

Quantum conditional mutual information and approximate Markov chains

Omar Fawzi

ETH

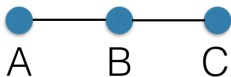
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ENS DE LYON

Banff, January 13th, 2015

Joint work with Renato Renner [arXiv:1410.0664](https://arxiv.org/abs/1410.0664)



$$I(A : C|B)$$

Correlation measure between A and C from point of view of B

Objective:

Structure of states on $A \otimes B \otimes C$ with $I(A : C|B) \leq \epsilon$

Outline:

- 1 Definition and properties of conditional mutual information
- 2 How to ensure that $I(A : C|B) \leq \epsilon$?
- 3 What is the right operational property?
- 4 Statement and overview of the proof

Entropy and conditioning

Entropy: measure of uncertainty in a system

Shannon entropy for distribution p_X :

$$H(X) = - \sum_x p_X(x) \log p_X(x) \in [0, \log |X|]$$

Quantum von Neumann entropy for density operator ρ_A :

$$H(A) = - \text{tr}(\rho_A \log \rho_A) \in [0, \log |A|]$$

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Multiple systems: State ρ_{AB} acting on $A \otimes B$

Conditional entropy of A from B 's viewpoint

$$H(A|B)_\rho = H(AB)_\rho - H(B)_\rho$$

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Conditional entropy of A from B 's viewpoint

$$H(A|B)_\rho = H(AB)_\rho - H(B)_\rho$$

Interpretation:

- Classical B : $\rho_{AB} = \sum_b \rho_A(b) \otimes p(b)|b\rangle\langle b|$

$$H(A|B)_\rho = \sum_b p(b) H(A)_{\rho(b)}$$

- Quantum B : More subtle
 $H(A|B)_\rho$ can be negative when ρ entangled

$$-\log |A| \leq H(A|B)_\rho \leq \log |A|$$

Mutual information and conditioning

- State ρ_{AC} acting on $A \otimes C$

Mutual Information:

$$I(A : C)_\rho = H(C)_\rho - H(C|A)_\rho$$

- Classical ρ : $0 \leq I(A : C)_\rho \leq \min\{\log |A|, \log |C|\}$
- Quantum ρ : $0 \leq I(A : C)_\rho \leq 2 \min\{\log |A|, \log |C|\}$

- State ρ_{ABC} acting on $A \otimes B \otimes C$

Conditional Mutual Information:

$$I(A : C|B)_\rho = H(C|B)_\rho - H(C|AB)_\rho$$

- Classical B : $\rho_{ABC} = \sum_b \rho_{AC}(b) \otimes p(b)|b\rangle\langle b|_B$

$$I(A : C|B)_\rho = \sum_b p(b) I(A : C)_{\rho(b)} \in [0, \min\{\log |A|, \log |C|\}]$$

- Quantum B : More subtle

$$0 \leq I(A : C|B)_\rho \leq 2 \min\{\log |A|, \log |C|\}$$

Useful property

Additivity property make it a very useful measure:

Chain rule

$$\begin{aligned} I(A_1 \dots A_n : C|B) \\ = I(A_1 : C|B) + I(A_2 : C|BA_1) + \dots + I(A_n : C|BA_1 \dots A_{n-1}) \end{aligned}$$

Correlations can be decomposed into parts

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Correlations can be decomposed into parts

Some applications:

- Direct sum results in communication complexity [Talk Braverman et al. tomorrow]
- Entanglement measures (squashed entanglement) [Christandl, Winter, 2003]
- de Finetti-type statements [Raghavendra, Tan, 2011] [Brandao, Harrow, 2013]
- ...

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Typical argument:

- 1 Total correlation between $A_1 \dots A_n$ and C bounded:

$$I(A_1 \dots A_n : C|B) \leq 2 \log |C|$$

- 2 Correlation has to be spread:

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n I(A_i : C|BA_1 \dots A_{i-1}) \leq \frac{2 \log |C|}{n}$$

Sample application

Intuition: losing one bit can be replaced with some advice

Theorem

For any joint distribution $P_{X_1 \dots X_n Y Z}$ where Y is a bit. There exists a subset $L \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$ of length $|L| \leq 1/\epsilon$

$$\text{for all } i, \quad P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | Z X_L) \geq P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | Z Y) - \sqrt{(2 \ln 2) \epsilon}$$

Interpretation: Y can be replaced by a small number of bits of $X_1 \dots X_n$

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Algorithm to construct L

$L \leftarrow \emptyset$

while $\exists i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ st $I(X_i : Y | ZX_L) > \epsilon$

$L \leftarrow L \cup \{i\}$

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Claim 1: The algorithm terminates in $< 1/\epsilon$ steps

Claim 2: When algorithm terminates, $P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | ZX_L) \gtrsim_{\epsilon} P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | ZY)$

Sample application (Proof of claim 1)

Theorem

For any joint distribution $P_{X_1 \dots X_n Y Z}$ where Y is a bit. There exists a subset $L \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$ of length $|L| \leq 1/\epsilon$

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```

Claim 1: The algorithm terminates in at most $1/\epsilon$ steps

$$L = \{i_1, \dots, i_\ell\}$$

$$I(X_L : Y | Z) = \sum_{p=1}^{\ell} I(X_{i_p} : Y | ZX_{i_1 \dots i_{p-1}}) \geq \ell \cdot \epsilon$$

But $I(X_L : Y | Z) \leq 1$ because Y is one bit

So $\ell \leq \frac{1}{\epsilon}$ \square

Sample application (Proof of claim 2)

Theorem

For any joint distribution $P_{X_1 \dots X_n Y Z}$ where Y is a bit. There exists a subset $L \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$ of length $|L| \leq 1/\epsilon$

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Claim 2: When algorithm terminates, $P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | ZX_L) \gtrsim_{\epsilon} P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | ZY)$

For all i ,

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &\geq I(X_i : Y | ZX_L) = \mathbb{E}_{z^L} \left\{ I(X_i : Y) P_{X_i Y | z^L} \right\} \\ &\geq \mathbb{E}_{z^L} \left\{ \frac{1}{2 \ln 2} \left\| P_{X_i Y | z^L} - P_{X_i | z^L} \times P_{Y | z^L} \right\|_1^2 \right\} \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2 \ln 2} \left(\mathbb{E}_{z^L} \left\{ \left\| P_{X_i | z^L Y} - P_{X_i | z^L} \right\|_1 \right\} \right)^2 \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2 \ln 2} (P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | ZX_L Y) - P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | ZX_L))^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | ZX_L) \geq P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | ZX_L Y) - \sqrt{(2 \ln 2)\epsilon} \geq P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | ZY) - \sqrt{(2 \ln 2)\epsilon} \quad \square$$

Sample application: quantum systems

Wanted

For any **quantum** density operator $\rho_{X_1 \dots X_n C B}$ where C is a qubit. There exists a subset $L \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$ of length $|L| \leq 2/\epsilon$

$$\text{for all } i, \quad P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | B X_L) \geq P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | B C) - \sqrt{(2 \ln 2) \epsilon}$$

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Claim 1: The algorithm terminates in at most $2/\epsilon$ steps

Only used **chain rule** and $I(X : C | B) \leq 2 \log |C|$, which still holds

quantum ✓

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Claim 1: The algorithm terminates in at most $2/\epsilon$ steps

Only used **chain rule** and $I(X : C | B) \leq 2 \log |C|$, which still holds **quantum** ✓

Claim 2: When algorithm terminates, $P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | B X_L) \gtrsim_{\epsilon} P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | B C)$? quantum ?

We have for all i , $I(X_i : C | B X_L) \leq \epsilon$. But how to conclude?

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &\geq I(X_i : C | B X_L) = \mathbb{E}_{Z_L} \left\{ I(X_i : C | B X_L)_{P_{X_i Y | Z_L}} \right\} \quad ? \text{ quantum ?} \\ &\geq \mathbb{E}_{Z_L} \left\{ \frac{1}{2 \ln 2} \left\| P_{X_i Y | Z_L} - P_{X_i | Z_L} \times P_{Y | Z_L} \right\|_1^2 \right\} \quad ? \text{ quantum ?} \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2 \ln 2} (P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | Z_L C) - P_{\text{guess}}(X_i | Z_L))^2 \end{aligned}$$

Structure of states with small QCM: $\epsilon = 0$ case

Theorem (Strong subadditivity [Lieb, Ruskai, 1973])

For all quantum states ρ , $I(A : C|B)_\rho \geq 0$

Rewritten: $H(A|B) + H(C|B) \geq H(AC|B)$

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Theorem (QCMI and Markov chains [Petz, 1988])

$$I(A : C|B)_\rho = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \exists \mathcal{T} : B \rightarrow BC, (\mathcal{I}_A \otimes \mathcal{T}_{BC \leftarrow B})(\rho_{AB}) = \rho_{ABC}$$

Interpretation: C can be generated by acting only on B (without acting on A)

Structure of \mathcal{T} : $\mathcal{T}_{BC \leftarrow B}(\gamma) = \rho_{BC}^{1/2} \rho_B^{-1/2} (\gamma \otimes \text{id}_C) \rho_B^{-1/2} \rho_{BC}^{1/2}$

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ρ_{ABC} is a **quantum Markov chain**: $\exists \mathcal{T} : B \rightarrow BC, (\mathcal{I}_A \otimes \mathcal{T}_{BC \leftarrow B})(\rho_{AB}) = \rho_{ABC}$

Illustration of Markov chain condition

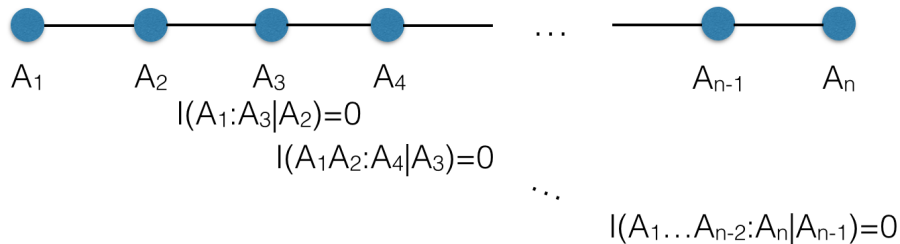


Illustration of Markov chain condition



$$I(A_1:A_3|A_2)=0$$

$$I(A_1A_2:A_4|A_3)=0$$

\dots

$$I(A_1\dots A_{n-2}:A_n|A_{n-1})=0$$

Then

$$\rho_{A_1A_2A_3} = (\mathcal{I}_{A_1} \otimes \mathcal{T}_{A_2A_3 \leftarrow A_2})(\rho_{A_1A_2})$$

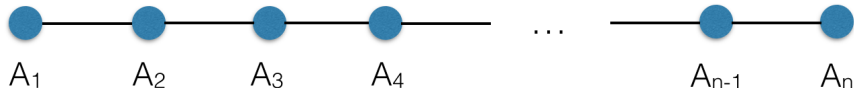
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\vdots

$$\rho_{A_1\dots A_n} = (\mathcal{I}_{A_1\dots A_{n-2}} \otimes \mathcal{T}_{A_{n-1}A_n \leftarrow A_{n-1}})(\rho_{A_1\dots A_{n-1}})$$

$$\implies \rho_{A_1\dots A_n} = (\mathcal{T}_{A_{n-1}A_n \leftarrow A_{n-1}} \circ \dots \circ \mathcal{T}_{A_2A_3 \leftarrow A_2})(\rho_{A_1A_2})$$

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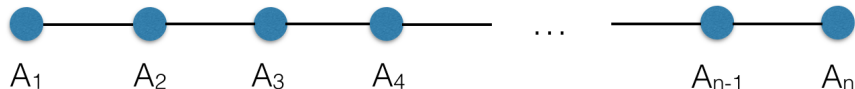
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Efficient representation of $\rho_{A_1\dots A_n}$: only $O(n)$ bits (compare to $2^{\Omega(n)}$ in general)

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Efficient representation of $\rho_{A_1\dots A_n}$: only $O(n)$ bits (compare to $2^{\Omega(n)}$ in general)

Hope: if $I(A_1 \dots A_{i-1} : A_{i+1} | A_i) \leq \epsilon$

\implies then efficient approximate representation of $\rho_{A_1\dots A_n}$

Small QCMI: $\epsilon > 0$ (Known lower bounds on QCMI)

Theorem (Remainder term for SSA [Carlen, Lieb, 2014] see also [Zhang, Wu 2014])

$$I(A : C|B)_\rho \geq \text{tr} \left[\sqrt{\rho_{ABC}} - \exp \left(\frac{1}{2} \log \rho_{AB} - \frac{1}{2} \log \rho_B + \frac{1}{2} \log \rho_{BC} \right) \right]^2$$

Problem: Term $\exp(\log + \log)$ difficult to interpret **operationally**

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Problem: Term $\exp(\log + \log)$ difficult to interpret **operationally**

Theorem (Faithful squashed entanglement [Brandao, Christandl, Yard, 2010])

$$I(A : C|B)_\rho \geq \min_{\sigma_{AC} \text{ separable}} \frac{1}{8 \ln 2} \|\rho_{AC} - \sigma_{AC}\|_{LOCC}^2$$

Problem: Bound is independent of B , value 0 when A or C classical

QCMI used to quantify entanglement: $E_{sq}(A : C)_\rho = \inf_{\rho_{ABC}} \frac{1}{2} I(A : C|B)_\rho$

Small QCMI: $\epsilon > 0$ case

ρ_{ABC} is a **quantum Markov chain**: $\exists T : B \rightarrow BC, (\mathcal{I}_A \otimes T_{BC \leftarrow B})(\rho_{AB}) = \rho_{ABC}$

Candidate conjecture 1:

$$I(A : C|B)_\rho \leq \epsilon \quad \Rightarrow \quad \rho_{ABC} \approx_{f(\epsilon)} \omega_{ABC}, \text{ with } \omega_{ABC} \text{ Markov chain}$$

Counterexamples [Ibison, Linden, Winter, 2006] and [Christandl, Schuch, Winter, 2012]
 $\rightarrow f$ has to depend on dimensions

Small QCM: $\epsilon > 0$ case

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 $\rightarrow f$ has to depend on dimensions

Candidate conjecture 2:

[Li, Winter, 2012], [Kim, 2013], [Zhang, 2013], [Berta, Seshadreesan, Wilde, 2014]

$$I(A : C|B)_\rho \leq \epsilon \Rightarrow \exists \mathcal{T} : B \rightarrow BC, (\mathcal{I}_A \otimes \mathcal{T})(\rho_{AB}) \approx_\epsilon \rho_{ABC}$$

$$\text{with } \mathcal{T}(\gamma) = \rho_{BC}^{1/2} \rho_B^{-1/2} (\gamma \otimes \text{id}_C) \rho_B^{-1/2} \rho_{BC}^{1/2}$$

Remarks:

- **Conj. 1** and **Conj. 2** are true for **classical** states
- General **quantum** case: **Conj. 2** does **not** imply **Conj. 1**

Main result

A proof of a variant of **Conj. 2**

Theorem

For any ρ_{ABC} , there exists $\mathcal{T} : B \rightarrow BC$ such that

$$I(A : C|B)_\rho \geq -2 \log F(\rho_{ABC}, \mathcal{T}_{BC \leftarrow B}(\rho_{AB}))$$

Remarks:

- $F(\rho, \sigma) = \|\sqrt{\rho}\sqrt{\sigma}\|_1$ is the fidelity
- Implies $I(A : C|B)_\rho \geq \frac{1}{4 \ln 2} \|\rho_{ABC} - \mathcal{T}_{BC \leftarrow B}(\rho_{AB})\|_1^2$

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- Implies $I(A : C|B)_\rho \geq \frac{1}{4 \ln 2} \|\rho_{ABC} - \mathcal{T}_{BC \leftarrow B}(\rho_{AB})\|_1^2$
- Properties of the map \mathcal{T}

$$\mathcal{T}_{BC \leftarrow B}(\gamma) = V_{BC} \rho_{BC}^{1/2} \rho_B^{-1/2} U_B (\gamma \otimes \text{id}_C) U_B^\dagger \rho_B^{-1/2} \rho_{BC}^{1/2} V_{BC}^\dagger$$

Structure of states ρ_{ABC} with $I(A : C|B)_\rho \leq \epsilon$

\implies states for which C can be approximately reconstructed from B

Back to our sample applications (replacing lost C)

$$\text{Main result: } I(A : C|B)_\rho \geq \frac{1}{4 \ln 2} \|\rho_{ABC} - \mathcal{T}_{BC \leftarrow B}(\rho_{AB})\|_1^2$$

Theorem

For any **quantum** density operator $\rho_{X_1 \dots X_n C B}$ where C is a qubit. There exists a subset $L \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$ of length $|L| \leq 1/\epsilon$

$$\text{for all } i, \quad P_{\text{guess}}(X_i|BX_L) \geq P_{\text{guess}}(X_i|BC) - \sqrt{(4 \ln 2)\epsilon}$$

Algorithm to construct L

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 $L \leftarrow \emptyset$   
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```

Claim 1: The algorithm terminates in at most $2/\epsilon$ steps **quantum** ✓

Claim 2: When algorithm terminates, $P_{\text{guess}}(X_i|BX_L) \gtrsim_{\epsilon} P_{\text{guess}}(X_i|BC)$

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For any quantum density operator $\rho_{X_1 \dots X_n CB}$ where C is a qubit. There exists a subset $L \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$ of length $|L| \leq 1/\epsilon$

$$\text{for all } i, \quad P_{\text{guess}}(X_i|BX_L) \geq P_{\text{guess}}(X_i|BC) - \sqrt{(4 \ln 2)\epsilon}$$

Algorithm to construct L

```
 $L \leftarrow \emptyset$   
while  $\exists i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  st  $I(X_i : C|BX_L) > \epsilon$   
   $L \leftarrow L \cup \{i\}$ 
```

Claim 1: The algorithm terminates in at most $2/\epsilon$ steps quantum ✓

Claim 2: When algorithm terminates, $P_{\text{guess}}(X_i|BX_L) \gtrsim_{\epsilon} P_{\text{guess}}(X_i|BC)$

We have for all i , $I(X_i : C|BX_L) \leq \epsilon$

Apply **main result:** $\rho_{X_i CBX_L} \approx_{\delta} \mathcal{T}_{BX_L C \leftarrow BX_L}(\rho_{X_i BX_L})$ with $\delta = \sqrt{(4 \ln 2)\epsilon}$

Strategy for guessing X_i from B and X_L :

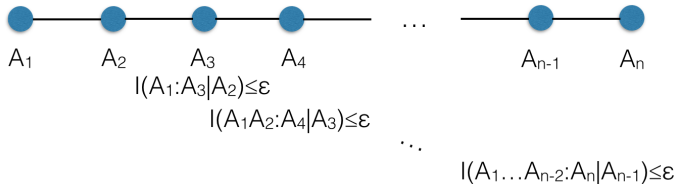
- 1 Construct the state $\mathcal{T}_{BX_L C \leftarrow BX_L}(\rho_{X_i BX_L})$
- 2 Pretend the state was $\rho_{X_i CBX_L}$ and use its optimal guessing strategy

$$P_{\text{guess}}(X_i|BX_L)_\rho \geq P_{\text{guess}}(X_i|BX_L C)_\rho - \delta \geq P_{\text{guess}}(X_i|BC)_\rho - \delta$$

Back to our sample applications (long chain)

$$\text{Main result: } I(A : C|B)_\rho \geq \frac{1}{4 \ln 2} \|\rho_{ABC} - \mathcal{T}_{BC \leftarrow B}(\rho_{AB})\|_1^2$$

Let $\rho_{A_1 \dots A_n}$ be of the form



Let $\delta = \sqrt{(4 \ln 2)\epsilon}$, then

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho_{A_1 \dots A_n} &\approx_\delta \mathcal{T}_{A_{n-1}A_n \leftarrow A_{n-1}}(\rho_{A_1 \dots A_{n-1}}) \\
 &\approx_{2\delta} \mathcal{T}_{A_{n-1}A_n \leftarrow A_{n-1}}(\mathcal{T}_{A_{n-2}A_{n-1} \leftarrow A_{n-2}}(\rho_{A_1 \dots A_{n-2}})) \\
 &\vdots \\
 &\approx_{(n-2)\delta} \left(\mathcal{T}_{A_{n-1}A_n \leftarrow A_{n-1}} \circ \dots \circ \mathcal{T}_{A_2A_3 \leftarrow A_2} \right) (\rho_{A_1A_2})
 \end{aligned}$$

If $\epsilon \ll \frac{1}{n^2}$, good approximation of $\rho_{A_1 \dots A_n}$ in $O(n)$ memory

Main result: proof sketch

Statement to prove:

$$\exists \mathcal{T} : B \rightarrow BC, \quad F(\rho_{ABC}, \mathcal{T}_{BC \leftarrow B}(\rho_{AB})) \geq 2^{-\frac{1}{2}I(A:C|B)}$$

- ① Easy special case: **flat marginals** $\rho_B = \frac{\Pi_B}{r_B}$ and $\rho_{BC} = \frac{\Pi_{BC}}{r_{BC}}$

$$\begin{aligned} F(\rho_{ABC}, \rho_{BC}^{1/2} \rho_B^{-1/2} \rho_{AB} \rho_B^{-1/2} \rho_{BC}^{1/2}) &= \sqrt{\frac{r_{BC}}{r_B}} F(\rho_{ABC}, \Pi_{BC} \Pi_B \rho_{AB} \Pi_B \Pi_{BC}) \\ &\geq 2^{-\frac{1}{2}(H(BC)_\rho - H(B)_\rho)} 2^{-\frac{1}{2}D(\rho_{ABC} \| \rho_{AB} \otimes \text{id}_C)} = 2^{-\frac{1}{2}I(A:C|B)_\rho} \end{aligned}$$

- ② General case $\rightarrow \approx$ flat marginals: **study** $\rho^{\otimes n}$ and consider types

$$I(A:C|B)_\rho = \frac{I(A^n : C^n | B^n)_{\rho^{\otimes n}}}{n}$$

Obtain $\mathcal{T}_{B^n C^n \leftarrow B^n}^n$ such that $F(\rho_{ABC}^{\otimes n}, \mathcal{T}^n(\rho_{AB}^{\otimes n})) \geq 2^{-\frac{1}{2}I(A^n : C^n | B^n)_{\rho^{\otimes n}}}$

- ③ If $\mathcal{T}_{B^n C^n \leftarrow B^n}^n = \mathcal{T}_{BC \leftarrow B}^{\otimes n}$, done.

For that, **de Finetti reduction**: $\mathcal{T}^n \leq \text{poly}(n) \int \mathcal{T}^{\otimes n} d\mathcal{T}$

Map of known proofs

$$I(A : C|B)_\rho = \frac{1}{n} I(A : C|B)_{\rho^{\otimes n}}$$

[FR15]: Properties of fidelity $\mathbb{D} = -2 \log F$

| ∇ [BHOS15]: Quantum state redistribution $\mathbb{D} = D$

[STH16]: Properties of pinching map $\mathbb{D} = D$

$$\frac{1}{n} \mathbb{D}(\rho_{ABC}^{\otimes n} \| \mathcal{T}_{B^n C^n \leftarrow B^n}(\rho_{AB}^{\otimes n}))$$

[FR15]: de Finetti reduction

| ∇ [BT15]: SDP duality

[STH16]: Minimax theorem

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$$\frac{1}{n} \mathbb{D}(\rho_{ABC}^{\otimes n} \| \mathcal{T}_{BC \leftarrow B}^{\otimes n}(\rho_{AB}^{\otimes n})) = \mathbb{D}(\rho_{ABC} \| \mathcal{T}_{BC \leftarrow B}(\rho_{AB}))$$

Proof not following this scheme: see next talk

Conclusion

- Conditional mutual information useful for its additivity properties
- **Main result:**

$$I(A : C|B)_\rho \leq \epsilon$$

$\Rightarrow \rho_{ABC}$ approximately satisfies Markov chain condition

- Can show a similar upper bound on $I(A : C|B)$:

$$\frac{1}{4 \ln 2} \|\rho_{ABC} - \mathcal{T}_{BC \leftarrow B}(\rho_{AB})\|_1^2 \leq I(A : C|B)_\rho \leq 7 \log d_A \sqrt{\|\rho_{ABC} - \mathcal{T}_{BC \leftarrow B}(\rho_{AB})\|_1}$$

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- **Open questions:**

- Many natural improvements: next talk
- More applications of recoverability: direct sum communication complexity? lower bounds using restricted norms (LOCC, ...)?