

# Chain rules for quantum relative entropies and their applications

---

Kun Fang<sup>1</sup>

[1909.05826, PRL] & [1909.05758]

Joint work with Hamza Fawzi<sup>1</sup>,  
Omar Fawzi<sup>2</sup>, Renato Renner<sup>3</sup> and David Sutter<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *DAMTP, University of Cambridge*

<sup>2</sup> *Laboratoire de l'Informatique du Parallélisme, ENS de Lyon*

<sup>3</sup> *Institute for Theoretical Physics, ETH Zurich*

---



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE



**ETH** zürich

Beyond IID 2020

# The chain rule

Entropy of a **large system** = **sum** of entropies of individual **subsystems**

---

For example, given a tripartite quantum state  $\rho_{ABC}$  we have

$$H(\textcolor{red}{AB}|C) = H(\textcolor{red}{A}|C) + H(\textcolor{red}{B}|AC)$$

$$H(A|B) := H(AB) - H(B)$$

$$H(A) := -\text{Tr } \rho_A \log \rho_A$$

$$D(\rho||\sigma) := \text{Tr } \rho(\log \rho - \log \sigma)$$

Recall that  $H(A|B) = -D(\rho_{AB}||\text{id}_A \otimes \rho_B)$

**Question:** Is there a chain rule for the quantum relative entropy?

# The chain rule

**How does the chain rule look like for quantum relative entropy?**

For classical probability distributions we have

$$D(P_{\textcolor{red}{X}\textcolor{red}{Y}} \| Q_{\textcolor{red}{X}\textcolor{red}{Y}}) = D(P_{\textcolor{red}{X}} \| Q_{\textcolor{red}{X}}) + \underbrace{\sum_x P_X(x) D(P_{\textcolor{red}{Y}|X=x} \| Q_{\textcolor{red}{Y}|X=x})}_{\text{Less ambitious statement}}$$

$$D(P_{XY} \| Q_{XY}) \leq D(P_X \| Q_X) + \underbrace{\max_x D(P_{Y|X=x} \| Q_{Y|X=x})}_{\text{Less ambitious statement}}$$

**How to model a conditional distribution (a channel) quantumly?**

Relative entropy for quantum channels  $\mathcal{E}_{A \rightarrow B}$  and  $\mathcal{F}_{A \rightarrow B}$

Consider the worst-case scenario  $D(\mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F}) := \sup_{\rho_{RA}} D(\mathcal{E}(\rho_{RA}) \| \mathcal{F}(\rho_{RA}))$

$$D(\textcolor{red}{\mathcal{E}}(\rho_{\textcolor{blue}{RA}}) \| \textcolor{red}{\mathcal{F}}(\sigma_{\textcolor{blue}{RA}})) \stackrel{?}{\leq} D(\rho_{\textcolor{blue}{RA}} \| \sigma_{\textcolor{blue}{RA}}) + D(\textcolor{red}{\mathcal{E}} \| \textcolor{red}{\mathcal{F}})$$

# Outline for the rest of the talk

## ◎ Umegaki relative entropy

***D***

$$D(\rho\|\sigma) := \text{Tr } \rho(\log \rho - \log \sigma)$$

*Chain rule and its applications* [1909.05826]

---

## ◎ Belavkin-Staszewski relative entropy

***$\hat{D}$***

$$\hat{D}(\rho\|\sigma) = \text{Tr } \rho \log[\rho^{1/2} \sigma^{-1} \rho^{1/2}]$$

*Chain rule and its applications* [1909.05758]

---

## ◎ Summary and discussions



# Umegaki Relative Entropy

***D***

# Non-additivity of channel relative entropy

A fact: The channel relative entropy is **not additive** under tensor product.

There exists quantum channels  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  such that

$$D(\mathcal{E} \otimes \mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{F}) > 2D(\mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F})$$

In sharp contrast with the relative entropy of quantum states

---

Let  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  be two different qubit **generalized amplitude damping channels** with Choi matrices  $J_{\mathcal{E}}$  and  $J_{\mathcal{F}}$

Using the covariance symmetry of these channels, we find

$$D(\mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F}) = \max_{\rho = \text{diag}(p, 1-p)} D(\sqrt{\rho} J_{\mathcal{E}} \sqrt{\rho} \| \sqrt{\rho} J_{\mathcal{F}} \sqrt{\rho})$$

For some clever choice of  $\rho$  we find

$$D(\mathcal{E} \otimes \mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{F}) \geq D(\mathcal{E}^{\otimes 2}(\rho) \| \mathcal{F}^{\otimes 2}(\rho)) > 2D(\mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F})$$

---

Non-additivity leads to the definition of regularized channel relative entropy

$$D^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F}) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} D(\mathcal{E}^{\otimes n} \| \mathcal{F}^{\otimes n})$$

# The naive chain rule conjecture is false

$$D(\mathcal{E}(\rho_{RA})\|\mathcal{F}(\sigma_{RA})) \leq D(\rho_{RA}\|\sigma_{RA}) + D(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F})$$



There exists states  $\rho_{RA}, \sigma_{RA}$  and channels  $\mathcal{E}_{A \rightarrow B}, \mathcal{F}_{A \rightarrow B}$  such that

$$D(\mathcal{E}(\rho_{RA})\|\mathcal{F}(\sigma_{RA})) > D(\rho_{RA}\|\sigma_{RA}) + D(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F})$$

Recall channel relative entropy  $D(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F}) := \sup_{\rho_{RA}} D(\mathcal{E}(\rho_{RA})\|\mathcal{F}(\rho_{RA}))$

The **amortized channel relative entropy** is defined as

$$D^A(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F}) := \sup_{\rho_{RA}, \sigma_{RA}} [D(\mathcal{E}(\rho_{RA})\|\mathcal{F}(\sigma_{RA})) - D(\rho_{RA}\|\sigma_{RA})]$$

It is known [Wang-Wilde-19] that

$$D^A(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F}) \geq D^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F})$$

Hence there exist channels  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  such that

$$D^A(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F}) \geq D^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F}) > D(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F})$$

# Chain rule for Umegaki relative entropy

$$D(\mathcal{E}(\rho_{RA}) \| \mathcal{F}(\sigma_{RA})) \leq D(\rho_{RA} \| \sigma_{RA}) + D(\mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F})$$



## Chain Rule

For any quantum states  $\rho_{RA}, \sigma_{RA}$  and quantum channels  $\mathcal{E}_{A \rightarrow B}, \mathcal{F}_{A \rightarrow B}$

$$D(\mathcal{E}(\rho_{RA}) \| \mathcal{F}(\sigma_{RA})) \leq D(\rho_{RA} \| \sigma_{RA}) + D^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F})$$



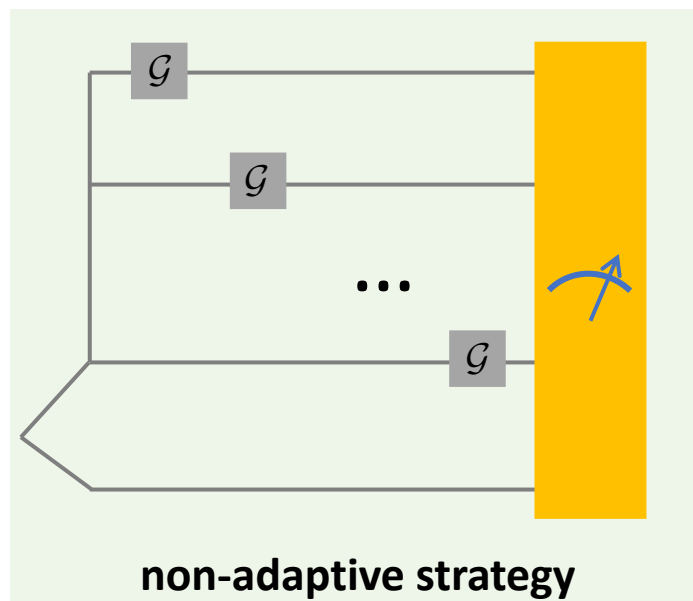
## Some remarks:

- For any channel pair  $(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F})$ , there exists  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$  such that the chain rule holds with equality, i.e.,  $D^A(\mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F}) = D^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F})$
- $D^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F}) = D(\mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F})$  for specific channels
  - Classical-quantum channels
  - Covariant channels w.r.t. unitary group
  - $\mathcal{E}$  arbitrary and  $\mathcal{F}$  a replacer channel
- For  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{F}$  we recover the data-processing inequality  $D(\mathcal{E}(\rho) \| \mathcal{E}(\sigma)) \leq D(\rho \| \sigma)$

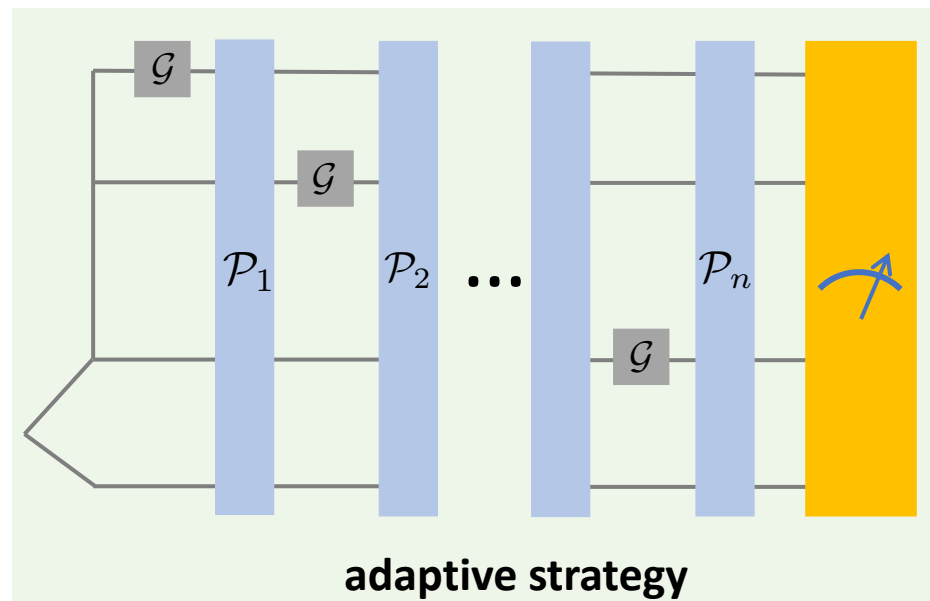
# Application: channel discrimination

Given a quantum channel  $\mathcal{G} \in \{\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F}\}$

Using  $\mathcal{G}$  n-times the task is to determine if  $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{E}$  or  $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{F}$



$$D^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{E} \parallel \mathcal{F}) \text{ [Wang-Wilde-19]}$$



$$D^A(\mathcal{E} \parallel \mathcal{F}) \text{ [Wang-Wilde-19]}$$

Because non-adaptive strategies are a special case of adaptive strategies

$$D^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{E} \parallel \mathcal{F}) \leq D^A(\mathcal{E} \parallel \mathcal{F})$$

But the new chain rule says

$$D^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{E} \parallel \mathcal{F}) = D^A(\mathcal{E} \parallel \mathcal{F}) \quad !!!$$

**Adaptive strategies are no more powerful than non-adaptive ones!**

# Open questions

- Do we have a chain rule for sandwiched/Petz Rényi relative entropy

$$D_{\alpha}(\mathcal{E}(\rho_{RA})\|\mathcal{F}(\sigma_{RA})) \stackrel{?}{\leq} D_{\alpha}(\rho_{RA}\|\sigma_{RA}) + D_{\alpha}^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F}) \quad \alpha \in (1/2, 1) \cup (1, \infty)$$

Sandwiched chain rule with  $\alpha > 1$  is solved by [Fawzi-Fawzi-2020, see Wednesday's talk]

---

- Single-letterize more quantities as we did for  $D^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F})$  with  $D^A(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F})$

For example: Capacity formula?

$$Q(\mathcal{N}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} I_c(\mathcal{N}^{\otimes n}) =: I_c^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{N}) = \quad ?$$

---

- Extreme non-additivity of channel relative entropy? (Mark Wilde's Twitter)

Is there a **universal n** such that

$$D^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F}) = \frac{1}{n} D(\mathcal{E}^{\otimes n}\|\mathcal{F}^{\otimes n}) \quad \text{for all channels}$$

Analogous to a result by [Cubbit et.al, 1408.5115] that the channel coherent information is extremely non-additive.

# Belavkin-Staszewski Relative Entropy

$$\hat{D}$$

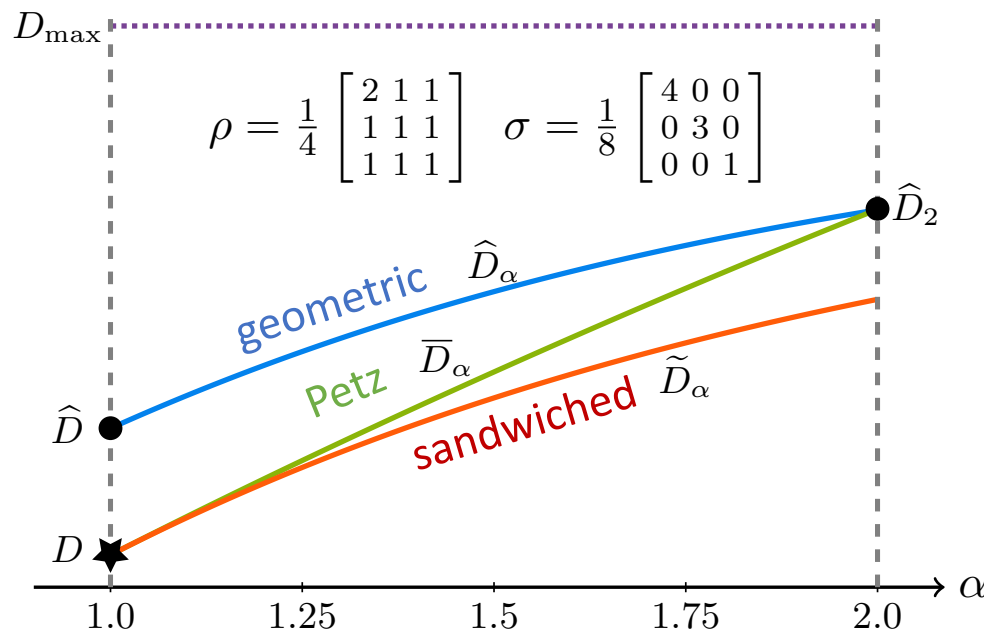
# Definitions: geometric Rényi divergence

Geometric Rényi divergence:

$$\hat{D}_\alpha(\rho||\sigma) := \frac{1}{\alpha - 1} \log \text{Tr } G_{1-\alpha}(\rho, \sigma)$$

Matrix geometric mean (an operator connects X and Y):

$$G_\alpha(X, Y) := X^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( X^{-\frac{1}{2}} Y X^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right)^\alpha X^{\frac{1}{2}}$$



- Also called the *maximal Rényi divergence* [Matsumoto-15]: the largest quantum Rényi divergence which satisfies data-processing inequality
- Converge to Belavkin-Staszewski when alpha = 1
 
$$\hat{D}(\rho||\sigma) := \text{Tr } \rho \log[\rho^{1/2} \sigma^{-1} \rho^{1/2}]$$
- Nicer properties than the widely-used Petz and sandwiched ones



# Chain rule and other basic properties

## Chain Rule

For any quantum states  $\rho_{RA}, \sigma_{RA}$  and quantum channels  $\mathcal{E}_{A \rightarrow B}, \mathcal{F}_{A \rightarrow B}$

$$\hat{D}_\alpha(\mathcal{E}(\rho_{RA}) \| \mathcal{F}(\sigma_{RA})) \leq \hat{D}_\alpha(\rho_{RA} \| \sigma_{RA}) + \hat{D}_\alpha(\mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F}) \quad \alpha \in (1, 2]$$

### Other nice properties:

Single-letter

Closed-form  $\hat{D}_\alpha(\mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F}) = \frac{1}{\alpha - 1} \log \left\| \text{Tr}_B G_{1-\alpha}(J_{RB}^\mathcal{E}, J_{RB}^\mathcal{F}) \right\|_\infty$

Additivity  $\hat{D}_\alpha(\mathcal{E}_1 \otimes \mathcal{E}_2 \| \mathcal{F}_1 \otimes \mathcal{F}_2) = \hat{D}_\alpha(\mathcal{E}_1 \| \mathcal{F}_1) + \hat{D}_\alpha(\mathcal{E}_2 \| \mathcal{F}_2)$

Sub-additivity  $\hat{D}_\alpha(\mathcal{E}_2 \circ \mathcal{E}_1 \| \mathcal{F}_2 \circ \mathcal{F}_1) \leq \hat{D}_\alpha(\mathcal{E}_1 \| \mathcal{F}_1) + \hat{D}_\alpha(\mathcal{E}_2 \| \mathcal{F}_2)$

SDP  $\inf_{\mathcal{F} \in C} \hat{D}_\alpha(\mathcal{E} \| \mathcal{F})$  is SDP computable if  $C$  is given by SDP conditions

### Remarks:

- These properties will empower a wide range of applications.
- Similar properties hold for  $\alpha$  in  $(0,1)$  [Katariya-Wilde-2020].
- Umegaki relative entropy does not satisfy these properties.

# Application: channel capacity

**Task:** quantum comm. over a noisy channel with free classical comm. assistance

**Channel capacity:** the capability of a channel to reliably transmit information

Notoriously hard to evaluate and we aim to find an upper bound as tight as possible

Rains entanglement measure

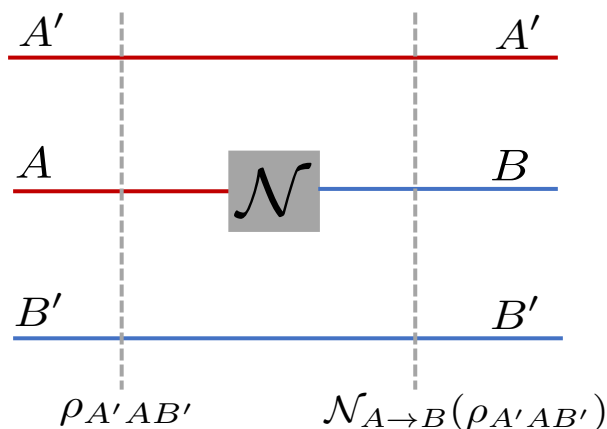
$$\hat{R}_\alpha(\rho_{AB}) := \inf_{\sigma_{AB} \in \text{PPT}'(A:B)} \hat{D}_\alpha(\rho_{AB} \| \sigma_{AB}) \quad \text{PPT}'(A:B) := \{\sigma_{AB} \geq 0 : \|\sigma_{AB}^{T_B}\|_1 \leq 1\}$$

Rains channel information

$$\hat{R}_\alpha(\mathcal{N}) := \inf_{\mathcal{M} \in \mathcal{V}(A:B)} \hat{D}_\alpha(\mathcal{N} \| \mathcal{M}) \quad \mathcal{V}(A:B) := \{\mathcal{M} \in \text{CP} : \|\Theta_B \circ \mathcal{M}_{A \rightarrow B}\|_\diamond \leq 1\}$$

Chain rule immediately implies

$$\hat{R}_\alpha(\mathcal{N}_{A \rightarrow B}(\rho_{A'AB})) - \hat{R}_\alpha(\rho_{A'AB}) \leq \hat{R}_\alpha(\mathcal{N})$$



**Q:** What does this mean?

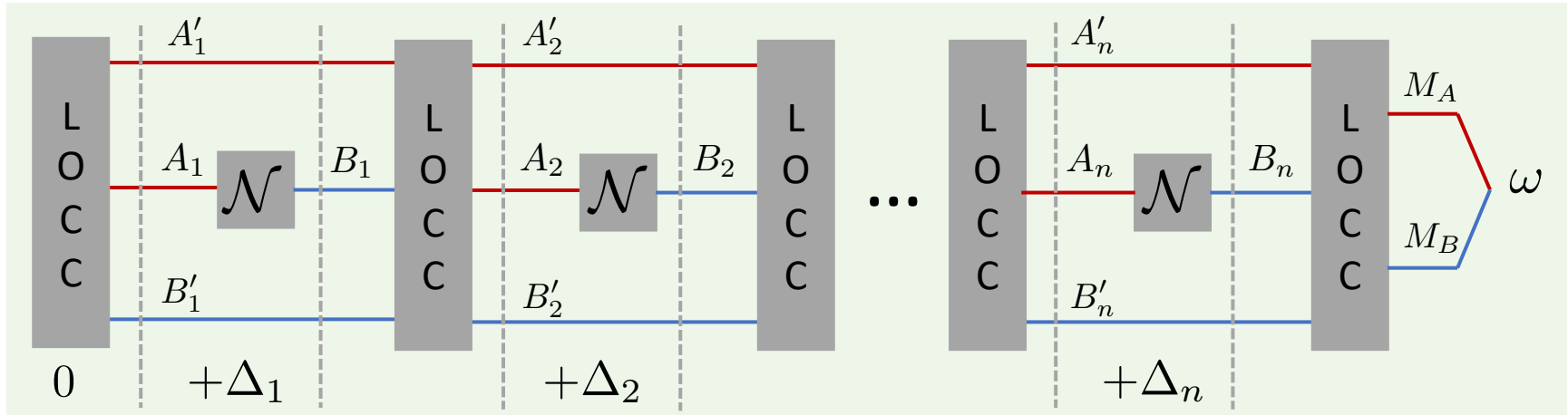
**A:** Net entanglement generated via the channel  $\mathcal{N}$  will be no greater than  $\hat{R}_\alpha(\mathcal{N})$

**Q:** Why should we care about this?

**A:** This is a sub-module in quantum communication.

# Application: channel capacity

LOCC (local operation and classical comm.) assisted quantum communication protocol



**Goal:** establish maximally entangled state

+ free classical communication  $\xrightarrow{\text{teleportation}}$  transmit quantum info.

Using channel  $n$  times we have  $\hat{R}_\alpha(\omega) \leq \Delta_1 + \Delta_2 + \cdots + \Delta_n \leq n \cdot \hat{R}_\alpha(\mathcal{N})$

On average, entanglement generated is no greater than  $\hat{R}_\alpha(\mathcal{N})$

Thus we have an improved bound  $Q^\leftrightarrow(\mathcal{N}) \leq \hat{R}_\alpha(\mathcal{N}) \leq R_{\max}(\mathcal{N})$

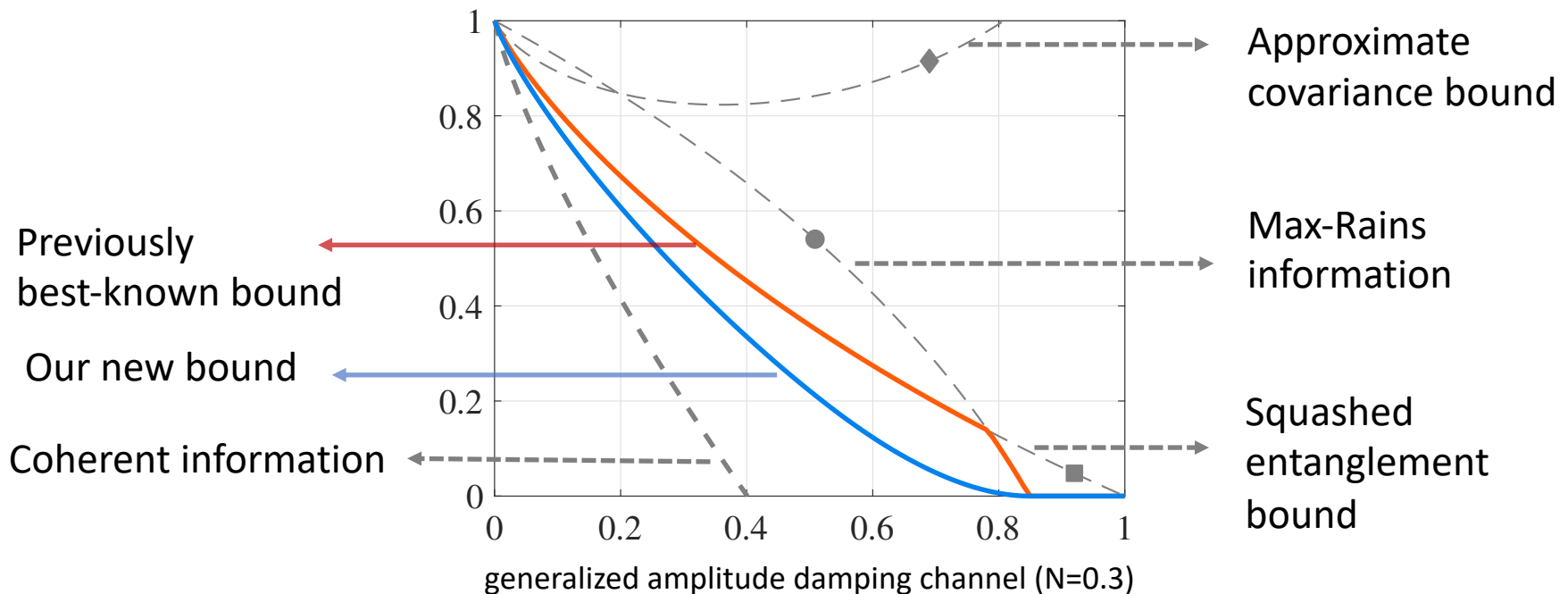


Previously best-known bound [Wang-Fang-Duan-18, Berta-Wilde-18; QIP'18 talk]

# Example

$$Q^{\leftrightarrow}(\mathcal{N}) \leq \hat{R}_{\alpha}(\mathcal{N}) \leq R_{\max}(\mathcal{N})$$

- $\hat{R}_{\alpha}(\mathcal{N})$  is tighter than  $R_{\max}(\mathcal{N})$  in general.
- The improvement is significant for almost all channels.
- The new bound cannot be trivially pushed further to Umegaki's relative entropy  $D$  as a single-letter bound.



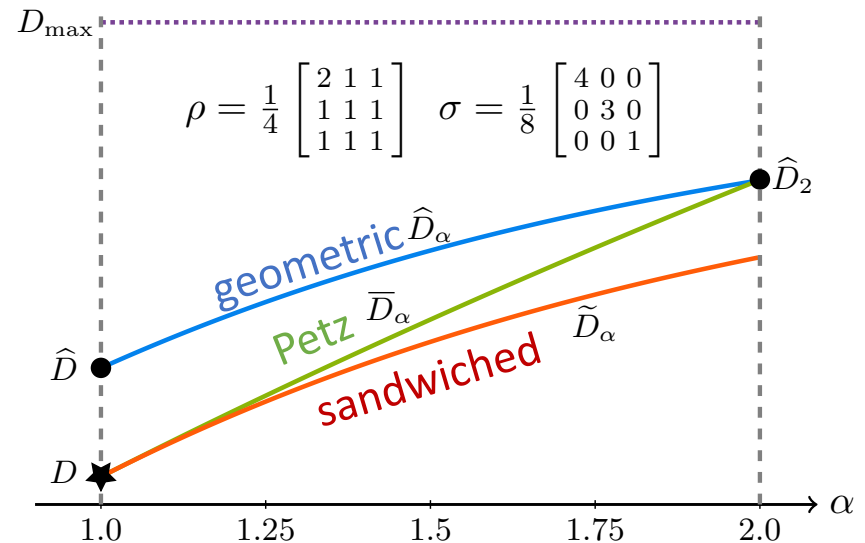
# Other applications

The BS/geometric Rényi divergence can also found applications in:

- Classical/private/magic generating capacities
- Point-to-point/bidirectional channels
- Assisted/unassisted communication scenario
- Channel discrimination  $D^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{N}||\mathcal{M}) \leq \hat{D}_\alpha(\mathcal{N}||\mathcal{M})$

See 1909.05758 for more details

Potential improvements in  
quantum network theory,  
quantum repeaters, quantum key  
distribution, quantum games ...  
(basically anywhere that  
involves  $D_{\max}$ )



# Open question

Belavkin-Staszewski relative entropy/Geometric Rényi divergence admits **nice mathematical properties**. **But** what are their operational meanings? Do they naturally show up in certain tasks?

For example:

- *Umegaki relative entropy*: optimal error exponent in the hypothesis testing problem [Hiai-Petz-1991]
- *Petz Rényi divergence*: quantum generalization of Chernoff's bound on the success probability in binary hypothesis testing [Audenaert et al.-2007]
- *Sandwiched Rényi divergence*: strong converse regime of asymmetric binary hypothesis testing [Mosonyi-Ogawa-2015]

# Summary

# Summary

- Chain rule for Umegaki relative entropy

$$D(\mathcal{E}(\rho_{RA})\|\mathcal{F}(\sigma_{RA})) \leq D(\rho_{RA}\|\sigma_{RA}) + D^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F})$$

- Adaptive strategies are no more powerful than non-adaptive ones for channel discrimination  $D^{\text{reg}}(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F}) = D^A(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F})$
  - Robust version of data-processing inequality
  - See arXiv 1909.05826 for a slightly more general version
- 

- Chain rule for Belavkin-Staszewski/geometric Rényi relative entropy

$$\hat{D}_\alpha(\mathcal{E}(\rho_{RA})\|\mathcal{F}(\sigma_{RA})) \leq \hat{D}_\alpha(\rho_{RA}\|\sigma_{RA}) + \hat{D}_\alpha(\mathcal{E}\|\mathcal{F})$$

- Other nice properties: closed-form formula, additive under tensor product, sub-additive under composition, easy to do optimization
- Improved upper bounds for quantum/private/classical/magic state generation capacities /channel discrimination
- Potential applications in quantum network theory, quantum repeaters, quantum key distribution, quantum games...



# Thanks for your attention!

See arXiv for more details

[1909.05826, PRL] & [1909.05758]

