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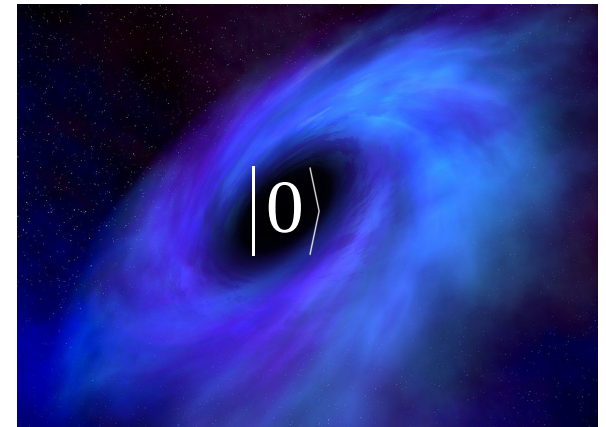


# CAN WE PROVE THAT VACUUM IS A GLOBAL MAJORIZING STATE IN A QUANTUM AMPLIFIER ?

Raul Garcia-Patron, Carlos Navarrete,  
Seth Lloyd, Jeff H. Shapiro, and Nicolas J. Cerf

9<sup>th</sup> Continuous-Variable Quantum Information Processing  
Workshop – CV-QIP '12

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## Outline of this talk

- Classical capacity of Gaussian bosonic channels  
Gaussian minimum (output) entropy conjecture
- Link with entanglement of a 2-mode squeezer  
Gaussian minimum (output) entanglement conjecture
- Approach building on majorization theory  
Gaussian majorization conjecture  
Incomplete proof of the conjecture (Fock state inputs)
- Conclusions — importance in physics !  
... new path to the ultimate proof ?

## Context

We wish to calculate the **ultimate** information capacity of optical communication channels



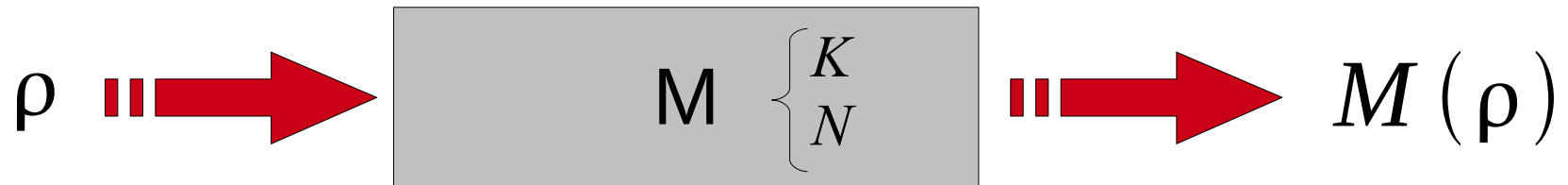
Since communication channels are **“physical devices”** ...

and since physics itself is **“quantum mechanical”** ...

... we need to use the tools of **“quantum information theory”**

Optical links are often modeled by Gaussian bosonic channels  
.... we need to use the tools of **“continuous-variable QIP”**

# Gaussian (quantum) Bosonic Channels



- Corresponds to linear CP maps  $\rho \rightarrow M[\rho]$   
s.t.  $M[\rho]$  Gaussian if  $\rho$  Gaussian

- $M$  fully characterized by two matrices  $K, N$

$$\vec{r} \rightarrow K \vec{r} \quad \vec{r} = \text{coherent vector}$$

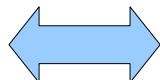
$$\gamma \rightarrow K \gamma K^T + N \quad \gamma = \text{covariance matrix}$$

↑  
real

↑  
real & symmetric

one-mode case

- $M$  completely positive

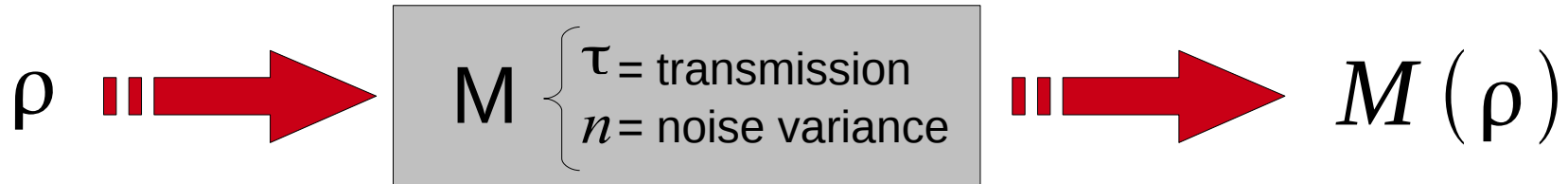


$$N \geq 0 \quad \det N \geq (\det K - 1)^2$$

uncertainty principle

# Phase-insensitive Gaussian Channels

$$\begin{cases} K = \text{diag}(\sqrt{\tau}, \sqrt{\tau}) \\ N = \text{diag}(n, n) \end{cases}$$

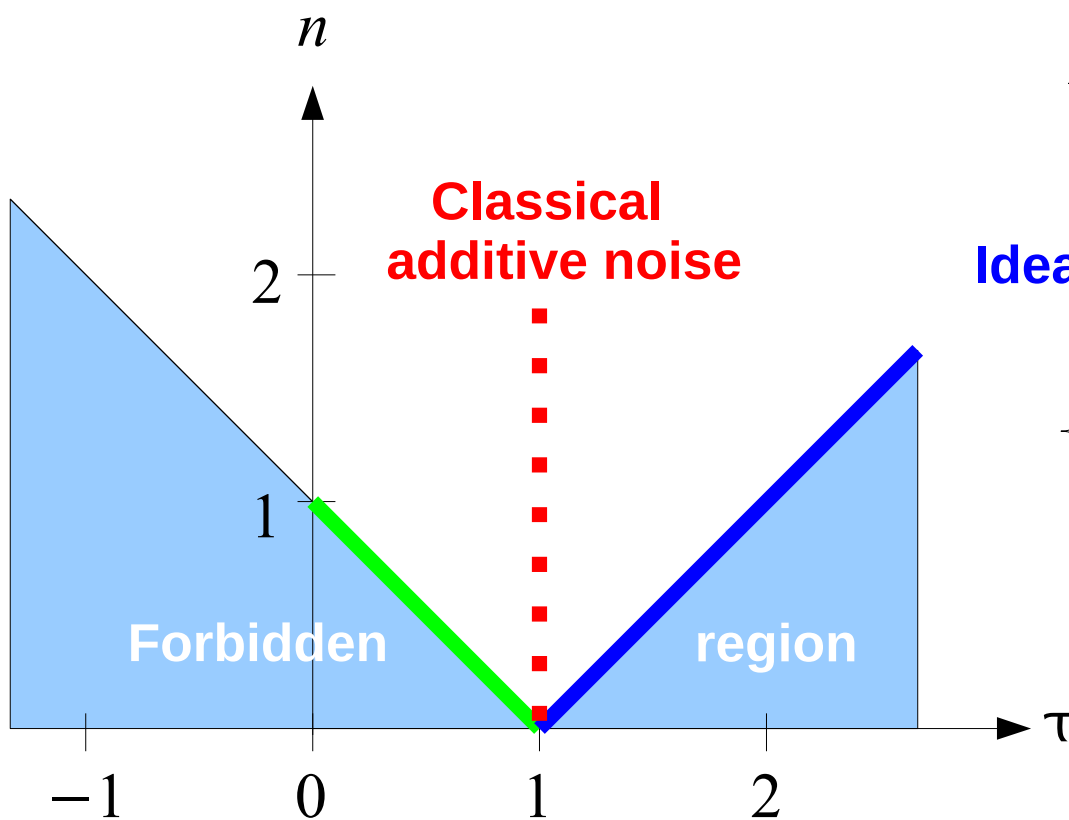


## Purely lossy channel

$$\begin{cases} K = \text{diag}(\sqrt{T}, \sqrt{T}) & (T \leq 1) \\ N = \text{diag}(1-T, 1-T) \end{cases}$$

## Ideal (quantum-limited) amplifier

$$\begin{cases} K = \text{diag}(\sqrt{G}, \sqrt{G}) & (G \geq 1) \\ N = \text{diag}(G-1, G-1) \end{cases}$$



# Classical Capacity of Quantum Channels

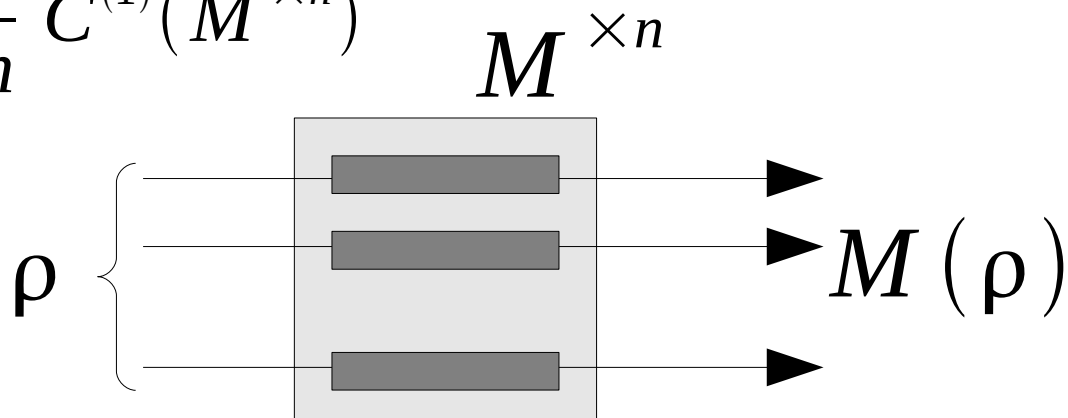
Holevo, Schumacher,  
Westmoreland, 1998



- encoding  $\{p_a, \rho_a\}$  such that  $\sum_{a=1, \dots, d} p_a \rho_a = \rho$
- Holevo bound  $\chi(\{p_a, \rho_a\}, M) = S(M(\rho)) - \sum_a p_a S(M(\rho_a))$
- Single-shot capacity  $C^{(1)}(M) = \max_{\{p_a, \rho_a\}} \chi(\{p_a, \rho_a\}, M)$
- Capacity  $C(M) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} C^{(1)}(M^{\times n})$

... in general, not additive !  
(Hastings, 2009)

... cfr. Raul Garcia's talk



## Role of Minimum Output Entropy



- encoding  $\{p_a, \rho_a\}$  such that  $\sum_{a=1, \dots, d} p_a \rho_a = \rho$

$$C^{(1)}(M) = \max_{\rho} \tilde{\chi}(\rho, M) \quad \dots \text{maximization in 2 steps}$$

$$\text{with } \tilde{\chi}(\rho, M) \equiv S(M(\rho)) - \min_{\substack{\{p_a, \rho_a\} \\ \sum_a p_a \rho_a = \rho}} \underbrace{\sum_a p_a S(M(\rho_a))}_{\geq S(M(\Phi_0))}$$

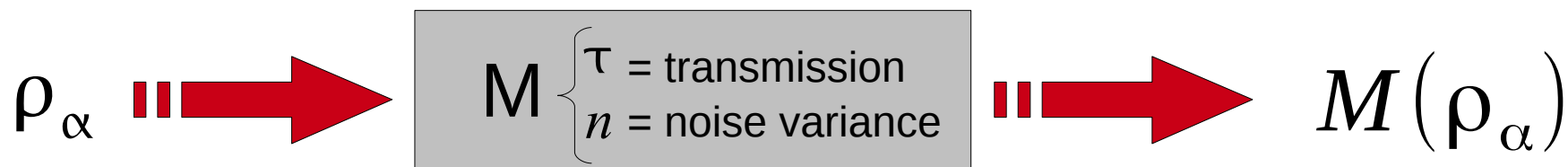
$$\leq S(M(\rho)) - S(M(\Phi_0))$$

Upper bound on  $C^{(1)}$  relying on pure state  $\Phi_0$  minimizing the output entropy

$$\min_{\sigma} S(M(\sigma)) \equiv S(M(\Phi_0))$$

# Capacity of Gaussian Quantum Channels

Yuen and Ozawa, 1993  
Holevo and Werner, 1998



- continuous encoding  $\{p(\alpha), \rho_\alpha\}$  such that  $\int d^2\alpha p(\alpha) \rho_\alpha = \rho$
- energy constraint

$$C^{(1)}(M) = \max_{\rho} \tilde{\chi}(\rho, M) \leq \underbrace{\max_{\rho} S(M(\rho))}_{\text{for fixed energy, achieved by a thermal state}} - \underbrace{\min_{\sigma} S(M(\sigma))}_{S(M(\Phi_0)) \text{ with } \Phi_0 = \text{minimum output entropy state ???}}$$

for fixed energy,  
achieved by a thermal state  
 $S(M(\rho_{therm}))$

$S(M(\Phi_0))$  with  $\Phi_0 =$  minimum  
output entropy  
state ???

**Gaussian minimum output entropy conjecture:**

$$\Phi_0 = |0\rangle\langle 0|$$



# Conjectured Single-shot Capacity

$$\rho_\alpha \xrightarrow{\quad} M \begin{cases} \tau = \text{transmission} \\ n = \text{noise variance} \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\quad} M(\rho_a)$$

continuous encoding  $\{p(\alpha), \rho_\alpha\}$  such that  $\int d^2\alpha p(\alpha) \rho_\alpha = \rho$

$$C^{(1)}(M) \leq S(M(\rho_{therm})) - S(M(|0\rangle\langle 0|))$$

★ use Gaussian encoding  $\rho_\alpha = |\alpha\rangle\langle\alpha|$   $p(\alpha) = \frac{1}{\pi \nu} \exp\left(\frac{-|\alpha|^2}{\nu}\right)$

with  $\nu$  = mean thermal photon number

$$C^{(1)}(M) = g[\tau \nu + n] - g[n] \quad \text{where } g[x] = (x+1)\log(x+1) - x\log(x)$$

→ coherent states modulated with a Gaussian bivariate distribution do achieve the capacity (it is the *optimal encoding*)

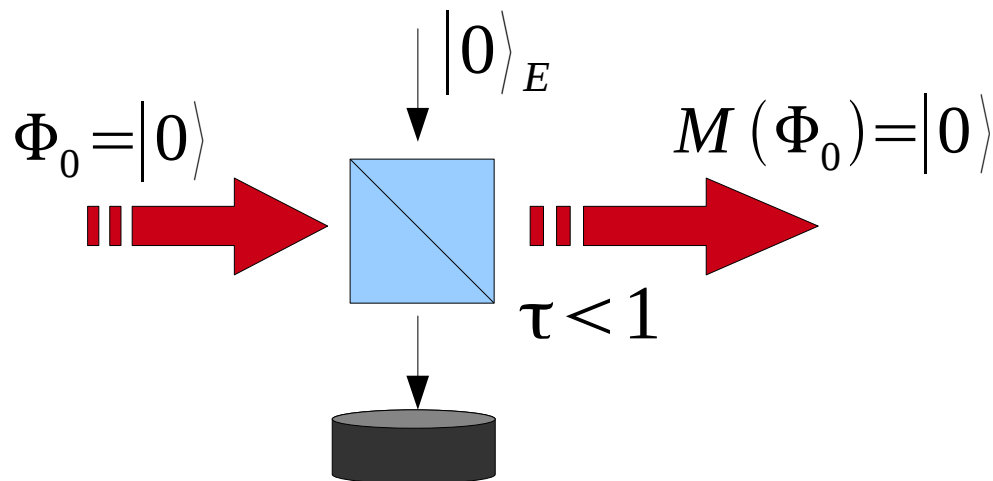
... provided the **Gaussian minimum entropy conjecture holds !**

# Gaussian Minimum Entropy Conjecture

$$\min_{\sigma} S(M(\sigma)) = S(M(|0\rangle\langle 0|))$$

- The same conjecture is made for the joint channel  $M^{\times n}$ 

$$C(M) \equiv \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} C^{(1)}(M^{\times n}) = C^{(1)}(M) \quad \dots \text{cfr. Raul Garcia's talk}$$
- All papers on Gaussian Bosonic channels rely on this widely admitted conjecture !!!
- Single exception: pure lossy channel (environment  $E$  in vacuum state)

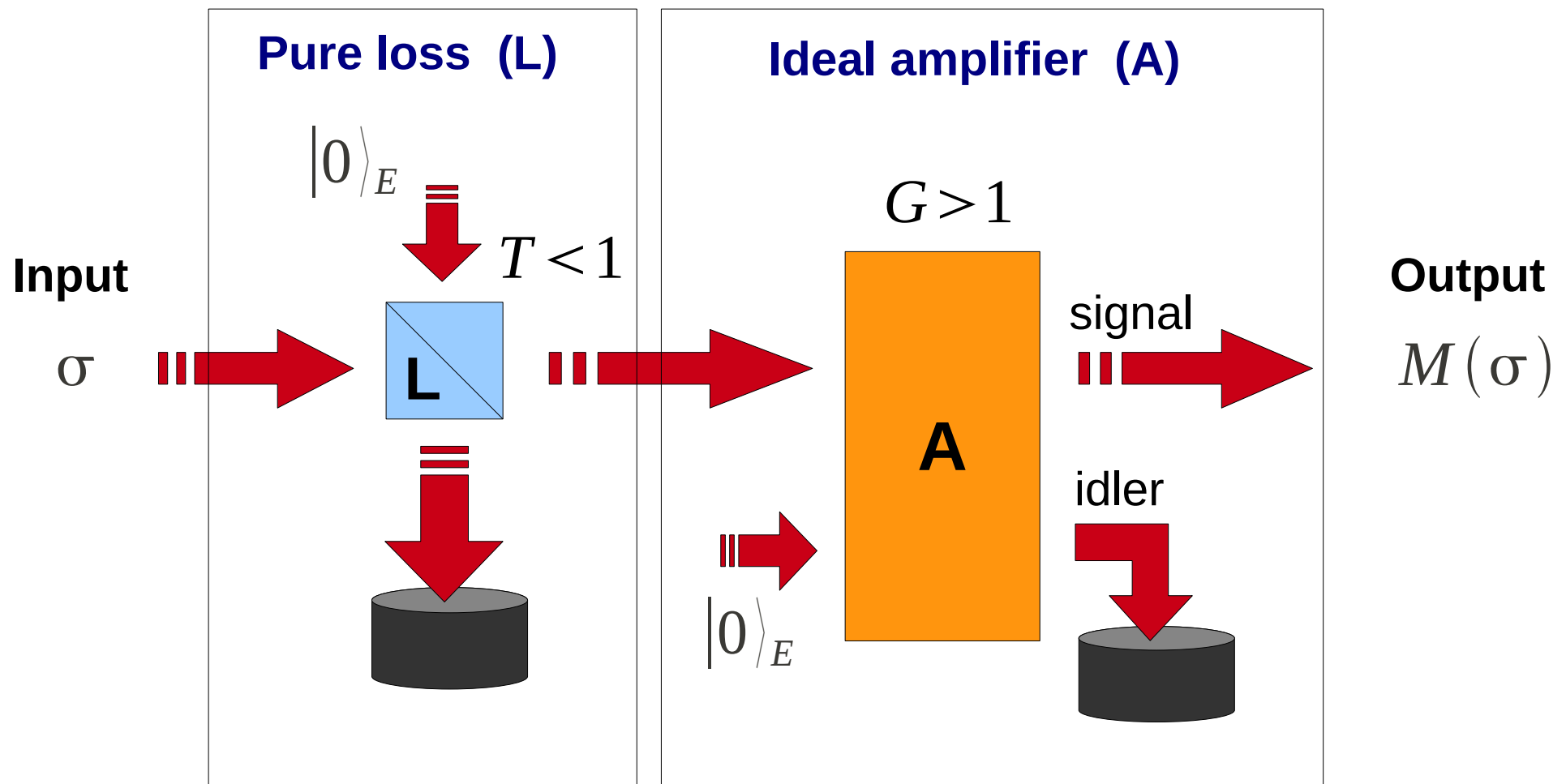


$$C^{(1)}(M) = g[\tau \nu]$$

V. Giovannetti *et al.*, PRL, 2004

# Generic Decomposition of Phase-insensitive Channels

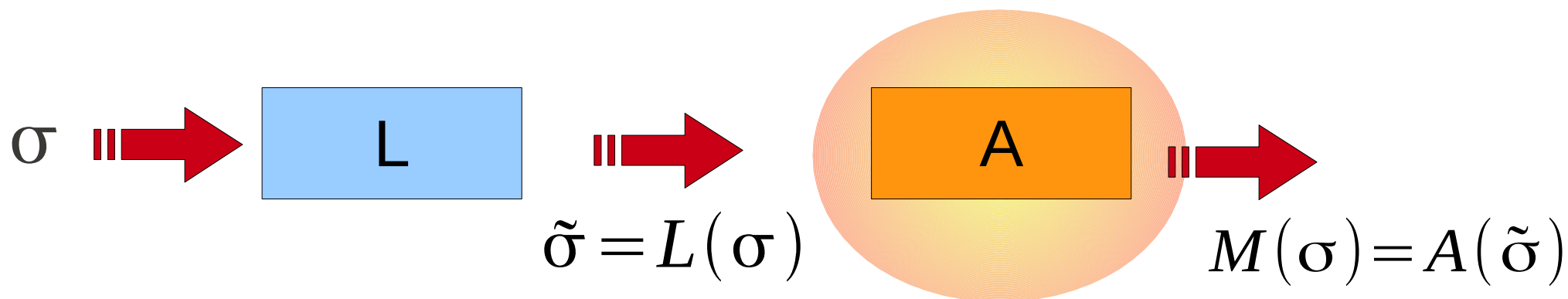
- $\tau = T G < 1$  lossy fiber with thermal noise
- $\tau = T G = 1$  classical Gaussian additive noise
- $\tau = T G > 1$  (non-ideal) noisy amplifier



## Reduction of the Conjecture



**Conjecture I**  $\min_{\sigma} S(M(\sigma)) = S(M(|0\rangle\langle 0|))$

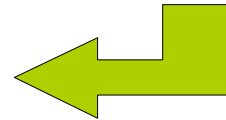
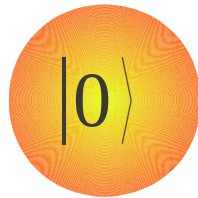
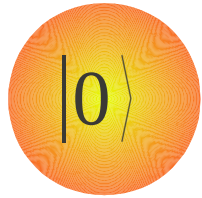


**Conjecture II**  $\min_{\tilde{\sigma}} S(A(\tilde{\sigma})) = S(A(|0\rangle\langle 0|))$

# Reduction to Ideal Amplifier

assume conjecture II holds

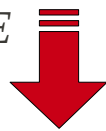
$$S(M(\sigma)) = S(A(\tilde{\sigma})) \geq S(A(|0\rangle\langle 0|))$$



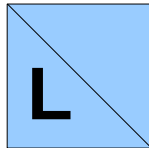
saturated if

conjecture I

$|0\rangle_E$

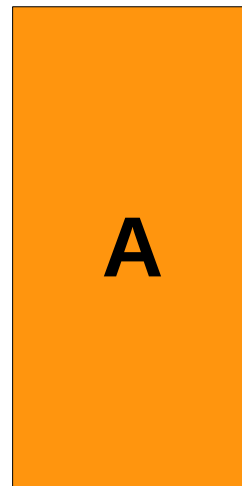


$T < 1$



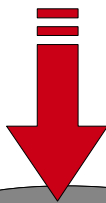
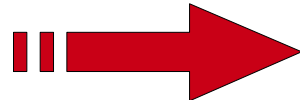
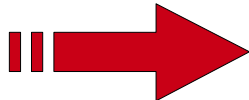
$\tilde{\sigma}$

$G > 1$

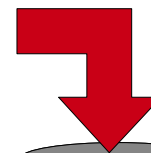


$$M(\sigma) = A(\tilde{\sigma})$$

$\sigma$

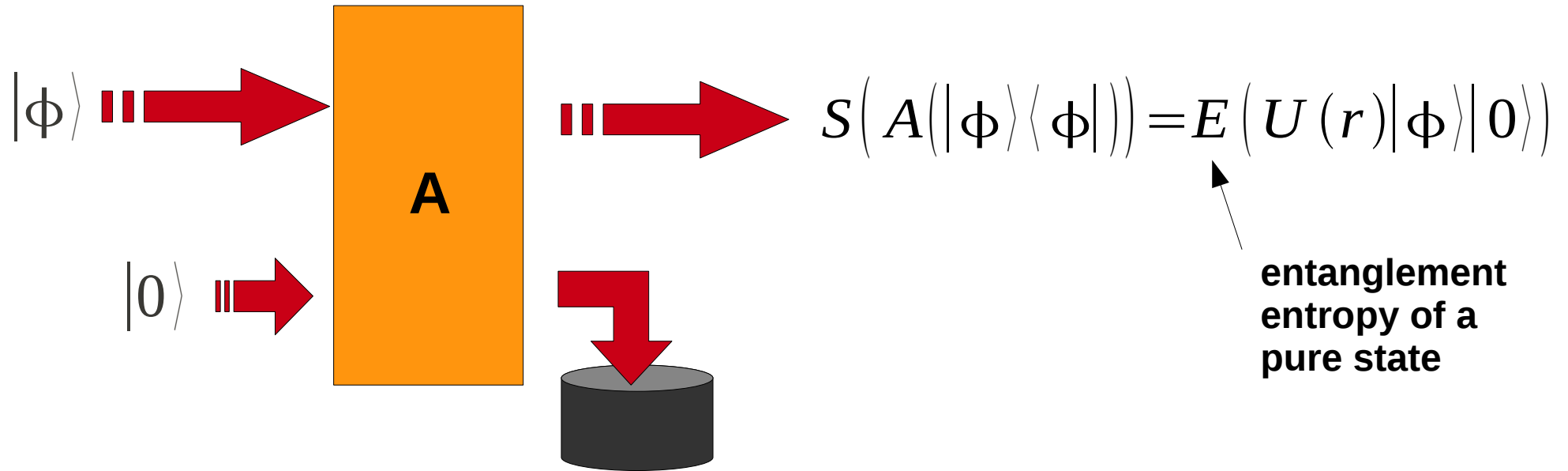


$|0\rangle_E$



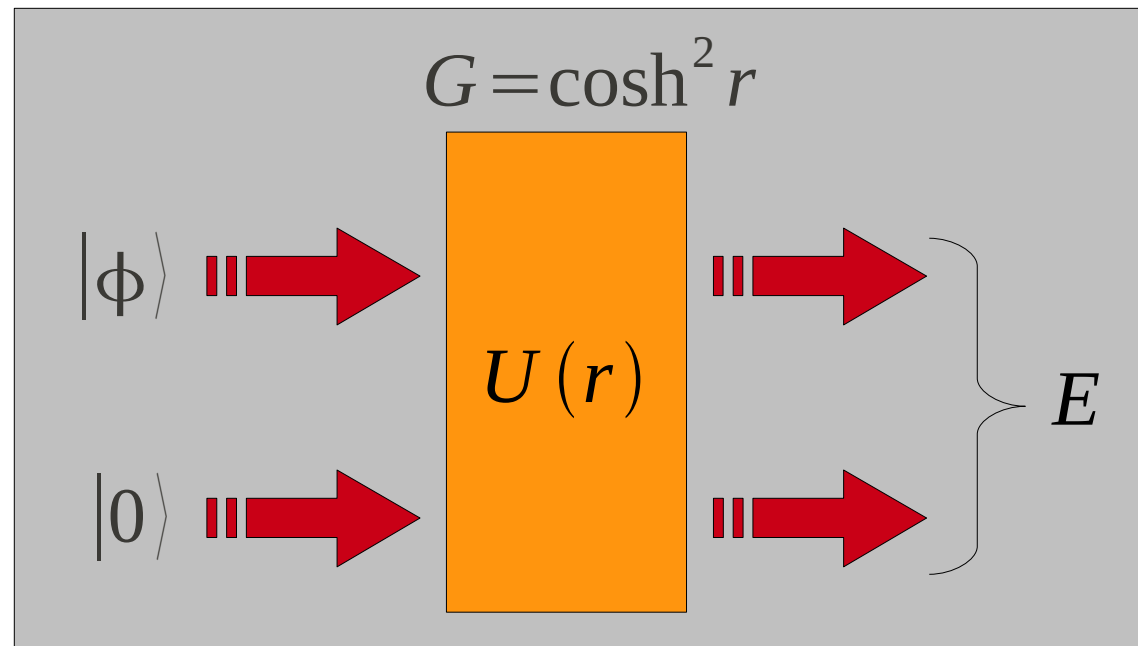
it is (necessary and) sufficient to prove the reduced conjecture II

# Link with Output Entanglement of a Two-Mode Squeezer

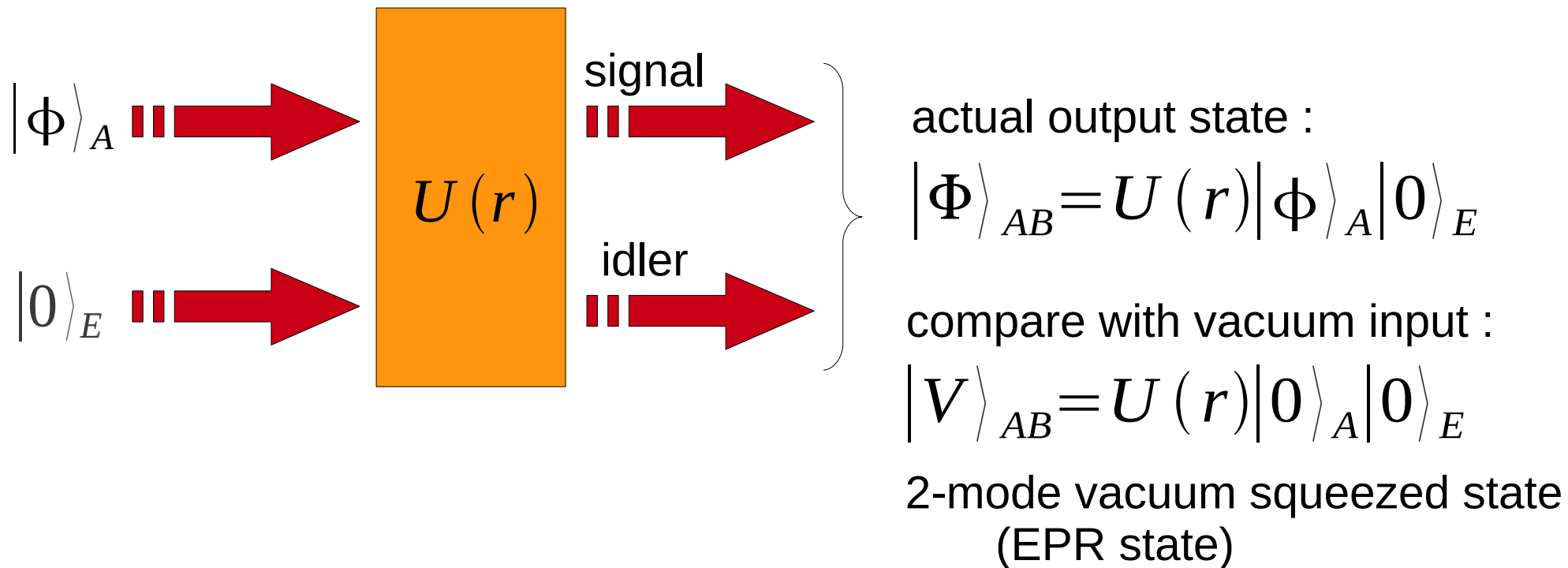


We are now dealing with the output entanglement of a **two-mode squeezer**

$$U(r) = \exp\left(\frac{r}{2}(ab - a^+ b^+)\right)$$



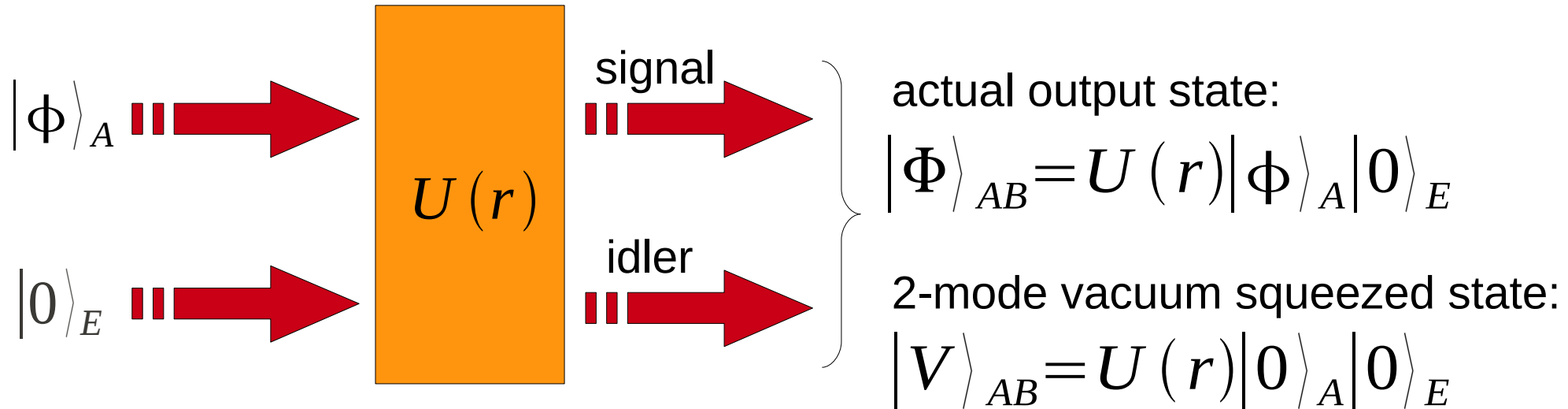
# Gaussian Minimum Entanglement Conjecture



**Conjecture II (bis)**  $\min_{\phi} E(|\Phi\rangle_{AB}) = E(|V\rangle_{AB})$

... this is now a conjecture about the entanglement generated by a 2-mode squeezer !

# Proof for Gaussian vs non-Gaussian states



- easy to prove for **Gaussian** states

$$E(|\Phi_{Gauss}\rangle_{AB}) \geq E(|V\rangle_{AB})$$

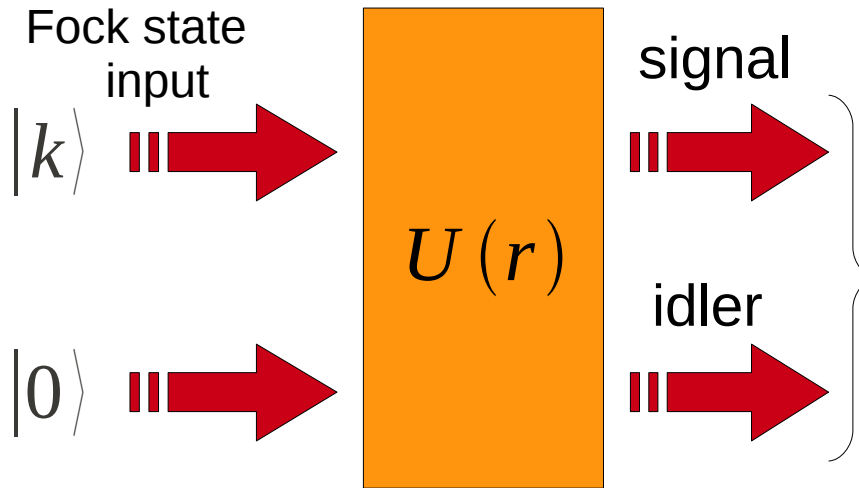
- expansion of **non-Gaussian** states in Fock basis

$$|\Phi\rangle_A = \sum_k c_k |k\rangle \quad \leftarrow \text{Fock states}$$

... only an incomplete proof for Fock states !



# Fock State Inputs

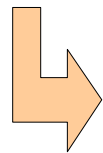


$$E(k) = H[P_n(k)] \quad \text{Shannon entropy}$$

$$P_n(k) = \frac{1}{\cosh^{2(k+1)} r} \binom{n+k}{n} \tanh^{2n} r$$

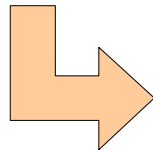
$$|\Psi_k\rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sqrt{P_n(k)} |n+k\rangle |n\rangle$$

Using Pascal identity  $\binom{n+k+1}{n} = \binom{n+k}{n} + \binom{n+k}{n-1}$

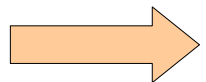


$$P_n(k+1) = (1-\lambda^2)P_n(k) + \lambda^2 P_{n-1}(k+1) \quad \text{with } \lambda = \tanh r$$

Concavity of entropy



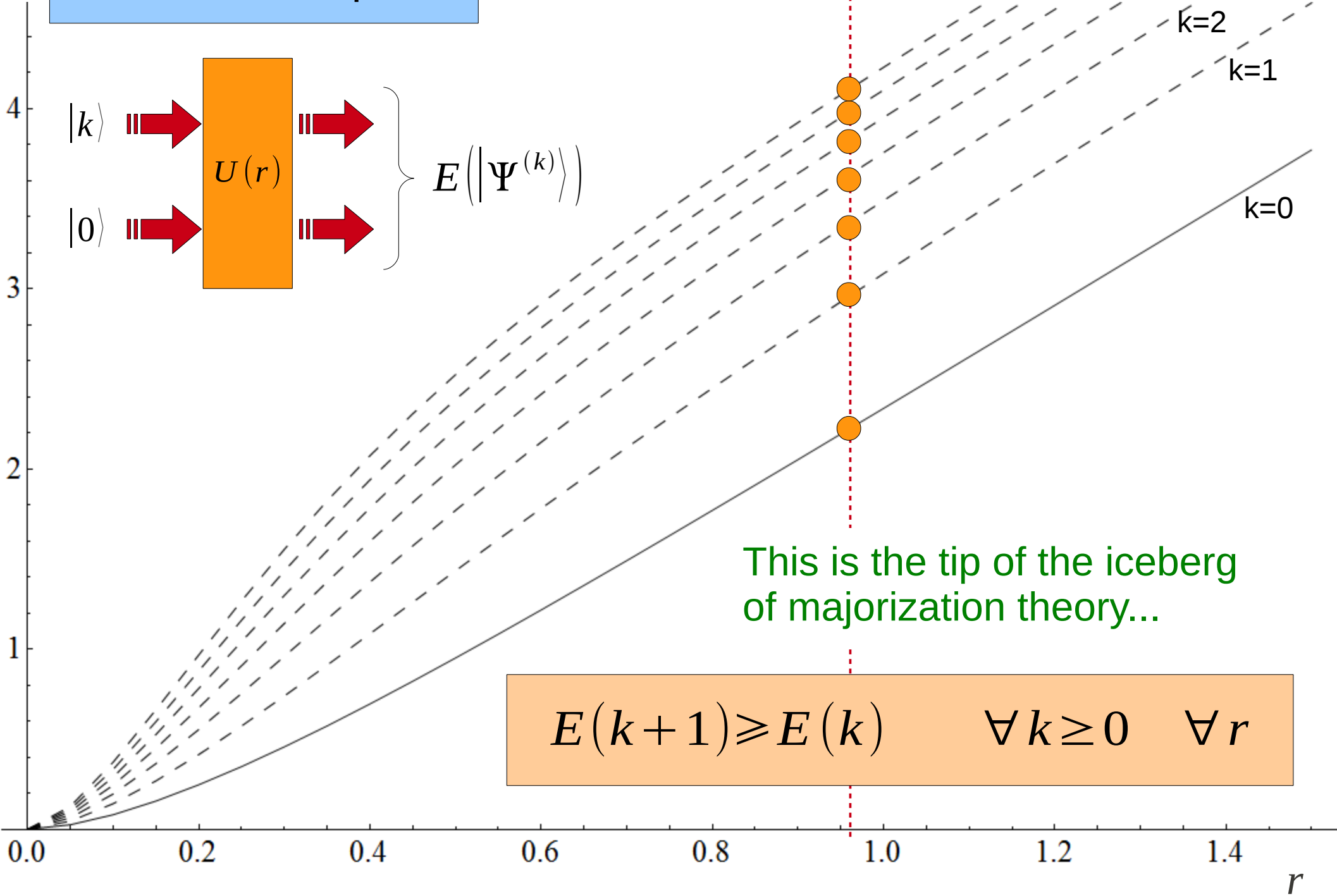
$$E(k+1) \geq (1-\lambda^2)E(k) + \lambda^2 E(k+1)$$



$$E(k+1) \geq E(k) \quad \forall k \geq 0$$

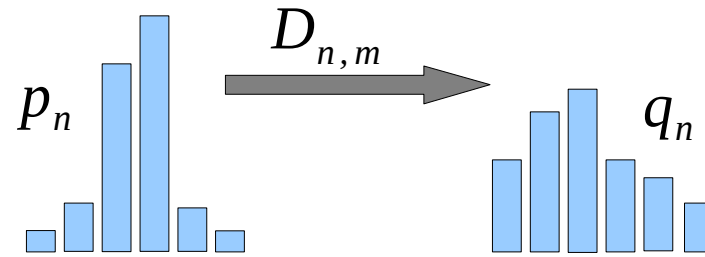
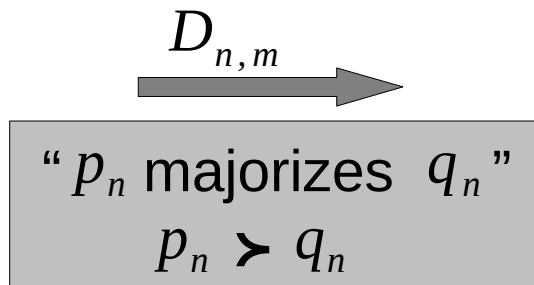
vacuum state beats  
all other Fock states

# Fock State Inputs



# Majorization Theory

= (partial) order relation for probability distributions



with  $p_n, q_n$  probability distributions

if and only if

- $p_n$  can be converted to  $q_n$  by applying a *random permutation*
- $$q_n = \sum_m D_{n,m} p_m \quad D_{n,m} \text{ is doubly-stochastic matrix}$$

or ●  $\sum_{n=0}^m p_n^\downarrow \geq \sum_{n=0}^m q_n^\downarrow \quad \forall m \geq 0$  (p is “*more peaked*” than q)

or ●  $\sum_n h(p_n) \leq \sum_n h(q_n) \quad \forall h(x) \text{ concave function}$

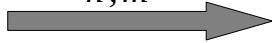
e.g. entropy:  $h(x) = -x \log(x)$

→  $H(p_n) \leq H(q_n)$  entropy can only increase

# Quantum application : Interconversion of pure bipartite states

M. Nielsen, G. Vidal, 2000

$D_{n,m}$



$p_n$  majorizes  $q_n$

$p_n, q_n$  probability distributions

LOCC



$|\psi\rangle$  majorizes  $|\phi\rangle$

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_n \sqrt{p_n} |e_n\rangle |f_n\rangle \quad |\phi\rangle = \sum_n \sqrt{q_n} |e_n'\rangle |f_n'\rangle$$

with  $p_n$  majorizing  $q_n$

- $|\phi\rangle$  can be converted to  $|\psi\rangle$  by applying a *deterministic LOCC*
- $E(|\psi\rangle) \leq E(|\phi\rangle)$  **entanglement can only decrease**

Trick:  $\rho_A = \text{tr}_B(|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|) = \sum_n p_n \underbrace{|e_n\rangle\langle e_n|}_{\text{orthonormal}}$  eigenbasis representation

$$= \sum_n q_n \underbrace{|\xi_n\rangle\langle\xi_n|}_{\text{not orthonormal}} \quad \dots \text{ possible if } p_n \text{ majorizes } q_n$$

# Explicit conversion LOCC

LOCC



$|\psi\rangle$  majorizes  $|\phi\rangle$

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_n \sqrt{p_n} |e_n\rangle |f_n\rangle$$

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_n \sqrt{q_n} |\xi_n\rangle |f_n''\rangle \quad \text{above trick (provided } p_n \text{ majorizes } q_n)$$

LOCC  $\uparrow$   $\updownarrow$  U

$$|\phi\rangle = \sum_n \sqrt{q_n} |e_n'\rangle |f_n'\rangle$$

POVM:  $A_m = \sum_n \omega^{nm} |\xi_n\rangle\langle e_n'|$  with  $\omega = e^{i2\pi/d}$  and  $\sum_m A_m^+ A_m = I$

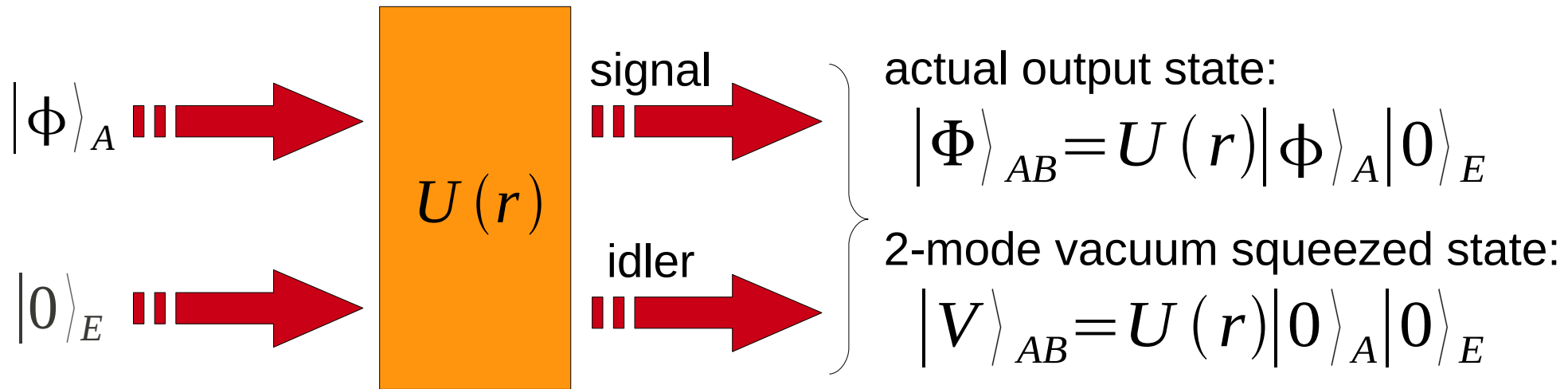
$$(A_m \times I) |\phi\rangle = \sum_n \sqrt{q_n} \omega^{nm} |\xi_n\rangle |f_n'\rangle \equiv |\phi_m\rangle \quad \text{depends on outcome } m$$

Conditional U:  $B_m = \sum_n \omega^{-nm} |f_n''\rangle\langle f_n'|$  conditional on m

$$(I \times B_m) |\phi_m\rangle = \sum_n \sqrt{q_n} |\xi_n\rangle |f_n''\rangle \equiv |\psi\rangle$$

# Gaussian Majorization Conjecture

For a given 2-mode squeezer (Bogoliubov transformation),  
 the 2-mode vacuum squeezed state **majorizes** all other output states !!!

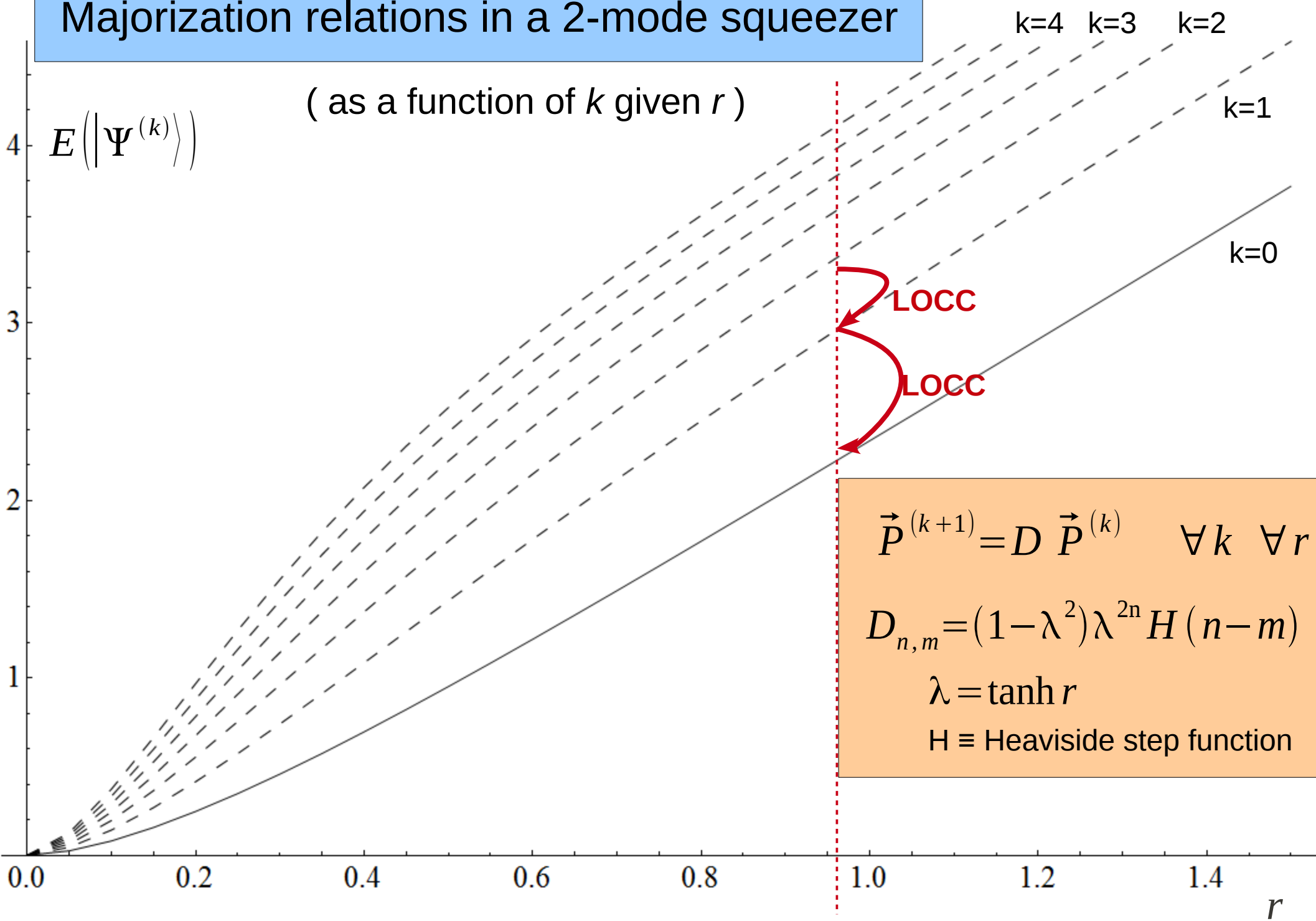


**Conjecture III**  $|V\rangle_{AB}$  majorizes  $|\Phi\rangle_{AB} \quad \forall |\Phi\rangle_A$

$$|V\rangle_{AB} \xleftarrow{\text{LOCC}} |\Phi\rangle_{AB} \quad \text{implying} \quad E(|V\rangle_{AB}) \leq E(|\Phi\rangle_{AB})$$

... stronger than minimum entropy/entanglement conjecture  
 ... but perhaps easier to prove (?)

# Majorization relations in a 2-mode squeezer



# Explicit LOCC

$$|\Psi_k\rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sqrt{p_n(k)} |n+k\rangle|n\rangle$$

$$|\Psi_{k+1}\rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sqrt{p_n(k+1)} |n+k+1\rangle|n\rangle$$

Alice applies a POVM

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} A_{YES} &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sqrt{\frac{(1-\lambda^2)p_m(k)}{p_m(k+1)}} |m+k\rangle\langle m+k+1| \\ A_{NO} &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sqrt{\frac{\lambda^2 p_{m-1}(k+1)}{p_m(k+1)}} |m+k\rangle\langle m+k+1| \end{aligned} \right.$$

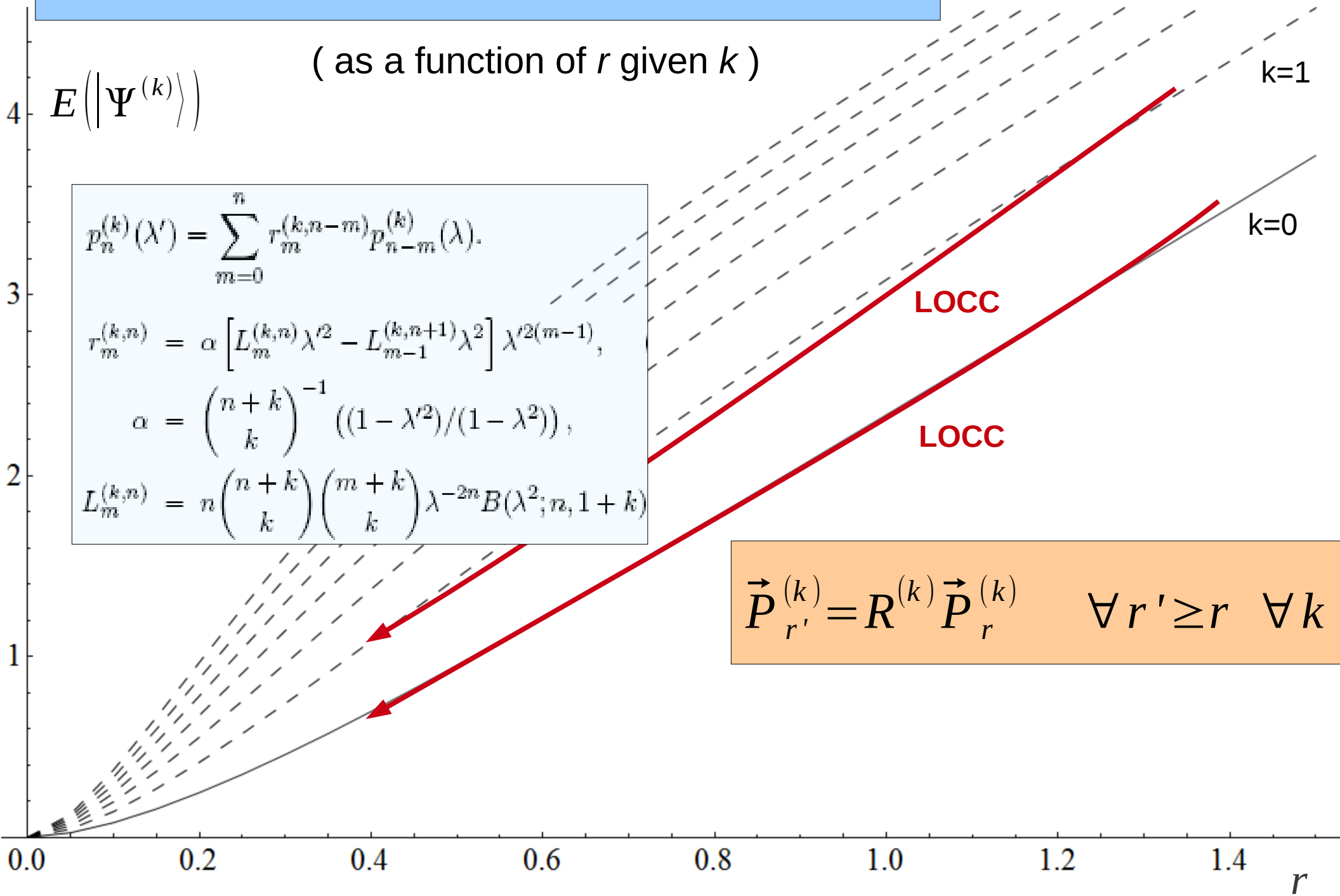
$$(A_{YES} \times 1) |\Psi_{k+1}\rangle = \sqrt{(1-\lambda^2)} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sqrt{p_n(k)} |n+k\rangle|n\rangle = \sqrt{(1-\lambda^2)} |\Psi_k\rangle \quad \text{YES}$$

$$(A_{NO} \times 1) |\Psi_{k+1}\rangle = \sqrt{\lambda^2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sqrt{p_n(k+1)} |n+k+1\rangle|n+1\rangle \rightarrow \sqrt{\lambda^2} |\Psi_{k+1}\rangle \quad \text{NO}$$

If "NO" she communicates it to Bob who applies  $U = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} |m\rangle\langle m+1|$  and then they start a new round again



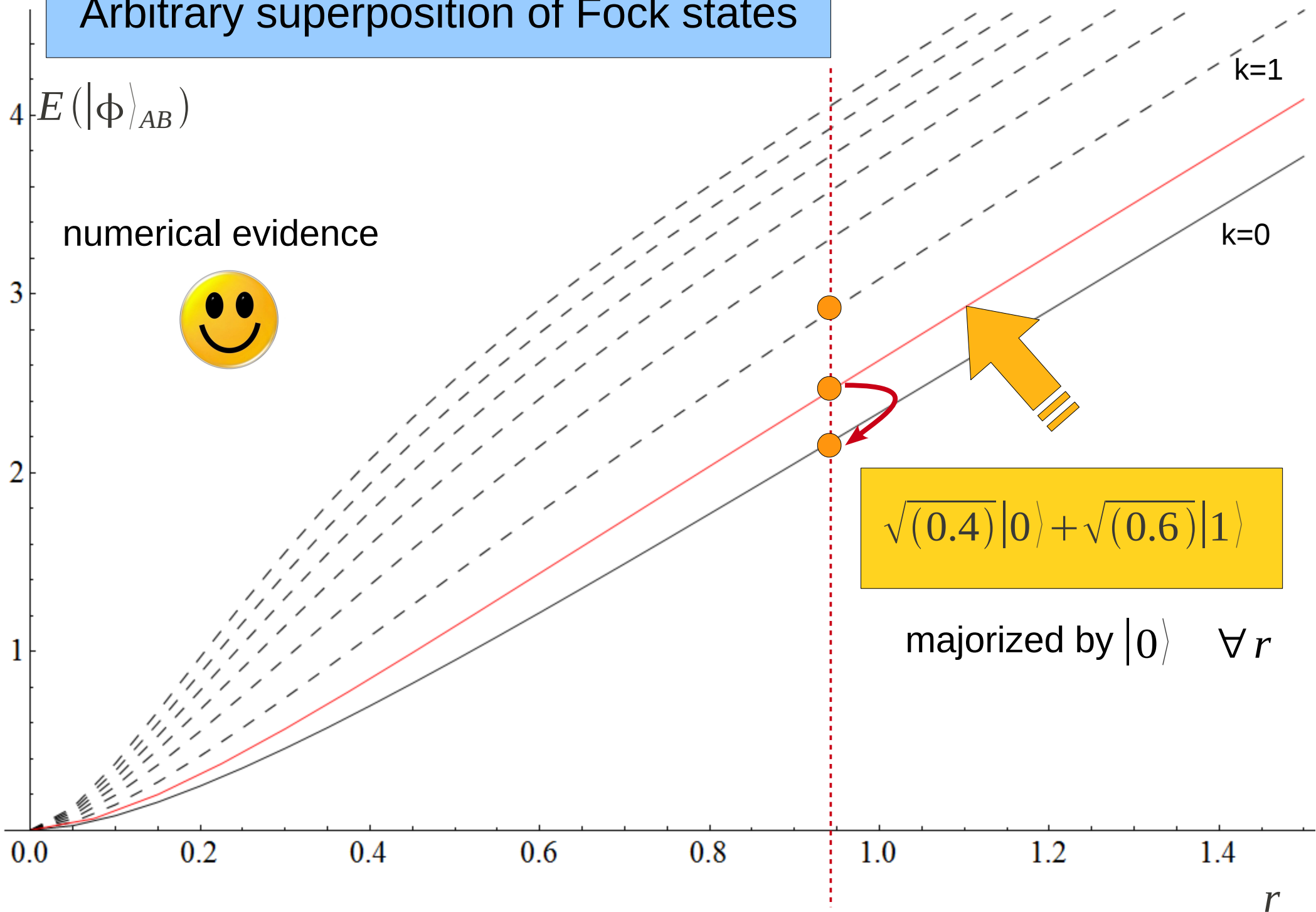
# Majorization relations in a 2-mode squeezer



# Arbitrary superposition of Fock states

$E(|\phi\rangle_{AB})$

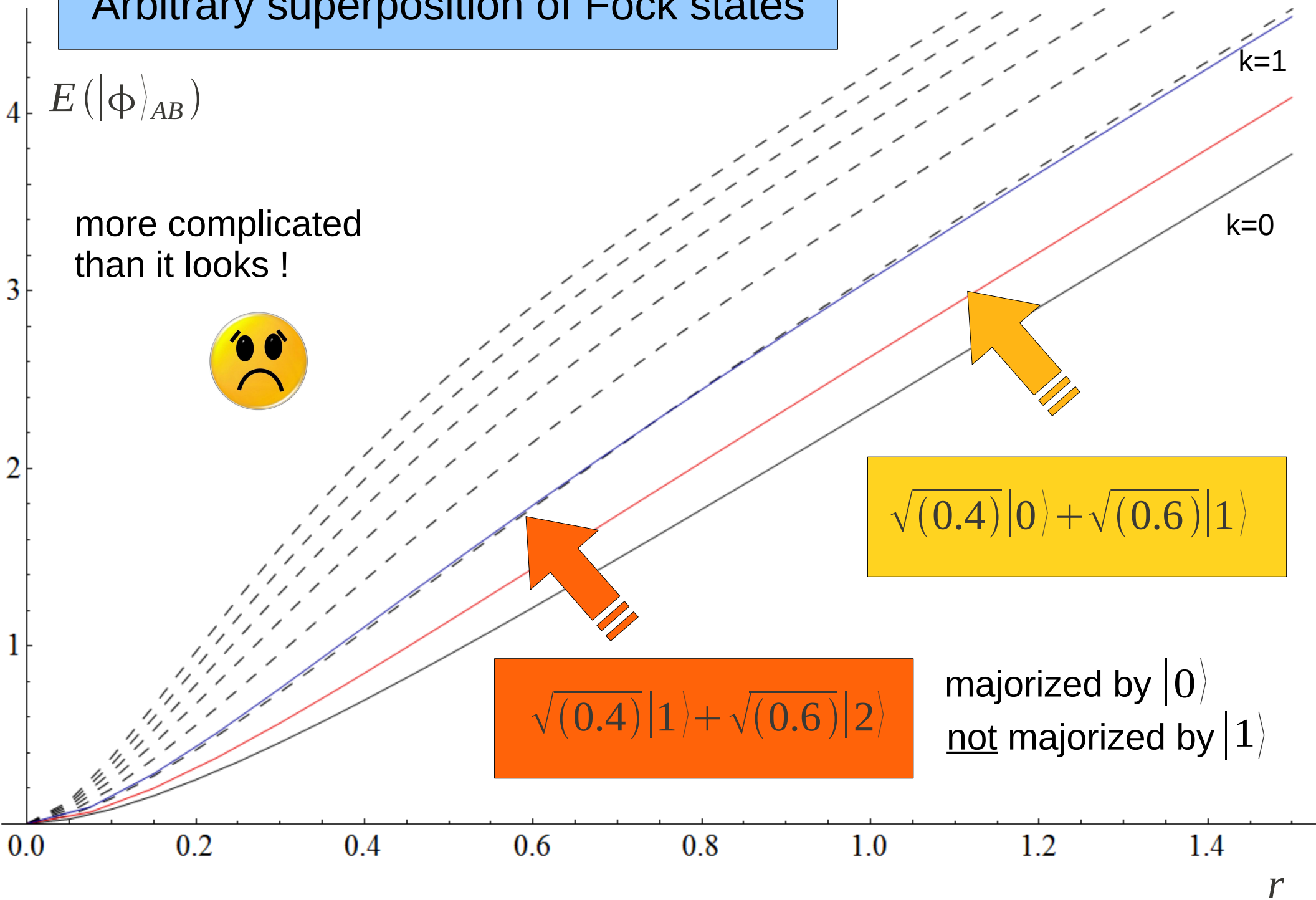
numerical evidence



$$\sqrt{(0.4)}|0\rangle + \sqrt{(0.6)}|1\rangle$$

majorized by  $|0\rangle \quad \forall r$

# Arbitrary superposition of Fock states



This is not just an abstract mathematical problem !

( even if you don't care at all about quantum bosonic channels ! )

**Bogoliubov transformation**  $\hat{a}_i' = \sum_j (u_{ij} \hat{a}_j + v_{ij} \hat{a}_j^+)$  is everywhere, e.g., quantum optics, supraconductivity, Hawking radiation, Unruh effect, ...

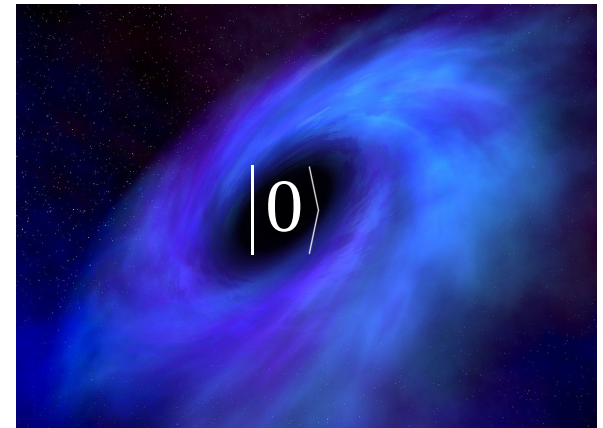
★ this **Gaussian conjecture** may have deeper physical implications !

FUNDAMENTAL STATEMENT :

*“Nothing is less random  
than vacuum”*

Very plausible but not (yet) proven...

How can we (dis)prove this statement ?



## Take-home message

*“Nothing is less random than vacuum?”*

New approach to solve the “Minimum Output Entropy Conjecture”  
for Gaussian Bosonic channels

- Reduction to ideal amplifier channel
- Output entanglement of a two-mode squeezer
- Link with majorization theory (proof for Fock states only)
- Missing piece: absence of rotational “symmetry breaking”

Numerical analysis for random input states

strongly suggests that (majorization) Gaussian conjecture holds...

Ref.: R. Garcia-Patron, C. Navarrete-Benlloch, S. Lloyd,  
J. H. Shapiro & N. J. Cerf, PRL 108, 110505 (2012).