, whereas if $\frac{1}{2}I(R; C|B)_\psi \leq H(C|B)_\psi$ then they need to invest quantum communication at a rate of $\approx H(C|B)_\psi$ qubits per copy of the source in order to generate the entanglement that the protocol corresponding to (27) requires.

³A negative entanglement consumption rate implies that entanglement is instead generated! The reader should keep this in mind any time we refer to the “entanglement consumption rate” of a protocol.

B. Quantum Reverse Shannon Theorem with Quantum Side Information

As mentioned above, before moving on to quantum rate distortion theorems with QSI, we prove two quantum reverse Shannon theorems with quantum side information.

Quantum reverse Shannon theorems [13], [14] deal with the simulation of noisy quantum channels between two parties (Alice and Bob, say), with the aid of noiseless resources, such as prior shared entanglement and quantum communication. Here we consider the situation in which Bob has quantum side information as an auxiliary resource, which he can employ in this simulation task.

In particular, we consider Alice and Bob to share many (say, n) copies of a bipartite state ρ_{AB} , the systems A being with Alice and B being with Bob, the latter acting as the quantum side information. In addition, Alice and Bob can share entanglement with each other. The aim is for Alice and Bob to simulate many instances of a noisy channel $\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}$, such that Bob receives the output systems. The quantities of interest are the minimum rates of quantum communication and entanglement consumption required for this purpose.

We consider two different scenarios. In the first, which is referred to as a *feedback simulation*, the environments of the simulated channels are required to be in Alice’s possession. In contrast, in the second scenario, which is referred to as a *non-feedback simulation*, no such requirement is imposed. The minimum rates of quantum communication and entanglement consumption that are required in these two scenarios are given by Theorems 13 and 14, respectively.

These theorems are generalizations of Theorems 3a, 3b, and 3c of Ref. [13] and are interesting in their own right. Furthermore, both theorems are useful in establishing quantum rate distortion theorems that exploit quantum side information.

Theorem 13 (Feedback QRST with QSI): If Alice and Bob share many copies of a state ρ_{AB} , then they can achieve a feedback simulation of many instances of a noisy channel $\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}$ if and only if the rates of quantum communication and entanglement consumption are in the following rate region:

$$Q + E \geq H(B'|B)_\omega, \quad (28)$$

$$Q \geq \frac{1}{2}I(R; B'|B)_\omega, \quad (29)$$

where

$$\omega_{RB'B} \equiv \mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\phi_{RAB}^\rho),$$

ϕ_{RAB}^ρ is a purification of ρ_{AB} . Equivalently, we can write the rate of quantum communication as a function of the entanglement consumption rate E as follows:

$$Q_{f,qsi}(E) = \max\left\{\frac{1}{2}I(R; B'|B)_\omega, H(B'|B)_\omega - E\right\}.$$

(Recall that E can be either positive or negative depending on whether the protocol consumes or generates entanglement, respectively.) The subscript f denotes that the rate corresponds to a feedback simulation. In particular, if there is no entanglement available ($E = 0$), then the optimal rate of quantum communication is equal to

$$Q_{f,qsi}(0) = \max\left\{\frac{1}{2}I(R; B'|B)_\omega, H(B'|B)_\omega\right\}.$$

Theorem 14 (Non-Feedback QRST with QSI): If Alice and Bob share many copies of a state ρ_{AB} , then the minimum rates of quantum communication and entanglement consumption that they need for a non-feedback simulation of many instances of a noisy channel $\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}$ are given by the union of the following rate regions:

$$Q + E \geq \frac{1}{k} H(B'^k E_B | B^k)_\omega, \quad (30)$$

$$Q \geq \frac{1}{2k} I(R^k; B'^k E_B | B^k)_\omega, \quad (31)$$

where k is an arbitrary positive integer and the union is with respect to all states ω of the following form:

$$\omega_{R^k E_A E_B B'^k B^k} \equiv V_{E^k \rightarrow E_A E_B} ((U_{A \rightarrow B' E}^{\mathcal{N}} (\phi_{RAB}^\rho)^{\otimes k}), \quad (32)$$

ϕ_{RAB}^ρ is a purification of ρ_{AB} , $U_{A \rightarrow B' E}^{\mathcal{N}}$ is some isometric extension of the channel $\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}$, and $V_{E^k \rightarrow E_A E_B}$ is an arbitrary isometry that splits the k environment systems E^k into two parts E_A and E_B . Equivalently, we can write the rate of quantum communication as a function of the entanglement consumption rate E as follows:

$$Q_{qsi}(E) = \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty, \exists V} \max \left\{ \frac{1}{2k} I(R^k; B'^k E_B | B^k)_\omega, \frac{1}{k} H(B'^k E_B | B^k)_\omega - E \right\}. \quad (33)$$

In particular, if there is no entanglement available ($E = 0$), then the optimal rate of quantum communication is equal to

$$Q_{qsi}(0) = \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty, \exists V} \max \left\{ \frac{1}{2k} I(R^k; B'^k E_B | B^k)_\omega, \frac{1}{k} H(B'^k E_B | B^k)_\omega \right\}. \quad (34)$$

Proof of Theorems 13 and 14: We prove the two theorems using similar arguments. The achievability parts of both of the above theorems follow directly by applying the protocol of Devetak and Yard for quantum state redistribution [17], [18], [36]. We prove the achievability part of the non-feedback theorem first and then argue how the feedback version is a special case of it.

To start with, Alice, Bob, and the reference share n copies of the state ϕ_{RAB}^ρ , which is a purification of the state ρ_{AB} . Alice locally applies an isometric extension $U_{A \rightarrow B' E}^{\mathcal{N}}$ of the channel $\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}$ to each system A in her possession, and then applies an environment-splitting isometry $V_{E \rightarrow E_A E_B}$ to each system E that results. At this point, the three parties share n copies of the following pure state:

$$\omega_{R E_A E_B B' B} \equiv V_{E \rightarrow E_A E_B} (U_{A \rightarrow B' E}^{\mathcal{N}} (\phi_{RAB}^\rho)),$$

where the reference has R , Alice has $E_A E_B B'$, and Bob has B . Alice would like to transmit all of her $E_B B'$ systems to Bob, and she can do this by using the protocol of quantum state redistribution.

By setting $C = B' E_B$, $A = E_A$, and $\psi_{RACB} = \omega_{R E_A E_B B' B}$ in (23)-(27), we infer that the following rate

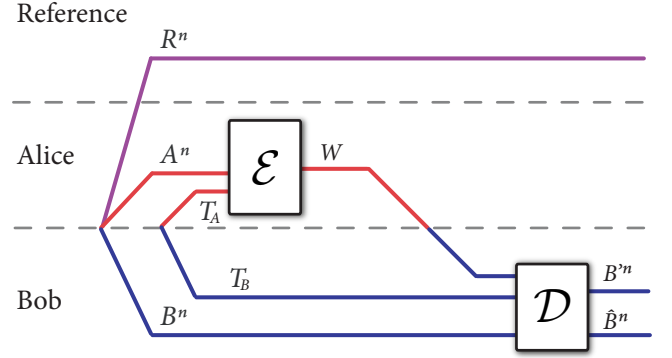


Fig. 3. A general protocol for simulating a quantum channel when quantum side information and shared entanglement are available.

region is achievable with quantum state redistribution:

$$Q \geq \frac{1}{2} I(R; B' E_B | B)_\omega, \\ Q + E \geq H(B' E_B | B)_\omega.$$

Now, a protocol that achieves the regularized rate region in (30)-(31), is very similar, but Alice and Bob instead act on blocks of k states at a time. That is, they share n copies of the state $(\phi_{RAB}^\rho)^{\otimes k}$ (if they are allowed access to an arbitrary number of shares of this state, then they can block them in this way). Alice applies n instances of the isometry $(U_{A \rightarrow B' E}^{\mathcal{N}})^{\otimes k}$ to her systems A^n and then applies an environment splitting isometry $V_{E^k \rightarrow E_A E_B}$ to each E^k resulting from the previous step. By the same arguments as given above, the rate region in (30)-(31) is achievable, where the division by k is needed to obtain the rates.

The achievability of the feedback protocol in Theorem 13 follows as a special case of the above. In particular, there is no splitting of the environment into two parts, so that Alice merely redistributes the B' system to Bob. Thus, the rate region in (28)-(29) is achievable. Furthermore, there is no need to double-block the protocol as above because our converse theorem for this case demonstrates that it is not necessary to do so.

We now prove the converse part of Theorem 14, that is, we establish that the bounds (30)-(31) hold for any protocol that results in a non-feedback simulation of the noisy channel $\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}$. The most general protocol begins with the reference, Alice, and Bob sharing n copies of ϕ_{RAB}^ρ , where n is some arbitrarily large positive integer. Alice and Bob also share some entangled state $\Phi_{T_A T_B}$ on systems T_A and T_B , which they can use to help them in their task. In particular, the Schmidt rank of this entangled state is equal to 2^{nE} , so that E quantifies the rate of entanglement consumption. Alice performs some encoding map \mathcal{E} on systems A^n and T_A which produces a system W as output. She sends system W to Bob, who then performs a decoding map \mathcal{D} on systems W , T_B , and B^n . This decoding map has two outputs B'^n and \hat{B}^n , where B'^n approximates the output of the channel simulation and \hat{B}^n represents an approximation of Bob's quantum side information. If the protocol is any good for accomplishing the task of a non-feedback channel simulation, then the output of

this simulation protocol and the output of the ideal protocol should be asymptotically indistinguishable as n becomes large. That is, for any arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$, for n large enough, it should hold that

$$\left\| \mathcal{D}_{WT_B B^n \rightarrow B'^n \hat{B}^n}(\mathcal{E}_{A^n T_A \rightarrow W}((\phi_{RAB}^p)^{\otimes n} \otimes \Phi_{T_A T_B})) - (\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\phi_{RAB}^p))^{\otimes n} \right\|_1 \leq \varepsilon. \quad (35)$$

Figure 3 illustrates the protocol discussed above.

A useful observation for proving the converse is that an arbitrary encoding map \mathcal{E} and a decoding map \mathcal{D} can be simulated by a protocol involving only isometric operations. In particular, we can replace the encoding \mathcal{E} with an isometric extension $U^\mathcal{E}$ that has as output the original output W and an environment system E_1 . Let $\sigma \equiv \sigma_{RE_1 WT_B B^n}$ denote the pure state shared between the reference, Alice, and Bob after the action of $U^\mathcal{E}$. We can also replace the decoding map \mathcal{D} with an isometric extension of it that has as output the original outputs $B'^n \hat{B}^n$ and an additional environment system E_2 . Let $\omega_{RE_1 E_2 B'^n \hat{B}^n}$ denote the pure state resulting from applying an isometric extension of the decoder to the state σ .

Due to monotonicity of the trace distance under partial trace, the condition in (35) implies that the inequality in (36) holds, with the partial trace of the states in (35) being taken over the system B^n .

Since $\omega_{RE_1 E_2 B'^n \hat{B}^n}$ is a purification of the first term in the trace distance in (36), and $\sigma_{RE_1 WT_B B^n}$ is a purification of the second term in the trace distance, Uhlmann's theorem [20], [37] implies the existence of an isometry $V \equiv V_{E_1 WT_B \rightarrow E_1 E_2 B'^n}$ such that the trace distance between $V(\sigma_{RE_1 WT_B B^n})$ and $\omega_{RE_1 E_2 B'^n \hat{B}^n}$ is no larger than $2\sqrt{\varepsilon}$. Let ω' denote the state resulting from applying V to $\sigma_{RE_1 WT_B B^n}$. Thus, the original decoder can be simulated by the isometry V which does not act on Bob's quantum side information (we should expect for this to be possible, given that the condition in (35) implies that Bob's QSI should not be disturbed too much). We also observe that ω' is ε -close in trace distance to a state of the form in (32) because $U^\mathcal{E}$ and V do not act on the systems $R^n B^n$. By applying Uhlmann's theorem once again and the triangle inequality, we conclude that there exists some isometry $U \equiv U_{E^n \rightarrow E_1 E_2}$ such that when U^\dagger is applied to ω' , the resulting state is close in trace distance to $(U_{A \rightarrow B'E}^\mathcal{N}(\phi_{RAB}^p))^{\otimes n}$. Figure 4 summarizes the observations made in this paragraph and the previous one.

Consider the following state:

$$\tau \equiv U_{E^n \rightarrow E_1 E_2}(U_{A \rightarrow B'E}^\mathcal{N}(\phi_{RAB}^p))^{\otimes n}, \quad (37)$$

where ϕ_{RAB}^p is a purification of ρ_{AB} , $U_{A \rightarrow B'E}^\mathcal{N}$ is a Stinespring isometry of the noisy channel \mathcal{N} which is to be simulated, and $U_{E^n \rightarrow E_1 E_2}$ is an isometry. This state is of the form as given in (32). We proceed to find a lower bound on the optimal rate Q of quantum communication needed for the channel simulation

as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} nQ \equiv \log(\dim \mathcal{H}_W) &\geq H(W)_\sigma \\ &= H(WT_B B^n)_\sigma - H(B^n T_B | W)_\sigma \\ &= H(E_2 B'^n \hat{B}^n)_\omega - H(B^n T_B | W)_\sigma \\ &\geq H(E_2 B'^n B^n)_{\omega'} - n\varepsilon' - H(B^n)_\sigma \\ &\quad - H(T_B)_\sigma \\ &= H(E_2 B'^n B^n)_{\omega'} - n\varepsilon' - H(B^n)_{\omega'} \\ &\quad - H(T_B)_\sigma \\ &\geq H(E_2 B'^n | B^n)_{\omega'} - nE - n\varepsilon' \\ &\geq H(E_2 B'^n | B^n)_\tau - nE - 2n\varepsilon'. \end{aligned} \quad (38)$$

The first equality is an entropy identity. The second equality follows because entropy is invariant under the action of an isometry (in this case, the isometry is $U^\mathcal{D}$). The second inequality follows from Uhlmann's theorem (as mentioned above), the Alicki-Fannes' inequality (continuity of entropy) with an appropriate choice of ε' (a similar convention to what we had in our previous converse theorems), and from subadditivity of entropy:

$$H(B^n T_B | W)_\sigma \leq H(B^n T_B)_\sigma \leq H(B^n)_\sigma + H(T_B)_\sigma.$$

The third equality follows because the map $V_{E_1 WT_B \rightarrow E_1 E_2 B'^n}$ does not act on the B^n system. The third inequality follows because $H(T_B)_\sigma \leq nE$. The final inequality follows from another application of the Alicki-Fannes' inequality to the state τ defined in (37).

We prove the second bound in (31):

$$\begin{aligned} I(R^n; B'^n B^n E_2)_\tau &\leq I(R^n; B'^n B^n E_2)_\omega + n2\varepsilon' \\ &= I(R^n; B^n WT_B)_\sigma + n2\varepsilon' \\ &\leq n2Q + I(R^n; B^n T_B)_\sigma + n2\varepsilon' \\ &= n2Q + I(R^n; B^n)_\sigma + n2\varepsilon' \\ &= n2Q + I(R^n; B^n)_\tau + n2\varepsilon' \end{aligned} \quad (39)$$

The first inequality results from the fact that τ is ε -close to ω' , ω' is ε -close to ω , and from applying the Alicki-Fannes inequality. The second inequality follows from quantum data processing. The third inequality follows from the following property of quantum conditional mutual information:

$$\begin{aligned} I(A; BC) &= I(A; B) + I(A; C|B) \\ &= I(A; B) + H(A|B) - H(A|BC) \\ &\leq I(A; B) + H(A) + H(A|D) \\ &\leq I(A; B) + 2\log|A|, \end{aligned}$$

where the entropies are evaluated on a tripartite state ρ_{ABC} purified by some state on a purifying system D . The first equality in the chain in (39) follows because T_B is product with systems R^n and B^n for the state σ . The above inequalities then imply that

$$n2Q \geq I(R^n; B'^n E_2 | B^n)_\tau - n2\varepsilon',$$

by finally applying the chain rule for quantum mutual information.

To obtain a converse proof for Theorem 13, we can exploit the above converse with just one further observation. Since a

$$\left\| \text{Tr}_{E_1 E_2 B'^n} \left\{ U_{W T_B B^n \rightarrow E_2 B'^n \hat{B}^n}^{\mathcal{D}} \left(U_{A^n T_A \rightarrow W E_1}^{\mathcal{E}} \left((\phi_{RAB}^{\rho})^{\otimes n} \otimes \Phi^{T_A T_B} \right) \right) \right\} - (\phi_{RB}^{\rho})^{\otimes n} \right\|_1 \leq \varepsilon, \quad (36)$$

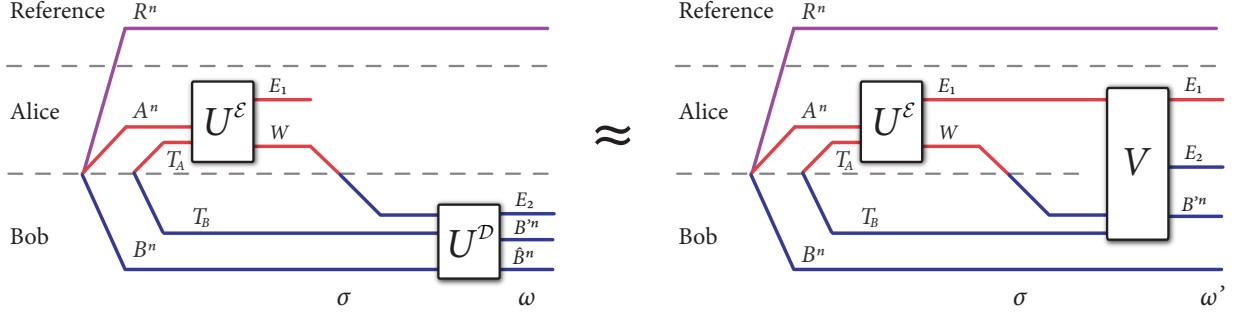


Fig. 4. The protocol on the left is a simulation of the general protocol in Figure 3, in which Alice acts with an isometric extension $U^{\mathcal{E}}$ of her encoder \mathcal{E} and Bob acts with an isometric extension $U^{\mathcal{D}}$ of his decoder \mathcal{D} . Due to the fact that the simulation causes only a negligible disturbance to the state of $R^n B^n$, by Uhlmann's theorem, there exists an isometry $V_{E_1 W T_B \rightarrow E_1 E_2 B'^n}$ such that the final state on the left is approximately equal to the final state on the right.

feedback simulation requires Alice to possess the full environment of the simulation, the final state on $R^n E_1 B'^n B^n$ must be a pure state and E_1 must be unitarily related to the E^n system of $(U_{A \rightarrow B' E}^{\mathcal{N}}(\phi_{RAB}^{\rho}))^{\otimes n}$. Thus, it must be the case that the system E_2 is product with $R^n E_1 B'^n B^n$. This final observation leads to a single-letterization of the above bounds as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} nQ &\geq H(E_2 B'^n | B^n)_{\tau} - nE - 2n\varepsilon' \\ &= H(B'^n | B^n)_{\tau} - nE - 2n\varepsilon' \\ &= n[H(B' | B)_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\rho_{AB})} - E - 2\varepsilon'], \end{aligned}$$

and similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} n2Q &\geq I(E_2 B'^n; R^n | B^n)_{\tau} - 2n\varepsilon' \\ &= I(B'^n; R^n | B^n)_{\tau} - 2n\varepsilon' \\ &= n[I(B'; R | B)_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\psi_{RAB}^{\rho})} - 2\varepsilon']. \end{aligned}$$

The main step in the above equalities is to exploit the observation that E_2 must be product with the other systems for a feedback simulation. ■

C. On a General Quantum Reverse Shannon Theorem with QSI

With the above tensor-power quantum reverse Shannon theorem with QSI in hand, one might be tempted to pursue a general form of this theorem that holds whenever the input to the channel is a general, non-IID state entangled with a system available at the receiver's end (non-IID input and quantum side information). From the above theorem and the techniques developed in Refs. [13], [14], we suspect that it is possible to show that the following rate of quantum communication is necessary and sufficient for simulating an IID channel acting on a general input entangled with a system at the receiving end, whenever unlimited entanglement in any form is available between the sender and receiver:

$$\frac{1}{2} \max_{\phi_{RAB}} I(R; B' | B)_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\phi)}. \quad (40)$$

Also, it is known from Refs. [13], [14] that the following rate of quantum communication is necessary and sufficient for simulating an IID channel acting on a general input (neglecting any quantum side information), whenever unlimited entanglement in any form is available between the sender and receiver:

$$\frac{1}{2} \max_{\psi_{RA}} I(R; B')_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\psi)}.$$

The following theorem clarifies that these two rates are in fact equal, implying that pursuing a general quantum reverse Shannon theorem with QSI is a pointless task if the conjectured rate in (40) is correct (at least for a feedback simulation). The reason that such a relation should hold is that the theorems from Refs. [13], [14] are simulating an IID channel with respect to the diamond norm,⁴ which is known to be robust under tensoring with other systems on which the channel does not act.

Theorem 15: The following identity holds

$$\max_{\psi_{RA}} I(R; B')_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\psi)} = \max_{\phi_{RAB}} I(R; B' | B)_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\phi)},$$

where each maximization is over pure states.

Proof: We first prove the following inequality:

$$\max_{\psi_{RA}} I(R; B')_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\psi)} \leq \max_{\phi_{RAB}} I(R; B' | B)_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\phi)}.$$

Let ψ_{RA}^* be the state that achieves the maximum of the LHS. Then the state $\psi_{RA}^* \otimes \varphi_B$ (for any pure state φ_B) leads to $\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\psi_{RA}^*) \otimes \varphi_B$ at the channel output, and it is a special pure state included in the maximization on the RHS, so that

$$\begin{aligned} I(R; B')_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\psi^*)} &= I(R; B' | B)_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\psi^* \otimes \varphi)} \\ &\leq \max_{\phi_{RAB}} I(R; B' | B)_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\phi)}. \end{aligned}$$

We now prove the other inequality:

$$\max_{\psi_{RA}} I(R; B')_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\psi)} \geq \max_{\phi_{RAB}} I(R; B' | B)_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\phi)}. \quad (41)$$

⁴See, e.g., Refs. [13], [14] for a definition of the diamond norm.

Let ϕ_{RAB}^* be the pure state that achieves the maximum on the RHS. Then we have that

$$\begin{aligned} I(R; B'|B)_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\phi^*)} &= I(RB; B')_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\phi^*)} \\ &\quad - I(B; B')_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\phi^*)} \\ &\leq I(RB; B')_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\phi^*)} \\ &\leq \max_{\psi_{RA}} I(R; B')_{\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\psi)}. \end{aligned}$$

The first equality follows from the chain rule for quantum mutual information, and the first inequality follows because $I(B; B') \geq 0$. The final inequality follows because ϕ^* is some pure bipartite state with respect to the cut $RB|A$, where the systems R and B purify the input to the channel, and this is of course a particular kind of state in the maximization on the LHS of (41). ■

D. Quantum Rate Distortion with Quantum Side Information

Having established the quantum reverse Shannon theorem with QSI, we now prove a theorem characterizing the quantum rate distortion function in the presence of QSI, which is denoted as $R_{qsi}^q(D)$ and was introduced at the beginning of Section VI.

Theorem 16: Consider a bipartite state ρ_{AB} , obtained by the action of an isometry on the source state of a memoryless quantum information source. Suppose Alice has the system A and Bob has the system B , the latter acting as QSI. Let ϕ_{RAB}^ρ be a purification of ρ_{AB} . Then for any given distortion $D \geq 0$, the quantum rate distortion function with QSI, evaluated under the condition that the protocol causes only a negligible disturbance to the joint state of the BR systems, is given by

$$R_{qsi}^q(D) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{k} \min_{\mathcal{N}^{(k)} : d(\rho, \mathcal{N}^{(k)}) \leq D} I_p\left((\rho_{AB})^{\otimes k}, \mathcal{N}^{(k)}\right) \quad (42)$$

where

$$I_p(\rho_{AB}, \mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}) \equiv \inf_{V_{E \rightarrow E_A E_B}} \max \left\{ \frac{1}{2} I(R; B' E_B | B)_\omega, H(B' E_B | B)_\omega \right\},$$

with $\omega_{RE_A E_B B' B} \equiv V_{E \rightarrow E_A E_B} (U_{A \rightarrow B' E}^\mathcal{N}(\phi_{RAB}^\rho))$. In the above, $\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}$ and $\mathcal{N}^{(k)} : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_{A^k}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_{B^k})$ are CPTP maps, $U_{A \rightarrow B' E}^\mathcal{N}$ is an isometric extension of $\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}$, and $V_{E \rightarrow E_A E_B}$ is an environment-splitting isometry.

Proof: The achievability part of this theorem follows easily from Theorem 14. In particular, we just fix the map that achieves the minimum in (42), and it easily follows that performing the protocol from Theorem 14 leads to a state on R^n and B'^n that has distortion no larger than D with the original state on R^n and A^n . We can block the protocol to achieve the regularized formula.

We now prove the converse. As before, the most general protocol begins with the reference, Alice, and Bob sharing n copies of the state ϕ_{RAB}^ρ . Alice performs some encoding map \mathcal{E} on the systems A^n , obtaining a quantum system W . She sends system W to Bob using noiseless qubit channels. Bob feeds this system, and his quantum side information B^n ,

into a decoding map \mathcal{D} , which produces as output systems B'^n and \hat{B}^n . We demand that the distortion of the state of systems $R^n B'^n$ with respect to the state of $R^n A^n$ at the start of the protocol be no larger than D . Also, we demand that the decoder causes only an asymptotically negligible disturbance of the joint state of the reference and the quantum side information, in the sense that for any $\varepsilon > 0$, for n large enough:

$$\left\| \text{Tr}_{B'^n} \left\{ \mathcal{D}^{W B^n \rightarrow B'^n \hat{B}^n} \left(\mathcal{E}^{A^n \rightarrow W} \left((\phi_{RAB}^\rho)^{\otimes n} \right) \right) \right\} - (\phi_{RB}^\rho)^{\otimes n} \right\|_1 \leq \varepsilon. \quad (43)$$

Like our other converses, the key to this proof is the realization that the above general protocol can be simulated by one in which we exploit an isometric extension of the encoder $U^\mathcal{E}$, which maps A^n to W and an environment E_1 . Let σ denote the overall state after $U^\mathcal{E}$ acts (so that $\sigma_{R^n E_1 W B^n}$ is a pure state). We also exploit an isometric extension $U^\mathcal{D}$ of the decoder, which maps $W B^n$ to $B'^n \hat{B}^n$ and an environment E_2 . Let $\omega \equiv \omega_{R^n E_1 E_2 B'^n \hat{B}^n}$ denote the overall state after $U^\mathcal{D}$ acts. We proceed with bounding the rate Q of noiseless quantum communication by following the same steps as in (38) and (39), but ignoring the entanglement assistance:

$$nQ \geq H(E_2 B'^n | B^n)_{\omega'} - n\varepsilon', \quad (44)$$

$$nQ \geq \frac{1}{2} I(E_2 B'^n; R^n | B^n)_{\omega'} - n\varepsilon'. \quad (45)$$

Putting things together, we obtain the following lower bound on the quantum communication rate:

$$\begin{aligned} nQ &\geq \max \left\{ \frac{1}{2} I(E_2 B'^n; R^n | B^n)_{\omega'}, H(E_2 B'^n | B^n)_{\omega'} \right\} - n\varepsilon' \\ &\geq \inf_{V_{E^n \rightarrow E_1 E_2}} \max \left\{ \frac{1}{2} I(E_2 B'^n; R^n | B^n)_{\omega'}, \right. \\ &\quad \left. H(E_2 B'^n | B^n)_{\omega'} \right\} - n\varepsilon' \\ &\geq \min_{\mathcal{N}^{(n)} : d(\rho^{\otimes n}, \mathcal{N}^{(n)}) \leq D} I_p\left((\rho_{AB})^{\otimes n}, \mathcal{N}^{(n)}\right) - n\varepsilon', \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathcal{N}^{(n)} : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_{A^n}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_{B^n})$ denotes a CPTP map. The first inequality follows by combining (44) and (45). The second inequality follows by performing an optimization over all possible splits of the environment. The final inequality results from minimizing I_p over all maps $\mathcal{N}^{(n)}$ that act only on A^n and meet the distortion criterion. ■

E. Entanglement-Assisted Quantum Rate Distortion with Quantum Side Information

If in addition to Bob having quantum side information, Alice and Bob have prior shared entanglement (over systems T_A and T_B) as an auxiliary resource, then the corresponding rate distortion function, for any given distortion D is denoted as $R_{ea,qsi}^q(D)$. It is defined analogously as in (10)-(11), except that Bob can use the QSI in his decompression task. Hence the decompression map is given by

$$\mathcal{D}_n : \mathcal{D}(\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{Q^n} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{T_B} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{B^n}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}_A^{\otimes n}).$$

We prove the following theorem:

Theorem 17: Suppose Alice and Bob share entanglement and a state ρ_{AB} (obtained from a memoryless quantum information source), such that the system A is with Alice and B is with Bob. Let ϕ_{RAB}^ρ be a purification of ρ_{AB} . Then the quantum rate distortion function, $R_{ea,qsi}^q(D)$, evaluated under the condition that the protocol causes only a negligible disturbance to the joint state of BR is given by

$$R_{ea,qsi}^q(D) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\min_{\mathcal{N} : d(\rho, \mathcal{N}) \leq D} I(R; B'|B)_\sigma \right] \quad (46)$$

where the state σ is defined as:

$$\sigma_{RB'B} \equiv \mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}(\phi_{RAB}^\rho).$$

Proof: The achievability part follows easily from the protocol for quantum state redistribution. Fix \mathcal{N} to be the CPTP map which achieves the minimum in (46) for a given distortion D . It is straightforward to compute this minimum because the information quantity $I(B'; R|B)_\sigma$ is convex in the map \mathcal{N} . This follows easily from the identity $I(B'; R|B)_\sigma = I(B'B; R)_\sigma - I(B; R)_\sigma$, and the fact that the map, \mathcal{N} , acts only on the system A . The reference, Alice, and Bob share n copies of ϕ_{RAB}^ρ . First Alice acts on her system A^n with many instances of an isometric extension $U_{A \rightarrow B'E}^{\mathcal{N}}$ of the map $\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B'}$. Let $(\phi_{RB'E}^\sigma)^{\otimes n}$ denote the resulting pure state, with the systems $B'^n E^n$ being in Alice's possession. Note that since \mathcal{N} is chosen to be the CPTP map which meets the distortion constraint $d(\rho, \mathcal{N}) \leq D$, the rate-distortion task is completed if the systems B'^n are transmitted to Bob faithfully in the asymptotic limit ($n \rightarrow \infty$). This is accomplished by using the protocol of quantum state redistribution. From (26) it follows that the relevant resource inequality is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \phi_{R|B'E|B}^\sigma \rangle + \frac{1}{2} I(R; B'|B)_{\phi^\sigma} [q \rightarrow q] + \frac{1}{2} I(E; B')_{\phi^\sigma} [qq] \\ \geq \langle \phi_{R|E|B'B}^\sigma \rangle + \frac{1}{2} I(B; B')_{\phi^\sigma} [qq]. \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

Clearly, with unlimited entanglement, the protocol accomplishes the state redistribution task with a rate of quantum communication given by (46).

We now prove the converse part of the above theorem. This proof bears some similarities with our converse proof of Theorem 3 of Ref. [5] and with the converse proof of Theorem 6 of [12]. The most general protocol begins with the reference, Alice, and Bob sharing the state $(\phi_{RAB}^\rho)^{\otimes n}$, and Alice and Bob sharing entanglement in the systems T_A and T_B , respectively (such that the dimensions of \mathcal{H}_{T_A} and \mathcal{H}_{T_B} are no larger than 2^{nE}). Alice then acts with some encoding map \mathcal{E} on A^n and T_B , producing a system W . Let σ denote the state shared by Alice, Bob and the reference after the encoding. She sends W to Bob, who then acts with a decoding map \mathcal{D} on W , his share T_B of the entanglement, and his quantum side information B^n to produce systems B'^n and \hat{B}^n . Let ω denote the final shared state. Without loss of generality, we can simulate the above protocol by considering an isometric extension of the encoder that produces systems W and E as output. We demand that the protocol causes only an asymptotically negligible disturbance to the state on the reference and Bob's systems, in the sense that, for any $\varepsilon > 0$ and n large

enough, the inequality in (48) should hold. Then the rate of quantum communication $Q \equiv (1/n) \log(\dim \mathcal{H}_W)$, needed for the rate-distortion coding task, satisfies the following bound:

$$2nQ \geq nR_{ea,qsi}^q(D) - 3n\varepsilon', \quad (49)$$

for any $\varepsilon' > 0$ and n large enough. It is proved by employing standard entropic identities and inequalities, e.g. the quantum-data processing inequality, the Alicki-Fannes inequality [19], and the superadditivity of the quantum mutual information (Lemma 3). It also relies on the fact that the state $R^n \hat{B}^n$ is ε -close in trace distance to a tensor-product state. For the sake of completeness, we have included the proof in Appendix A. ■

VII. CONCLUSION

We have extended quantum rate distortion theory by considering auxiliary resources that might be available to the sender and receiver. The first setting we considered is quantum rate distortion coding with the help of a classical side channel. Our result is that the regularized entanglement of formation characterizes the quantum rate distortion function, extending earlier work of Devetak and Berger [8]. We also combined this bound with our entanglement-assisted bound from Ref. [5] to obtain the best known bounds on the quantum rate distortion function for an isotropic qubit source. The second setting we considered is quantum rate distortion coding with quantum side information available to the receiver. Before proving results in this setting, we proved a quantum reverse Shannon theorem with quantum side information (for tensor-power input states), which naturally extends the quantum reverse Shannon theorem (for tensor-power inputs) in Ref. [13]. The achievability part of this theorem relies on the quantum state redistribution protocol [17], [18], while the converse relies on the fact that the protocol can cause only a negligible disturbance to the state of the reference and Bob's quantum side information. This result naturally leads to quantum rate-distortion theorems with quantum side information, with or without entanglement assistance.

All of our proofs rely on one particular approach to quantum rate distortion theory: exploiting a quantum reverse Shannon theorem for the task of quantum rate distortion coding. It would be a breakthrough for this theory if one could develop a different approach that leads to better characterizations of lossy quantum data compression tasks, beyond the ones presented here.

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$$\left\| \text{Tr}_{B'^n} \left\{ \mathcal{D}_{WT_B B^n \rightarrow B'^n \hat{B}^n} (\mathcal{E}_{A^n T_A \rightarrow W} ((\phi_{RAB}^\rho)^{\otimes n} \otimes \Phi_{T_A T_B})) \right\} - (\phi_{RB}^\rho)^{\otimes n} \right\|_1 \leq \varepsilon, \quad (48)$$

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APPENDIX

First recall that the quantum rate distortion function has the following characterization:

$$R^q(D) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{k} \left[\min_{\mathcal{N}^{(k)} : \bar{d}(\rho, \mathcal{N}^{(k)}) \leq D} E_p(\rho^{\otimes k}, \mathcal{N}^{(k)}) \right].$$

We would like to show that the expression on the RHS above is convex in D :

$$R^q(D_\lambda) \leq \lambda R^q(D_1) + (1 - \lambda) R^q(D_2), \quad (50)$$

where $D_\lambda \equiv \lambda D_1 + (1 - \lambda) D_2$. We will choose k_1 and k_2 to be large integers such that

$$\frac{k_1}{k_1 + k_2} \approx \lambda.$$

(We can actually just take $k_1 = \lceil a k_2 \rceil$ for $a = [\frac{1}{\lambda} - 1]^{-1}$, so that there is just one integer to consider.) For k_i and D_i where $i \in \{1, 2\}$, let $\mathcal{N}_i^{(k_i)}$ be the CPTP map that minimizes

$$\min_{\mathcal{N}^{(k_i)} : \bar{d}(\rho, \mathcal{N}^{(k_i)}) \leq D_i} E_p(\rho^{\otimes k_i}, \mathcal{N}^{(k_i)}).$$

Thus, whenever the distortion measure under consideration is linear and averaged, we have that the distortion caused by the map $\mathcal{N}_1^{(k_1)} \otimes \mathcal{N}_2^{(k_2)}$ is approximately equal to D_λ . Then we have that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{k_1 + k_2} \left[\min_{\mathcal{N}^{(k_1+k_2)} : \bar{d}(\rho, \mathcal{N}^{(k_1+k_2)}) \leq D} E_p(\rho^{\otimes(k_1+k_2)}, \mathcal{N}^{(k_1+k_2)}) \right] \\ & \leq \frac{1}{k_1 + k_2} E_p(\rho^{\otimes(k_1+k_2)}, \mathcal{N}_1^{(k_1)} \otimes \mathcal{N}_2^{(k_2)}) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{k_1 + k_2} \left[E_p(\rho^{\otimes k_1}, \mathcal{N}_1^{(k_1)}) + E_p(\rho^{\otimes k_2}, \mathcal{N}_2^{(k_2)}) \right] \\ & = \frac{k_1}{k_1 + k_2} \left(\frac{1}{k_1} \right) E_p(\rho^{\otimes k_1}, \mathcal{N}_1^{(k_1)}) \\ & \quad + \frac{k_2}{k_1 + k_2} \left(\frac{1}{k_2} \right) E_p(\rho^{\otimes k_2}, \mathcal{N}_2^{(k_2)}) \\ & \approx \lambda \frac{1}{k_1} E_p(\rho^{\otimes k_1}, \mathcal{N}_1^{(k_1)}) \\ & \quad + (1 - \lambda) \frac{1}{k_2} E_p(\rho^{\otimes k_2}, \mathcal{N}_2^{(k_2)}). \end{aligned}$$

The important second inequality follows from subadditivity of the entanglement of purification. Since the above relation holds

for every choice of k_2 and $k_1 = \lceil a k_2 \rceil$ and the corresponding minimizing maps $\mathcal{N}_1^{(k_1)}$ and $\mathcal{N}_2^{(k_2)}$, it follows that it holds in the limit, implying (50) as desired. Clearly, this argument is very similar to the observation regarding time-sharing of rate distortion codes in Remark 5.

Here we give the details of the proof of the converse part of Theorem 17, which deals with entanglement-assisted quantum rate distortion with quantum side information. Continuing from (48), we obtain a lower bound on the optimal rate Q of quantum communication needed for this

$$\begin{aligned} 2nQ & \equiv 2 \log(\dim \mathcal{H}_W) \\ & \geq 2H(W)_\sigma \\ & = H(W)_\sigma + H(R^n T_B B^n E)_\sigma \\ & = H(W)_\sigma + H(R^n T_B B^n E)_\sigma - H(W R^n T_B B^n E)_\sigma \\ & = I(W; R^n T_B B^n E)_\sigma \\ & \geq I(W; R^n T_B B^n)_\sigma \\ & = I(W T_B B^n; R^n)_\sigma + I(W; T_B B^n)_\sigma - I(R^n; T_B B^n)_\sigma \\ & = I(W T_B B^n; R^n)_\sigma + I(W; T_B B^n)_\sigma - I(R^n; B^n)_\sigma \\ & \geq I(W T_B B^n; R^n)_\sigma - I(R^n; B^n)_\sigma \\ & \geq I(B'^n \hat{B}^n; R^n)_\omega - I(R^n; \hat{B}^n)_\omega - n\varepsilon'. \end{aligned}$$

In the above, the states σ and ω are as defined above (48). The first inequality follows because the entropy of a system is never larger than the logarithm of its dimension. The first equality follows because the entropy of the marginals of a pure bipartite state are equal. The second equality follows because the entropy of a pure state is equal to zero, so that $H(W R^n T_B B^n E) = 0$. The third equality is an identity. The second inequality follows from quantum data processing. The fourth equality follows from an identity for the quantum mutual information. The fifth equality follows because $R^n B^n$ and T_B are in a product state, so that $I(R^n; T_B B^n)_\sigma = I(R^n; B^n)_\sigma$. The third inequality follows because $I(W; T_B B^n)_\sigma \geq 0$. The last inequality follows from quantum data processing and the assumption that that protocol causes only a negligible disturbance to the state of the reference and the receiver (the term ε' arises from an application of the Alicki-Fannes' inequality, where ε' is a function of ε such that $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon'(\varepsilon) = 0$).

Let B'_k , $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ denote the subsystems (with Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}_{B'}$) constituting the system B'^n . Similarly, let \hat{B}_k and R_k ($k = 1, 2, \dots, n$) denote the corresponding subsystems of \hat{B}^n and R^n respectively. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RHS of (48)} & \geq \sum_k \left[I(B'_k \hat{B}_k; R_k)_\omega - I(R_k; \hat{B}_k)_\omega \right] - 2n\varepsilon' \\ & = \sum_k I(B'_k; R_k | \hat{B}_k)_\omega - 2n\varepsilon'. \end{aligned}$$

The first inequality follows from superadditivity of quantum mutual information (Lemma 3) and from the fact that the

state on $R^n \hat{B}^n$ is ε -close in trace distance to a tensor-product state (see Lemma 10 of Ref. [21]). The second equality follows from the identity $I(B'_k; \hat{B}_k; R_k)_\omega - I(R_k; \hat{B}_k)_\omega = I(B'_k; R_k | \hat{B}_k)_\omega$.

At this point, we proceed with an argument similar to that in the converse proof of Theorem 6 of [12]. Since the state on $R^n \hat{B}^n$ is not disturbed too much, by Uhlmann's theorem we know that there exists a CPTP map acting Alice's system alone, such that the conditional mutual information of the state ω' resulting from this map is a lower bound on the conditional mutual information $I(B'_k; R_k | \hat{B}_k)_\omega$ for every $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$:

$$\geq \sum_k I(B'_k; R_k | \hat{B}_k)_{\omega'} - 3n\varepsilon'.$$

Continuing, we have the same set of inequalities as in the last part of the proof of Theorem 6 of [12] (with $R_{ea,qsi}$ replacing R_{qsi}^{qc}):

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq \sum_k R_{ea,qsi}^q \left(d\left(\rho, \mathcal{F}_n^{(k)}\right) \right) - 3n\varepsilon' \\ &= n \sum_k \frac{1}{n} R_{ea,qsi}^q \left(d\left(\rho, \mathcal{F}_n^{(k)}\right) \right) - 3n\varepsilon' \\ &\geq n R_{ea,qsi}^q \left(\sum_k \frac{1}{n} d\left(\rho, \mathcal{F}_n^{(k)}\right) \right) - 3n\varepsilon' \\ &\geq n R_{ea,qsi}^q(D) - 3n\varepsilon'. \end{aligned}$$

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