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Xin Wang, Mark M. Wilde, and Yuan Su

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# Efficiently computable bounds for magic-state distillation

Xin Wang,<sup>1,2</sup> Mark M. Wilde,<sup>3</sup> and Yuan Su<sup>1,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Joint Center for Quantum Information and Computer Science,  
University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742, USA*

<sup>2</sup>*Institute for Quantum Computing, Baidu Research, Beijing 100193, China*

<sup>3</sup>*Hearne Institute for Theoretical Physics, Department of Physics and Astronomy,  
Center for Computation and Technology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803, USA*

<sup>4</sup>*Department of Computer Science, University of Maryland, College Park, USA*

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Magic-state distillation (or non-stabilizer state manipulation) is a crucial component in the leading approaches to realizing scalable, fault-tolerant, and universal quantum computation. Related to non-stabilizer state manipulation is the resource theory of non-stabilizer states, for which one of the goals is to characterize and quantify non-stabilizerness of a quantum state. In this paper, we introduce the family of *thauma* measures to quantify the amount of non-stabilizerness in a quantum state, and we exploit this family of measures to address several open questions in the resource theory of non-stabilizer states. As a first application, we establish the *hypothesis testing thauma* as an efficiently computable benchmark for the one-shot distillable non-stabilizerness, which in turn leads to a variety of bounds on the rate at which non-stabilizerness can be distilled, as well as on the overhead of magic-state distillation. We then prove that the *max-thauma* can be used as an efficiently computable tool in benchmarking the efficiency of magic-state distillation and that it can outperform previous approaches based on mana. Finally, we use the *min-thauma* to bound a quantity known in the literature as the “regularized relative entropy of magic.” As a consequence of this bound, we find that two classes of states with maximal *mana*, a previously established non-stabilizerness measure, cannot be interconverted in the asymptotic regime at a rate equal to one. This result resolves a basic question in the resource theory of non-stabilizer states and reveals a difference between the resource theory of non-stabilizer states and other resource theories such as entanglement and coherence.

**Introduction.**—Quantum computers hold the promise of a substantial speed-up over classical computers for certain algebraic problems [1–3] and the simulation of quantum systems [4, 5]. One main obstacle to the physical realization of quantum computation is the decoherence that occurs during the execution of quantum algorithms. Fault-tolerant quantum computation (FTQC) [6, 7] provides a framework to overcome this difficulty and allows reliable quantum computation when the physical error rate is below a certain threshold value.

According to the Gottesman–Knill theorem [8, 9], a quantum circuit comprised of only Clifford gates confers no computational advantage because it can be simulated efficiently on a classical computer. However, the addition of a *non-stabilizer state* can lead to a universal gate set via a technique called state injection [10, 11], thus achieving universal quantum computation. The key of this resolution is to perform *magic-state distillation* [12] (see [13–19] for recent progress), wherein stabilizer operations are used to transform a large number of noisy non-stabilizer states into a small number of high quality non-stabilizer states. Therefore, a quantitative theory is highly desirable in order to fully exploit the power of non-stabilizer states in fault-tolerant quantum computation.

Quantum resource theories (QRTs) offer a powerful framework for studying different phenomena in quantum physics, and the seminal ideas of QRTs have recently been influencing diverse areas of physics [20]. In the context of the non-stabilizer-state model of universal quantum computation, the resource-theoretic approach reduces to the characterization and quantification of the usefulness of the resourceful non-stabilizer states [21, 22]. In the framework of [21, 22], the free operations are the stabilizer operations, those that possess a fault-tolerant implementation in the context of fault-tolerant

quantum computation, and the free states are the stabilizer states (STAB). Stabilizer operations include preparation and measurement in the computational basis, and a restricted set of unitary operations, called the Clifford unitaries. The free states consist of all pure stabilizer states, which are eigenstates of the generalized Pauli operators, and their convex mixtures. The resource states, namely, the non-stabilizer states, are key resources that are required to achieve some desired computational tasks. For quantum computers acting on qudit registers with odd dimension  $d$ , the resource theory of non-stabilizer states (or equivalently contextuality with respect to stabilizer measurements [23, 24]) has been developed [21, 22, 25]. The resource theory of non-stabilizer states for multiqubit systems was recently developed in [26–28].

In this paper, we solve some fundamental open questions in the resource theory of non-stabilizer states, and we develop the framework for one-shot magic state distillation. Our main tool for doing so is the *thauma* family of non-stabilizer monotones, which quantify the amount of non-stabilizerness in a given state by comparing it to a positive semi-definite operator with non-positive mana (i.e., a subnormalized state with no non-stabilizerness). Our first contribution is to introduce the one-shot distillable non-stabilizerness of a quantum state and an upper bound for it named *hypothesis testing thauma*. This result leads to various applications for magic-state distillation, which can be interpreted as fundamental limits. The *max-thauma* is another member of the *thauma* family, and we prove that it is an efficiently computable non-stabilizerness monotone, which can in turn be used to evaluate the efficiency of magic-state distillation. We further provide an example to demonstrate that *max-thauma* outperforms *mana* in benchmarking the efficiency of magic-state distillation. We

also prove that the *min-thauma* is an additive lower bound on the “regularized relative entropy of magic,” the latter quantity defined in [22]. This bound then leads to the conclusion that two magic states with maximal negativity cannot be interconverted asymptotically at a rate equal to one.

**Discrete Wigner function.**—We now recall the definition of the discrete Wigner function [29–31], which is an essential tool in the analysis of the resource theory of non-stabilizer states. Throughout this paper, a Hilbert space implicitly has an odd dimension, and if the dimension is not prime, it should be understood to be a tensor product of Hilbert spaces each having odd prime dimension.

Let  $\mathcal{H}_d$  denote a Hilbert space of dimension  $d$ , and let  $\{|j\rangle\}_{j=0,\dots,d-1}$  denote the standard computational basis. For a prime number  $d$ , we define the respective shift and boost operators  $X, Z \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}_d)$  as  $X|j\rangle = |j \oplus 1\rangle$  and  $Z|j\rangle = \omega^j|j\rangle$ , with  $\omega = e^{2\pi i/d}$ . We define the Heisenberg–Weyl operators as  $T_{\mathbf{u}} = \tau^{-a_1 a_2} Z^{a_1} X^{a_2}$ , where  $\tau = e^{(d+1)\pi i/d}$  and  $\mathbf{u} = (a_1, a_2) \in \mathbb{Z}_d \times \mathbb{Z}_d$ .

For each point  $\mathbf{u}$  in the discrete phase space, there is a corresponding operator  $A_{\mathbf{u}}$ , and the value of the discrete Wigner representation of a quantum state  $\rho$  at this point is given by  $W_{\rho}(\mathbf{u}) := \text{Tr} A_{\mathbf{u}} \rho / d$ , where  $\{A_{\mathbf{u}}\}_{\mathbf{u}}$  are the phase-space point operators:  $A_{\mathbf{u}} := T_{\mathbf{u}} A_0 T_{\mathbf{u}}^\dagger$ ,  $A_0 := \frac{1}{d} \sum_{\mathbf{u}} T_{\mathbf{u}}$ . We give more details of this formalism in Appendix A [32].

**Thauma.**—It is well known that quantum computations are classically simulable if they consist of stabilizer operations acting on quantum states with a positive discrete Wigner function. Such states are thus useless for magic-state distillation [21]. Let  $\mathcal{W}_+$  denote the set of quantum states with positive discrete Wigner function. States in  $\mathcal{W}_+$  can be understood as being analogous to states with a positive partial transpose in entanglement distillation [33, 34], in the sense that such states are undistillable.

To address open questions in the resource theory of non-stabilizer states, we are motivated by the idea of the Rains bound from entanglement theory [35], as well as its variants [36–38], which also have fruitful applications in quantum communication [39–42]. As developed in [35] and the later work [43], the Rains bound and its variants consider sub-normalized states with non-positive logarithmic negativity [44, 45] as useless resources, and they use the divergence between the given state and such sub-normalized states to evaluate the behavior of entanglement distillation.

Thus, inspired by the main idea behind the Rains bound, we introduce the set of sub-normalized states with non-positive mana:  $\mathcal{W} := \{\sigma : \mathcal{M}(\sigma) \leq 0, \sigma \geq 0\}$ , with the mana  $\mathcal{M}(\rho)$  of a quantum state  $\rho$  defined as [22]

$$\mathcal{M}(\rho) := \log_2 \|\rho\|_{W,1},$$

where the Wigner trace norm of an operator  $V$  is defined as  $\|V\|_{W,1} := \sum_{\mathbf{u}} |W_V(\mathbf{u})|$ . It follows from definitions that  $\text{Tr} \sigma \leq 1$  if  $\sigma \in \mathcal{W}$ . Note that the mana [22] is analogous to the logarithmic negativity [44, 45]. Furthermore, the following strict inclusions hold:  $\text{STAB} \subsetneq \mathcal{W}_+ \subsetneq \mathcal{W}$ .

We now define the *thauma* [46] of a state  $\rho$  as

$$\theta(\rho) := \min_{\sigma \in \mathcal{W}} D(\rho \|\sigma),$$

where  $D(\rho \|\sigma)$  is the quantum relative entropy [47], defined as  $D(\rho \|\sigma) = \text{Tr}\{\rho[\log_2 \rho - \log_2 \sigma]\}$  when the support of  $\rho$  is contained in the support of  $\sigma$  and equal to  $+\infty$  otherwise. The thauma can be understood as the minimum relative entropy between a quantum state and the set of subnormalized states with non-positive mana. The thauma is a non-stabilizerness measure that can be efficiently computed via convex optimization (see Appendix B [32]). Following from the definition of thauma above, we define the regularized thauma of a state  $\rho$  as  $\theta^\infty(\rho) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(\rho^{\otimes n})/n$ .

The definition of thauma given above can be generalized to a whole family of thauma measures of non-stabilizerness. Defining a generalized divergence  $\mathbf{D}(\rho \|\sigma)$  to be any function of a quantum state  $\rho$  and a positive semi-definite operator  $\sigma$  that obeys data processing [48, 49], i.e.,  $\mathbf{D}(\rho \|\sigma) \geq \mathbf{D}(\mathcal{N}(\rho) \|\mathcal{N}(\sigma))$  where  $\mathcal{N}$  is a quantum channel, we arrive at the generalized thauma of a quantum state  $\rho$ :

$$\theta(\rho) := \inf_{\sigma \in \mathcal{W}} \mathbf{D}(\rho \|\sigma).$$

If the generalized divergence  $\mathbf{D}$  is non-negative for a state  $\rho$  and a sub-normalized state  $\sigma$  and equal to zero if  $\rho = \sigma$ , then it trivially follows that the generalized thauma  $\theta(\rho)$  is a non-stabilizerness monotone, meaning that it is non-increasing under the free operations and equal to zero for stabilizer states. Examples of generalized divergences, in addition to the relative entropy, include the Petz–Rényi relative entropies [50] and the sandwiched Rényi relative entropies [51, 52]. See Appendix C for further details [32].

**Min- and max-thauma.**—In what follows, we make use of the Petz–Rényi relative entropy of order zero [50] and the max-relative entropy [53] to define the min-thauma and the max-thauma, respectively. As we prove in what follows, these two members of the thauma family are efficiently computable by semidefinite programs (SDPs) [54] and are particularly useful for addressing open questions in the resource theory of non-stabilizer states.

The min-thauma of a state  $\rho$  is defined as

$$\theta_{\min}(\rho) := \min_{\sigma \in \mathcal{W}} D_0(\rho \|\sigma) := \min_{\sigma \in \mathcal{W}} [-\log_2 \text{Tr} P_{\rho} \sigma],$$

where  $P_{\rho}$  denotes the projection onto the support of  $\rho$ . Note that  $\theta_{\min}(\rho)$  is an SDP and the duality theory of SDPs [54] leads to the dual SDP:

$$\theta_{\min}(\rho) = -\log_2 \min\{\|Q\|_{W,\infty} : Q \geq P_{\rho}\},$$

where  $\|V\|_{W,\infty} := d \max_{\mathbf{u}} |W_V(\mathbf{u})|$  denotes the Wigner spectral norm of an operator  $V$  acting on a space of dimension  $d$ . For any pure state  $|\psi\rangle$ ,

$$\theta_{\min}(\psi) = -\log_2 \max_{\sigma \in \mathcal{W}} F(\psi, \sigma) \leq -\log_2 F_{\text{Stab}}(\psi).$$

where  $F_{\text{Stab}}(\psi)$  is the stabilizer fidelity [55].

The max-thauma of a state  $\rho$  is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_{\max}(\rho) &:= \min_{\sigma \in \mathcal{W}} D_{\max}(\rho \|\sigma) := \min_{\sigma \in \mathcal{W}} [\min\{\lambda : \rho \leq 2^\lambda \sigma\}] \\ &= \log_2 \min\{\|V\|_{W,1} : \rho \leq V\}. \end{aligned}$$

As the following proposition states, the min- and max-thauma are additive non-stabilizerness measures. Additionally, the min-thauma is a lower bound for the regularized thauma, and the max-thauma is an upper bound.

**Proposition 1** *For states  $\rho$  and  $\tau$ , it holds that*

$$\begin{aligned}\theta_{\min}(\rho \otimes \tau) &= \theta_{\min}(\rho) + \theta_{\min}(\tau), \\ \theta_{\max}(\rho \otimes \tau) &= \theta_{\max}(\rho) + \theta_{\max}(\tau).\end{aligned}$$

Consequently,  $\theta_{\min}(\rho) \leq \theta^\infty(\rho) \leq \theta_{\max}(\rho)$ .

The proof of Proposition 1 relies on the Petz–Rényi relative entropy of order zero [53], the max-relative entropy [53], and the duality theory of SDPs [54] (see Appendix D for details [32]).

In Appendix E [32], we prove that the max-thauma possesses a stronger monotonicity property, in the sense that it does not increase on average under stabilizer operations.

We note here that an important consequence of the additivity of min-thauma is that the maximum overlap between  $|\phi\rangle^{\otimes n}$  and the set  $\mathcal{W}$  is  $2^{-n\theta_{\min}(\phi)}$ ; i.e., for any  $\tau \in \mathcal{W}$  (or STAB), we have that  $\text{Tr}[|\phi\rangle\langle\phi|^{\otimes n}\tau] \leq 2^{-n\theta_{\min}(\phi)}$ .

**Thauma for basic non-stabilizer states.**—Proposition 2 below states that the min-, regularized, and max-thauma collapse to the same value for several interesting non-stabilizer states, including the Strange, Norrell,  $H$ , and  $T$  state.

The Strange and Norrell states are defined as [22]

$$|\mathbb{S}\rangle := (|1\rangle - |2\rangle)/\sqrt{2}, \quad |\mathbb{N}\rangle := (-|0\rangle + 2|1\rangle - |2\rangle)/\sqrt{6}.$$

The qutrit Hadamard gate is given by [56]

$$H = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \omega & \omega^2 \\ 1 & \omega^2 & \omega \end{pmatrix}, \quad (1)$$

where we recall that  $\omega = e^{2\pi i/3}$ . The  $H$  gate has eigenvalues  $+1$ ,  $-1$ , and  $i$ , and we label the three corresponding eigenstates as  $|H_+\rangle$ ,  $|H_-\rangle$ , and  $|H_i\rangle$ . The  $|H_+\rangle$  state is a non-stabilizer state that is typically considered in the context of magic-state distillation [12, 57]. In what follows, we refer to it as the  $H_+$  non-stabilizer state.

Another common choice for a non-Clifford gate is the  $T$  gate. The qutrit  $T$  gate is given by  $T := \text{diag}(\xi, 1, \xi^{-1})$ , where  $\xi = e^{2\pi i/9}$  is a primitive ninth root of unity [56]. The non-stabilizer state corresponding to the qutrit  $T$  gate is  $|T\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(\xi|0\rangle + |1\rangle + \xi^{-1}|2\rangle)$ , which is the state resulting from applying the  $T$  gate to the stabilizer state  $(|0\rangle + |1\rangle + |2\rangle)/\sqrt{3}$ .

In what follows, we employ the shorthand  $\mathbb{S} \equiv |\mathbb{S}\rangle\langle\mathbb{S}|$ ,  $\mathbb{N} \equiv |\mathbb{N}\rangle\langle\mathbb{N}|$ ,  $H_+ \equiv |H_+\rangle\langle H_+|$ , and  $T \equiv |T\rangle\langle T|$ . Before stating the theorem, let us recall the definition of the “regularized relative entropy of magic” and the “relative entropy of magic” [22]:

$$R_{\mathcal{M}}^\infty(\rho) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} R_{\mathcal{M}}(\rho^{\otimes n}), \quad R_{\mathcal{M}}(\rho) := \min_{\sigma \in \text{STAB}} D(\rho \parallel \sigma).$$

**Proposition 2** *The following equalities hold*

$$\begin{aligned}\theta_{\min}(\mathbb{S}) &= \theta^\infty(\mathbb{S}) = \theta_{\max}(\mathbb{S}) = \log_2(5/3), \\ \theta_{\min}(\mathbb{N}) &= \theta^\infty(\mathbb{N}) = \theta_{\max}(\mathbb{N}) = R_{\mathcal{M}}^\infty(\mathbb{N}) = \log_2(3/2), \\ \theta_{\min}(H_+) &= \theta^\infty(H_+) = \theta_{\max}(H_+) \\ &= R_{\mathcal{M}}^\infty(H_+) = \log_2(3 - \sqrt{3}), \\ \theta_{\min}(T) &= \theta^\infty(T) = \theta_{\max}(T) = \log_2(1 + 2 \sin(\pi/18)).\end{aligned}$$

Appendix F [32] contains a proof of Proposition 2. In the forthcoming sections, we provide applications of Propositions 1 and 2 to the resource theory of non-stabilizer states.

**Fundamental limits for distilling non-stabilizer states.**—The basic task of magic-state distillation [12] can be understood as follows. For any given quantum state  $\rho$ , we aim to transform this state to a collection of non-stabilizer states (e.g.,  $|T\rangle$ ) with high fidelity using stabilizer operations. The goal is to maximize the number of target states while keeping the transformation infidelity within some tolerance  $\varepsilon$ . After magic-state distillation, one can use a circuit gadget (which requires only stabilizer operations) to transform this non-stabilizer state into a non-Clifford gate [10, 11]. Protocols for distillation in the qudit setting of quantum computing were recently developed in [57–60].

In the following, we study the fundamental limit of magic-state distillation of a pure target non-stabilizer state. We define the approximate one-shot distillable  $\phi$ -non-stabilizerness of a given state  $\rho$  as the maximum number of  $|\phi\rangle\langle\phi|$  non-stabilizer states that can be obtained via stabilizer operations, while keeping the infidelity within a given tolerance. Formally, for any triplet  $(\rho, \phi, \varepsilon)$  consisting of an initial state  $\rho$ , a target pure state  $\phi$ , and an infidelity tolerance  $\varepsilon$ , the one-shot  $\varepsilon$ -error distillable  $\phi$ -non-stabilizerness of  $\rho$  is defined to be the maximum number of  $\phi$  non-stabilizer states achievable via stabilizer operations, with an error tolerance of  $\varepsilon$ :

$$\mathcal{M}_\phi^\varepsilon(\rho) = \sup\{k : \Lambda(\rho) \approx_\varepsilon |\phi\rangle\langle\phi|^{\otimes k}, \Lambda \in \text{SO}\},$$

where  $|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| \approx_\varepsilon \sigma$  is a shorthand for  $\langle\psi|\sigma|\psi\rangle \geq 1 - \varepsilon$  and SO for stabilizer operations.

In what follows, we focus on the one-shot distillable  $H_+$ -non-stabilizerness  $\mathcal{M}_{H_+}^\varepsilon(\rho)$  and the one-shot distillable  $T$ -non-stabilizerness  $\mathcal{M}_T^\varepsilon(\rho)$ .

We first connect the task of magic-state distillation to quantum hypothesis testing between non-stabilizer states and operators in the set  $\mathcal{W}$  (recall that  $\text{STAB} \subsetneq \mathcal{W}$ ), and we note here that such an approach was previously taken in entanglement theory [35, 61]. Quantum hypothesis testing is the task of distinguishing two possible states  $\rho_0$  and  $\rho_1$  (null hypothesis  $\rho_0$ , alternative hypothesis  $\rho_1$ ). We are allowed to perform a measurement characterized by the POVM  $\{M, \mathbb{1} - M\}$  with respective outcomes 0 and 1. If the outcome is 0, we accept the null hypothesis. Otherwise, we accept the alternative one. The probabilities of *type-I* and *type-II* errors are given by  $\text{Tr}(\mathbb{1} - M)\rho_0$  and  $\text{Tr} M\rho_1$ , respectively. The hypothesis testing relative entropy [62, 63] quantifies the minimum type-II error probability provided that the type-I error probability is within a given tolerance:  $D_H^\varepsilon(\rho_0 \parallel \rho_1) := -\log_2 \min \{ \text{Tr} M\rho_1 \mid 0 \leq M \leq \mathbb{1}, 1 - \text{Tr} M\rho_0 \leq \varepsilon \}$ .

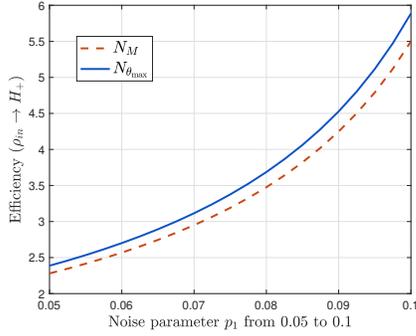


FIG. 1. Comparison between  $N_{\theta_{\max}}(\rho_{\text{in}} \rightarrow H_+)$  and  $N_{\mathcal{M}}(\rho_{\text{in}} \rightarrow H_+)$  for input  $\rho_{\text{in}} = (1 - p_1 - p_2)|H_+\rangle\langle H_+| + p_1|H_-\rangle\langle H_-| + p_2|H_i\rangle\langle H_i|$  with  $p_2 = 1/10$ .

**Proposition 3** *Given a state  $\rho$ , the following holds*

$$\mathcal{M}_{H_+}^{\varepsilon}(\rho) \leq \frac{\min_{\sigma \in \mathcal{W}} D_H^{\varepsilon}(\rho \| \sigma)}{\log_2(3 - \sqrt{3})}, \quad (2)$$

$$\mathcal{M}_T^{\varepsilon}(\rho) \leq \frac{\min_{\sigma \in \mathcal{W}} D_H^{\varepsilon}(\rho \| \sigma)}{\log_2(1 + 2 \sin(\pi/18))}. \quad (3)$$

A consequence of Proposition 3 is that the thauma of a quantum state is an upper bound on its distillable  $H_+$  (or  $T$ ) non-stabilizerness. Specifically, by applying the quantum Stein’s lemma [64–67], we find the following:

**Corollary 4** *The distillable non-stabilizerness of  $\rho$  satisfies*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{H_+}(\rho) &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \mathcal{M}_{H_+}^{\varepsilon}(\rho^{\otimes n}) \leq \frac{\theta(\rho)}{\log_2(3 - \sqrt{3})}, \\ \mathcal{M}_T(\rho) &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \mathcal{M}_T^{\varepsilon}(\rho^{\otimes n}) \leq \frac{\theta(\rho)}{\log_2(1 + 2 \sin(\pi/18))}. \end{aligned}$$

**Efficiency of magic-state distillation.**—The efficiency of distilling a non-stabilizer state  $\xi$  from several independent copies of a resource state  $\rho$  is given by the minimum number of copies of  $\rho$  needed, on average, to produce  $\xi$  using stabilizer operations:

$$N_{\text{eff}}(\rho \rightarrow \xi) = \inf \{n/p : \Lambda(\rho^{\otimes n}) \rightarrow \xi \text{ w/ prob. } p, \Lambda \in \text{SO}\}.$$

Previously, the authors of [22] derived the following lower bound on the efficiency of magic-state distillation:

$$N_{\text{eff}}(\rho \rightarrow \xi) \geq N_{\mathcal{M}}(\rho, \xi) := \mathcal{M}(\xi)/\mathcal{M}(\rho). \quad (4)$$

The lower bound in [22] was established by employing the mana of non-stabilizer states. Here, we utilize similar ideas and show that the max-thauma can also be applied to bound the efficiency of magic-state distillation.

**Proposition 5** *The efficiency of distilling a non-stabilizer state  $\xi$  from resource states  $\rho$  is lower bounded by  $N_{\theta_{\max}}(\rho, \xi) := \theta_{\max}(\xi)/\theta_{\max}(\rho)$ .*

Figure 1 demonstrates that the lower bound from Proposition 5 can be tighter than the lower bound in (4), thus giving an improved sense of the efficiency.

**On the overhead of magic-state distillation.**—The overhead of magic-state distillation is defined as the ratio of the number of input to output states, under a target error rate [13, 18]. Although our notion of error for magic-state distillation is different from that typically employed in the literature, we note here that the inverse of the one-shot distillable  $\phi$ -non-stabilizerness (i.e.,  $[\mathcal{M}_{\phi}^{\varepsilon}(\rho)]^{-1}$ ) can be considered a reasonable way to measure the overhead of magic-state distillation. Then our upper bounds in Proposition 3 and Corollary 4 become lower bounds on the overhead.

**Inequivalence between non-stabilizer states with maximal mana.**—A fundamental problem in any quantum resource theory is to determine the interconversion rate between different resource states [20], in particular, between given states and maximally resourceful states. This is rooted in the fact that in any resource theory maximally resourceful states play a unique role in quantifying the resourcefulness of other states and assessing the performance of resource manipulation. Considering entanglement theory (or coherence theory) as an example, the interconversion between a given state and maximally entangled (coherent) states leads to fundamental tasks such as entanglement (coherence) distillation and dilution [20, 68, 69]. Notably, any two maximally entangled (coherent) states under all resource measures in the same dimension are equivalent under free operations.

However, this is not the case in the resource theory of non-stabilizer states. Surprisingly, we find that even though the Strange state and the Norrell state each have maximum mana and are thus the most costly resource to simulate on a classical computer using certain known algorithms [22, 70], they are not equivalent even in the asymptotic regime. Note that the mana plays a significant role as a measure of non-classical resources in quantum computation [25, 70]. In particular, recall that mana is a non-stabilizerness measure analogous to logarithmic negativity in entanglement theory. In contrast, logarithmic negativity of a bipartite state is equal to its maximal value if and only if the state is maximally entangled.

To establish this result, we recall that the asymptotic conversion rate from  $\rho$  to  $\xi$  under asymptotically-non-stabilizer-non-generating transformations is given by the ratio of their regularized relative entropies of resource [71]. That is,  $R(\rho \rightarrow \xi) = R_{\mathcal{M}}^{\infty}(\rho)/R_{\mathcal{M}}^{\infty}(\xi)$ . We further recall that the Strange and Norrell states have maximum mana [22]:  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{S}) = \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{N}) = \log_2(5/3)$ . However, Proposition 2 and the fact that  $R_{\mathcal{M}}^{\infty}(\mathbb{S}) \geq \theta^{\infty}(\mathbb{S})$  indicate that there is a gap between their “regularized relative entropies of magic.” As a consequence, we find that

**Theorem 6** *For the Strange state  $|\mathbb{S}\rangle$  and the Norrell state  $|\mathbb{N}\rangle$ , the following holds*

$$R(\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}) = R_{\mathcal{M}}^{\infty}(\mathbb{N})/R_{\mathcal{M}}^{\infty}(\mathbb{S}) \leq \frac{\log_2(3/2)}{\log_2(5/3)} < 1.$$

Since stabilizer operations are included in the set of asymptotically-non-stabilizer-non-generating transformations, this result also establishes that the rate to obtain the

Strange state from the Norrell state is smaller than one under stabilizer operations. Thus, the gap between  $R_{\mathcal{M}}^{\infty}(\mathbb{N})$  and  $R_{\mathcal{M}}^{\infty}(\mathbb{S})$ , as established in Theorem 6, closes an open question from [22, Section 4.4].

This result demonstrates a fundamental difference between the resource theory of non-stabilizer states and the resource theory of entanglement or coherence. Specifically, we show that the maximally resourceful non-stabilizer states under certain resource measure cannot be interconverted at a rate equal to one, even in the asymptotic regime, while the maximally resourceful states in entanglement theory or coherence theory can be interconverted equivalently in the one-copy setting. However, it remains open to determine whether the conversion rate from the Strange state to the Norrell state is strictly smaller than  $\log_2(5/3)/\log_2(3/2)$ . Such an inequality would imply the irreversibility of asymptotic magic state manipulation.

**Conclusions.**—We have introduced the thauma family of measures to quantify and characterize the non-stabilizerness resource possessed by quantum states that are needed for universal quantum computation. The min- and max-thauma are efficiently computable by semi-definite programming and lead to bounds on the rates at which one can interconvert non-stabilizer states. These bounds have helped to solve pressing open questions in the resource theory of non-stabilizer states.

More generally, our work establishes fundamental limitations to the processing of quantum non-stabilizerness, opening new perspectives for its investigation and exploitation as a resource in quantum information processing and quantum technology. Along this line, we suspect that our results will have immediate impact on the quantum optics community working on the resource theory of non-Gaussianity [72–74] and continuous-variable quantum computing [75, 76], because the main idea behind the thauma measure can be generalized to this setting.

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