

Absolute separability of symmetric multiqubit systems under unitary transformations

Eduardo Serrano Ensástiga, Jérôme Denis and John Martin

IPNAS, CESAM, University of Liège, Belgium

SciPost Phys. **15**, 120 (2023), PRA **109**, 022430 (2024)

March 14, 2024

- ① Statement of the problem
 - Ⓐ Entangled and separable states
 - Ⓑ Absolutely separable states
 - Ⓒ Symmetric case: Symmetric absolutely separable (SAS) states

- ② Results
 - Ⓐ Symmetric 2-qubit system
 - Ⓑ Symmetric 3-qubit system (Numerical results)
 - Ⓒ SAS witnesses for symmetric N -qubit systems
 - Ⓐ One linear SAS witness
 - Ⓑ Two non-linear SAS witnesses

- ③ Conclusions

Entanglement

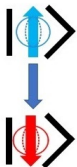
Qubit-qubit system $\mathcal{H}_2^{\otimes 2}$

Maximally entangled state (N=1)

$$|\uparrow\rangle_A |\downarrow\rangle_B + |\downarrow\rangle_A |\uparrow\rangle_B$$

Measurement of qubit A

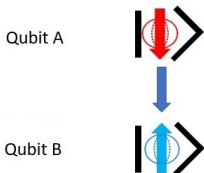
Case 1



Qubit A

Qubit B

Case 2



Qubit A

Qubit B

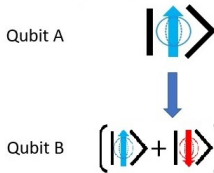
Qubit B is completely determined
[Correlation between A and B]

Separable state (N=0)

$$\left(|\uparrow\rangle_A + |\downarrow\rangle_A \right) \left(|\uparrow\rangle_B + |\downarrow\rangle_B \right)$$

Measurement of qubit A

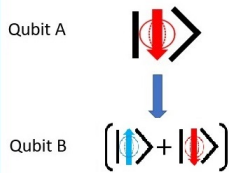
Case 1



Qubit A

Qubit B

Case 2



Qubit A

Qubit B

Qubit B is independent of the result
[No correlation between A and B]

Entanglement of mixed states

Separable mixed states [Werner (1989)]

ρ is separable if

$$\rho = \int_{\mathcal{H}_2^{\otimes 2}} P(\mathbf{n}_1, \mathbf{n}_2) |\mathbf{n}_1\rangle |\mathbf{n}_2\rangle \langle \mathbf{n}_1| \langle \mathbf{n}_2| d\mathbf{n}_1 d\mathbf{n}_2 .$$

with $P(\mathbf{n}_1, \mathbf{n}_2) \geq 0$. Otherwise is entangled.



Negativity: Measure of entanglement for qubit-qubit and qubit-qutrit, [Peres (1996)], [Horodecki et al (1996)]

\mathcal{N} is defined in terms of the negative eigenvalues Λ_k of ρ^{TA}

$$\mathcal{N}(\rho) = -2 \sum_{\Lambda_k < 0} \Lambda_k ,$$

- $\mathcal{N}(\rho_{sep}) = 0$.
- Invariant under local unitary transformations.

Entanglement

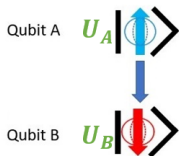
Invariant under local unitary transformations $U_A \otimes U_B \in SU(2) \otimes SU(2)$

Maximally entangled state (N=1)

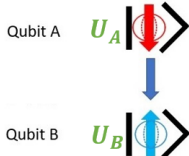
$$U_A |\uparrow\rangle U_B |\downarrow\rangle + U_A |\downarrow\rangle U_B |\uparrow\rangle$$

Measurement of qubit A

Case 1



Case 2



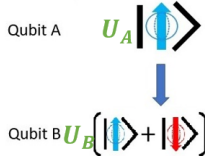
Qubit B is completely determined
[Correlation between A and B]

Separable state (N=0)

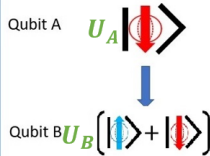
$$U_A (|\uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\rangle) U_B (|\uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\rangle)$$

Measurement of qubit A

Case 1



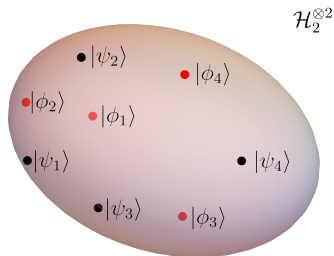
Case 2



Qubit B is independent of the result
[No correlation between A and B]

Entanglement (Pure state case)

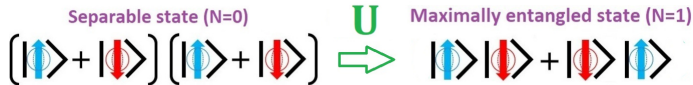
Not-invariant under **global** unitary transformations $SU(4)$



Global unitary transformation

$$\rho = \sum_{k=0}^3 \lambda_k |\phi_k\rangle \langle \phi_k|,$$

$$U\rho U^\dagger = \sum_{k=0}^3 \lambda_k |\psi_k\rangle \langle \psi_k|,$$



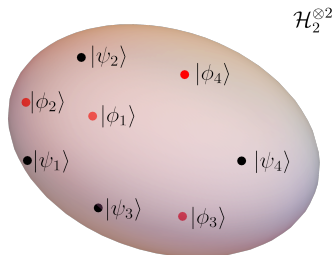
Pure state ρ_{pure}

$$\lambda_0 = 1, \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 0,$$

$$\max_{U \in SU(4)} \mathcal{N}(U\rho_{pure}U^\dagger) = 1,$$

Entanglement (Maximally mixed state case)

Not-invariant under **global** unitary transformations $SU(4)$



Global unitary transformation

$$\rho = \sum_{k=0}^3 \lambda_k |\phi_k\rangle\langle\phi_k|,$$

$$U\rho U^\dagger = \sum_{k=0}^3 \lambda_k |\psi_k\rangle\langle\psi_k|,$$

$$\rho_* = U\rho_* U^\dagger = \frac{1}{4}\mathbb{1} = \frac{1}{4} \int_{S^2 \otimes S^2} |\mathbf{n}_1\rangle|\mathbf{n}_2\rangle\langle\mathbf{n}_1|\langle\mathbf{n}_2| d^2\mathbf{n}_1 d^2\mathbf{n}_2.$$

Maximally mixed state ρ_*

$$\lambda_0 = \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 1/4,$$

$$\max_{U \in SU(4)} \mathcal{N}(U\rho_* U^\dagger) = 0,$$

Maximum entanglement in the unitary orbit of ρ

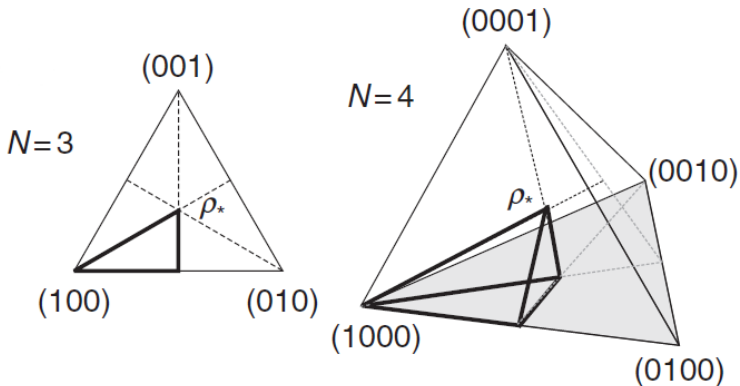


Figure taken from [Bengtsson and Życzkowski (2017)]

Questions

- What is the maximum entanglement of ρ attained in its $SU(4)$ -orbit?
- Is ρ_* the unique state that is absolutely separable (AS) over all its unitary orbit?

Maximum entanglement in the unitary orbit of ρ

Results for qubit-qubit and qubit-qutrit systems

Qubit-qubit system $\mathcal{H}_2^{\otimes 2}$

ρ -spectrum: $(\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3)$

$$\max_{U \in SU(4)} \mathcal{N}(U\rho U^\dagger) = \max\left(0, \sqrt{(\lambda_0 - \lambda_2)^2 + (\lambda_1 - \lambda_3)^2} - \lambda_1 - \lambda_3\right),$$

ρ is AS iff $\lambda_0 \leq \lambda_2 + 2\sqrt{\lambda_1\lambda_3}$.

[Verstraete, Audenart & De Moor (2001)].

Qubit-qutrit system $\mathcal{H}_2 \otimes \mathcal{H}_3$

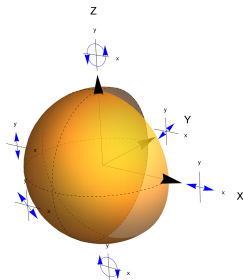
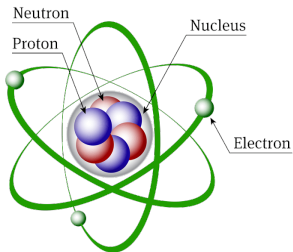
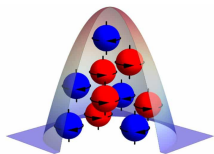
ρ -spectrum: $(\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, \lambda_4, \lambda_5)$

$$\max_{U \in SU(6)} \mathcal{N}(U\rho U^\dagger)$$

Open question. Partial results [Mendonça, Marchioli, Herdemann (2017)]

Statement of the problem

Bosons: BEC, spin- j system, multiphotons systems, etc.



New question

For a symmetric qubit-qubit state ρ_S ,

- What is the maximum entanglement achievable under a global unitary transformation U_S restricted in the symmetric subspace ?
- What is the spectrum of the symmetric states that remains separable after any global unitary transformation U_S ?

Symmetric bipartite systems

Qubit-qubit system $\mathcal{H}_2^{\otimes 2}$

ρ -spectrum: $(\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3)$

$$\max_{U \in SU(4)} \mathcal{N}(U\rho U^\dagger)$$

Qubit-qutrit system $\mathcal{H}_2 \otimes \mathcal{H}_3$

ρ -spectrum: $(\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, \lambda_4, \lambda_5)$

$$\max_{U \in SU(6)} \mathcal{N}(U\rho U^\dagger)$$

Symmetric 2-qubit system $\mathcal{H}_2^{\vee 2}$

ρ_S -spectrum: $(\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, 0)$

$$\max_{U_S \in SU(3)} \mathcal{N}(U_S \rho_S U_S^\dagger)$$

Symmetric 3-qubit system $\mathcal{H}_2^{\vee 3}$

ρ_S -spectrum: $(\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, 0, 0)$

$$\max_{U_S \in SU(4)} \mathcal{N}(U_S \rho_S U_S^\dagger)$$

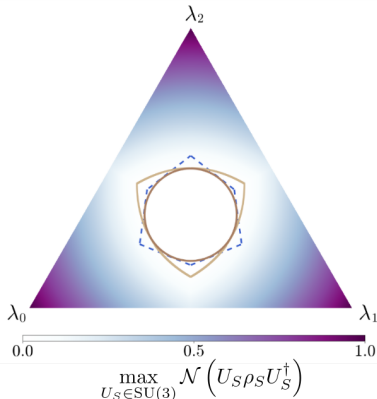
Symmetric 2-qubit system

Symmetric 2-qubit system

Theorem [ESE, Martin (2023)]

Let $\rho_S \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_2^{\vee 2})$ with spectrum $\lambda_0 \geq \lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2$. It holds that

$$\max_{U_S \in SU(3)} \mathcal{N}(U_S \rho_S U_S^\dagger) = \max\left(0, \sqrt{\lambda_0^2 + (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^2} - \lambda_1 - \lambda_2\right).$$



Maximally entangled state

$$\rho_S = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

SAS states

 \mathcal{A}

Absolutely separable (AS) states

[Życzkowski (1999)]

$$\max_{U \in SU(4)} \mathcal{N}(U\rho_S U^\dagger) = 0$$

$$\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{H}_2^{\vee 2}) = \{\rho_0\}$$

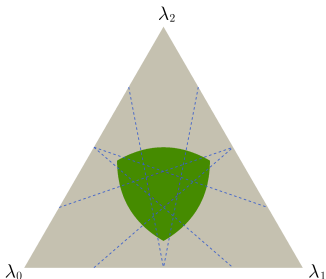
 \mathcal{A}_{sym}

Symmetric absolutely separable

(SAS) states [Giraud et al (2008)]

$$\max_{U \in SU(3)} \mathcal{N}(U_S \rho_S U_S^\dagger) = 0$$

$$d(\mathcal{A}_{\text{sym}}(\mathcal{H}_2^{\vee 2})) = 2$$



Corollary [ESE, Martin (2023)]

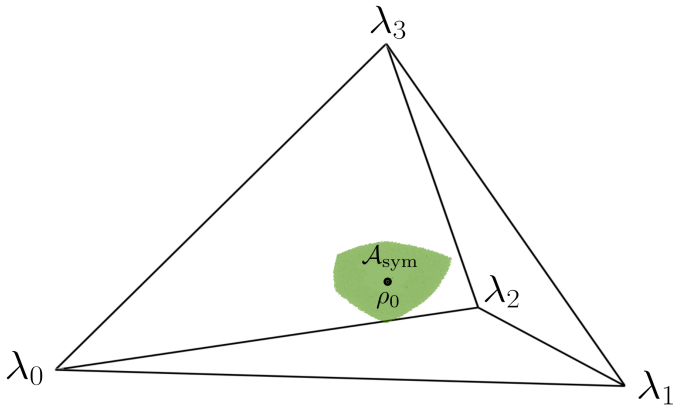
$\rho_S \in \mathcal{A}_{\text{sym}}$ iff

$$\sqrt{\lambda_1} + \sqrt{\lambda_2} \geq 1.$$

Symmetric 3-qubit system

Symmetric 3-qubit system

$\mathcal{H}_2^{\vee 3} \subset \mathcal{H}_2 \otimes \mathcal{H}_3$, numerical results



Set of SAS states in the spectra polytope of symmetric 3-qubit states.

SAS witnesses for symmetric N -qubit states

SAS witnesses for symmetric N -qubit states

[ESE, Denis, Martin (2023)]

SAS states

Let $\rho \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_2^{\vee N})$, $\rho \in \mathcal{A}_{\text{sym}} \Leftrightarrow$ there exists $P(U\rho U^\dagger; \mathbf{n})$ such that

$$U\rho U^\dagger = \int_{S^2} P(U\rho U^\dagger; \mathbf{n}) |\mathbf{n}\rangle^{\otimes N} \langle \mathbf{n}|^{\otimes N} d^2\mathbf{n},$$

and

$$\min_{\substack{U \in SU(N+1) \\ \mathbf{n} \in S^2}} P(U\rho U^\dagger; \mathbf{n}) \geq 0,$$

SAS-witness \mathcal{W} [Bohnet-Waldraff, Giraud, Braun (2017)]

$$\rho \in \mathcal{A}_{\text{sym}} \text{ if } \text{Tr}(\rho^2) \leq \frac{1}{N+1} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2(2N+1) \binom{2N}{N} - (N+2)} \right),$$

SAS witnesses for symmetric N -qubit states

Non-uniqueness of the P-function [Giraud, Braun, Braun (2008)]

$$P(\rho, \mathbf{n}) = \underbrace{\sum_{L=0}^N \sum_{M=-L}^L y_{LM} Y_{LM}(\mathbf{n})}_{P_0 = \text{Tr}(\rho \omega^{(1)}(\mathbf{n})), \text{ unique for } \rho} + \underbrace{\sum_{L=N+1}^{\infty} \sum_{M=-L}^L y_{LM} Y_{LM}(\mathbf{n})}_{P', \text{ arbitrary } y_{LM}},$$

Proposal

To consider $P(\rho, \mathbf{n})$ such that

i) They are covariant

$$P(U\rho U^\dagger, \mathbf{n}) = P(D(R)^\dagger U\rho U^\dagger D(R), \mathbf{z}) = P(V\rho V^\dagger, \mathbf{z}).$$

ii) We built $P(U\rho U^\dagger, \mathbf{n})$ that their explicit expressions depend only on (or can be approximated) the unistochastic matrices $B \in \mathcal{U}_{N+1} \subset \mathcal{B}_{N+1}$

$$B_{ij} = |V_{ij}|^2, \quad B_{ij} \geq 0, \quad \sum_i B_{ij} = \sum_j B_{ij} = 1.$$

SAS witness \mathcal{W}_1 : A polytope of SAS states

$P = P_0$ [Denis, Davis, Mann, Martin (2023)]

Observation 1

$$\min_{\substack{U \in SU(N+1) \\ \mathbf{n} \in S^2}} P_0(U\rho U^\dagger; \mathbf{n}) = \min_{V \in SU(N+1)} \text{Tr} \left[\rho V \omega^{(1)}(\mathbf{z}) V^\dagger \right]$$

$$\left(\rho_{jk} = \tau_j \delta_{jk}, \omega^{(1)}(\mathbf{z})_{jk} = \Delta_j \delta_{jk} \right) = \min_{B \in \mathcal{U}_{N+1}} \lambda B \Delta^T,$$

B a unistochastic matrix, $B \in \mathcal{U}_{N+1} \subset \mathcal{B}_{N+1}$.

Observation 2 (Birkhoff's Theorem)

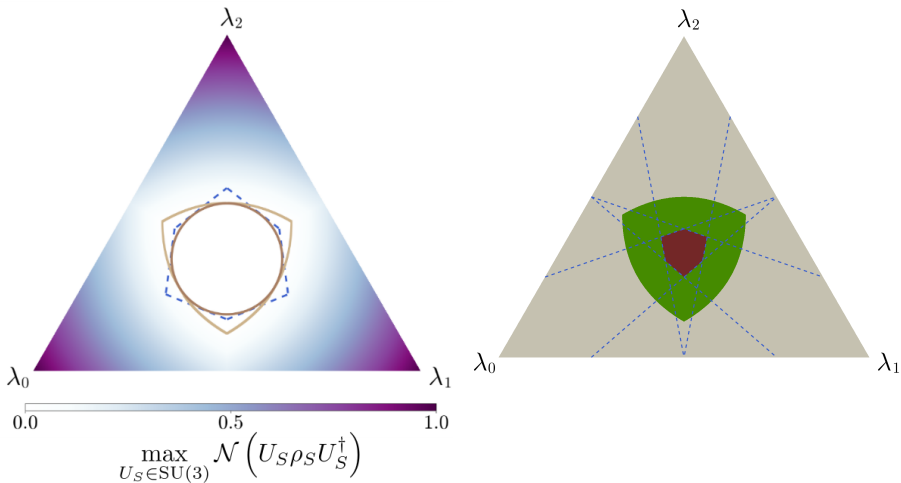
Permutations matrices achieve extremal values of a convex function $f(B)$

$$\min_{B \in \mathcal{U}_{N+1}} \lambda B \Delta^T = \min_{\Pi \in S_{N+1}} \lambda \Pi \Delta^T,$$

SAS witness \mathcal{W}_1

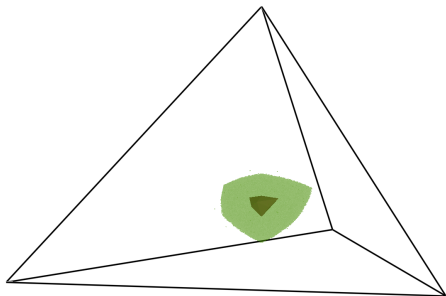
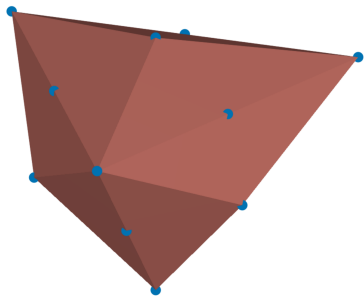
$$\rho \in \mathcal{A}_{\text{sym}} \quad \text{if} \quad \lambda \downarrow \Delta \uparrow^T \geq 0, \quad \Delta_k = (-1)^{N-k} \binom{N+1}{k},$$

SAS Witness \mathcal{W}_1 for $N = 2$



Polytope of SAS states detected by \mathcal{W}_1 for $N = 2$.

SAS Witness \mathcal{W}_1 for $N = 3$



Polytope of SAS states detected by \mathcal{W}_1 for $N = 3$.

Non-uniqueness of the P-function [Giraud, Braun, Braun (2008)]

$$P(\rho, \mathbf{n}) = \underbrace{\sum_{L=0}^N \sum_{M=-L}^L y_{LM} Y_{LM}(\mathbf{n})}_{P_0 = \text{Tr}(\rho \omega^{(1)}(\mathbf{n})), \text{ unique for } \rho} + \underbrace{\sum_{L=N+1}^{\infty} \sum_{M=-L}^L y_{LM} Y_{LM}(\mathbf{n})}_{P', \text{ arbitrary } y_{LM}},$$

We add some quadratic SU(2)-covariant terms of ρ (with $j = N/2$)

$$Q_L(\rho, \mathbf{n}) = \sum_{M=-L}^L \text{Tr}(\rho T_{LM}^{(j)\dagger}) Y_{LM}(\mathbf{n}),$$

$$P_L(\rho, \mathbf{n}) \equiv Q_L^2 - \sum_{\sigma=0}^N \sum_{\nu=-\sigma}^{\sigma} \left(\int Q_L^2 Y_{\sigma\nu}^*(\mathbf{n}') d\mathbf{n}' \right) Y_{\sigma\nu}(\mathbf{n}),$$

$$P'(\rho, \mathbf{n}) = \sum_{L > N/2} y_L P_L,$$

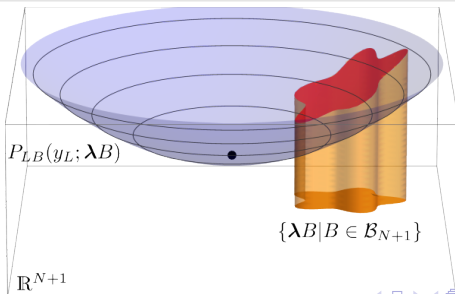
SAS witness $\mathcal{W}_2(\{y_L\})$

$$P = P_0 + P'(\rho, \mathbf{n})$$

$$\min_{\substack{U \in SU(N+1) \\ \mathbf{n} \in S^2}} P(U\rho U^\dagger; \mathbf{n}) \geq \min_{\substack{\lambda B \\ B \in \mathcal{U}_{N+1}}} P_{LB}(y_L; \lambda B) \geq \min_{\substack{\lambda B \\ B \in \mathcal{B}_{N+1}}} P_{LB}(y_L; \lambda B)$$

P_{LB} is a quadratic function on the entries of B and linear on the $\{y_L\}$'s added by P' . The second inequality is tight because

$$\{\lambda B \in \mathbb{R}^{N+1} | B \in \mathcal{U}_{N+1}\} = \{\lambda B \in \mathbb{R}^{N+1} | B \in \mathcal{B}_{N+1}\}.$$



SAS witnesses $\mathcal{W}_2(\{y_L\})$

SAS witness $\mathcal{W}_2(\{y_L\})$: A symmetric $2j = N$ -qubit state ρ is SAS if for some values of $\{y_L\}$

$$\min_{\substack{\lambda_B \\ B \in \mathcal{B}_{N+1}}} P_{LB}(y_L; \lambda_B) = \min_{\substack{\lambda_B \\ B \in \mathcal{B}_{N+1}}} f + \sum_{L=1}^{2j} \left[g_L \lambda_B \mathbf{t}_L^T + h_L \left(\lambda_B \mathbf{t}_L^T \right)^2 \right] \geq 0,$$

$$f = \frac{1}{N+1} + \left(\frac{y_N F(N, 1)}{2} \right) \left(\text{Tr}(\rho^2) - \frac{1}{N+1} \right)^2,$$

$$g_L = \sqrt{\frac{2L+1}{N+1}} \left(C_{jjL0}^{jj} \right)^{-1}, \quad h_L = y_L F(L, 0) \Theta(L-j) - \frac{y_{2j} F(2j, 1)}{2},$$

$$\mathbf{t}_L = (C_{jj-j-j}^{L0}, -C_{jj-1,j1-j}^{L0}, \dots, (-1)^{2j} C_{j-j,jj}^{L0}),$$

$$F(L, \mu) \equiv \begin{cases} 1 - \sum_{\substack{\sigma=0 \\ \sigma \text{ even}}}^{2j} (C_{L0L0}^{\sigma 0})^2 & \text{if } \mu = 0 \\ 2(-1)^{\mu+1} \sum_{\substack{\sigma=0 \\ \sigma \text{ even}}}^{2j} C_{L0L0}^{\sigma 0} C_{L\mu L-\mu}^{\sigma 0} & \text{if } \mu \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

The variables h_L must be positive, restricting the domain of the free parameters $\{y_L\}$.

Example: $\mathcal{W}_2(\{y_2\})$ for $N = 2$

A symmetric 2-qubit state ρ with spectrum $\lambda = (\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ is SAS if

$$\min_{\substack{\lambda B \\ B \in \mathcal{B}_3}} P_{LB}(y_L; \lambda B) = \min_{\substack{\lambda B \\ B \in \mathcal{B}_3}} f + \sum_{L=1}^2 \left[g_L \lambda B \mathbf{t}_L^T + h_L \left(\lambda B \mathbf{t}_L^T \right)^2 \right] \geq 0$$

for some $y_2 \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and

$$f = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{12}{35} y_2 \left(\text{Tr}(\rho^2) - \frac{1}{3} \right),$$

$$(g_1, g_2) = \left(\sqrt{2}, 5\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \right), \quad (h_1, h_2) = \frac{6}{35} (2y_2, 5y_2),$$

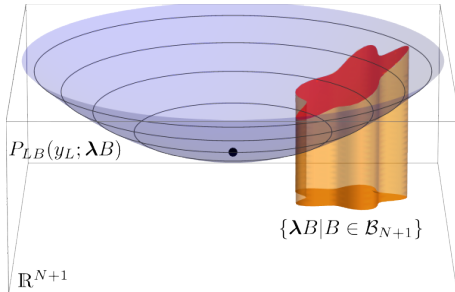
$$\mathbf{t}_L = (C_{11,1-1}^{L0}, -C_{10,10}^{L0}, C_{1-1,11}^{L0}),$$

Dear Eduardo: Don't forget the video. Best, your colleagues.

A ball of SAS states detected by the $\mathcal{W}_2(\{y_L\})$ witnesses

$$\min_{\substack{\lambda_B \\ B \in \mathcal{B}_{N+1}}} P_{LB}(y_L; \lambda B) \geq \min_{\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^{N+1}} P_{LB}(y_L; \mathbf{v}) \geq 0.$$

A function that depends only in the purity of the state $\text{Tr}(\rho^2)$.
 Moreover, we can maximize the purity attained over the $\{y_L\}$ variables.

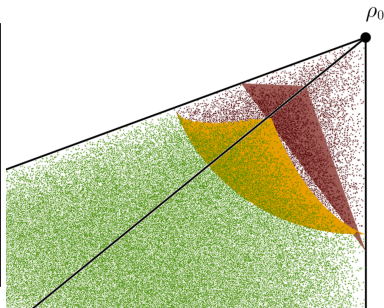
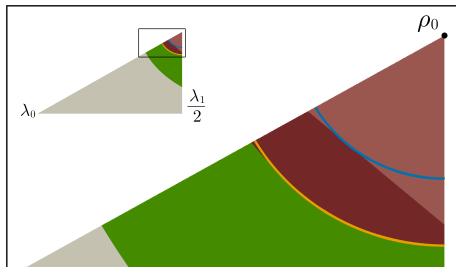


\mathcal{W}_3 : A symmetric N -qubit state ρ is SAS if

$$r^2 \leq \frac{1}{(2j+1)^2} \left(\sum_{L=1}^{2j} \frac{g_L^2}{1 - 2\Theta(L-j) \frac{F(L,0)}{F(L,1)}} \right)^{-1},$$

where $r^2 \equiv \|\rho - \rho_0\|_{\text{HS}}^2 = \text{Tr}(\rho^2) - (N+1)^{-1}$.

Set of SAS states \mathcal{S}_k witnessed by \mathcal{W}_k in $N = 2, 3$



Dark Brown = $\mathcal{S}_2(\{y_L\})$
Light Brown = \mathcal{S}_1

Orange surface = Bound of \mathcal{S}_3
Blue surface = Bound of \mathcal{S}
[Giraud, Braun, Braun (2017)]

Green = Unwitnessed SAS states by \mathcal{W}_k

SAS witnesses for symmetric N -qubit states

[ESE, Denis, Martin (2024)]

Number of qubits $N = 2j$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Witness } \mathcal{W}_1 \\ \text{Witness } \mathcal{W}_3 \end{array} \right.$
2	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lambda(-3, 1, 3)^T \geq 0 \\ r^2 \leq \frac{1}{78} \approx 0.01282 \end{array} \right.$
3	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lambda(-6, -1, 4, 4)^T \geq 0 \\ r^2 \leq \frac{1}{354} \approx 0.002825 \end{array} \right.$
4	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lambda(-10, -5, 1, 5, 10)^T \geq 0 \\ r^2 \leq \frac{11}{25390} \approx 0.0004332 \end{array} \right.$
5	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lambda(-15, -15, -1, 6, 6, 20)^T \geq 0 \\ r^2 \leq \frac{1595}{16058598} \approx 0.00009932 \end{array} \right.$

Table: SAS witnesses \mathcal{W}_1 and \mathcal{W}_3 for a state with eigenspectrum $\lambda = (\lambda_0, \dots, \lambda_N)$ sorted in descending order $\lambda_0 \geq \lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_N$.

Maximum entanglement (negativity) over the unitary orbit for $N = 2, 3$

- Characterization of the SAS states for symmetric 2-qubit system
- Numerical study of the SAS states for symmetric 3-qubit system

ESE and John Martin, SciPost Phys. **15**, 120 (2023)

SAS witnesses in terms of the spectrum or the purity
of the symmetric N -qubit states

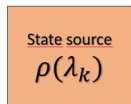
ESE, Jérôme Denis and John Martin, PRA **109**, 022430 (2024)

Future work

SAS witnesses with extra terms in the P-representation

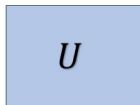
Thank you very much for your attention!

Unitary quantum gates as free operations



\hat{H}

Thermal state



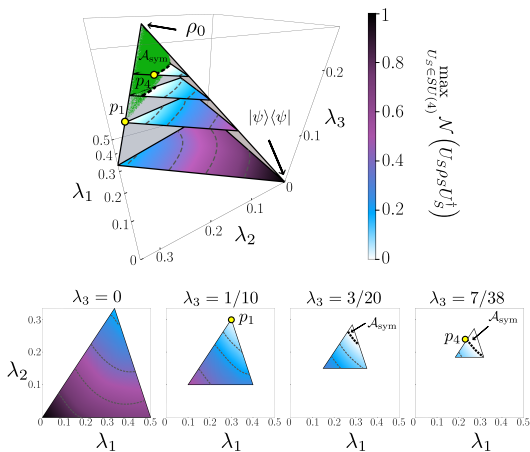
$$\max_{U \in SU(d)} N(U\rho U^\dagger)$$

$N(U\rho U^\dagger) = 0$ for any U ?

$N(U\rho U^\dagger) \neq 0$ for some U ?

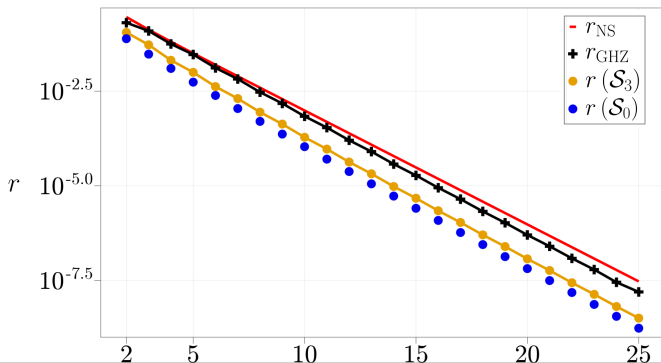
Symmetric 3-qubit system

$\mathcal{H}_2^{\vee 3} \subset \mathcal{H}_2 \otimes \mathcal{H}_3$, numerical results



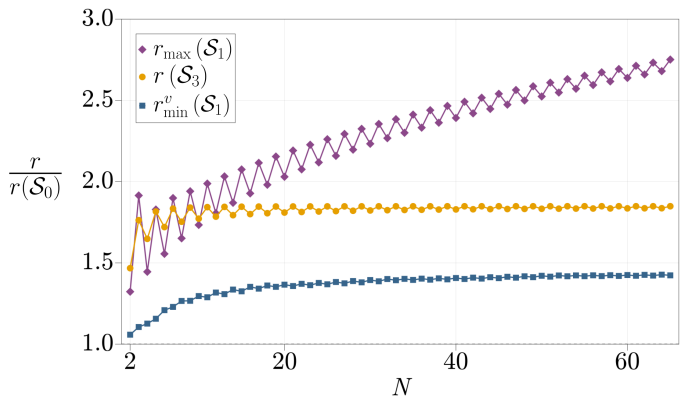
Maximum negativity in the $SU(4)$ orbit of ρ .

Comparison between the SAS witnesses



Comparison between the maximal distances of several sets of SAS states. The black crosses are defined by the furthest away SAS state in the ray ρ_0 and the GHZ pure state, with distance r_{GHZ} . The red line shows the radius $r_{\text{NS}} = (2^N(2^N - 1))^{-1/2}$ of the largest ball containing only AS states in the full Hilbert space [Gurvits and Barnum (2002)].

Comparison between the SAS witnesses



Distances $r_{\max}(\mathcal{S}_1)$ (purple), $r_{\min}^v(\mathcal{S}_1)$ (blue) and $r(\mathcal{S}_3)$ (orange), rescaled by the distance of the witness $r(\mathcal{S}_0)$.