
Designing optimal protocols in Bayesian parameter estimation with higher-order operations

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PRResearch 6, 023305 (2024), arXiv:2311.01513 [quant-ph]



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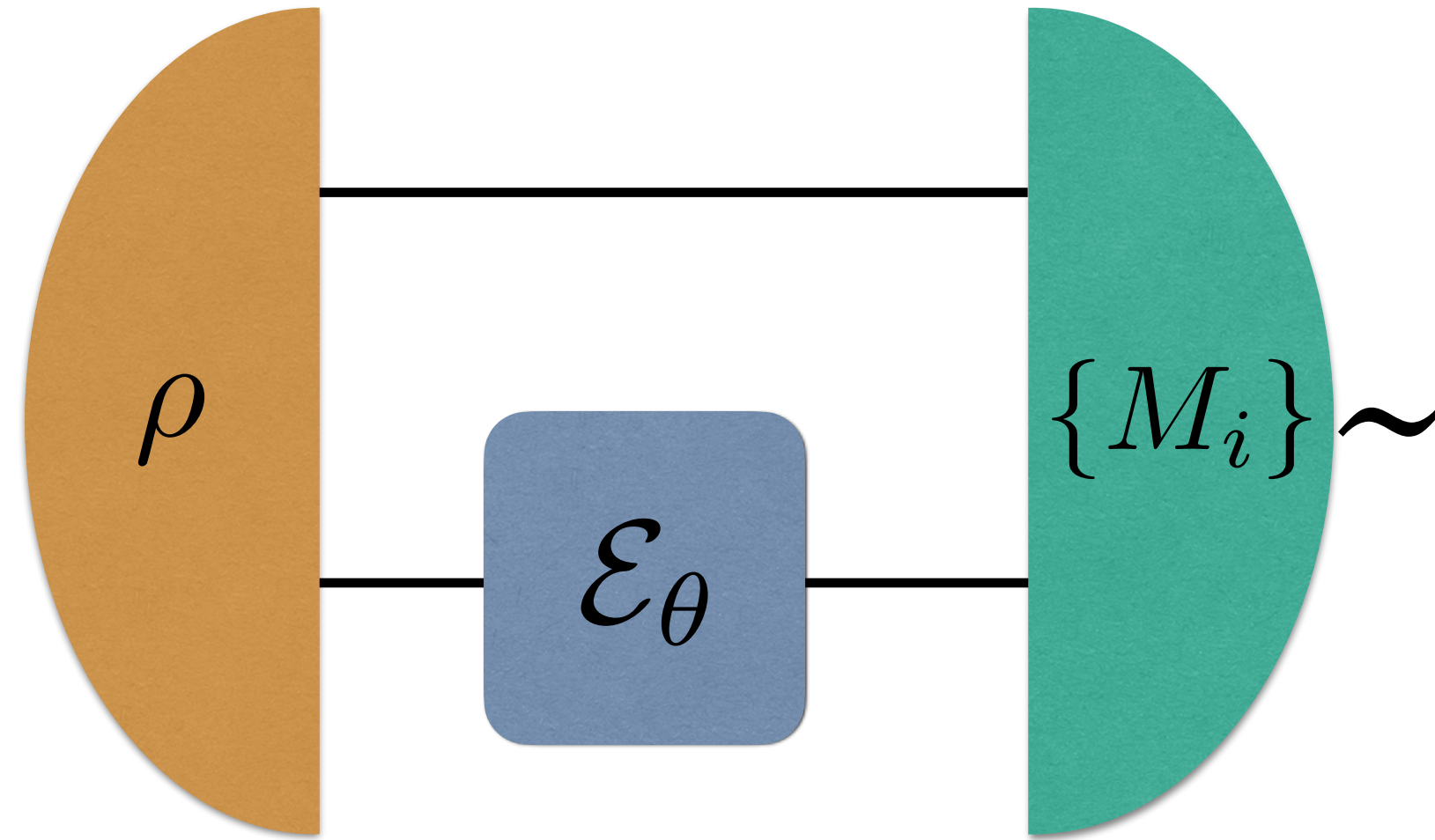
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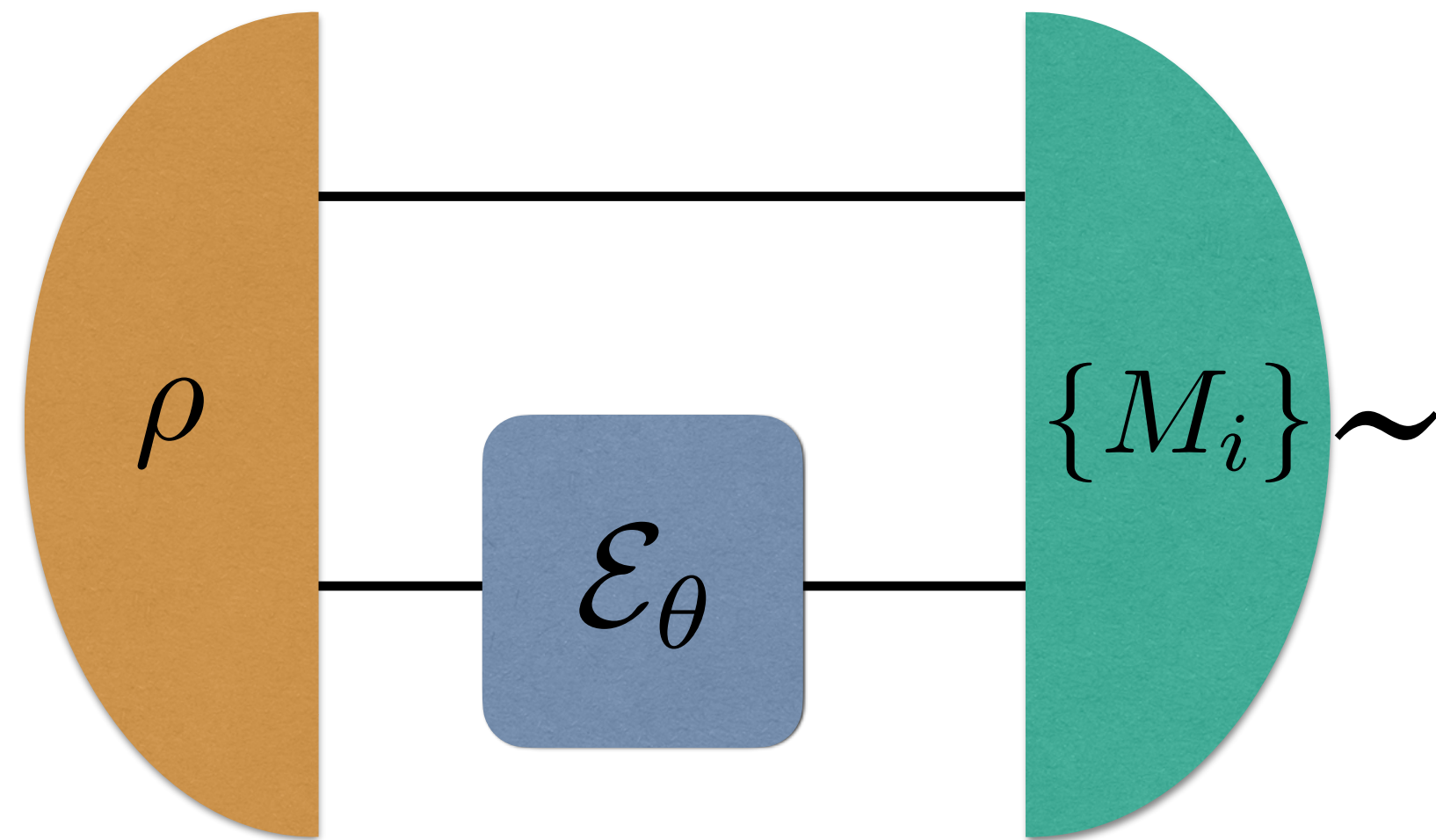
the task:

single-shot Bayesian quantum parameter estimation

Single-shot Bayesian quantum parameter estimation



Single-shot Bayesian quantum parameter estimation



given

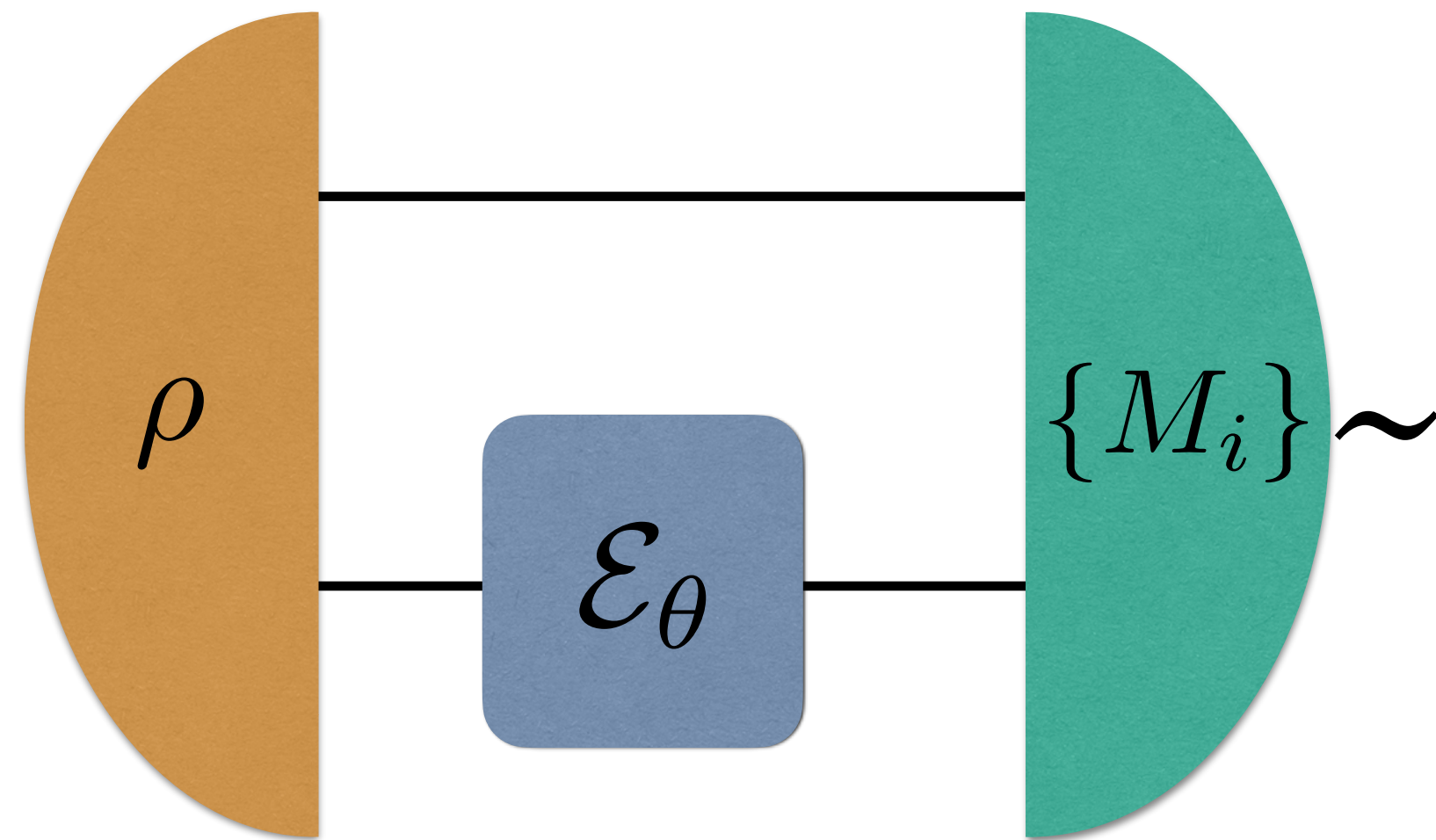
parameter: $\theta \in [\theta_{\min}, \theta_{\max}]$

channel: $\{\mathcal{E}_\theta\}_\theta$

prior: $p(\theta)$

cost/reward function: $r(\theta, \hat{\theta}_i)$

Single-shot Bayesian quantum parameter estimation



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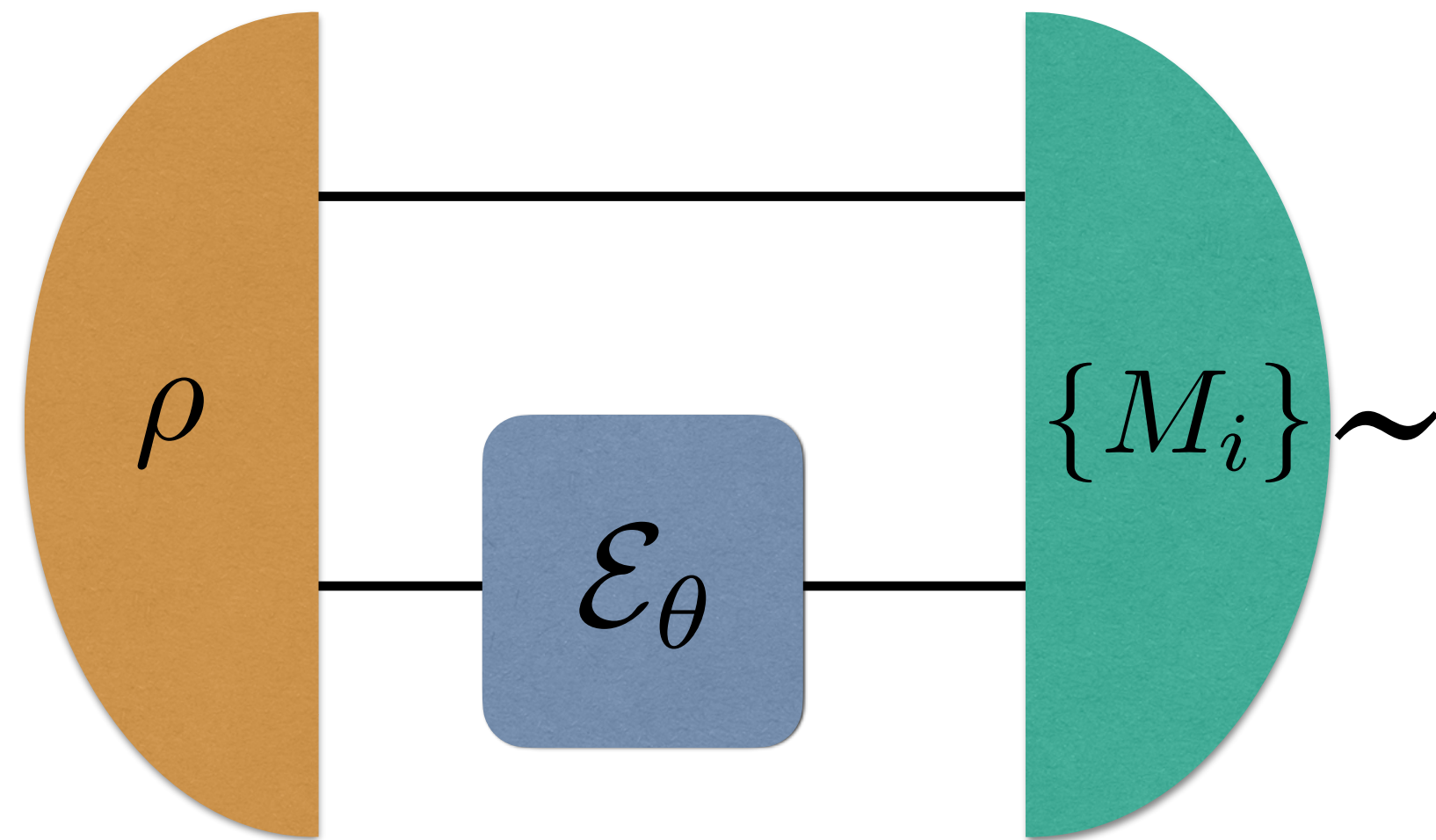
variables

probe state: ρ

measurement: $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^{N_O}$

estimator: $f(i) = \hat{\theta}_i$

Single-shot Bayesian quantum parameter estimation



$$\mathcal{S} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_O} \int d\theta \, p(\theta) \, r(\theta, \hat{\theta}_i) \, \text{tr} \left((\mathcal{E}_\theta \otimes \text{id})[\rho] \, M_i \right)$$

given

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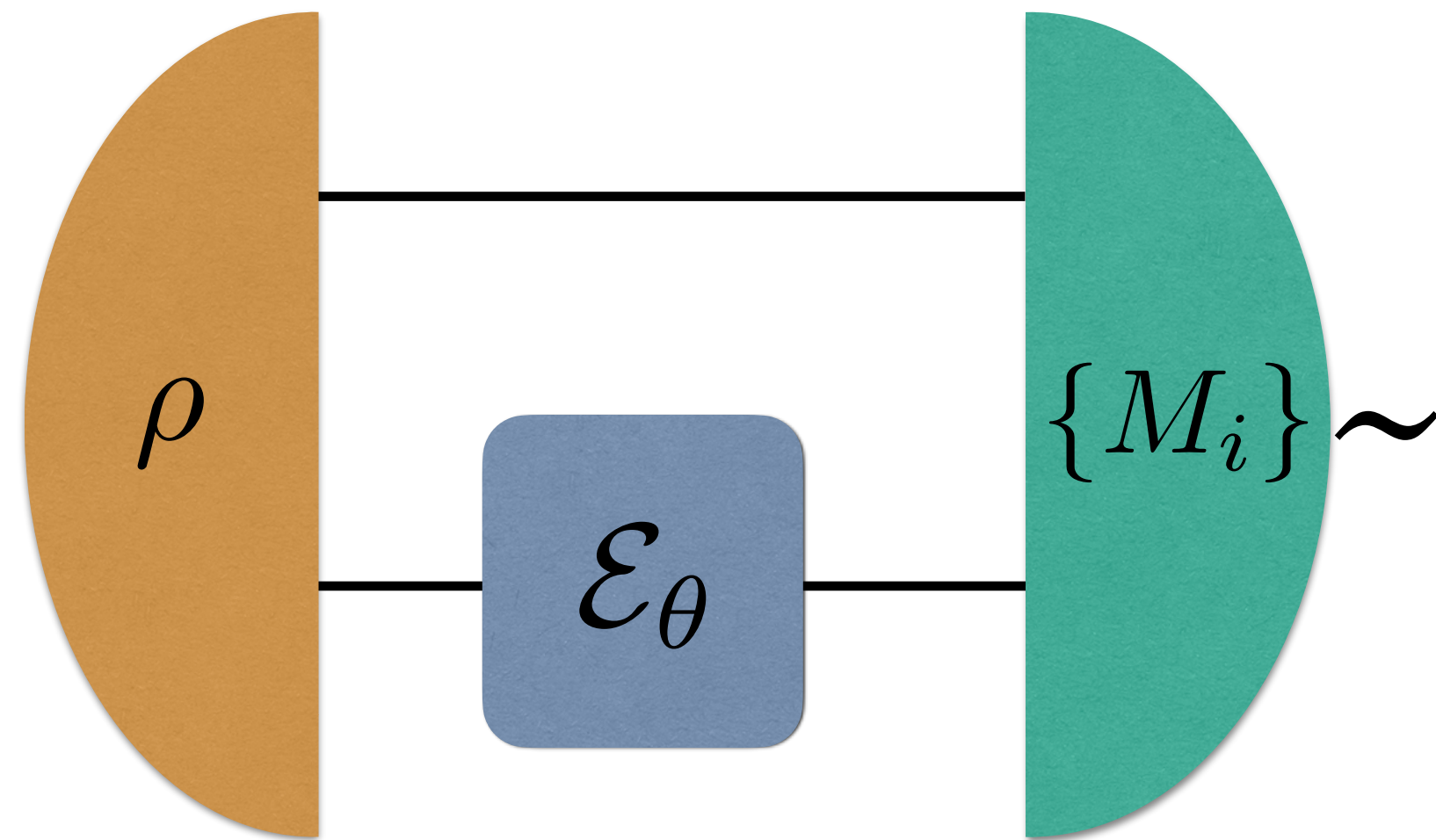
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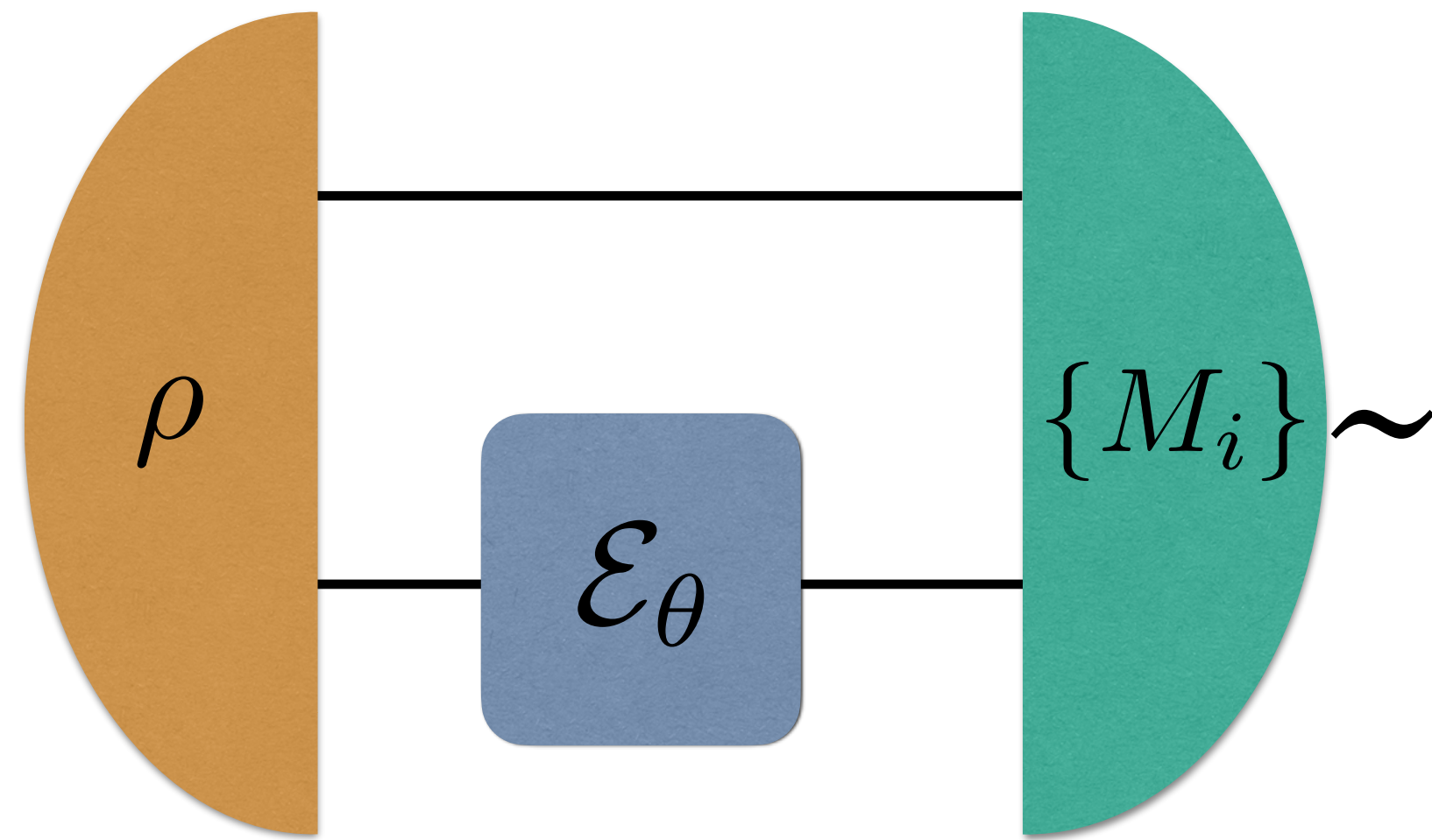


$$\{\rho, \{M_i\}, \{\hat{\theta}_i\}\}$$

triplet of state, measurement and estimator

$$\max_{\rho, \{M_i\}, \{\hat{\theta}_i\}} \mathcal{S} = \max_{\rho, \{M_i\}, \{\hat{\theta}_i\}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_O} \int d\theta p(\theta) r(\theta, \hat{\theta}_i) \text{tr} ((\mathcal{E}_\theta \otimes \text{id})[\rho] M_i)$$

Single-shot Bayesian quantum parameter estimation



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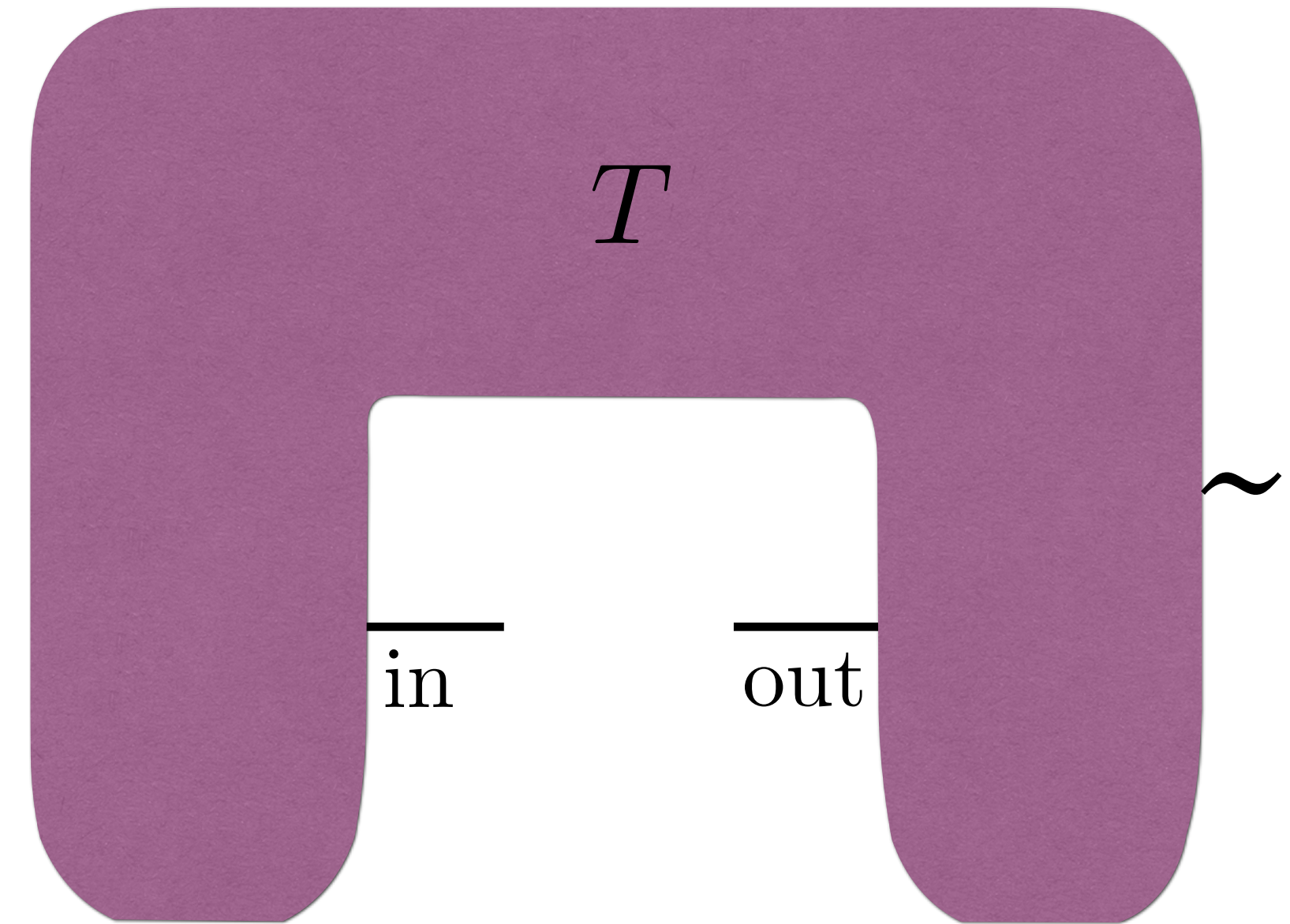
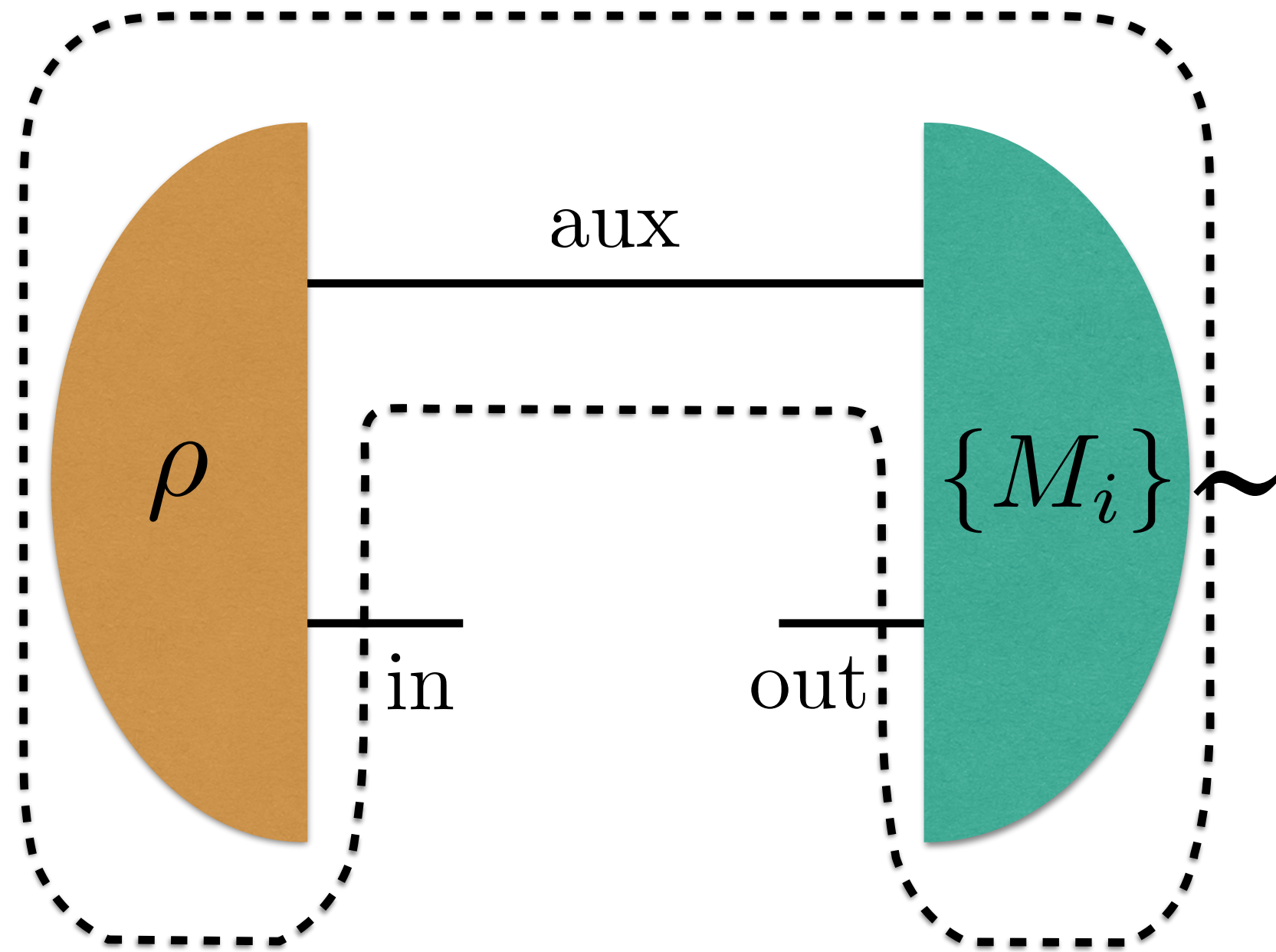
triplet of state, measurement and estimator

Generally a very hard problem :(

$$\max_{\rho, \{M_i\}, \{\hat{\theta}_i\}} \mathcal{S} = \max_{\rho, \{M_i\}, \{\hat{\theta}_i\}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_O} \int d\theta p(\theta) r(\theta, \hat{\theta}_i) \text{tr} ((\mathcal{E}_\theta \otimes \text{id})[\rho] M_i)$$

higher-order operations

Higher-order operations: quantum testers

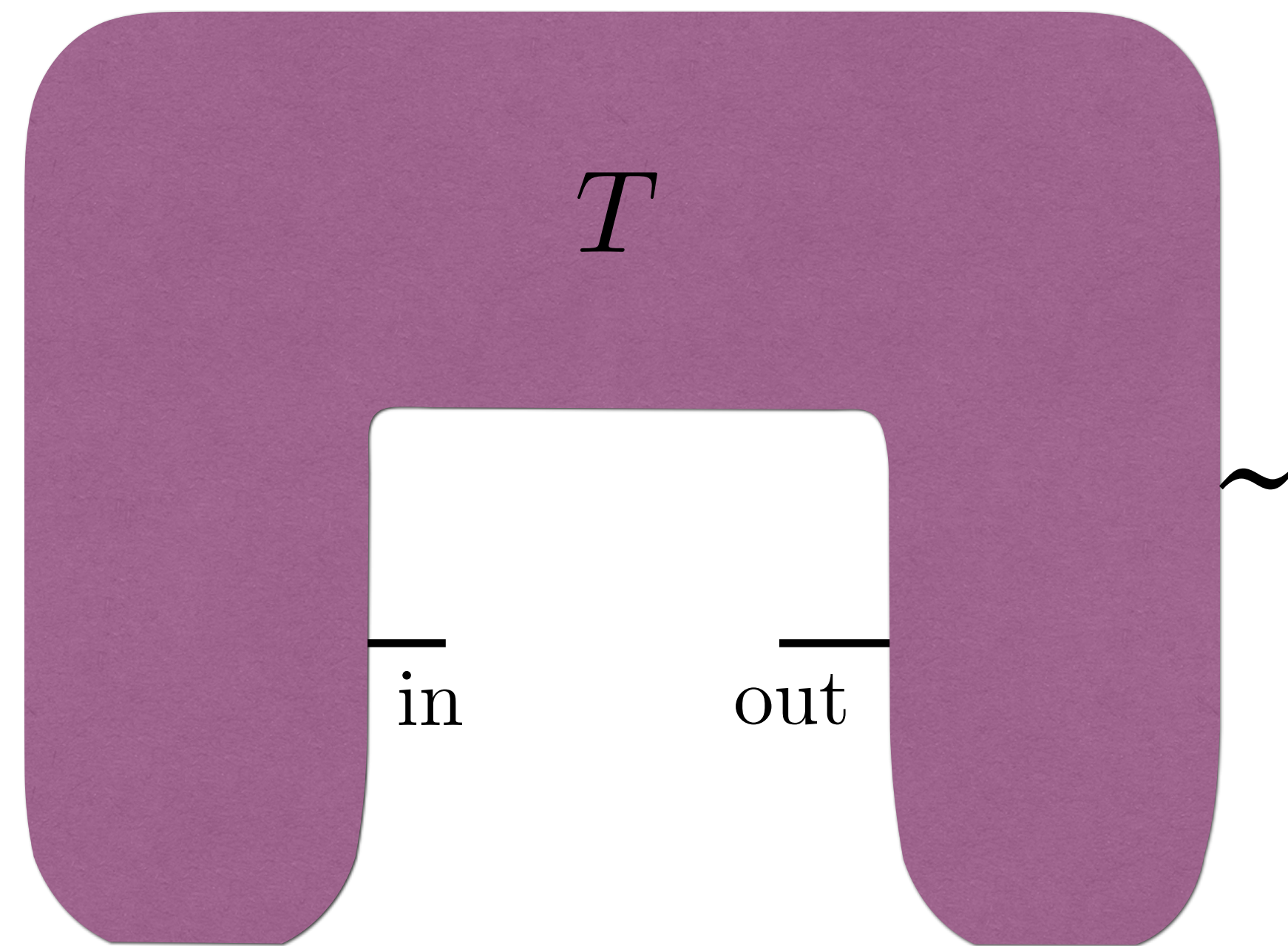


Chiribella, D'Ariano, and Perinotti, PRL 101, 060401 (2008)

Chiribella, D'Ariano, and Perinotti, PRL 101, 180501 (2008)

Ziman, PRA 77, 062112 (2008)

Higher-order operations: quantum testers



the most general set of linear maps $\tilde{T}_i$

such that $\tilde{T}_i : C \mapsto p(i) \quad \forall i$

$=$

the most general set of linear operators T_i

such that $p(i) = \text{tr}(C T_i) \quad \forall i$

$\iff$

$$T = \{T_i\} \quad : \quad T_i \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}_{\text{in}} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\text{out}})$$

$$T_i \geq 0$$

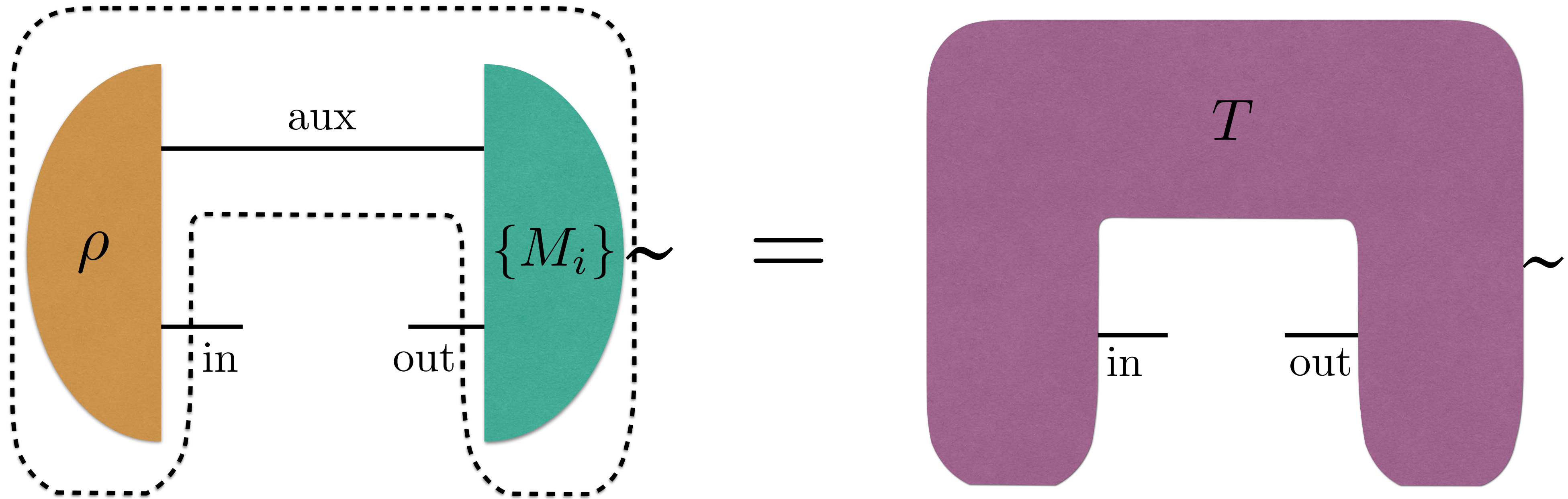
$$\sum_i T_i = \sigma^{\text{in}} \otimes I^{\text{out}}$$

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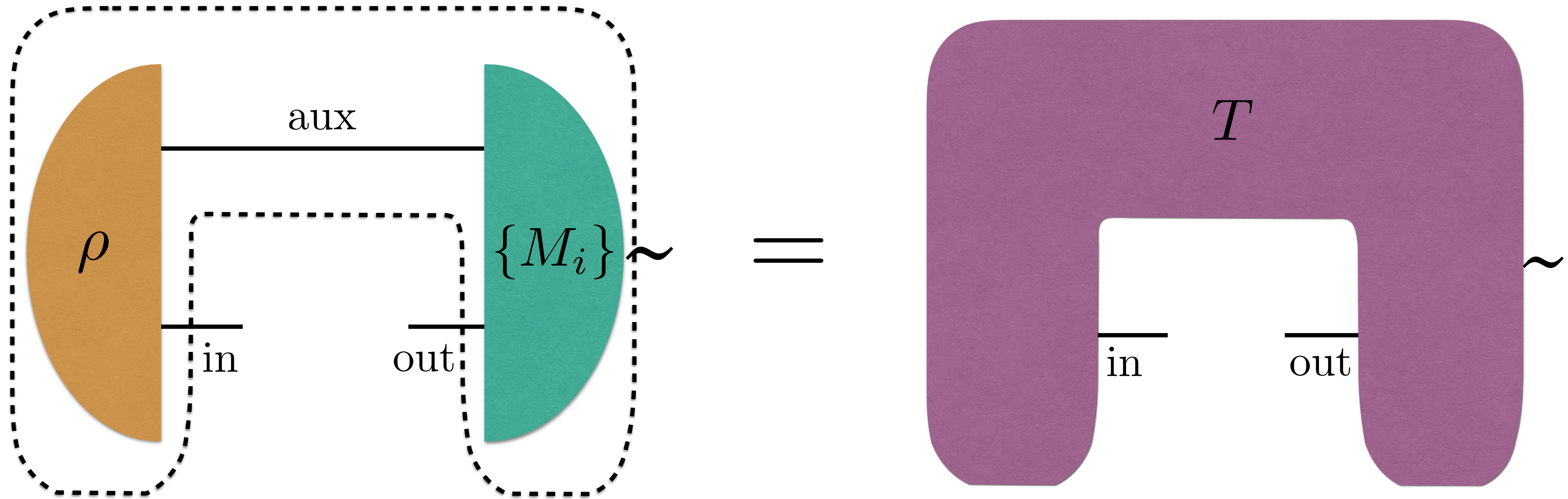


$$T_i = \text{Tr}_{\text{aux}} \left[(\rho^{\text{in,aux}} \otimes \mathbb{I}^{\text{out}}) (\mathbb{I}^{\text{in}} \otimes (M_i^{\text{aux,out}})^{T_{\text{out}}}) \right]$$

$$\Longleftrightarrow$$

$$T_i \geq 0, \quad \sum_i T_i = \sigma^{\text{in}} \otimes \mathbb{I}^{\text{out}}$$

Higher-order operations: quantum testers



$$\rho := (\mathbb{1}^I \otimes \sqrt{\sigma}) \sum_{ij} |ii\rangle\langle jj| (\mathbb{1}^I \otimes \sqrt{\sigma})^\dagger$$

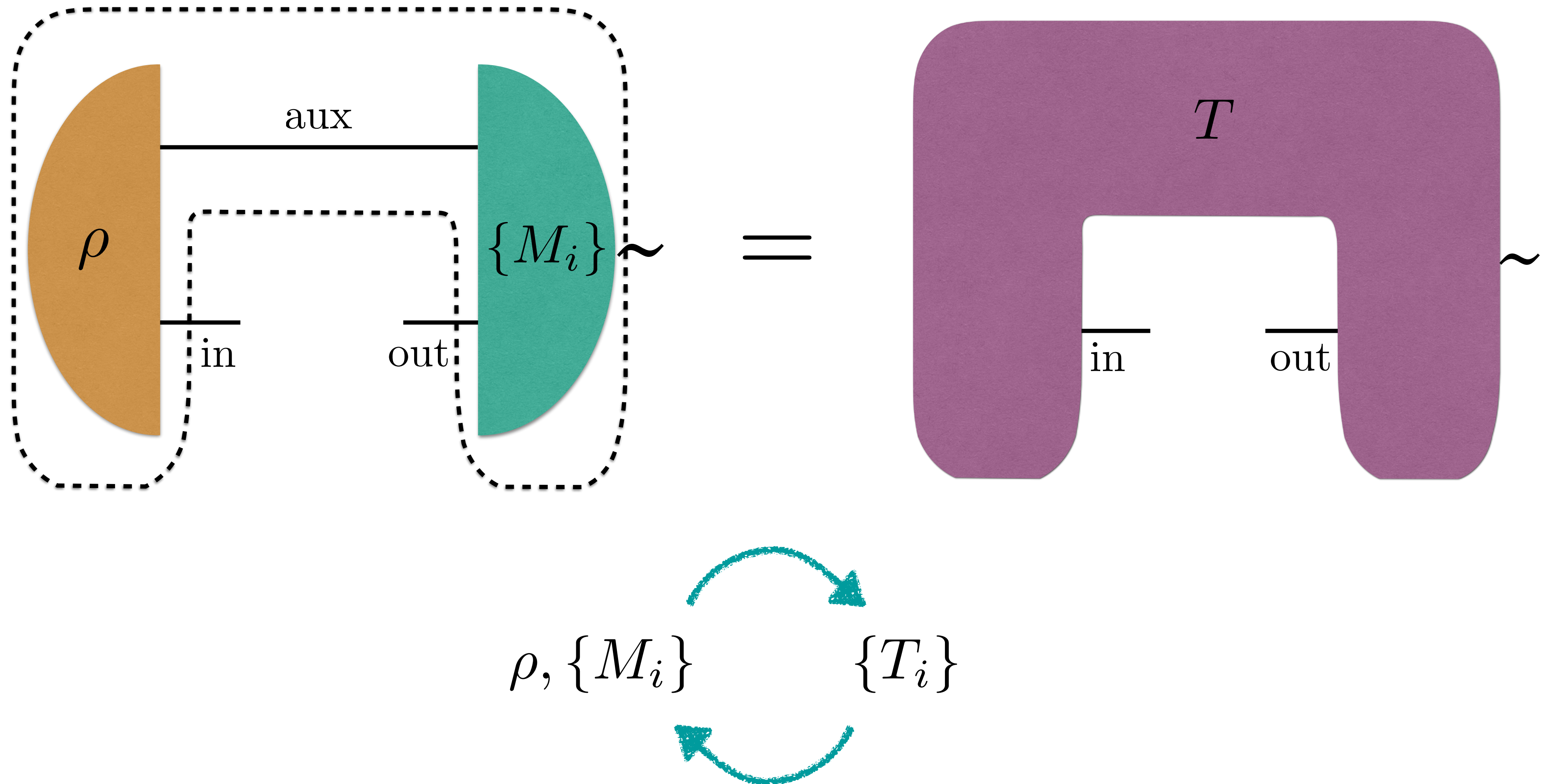
$$M_i := \left(\sqrt{\sigma}^{-1} \otimes \mathbb{1}^O \right) T_i \left(\sqrt{\sigma}^{-1} \otimes \mathbb{1}^O \right)^\dagger$$

$$T_i \geq 0$$

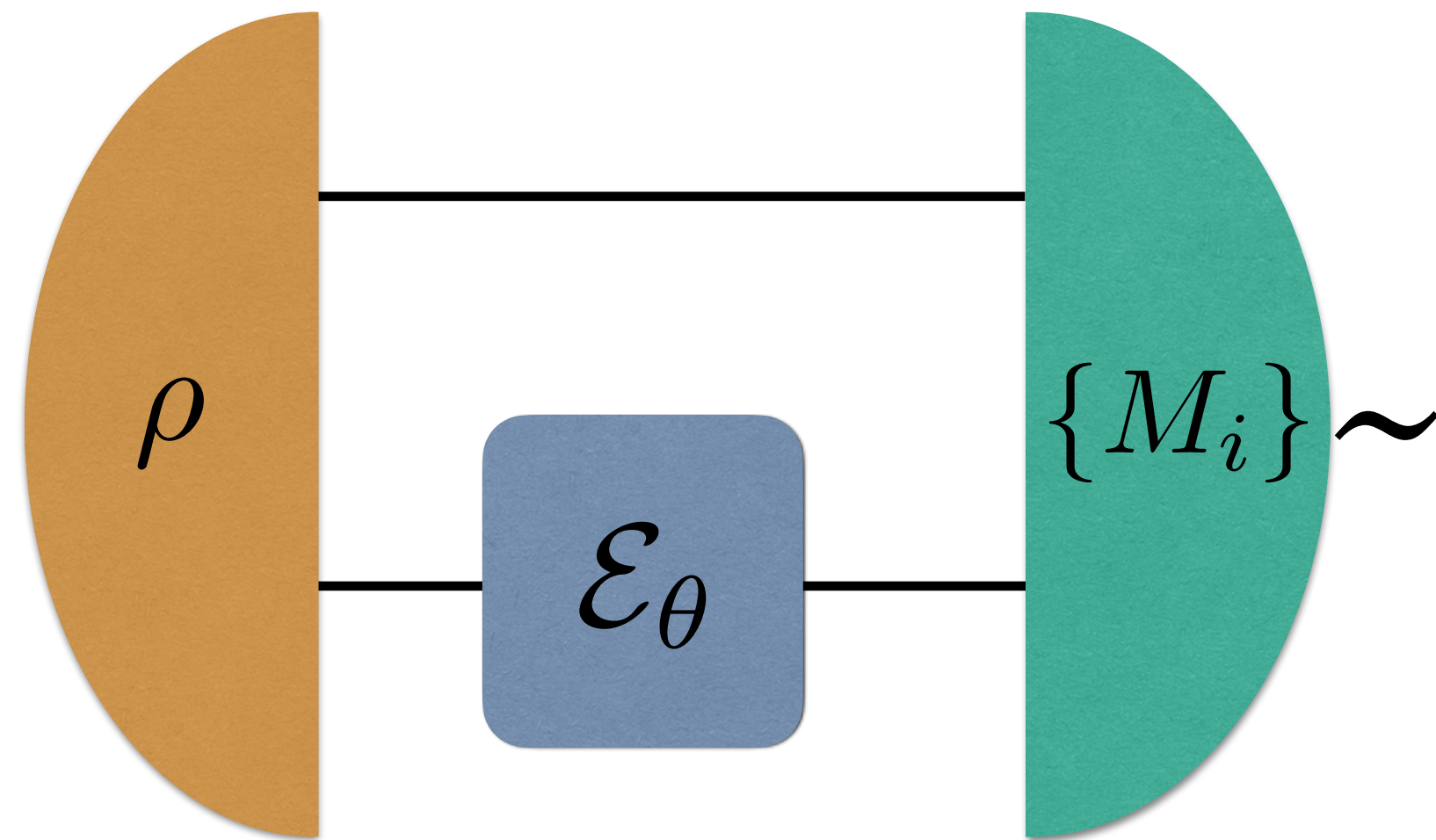
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←

Higher-order operations: quantum testers



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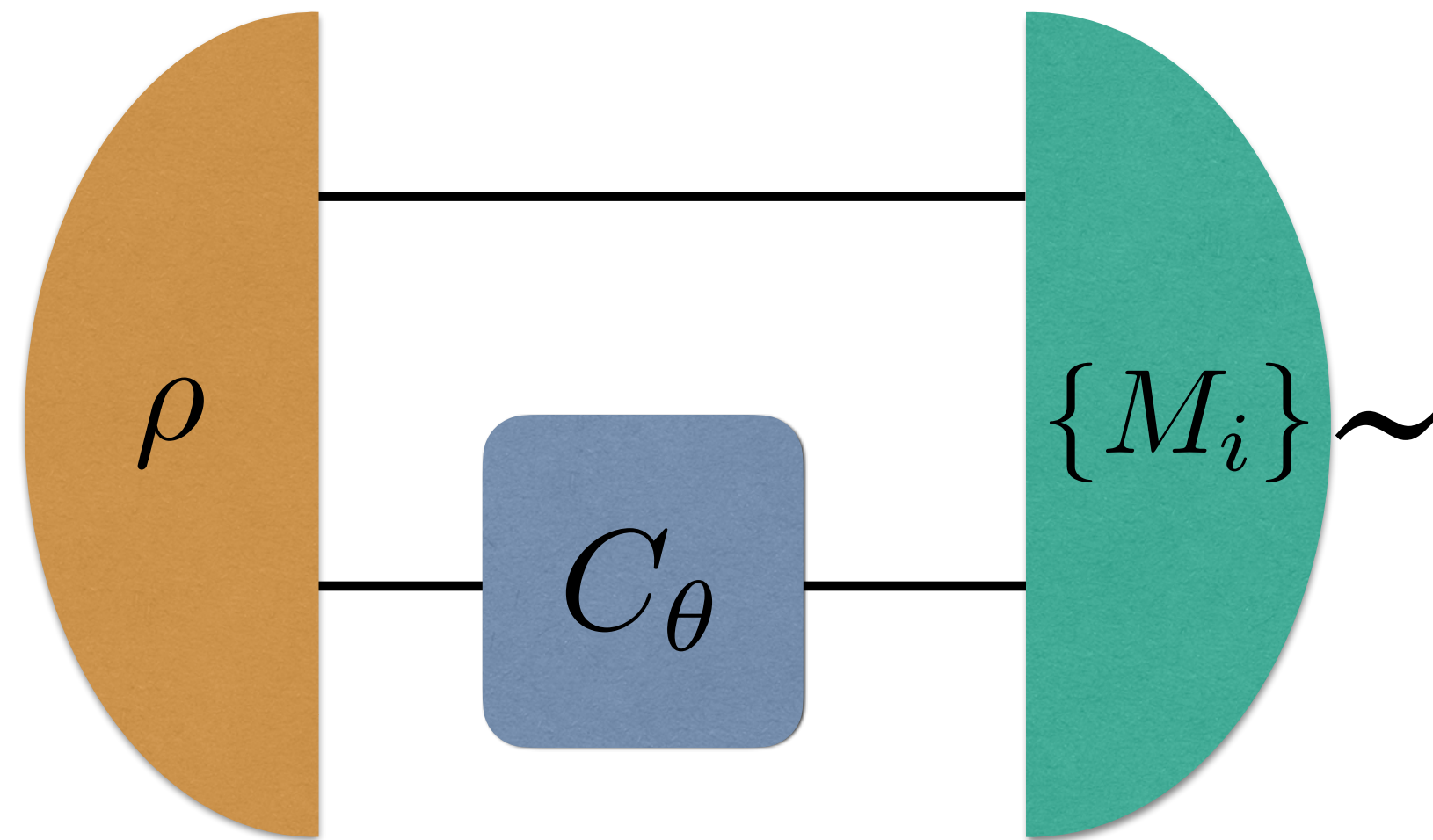


$$\{\rho, \{M_i\}, \{\hat{\theta}_i\}\}$$

triplet of state, measurement and estimator

$$\max_{\rho, \{M_i\}, \{\hat{\theta}_i\}} \mathcal{S} = \max_{\rho, \{M_i\}, \{\hat{\theta}_i\}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_O} \int d\theta p(\theta) r(\theta, \hat{\theta}_i) \text{tr} ((\mathcal{E}_\theta \otimes \text{id})[\rho] M_i)$$

Higher-order operations: quantum testers



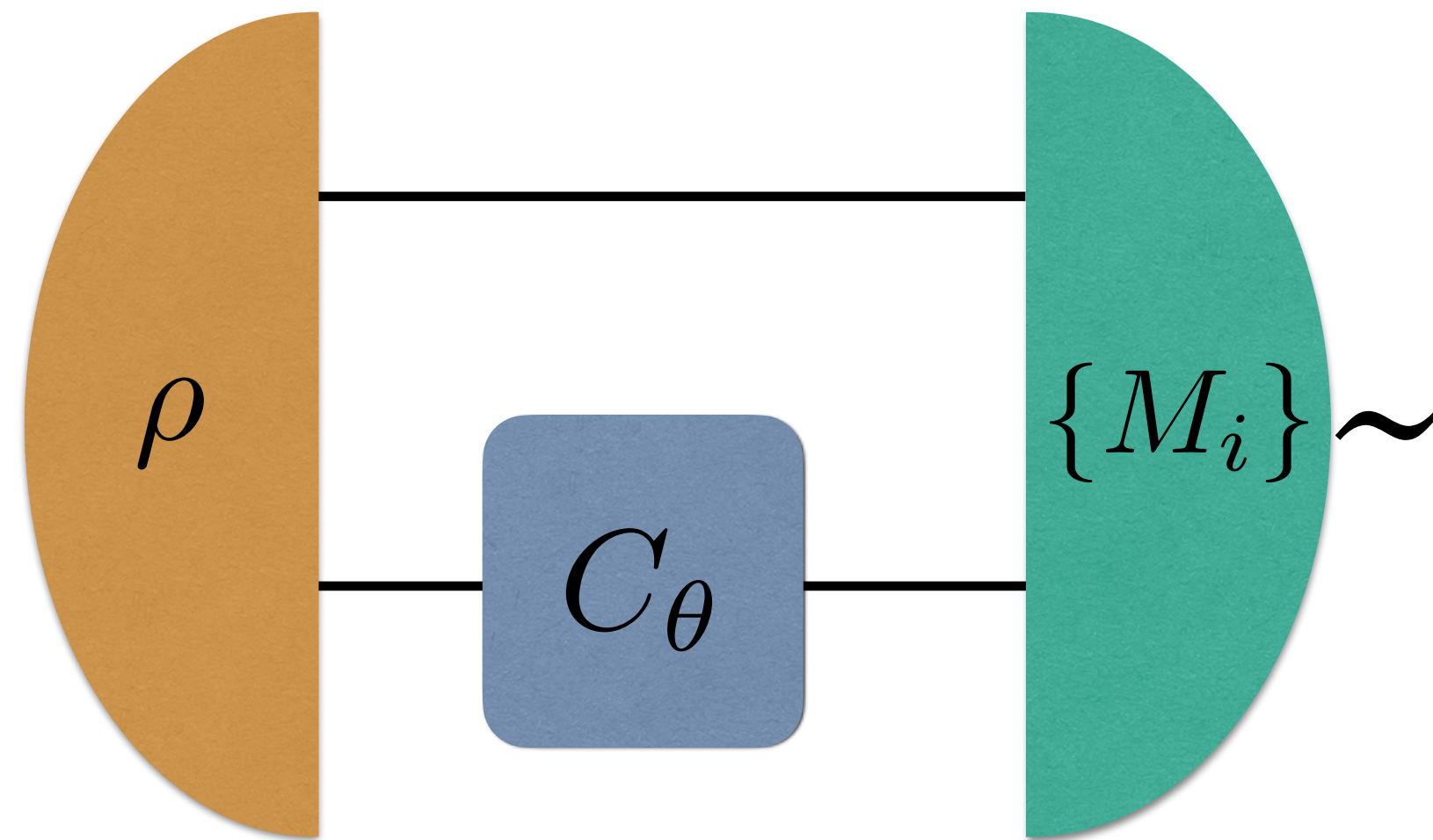
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triplet of state, measurement and estimator

$$C_\theta := \sum_{i,j} |i\rangle\langle j| \otimes \mathcal{E}_\theta[|i\rangle\langle j|] \quad (\text{choi operator})$$

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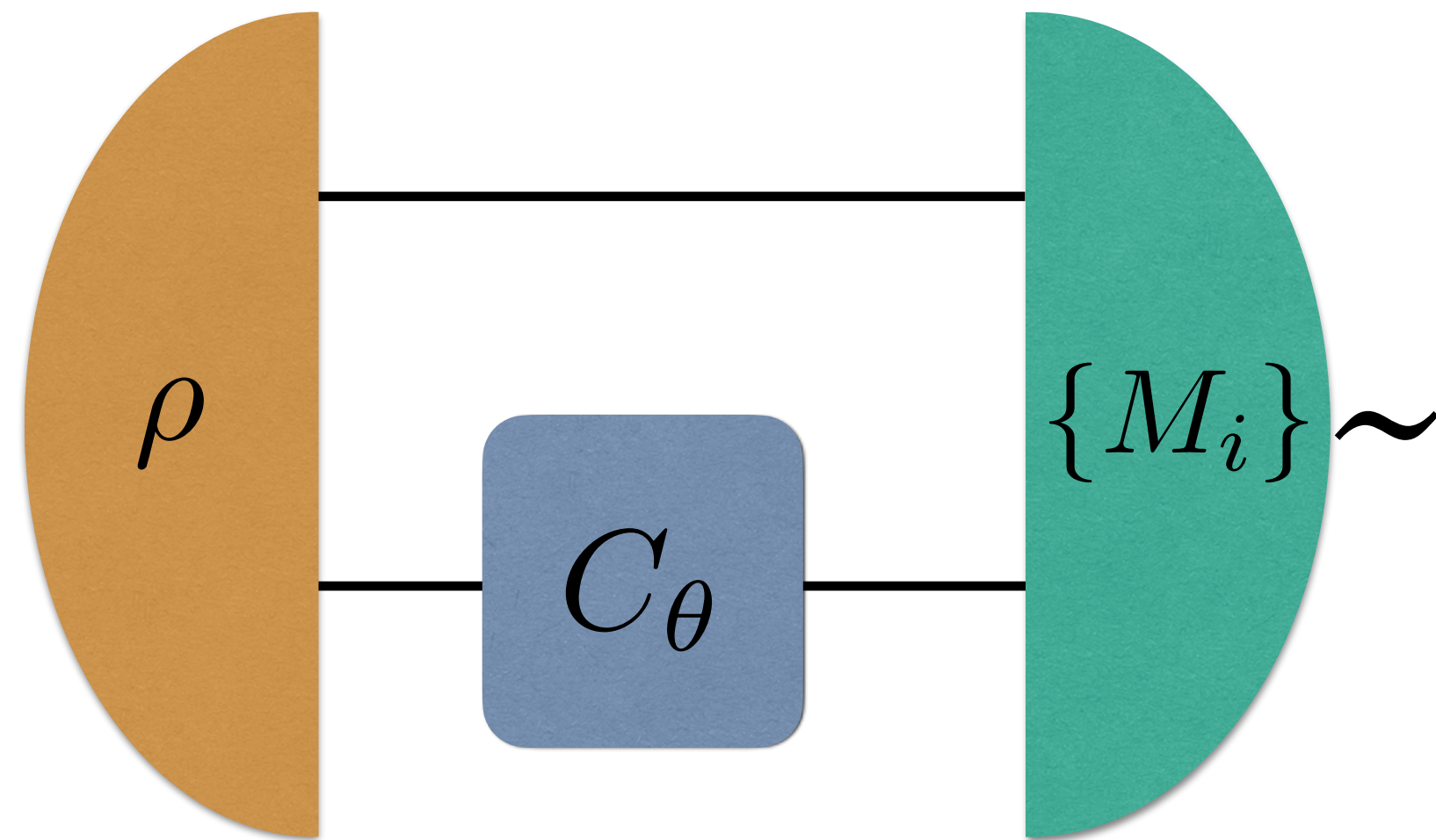
$$\overbrace{\{\rho, \{M_i\}, \{\hat{\theta}_i\}\}}^{\{T_i\}}$$

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Higher-order operations: quantum testers

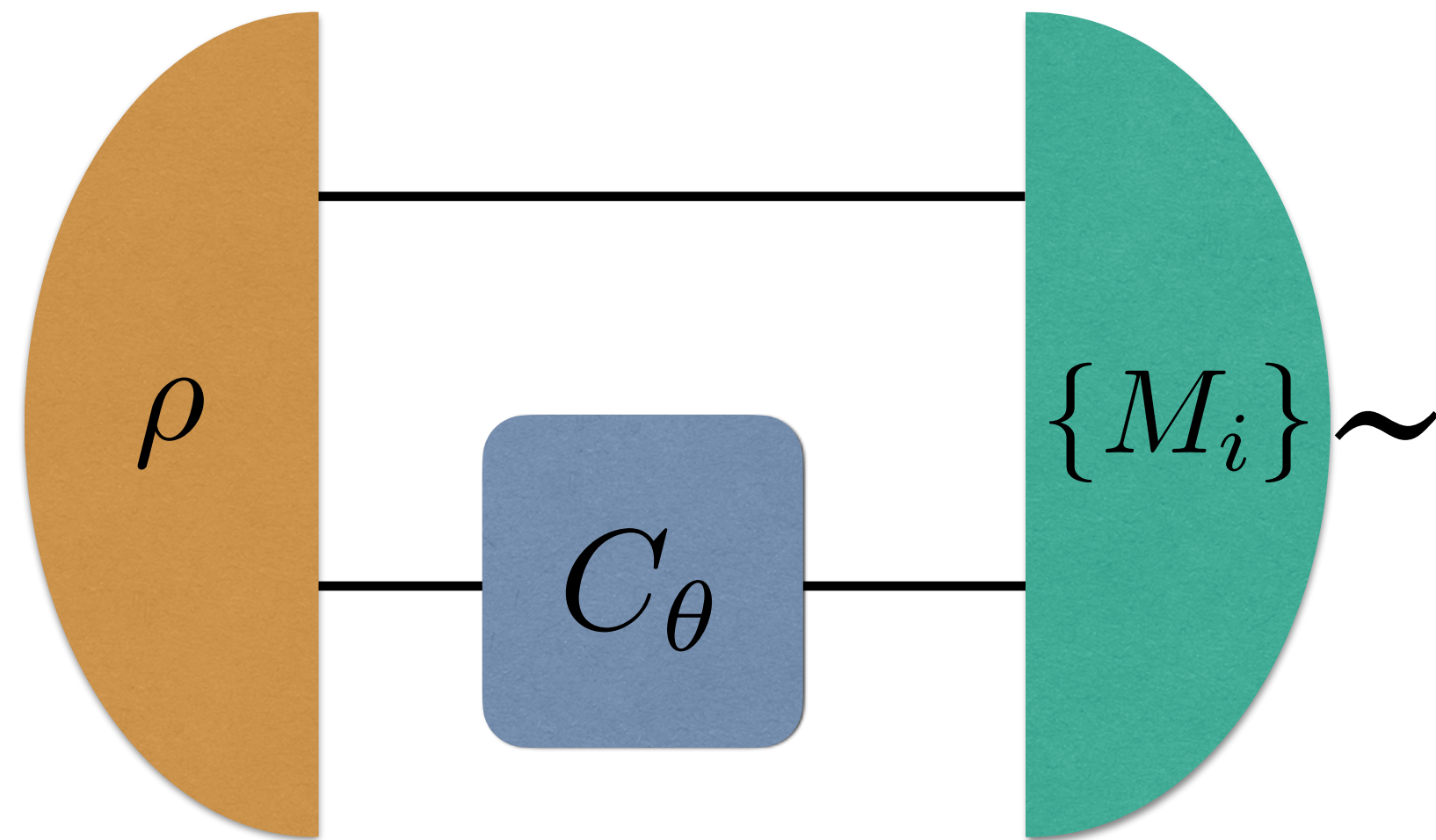


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pair of tester and estimator

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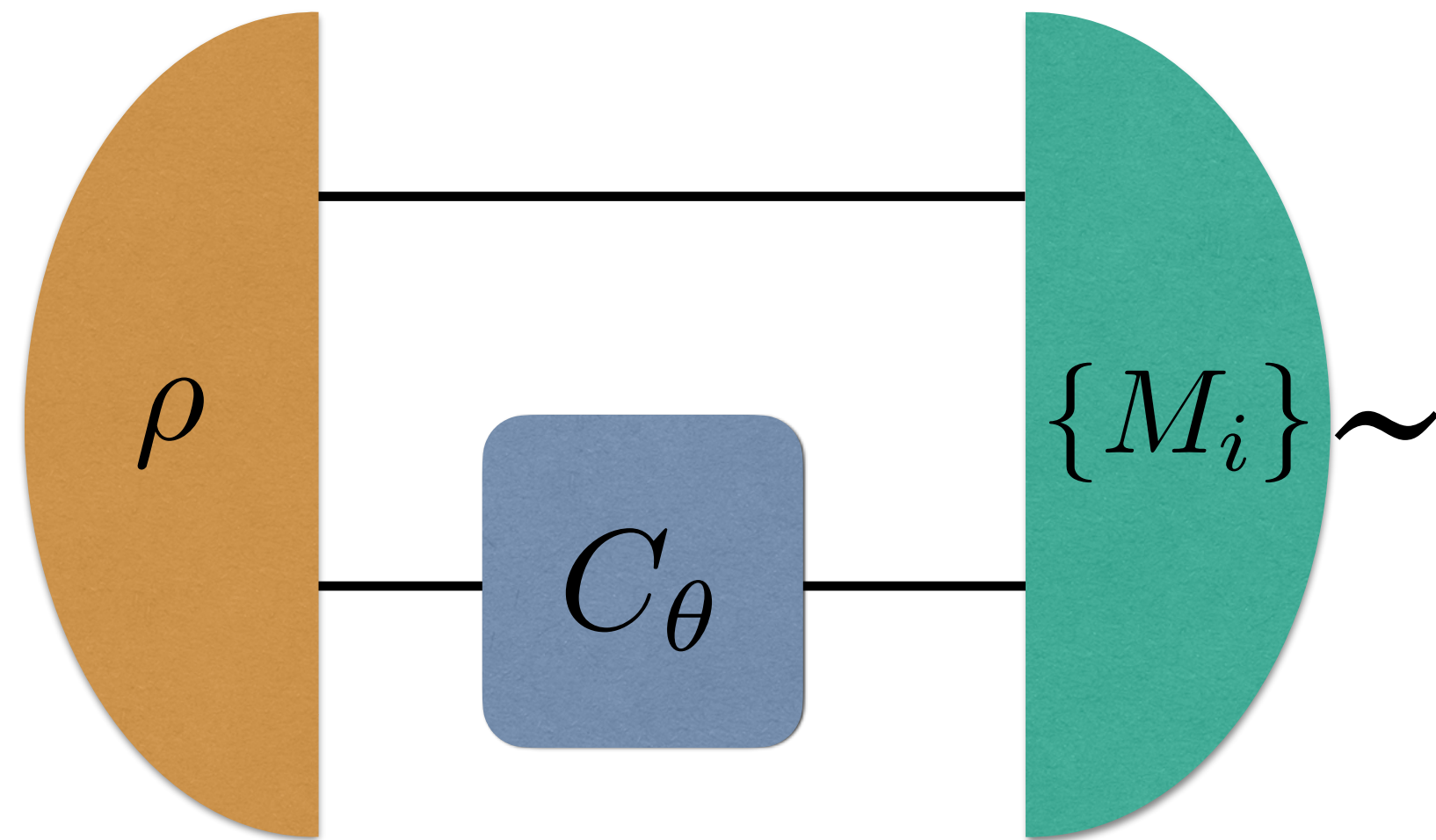
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pair of tester and estimator

$$\max_{\{T_i\}, \{\hat{\theta}_i\}} \mathcal{S} = \max_{\{T_i\}, \{\hat{\theta}_i\}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_O} \text{tr} \left(X(\hat{\theta}_i) T_i \right)$$

$$X(\hat{\theta}_i) := \int d\theta p(\theta) r(\theta, \hat{\theta}_i) C_\theta \quad \forall i$$

Higher-order operations: quantum testers



$$\{\{T_i\}, \{\hat{\theta}_i\}\}$$

pair of tester and estimator

optimal score: $\mathcal{S}^* := \max_{\{T_i\}, \{\hat{\theta}_i\}} \mathcal{S}$

optimal protocol: $\{T_i^*\}, \{\hat{\theta}_i^*\} := \arg \max_{\{T_i\}, \{\hat{\theta}_i\}} \mathcal{S}$

our methods

Known optimal estimators (method 2)

for known optimal estimators: $\{\hat{\theta}_i^*\}$

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$$\mathcal{S}^* = \max_{\{T_i\}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_O} \text{tr} \left(X(\hat{\theta}_i^*) T_i \right)$$

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$$\sum_i T_i = \sigma \otimes \mathbb{I}$$

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Semidefinite programming (SDP)

Problems

remaining difficulties

- finding the optimal estimators $\{\hat{\theta}_i^*\}$
- computing the integral $X(\hat{\theta}_i) = \int d\theta p(\theta) r(\theta, \hat{\theta}_i) C_\theta \quad \forall i$

Unknown optimal estimators (method 3)

seesaw method

given $\{X(\hat{\theta}_i)\}$

$$\max_{\{T_i\}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_O} \text{tr} \left(X(\hat{\theta}_i) T_i \right)$$

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SDP

given $\{T_i\}$

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maybe SDP

maybe gradient descent

often analytical reassignment

Unknown optimal estimators (method 3)

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$$\text{s.t. } X(\hat{\theta}_i) = \int d\theta p(\theta) r(\theta, \hat{\theta}_i) C_\theta \quad \forall i$$

$$N_O \leq (d_I \times d_O)^2 \quad \text{extremal POVMS only}$$

Approximating the integral

$$X(\hat{\theta}_i) := \int d\theta \, p(\theta) \, r(\theta, \hat{\theta}_i) \, C_\theta \quad \forall i \quad \mapsto \quad \tilde{X}(\hat{\theta}_i) := \sum_{k=1}^{N_H} p(\theta_k) \, r(\theta_k, \hat{\theta}_i) \, C_{\theta_k} \quad \forall i$$

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Known optimal estimators (method 2, discretized)

for known optimal estimators: $\{\hat{\theta}_i^*\}$

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Semidefinite programming (SDP)

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N_H

arbitrarily high

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Mapping to channel discrimination (method 1)

optimizing estimators and strategy simultaneously

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Direct assignment between estimators and values in the discretization of the parameter

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Mapping to channel discrimination (method 1)

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Direct assignment between estimators and values in the discretization of the parameter

$$\tilde{\mathcal{S}} = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N p(\theta_k) r(\theta_k, \theta_i) \operatorname{tr}(C_{\theta_k} T_i)$$

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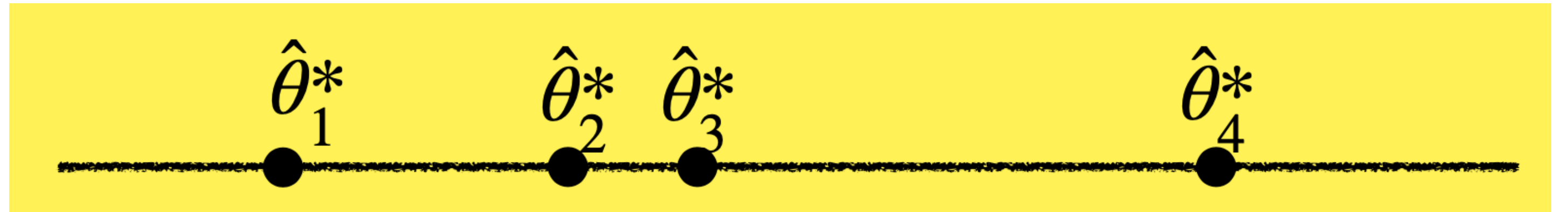
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SDP



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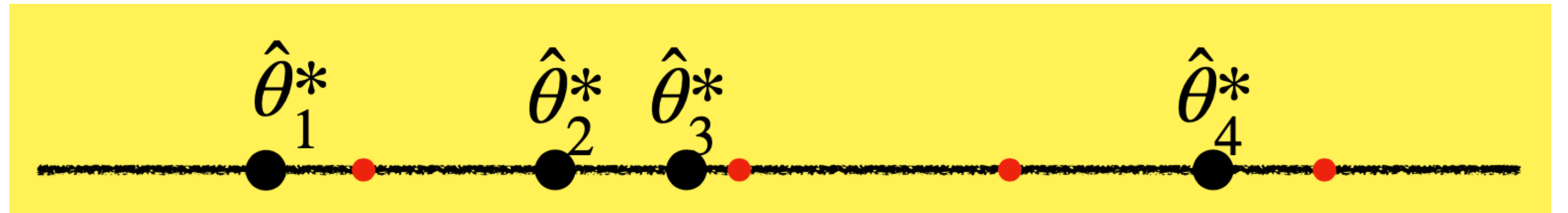
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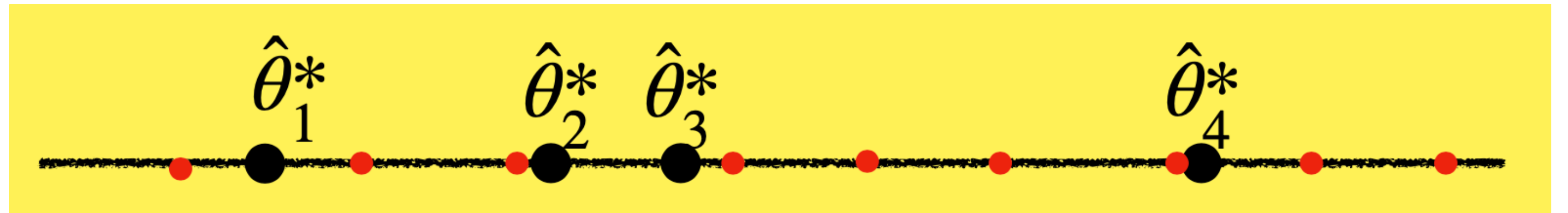
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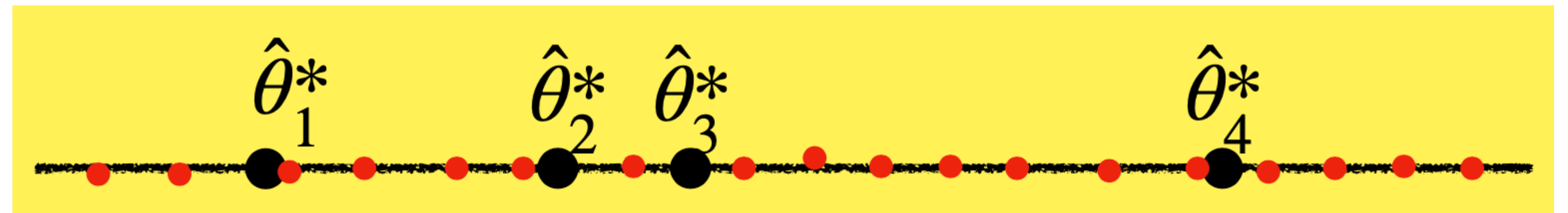
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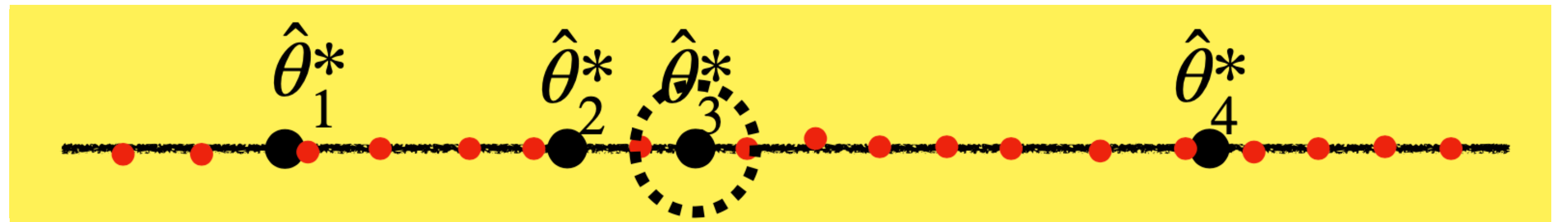
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$$\max_{\{T_i\}} \sum_{i=1}^N \text{tr} \left(\tilde{X}(\theta_i) T_i \right)$$

$$\text{s.t. } T_i \geq 0 \quad \forall i$$

$$\sum_i T_i = \sigma \otimes \mathbb{I}$$

SDP

$$|\mathcal{S}^* - \tilde{\mathcal{S}}^*| = \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{1}{N} \right)$$

Our methods

Method 1

(channel discrimination)

- single instance of SDP
- doesn't require previous knowledge of the estimator
- converges to optimal solution in the limit
- may require too many measurement outcomes to be practical
- very good results in practice

Method 2

(known opt estimator)

- single instance of SDP
- requires previous knowledge of the estimator
- yields exact solution
- only limited number of outcomes required
- very good results in practice even if the estimators are not known to be optimal

Method 3

(iterative)

- seesaw
- doesn't require previous knowledge of the estimator
- not guaranteed to converge to optimal solution
- only limited number of outcomes required
- very good results in practice

Generalizations

Multi parameter estimation

$$\mathcal{S} = \sum_{i_1=1}^{N_{O_1}} \sum_{i_2=1}^{N_{O_2}} \int d\theta^1 \int d\theta^2 p(\theta^1, \theta^2) r(\theta^1, \theta^2, \hat{\theta}_{i_1}^1, \hat{\theta}_{i_1}^2) \text{tr}(C_{\theta^1, \theta^2} T_{i_1, i_2}).$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{S}} = \sum_{i_1=1}^{N_{O_1}} \sum_{i_2=1}^{N_{O_2}} \sum_{k_1=1}^{N_{H_1}} \sum_{k_2=1}^{N_{H_2}} p(\theta_{k_1}^1, \theta_{k_2}^2) r(\theta_{k_1}^1, \theta_{k_2}^2, \hat{\theta}_{i_1}^1, \hat{\theta}_{i_2}^2) \text{tr}(C_{\theta_{k_1}^1, \theta_{k_2}^2} T_{i_1, i_2}).$$

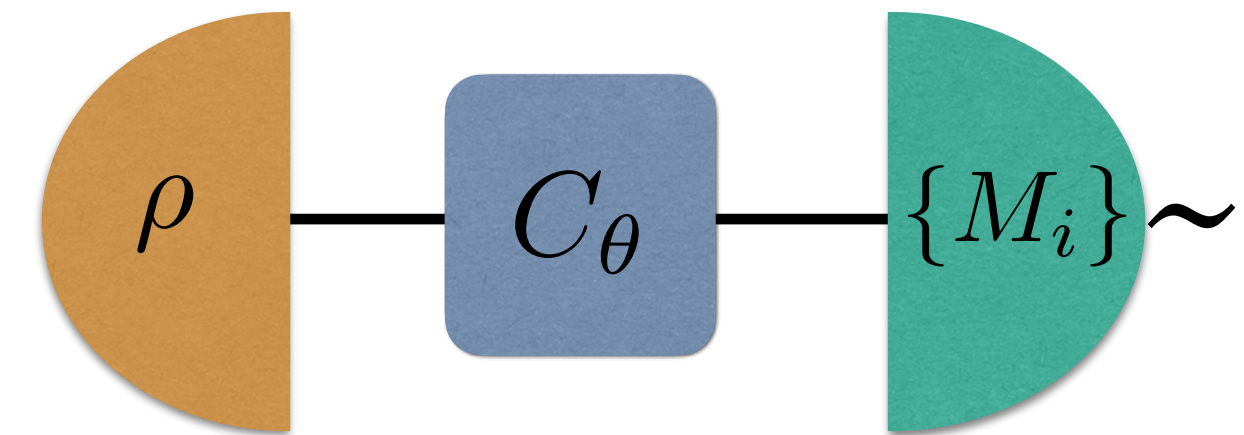
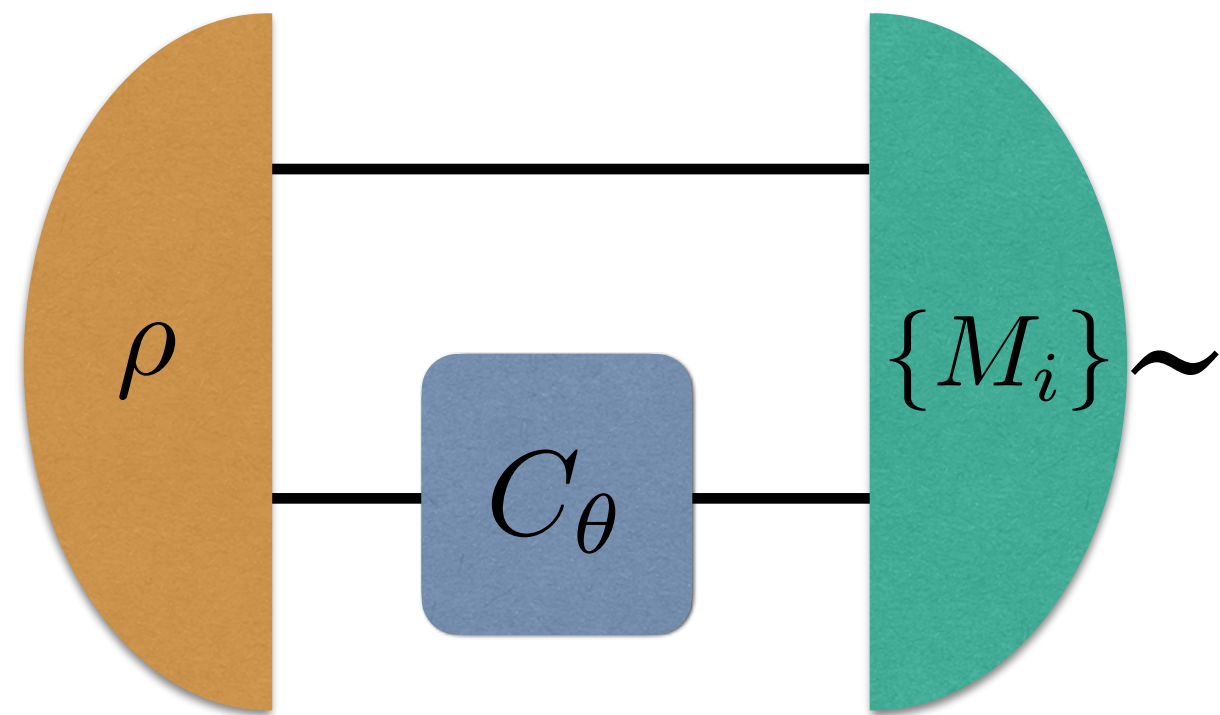
$(i_1, i_2) \mapsto i$, where $i \in \{1, \dots, N_O\}$, $N_O = N_{O_1} N_{O_2}$

$(k_1, k_2) \mapsto k$, where $k \in \{1, \dots, N_H\}$ $N_H = N_{H_1} N_{H_2}$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{S}} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_O} \sum_{k=1}^{N_H} p(\vec{\theta}_k) r(\vec{\theta}_k, \vec{\hat{\theta}}_i) \text{tr}(C_{\vec{\theta}_k} T_i)$$

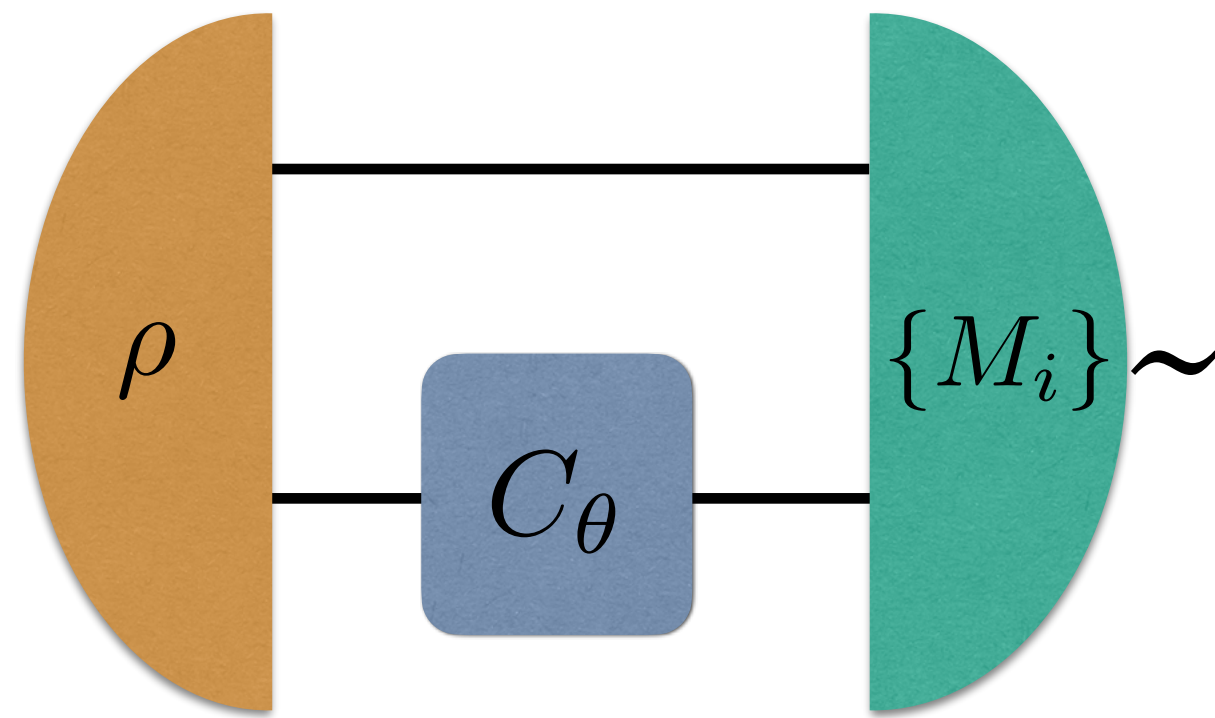
Generalizations

Outer approximation for strategies without memory/entanglement

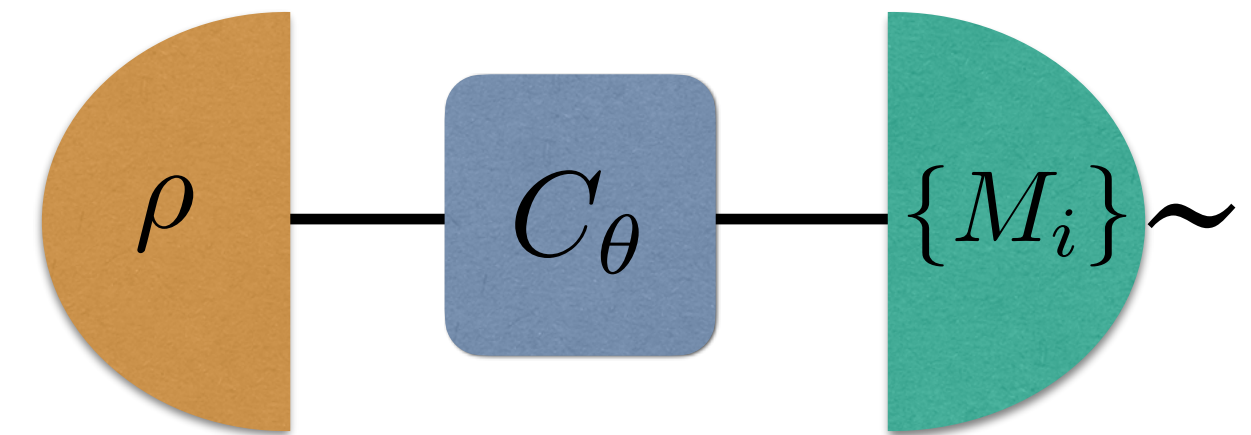


Generalizations

Outer approximation for strategies without memory/entanglement



$$T_i = \text{Tr}_{\text{aux}} \left[(\rho^{\text{in,aux}} \otimes \mathbb{I}^{\text{out}}) (\mathbb{I}^{\text{in}} \otimes (M_i^{\text{aux,out}})^{T_{\text{out}}}) \right]$$



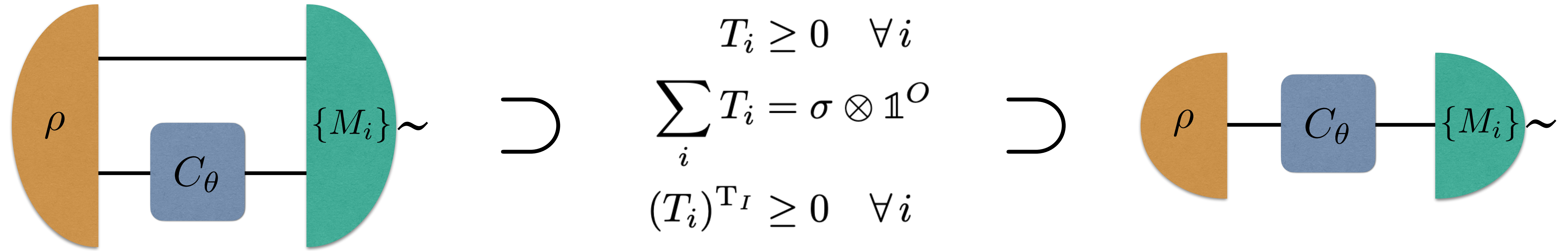
$$T_i = \rho^{\text{in}} \otimes M_i^{\text{out}}$$

$$T_i \geq 0 \quad \forall i$$

$$\sum_i T_i = \sigma \otimes \mathbb{1}^O$$

Generalizations

Outer approximation for strategies without memory/entanglement



PPT

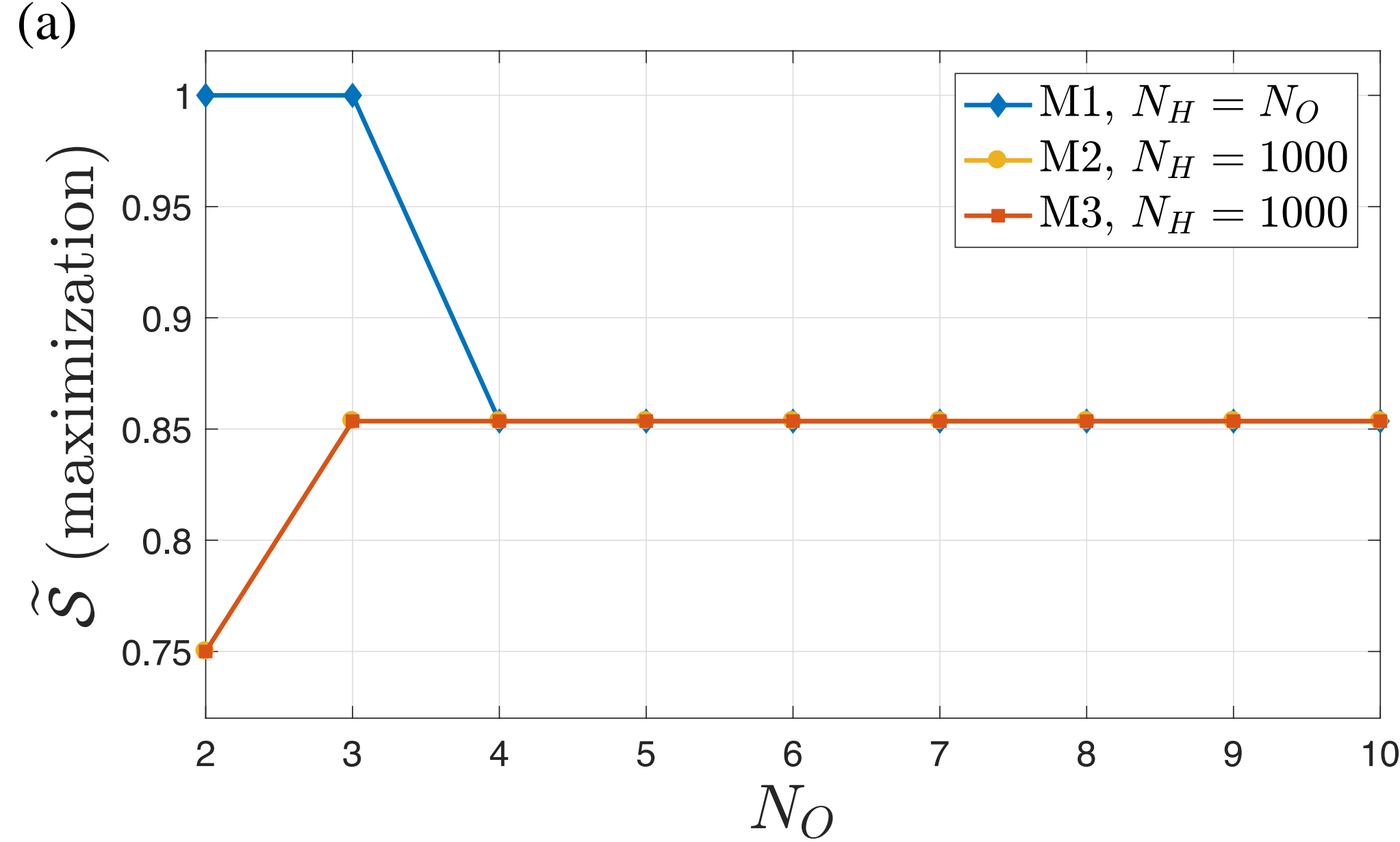
SDP

SDP

not SDP

our case studies

Case study 1: phase estimation



channel (two-qubit):

$$\mathcal{E}_\theta[\rho] = U_\theta \rho U_\theta^\dagger, \quad U_\theta = e^{-i\theta S_z}, \quad S_z = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} i|i\rangle\langle i|$$

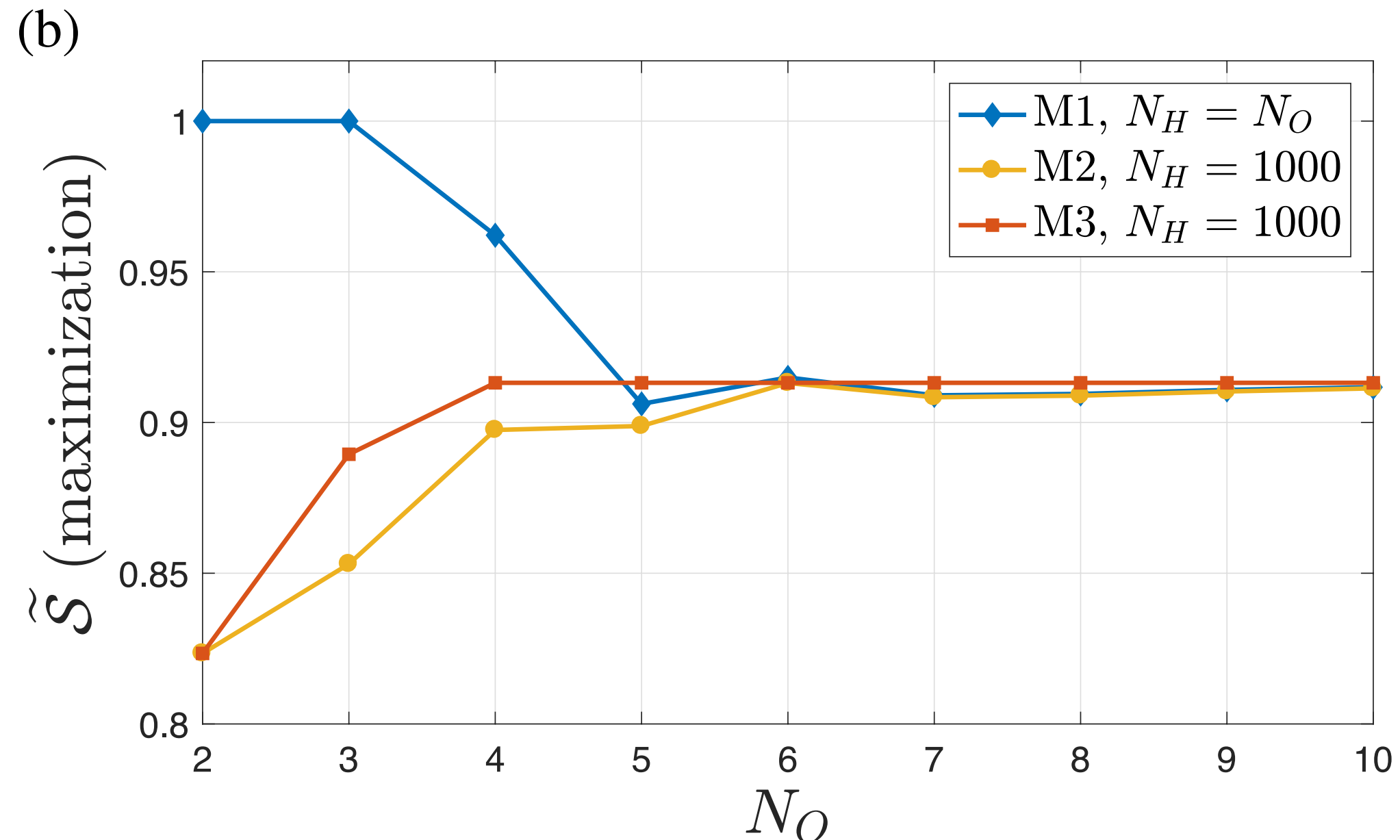
reward function:

$$r(\theta, \hat{\theta}_i) = \cos^2 \left(\frac{\theta - \hat{\theta}_i}{2} \right)$$

prior:

(a) uniform

(b) gaussian



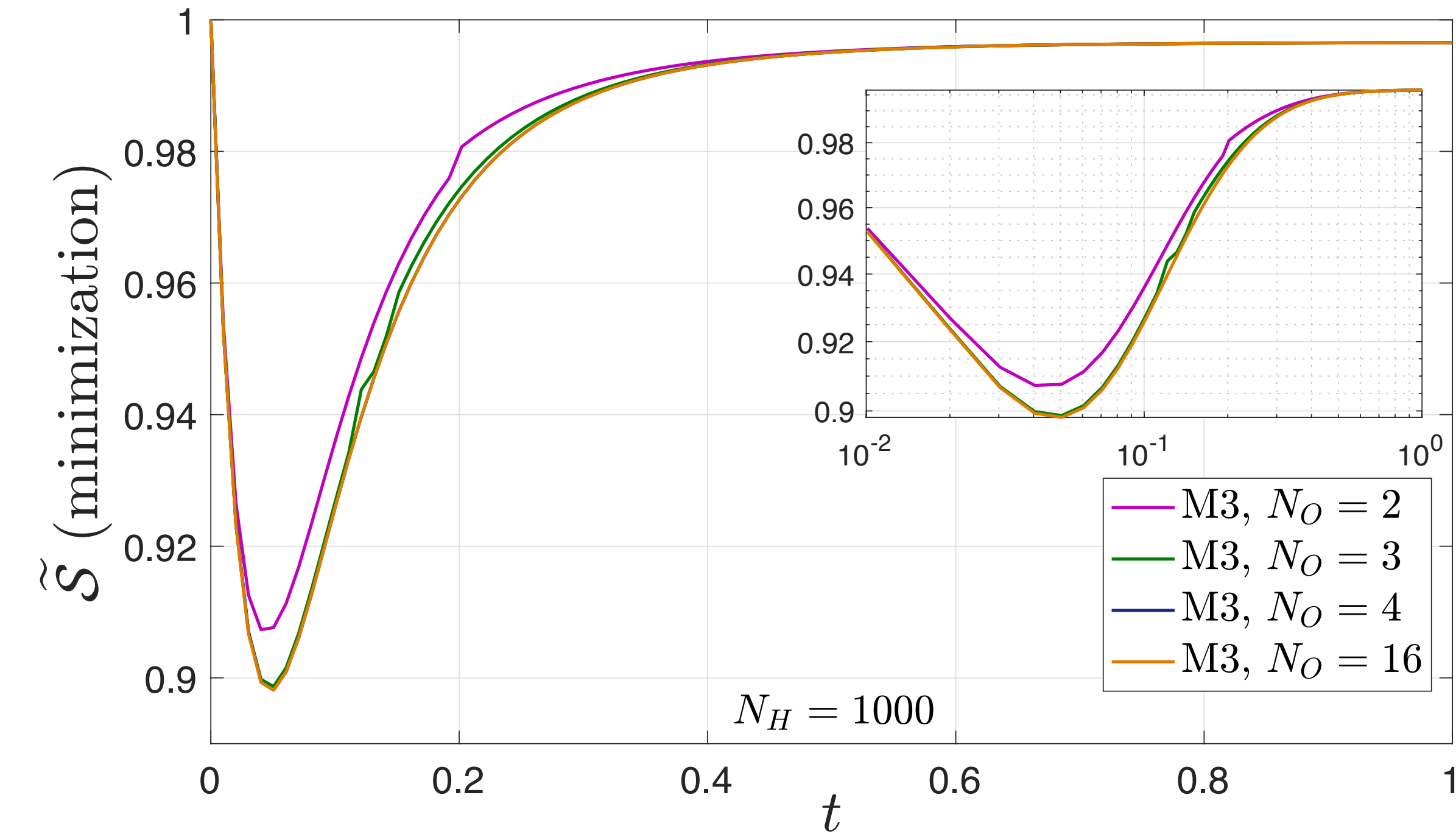
estimator update:

$$\hat{\theta}_i^* = \begin{cases} \arctan \left(\frac{\langle \sin(\theta_k) \rangle^{(i)}}{\langle \cos(\theta_k) \rangle^{(i)}} \right) & \langle \cos(\theta_k) \rangle^{(i)} \geq 0 \\ \arctan \left(\frac{\langle \sin(\theta_k) \rangle^{(i)}}{\langle \cos(\theta_k) \rangle^{(i)}} \right) + \pi & \langle \cos(\theta_k) \rangle^{(i)} < 0 \end{cases},$$

where

$$\langle f(\theta_k) \rangle^{(i)} = \sum_k p(\theta_k | i) f(\theta_k) = \sum_k \frac{p(\theta_k) \text{tr}(C_{\theta_k} T_i)}{p(i)} f(\theta_k)$$

Case study 2: thermometry



channel (non-unitary):

$$\dot{\rho}_{\theta}^p(t) = -i[H, \rho_{\theta}^p(t)] + \Gamma_{\text{in}} \mathcal{D}[\sigma_+] \rho_{\theta}^p(t) + \Gamma_{\text{out}} \mathcal{D}[\sigma_-] \rho_{\theta}^p(t)$$

reward function:

$$r(\theta, \hat{\theta}_i) = (\theta - \hat{\theta}_i)^2$$

prior:

uniform

estimator update:

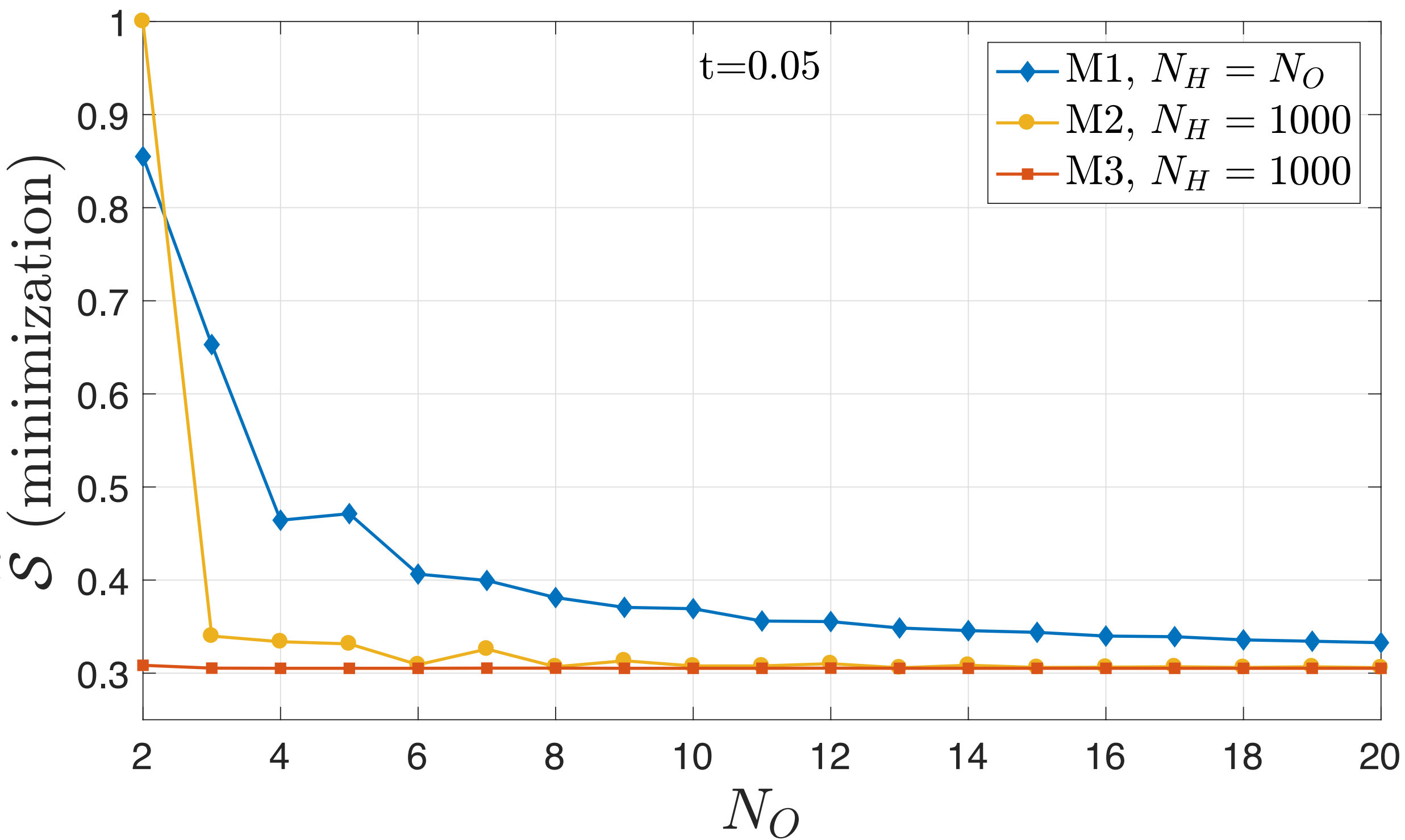
$$\hat{\theta}_i^* = \langle \theta_k \rangle^{(i)}$$

$$N_O \leq d_I \times d_O$$

where

$$\langle f(\theta_k) \rangle^{(i)} = \sum_k p(\theta_k | i) f(\theta_k) = \sum_k \frac{p(\theta_k) \text{tr}(C_{\theta_k} T_i)}{p(i)} f(\theta_k)$$

Case study 2: thermometry



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$$r(\theta, \hat{\theta}_i) = (\theta - \hat{\theta}_i)^2$$

prior:

uniform

estimator update:

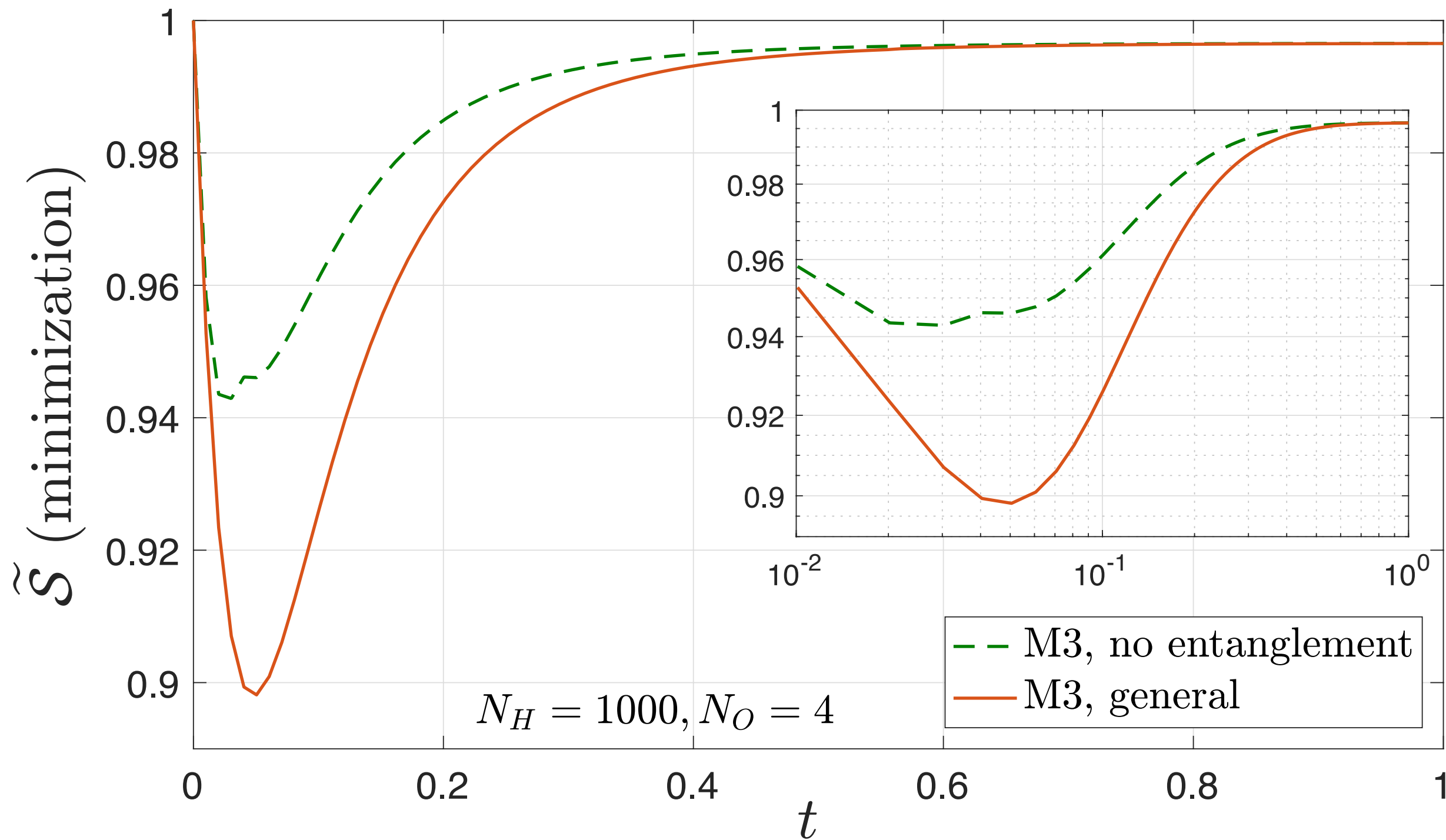
$$N_O \leq d_I \times d_O$$

$$\hat{\theta}_i^* = \langle \theta_k \rangle^{(i)}$$

where

$$\langle f(\theta_k) \rangle^{(i)} = \sum_k p(\theta_k | i) f(\theta_k) = \sum_k \frac{p(\theta_k) \text{tr}(C_{\theta_k} T_i)}{p(i)} f(\theta_k)$$

Case study 2: thermometry



usefulness of entanglement

channel (non-unitary):

$$\dot{\rho}_{\theta}^p(t) = -i[H, \rho_{\theta}^p(t)] + \Gamma_{\text{in}} \mathcal{D}[\sigma_+] \rho_{\theta}^p(t) + \Gamma_{\text{out}} \mathcal{D}[\sigma_-] \rho_{\theta}^p(t)$$

reward function:

$$r(\theta, \hat{\theta}_i) = (\theta - \hat{\theta}_i)^2$$

prior:

uniform

estimator update:

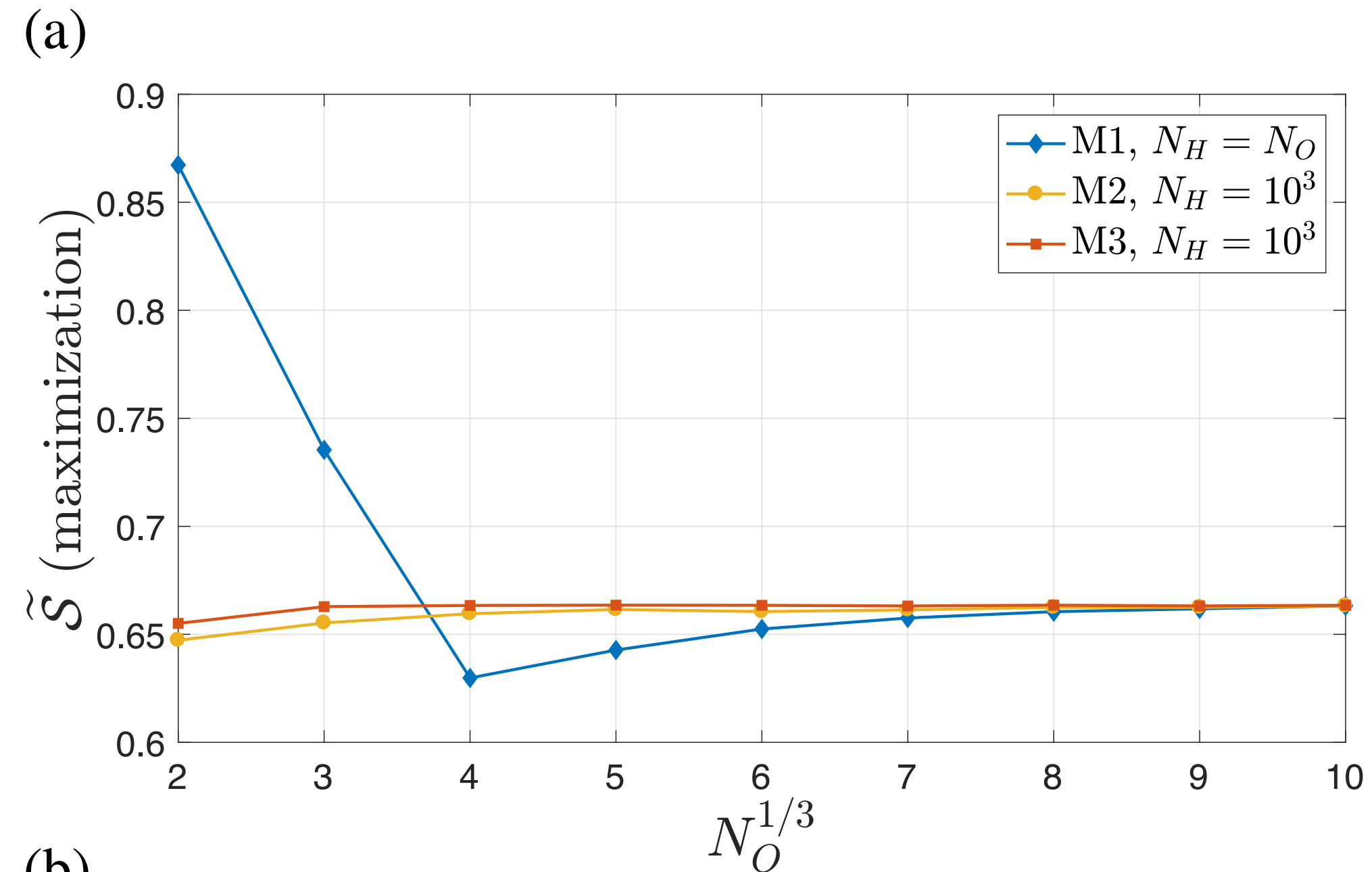
$$\hat{\theta}_i^* = \langle \theta_k \rangle^{(i)}$$

$$N_O \leq d_I \times d_O$$

where

$$\langle f(\theta_k) \rangle^{(i)} = \sum_k p(\theta_k | i) f(\theta_k) = \sum_k \frac{p(\theta_k) \text{tr}(C_{\theta_k} T_i)}{p(i)} f(\theta_k)$$

Case study 3: SU(2) estimation



$$\theta := (\theta_x, \theta_y, \theta_z)$$

channel (multi-parameter):

$$\mathcal{E}_\theta[\rho] = U_\theta \rho U_\theta^\dagger, \quad U_\theta = e^{-i(\theta_x \sigma_x + \theta_y \sigma_y + \theta_z \sigma_z)}$$

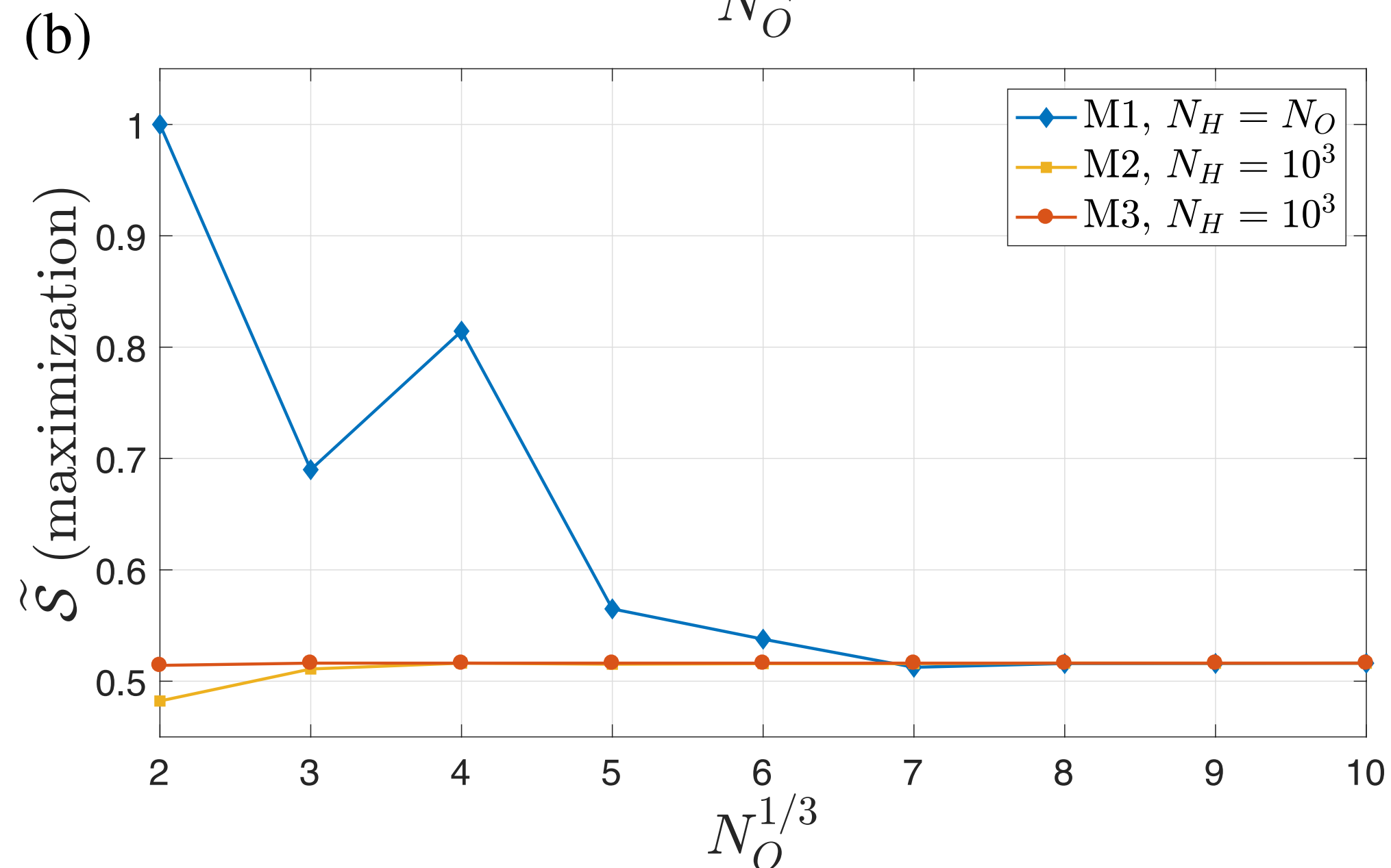
reward function:

$$r(\theta, \hat{\theta}_i) = \frac{1}{d^2} \left| \langle \langle U_\theta | U_{\hat{\theta}_i} \rangle \rangle \right|^2$$

prior:

(a) uniform

(b) gaussian



estimator update:

gradient descend

Summary and outlook

- **Good approximations** for single-shot Bayesian parameter estimation using SDPs and higher-order operations
- **Single and multiple** parameters
- General strategies or restriction to **no memory/entanglement**
- **Arbitrary** channel encoding, **arbitrary** prior, **arbitrary** cost function

Future:

- Extension to multiple copies, different classes of strategies

Thank you!



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Extra