

On estimating the trace of quantum state powers

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Abstract

We investigate the computational complexity of estimating the trace of quantum state powers $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$ for an n -qubit mixed quantum state ρ , given its state-preparation circuit of size $\text{poly}(n)$. This quantity is closely related to and often interchangeable with the Tsallis entropy $S_q(\rho) = \frac{1 - \text{tr}(\rho^q)}{q-1}$, where $q = 1$ corresponds to the von Neumann entropy. For any non-integer $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$, we provide a quantum estimator for $S_q(\rho)$ with time complexity $\text{poly}(n)$, *exponentially* improving the prior best results of $\exp(n)$ due to Acharya, Issa, Shende, and Wagner (ISIT 2019), Wang, Guan, Liu, Zhang, and Ying (TIT 2024), Wang, Zhang, and Li (TIT 2024), and Wang and Zhang (TIT 2025). Our speedup is achieved by introducing efficiently computable *uniform approximations* of positive power functions into quantum singular value transformation.

Our quantum algorithm reveals a sharp phase transition between the case of $q = 1$ and constant $q > 1$ in the computational complexity of the QUANTUM q -TSALLIS ENTROPY DIFFERENCE PROBLEM (TSALLISQED $_q$), particularly deciding whether the difference $S_q(\rho_0) - S_q(\rho_1)$ is at least 0.001 or at most -0.001 :

- For any $1 + \Omega(1) \leq q \leq 2$, TSALLISQED $_q$ is BQP-complete, which implies that PURITY ESTIMATION is also BQP-complete.
- For any $1 \leq q \leq 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$, TSALLISQED $_q$ is QSZK-hard, leading to hardness of approximating the von Neumann entropy because $S_q(\rho) \leq S(\rho)$, as long as $\text{BQP} \subsetneq \text{QSZK}$.

The hardness results are derived from reductions based on new inequalities for the quantum q -Jensen–(Shannon–)Tsallis divergence with $1 \leq q \leq 2$, which are of independent interest.

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1 Introduction

In recent years, the development of quantum devices has posed an intriguing challenge of verifying their intended functionality. Typically, a quantum device is designed to prepare an n -qubit (mixed) state ρ . The problem of (tolerant) quantum state testing aims to design algorithms that can efficiently test whether a quantum state approximately has a certain property, assuming the state either nearly has the property or is somehow “far” from having it. This problem is a quantum (non-commutative) generalization of classical (tolerant) distribution testing (see [Can20]) and classical property testing in general (see [Gol17]). Furthermore, this problem is an instance of the emerging field of quantum property testing (see [MdW16]), which focuses on devising (efficient) quantum testers for properties of quantum objects.

The general upper bound for (tolerant) quantum state testing depends (at least) linearly on the dimension (e.g., [MdW16, Section 4.2]), whereas some properties of quantum states can be tested significantly more efficiently than the general case. A simple and interesting example is the property PURITY, where ρ satisfies the property if and only if it is a pure state. This example is essentially an instance of estimating the trace of quantum state powers, specifically $\text{tr}(\rho^2)$. A natural approach to test PURITY is to apply the SWAP test [BCWdW01] to two copies of ρ , and this algorithm accepts with probability $(1 + \text{tr}(\rho^2))/2$, which is equal to 1 if and only if ρ is pure. Further analysis deduces that PURITY can be tolerantly tested with $O(1/\epsilon^2)$ copies of ρ .¹ Meanwhile, Ekert et al. [EAO⁺02] presented an efficient quantum algorithm for estimating $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$ where $q > 1$ is an integer. These two fundamental works raise two interesting questions:

- (a) Is there an efficient quantum algorithm for estimating the trace of quantum state powers $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$ for any non-integer $q > 1$?
- (b) Can estimating the trace of quantum state powers, e.g., $\text{tr}(\rho^2)$, fully capture the computational power of quantum computing, namely BQP-complete?

Notably, the trace of quantum state powers $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$ is closely related to the *power* quantum entropy of order q . Particularly, the quantum q -Tsallis entropy $S_q(\rho)$, which is a non-additive (but still concave) generalization of the von Neumann entropy $S(\rho)$, with the von Neumann entropy being the limiting case of the quantum q -Tsallis entropy as q approaches 1:

$$S_q(\rho) = \frac{1 - \text{tr}(\rho^q)}{q - 1} \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{q \rightarrow 1} S_q(\rho) = S(\rho) = -\text{tr}(\rho \log(\rho)).$$

As a consequence, $S_q(\rho)$ can naturally provide a lower bound for $S(\rho)$ when considering $S_q(\rho)$ with $q = 1 + \epsilon$, where ϵ can be a small constant, such as $q = 1.0001$. This observation serves as the first reason motivating Question (a).

The study of power entropy dates back to Havrda and Charvát [HC67]. Since then, it has been rediscovered independently by Daróczy [Dar70], and finally popularized by Tsallis [Tsa88]. Raggio [Rag95] expanded on this study by introducing the quantum Tsallis entropy. Tsallis entropy has been particularly useful in physics for describing systems with non-extensive properties, such as long-range interactions, in statistical mechanics (see [Tsa01]).

A notable example is the Tsallis entropy $H_q(p)$ with $q = 3/2$, which is useful for modeling systems where both frequent and rare events matter.² For instance, in fluid dynamics, the distribution that maximizes $H_{3/2}$ helps model velocity changes in turbulent flows [Bec02]. This example provides the second reason motivating Question (a), as existing efficient quantum algorithms [BCWdW01, EAO⁺02] are designed only for integer $q \geq 2$. Estimating $S_q(\rho)$ for non-integer q between 1 and 2, therefore, appears to be computationally challenging.

In this paper, we focus on estimating the trace of quantum state powers, or equivalently,

¹The sample (or query) complexity for PURITY differs between one-sided or two-sided error scenarios. Our upper bound applies to the latter, while the sample complexity for the former is $O(1/\epsilon)$ [MdW16, Section 4.2].

²In contrast, the Tsallis entropy with $q = 2$ (Gini impurity) is very sensitive to rare events.

the QUANTUM q -TSALLIS ENTROPY DIFFERENCE PROBLEM (TSALLISQED $_q$) and the QUANTUM q -TSALLIS ENTROPY APPROXIMATION PROBLEM (TSALLISQEA $_q$). These two problems constitute the (white-box) quantum state testing problem with respect to the quantum q -Tsallis entropy. For TSALLISQED $_q$, we consider two polynomial-size quantum circuits (devices), denoted as Q_0 and Q_1 , which prepare n -qubit quantum states ρ_0 and ρ_1 , respectively, with access to the descriptions of these circuits. Our goal is to decide whether the difference $S_q(\rho_0) - S_q(\rho_1)$ is at least 0.001 or at most -0.001 .³ The setting of TSALLISQEA $_q$ is similar to TSALLISQED $_q$, except that we only consider a single n -qubit quantum state ρ , and the task is to decide whether the difference $S_q(\rho) - t(n)$ is at least 0.001 or at most -0.001 , where $t(n)$ is a known threshold.

Next, we will state our main results and then provide justifications for their significance.

1.1 Main results

We begin by presenting our first main result, which provides a positive answer to Question (a) for the regime $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$:⁴

Theorem 1.1 (Quantum estimator for q -Tsallis entropy). *Given quantum query access to the state-preparation circuit of an n -qubit quantum state ρ , for any $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$, there is a quantum algorithm for estimating $S_q(\rho)$ to additive error 0.001 with query complexity $O(1)$. Moreover, if the description of the state-preparation circuit is of size $\text{poly}(n)$, then the time complexity of the quantum algorithm is $\text{poly}(n)$. Consequently, for any $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$, TSALLISQED $_q$ and TSALLISQEA $_q$ are in BQP.*

More specifically, when the desired additive error is set to ϵ , the explicit query complexity of Theorem 1.1 becomes $O(1/\epsilon^{1+\frac{1}{q-1}})$, or expressed as $\text{poly}(1/\epsilon)$ (see Theorem 3.2). Moreover, if the state-preparation circuit of ρ is of size $L(n) = \text{poly}(n)$, Theorem 1.1 provides a quantum algorithm with time complexity $O(L/\epsilon^{1+\frac{1}{q-1}})$, or equivalently, $\text{poly}(n, 1/\epsilon)$. Using the same idea, we can also derive an upper bound $\tilde{O}(1/\epsilon^{3+\frac{2}{q-1}})$, or expressed as $\text{poly}(1/\epsilon)$, for the sample complexity needed to estimate $S_q(\rho)$ (see Theorem 3.3). This is achieved by applying the *sampler* from [WZ25b], which allows a quantum query-to-sample simulation.

There are several quantum algorithms for estimating the q -Tsallis entropy of an n -qubit mixed quantum state ρ for non-integer constant $q > 1$ proposed in [AISW20, WGL⁺24, WZL24, WZ25b], all of which turn out to have time complexity $\exp(n)$ in the setting that ρ is given by its state-preparation circuit of size $\text{poly}(n)$.

- In [AISW20, Theorem 3] and [WZ25b, Theorem 1.2], for non-integer constant $q > 1$, they proposed quantum algorithms for estimating the q -Rényi entropy of an n -qubit quantum state ρ by using $S = \text{poly}(1/\epsilon) \cdot \exp(n)$ samples of ρ and $T = \text{poly}(1/\epsilon) \cdot \exp(n)$ quantum gates.⁵ Their result implies an estimator for $S_q(\rho)$ with the same complexity, because any estimator for q -Rényi entropy implies an estimator for q -Tsallis entropy with the same parameter for $q > 1$ (as noted in [AOST17, Appendix A]). By preparing each sample of ρ using its state-preparation circuit of size $\text{poly}(n)$, one can estimate $S_q(\rho)$ by using their estimators with overall time complexity $S \cdot \text{poly}(n) + T = \text{poly}(1/\epsilon) \cdot \exp(n)$.

³It is noteworthy that 0.001 is just an arbitrary constant for the precision parameter, which can be replaced by any inverse polynomial function in general. See Definitions 5.1 and 5.2 for formal definitions.

⁴We implicitly assume that q satisfies $1 + \Omega(1) \leq q \leq O(1)$. Since $S_q(\rho) \leq o(1)$ when $q = \omega(1)$, it is reasonable to consider constantly large q .

⁵The explicit sample complexities of the approaches of [AISW20, Theorem 3] and [WZ25b, Theorem 2] are $O(2^{2n}/\epsilon^2)$ and $O(2^{(\frac{4}{q}-2)n}/\epsilon^{1+\frac{4}{q}} \cdot \text{poly}(n, \log(1/\epsilon)))$, respectively, both of which are $\text{poly}(1/\epsilon) \cdot \exp(n)$. The number of quantum states in the approach of [AISW20, Theorem 3] was mentioned in [WZ25b] to be $O((2^{2n}/\epsilon^2)^3 \cdot \text{polylog}(2^n, 1/\epsilon)) = \text{poly}(1/\epsilon) \cdot \exp(n)$ by using the weak Schur sampling in [MdW16, Section 4.2.2] and the quantum Fourier transform over symmetric groups [KS16]. Another possible implementation noted in [Hay25] is to use the Schur transform in [Ngu23], resulting in $O(2^{2n}/\epsilon^2 \cdot 2^{4n} \cdot \text{polylog}(2^n, 1/\epsilon)) = \text{poly}(1/\epsilon) \cdot \exp(n)$.

- In [WGL⁺24, Theorem III.9], for non-integer constant $q > 1$, they proposed a quantum algorithm for estimating $S_q(\rho)$ with query complexity $\tilde{O}(r^{1/\{\frac{q-1}{2}\}}/\epsilon^{1+1/\{\frac{q-1}{2}\}}) = \text{poly}(r, 1/\epsilon)$, where r is (an upper bound on) the rank of ρ and $\{x\} := x - \lfloor x \rfloor$ denotes the fractional part of x . In [WZL24, Corollary 5], for non-integer constant $q > 1$, they proposed a quantum algorithm for estimating the q -Rényi entropy of a quantum state with query complexity $\tilde{O}(r/\epsilon^{1+\frac{1}{q}}) = \text{poly}(r, 1/\epsilon)$, which also implies a quantum algorithm for estimating $S_q(\rho)$ with query complexity $\text{poly}(r, 1/\epsilon)$ (the reason has been discussed in the last item). For n -qubit quantum state ρ without prior knowledge, by taking $r = 2^n$, their query complexity is then $\text{poly}(2^n, 1/\epsilon) = \text{poly}(1/\epsilon) \cdot \exp(n)$, which is exponentially larger than our $\text{poly}(n, 1/\epsilon)$.

Our efficient quantum estimator for $S_q(\rho)$ where $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$ (Theorem 1.1), combined with our hardness results for TSALLISQED_q and TSALLISQEA_q (Theorem 1.2), indicates a sharp phase transition between the case of $q = 1$ and constant $q > 1$ and answers to Question (a) and (b). For clarity, we summarize our main results in Table 1.

	$q = 1$	$1 < q \leq 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$	$1 + \Omega(1) \leq q \leq 2$	$q > 2$
TSALLISQED_q	QSZK-complete [BASTS10]	QSZK-hard Theorem 1.2(2)	BQP-complete Theorems 1.1 and 1.2(1)	in BQP Theorem 1.1
TSALLISQEA_q	NIQSZK-complete [BASTS10, CCKV08]	NIQSZK-hard* Theorem 1.2(2)	BQP-complete Theorems 1.1 and 1.2(1)	in BQP Theorem 1.1

Table 1: Computational hardness of TSALLISQED_q and TSALLISQEA_q .

Here, QSZK and NISZK are the classes of promise problems possessing quantum statistical zero-knowledge and non-interactive quantum statistical zero-knowledge, respectively, as introduced by [Wat02, Wat09] and [Kob03]. The asterisk in Table 1 indicates that TSALLISQEA_q is NISZK-hard for a specific $q(n) = 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$, as detailed in Theorem 1.2(2).

For the case of $q = 1$, TSALLISQED_q and TSALLISQEA_q coincide with the QUANTUM ENTROPY DIFFERENCE PROBLEM (QED) and the QUANTUM ENTROPY APPROXIMATION PROBLEM (QEA) introduced in [BASTS10], respectively. Moreover, QED is complete for the class QSZK [BASTS10], whereas QEA is complete for the class NISZK [BASTS10, CCKV08]. These two classes contain BQP and are seemingly much harder than BQP.⁶ Meanwhile, the best known upper bound for QSZK is QIP(2) with a quantum linear-space honest prover [LLW26], and the best known upper bound for NISZK is qq-QAM [KLG19], both of which are contained in $\text{QIP}(2) \subseteq \text{PSPACE}$ [JW09].

In terms of *quantitative* bounds on quantum query and sample complexities, QSZK-hard or NISZK-hard in the white-box setting correspond to rank-dependent complexities in black-box settings. Specifically, we establish lower bounds for both the easy regime $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$ and the hard regime $1 < q \leq 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$, with the upper bounds for the hard regime derived from those for estimating quantum Rényi entropy, as detailed in Table 2.

On the other hand, understanding why the regime $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$ is computationally easy can be illustrated by the case of $q = 2$ (PURITY ESTIMATION), particularly deciding whether $\text{tr}(\rho^2)$

⁶Following the oracle separation between NISZK and PP [BCH⁺19], it holds that $\text{NISZK}^\mathcal{O} \not\subseteq \text{PP}^\mathcal{O}$ and likewise $\text{QSZK}^\mathcal{O} \not\subseteq \text{PP}^\mathcal{O}$ for some classical oracle \mathcal{O} .

⁷In these bounds, $c > 0$ is a constant that can be made arbitrarily small, and we set $c' = 3c$.

⁸In the regime $1 \leq q \leq 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$, as the rank r approaches 2^n , a sample complexity upper bound of $O(4^n/\epsilon^2)$ with better dependence on ϵ was given in [AISW20].

⁹As the rank r approaches 2^n , a better query complexity upper bound of $\tilde{O}(2^n/\epsilon^{1.5})$ was shown in [GL20].

Regime of q	Query Complexity		Sample Complexity	
	Upper Bound	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Lower Bound
$q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$	$O(1/\epsilon^{1+\frac{1}{q-1}})$ Theorem 3.2	$\Omega(1/\sqrt{\epsilon})$ Theorem 5.12	$\tilde{O}(1/\epsilon^{3+\frac{2}{q-1}})$ Theorem 3.3	$\Omega(1/\epsilon)$ Theorem 5.15
$1 < q \leq 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$	$\tilde{O}(r/\epsilon^2)$ [WZL24]	$\Omega(r^{0.17-c})^7$ Theorem 5.13	$\tilde{O}(r^2/\epsilon^5)^8$ [WZ25b]	$\Omega(r^{0.51-c'})^7$ Theorem 5.16
$q = 1$	$\tilde{O}(r/\epsilon^2)^9$ [WGL ⁺ 24]	$\tilde{\Omega}(\sqrt{r})$ [BKT20]	$\tilde{O}(r^2/\epsilon^5)^8$ [WZ25b]	$\Omega(r/\epsilon)$ [WZ25b]

Table 2: (Rank-dependent) bounds on query and sample complexities for estimating $S_q(\rho)$.

is at least $2/3$ or at most $1/3$. Let $\{\lambda_k\}_{k \in [2^n]}$ be the eigenvalues of an n -qubit quantum state ρ . For any quantum state $\hat{\rho}$ having eigenvalues at most $1/n$, it follows that $\text{tr}(\hat{\rho}^2) = \sum_{k \in [2^n]} \lambda_k^2 \leq n \cdot n^{-2} = 1/n$, hence 0 provides a good estimate of $\text{tr}(\hat{\rho}^2)$ to within additive error $1/3$. This intuition implies that only sufficiently large eigenvalues contribute to estimating the value of $\text{tr}(\rho^2)$. Consequently, the computational complexity of PURITY ESTIMATION is supposed to be independent of the rank r .

However, this argument is just the first step towards establishing an efficient quantum estimator for $S_q(\rho)$.¹⁰ We also need to estimate $\sum_{k \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{large}}} \lambda_k^q$, where $\mathcal{I}_{\text{large}}$ is the index set for sufficiently large eigenvalue λ_k . For the case of integer $q > 1$, the approach of [BCWdW01, EAO⁺02] equipped with quantum amplitude estimation [BHMT02] provides a solution, whereas the case of non-integer $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$ is more challenging and requires more sophisticated techniques. Notably, the task is finally resolved by our first main result (Theorem 1.1).

Lastly, we provide our second main result, namely the computational hardness for TSALLISQED $_q$ and TSALLISQEA $_q$, as stated in Theorem 1.2. Let CONSTRANKTSALLISQED $_q$ and CONSTRANKTSALLISQEA $_q$ denote restricted variants of TSALLISQED $_q$ and TSALLISQEA $_q$, respectively, such that the ranks of the states of interest are at most $O(1)$.

Theorem 1.2 (Computational hardness for TSALLISQED $_q$ and TSALLISQEA $_q$, informal). *The promise problems TSALLISQED $_q$ and TSALLISQEA $_q$ capture the computational power of their respective complexity classes in the corresponding regimes of q :*¹¹

- (1) **Easy regimes:** For any $q \in [1, 2]$, CONSTRANKTSALLISQED $_q$ is BQP-hard under Karp reduction, and consequently, CONSTRANKTSALLISQEA $_q$ is BQP-hard under Turing reduction. As a corollary, TSALLISQED $_q$ and TSALLISQEA $_q$ are BQP-complete for $1 + \Omega(1) \leq q \leq 2$.
- (2) **Hard regimes:** For any $q \in \left(1, 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}\right]$, TSALLISQED $_q$ is QSZK-hard under Karp reduction, and consequently, TSALLISQEA $_q$ is QSZK-hard under Turing reduction. Furthermore, for $q = 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$, TSALLISQEA $_q$ is NISZK-hard under Karp reduction.

It is noteworthy that BQP-hardness under Turing reduction is as strong as BQP-hardness under Karp reduction, due to the BQP subroutine theorem [BBBV97].¹² Moreover, Theorem 1.2 implies a direct corollary, offering a positive answer to Question (b):

¹⁰A similar argument also applies to the classical Tsallis entropy, see [AOST17, Section III.C]. Nevertheless, this type of argument does not extend to von Neumann entropy ($q = 1$), see [QKW24, Section 7].

¹¹For detailed definitions of Karp reduction and Turing reduction, please refer to Section 2.2.1.

¹²Once we have an efficient quantum algorithm \mathcal{A} for TSALLISQEA $_q$, any problem in BQP can be solved using \mathcal{A} as a subroutine. The BQP subroutine theorem, as stated in [BBBV97, Section 4], implies that $\text{BQP}^{\mathcal{A}} \subseteq \text{BQP}$.

Corollary 1.3. PURITY ESTIMATION *is* BQP-hard.

Interestingly, the BQP-hardness for a similar problem, specifically deciding whether $\text{tr}(\rho_0\rho_1)$ is at least $2/3$ or at most $1/3$, turns out to be not difficult to show.¹³ However, this result does not imply Corollary 1.3.

1.2 Proof techniques: BQP containment for q constantly larger than 1

The proof of Theorem 1.1 consists of an efficient quantum (query) algorithm for estimating the value of $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$ for $q > 1$, given quantum query access to the state-preparation circuit Q of the mixed quantum state ρ . Our approach to estimating $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$ is via one-bit precision phase estimation [Kit95], also known as the Hadamard test [AJL09], equipped with the quantum singular value transformation (QSVT) [GSLW19]. Our algorithm is sketched in the following four steps (see Section 3 for more details):

1. Find a good polynomial approximation of x^{q-1} .
2. Implement a unitary block-encoding U of ρ^{q-1} using QSVT, with the state-preparation circuit Q .
3. Perform the Hadamard test on U and ρ with outcome $b \in \{0, 1\}$.
4. One can learn the value of $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$ from a good estimate of b via quantum amplitude estimation.

The idea is simple. Similar ideas were ever used to estimate the fidelity [GP22], trace distance [WZ24, LLW26], and von Neumann entropy [LLW26, WZ25b]. However, all of the aforementioned quantum algorithms have query or time complexity polynomials in the rank r of quantum states. Additionally, all these prior works rely on the quantum singular value transformation [GSLW19], which is a technique for designing quantum algorithms by approximating the target functions.¹⁴ The main technical reason is that the functions to be approximated in their key steps are not smooth in the whole range of $[0, 1]$, so they have to use the polynomial approximations of piece-wise smooth functions in [GSLW19, Corollary 23] to avoid the bad part (which is actually the regime of tiny eigenvalues);¹⁵ this results in an estimation error dependent on r because, technically, the error for each bad eigenvalue has to be bounded individually (there are at most r bad eigenvalues), thereby introducing an (at least) linear r -dependence. Specifically, in their approaches, a target function $f(x)$ is specified and the goal is to estimate the value of $\text{tr}(\rho f(\rho))$. For example, $f(x) = -\log(x)$ for estimating the von Neumann entropy. The target function $f(x)$ is usually only approximated well in the range $x \in [\delta, 1]$ for some parameter δ , while leaving the rest range of x unspecified; more precisely, $f(x)$ is approximated by a polynomial $P(x)$ by, e.g., [GSLW19, Corollary 23], such that

$$\max_{x \in [\delta, 1]} |P(x) - f(x)| \leq \epsilon, \quad \max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |P(x)| \leq 1, \quad \text{and} \quad \deg(P) = O\left(\frac{1}{\delta} \log \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right). \quad (1)$$

Then, they instead estimate the value of $\text{tr}(\rho P(\rho))$. The intrinsic error turns out to be

$$|\text{tr}(\rho f(\rho)) - \text{tr}(\rho P(\rho))| \leq \sum_{\lambda_j < \delta} |\lambda_j f(\lambda_j) - \lambda_j P(\lambda_j)| + \sum_{\lambda_j \geq \delta} |\lambda_j f(\lambda_j) - \lambda_j P(\lambda_j)| \leq r \cdot \text{poly}(\delta) + O(\epsilon).$$

Here, $\{\lambda_j\}_{1 \leq j \leq 2^n}$ are the eigenvalues of the state ρ , with each λ_j satisfying $0 \leq \lambda_j \leq 1$. To make the intrinsic error bounded, δ must be sufficiently small, e.g., $\delta = 1/\text{poly}(r)$.

¹³For any BQP circuit C_x , the acceptance probability $\| |1\rangle\langle 1|_{\text{out}} C_x |\bar{0}\rangle \|_2^2 = \text{tr}(|1\rangle\langle 1|_{\text{out}} C_x |\bar{0}\rangle\langle \bar{0}| C_x^\dagger) = \text{tr}(\rho_0 \rho_1)$, where $\rho_0 := |1\rangle\langle 1|_{\text{out}}$ and $\rho_1 := \text{tr}_{\text{out}}(C_x |\bar{0}\rangle\langle \bar{0}| C_x^\dagger)$. Similar observations appeared in [Kob03, Theorem 9].

¹⁴For example, estimating the fidelity and trace distance requires to approximate the sign function; and estimating the von Neumann entropy requires to approximate the logarithmic function.

¹⁵These eigenvalues correspond to the inputs of the target function.

The above standard method has drawbacks: the intrinsic error is $r \cdot \text{poly}(\delta)$ for the small-eigenvalue part and $O(\epsilon)$ for the large-eigenvalue part. While the ϵ -dependence in the approximation degree is logarithmic (and thus not the dominating term), the δ -dependence is significant. This suggests the need for the following trade-off: Can we reduce the error caused by the small-eigenvalue part, at the cost of a possibly worse error caused by the large-eigenvalue part?

To make this trade-off possible for our purpose, we turn to find polynomials that uniformly approximate the positive power functions. This is inspired by the Stone-Weierstrass theorem, stating that any continuous function (e.g., x^q) on a closed interval (e.g., $[0, 1]$) can be uniformly approximated by polynomials. The study of the *best uniform approximation* (by polynomials)¹⁶ of positive power functions was initiated by Bernstein [Ber14, Ber38] almost a century ago in an abstract manner.¹⁷ The best uniform approximation polynomial of x^q was shown with a non-constructive proof in [Tim63, Section 7.1.41], stating that there is a family of polynomials $P_d(x)$ of degree d such that

$$\max_{x \in [0,1]} |P_d(x) - x^q| \rightarrow \frac{1}{dq}, \text{ as } d \rightarrow \infty, \quad (2)$$

whose approximation range is in sharp contrast to that in Equation (1). However, the coefficients of the leading error terms and the explicit construction of these polynomial approximations seem still not fully understood (e.g., [Gan02]). Consequently, it is somewhat challenging to directly use such polynomial approximations (e.g., [Tim63, Section 7.1.41]) in a time-efficient manner.

Inspired by the result of the best uniform approximation of positive power functions in [Tim63], we, instead, aim to find a good enough uniform approximation that is also efficiently computable. This is achieved by employing the construction of asymptotically best uniform approximation via combining Chebyshev truncations and the de La Vallée Poussin partial sum (cf. [Riv90, Chapter 3]). Finally, we obtain a family of efficiently computable uniform approximation polynomials of (scaled) x^q that are suitable for QSVT:

$$\max_{x \in [0,1]} \left| P(x) - \frac{1}{2}x^q \right| \leq \epsilon, \quad \max_{x \in [-1,1]} |P(x)| \leq 1, \quad \text{and } \deg(P) = O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon^{1/q}}\right). \quad (3)$$

Using these efficiently computable uniform approximation polynomials, we are able to give a quantum algorithm for estimating $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$. First, we approximate the function x^{q-1} in the range $[0, 1]$ to error ϵ by a polynomial of degree $O(1/\epsilon^{\frac{1}{q-1}})$. Then, we can apply the algorithm sketched at the very beginning of this subsection. With further analysis, we can estimate the value of $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$ to additive error ϵ with quantum query complexity $O(1/\epsilon^{1+\frac{1}{q-1}})$ (see Theorem 3.2). Using the same idea, we can also estimate $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$ to additive error ϵ by using $\tilde{O}(1/\epsilon^{3+\frac{2}{q-1}})$ copies of ρ through the sampler [WZ25b] (see Theorem 3.3).

To conclude this subsection, it can be seen that our quantum algorithm for estimating $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$ is naturally applicable to solving TSALLISQED_q and TSALLISQEA_q . Particularly for the precision in the regime $1/\text{poly}(n) \leq \epsilon \leq 1$, the efficiently-computability of the uniform approximation polynomials in Equation (3) ensures that the description of the quantum circuit of our algorithm can be computed by a classical deterministic Turing machine in $\text{poly}(n)$ time, which is a significant step to show the BQP-completeness of TSALLISQED_q and TSALLISQEA_q for $1 + \Omega(1) \leq q \leq 2$ and precision $1/\text{poly}(n) \leq \epsilon \leq 1$.

¹⁶The best uniform approximation polynomial of a continuous function $f(x)$ on $[-1, 1]$ is a degree- d polynomial that minimizes $\max_{x \in [-1,1]} |f(x) - P_d(x)|$ over all degree- d polynomials P_d . For a formal definition, see Section 2.3.1.

¹⁷Actually, the function $|x|^q$ for $x \in [-1, 1]$ is commonly considered in the literature. Nevertheless, we are only interested in the non-negative part, i.e., the range $[0, 1]$.

1.3 Proof techniques: Hardness via QJT_q -based reductions

Before we proceed with the proof of Theorem 1.2, we start by defining the (white-box) quantum state testing problem with respect to the trace distance, which was first introduced in [Wat02]. Let ρ_0 and ρ_1 be n -qubit quantum states such that their purifications can be prepared by polynomial-size quantum circuits Q_0 and Q_1 , respectively. The QUANTUM STATE DISTINGUISHABILITY PROBLEM (QSD) is to decide whether the trace distance $T(\rho_0, \rho_1)$ is at least $1 - \epsilon(n)$ or at most $\epsilon(n)$. Furthermore, we need the other two restricted versions of QSD, see Section 2.2 for formal definitions:

- PUREQSD: Both ρ_0 and ρ_1 are pure states.
- QSCMM: ρ_1 is fixed to be the n -qubit maximally mixed state.¹⁸

The proof of Theorem 1.2, particularly the hardness results under Karp reduction, utilizes reductions from the aforementioned variants of QSD to TSALLISQED_q or TSALLISQEA_q for the respective ranges of q . Next, we will specify two main technical challenges related to the corresponding inequalities necessary for establishing Theorem 1.2:

- (1) For $\text{CONSTRANKTSALLISQED}_q$ and TSALLISQED_q , the key ingredient of these reductions is the quantum q -Jensen–(Shannon–)Tsallis divergence (QJT_q , see Definition 2.10), first introduced in [BH09]. When $q = 1$, the quantum Jensen–Shannon divergence (QJS), defined in [MLP05] (see also Equation (5) for its explicit form), can be expressed as the difference between the von Neumann entropy of two quantum states, due to the additivity of the von Neumann entropy:¹⁹

$$2 \cdot \text{QJS}(\rho_0, \rho_1) = S\left(\left(\frac{\rho_0 + \rho_1}{2}\right) \otimes \left(\frac{\rho_0 + \rho_1}{2}\right)\right) - S(\rho_0 \otimes \rho_1). \quad (4)$$

For $1 < q \leq 2$, the quantum q -Tsallis entropy satisfies only *pseudo-additivity* [Rag95]. Nevertheless, QJT_q can still be interpreted as a *distance version* of the quantum q -Tsallis entropy difference for these values of q . Consequently, the reductions underlying the proof heavily rely on the inequalities between QJT_q and the trace distance. However, such inequalities are currently known only in the case $q = 1$ [FvdG99, Hol73a, BH09], presenting the first technical challenge.

- (2) For TSALLISQEA_q , the reduction essentially relies on the lower and upper bounds on the quantum q -Tsallis entropy of a quantum state ρ in terms of the trace distance between the state and the maximally mixed state, when the trace distance is promised to be a fixed value. These bounds are also only known for the case of $q = 1$ [Vaj70, CCKV08, KLG19], leading to the second technical challenge.

For clarity, we summarize the correspondence between our reductions for establishing Theorem 1.2 and the new inequalities in Table 3, where the q -logarithm $\ln_q(x) := \frac{1-x^{1-q}}{q-1}$.²⁰

Once we have established these new inequalities, together with our new bounds for the Tsallis binary entropy $H_q(x) \leq H_q(\frac{1}{2})\sqrt{4x(1-x)}$ (see Theorem 4.2, where previously only the case of $q = 1$ was known [Lin91, Top01]), we can establish our three hardness results under Karp reduction in Theorem 1.2 through relatively complicated and detailed analyses. The additional two hardness results for $\text{CONSTRANKTSALLISQEA}_q$ and TSALLISQEA_q under Turing reduction in Theorem 1.2 follow straightforwardly from a binary search for promise problems.

¹⁸Precisely speaking, the problem called QUANTUM STATE CLOSENESS TO MAXIMALLY MIXED STATE (QSCMM) is to decide whether $T(\rho, (I/2)^{\otimes n})$ is at most $1/n$ or at least $1 - 1/n$, which is the complement of QSD concerning the same states of interest.

¹⁹Notably, combining Equation (4) with the QSZK-hardness of the quantum state testing problem with respect to QJS, as established in [Liu25b, Lemma 4.15] (Lemma 4.13 in the last arXiv version), yields a simpler proof that QED is QSZK-hard, compared to the approaches in [BASTS10, Section 5.4] and [Liu25b, Corollary 4.3].

²⁰As q approaches 1, the q -logarithm becomes the natural logarithm. For further details and references on q -logarithm, please refer to the beginning of Section 2.1.

Problem	Regime of q	Reduction from	New inequalities
CONSTRANK TSALLISQED $_q$ Theorem 1.2(1)	$1 \leq q \leq 2$	PUREQSD is BQP-hard adapted from [RASW23]	$H_q(\frac{1}{2}) - H_q(\frac{1-T}{2}) \leq \text{QJT}_q \leq H_q(\frac{1}{2})T^q$ Theorem 4.1
TSALLISQED $_q$ Theorem 1.2(2)	$1 \leq q \leq 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$	QSD is QSZK-hard [Wat02, Wat09]	$H_q(\frac{1}{2}) - H_q(\frac{1-T}{2}) \leq \text{QJT}_q$ Theorem 4.1
TSALLISQEA $_q$ Theorem 1.2(2)	$q = 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$	QSCMM is NISZK-hard [Kob03, BASTS10, CCKV08]	$(1-T - \frac{1}{2^n}) \ln_q(2^n) \leq S_q \leq \ln_q(2^n(1-T))$ Lemma 4.10

Table 3: Reductions for TSALLISQED $_q$ and TSALLISQEA $_q$, and the corresponding inequalities.

In the remainder of this subsection, we provide insights into proving the new inequalities in Table 3. The first technical challenge involves establishing the inequalities between QJT_q and the trace distance. The main barrier is to provide the data-processing inequality $\text{QJT}_q(\Phi(\rho_0), \Phi(\rho_1)) \leq \text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1)$ for $1 < q \leq 2$.²¹ This implies that applying any quantum channel Φ on states ρ_0 and ρ_1 does not increase the divergence between them. For $q = 1$, the quantum Jensen–Shannon divergence (QJS) can be decomposed into a sum of quantum relative entropy $D(\rho_0 \parallel \rho_1)$:

$$\text{QJS}(\rho_0, \rho_1) := S\left(\frac{\rho_0 + \rho_1}{2}\right) - \frac{S(\rho_0) + S(\rho_1)}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \left(D\left(\rho_0 \parallel \frac{\rho_0 + \rho_1}{2}\right) + D\left(\rho_1 \parallel \frac{\rho_0 + \rho_1}{2}\right) \right). \quad (5)$$

Since the data-processing inequality (essentially, the joint convexity) for the quantum relative entropy was established decades ago [Lie73, Uhl77], and given the equality in Equation (5), it directly follows that the data-processing inequality also holds for QJS. However, a similar decomposition does not apply to the quantum q -Tsallis entropy when $q \neq 1$. Fortunately, the joint convexity of QJT_q for $1 \leq q \leq 2$, specifically,

$$\text{QJT}_q((1-\lambda)\rho_0 + \lambda\rho'_0, (1-\lambda)\rho_1 + \lambda\rho'_1) \leq (1-\lambda)\text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1) + \lambda\text{QJT}_q(\rho'_0, \rho'_1),$$

was established few years ago [CT14, Vir19], where $0 < \lambda < 1$. As a consequence, once we establish the data-processing inequality for QJT_q , we can then generalize the inequalities between QJS and the trace distance to QJT_q for $1 \leq q \leq 2$, using the same approach applied to QJS.

For the second technical challenge, specifically the bounds for $S_q(\rho)$ when $T(\rho, (I/2)^{\otimes n}) = \gamma$ is fixed, it suffices to focus on the classical counterpart,²² as the maximally mixed state commutes with any state ρ . The lower bound can be established by following the approach in [KLG19] for $q = 1$. On the other hand, the upper bound for $q = 1$ can be derived using Vajda’s inequality [Vaj70], but similar results for $q \neq 1$ are unknown. However, by assuming an appropriate condition between q and the fixed distance γ , we can deduce an upper bound analogous to the $q = 1$ case.

1.4 Discussion and open problems

Our first main theorem (Theorem 1.1) provides an efficiently computable lower bound for the von Neumann entropy $S(\rho)$. This naturally raises the question:

- (i) Is there an efficiently computable upper bound for $S(\rho)$, perhaps based on some relaxed

²¹We generalize the approach in [BH09] for $q = 1$. Using the data-processing inequality with a measurement channel, we can establish the lower bound via the measured version of QJT_q (see Equation (7)) and the classical counterpart inequality for JT_q in [BH09]. For the upper bound, we construct new states $\hat{\rho}_0$ and $\hat{\rho}_1$ with an ancillary qubit, making $\text{QJT}_q(\hat{\rho}_0, \hat{\rho}_1)$ related to the trace distance for $1 < q \leq 2$ (and coincide with the trace distance for $q = 1$). Applying the data-processing inequality with the partial trace, we obtain $\text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1) \leq \text{QJT}_q(\hat{\rho}_0, \hat{\rho}_1)$.

²²More specifically, let p denote the distribution of the eigenvalues of ρ , and let ν be the uniform distribution over 2^n items. This task is exactly equivalent to proving the bounds for $H_q(p)$ when $\text{TV}(p, \nu) = \gamma$ is fixed.

notion of the von Neumann entropy?

The quantum Tsallis entropy $S_q(\rho)$ in the regime $1 < q < 2$ exhibits distinct behavior compared to both $S(\rho)$ and $S_2(\rho) = 1 - \text{tr}(\rho^2)$, leading to another open problem:

- (ii) Can we find further applications of estimating $S_q(\rho)$ in the regime $1 < q < 2$?

Moreover, two open problems arise regarding quantitative bounds and (NI)QSZK containments:

- (iii) Can the query and sample bounds in Table 2 be improved, especially for $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$?
- (iv) Can we establish that TSALLISQED_q (or TSALLISQEA_q) in the regime $1 < q < 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$, as specified in Theorem 1.2(2), is also contained in QSZK (or NIQSZK)?

Lastly, it is natural to consider generalizations of the von Neumann entropy tighter than $S_q(\rho)$ for $q > 1$, particularly $S_q(\rho)$ for $0 < q < 1$ and the quantum Rényi entropy $S_\alpha^R(\rho) := \frac{\ln \text{tr}(\rho^\alpha)}{1-\alpha}$:

- (v) What are the containment and hardness of estimating $S_q(\rho)$ in the regime $0 < q < 1$?
- (vi) Since RÉNYIQEA_α for $1 < \alpha \leq \frac{1}{n-1}$ is *intuitively* QSZK-hard, as per Theorem 1.2(2), can we obtain (rigorous) computational hardness results for estimating $S_\alpha^R(\rho)$ with $\alpha > 0$?

1.5 Related works

(Quantum) property testing for probability distributions. (Near-)optimal classical estimators are known for Shannon, Rényi, and Tsallis entropies [JVHW15, JVHW17, WY16, AOST17]. Quantum testers for classical probability distributions were initiated in [BHH11]. Quantum algorithms for ℓ_1 distance of probability distributions were investigated in [BHH11, CFMdW10, Mon15, GL20, LWL24]. Quantum estimators for the Shannon and Rényi entropies were proposed in [LW19, GL20, WZL24]. Notably, matching query lower bounds for estimating the Shannon entropy and ℓ_1 distance from the uniform distribution were shown in [BKT20].

Quantum property testing for quantum states. Quantum sample complexities for a series of problems have been studied in the literature. For von Neumann entropy and Rényi entropy estimations, the dimension-dependence was studied in [AISW20], the dependence on the reciprocal of the minimum non-zero eigenvalue of the quantum state was studied in [WZW23], and the rank-dependence and time-efficiency were studied in [WZ25b]. Other problems include tomography [HHJ⁺17, OW16], spectrum testing [OW21], closeness testing or estimation with respect to fidelity and trace distance [BOW19, GP22, WZ24, WZ26, LWWZ25]. Quantum inner product estimation is a basic task and is well-known to be solved by the SWAP test [BCWdW01]. Recently, a distributed quantum algorithm for quantum inner product estimation was given in [ALL22], where they also provided a matching lower bound; this was later generalized to fidelity estimation between pure states with limited quantum communications [AS25]. As a special case of quantum inner product estimation, tight bounds for purity estimation with and without restricted quantum measurements were shown in [CWLY23, GHYZ26, LGDC24].

The quantum query complexities are also extensively studied. For von Neumann entropy estimation, the dimension-dependence was studied in [GL20], the dependence on the reciprocal of the minimum non-zero eigenvalue of the quantum state was studied in [CLW20], the multiplicative error-dependence was studied in [GHS21], and the rank-dependence was studied in [WGL⁺24]. In [SLLJ25], they presented a rank-dependent estimator for the q -Tsallis entropy with integer q larger than the rank of quantum states. Additionally, a dimension-dependent estimator for the quantities $\{\text{tr}(\rho^k)\}_{k=1}^N$ was given in [WSP⁺24]. For Rényi entropy estimation, the query complexity was first studied in [SH21], the rank-dependence was studied in [WGL⁺24], and was later improved in [WZL24]. Other problems include tomography [vACGN23], and the estimations of fidelity and trace distance [WZC⁺23, WGL⁺24, GP22, WZ24, Wan24, LWWZ25].

In [GH20], the QUANTUM ENTROPY DIFFERENCE PROBLEM (with respect to von Neumann entropy) with shallow circuits was shown to have (conditional) hardness. The computational

complexity of the space-bounded versions of the QUANTUM ENTROPY DIFFERENCE PROBLEM and QUANTUM STATE DISTINGUISHABILITY PROBLEM were studied in [LLW26].

Quantum algorithms for estimating the Schatten p -norm. Estimating the Schatten p -norm, $\text{tr}(|A|^p)$, of an $O(\log n)$ -local Hermitian matrix A on n qubits to within an additive error of $2^{n-p}\epsilon\|A\|^p$, where $\epsilon(n) \leq 1/\text{poly}(n)$ and real $p(n) \leq \text{poly}(n)$, was proven to be DQC1-complete in [CM18]. In [LS20], with a unitary block-encoding of a matrix A , a quantum algorithm was proposed for estimating the Schatten p -norm, $(\text{tr}(|A|^p))^{1/p}$, to relative error ϵ for integer p . This algorithm requires a condition number κ such that $A \geq I/\kappa$, particularly when p is odd.

Recent developments. More than six months after the release of our work, a related dichotomy – analogous to our results in Theorems 1.1 and 1.2 – was established in [LW25a], concerning the computational complexity of estimating the quantum ℓ_a distance defined via the Schatten norm. While our query complexity upper bound for estimating $S_q(\rho)$ in the regime $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$ (Theorem 3.2) remains the state of the art, the sample complexity upper bound (Theorem 3.3) was subsequently improved in [CW25], which appeared in the same month. This improvement, based on a more direct approach using weak Schur sampling, made progress on our open problem (iii). Specifically, [CW25] obtained a bound of $\tilde{\Theta}(1/\epsilon^2)$ for $q > 2$, and bounds of $\tilde{O}(1/\epsilon^{\frac{2}{q-1}})$ and $\Omega(1/\epsilon^{\max\{\frac{1}{q-1}, 2\}})$ for $1 + \Omega(1) \leq q < 2$. Another follow-up work [CWYZ25], also released that month, established a sample complexity lower bound of $\Omega(q/\epsilon^2)$ for estimating $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$ when q is an integer. One year after the release of our work, it was shown in [Wan25] that the quantum query complexity of estimating $S_q(\rho)$ is $\tilde{\Theta}(1/\sqrt{q}\epsilon)$ for integer $q \geq 2$. Later, it was established in [Liu26] that $\text{CONSTRAINTSALLISQEA}_q$ is BQP-hard under Karp reduction for all $q > 0$. This result extends the BQP-hard regime $1 \leq q \leq 2$ identified in our work (Theorem 5.8), and further implies that both TSALLISQEA_q and TSALLISQED_q are BQP-complete for all $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$. More recently, one and a half years after the release of our work, rank-dependent sample complexity upper and lower bounds for estimating $S_q(\rho)$ in the real-valued regime $0 < q < 1$, together with the corresponding NIQSZK-hardness results, were established in [CLW26].

In addition to the aforementioned progress in quantum state testing, our efficient uniform approximation of the positive constant power function (Lemma 3.1) has been recently used to learn the q -th singular value moments of unknown quantum channels for real $q > 2$ in [NRTM25].

2 Preliminaries

We assume that the reader is familiar with quantum computation and the theory of quantum information. For an introduction, the textbook [NC10] provides a good starting point.

We adopt the following conventions throughout the paper: (1) we denote $[n] := \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$; (2) we use both notations, $\log(x)$ and $\ln(x)$, to represent the natural logarithm for any $x \in \mathbb{R}^+$; (3) the notation $\tilde{O}(f)$ is defined as $O(f \text{polylog}(f))$; (4) we utilize the notation $|\bar{0}\rangle$ to represent $|0\rangle^{\otimes a}$ with $a > 1$; and (5) we use $\|A\|$ to denote the operator norm (equivalently, the Schatten ∞ -norm) of a matrix A .

Notions on linear maps and quantum channels. We recommend [AS17, Section 2.3] as an introduction on superoperators and quantum channels. Let \mathcal{H}_1 and \mathcal{H}_2 be finite-dimensional Hilbert spaces with $\dim(\mathcal{H}_i) = N_i = 2^{n_i}$ for $i \in \{1, 2\}$. Let $L(\mathcal{H}_1, \mathcal{H}_2)$ denote linear maps from \mathcal{H}_1 to \mathcal{H}_2 , and specifically, let $L(\mathcal{H})$ denote linear maps from \mathcal{H} to \mathcal{H} . A map $\Phi: L(\mathcal{H}_1) \rightarrow L(\mathcal{H}_2)$ is called *self-adjointness-preserving* if $\Phi(X^\dagger) = (\Phi(X))^\dagger$ for any $X \in L(\mathcal{H}_1)$. We further say that a self-adjointness-preserving map $\Phi: L(\mathcal{H}_1) \rightarrow L(\mathcal{H}_2)$ is a *quantum channel* if Φ is a completely positive trace-preserving map. Here, a map Φ is *trace-preserving* if $\text{tr}(\Phi(X)) = \text{tr}(X)$ for any

$X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}_1)$. Let $\{|v_i\rangle\}_{i \in [N_1]}$ be an orthonormal basis of \mathcal{H}_1 , and a map Φ is *completely positive* if $\Phi \otimes I_n$ is positive for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, where I_n is the identity map of the dimension n .

Let $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H})$ be the set of all density operators, which are semi-positive and trace-one matrices on \mathcal{H} . Let the trace norm of a linear map X be $\|X\|_1 := \text{tr}(\sqrt{X^\dagger X})$. For any quantum channels \mathcal{E} and \mathcal{F} that act on $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H})$, the *diamond norm distance* between them is defined as

$$\|\mathcal{E} - \mathcal{F}\|_\diamond := \sup_{\rho \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{H}')} \|(\mathcal{E} \otimes \mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{H}'}) (\rho) - (\mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{H}'}) (\rho)\|_1.$$

2.1 Closeness measures for distributions and quantum states

Since both classical and quantum Tsallis entropy are central to this paper, we introduce the *q-logarithm* function $\ln_q: \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ for any real $q \neq 1$:

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^+, \quad \ln_q(x) := \frac{1 - x^{1-q}}{q - 1}.$$

The *q-logarithm* is a generalization of the natural logarithm, as it is straightforward to verify that $\lim_{q \rightarrow 1} \ln_q(x) = \ln(x)$ for any $x \in \mathbb{R}^+$. However, the *q-logarithm* exhibits different behavior when $q \neq 1$, for instance, $\ln_q(xy) = \ln_q(x) + \ln_q(y) + (1-q) \ln_q(x) \ln_q(y)$. For additional properties of the *q-logarithm*, see the references [Tsa01, Appendix] and [Yam02].

In the rest of this subsection, we provide useful closeness measures for probability distributions in Section 2.1.1 and for quantum states in Section 2.1.2, which are later used to prove new inequalities and bounds in Section 4 and to establish the reductions and the corresponding computational hardness results in Section 5. For convenience, we use a general convention $D_1 \leq D_2$ to denote an inequality between two distances or divergences, whether classical or quantum. In particular, this notation, as seen in *the titles of technical lemmas* (e.g., Lemma 2.5), indicates that D_1 is bounded above by a function f of D_2 , i.e., $D_1 \leq f(D_2)$; or that D_2 is bounded below by a function g of D_1 , i.e., $g(D_1) \leq D_2$.

2.1.1 Closeness measures for classical probability distributions

We begin by defining the total variation distance:

Definition 2.1 (Total variation distance). *Let p_0 and p_1 be two probability distributions over $[N]$. The total variation distance between two p_0 and p_1 is defined by*

$$\text{TV}(p_0, p_1) := \frac{1}{2} \|p_0 - p_1\|_1 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x \in [N]} |p_0(x) - p_1(x)|.$$

Then we define the Tsallis entropy and provide useful properties of the Tsallis entropy.

Definition 2.2 (*q*-Tsallis entropy and Shannon entropy). *Let p be a probability distribution over $[N]$. The *q*-Tsallis entropy of p is defined by*

$$\mathbb{H}_q(p) := \frac{1 - \sum_{x \in [N]} p(x)^q}{q - 1} = - \sum_{x \in [N]} p(x)^q \ln_q(p(x)).$$

The Shannon entropy is the limiting case of the *q*-Tsallis entropy as $q \rightarrow 1$:

$$\mathbb{H}_1(p) := \lim_{q \rightarrow 1} \mathbb{H}_q(p) \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{q \rightarrow 1} \mathbb{H}_q(p) = \mathbb{H}(p) := - \sum_{x \in [N]} p(x) \ln(p(x)).$$

For $N = 2$, we slightly abuse the notation by writing the *q*-Tsallis binary entropy and the (Shannon) binary entropy as $\mathbb{H}_q(p_0) = \mathbb{H}_q(1 - p_0) = \mathbb{H}_q(p)$ and $\mathbb{H}(p_0) = \mathbb{H}(1 - p_0) = \mathbb{H}(p)$, respectively.

It is noteworthy that the properties in Lemma 2.3 were also provided in [Tsa88] without proofs. In addition, by considering the eigenvalues of any quantum state, Lemma 2.3 straightforwardly extends to quantum q -Tsallis entropy (see Definition 2.8).

Lemma 2.3 (Basic properties of Tsallis entropy, partially adapted from [Dar70]). *Let p and p' be two probability distributions over $[N]$ with $N \geq 2$, and let ν be the uniform distribution over $[N]$. We have the following properties of the Tsallis entropy $H_q(p)$ with $q > 0$:*

- **Concavity:** For any $\lambda \in [0, 1]$, $H_q((1 - \lambda)p + \lambda p') \geq (1 - \lambda)H_q(p) + \lambda H_q(p')$. Equivalently, $F(q; x) := \frac{x - x^q}{q - 1}$ is concave in $x \in [0, 1]$ for any fixed $q > 0$, and $H_q(p) = \sum_{i \in [N]} F(q; p(i))$.
- **Extremes:** $0 \leq H_q(p) \leq H_q(\nu) = \frac{1 - n^{1-q}}{q - 1}$. Specifically, $H_q(p) = H_q(\nu)$ occurs when $p = \nu$, and $H_q(p) = 0$ occurs when $p(i) = \begin{cases} 1, & i = k \\ 0, & i \neq k \end{cases}$ for any $k \in [N]$.
- **Monotonicity:** For any q and q' satisfying $0 < q \leq q'$, $H_q(p) \geq H_{q'}(p)$.

Proof. For the first item, by inspecting the proof of [Dar70, Theorem 6], we know that $\frac{x - x^q}{1 - 2^{1-q}} \cdot \frac{1 - 2^{1-q}}{q - 1} = F(q; x)$ is concave in $x \in [0, 1]$ for any fixed $q \neq 1$. It is easy to verify that $H_q(p) = \sum_{i \in [N]} F(q; p(i))$, we have that $H_q(p)$ is concave.

For the second item, note that $\frac{q-1}{1-2^{1-q}} \geq 0$ for $q \neq 1$ and $\lim_{q \rightarrow 1} \frac{q-1}{1-2^{1-q}} = \frac{1}{\ln 2}$. Hence, by [Dar70, Theorem 6], we deduce $0 \leq H_q(p) \leq H_q(\nu)$. Moreover, because $F(q; x)$ is non-negative and $F(q; x) = 0$ occurs when $x = 1$, we conclude that $H_q(p) = 0$ occurs when p satisfies the desired condition.

For the third item, since $\lim_{q \rightarrow 1} H_q(x) = H(x)$, it is enough to show that $\frac{\partial}{\partial q} H_q(x) \leq 0$ for any $q \neq 1$ and $x \in [0, 1]$. Given that $H_q(p) = \sum_{i \in [n]} F(q; p(i))$, it remains to prove that $\frac{\partial}{\partial q} F(q; x) \leq 0$, specifically:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial q} F(q; x) = -\frac{x - x^q}{(q - 1)^2} - \frac{x^q \log(x)}{q - 1} \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow G(q; x) := x^q - x - (q - 1)x^q \log(x) \leq 0. \quad (6)$$

A direct calculation implies that $\frac{\partial}{\partial q} G(q; x) = -(q - 1)x^q \ln^2(x)$ for any $x \in [0, 1]$. This inequality shows that for any fixed $x \in [0, 1]$, $G(q; x)$ is monotonically increasing for $0 < q \leq 1$ and monotonically decreasing for $q > 1$. Hence, by noticing $\max_{q \geq 0} G(q; x) \leq G(1; x) = 0$ for any $x \in [0, 1]$, we establish Equation (6) and the monotonicity. \square

Next, we define a variant of the Jensen–Shannon divergence based on the q -Tsallis entropy:

Definition 2.4 (q -Jensen–(Shannon–)Tsallis divergence, adapted from [BR82]). *Let p_0 and p_1 be two probability distributions over $[N]$. The q -Jensen–(Shannon–)Tsallis divergence between p_0 and p_1 is defined as*

$$\text{JT}_q(p_0, p_1) := \begin{cases} H_q\left(\frac{p_0 + p_1}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{2}(H_q(p_0) + H_q(p_1)), & q \neq 1 \\ H\left(\frac{p_0 + p_1}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{2}(H(p_0) + H(p_1)), & q = 1 \end{cases}.$$

Specifically, the Jensen–Shannon divergence $\text{JS}(p_0, p_1) = \text{JT}_1(p_0, p_1)$.

Lastly, we provide a useful bound on the divergence JT_q , which generalizes the bound $H(\frac{1}{2}) - H(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\text{TV}(p_0, p_1)}{2}) \leq \text{JS}(p_0, p_1)$ in [Top00, Theorem 5] for the case of $q = 1$:

Lemma 2.5 ($\text{TV} \leq \text{JT}_q$, adapted from [BH09, Theorem 9]). *Let p_0 and p_1 be two probability distributions over $[N]$. For any $1 \leq q \leq 2$, we have the following inequality:²³*

$$H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - H_q\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\text{TV}(p_0, p_1)}{2}\right) \leq \text{JT}_q(p_0, p_1).$$

²³It is evident that $H_q(\frac{1-x}{2}) = H_q(\frac{1+x}{2})$ for any $x \in [0, 1]$. Moreover, the proof of the lower bound in [BH09, Theorem 9] uses the notation $V(p_0, p_1) := \sum_{i=1}^n |p_0(i) - p_1(i)| = \|p_0 - p_1\|_1 = 2\text{TV}(p_0, p_1)$ defined in [Top00], where p_0 and p_1 are probability distributions over $[N]$.

It is important to note, the joint convexity of JT_q [BR82, Corollary 1] plays a key role in proving Lemma 2.5. And additionally, for $N \geq 3$, the joint convexity of JT_q holds if and only if $q \in [1, 2]$, as stated in [BR82, Corollary 2].

2.1.2 Closeness measures for quantum states

We start by defining the trace distance and providing useful properties of this distance:

Definition 2.6 (Trace distance). *The trace distance between two quantum states ρ_0 and ρ_1 is*

$$\text{T}(\rho_0, \rho_1) := \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(|\rho_0 - \rho_1|) = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \left(\left((\rho_0 - \rho_1)^\dagger (\rho_0 - \rho_1) \right)^{1/2} \right).$$

Importantly, the trace distance is a measured version of the total variation distance [NC10, Theorem 9.1]. In particular, for any classical f -divergence $D_f(\cdot, \cdot)$, let ρ_0 and ρ_1 be two N -dimensional quantum states that are mixed in general, we can define the *measured quantum f -divergence* by considering the probability distributions induced by the POVM \mathcal{M} :

$$D_f^{\text{meas}}(\rho_0, \rho_1) = \sup_{\text{POVM } \mathcal{M}} D_f \left(p_0^{(\mathcal{M})}, p_1^{(\mathcal{M})} \right) \text{ where } p_b^{(\mathcal{M})} := (\text{tr}(\rho_b M_1), \dots, \text{tr}(\rho_b M_N)). \quad (7)$$

Moreover, the trace distance is a distance metric (e.g., [Wil13, Lemma 9.1.8]). In addition, as indicated in [Wil13, Equation (9.134)], for pure states $|\psi_0\rangle$ and $|\psi_1\rangle$, we have

$$\text{T}(|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0|, |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|) = \sqrt{1 - |\langle\psi_0|\psi_1\rangle|^2}. \quad (8)$$

Additionally, the trace distance characterizes the maximum success probability of discriminating quantum states in quantum hypothesis testing, as explained in [Wil13, Section 9.1.4], which is later used in Section 5.5 to prove a sample complexity lower bound:

Lemma 2.7 (Helstrom-Holevo bound [Hel67, Hol73b]). *Suppose that a mixed quantum state ρ is given such that either $\rho = \rho_0$ or $\rho = \rho_1$ with equal probability. Then, any POVM distinguishes the two cases with success probability upper bounded by*

$$p_{\text{succ}} \leq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \text{T}(\rho_0, \rho_1).$$

Next, we define the quantum q -Tsallis entropy, generalizing the von Neumann entropy:

Definition 2.8 (Quantum q -Tsallis entropy and von Neumann entropy). *Let ρ be a (mixed) quantum state. The quantum q -Tsallis entropy of ρ is defined by*

$$S_q(\rho) := \frac{1 - \text{tr}(\rho^q)}{q - 1} = -\text{tr}(\rho^q \ln_q(\rho)).$$

Furthermore, as $q \rightarrow 1$, the quantum q -Tsallis entropy coincides with the von Neumann entropy:

$$S_1(\rho) := \lim_{q \rightarrow 1} S_q(\rho) \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{q \rightarrow 1} S_q(\rho) = S(\rho) := -\text{tr}(\rho \ln(\rho)).$$

Lemma 2.9 (Pseudo-additivity of S_q , adapted from [Rag95, Lemma 3]). *For any quantum states ρ_0 and ρ_1 , and any $q \geq 1$, we have:*

$$S_q(\rho_0 \otimes \rho_1) = S_q(\rho_0) + S_q(\rho_1) - (q - 1)S_q(\rho_0)S_q(\rho_1).$$

Specifically, the equality $S_q(\rho_0 \otimes \rho_1) = S_q(\rho_0) + S_q(\rho_1)$ holds if and only if (a) $q = 1$, or (b) for $q > 1$, either of the states ρ_0 or ρ_1 is pure.

Now we define a variant of the quantum Jensen–Shannon divergence [MLP05] based on the quantum q -Tsallis entropy, as stated in Definition 2.10. Notably, the study of quantum analogs of the Jensen–Shannon divergence could date back to the Holevo bound [Hol73a].²⁴

²⁴The quantum Jensen–Shannon divergence (QJS) is a special case of the Holevo χ quantity (the right-hand side of the Holevo bound [Hol73a]). Following the notations in [NC10, Theorem 12.1], QJS coincides with the Holevo χ quantity on size-2 ensembles with a uniform distribution.

Definition 2.10 (Quantum q -Jensen–(Shannon–)Tsallis Divergence, adapted from [BH09]). *Let ρ_0 and ρ_1 be two quantum states that are mixed in general. The quantum q -Jensen–(Shannon–)Tsallis divergence between ρ_0 and ρ_1 is defined by*

$$\text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1) := \begin{cases} S_q\left(\frac{\rho_0 + \rho_1}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{2}(S_q(\rho_0) + S_q(\rho_1)), & q \neq 1 \\ S\left(\frac{\rho_0 + \rho_1}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{2}(S(\rho_0) + S(\rho_1)), & q = 1 \end{cases}.$$

Specifically, for pure states $|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0|$ and $|\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|$, $\text{QJT}_q(|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0|, |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|) = S_q\left(\frac{|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0| + |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|}{2}\right)$. Furthermore, the quantum Jensen–Shannon divergence $\text{QJS}(\rho_0, \rho_1) = \text{QJT}_1(\rho_0, \rho_1)$.

It is worth noting that the square root of QJT_q is a distance metric when $0 \leq q \leq 2$ [Sra21] (also see [Vir21] for the $q = 1$ case). Moreover, whereas QJS can be expressed as a symmetrized version of the quantum relative entropy $D(\rho_0\|\rho_1) := \text{tr}(\rho_0(\ln(\rho_0) - \ln(\rho_1)))$ by

$$\text{QJS}(\rho_0, \rho_1) = \frac{1}{2} \left(D\left(\rho_0\left\|\frac{\rho_0 + \rho_1}{2}\right.\right) + D\left(\rho_1\left\|\frac{\rho_0 + \rho_1}{2}\right.\right) \right), \quad (9)$$

a similar equality does not hold for QJT_q with respect to the quantum Tsallis relative entropy $D_q(\rho_0\|\rho_1) := \frac{1 - \text{tr}(\rho_0^q \rho_1^{1-q})}{1-q}$ (see, e.g., [FYK04]).²⁵ In addition to QJS, the work of [FvdG99] studied a measured variant of the Jensen–Shannon divergence $\text{QJS}^{\text{meas}}(\rho_0, \rho_1)$ in terms of Equation (7), namely the *quantum Shannon distinguishability*.

Lastly, we provide more useful properties of QJT_q . By combining [FYK07, Theorem 1.5] and [Fur05, Remark V.3], we can immediately derive Lemmas 2.11 and 2.12. In particular, the equality in Lemma 2.12 holds even in a stronger form: $S_q\left(\sum_{i \in [k]} \mu_i \rho_i\right) = H_q(\mu) + \sum_{i \in [k]} \mu_i^q S_q(\rho_i)$ for orthogonal quantum states ρ_1, \dots, ρ_k . Additionally, it is noteworthy that Lemma 2.12 admits a simple proof in [Kim16, Lemma 1].

Lemma 2.11 (Unitary invariance of QJT_q , adapted from [FYK07, Theorem 1.5]). *For any quantum states ρ_0 and ρ_1 , and any unitary transformation U acting on ρ_0 or ρ_1 , it holds that:*

$$\text{QJT}_q(U^\dagger \rho_0 U, U^\dagger \rho_1 U) = \text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1).$$

Lemma 2.12 (Joint q -Tsallis entropy theorem, adapted from [FYK07, Theorem 1.5]). *Let k be an integer, and let $\{\rho_i\}_{i \in [k]}$ be a set of (mixed) quantum states. Let k -tuple $\mu := (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_k)$ be a probability distribution. Then, for any $q \geq 0$, we have the following:*

$$S_q\left(\sum_{i \in [k]} \mu_i |i\rangle\langle i| \otimes \rho_i\right) = H_q(\mu) + \sum_{i \in [k]} \mu_i^q S_q(\rho_i).$$

Following the discussion in [Ras11, Section 3], Fannes’ inequality for the (quantum) q -Tsallis entropy, where $0 \leq q \leq 2$, was established in [FYK07, Theorem 2.4]. Notably, for $S_q(\rho)$ with $q > 1$, a sharper Fannes-type inequality was provided in [Zha07, Theorem 2]:

Lemma 2.13 (Fannes’ inequality for the q -Tsallis entropy, adapted from Theorem 2 and Corollary 2 in [Zha07]). *For any quantum states ρ_0 and ρ_1 of dimension N , we have:*

$$\forall q > 1, |S_q(\rho_0) - S_q(\rho_1)| \leq T(\rho_0, \rho_1)^q \cdot \ln_q(N - 1) + H_q(T(\rho_0, \rho_1)).$$

Moreover, for the case of $q = 1$ (von Neumann entropy), we have:

$$|S(\rho_0) - S(\rho_1)| \leq T(\rho_0, \rho_1) \cdot \ln(N - 1) + H(T(\rho_0, \rho_1)).$$

²⁵A symmetrized version of the quantum Tsallis relative entropy will lead to a different quantity, see [JMDA21].

2.2 Closeness testing of quantum states via state-preparation circuits

We begin by defining the closeness testing of quantum states with respect to the trace distance, denoted as $\text{QSD}[\alpha, \beta]$,²⁶ along with a variant of this promise problem, as described in Definition 2.14. In particular, we say that $\mathcal{P} = (\mathcal{P}_{\text{yes}}, \mathcal{P}_{\text{no}})$ is a *promise* problem, if it satisfies the conditions $\mathcal{P}_{\text{yes}} \cap \mathcal{P}_{\text{no}} = \emptyset$ and $\mathcal{P}_{\text{yes}} \cup \mathcal{P}_{\text{no}} \subseteq \{0, 1\}^*$.

Definition 2.14 (Quantum State Distinguishability, QSD, adapted from [Wat02, Section 3.3]). *Let Q_0 and Q_1 be quantum circuits acting on m qubits (“input length”) and having n specified output qubits (“output length”), where $m(n)$ is a polynomial function of n . Let ρ_i denote the quantum state obtained by running Q_i on state $|0\rangle^{\otimes m}$ and tracing out the non-output qubits. Let $\alpha(n)$ and $\beta(n)$ be efficiently computable functions. Decide whether:*

- Yes: *The pair of quantum circuits (Q_0, Q_1) such that $T(\rho_0, \rho_1) \geq \alpha(n)$;*
- No: *The pair of quantum circuits (Q_0, Q_1) such that $T(\rho_0, \rho_1) \leq \beta(n)$.*

Furthermore, we denote the restricted version, where ρ_0 and ρ_1 are pure states, as PUREQSD.

In addition to QSD, we can similarly define the closeness testing of a quantum state to the maximally mixed state (with respect to the trace distance), denoted as QSCMM $[\beta, \alpha]$:

Definition 2.15 (Quantum State Closeness to Maximally Mixed State, QSCMM, adapt from [Kob03, Section 3]). *Let Q be a quantum circuit acting on m qubits and having n specified output qubits, where $m(n)$ is a polynomial function of n . Let ρ denote the quantum state obtained by running Q on state $|0\rangle^{\otimes m}$ and tracing out the non-output qubits. Let $\alpha(n)$ and $\beta(n)$ be efficiently computable functions. Decide whether:*

- Yes: *The quantum circuit Q such that $T(\rho, (I/2)^{\otimes n}) \leq \beta(n)$;*
- No: *The quantum circuit Q such that $T(\rho, (I/2)^{\otimes n}) \geq \alpha(n)$.*

In this subsection, we first introduce the input models in Section 2.2.1 and summarize useful known hardness results in Section 2.2.2. These results are later combined with our new reductions in Sections 5.1 and 5.2 to derive the new hardness results presented in Section 5.3. Next, we list several query and sample lower bounds in Section 2.2.3, which are later used to establish our new query and sample lower bounds in Sections 5.4 and 5.5 (possibly in combination with the reductions in Sections 5.1 and 5.2).

2.2.1 Input models and the concept of reductions

In this work, we consider the *purified quantum access input model*, as defined in [Wat02], in both white-box and black-box scenarios:

- **White-box input model:** The input of the problem QSD consists of descriptions of polynomial-size quantum circuits Q_0 and Q_1 . Specifically, for $b \in \{0, 1\}$, the description of Q_b includes a sequence of polynomially many 1- and 2-qubit gates.
- **Black-box input model:** In this model, instead of providing the descriptions of the quantum circuits Q_0 and Q_1 , only query access to Q_b is allowed, denoted as O_b for $b \in \{0, 1\}$. For convenience, we also allow query access to Q_b^\dagger and controlled- Q_b , denoted by O_b^\dagger and controlled- O_b , respectively.

²⁶While Definition 2.14 aligns with the classical counterpart of QSD defined in [SV03, Section 2.2], it is slightly less general than the definition in [Wat02, Section 3.3]. Specifically, Definition 2.14 assumes that the input length m and the output length n are *polynomially equivalent*, whereas [Wat02, Section 3.3] allows for cases where the output length (e.g., a single qubit) is *much smaller* than the input length.

Next, the concept of *reductions* between promise problems is used to address computational hardness in the context of the while-box input model, particularly in relation to complexity classes. Following the definitions in [Gol08, Section 2.2.1], we introduce two types of reductions from a promise problem $\mathcal{P} = (\mathcal{P}_{\text{yes}}, \mathcal{P}_{\text{no}})$ to another promise problem $\mathcal{P}' = (\mathcal{P}'_{\text{yes}}, \mathcal{P}'_{\text{no}})$:

- **Karp reduction.** A deterministic polynomial-time computable function f is called a *Karp reduction* from a promise problem \mathcal{P} to another promise problem \mathcal{P}' if, for every x , the following holds: $x \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{yes}}$ if and only if $f(x) \in \mathcal{P}'_{\text{yes}}$, and $x \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{no}}$ if and only if $f(x) \in \mathcal{P}'_{\text{no}}$.
- **Turing reduction.** A promise problem \mathcal{P} is *Turing-reducible* to a promise problem \mathcal{P}' if there exists a deterministic polynomial-time oracle machine \mathcal{A} such that, for every function f that solves \mathcal{P}' it holds that \mathcal{A}^f solves \mathcal{P} . Here, $\mathcal{A}^f(x)$ denotes the output of machine \mathcal{A} on input x when given oracle access to f .

It is noteworthy that Karp reduction is a special case of Turing reduction.

2.2.2 Computational hardness of QSD and QSCMM

Note that the polarization lemma for the total variation distance [SV03] and the trace distance [Wat02, Wat09] have the same inequalities. Consequently, using the parameters chosen in [BDRV19, Theorem 3.14], we obtain the QSZK hardness of QSD:

Lemma 2.16 (QSD is QSZK-hard). *Let $\alpha(n)$ and $\beta(n)$ be efficiently computable functions satisfying $\alpha^2(n) - \beta(n) \geq 1/O(\log n)$. For any constant $\tau \in (0, 1/2)$, QSD $[\alpha, \beta]$ is QSZK-hard under Karp reduction when $\alpha(n) \leq 1 - 2^{-n^\tau}$ and $\beta(n) \geq 2^{-n^\tau}$ for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$.*

Following the construction in [RASW23, Theorem 12] (see also [LLW26, Lemma 4.17] and [WZ24, Theorem IV.1]), we can establish that PUREQSD is BQP-hard under Karp reduction:

Lemma 2.17 (PUREQSD is BQP-hard). *Let $\alpha(n)$ and $\beta(n)$ be efficiently computable functions such that $\alpha(n) - \beta(n) \geq 1/\text{poly}(n)$. For any polynomial $l(n)$, let $n' := n+1$, PUREQSD $[\alpha(n'), \beta(n')]$ is BQP-hard when $\alpha(n') \leq \sqrt{1 - 2^{-2l(n'-1)}}$ and $\beta(n') \geq 2^{-\frac{l(n'-1)+1}{2}}$ for every integer $n' \geq 2$. Specifically, by choosing $l(n' - 1) = n'$, it holds that: For every integer $n' \geq 2$,*

$$\text{PUREQSD} \left[\sqrt{1 - 2^{-2n'}}, 2^{-\frac{n'+1}{2}} \right] \text{ is BQP-hard under Karp reduction.}$$

Proof. For any promise problem $(\mathcal{P}_{\text{yes}}, \mathcal{P}_{\text{no}}) \in \text{BQP}[a(n), b(n)]$ with $a(n) - b(n) \geq 1/\text{poly}(n)$, we assume without loss of generality that the quantum circuit \hat{C}_x has an output length of n .²⁷ Leveraging error reduction for BQP via sequential repetition, for any polynomial $l(n)$, we can achieve that the acceptance probability satisfies $\Pr[C_x \text{ accepts}] \geq 1 - 2^{-l(n)}$ for *yes* instances, whereas $\Pr[C_x \text{ accepts}] \leq 2^{-l(n)}$ for *no* instances.

Next, we construct a new quantum circuit C'_x with an additional single-qubit register \mathbb{F} initialized to zero. The circuit C'_x is defined as $C'_x := C_x^\dagger \text{CNOT}_{\mathbb{O} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}} C_x$, where the single-qubit register \mathbb{O} corresponds to the output qubit. It is evident that the output length n' of C'_x satisfies $n' = n + 1$. We say that C'_x accepts if the measurement outcomes of all qubits are all zero. Then, we have:

$$\Pr[C'_x \text{ accepts}] = \|(|\bar{0}\rangle\langle\bar{0}| \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|_{\mathbb{F}}) C'_x (|\bar{0}\rangle \otimes |0\rangle_{\mathbb{F}})\|_2^2 \quad (10a)$$

$$= |\langle \bar{0} | C_x^\dagger | 0 \rangle \langle 0 | C_x | \bar{0} \rangle|^2 \quad (10b)$$

$$= (1 - \Pr[C_x \text{ accepts}])^2. \quad (10c)$$

²⁷More precisely, the circuit \hat{C}_x acts on n qubits that are all initialized to $|0\rangle$. No qubit is traced out at the end, and the output length refers to the resulting state just before the final measurement. Following standard convention, we say that \hat{C}_x accepts if the measurement outcome of the designated output qubit is 1.

Here, the second equality owes to $\text{CNOT}_{\mathcal{O} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}} = |0\rangle\langle 0|_{\mathcal{O}} \otimes I_{\mathcal{F}} + |1\rangle\langle 1|_{\mathcal{O}} \otimes X_{\mathcal{F}}$. By defining two pure states $|\psi_0\rangle := |\bar{0}\rangle \otimes |0\rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$ and $|\psi_1\rangle := C'_x(|\bar{0}\rangle \otimes |0\rangle_{\mathcal{F}})$ corresponding to $Q_0 = I$ and $Q_1 = C'_x$, respectively, we can derive the following from Equation (8):

$$\Pr[C'_x \text{ accepts}] = |\langle \psi_0 | \psi_1 \rangle|^2 = 1 - \text{T}(|\psi_0\rangle\langle \psi_0|, |\psi_1\rangle\langle \psi_1|)^2. \quad (11)$$

Equations (10) and (11) together imply that $\text{T}(|\psi_0\rangle\langle \psi_0|, |\psi_1\rangle\langle \psi_1|) = \sqrt{1 - (1 - \Pr[C'_x \text{ accepts}])^2}$. Therefore, we obtain the following bounds:

- For *yes* instances, $\text{T}(|\psi_0\rangle\langle \psi_0|, |\psi_1\rangle\langle \psi_1|) \geq \sqrt{1 - 2^{-2l(n)}} \geq \sqrt{1 - 2^{-2l(n'-1)}}$.
- For *no* instances, $\text{T}(|\psi_0\rangle\langle \psi_0|, |\psi_1\rangle\langle \psi_1|) \leq \sqrt{1 - (1 - 2^{-l(n)})^2} \leq 2^{-\frac{l(n)+1}{2}} \leq 2^{-\frac{l(n'-1)+1}{2}}$. \square

Lastly, combining the proof strategy outlined in [Kob03, Section 3] and the reduction from QEA to QSCMM in [BASTS10, Section 5.3], the NIQSZK hardness of QSCMM was established in [CCKV08, Section 8.1] with an appropriate parameter trade-off:

Lemma 2.18 (QSCMM is NIQSZK-hard, adapted from [CCKV08, Section 8.1]).

For any $n \geq 3$, QSCMM[$1/n, 1 - 1/n$] is NIQSZK-hard under Karp reduction.

2.2.3 Query and sample complexity lower bounds for states and distributions

We begin by stating a query complexity lower bound for QSD. Note that an n -qubit maximally mixed state $(I/2)^{\otimes n}$ is commutative with any n -qubit quantum states ρ . Consider the spectral decomposition $\rho = \sum_{i \in [2^n]} \mu_i |v_i\rangle\langle v_i|$, where $\{|v_i\rangle\}_{i \in [2^n]}$ is an orthonormal basis, we have $\text{T}(\rho, (I/2)^{\otimes n}) = \text{TV}(\mu, U_{2^n})$, where U_{2^n} is a uniform distribution over $[2^n]$. Leveraging a similar argument for $\rho_{\mathcal{V}}$, as in Lemmas 2.19 and 2.21, where the eigenvalues of $\rho_{\mathcal{V}}$ form a uniform distribution on the support of ρ , we can obtain:

Lemma 2.19 (Query complexity lower bound for QSD, adapted from [CFMdW10, Theorem 2]). *For any $\epsilon \in (0, 1/2]$, there exists an n -qubit quantum state ρ of rank r and the corresponding n -qubit state $\rho_{\mathcal{V}}$ such that the quantum query complexity to decide whether $\text{T}(\rho, \rho_{\mathcal{V}})$ is at least ϵ or exactly 0, in the purified quantum query access model, is $\Omega(r^{1/3})$.*

It is noteworthy that the quantum query model used in [CFMdW10] differs from the purified quantum query access model. Nevertheless, this lower bound also applies to our query model, as the discussion after Definition 3 in [GL20].

Next, we introduce a query complexity lower bound of distinguishing probability distributions provided in [Bel19], which will be used to prove the quantum query complexity lower bound for estimating the quantum Tsallis entropy.

Lemma 2.20 (Query complexity for distinguishing probability distributions, [Bel19, Theorem 4]). *Suppose that U_{p_0} and U_{p_1} are two unitary operators such that*

$$U_{p_0}|0\rangle = \sum_{j \in [N]} \sqrt{p_0(j)} |j\rangle |\varphi_j\rangle \text{ and } U_{p_1}|0\rangle = \sum_{j \in [N]} \sqrt{p_1(j)} |j\rangle |\psi_j\rangle.$$

Here, p_0 and p_1 are probability distributions on $[N]$, and $\{|\varphi_j\rangle\}$ and $\{|\psi_j\rangle\}$ are orthonormal bases. Then, any quantum query algorithm that distinguishes U_{p_0} and U_{p_1} requires query complexity

$$\Omega(1/d_{\text{H}}(p_0, p_1)).$$

Here, the Hellinger distance is defined as

$$d_{\text{H}}(p_0, p_1) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j \in [N]} (\sqrt{p_0(j)} - \sqrt{p_1(j)})^2}.$$

It is noteworthy that Lemma 2.20 was ever used as a tool to prove the quantum query complexity lower bounds for the closeness testing of probability distributions [LWL24] and the estimations of trace distance and fidelity [Wan24].

Furthermore, we also need a sample complexity lower bound for QSD, which follows from [OW21, Theorem 4.2] and is specified in Lemma 2.21. Here, *sample complexity* denotes the number of copies of ρ required to accomplish a specific closeness testing task.

Lemma 2.21 (Sample complexity lower bound for QSD, adapted from [OW21, Corollary 4.3]). *For any $\epsilon \in (0, 1/2]$, there exists an n -qubit quantum state ρ of rank r and the corresponding n -qubit state ρ_{U} such that the quantum sample complexity to decide whether $\mathbb{T}(\rho, \rho_{\text{U}})$ is at least ϵ or exactly 0 is $\Omega(r/\epsilon^2)$.*

2.3 Polynomial approximations

We provide several useful results and tools for polynomial approximations in this subsection, which are later used in Section 3.1 to make uniform polynomial approximation *efficient*.

2.3.1 Best uniform polynomial approximations

Let $f(x)$ be a continuous function defined on the interval $[-1, 1]$ that we aim to approximate using a polynomial of degree at most d . We define P_d^* as a *best uniform approximation* on $[-1, 1]$ to f of degree d if, for any degree- d polynomial approximation P_d of f , the following holds:

$$\max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |f(x) - P_d^*(x)| \leq \max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |f(x) - P_d(x)|.$$

Let $\mathbb{R}_d[x]$ be the set of all polynomials (with real coefficients) of degree at most d . Equivalently, the best uniform approximation P_d^* to f is the polynomial that solves the minimax problem

$$\min_{P_d \in \mathbb{R}_d[x]} \max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |f(x) - P_d(x)|.$$

Especially, we need the best uniform polynomial approximation of positive constant powers:

Lemma 2.22 (Best uniform approximation of positive constant powers, adapted from [Tim63, Section 7.1.41]). *For any positive (constant) integer r and order $\alpha \in (-1, 1)$, let $P_d^* \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ be the best uniform polynomial approximation for $f(x) = x^{r-1}|x|^{1+\alpha}$ of degree $d = \left\lceil (\beta_{\alpha, r}/\epsilon)^{\frac{1}{r+\alpha}} \right\rceil$, where $\beta_{\alpha, r}$ is a constant depending on $r + \alpha$. Then, for sufficiently small ϵ , it holds that*

$$\max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |P_d^*(x) - f(x)| \leq \epsilon.$$

2.3.2 Chebyshev expansion and truncations

We introduce Chebyshev polynomial and an averaged variant of the Chebyshev truncation. We recommend [Riv90, Chapter 3] for a comprehensive review of Chebyshev expansion.

Definition 2.23 (Chebyshev polynomials). *The Chebyshev polynomials (of the first kind) $T_k(x)$ are defined via the following recurrence relation: $T_0(x) := 1$, $T_1(x) := x$, and $T_{k+1}(x) := 2xT_k(x) - T_{k-1}(x)$. For $x \in [-1, 1]$, an equivalent definition is $T_k(\cos \theta) = \cos(k\theta)$.*

To use Chebyshev polynomials (of the first kind) for Chebyshev expansion, we first need to define an inner product between two functions, f and g , as long as the following integral exists:

$$\langle f, g \rangle := \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{f(x)g(x)}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx. \quad (12)$$

The Chebyshev polynomials form an orthonormal basis in the inner product space induced by $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ defined in Equation (12). As a result, any continuous and integrable function $f : [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

whose Chebyshev coefficients satisfy $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} c_k = 0$, where c_k is defined in Equation (13), has a Chebyshev expansion given by:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}c_0T_0(x) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_kT_k(x), \text{ where } c_k := \langle T_k, f \rangle. \quad (13)$$

Instead of approximating functions directly by the Chebyshev truncation $\tilde{P}_d = c_0/2 + \sum_{k=1}^d c_kT_k$, we use an average of Chebyshev truncations, known as the *de La Vallée Poussin partial sum*, we obtain the degree- d *averaged Chebyshev truncation* $\hat{P}_{d'}$, which is a polynomial of degree $d' = 2d - 1$:

$$\hat{P}_{d'}(x) := \frac{1}{d} \sum_{l=d}^{d'} \tilde{P}_l(x) = \frac{\hat{c}_0}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{d'} \hat{c}_k T_k(x), \text{ where } \hat{c}_k = \begin{cases} c_k, & 0 \leq k \leq d \\ \frac{2d-k}{d}c_k, & k > d \end{cases}, \quad (14)$$

we can achieve the truncation error 4ϵ for any function that admits Chebyshev expansion.

Lemma 2.24 (Asymptotically best approximation by averaged Chebyshev truncation, adapted from Exercises 3.4.6 and 3.4.7 in [Riv90]). *For any function f that has a Chebyshev expansion, consider the degree- d averaged Chebyshev truncation $\hat{P}_{d'}$ defined in Equation (14). Let $\epsilon_d(f)$ be the truncation error corresponds to the degree- d best uniform approximation on $[-1, 1]$ to f . If there is a degree- d polynomial $P_d^* \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ such that $\max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |f(x) - P_d^*(x)| \leq \epsilon$, then*

$$\max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |f(x) - \hat{P}_{d'}(x)| \leq 4\epsilon_d(f) \leq 4 \max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |f(x) - P_d^*(x)| \leq 4\epsilon.$$

2.4 Quantum algorithmic toolkit

In this subsection, we provide several quantum algorithmic tools that serve as elementary building blocks used in Section 3.2: the quantum singular value transformation, three useful quantum algorithmic subroutines, and the quantum sampler, which enables a quantum query-to-sample simulation.

2.4.1 Quantum singular value transformation

We begin by introducing the notion of block-encoding:

Definition 2.25 (Block-encoding). *A linear operator A on an $(n+a)$ -qubit Hilbert space is said to be an (α, a, ϵ) -block-encoding of an n -qubit linear operator B , if*

$$\|\alpha(\langle 0|^{\otimes a} \otimes I_n)A(|0\rangle^{\otimes a} \otimes I_n) - B\| \leq \epsilon,$$

where I_n is the n -qubit identity operator and $\|\cdot\|$ is the operator norm.

Then, we state the quantum singular value transformation:

Lemma 2.26 (Quantum singular value transformation, [GSLW19, Theorem 31]). *Suppose that unitary operator U is an (α, a, ϵ) -block-encoding of Hermitian operator A , and $P \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ is a polynomial of degree d with $|P(x)| \leq \frac{1}{2}$ for $x \in [-1, 1]$. Then, we can implement a quantum circuit \tilde{U} that is a $(1, a + 2, 4d\sqrt{\epsilon/\alpha} + \delta)$ -block-encoding of $P(A/\alpha)$, by using $O(d)$ queries to U and $O((a+1)d)$ one- and two-qubit quantum gates. Moreover, the classical description of \tilde{U} can be computed in deterministic time $\text{poly}(d, \log(1/\delta))$.*

2.4.2 Quantum subroutines

The first subroutine is the quantum amplitude estimation:

Lemma 2.27 (Quantum amplitude estimation, [BHMT02, Theorem 12]). *Suppose that U is a unitary operator such that*

$$U|0\rangle|0\rangle = \sqrt{p}|0\rangle|\phi_0\rangle + \sqrt{1-p}|1\rangle|\phi_1\rangle,$$

where $|\phi_0\rangle$ and $|\phi_1\rangle$ are normalized pure quantum states and $p \in [0, 1]$. Then, there is a quantum query algorithm using $O(M)$ queries to U that outputs \tilde{p} such that

$$\Pr \left[|\tilde{p} - p| \leq \frac{2\pi\sqrt{p(1-p)}}{M} + \frac{\pi^2}{M^2} \right] \geq \frac{8}{\pi^2}.$$

Moreover, if U acts on n qubits, then the quantum query algorithm can be implemented by using $O(Mn)$ one- and two-qubit quantum gates.

The second subroutine prepares a purified density matrix, originally stated in [LC19]:

Lemma 2.28 (Block-encoding of density operators, [GSLW19, Lemma 25]). *Suppose that U is an $(n+a)$ -qubit unitary operator that prepares a purification of an n -qubit mixed quantum state ρ . Then, we can implement a unitary operator W by using 1 query to each of U and U^\dagger such that W is a $(1, n+a, 0)$ -block-encoding of ρ .*

The third subroutine is a specific version of one-bit precision phase estimation [Kit95], often referred to as the Hadamard test [AJL09], as stated in [GP22]:

Lemma 2.29 (Hadamard test for block-encodings, adapted from [GP22, Lemma 9]). *Suppose that unitary operator U is a $(1, a, 0)$ -block-encoding of an n -qubit operator A . Then, we can implement a quantum circuit that, on input an n -qubit mixed quantum state ρ , outputs 0 with probability $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re}[\operatorname{tr}(A\rho)]$ (resp., $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Im}[\operatorname{tr}(A\rho)]$), by using 1 query to controlled- U and $O(1)$ one- and two-qubit quantum gates.*

Moreover, if an $(n+a)$ -qubit unitary operator \mathcal{O} prepares a purification of ρ , then, by combining Lemma 2.27, we can estimate $\operatorname{tr}(A\rho)$ to within additive error ϵ by using $O(1/\epsilon)$ queries to each of U and \mathcal{O} and $O((n+a)/\epsilon)$ one- and two-qubit quantum gates.

2.4.3 Quantum sampler

We introduce the notion of sampler in [WZ25b], which helps us establish the sample complexity upper bound from the query complexity upper bound.

Definition 2.30 (Sampler). *A sampler $\operatorname{Samplize}_*(*)$ is a mapping that converts quantum query algorithms (quantum circuit families with query access to quantum unitary oracles) to quantum sample algorithms (quantum channel families with sample access to quantum states) such that: For any $\delta > 0$, quantum query algorithm \mathcal{A}^U , and quantum state ρ , there exists a unitary operator U_ρ that is a $(2, a, 0)$ -block-encoding of ρ for some $a > 0$, satisfying*

$$\|\operatorname{Samplize}_\delta\langle\mathcal{A}^U\rangle[\rho] - \mathcal{A}^{U_\rho}\|_\diamond \leq \delta,$$

where $\|\cdot\|_\diamond$ is the diamond norm and $\mathcal{E}[\rho](\cdot)$ is a quantum channel \mathcal{E} with sample access to ρ .

Then, we include an efficient implementation of the sampler in [WZ25b], which is based on quantum principal component analysis [LMR14, KLL⁺17] and generalizes [GP22, Corollary 21] and [WZ25a, Theorem 1.1].

Lemma 2.31 (Optimal sampler, [WZ25b, Theorem 4]). *There is a sampler $\operatorname{Samplize}_*(*)$ such that for $\delta > 0$ and quantum query algorithm \mathcal{A}^U with query complexity Q , the implementation of $\operatorname{Samplize}_\delta\langle\mathcal{A}^U\rangle[\rho]$ uses $\tilde{O}(Q^2/\delta)$ samples of ρ .*

3 Efficient quantum algorithms for estimating quantum q -Tsallis entropy

In this section, we propose efficient quantum algorithms for estimating the quantum Tsallis entropy $S_q(\rho)$ when $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$, using either queries to the state-preparation circuit or samples of the state ρ . The key ingredient underlying our algorithms is an *efficient* uniform approximation of positive constant power functions. Specifically, our polynomial approximation (Lemma 3.1) is “full-range”, meaning it maintains a uniform error bound across the entire interval $[-1, 1]$. This differs from the polynomial approximations commonly used in QSVT, which typically provide separate error bounds for the intervals $[-\delta, \delta]$ and $[-1, -\delta] \cup (\delta, 1]$.

Utilizing our “full-range” polynomial approximation, we construct a query-efficient quantum algorithm for estimating $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$, as established in Theorem 3.2. Consequently, our quantum query algorithm (Theorem 3.2) directly leads to BQP containments for the promise problems TSALLISQEA_q and TSALLISQED_q , defined in Section 5. Furthermore, by employing the sampler in [WZ25b], we develop a sample-efficient quantum algorithm for estimating $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$, as presented in Theorem 3.3.

3.1 Efficient uniform approximations to positive constant power functions

We provide an efficiently computable uniform approximation of positive constant powers:

Lemma 3.1 (Efficient uniform polynomial approximation of positive constant powers). *Let r be a positive (constant) integer and let α be a real number in $(-1, 1)$. For any $\epsilon \in (0, 1/2)$, there is a degree- d polynomial $P_d \in \mathbb{R}[x]$, where $d = \left\lceil (\beta'_{\alpha,r}/\epsilon)^{\frac{1}{r+\alpha}} \right\rceil$ and $\beta'_{\alpha,r}$ is a constant depending on $r + \alpha$, that can be deterministically computed in $\tilde{O}(d)$ time. For sufficiently small ϵ , it holds that:*

$$\max_{x \in [-1, 1]} \left| \frac{1}{2} x^{r-1} |x|^{1+\alpha} - P_d(x) \right| \leq \epsilon \quad \text{and} \quad \max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |P_d(x)| \leq 1.$$

Furthermore, P_d has the same parity as the integer $r - 1$.

Proof. Let $f(x) := \frac{1}{2} x^{r-1} |x|^{1+\alpha}$. For any $\tilde{\epsilon} \in (0, 1/8)$, using Lemma 2.22, we obtain the degree- \tilde{d} best polynomial approximation $P_{\tilde{d}}^*(x)$, where $\tilde{d} = \left\lceil (\beta_{\alpha,r}/\tilde{\epsilon})^{\frac{1}{r+\alpha}} \right\rceil$ and $\beta_{\alpha,r}$ is a constant depending on $r + \alpha$, such that

$$\max_{x \in [-1, 1]} \left| \frac{1}{2} x^{r-1} |x|^{1+\alpha} - P_{\tilde{d}}^*(x) \right| \leq \tilde{\epsilon} \quad \text{and} \quad \max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |P_{\tilde{d}}^*(x)| \leq \frac{1}{2} + \tilde{\epsilon}. \quad (15)$$

Next, we consider the degree- \tilde{d} averaged Chebyshev truncation (Equation (14)) of $f(x)$. In particular, let $d := 2\tilde{d} - 1 = \left\lceil (\beta'_{\alpha,r}/\epsilon)^{\frac{1}{r+\alpha}} \right\rceil$, where $\beta'_{\alpha,r}$ is another constant depending on $r + \alpha$ and ϵ will be specified later. We obtain the following degree- d polynomial:

$$P_d(x) = \frac{\hat{c}_0}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^d \hat{c}_k T_k(x), \quad \text{where } \hat{c}_k := \begin{cases} c_k, & 0 \leq k \leq \tilde{d} \\ \frac{2\tilde{d}-k}{d} c_k, & k > \tilde{d} \end{cases} \quad \text{and } c_k := \langle T_k, f \rangle. \quad (16)$$

Using the asymptotically best approximation by averaged Chebyshev truncation (Lemma 2.24) and Equation (15), we can derive that $P_d(x)$ satisfies the following:

$$\max_{x \in [-1, 1]} \left| \frac{1}{2} x^{r-1} |x|^{1+\alpha} - P_d(x) \right| \leq 4\tilde{\epsilon} := \epsilon \quad \text{and} \quad \max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |P_d(x)| \leq \frac{1}{2} + 4\tilde{\epsilon} = \frac{1}{2} + \epsilon < 1.$$

It remains to show that $P_d(x)$ can be computed in deterministic time $\tilde{O}(d)$. A direct calcu-

lation implies that the Chebyshev coefficient $\{c_k\}_{0 \leq k \leq d}$ in Equation (16) satisfy the following:

$$\begin{aligned} c_{2l+1} &= c_{2l-1} \cdot \frac{r + \alpha - 2l + 1}{r + \alpha + 2l + 1}, & c_{2l} &= c_{2l-2} \cdot \frac{r + \alpha - 2l + 2}{r + \alpha + 2l}, \\ c_0 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{\frac{1}{2} x^{r-1} |x|^{1+\alpha} \cdot T_0(x)}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx = -\frac{-1 + (-1)^r}{2\sqrt{\pi}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}(r + \alpha + 1))}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}(r + \alpha + 2))}, \\ c_1 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{\frac{1}{2} x^{r-1} |x|^{1+\alpha} \cdot T_1(x)}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx = \frac{1 + (-1)^r}{2\sqrt{\pi}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}(r + \alpha + 2))}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}(r + \alpha + 3))}. \end{aligned}$$

Here, the Gamma function $\Gamma(x) := \int_0^\infty t^{x-1} e^{-t} dt$ for any $x > 0$.

Consequently, we can recursively compute the averaged Chebyshev coefficient $\{\hat{c}_k\}_{0 \leq k \leq d}$ in deterministic time $\tilde{O}(d)$. We complete the proof by noting that the Chebyshev polynomials $\{T_k(x)\}_{0 \leq k \leq d}$ also can be recursively computed in deterministic time $\tilde{O}(d)$. \square

3.2 Quantum q -Tsallis entropy approximation for q constantly larger than 1

3.2.1 Query-efficient quantum algorithm for estimating $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$

We now present efficient quantum query algorithms for estimating the q -Tsallis entropy of a mixed quantum state. For readability, their framework is given in Algorithm 1.

Algorithm 1 A framework for estimating q -Tsallis entropy for $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$ (query access).

Input: A quantum circuit Q that prepares a purification of an n -qubit mixed quantum state ρ , and a precision parameter $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$.

Output: A single bit $b \in \{0, 1\}$ such that $\Pr[b = 0] \approx \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{8} \text{tr}(\rho^q)$.

- 1: Implement a unitary operator U_ρ that is a block-encoding of ρ by Lemma 2.28, using $O(1)$ queries to Q .
 - 2: Let $P(x)$ be a polynomial that approximates $\frac{1}{4}x^{q-1}$ in the range $[0, 1]$, where $P(x)$ is determined according to ϵ , n , and q . More precisely, for constant $q > 1$, $P(x)$ is chosen by Lemma 3.1.
 - 3: Implement a unitary operator $U_{P(\rho)}$ that is a block-encoding of $P(\rho)$ by quantum singular value transformation (Lemma 2.26), using $O(\deg(P))$ queries to U_ρ .
 - 4: Perform the Hadamard test on ρ and $U_{P(\rho)}$ by Lemma 2.29, and return the measurement outcome.
-

Theorem 3.2 (Trace estimation of quantum state constant powers via queries). *Suppose that Q is a unitary operator that prepares a purification of mixed quantum state ρ . For every $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$, there is a quantum query algorithm that estimates $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$ to within additive error ϵ by using $O(1/\epsilon^{1+\frac{1}{q-1}})$ queries to Q .*

Proof. Let Q be an $(n + a)$ -qubit unitary operator that prepares a purification of the n -qubit mixed quantum state ρ . Then, by Lemma 2.28, we can implement a unitary operator U_ρ that is a $(1, n + a, 0)$ -block-encoding of ρ , by using $O(1)$ queries to Q .

Let $\epsilon_p \in (0, 1)$ be a parameter to be determined later. By Lemma 3.1 with $r := \max\{\lfloor q - 1 \rfloor, 1\}$, $\alpha := q - 1 - r$, and $\epsilon := \epsilon_p$, there exists a polynomial $P \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ of degree $d = O(1/\epsilon_p^{\frac{1}{q-1}})$ such that

$$\max_{x \in [0, 1]} \left| P(x) - \frac{1}{2} x^{q-1} \right| \leq \epsilon_p, \quad \text{and} \quad \max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |P(x)| \leq 1.$$

By Lemma 2.26 with $P := \frac{1}{2}P$, $\alpha := 1$, $a := n + a$, $\epsilon := 0$ and $d := O(1/\epsilon_p^{\frac{1}{q-1}})$, we can implement a quantum circuit $U_{P(\rho)}$ that is a $(1, n + a + 2, \delta)$ -block-encoding of $\frac{1}{2}P(\rho)$, by using $O(1/\epsilon_p^{\frac{1}{q-1}})$

queries to U_ρ . Moreover, the classical description of $U_{P(\rho)}$ can be computed in deterministic time $\text{poly}(1/\epsilon_p, \log(1/\delta))$.

Suppose that $U_{P(\rho)}$ is a $(1, n + a + 2, 0)$ -block-encoding of A , i.e., $\|A - \frac{1}{2}P(\rho)\| \leq \delta$. Then, by Lemma 2.29, we can obtain an estimate \tilde{x} of $\text{tr}(A\rho)$ to within additive error ϵ_H by using $O(1/\epsilon_H)$ queries to each of $U_{P(\rho)}$ and Q such that

$$\Pr[|\tilde{x} - \text{tr}(A\rho)| \leq \epsilon_H] \geq \frac{2}{3}. \quad (17)$$

It can be seen that, in the overall quantum circuit to obtain \tilde{x} , the number of queries to Q is

$$O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon_H}\right) \cdot O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon_p^{\frac{1}{q-1}}}\right) = O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon_H \epsilon_p^{\frac{1}{q-1}}}\right),$$

and the number of one- and two-qubit quantum gates is

$$O\left(\frac{n+a}{\epsilon_H \epsilon_p^{\frac{1}{q-1}}}\right).$$

Moreover, the classical description of the overall quantum circuit can be computed in deterministic time $\text{poly}(1/\epsilon_p, 1/\epsilon_H, \log(1/\delta))$.

On the other hand, we have

$$\left| \text{tr}(A\rho) - \text{tr}\left(\frac{1}{2}P(\rho)\rho\right) \right| \leq \left\| A - \frac{1}{2}P(\rho) \right\| \leq \delta, \quad (18)$$

where we use the inequality $|\text{tr}(AB)| \leq \|A\| \text{tr}(|B|)$ (which is a special case of the matrix Hölder inequality, e.g., [Bau11, Theorem 2]). We also have

$$\left| \text{tr}\left(\frac{1}{2}P(\rho)\rho\right) - \text{tr}\left(\frac{1}{4}\rho^q\right) \right| \leq \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_p. \quad (19)$$

To see Equation (19), suppose that $\rho = \sum_j \lambda_j |\psi_j\rangle\langle\psi_j|$ is the spectrum decomposition of ρ with $\lambda_j \geq 0$ for all j and $\sum_j \lambda_j = 1$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \text{tr}\left(\frac{1}{2}P(\rho)\rho\right) - \text{tr}\left(\frac{1}{4}\rho^q\right) \right| &= \left| \sum_j \left(\frac{1}{2}P(\lambda_j)\lambda_j - \frac{1}{4}\lambda_j^q \right) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_j \frac{1}{2}\lambda_j \left| P(\lambda_j) - \frac{1}{2}\lambda_j^{q-1} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_j \lambda_j \epsilon_p = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_p. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, by combining Equations (17) to (19), we obtain

$$\Pr[|4\tilde{x} - \text{tr}(\rho^q)| \leq 2\epsilon_p + 4\epsilon_H + 4\delta] \geq \frac{2}{3}.$$

To make $4\tilde{x}$ an ϵ -estimate of $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$ with high probability, it is sufficient to take $\epsilon_p = \epsilon_H = \delta = \epsilon/10$, thereby using

$$O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon^{1+\frac{1}{q-1}}}\right)$$

queries to Q . □

3.2.2 Sample-efficient quantum algorithm for estimating $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$

We also study the sample complexity for the trace estimation of quantum state powers, which is obtained by extending the quantum query algorithm in Theorem 3.2 via the sampler in

Lemma 2.31. An illustrative framework is given in Algorithm 2.

Algorithm 2 A framework for estimating q -Tsallis entropy for $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$ (sample access).

Input: Independent and identical samples of an n -qubit mixed quantum state ρ , and parameters $q > 1$ and $\delta, \epsilon_p, \delta_p \in (0, 1)$.

Output: A single bit $b \in \{0, 1\}$ such that $\Pr[b = 0] \approx \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^{q+3}} \text{tr}(\rho^q)$.

1: **function** `ApproxPower`(q, ϵ_p, δ_p) ^{U}
Input: A unitary $(1, a, 0)$ -block-encoding U of A , and parameters $q > 1, \epsilon_p, \delta_p \in (0, 1)$.
Output: A unitary operator \tilde{U} .

2: Let $P(x)$ be a polynomial of degree $d = O(1/\epsilon_p^{\frac{1}{q-1}})$ such that $\max_{x \in [0, 1]} |P(x) - \frac{1}{2}x^{q-1}| \leq \epsilon_p$ and $\max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |P(x)| \leq 1$ (by Lemma 3.1).
3: Construct a unitary $(1, a + 2, \delta_p)$ -block-encoding \tilde{U} of $\frac{1}{2}P(A)$ (by Lemma 2.26).
4: **return** \tilde{U} .
5: **end function**

6: Let b' be the outcome of the Hadamard test (by Lemma 2.29) performing on the quantum state ρ and `Samplize δ` (`ApproxPower`(q, ϵ_p, δ_p) ^{U})[ρ] (as if it were unitary).

7: **return** b' .

Theorem 3.3 (Trace estimation of quantum state constant powers via samples). *For every $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$, there is a quantum sample algorithm that estimates $\text{tr}(\rho^q)$ to within additive error ϵ by using $\tilde{O}(1/\epsilon^{3 + \frac{2}{q-1}})$ samples of ρ .*

Proof. Let unitary operator U be a $(1, a, 0)$ -block-encoding of A for some $a > 0$ and let $\epsilon_p, \delta_p \in (0, 1)$ be parameters to be determined. By Lemma 3.1 with $r := \max\{\lfloor q - 1 \rfloor, 1\}$, $\alpha := q - 1 - r$, and $\epsilon := \epsilon_p$, there is a polynomial $P \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ of degree $d = O(1/\epsilon_p^{\frac{1}{q-1}})$ such that

$$\max_{x \in [0, 1]} \left| P(x) - \frac{1}{2}x^{q-1} \right| \leq \epsilon_p, \quad \text{and} \quad \max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |P(x)| \leq 1.$$

By Lemma 2.26 with $P := \frac{1}{2}P$, $\alpha := 1$, $a := n + a$, $\epsilon := 0$, $\delta := \delta_p$ and $d := O(1/\epsilon_p^{\frac{1}{q-1}})$, we can implement a quantum circuit $U_{P(A)}$ that is a $(1, n + a + 2, \delta_p)$ -block-encoding of $\frac{1}{2}P(A)$, by using $O(1/\epsilon_p^{\frac{1}{q-1}})$ queries to U . Moreover, the classical description of $U_{P(A)}$ can be computed in deterministic time $\text{poly}(1/\epsilon_p, \log(1/\delta_p))$. Let `ApproxPower`(q, ϵ_p, δ_p) ^{U} denote the procedure of implementing $U_{P(A)}$ by using queries to U .

For our purpose, we take $A := \rho/2$.²⁸ Suppose that $U_{P(\frac{\rho}{2})}$ is a $(1, n + a + 2, 0)$ -block-encoding of B , then $\|B - \frac{1}{2}P(\frac{\rho}{2})\| \leq \delta_p$. Let $b \in \{0, 1\}$ be the outcome of the Hadamard test (by Lemma 2.29) on ρ and $U_{P(\frac{\rho}{2})}$, then

$$\Pr[b = 0] = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \text{Re}[\text{tr}(B\rho)]. \quad (20)$$

Let $\delta \in (0, 1)$ be a parameter to be determined, and let $b' \in \{0, 1\}$ be the outcome of the Hadamard test (by Lemma 2.29) on ρ and `Samplize δ` (`ApproxPower`(q, ϵ_p, δ_p) ^{U})[ρ] (as if it were

²⁸Compared to the proof of Theorem 3.2, the choice of $A = \rho/2$ incurs an additional factor of $1/2$, which leads to an exponential coefficient of 2^q in the complexity (despite the fact that q is considered to be a constant). This factor, required by Lemma 2.31, is due to the technical reason mentioned in [WZ25a, Footnote 3] and [WZ25b, Footnote 8].

$U_{P(\frac{\rho}{2})}$. Then,

$$|\Pr[b = 0] - \Pr[b' = 0]| \leq \delta. \quad (21)$$

Now we repeat the Hadamard test k times, obtaining outcomes $b'_1, b'_2, \dots, b'_k \in \{0, 1\}$, where k is an integer to be determined. Let $X = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=1}^k b'_j$. Then, by Hoeffding's inequality ([Hoe63, Theorem 2]), we have

$$\Pr[|X - \mathbb{E}[b']| \leq \epsilon_H] \geq 1 - 2 \exp(-2k\epsilon_H^2). \quad (22)$$

On the other hand, similar to the proof of Theorem 3.2, we have

$$\left| \operatorname{Re}[\operatorname{tr}(B\rho)] - \operatorname{tr}\left(\frac{1}{2}P\left(\frac{\rho}{2}\right)\rho\right) \right| \leq \left| \operatorname{tr}(B\rho) - \operatorname{tr}\left(\frac{1}{2}P\left(\frac{\rho}{2}\right)\rho\right) \right| \leq \left\| B - \frac{1}{2}P\left(\frac{\rho}{2}\right) \right\| \leq \delta_p. \quad (23)$$

We also have

$$\left| \operatorname{tr}\left(\frac{1}{2}P\left(\frac{\rho}{2}\right)\rho\right) - \operatorname{tr}\left(\frac{1}{2^{q+2}}\rho^q\right) \right| \leq \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_p. \quad (24)$$

To see Equation (24), suppose that $\rho = \sum_j \lambda_j |\psi_j\rangle\langle\psi_j|$ is the spectrum decomposition of ρ with $\lambda_j \geq 0$ for all j and $\sum_j \lambda_j = 1$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \operatorname{tr}\left(\frac{1}{2}P\left(\frac{\rho}{2}\right)\rho\right) - \operatorname{tr}\left(\frac{1}{2^{q+2}}\rho^q\right) \right| &= \left| \sum_j \left(\frac{1}{2}P\left(\frac{\lambda_j}{2}\right)\lambda_j - \frac{1}{2^{q+2}}\lambda_j^q\right) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_j \frac{1}{2}\lambda_j \left| P\left(\frac{\lambda_j}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\lambda_j}{2}\right)^{q-1} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_j \lambda_j \epsilon_p = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_p. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, by combining Equations (20) to (24), we obtain

$$\Pr[|2^{q+2}(1 - 2X) - \operatorname{tr}(\rho^q)| \leq 2^{q+1}(4\delta + 4\epsilon_H + 2\delta_p + \epsilon_p)] \geq 1 - 2 \exp(-2k\epsilon_H^2).$$

By taking $\delta = \epsilon_H = \delta_p = \epsilon_p := 2^{-q-5}\epsilon$ and $k := \left\lceil \frac{\ln(6)}{2\epsilon_H^2} \right\rceil$, we have

$$\Pr[|2^{q+2}(1 - 2X) - \operatorname{tr}(\rho^q)| \leq \epsilon] \geq \frac{2}{3},$$

which means that $2^{q+2}(1 - 2X)$ is an ϵ -estimate of $\operatorname{tr}(\rho^q)$ with high probability.

To complete the proof, we analyze the sample complexity of our algorithm. The algorithm consists of k repetitions of the Hadamard test, and each Hadamard test uses one sample of ρ and one call to $\text{Sample}_\delta(\text{ApproxPower}(q, \epsilon_p, \delta_p)^U)[\rho]$. Here, $\text{ApproxPower}(q, \epsilon_p, \delta_p)^U$ uses $O(1/\epsilon_p^{\frac{1}{q-1}})$ queries to U , and thus by Lemma 2.31 we can implement $\text{Sample}_\delta(\text{ApproxPower}(q, \epsilon_p, \delta_p)^U)[\rho]$ by using $\tilde{O}(1/(\delta\epsilon_p^{\frac{2}{q-1}}))$ samples of ρ . Therefore, the total number of samples of ρ is

$$k \cdot \tilde{O}\left(\frac{1}{\delta\epsilon_p^{\frac{2}{q-1}}}\right) = \tilde{O}\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon^{3+\frac{2}{q-1}}}\right). \quad \square$$

4 Properties of quantum Jensen-Tsallis divergence and Tsallis entropy

In this section, we present inequalities between the quantum q -Jensen-Tsallis divergence ($1 \leq q \leq 2$) and the trace distance. Our results (Theorem 4.1) extend the previous results for the quantum Jensen-Shannon divergence ($q = 1$), as stated in [BH09, Theorem 14].

Theorem 4.1 (QJT_q vs. T). *For any quantum states ρ_0 and ρ_1 , and $1 \leq q \leq 2$, we have:*

$$\mathrm{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \mathrm{H}_q\left(\frac{1 - \mathrm{T}(\rho_0, \rho_1)}{2}\right) \leq \mathrm{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1) \leq \mathrm{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot \mathrm{T}(\rho_0, \rho_1)^q.$$

To prove Theorem 4.1, we first need to prove the data-processing inequality for QJT_q (Lemma 4.5), which crucially relies on the relatively recent results on the *joint convexity* of QJT_q [CT14, Vir19]. Consequently, we can establish Theorem 4.1 by proving the inequalities in Section 4.2. In particular, the lower bound on QJT_q in terms of T (Lemma 4.6) holds for $q \in [1, 2]$, and the upper bound on QJT_q in terms of T (Lemma 4.7) for the same range of q .

Next, to utilize Lemma 4.6, we provide bounds of the Tsallis binary entropy in Section 4.3:

Theorem 4.2 (Tsallis binary entropy bounds). *For any $p = (x, 1 - x)$, let $\mathrm{H}_q(x)$ denote the Tsallis binary entropy with $1 \leq q \leq 2$, we have:*

$$\mathrm{H}_q(1/2) \cdot 4x(1 - x) \leq \mathrm{H}_q(x) \leq \mathrm{H}_q(1/2) \cdot (4x(1 - x))^{1/2}.$$

It is noteworthy that the best known bounds for the Shannon binary entropy ($q = 1$) are $\mathrm{H}(1/2) \cdot 4x(1 - x) \leq \mathrm{H}(x) \leq \mathrm{H}(1/2) \cdot (4x(1 - x))^{\frac{1}{2\mathrm{H}(1/2)}}$, as shown in [Top01, Theorem 1.2]. Our lower bound on the Tsallis binary entropy (Lemma 4.8) matches the case of $q = 1$, whereas our upper bound (Lemma 4.9) only aligns with a weaker bound $\mathrm{H}(x) \leq \mathrm{H}(1/2) \cdot (4x(1 - x))^{1/2}$ in [Lin91, Theorem 8] and the proof of Lemma 4.9 is more complicated than in the case of $q = 1$.

Lastly, we provide the inequalities between the Tsallis entropy of a distribution p and the total variation distance between p and the uniform distribution ν of the same dimension, as stated in Lemma 4.10. By adding an additional assumption regarding q and $\mathrm{TV}(p, \nu)$, this lemma partially generalizes the previous result for the case of $q = 1$ (cf. [CKV08, Fact 8.4] and [KLG19, Lemma 16]) to the case of $q > 1$.

4.1 Data-processing inequality for QJT_q from the joint convexity

With the correspondence between QJS and the quantum relative entropy (Equation (9)), the joint convexity of QJS directly follows from the joint convexity of the quantum relative entropy [Lie73, Uhl77] (see also [Rus22] for a simple proof). However, since QJT_q does not correspond to a Tsallis variant of quantum relative entropy (e.g., quasi-entropy [Pet07, Equation (3.23)]) in this sense, the joint convexity of QJT_q can only be established by the recent results of [CT14, Vir19]:

Lemma 4.3 (Joint convexity of QJT_q, adapted from [CT14, Vir19]). *Let k be an integer. For any $i \in [k]$, let $\rho_0^{(i)}$ and $\rho_1^{(i)}$ be two quantum states. Let k -tuple $\mu := (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_k)$ be a probability distribution. Then, for any $q \in [1, 2]$ and $t \in (0, 1)$, the joint convexity of QJT_q holds:*

$$\mathrm{QJT}_q\left(\sum_{i \in [k]} \mu_i \rho_0^{(i)}, \sum_{i \in [k]} \mu_i \rho_1^{(i)}\right) \leq \sum_{i \in [k]} \mu_i \mathrm{QJT}_q(\rho_0^{(i)}, \rho_1^{(i)}).$$

Proof. Following [CT14, Theorem 2.3(2)], we know that the quantum q -Tsallis entropy $\mathrm{S}_q(\rho)$ for $1 \leq q \leq 2$ is in the Matrix Entropy Class [CT14, Definition 2.2] (or [Vir19, Definition 2]). Therefore, as a corollary of [Vir19, Theorem 1], we can obtain: for any $1 \leq q \leq 2$ and $0 < \lambda < 1$,

$$\mathrm{QJT}_q((1 - \lambda)\rho_0 + \lambda\rho'_0, (1 - \lambda)\rho_1 + \lambda\rho'_1) \leq (1 - \lambda)\mathrm{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1) + \lambda\mathrm{QJT}_q(\rho'_0, \rho'_1). \quad (25)$$

Hence, we can complete the proof by applying Equation (25) inductively. \square

Remark 4.4 (Joint convexity of QJT_{q,t}). It is noteworthy that Lemma 4.3 applies to a generalized version of QJT_q, denoted as QJT_{q,t}, such that $\mathrm{QJT}_{q,1/2} = \mathrm{QJT}_q$:

$$\forall t \in (0, 1), \mathrm{QJT}_{q,t} := \mathrm{S}_q((1 - t)\rho_0 + t\rho_1) - (1 - t)\mathrm{S}_q(\rho_0) - t\mathrm{S}_q(\rho_1).$$

Lemma 2.11 also directly extends to $\text{QJT}_{q,t}$, and consequently, Lemma 4.5 holds for $\text{QJT}_{q,t}$ with $1 \leq q \leq 2$. However, the inequalities between QJT_q and the trace distance provided in this work, particularly Lemmas 4.6 and 4.7, do not extend to $\text{QJT}_{q,t}$ for $1 \leq q \leq 2$.

Lemma 4.5 (Data-processing inequality for QJT_q). *For any quantum state ρ_0 and ρ_1 , any quantum channel Φ , and $1 \leq q \leq 2$, we have*

$$\text{QJT}_q(\Phi(\rho_0), \Phi(\rho_1)) \leq \text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1).$$

Interestingly, the inequality in Lemma 4.5 *cannot* hold for $0 \leq q < 1$. We can see this by considering pure states $|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$ and $|\phi\rangle\langle\phi|$, and their average $\hat{\rho}_{\psi,\phi} := \frac{1}{2}(|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| + |\phi\rangle\langle\phi|)$, then $\text{QJT}_q(|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|, |\phi\rangle\langle\phi|) = \text{S}_q(\hat{\rho}_{\psi,\phi})$. Following Lemma 4.5, we have $\text{S}_q(\Phi(\hat{\rho}_{\psi,\phi})) \leq \text{S}_q(\hat{\rho}_{\psi,\phi})$ for $q \in [1, 2]$. However, using [FYK04, Corollary 2.6], we have $\text{S}_q(\Phi(\hat{\rho}_{\psi,\phi})) \geq \text{S}_q(\hat{\rho}_{\psi,\phi})$ for $q \in [0, 1)$.

Proof of Lemma 4.5. The case of $q = 1$ coincides with the quantum Jensen–Shannon divergence: Using Equation (9), $\text{QJS}(\Phi(\rho_0), \Phi(\rho_1)) \leq \text{QJS}(\rho_0, \rho_1)$ follows from the data-processing inequality of the quantum relative entropy [Lin75, Uhl77] (see also [Pet07, Theorem 3.9]).

It remains to prove the case for $1 < q \leq 2$. We use the standard proof strategy to derive the data-processing inequality from joint convexity, as in [FYK04, Theorem 2.5].

First, we consider the case of the partial trace tr_B on the quantum registers A and B, where $\rho_0, \rho_1 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}_{AB})$ and $\dim(\mathcal{H}_B) = N_B$. Since $\text{QJT}_q(\rho_0 \otimes \tilde{I}_B, \rho_1 \otimes \tilde{I}_B) = \text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1)$ where $\tilde{I}_B := I_B/N_B$ is the maximally mixed state in B, it suffices to consider a quantum channel on registers A and B that is completely depolarizing on B and identity on A, denoted as Φ_{tr_B} . Noting that Φ_{tr_B} can be expressed as a convex combination of unitary channels (e.g., [Wil13, Exercise 4.4.9] or [Rus22, Equation (9)]), for any quantum state ρ_{AB} on registers A and B, we can obtain:

$$\Phi_{\text{tr}_B}(\rho_{AB}) := \text{tr}_B(\rho_{AB}) \otimes \text{tr}(\rho_{AB})\tilde{I}_B = \sum_{l \in [N_B^2]} \frac{1}{N_B^2} (I_A \otimes U_l) \rho_{AB} (I_A \otimes U_l)^\dagger,$$

where U_l is a unitary operator on B for each $l \in [N_B^2]$.

Leveraging the joint convexity (Lemma 4.3) and the unitary invariance (Lemma 2.11) of QJS_q , we derive the following data-processing inequality concerning the quantum channel Φ_{tr_B} :

$$\text{QJT}_q(\text{tr}_B(\rho_0), \text{tr}_B(\rho_1)) \tag{26a}$$

$$= \text{QJT}_q(\Phi_{\text{tr}_B}(\rho_0), \Phi_{\text{tr}_B}(\rho_1)) \tag{26b}$$

$$\leq \sum_{l \in [N_B^2]} \frac{1}{N_B^2} \text{QJT}_q \left((I_A \otimes U_l) \rho_0 (I_A \otimes U_l)^\dagger, (I_A \otimes U_l) \rho_1 (I_A \otimes U_l)^\dagger \right) \tag{26c}$$

$$= \sum_{l \in [N_B^2]} \frac{1}{N_B^2} \text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1) \tag{26d}$$

$$= \text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1). \tag{26e}$$

Next, we move to the general case. Using the Stinespring dilation theorem (e.g., [AS17, Theorem 2.25]), for any quantum channel Φ on the registers (A, B), we have the following representation with some unitary U_Φ on the registers (A, B, E) where $\dim(\mathcal{H}_E) \leq \dim(\mathcal{H}_{AB})^2$:

$$\Phi(\rho_{AB}) = \text{tr}_E \left(U_\Phi(\rho_{AB} \otimes |\bar{0}\rangle\langle\bar{0}|_E) U_\Phi^\dagger \right).$$

Consequently, we can obtain the following for any quantum channel Φ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{QJT}_q(\Phi(\rho_0), \Phi(\rho_1)) &\leq \text{QJT}_q \left(U_\Phi(\rho_0 \otimes |\bar{0}\rangle\langle\bar{0}|_E) U_\Phi^\dagger, U_\Phi(\rho_1 \otimes |\bar{0}\rangle\langle\bar{0}|_E) U_\Phi^\dagger \right) \\ &= \text{QJT}_q(\rho_0 \otimes |\bar{0}\rangle\langle\bar{0}|_E, \rho_1 \otimes |\bar{0}\rangle\langle\bar{0}|_E) \\ &= \text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1). \end{aligned}$$

Here, the first line owes to Equation (26), the second line is due to the unitary invariance of QJT_q (Lemma 2.11), and the last line is because $\text{tr}((\rho_b \otimes |\phi\rangle\langle\phi|_{\mathbb{E}})^q) = \text{tr}(\rho_b^q)$ for any $b \in \{0, 1\}$ and $q \in [1, 2]$. We now complete the proof. \square

4.2 Inequalities between the trace distance and QJT_q

We begin by establishing the lower bound on QJT_q in terms of the trace distance, as stated in Lemma 4.6. The measured variant of the q -Jensen-Tsallis divergence (JT_q), denoted by $\text{QJT}_q^{\text{meas}}$, is derived from the definition provided in Equation (7).

Lemma 4.6 ($\text{T} \leq \text{QJT}_q$). *For any quantum states ρ_0 and ρ_1 , we have the following inequality:*

$$\forall q \in [1, 2], \text{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \text{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\text{T}(\rho_0, \rho_1)}{2}\right) \leq \text{QJT}_q^{\text{meas}}(\rho_0, \rho_1) \leq \text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1).$$

Proof. The case of $q = 1$ follows from [BH09, Theorem 14], and can also be derived by combining [FvdG99, Theorem 1] with the Holevo bound (see [Liu25b, Lemma 2.15] for details).

Our focus will be on the cases where $1 < q \leq 2$. We first prove the second inequality. Let \mathcal{M}^* be an optimal POVM corresponding to $\text{QJT}_q^{\text{meas}}(\rho_0, \rho_1)$, then this POVM \mathcal{M}^* corresponds to a quantum-to-classical channel $\Phi_{\mathcal{M}^*}(\rho) = \sum_{i=1}^N |i\rangle\langle i| \text{tr}(\rho M_i^*)$ (e.g., [AS17, Equation (2.41)]). Using the data-processing inequality for QJT_q (Lemma 4.5), for $1 < q \leq 2$, we obtain:

$$\text{QJT}_q^{\text{meas}}(\rho_0, \rho_1) = \text{QJT}_q(\Phi_{\mathcal{M}^*}(\rho_0), \Phi_{\mathcal{M}^*}(\rho_1)) \leq \text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1).$$

Next, let us move to the first inequality. Let $p_b^{\mathcal{M}}$ be the induced distribution with respect to the POVM \mathcal{M} of ρ_b for any $b \in \{0, 1\}$. Utilizing Lemma 2.5, for $1 < q \leq 2$, we can derive that:

$$\text{QJS}_{q, \mathcal{M}^*}^{\text{meas}}(\rho_0, \rho_1) \geq \text{QJS}_{q, \mathcal{M}}^{\text{meas}}(\rho_0, \rho_1) = \text{JT}_q(p_0^{\mathcal{M}}, p_1^{\mathcal{M}}) \geq \text{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \text{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\text{TV}(p_0^{\mathcal{M}}, p_1^{\mathcal{M}})}{2}\right). \quad (27)$$

We then consider the function $g(q; x)$ and its first derivative $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}g(q; x)$:

$$g(q; x) := \text{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \text{H}_q\left(\frac{1-x}{2}\right) = \frac{2^{-q}}{q-1} ((1+x)^q + (1-x)^q - 2),$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}g(q; x) = \frac{2^{-q}q}{q-1} ((1+x)^{q-1} - (1-x)^{q-1}).$$

Since it is easy to see that $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}g(q; x) \geq 0$ for $0 \leq x \leq 1$ when $1 < q \leq 2$, we know that $g(q; x)$ is monotonically increasing for $0 \leq x \leq 1$. Noting that Equation (27) holds for arbitrary POVM \mathcal{M} , and the trace distance is the measured version of the total variation distance (e.g., [NC10, Theorem 9.1]), we thus complete the proof by choosing the POVM that maximizes $\text{T}(\rho_0, \rho_1)$. \square

Next, we demonstrate the upper bound on QJT_q in terms of the trace distance:

Lemma 4.7 ($\text{QJT}_q \leq \text{T}$). *For any quantum states ρ_0 and ρ_1 , and any $1 \leq q \leq 2$, we have:*

$$\text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1) \leq \text{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(|\rho_0 - \rho_1|^q) \leq \text{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot \text{T}(\rho_0, \rho_1)^q.$$

Proof. We begin with the construction for establishing $\text{QJT}_q \leq \ln 2 \cdot \text{T}$ for $q = 1$ as in [BH09, Theorem 14]. Our analysis differs since we need to address the cases of $1 \leq q \leq 2$. Consider a single qutrit register B with basis vectors $|0\rangle, |1\rangle, |2\rangle$. Define $\hat{\rho}_0$ and $\hat{\rho}_1$ on $\mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{B}$ as below, where $\mathcal{B} = \mathbb{C}^3$ is the Hilbert space corresponding to the register B :

$$\hat{\rho}_0 := \frac{\rho_0 + \rho_1 - |\rho_0 - \rho_1|}{2} \otimes |2\rangle\langle 2| + \frac{\rho_0 - \rho_1 + |\rho_0 - \rho_1|}{2} \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0| := \sigma_2 \otimes |2\rangle\langle 2| + \sigma_0 \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|,$$

$$\hat{\rho}_1 := \frac{\rho_0 + \rho_1 - |\rho_0 - \rho_1|}{2} \otimes |2\rangle\langle 2| + \frac{\rho_1 - \rho_0 + |\rho_0 - \rho_1|}{2} \otimes |1\rangle\langle 1| := \sigma_2 \otimes |2\rangle\langle 2| + \sigma_1 \otimes |1\rangle\langle 1|.$$

Intuitively, σ_b represents the case where ρ_b is “larger than” ρ_{1-b} for $b \in \{0, 1\}$ (i.e., ρ_0 and ρ_1 are “distinguishable”), while σ_2 represents the case where ρ_0 is “indistinguishable” from ρ_1 . This construction generalizes the proof of the classical analogs (e.g., [Vad99, Claim 4.4.2]).

Noting that QJT_q is contractive when applying a partial trace (Lemma 4.5), we obtain:

$$\text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1) = \text{QJT}_q(\text{tr}_B(\hat{\rho}_0), \text{tr}_B(\hat{\rho}_1)) \quad (28a)$$

$$\leq \text{QJT}_q(\hat{\rho}_0, \hat{\rho}_1) \quad (28b)$$

$$= \frac{1}{q-1} \left(\text{tr} \left(\left(\frac{\hat{\rho}_0 + \hat{\rho}_1}{2} \right)^q \right) - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\hat{\rho}_0^q) - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\hat{\rho}_1^q) \right). \quad (28c)$$

Noting that $\sigma_0 \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|$, $\sigma_1 \otimes |1\rangle\langle 1|$, and $\sigma_2 \otimes |2\rangle\langle 2|$ are orthogonal to each other, we have:

$$\text{tr} \left(\left(\frac{\hat{\rho}_0 + \hat{\rho}_1}{2} \right)^q \right) = \text{tr} \left(\left(\sigma_2 \otimes |2\rangle\langle 2| + \sum_{b \in \{0,1\}} \frac{\sigma_b}{2} \otimes |b\rangle\langle b| \right)^q \right) = \text{tr} \left(\sigma_2^q + \frac{\sigma_0^q}{2^q} + \frac{\sigma_1^q}{2^q} \right), \quad (29a)$$

$$\forall b \in \{0, 1\}, \text{tr}(\hat{\rho}_b^q) = \text{tr}((\sigma_2 \otimes |2\rangle\langle 2| + \sigma_b \otimes |b\rangle\langle b|)^q) = \text{tr}(\sigma_2^q + \sigma_b^q). \quad (30a)$$

Plugging Equations (29) and (30) and the equality $H_q(\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1-2^{1-q}}{q-1}$ into Equation (28), we obtain:

$$\text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1) \leq H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\sigma_0^q + \sigma_1^q) \quad (31a)$$

$$\leq H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{2} (\text{tr}(\sigma_0)^q + \text{tr}(\sigma_1)^q) \quad (31b)$$

$$= H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot \mathbb{T}(\rho_0, \rho_1)^q. \quad (31c)$$

Here, the second line is due to the monotonicity of the Schatten p -norm (e.g., [AS17, Equation (1.31)]), equivalently, $\text{tr}(M^q) \leq \text{tr}(M)^q$ for any positive semi-definite matrix M and $q \geq 1$. The last line owes to the fact that:

$$\forall b \in \{0, 1\}, \text{tr}(\sigma_b) = (-1)^b \text{tr} \left(\frac{\rho_0 - \rho_1}{2} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(|\rho_0 - \rho_1|) = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(|\rho_0 - \rho_1|).$$

Lastly, since σ_0 and σ_1 are orthogonal to each other, we complete the proof by plugging the equality $\text{tr}(\sigma_0^q + \sigma_1^q) = \text{tr}((\sigma_0 + \sigma_1)^q) = \text{tr}(|\rho_0 - \rho_1|^q)$ into the first line in Equation (31). \square

4.3 Bounds for the Tsallis binary entropy

In this subsection, we establish lower and upper bounds (Lemmas 4.8 and 4.9, respectively) for the Tsallis binary entropy, which are useful when applying the lower bound on QJT_q in terms of the trace distance (Lemma 4.6).

We begin by proving a lower bound, which extends the bound $H(1/2) \cdot 4x(1-x) \leq H(x)$ from the specific case of $q = 1$, as stated in [Top01, Theorem 1.2], to a broader range of q :

Lemma 4.8 (Tsallis binary entropy lower bound). *For any $p = (x, 1-x)$, let $H_q(x)$ denote the Tsallis binary entropy with $q \in [0, 2] \cup [3, +\infty)$, we have:*

$$H_q(1/2) \cdot 4x(1-x) \leq H_q(x).$$

Proof. We need only consider the cases where $q \in \mathcal{I} := [0, 1) \cup (1, 2] \cup [3, +\infty)$, as the case $q = 1$ directly follows from [Top01, Theorem 1.2]. Our proof strategy is inspired by the approach used in that theorem. We start by defining functions $F(q; x)$ and $G(q; x)$ on $0 \leq x \leq 1$ and $q \in \mathcal{I}$:

$$F(q; x) := \frac{H_q(x)}{x(1-x)} = \frac{1-x^q - (1-x)^q}{(q-1)x(1-x)} \text{ and } G(q; x) := \frac{x^{q-1} - 1}{(q-1)(x-1)}.$$

It is evident that $F(q; x) = F(q; 1 - x)$ for all $x \in [0, 1]$ and that $F(q; 1/2) = 4H_q(1/2)$. For the endpoints $x = 0$ and $x = 1$, one can verify the following evaluation holds:²⁹

$$F(q, 1) = F(q, 0) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} F(q, x) = \begin{cases} \infty, & \text{if } q \in [0, 1) \\ q/(q-1), & \text{if } q \in \mathcal{I} \setminus [0, 1) \end{cases}.$$

We then assume that $G(q; x)$ is convex on $x \in [0, 1]$ for any fixed $q \in \mathcal{I}$:

$$\text{For any } x \in [0, 1] \text{ and } q \in (1, 2], \quad \frac{\partial^2 G(q; x)}{\partial x^2} = \frac{(q-2)x^{q-3}}{x-1} - \frac{2x^{q-2}}{(x-1)^2} + \frac{2(x^{q-1}-1)}{(x-1)^3(q-1)} \geq 0. \quad (32)$$

Since $F(q; x) = G(q; x) + G(q; 1-x)$, Equation (32) implies that $F(q, x)$ is convex on $x \in [0, 1]$ for any fixed $q \in \mathcal{I}$. We can obtain that: for any $q \in \mathcal{I}$, $F(q; x)$ is monotonically decreasing on $x \in (0, 1/2)$ and monotonically increasing on $x \in (1/2, 1)$. Consequently, we establish the lower bound by noticing that:

$$\text{For any } x \in [0, 1] \text{ and } q \in \mathcal{I}, F(q; x) \geq F(q; 1/2) = 4H_q(1/2).$$

It remains to prove Equation (32). Noting that $(x-1)^3 \leq 0$ for any $0 \leq x \leq 1$, Equation (32) holds if and only if the following holds:

$$f(q; x) := (q-2)(x-1)^2 x^{q-3} - 2(x-1)x^{q-2} + \frac{2(x^{q-1}-1)}{q-1} \leq 0.$$

A direct calculation implies that $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(q; x) = (q-3)(q-2)(x-1)^2 x^{q-4} \geq 0$ for any $q \in \mathcal{I}$ and $x \in [0, 1]$ since $\mathcal{I} \cap (2, 3) = \emptyset$. Hence, for any fixed $q \in \mathcal{I}$, $f(q; x)$ is monotonically increasing for any $x \in (0, 1)$. Therefore, we complete the proof by concluding that

$$\max_{x \in [0, 1]} f(q; x) \leq f(q, 1) = 0. \quad \square$$

Next, we will demonstrate an upper bound for the range of $1 < q \leq 2$ that is weaker than the best known upper bound for the case of $q = 1$ as shown in [Top01, Theorem 1.2]:³⁰

Lemma 4.9 (Tsallis binary entropy upper bound). *For any $p = (x, 1-x)$, let $H_q(x)$ denote the Tsallis binary entropy with $1 \leq q \leq 2$, we have:*

$$H_q(x) \leq H_q(1/2) \cdot (4x(1-x))^{1/2}.$$

Proof. The case of $q = 1$ follows directly from [Lin91, Theorem 8], it remains to address the range $1 < q \leq 2$. We will establish the bound separately for $x \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{inner}}$ and $x \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{outer}}$, where $\mathcal{I}_{\text{inner}} \cup \mathcal{I}_{\text{outer}} = [0, 1]$. Specifically, these intervals are defined as $\mathcal{I}_{\text{inner}} := [1/10, 9/10]$ and $\mathcal{I}_{\text{outer}} := [0, 1/8] \cup [7/8, 1]$.

The outer interval case. We start with the case of $x \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{outer}}$. Since $H_q(x) = H_q(1-x)$ for any $0 \leq x \leq 1$, it is sufficient to consider the case of $0 \leq x \leq 1/8$. Noting that $q-1 \geq 0$, it suffices to show that: For any $0 \leq x \leq 1/8$ and $1 < q \leq 2$,

$$(q-1) \left(H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \sqrt{4x(1-x)} - H_q(x) \right) = (2-2^{2-q}) \sqrt{x(1-x)} - (1-x^q - (1-x)^q) \geq 0. \quad (33)$$

²⁹For $q \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{0\}$, this evaluation follows from an application of the L'Hôpital's rule, which implies that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} F(q; x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{-qx^{q-1} + q(1-x)^{q-1}}{(q-1)(1-2x)} = \frac{q}{q-1} \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} F_*(q; x)$, where $F_*(q; x) := \frac{(1-x)^{q-1} - x^{q-1}}{1-2x}$. The desired limit then follows from the facts that when $q \in (0, 1)$, one has $q/(q-1) < 0$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} F_*(q; x) = -\infty$, and that when $q > 1$, it holds that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} F_*(q; x) = 1$. The case of $q = 0$ holds straightforwardly.

³⁰Numerical evidence suggests that Lemma 4.9 can be improved to $H_q(x) \leq H_q(\frac{1}{2}) \cdot (4x(1-x))^{\frac{1}{2H_q(1/2)}}$ for any $0 \leq x \leq 1$ and $1 \leq q \leq 2$, which coincides with the bound $H(x) \leq H(1/2)(4x(1-x))^{\frac{1}{2H(1/2)}}$ in [Top01].

Leveraging the Taylor expansion of $1 - (1 - x)^q$ at $x = 0$, we obtain that:

$$1 - (1 - x)^q = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k!} \prod_{r=0}^{k-1} (q - r)x^k := \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k x^k \leq qx. \quad (34)$$

Here, notice that $1 < q \leq 2$, the last inequality owes to the fact that $\alpha_1 = q > 0$ and $\alpha_k \leq 0$ for all integer $k \geq 2$. Plugging Equation (34) into Equation (33), it remains to prove that:

$$F_1(q; x) := \frac{-x^q + qx}{\sqrt{x(1-x)}} \leq 2 - 2^{2-q}.$$

A direct calculation implies that $F_1(q; 1/8) = (q - 2^{3-3q})/\sqrt{7}$ satisfies $2 - 2^{2-q} - F_1(q; 1/8) > 0$ for $1 < q \leq 2$.³¹ As a consequence, it is enough to show that $F_1(q, x)$ is monotonically non-decreasing on $x \in [0, 1/8]$ for any fixed $q \in (1, 2]$, specifically:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} F_1(q; x) = \frac{1}{2}(x(1-x))^{-3/2}(qx + (1 + 2q(x-1) - 2x)x^q) \geq 0. \quad (35)$$

Noting that $\frac{1}{2}(x(1-x))^{-3/2} \geq 0$, Equation (35) holds if and only if the following holds:

$$F_2(q; x) := (2(1-q)x + 2q - 1)x^{q-1} \leq q.$$

A direct calculation implies that $F_2(q; 1/8) = 2^{1-3q}(7q - 3)$ satisfies that $q - F_2(q; 1/8) > 0$ for $1 < q \leq 2$. Consequently, it suffices to show that $F_2(q; x)$ is monotonically non-decreasing on $x \in [0, 1/8]$ for any fixed $q \in (1, 2]$, particularly:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} F_2(q; x) = x^{q-2}(q-1)(2q(1-x) - 1) \geq 0. \quad (36)$$

Since $x^{q-2}(q-1) > 0$ for any $q \in (1, 2]$ and $x \in [0, 1/8]$, Equation (36) holds if and only if $F_3(q; x) := 2q(1-x) - 1 \geq 0$. It is evident that $F_3(q; x) \geq 0$ is equivalent to $x \leq 1 - 1/2q < 1/2$ for $1 < q \leq 2$, and thus we complete the proof of the outer interval case.

The inner interval case. Next, we move to the case of $x \in \mathcal{I}_{\text{inner}}$. Let $x = (1+t)/2$, then it suffices to consider the case of $0 \leq t \leq 1$ since $H_q(x) = H_q(1-x)$ for any $0 \leq x \leq 1$. Noting that $2^q/(q-1) > 0$ for $1 < q \leq 2$, it suffices to show that: For any $0 \leq t \leq 4/5$ and $1 < q \leq 2$,

$$2^q(q-1) \left(H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \sqrt{4x(1-x)} - H_q(x) \right) = (1-t)^q + (1+t)^q - \left(2^q + (2-2^q)\sqrt{1-t^2} \right) \geq 0. \quad (37)$$

Utilizing the Taylor expansion of $(1-t)^q + (1+t)^q$ at $t = 0$, we obtain that:

$$(1-t)^q + (1+t)^q = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{2}{(2k)!} \prod_{r=0}^{2k-1} (q-r)t^{2k} := \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \beta_k t^{2k} \geq \beta_0 + \beta_1^2 = 2 + q(q-1)t^2. \quad (38)$$

Here, the last inequality is because $\beta_k \geq 0$ for all integer $k \geq 0$. Substituting Equation (38) into Equation (37), it remains to show that:

$$2 + q(q-1)t^2 \geq 2^q + (2-2^q)\sqrt{1-t^2}. \quad (39)$$

Let $u := \sqrt{1-t^2} \in [3/5, 1]$. Then Equation (39) can be rewritten as

$$G(q; u) \leq 0 \quad \text{where} \quad G(q; u) := \frac{q(q-1)}{2^q-2}u^2 - u + 1 - \frac{q(q-1)}{2^q-2}.$$

Observe that $G(q; u)$ is a quadratic function in u with positive leading coefficient for $q \in (1, 2]$. Consequently, it suffices to verify the inequality at the endpoints $u = 3/5$ and $u = 1$ when

³¹It is noteworthy that $2 - 2^{2-q} - F_1(q; 1/2) = 2 - 2^{1-q} - q < 0$ for $1 < q \leq 2$, and consequently, the outer interval case is not enough to establish our Tsallis binary entropy upper bound for any $0 \leq x \leq 1$.

$1 < q \leq 2$. A direct calculation shows that $G(q; 1) = 0$, and that $G(q; 3/5) \leq 0$ is equivalent to

$$G_*(q) := 8q(q-1) - 5(2^q - 2) \geq 0.$$

Differentiating G_* yields $\frac{d}{dq}G_*(q) = 16q - 8 - 5 \cdot 2^q \ln 2$ and $\frac{d^2}{dq^2}G_*(q) = 16 - 5 \cdot 2^q (\ln 2)^2$. Since $\frac{d^2}{dq^2}G_*(q)$ is monotonically decreasing on $(1, 2]$ and $\ln 2 \leq 5/6$, we obtain $\frac{d^2}{dq^2}G_*(q) \geq \frac{d^2}{dq^2}G_*(q)|_{q=2} = 16 - 20(\ln 2)^2 \geq 19/9 > 0$. Therefore, $\frac{d}{dq}G_*(q)$ is monotonically increasing on $(1, 2]$, and $\frac{d}{dq}G_*(q) \geq \frac{d}{dq}G_*(q)|_{q=1} = 8 - 10 \ln 2 \geq 1$. It follows that $G_*(q)$ is monotonically increasing on $q \in (1, 2]$. Since $G_*(1) = 0$, we conclude that $G_*(q) > 0$ for all $q \in (1, 2]$, thereby establishing Equation (39). \square

4.4 Useful bounds on Tsallis entropy

In this subsection, we present a useful bound on Tsallis entropy. Lemma 4.10 establishes inequalities between the Tsallis entropy of a distribution p and the total variation distance between p and the uniform distribution of the same dimension.

Lemma 4.10 (Tsallis entropy bounds by closeness to uniform distribution). *Let p be a probability distribution over $[N]$ with $N \geq 2$, and let ν be the uniform distribution over $[N]$. Then, for any $q > 1$ and $0 \leq \text{TV}(p, \nu) \leq 1 - 1/N$, it holds that:*

$$(1 - \text{TV}(p, \nu) - 1/N) \ln_q(N) \leq H_q(p).$$

Moreover, for any $q > 1$ and N satisfying $1/q \leq \text{TV}(p, \nu) \leq 1 - 1/N$, it holds that:

$$H_q(p) \leq \ln_q(N(1 - \text{TV}(p, \nu))).$$

Proof. Let $\gamma := \text{TV}(p, \nu)$, and let Δ_N be the set of probability distributions of dimension N . It is evident that $0 \leq \text{TV}(p, \nu) \leq 1 - 1/N$. To establish the lower bound, it suffices to minimize the Tsallis entropy $H_q(p)$ subject to the constraint $\text{TV}(p, \nu) = \gamma$, which is equivalent to solve the convex optimization problem in Equation (40).³²

$$\begin{aligned} \text{minimize} \quad & H_q(p') \\ \text{subject to} \quad & p' \in \Delta_N, \\ & \text{TV}(p', \nu) \leq \gamma \end{aligned} \quad (40) \quad p_{\min}(i) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{N}, & \text{if } i \in [k_{\min}] \\ \frac{1}{N} + \gamma, & \text{if } i = k_{\min} + 1 \\ \frac{\varepsilon}{N}, & \text{if } i = k_{\min} + 2 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (41a)$$

$$\text{where} \quad \begin{aligned} k_{\min} &:= \lfloor N(1 - \gamma) \rfloor - 1, \\ \varepsilon &:= N(1 - \gamma) - \lfloor N(1 - \gamma) \rfloor. \end{aligned} \quad (41b)$$

Note that $H_q(p)$ is concave (Lemma 2.3) for any fixed $q > 1$, and the constraints in Equation (40) form a closed convex set. Since the minimum of a concave function is attained at some extreme point (e.g., [Roc70, Corollary 32.3.1]) and the Tsallis entropy is permutation-invariant, we deduce an optimal solution p_{\min} to Equation (40), as stated in Equation (41).

Next, we can deduce the lower bound of the Tsallis entropy by evaluating $H_q(p_{\min})$:

$$\begin{aligned} H_q(p_{\min}) &= \frac{1}{q-1} \left(1 - k_{\min} \left(\frac{1}{N} \right)^q - \left(\frac{1}{N} + \gamma \right)^q - \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{N} \right)^q \right) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{q-1} \left(\frac{(\lfloor N(1 - \gamma) \rfloor - 1)}{N} + \frac{\varepsilon}{N} - (\lfloor N(1 - \gamma) \rfloor - 1 + \varepsilon^q) \left(\frac{1}{N} \right)^q \right) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{q-1} \left(1 - \gamma - \frac{1}{N} - \left(1 - \gamma - \frac{1}{N} \right) \left(\frac{1}{N} \right)^{q-1} \right) \end{aligned}$$

³²A similar formulation also appeared in the proof of [KLG19, Lemma 16].

$$= \left(1 - \gamma - \frac{1}{N}\right) \ln_q(N).$$

Here, the second line excludes terms corresponding to $p_{\min}(k_{\min} + 1)$,³³ and the third line follows from the fact that $\varepsilon^q \leq \varepsilon$ for $q \geq 1$ and $0 \leq \varepsilon \leq 1$.

To demonstrate the upper bound, it remains to maximize the Tsallis entropy $H_q(p)$ subject to the constraint $\text{TV}(p, \nu) = \gamma$, which is equivalent to solve a *non-convex* optimization problem analogous to Equation (40). This task is challenging in general, but we consider only the regime $\text{TV}(p, \nu) \geq 1/q$.³⁴ Particularly, we focus on the following optimization problem:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize} && H_q(p') \\ & \text{subject to} && p' \in \Delta_N, \\ & && \text{TV}(p', \nu) \geq \gamma \geq 1/q \end{aligned} \quad (42)$$

It is not too hard to obtain an optimal solution p_{\max} to Equation (42), where ε is defined as in Equation (41), as stated in Proposition 4.10.1. The proof is deferred in Section A.1.

Proposition 4.10.1. *For the optimization problem presented in Equation (42), an optimal solution is the distribution provided in Equation (43), where $\varepsilon = N(1 - \gamma) - \lfloor N(1 - \gamma) \rfloor$:*

$$p_{\max}(i) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{N} + \frac{\gamma}{k_{\max}}, & \text{if } i \in [k_{\max}] \\ \frac{\varepsilon}{N(N - k_{\max})}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \text{ where } k_{\max} := \lfloor N(1 - \gamma) \rfloor. \quad (43)$$

Consequently, we can derive the upper bound of the Tsallis entropy by evaluating $H_q(p_{\max})$:

$$\begin{aligned} H_q(p_{\max}) &= \frac{1}{q-1} \left(1 - k_{\max} \left(\frac{1}{N} + \frac{\gamma}{k_{\max}} \right)^q - (N - k_{\max}) \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{N(N - k_{\max})} \right)^q \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{q-1} \left(1 - \left(1 - \frac{\varepsilon}{N} \right)^q \left(\frac{1}{N(1 - \gamma) - \varepsilon} \right)^{q-1} - \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{N} \right)^q \left(\frac{1}{N\gamma + \varepsilon} \right)^{q-1} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{q-1} \left(1 - \left(\frac{1}{N(1 - \gamma)} \right)^{q-1} \right) \\ &= \ln_q(N(1 - \gamma)). \end{aligned}$$

Let $F(q; N, \varepsilon, \gamma) := \left(1 - \frac{\varepsilon}{N}\right)^q (N(1 - \gamma) - \varepsilon)^{1-q} + \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{N}\right)^q (N\gamma + \varepsilon)^{1-q}$, then the third line holds by assuming that $F(q; N, \varepsilon, \gamma)$ is monotonically non-decreasing on $0 \leq \varepsilon \leq 1$ for any fixed γ, q , and N satisfying $q\gamma \geq 1$ and $N \geq q/(q - 1)$.

It remains to prove $\frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon} F(q; N, \varepsilon, \gamma) \geq 0$ the aforementioned range of x, γ, q , and N . By a direct calculation, we complete the proof by noticing all terms in the following are non-negative:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon} F(q; N, \varepsilon, \gamma) = \left(1 - \frac{\varepsilon}{N}\right)^q \frac{(N(\gamma q - 1) + \varepsilon)}{(N - \varepsilon)(N(1 - \gamma) - \varepsilon)^q} + \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{N}\right)^q \frac{(\gamma N q + \varepsilon)}{\varepsilon(\gamma N + \varepsilon)^q} \geq 0. \quad \square$$

5 Hardness and lower bounds via QJT $_q$ -based reductions

In this section, we will establish reductions from the closeness testing of quantum states via the trace distance to testing via the quantum q -Tsallis entropy difference. Our proof crucially depends on the properties of the quantum Jensen-Tsallis divergence (QJT $_q$) demonstrated in Section 4. Using these reductions, we will prove computational hardness results and query

³³We exclude the terms $\left(\frac{1}{N} + \gamma\right)$ and $-\left(\frac{1}{N} + \gamma\right)^q$, whose combined contribution is non-negative for $q \geq 1$. Moreover, the term $\frac{1}{N} + \gamma$ is implicitly accounted for in the term 1, since $\sum_i p_{\min}(i) = \frac{k_{\min}}{N} + \left(\frac{1}{N} + \gamma\right) + \frac{\varepsilon}{N} = 1$ according to Equation (41).

³⁴For the regime $0 \leq \text{TV}(p, \nu) \leq 1/q$, the optimal solution to Equation (42) depends on the choice of q .

complexity lower bounds for several problems related to the quantum q -Tsallis entropy difference under various circumstances.

We begin by defining the QUANTUM q -TSALLIS ENTROPY DIFFERENCE and the QUANTUM q -TSALLIS ENTROPY APPROXIMATION, denoted by $\text{TSALLISQED}_q[g(n)]$ and $\text{TSALLISQEA}_q[t(n), g(n)]$, respectively. These definitions generalize the counterpart definitions in [BASTS10] from the von Neumann entropy (i.e., QJT_q with $q = 1$) to the quantum q -Tsallis entropy for $1 \leq q \leq 2$.

Definition 5.1 (Quantum q -Tsallis Entropy Difference, TSALLISQED_q). *Let Q_0 and Q_1 be quantum circuits acting on m qubits and having n specified output qubits, where $m(n)$ is a polynomial in n . Let ρ_i be the quantum state obtained by running Q_i on $|0\rangle^{\otimes m}$ and tracing out the non-output qubits. Let $g(n)$ be a positive efficiently computable function. Decide whether:*

- Yes: *The pair of quantum circuits (Q_0, Q_1) such that $S_q(\rho_0) - S_q(\rho_1) \geq g(n)$;*
- No: *The pair of quantum circuits (Q_0, Q_1) such that $S_q(\rho_1) - S_q(\rho_0) \geq g(n)$.*

Definition 5.2 (Quantum q -Tsallis Entropy Approximation, TSALLISQEA_q). *Let Q be a quantum circuit acting on m qubits and having n specified output qubits, where $m(n)$ is a polynomial in n . Let ρ be the quantum state obtained by running Q on $|0\rangle^{\otimes m}$ and tracing out the non-output qubits. Let $g(n)$ and $t(n)$ be positive efficiently computable functions. Decide whether:*

- Yes: *The quantum circuit Q such that $S_q(\rho) \geq t(n) + g(n)$;*
- No: *The quantum circuit Q such that $S_q(\rho) \leq t(n) - g(n)$.*

Notably, the quantum q -Tsallis entropy of any pure state is zero. Hence, similar to Section 2.2, it is reasonable to define *constant-rank* variants of TSALLISQED_q and TSALLISQEA_q :

- (1) $\text{CONSTRANKTSALLISQED}_q$: the ranks of ρ_0 and ρ_1 are at most $O(1)$.
- (2) $\text{CONSTRANKTSALLISQEA}_q$: the rank of ρ is at most $O(1)$.

Next, we present the main theorem in this section:

Theorem 5.3 (Computational hardness for TSALLISQED_q and TSALLISQEA_q). *The promise problems TSALLISQED_q and TSALLISQEA_q capture the computational power of their respective complexity classes in the corresponding regimes of q :*

- (1) *For any $q \in [1, 2]$ and $n \geq 3$, it holds that: For $1/\text{poly}(n) \leq g_q(n) \leq 2^q \text{H}_q(1/2)(1 - 2^{-\frac{n}{2} + \frac{7}{5}})$, $\text{CONSTRANKTSALLISQED}_q[g_q(n)]$ is BQP-hard under Karp reduction. Consequently, $\text{CONSTRANKTSALLISQEA}_q$ with $g(n) = \Theta(1)$ is BQP-hard under Turing reduction.*
- (2) *For any $q \in (1, 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}]$ and $n \geq 90$, it holds that: For $1/\text{poly}(n) \leq g(n) \leq 1/400$, $\text{TSALLISQED}_q[g(n)]$ is QSZK-hard under Karp reduction. Consequently, TSALLISQEA_q with $g(n) = \Theta(1)$ is QSZK-hard under Turing reduction.*
- (3) *For any $n \geq 5$, it holds that: For $1/\text{poly}(n) \leq g(n) \leq 1/150$, $\text{TSALLISQEA}_{1+\frac{1}{n-1}}$ with $g(n)$ is NIQSZK-hard.*

In particular, Theorem 5.3(1) is derived from the pure-state reduction (Lemma 5.4), and the detailed statements are Theorems 5.7 and 5.8. Moreover, Theorem 5.3(2) is obtained through a mixed-state reduction (Lemma 5.5), and the detailed statements are Theorems 5.9 and 5.10. Furthermore, Theorem 5.3(3) follows from a tailor-made mixed state reduction for QSCMM (Lemma 5.6), and the detailed statement is Theorem 5.11.

Lastly, using the reductions in Lemma 5.5, we derive lower bounds on the quantum query and sample complexity for estimating $S_q(\rho)$ where $1 < q \leq 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$, as presented in Theorems 5.13

and 5.16. These theorems build on prior works in quantum query complexity [CFMdW10] and sample complexity [OW21] lower bounds for the trace distance. In addition, we provide quantum query and sample complexity lower bounds for estimating $S_q(\rho)$ when $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$, leveraging the hard instances from [Bel19], as detailed in Theorems 5.12 and 5.15.

5.1 Pure-state reduction: PUREQSD \leq CONSTRANKTSALLISQED $_q$ for $1 \leq q \leq 2$

The reduction in Lemma 5.4 is from the trace distance between two n -qubit pure states (PUREQSD) to the quantum q -Tsallis entropy difference between two new constant-rank $(n+1)$ -qubit states (CONSTRANKTSALLISQED $_q$), for $1 \leq q \leq 2$.

Lemma 5.4 (PUREQSD \leq CONSTRANKTSALLISQED $_q$). *Let Q_0 and Q_1 be quantum circuits acting on n qubits and having the same number of output qubits. Let $|\psi_i\rangle$ be the quantum state obtained by running Q_i on $|0\rangle^{\otimes n}$. For any $b \in \{0, 1\}$, there is a new quantum circuit Q'_b acting on $n+3$ qubits, using $O(1)$ queries to controlled- Q_0 and controlled- Q_1 , as well as $O(1)$ one- and two-qubit gates. The circuit Q'_b prepares a new quantum state ρ'_b , which has constant rank and acts on $n' := n+1$ qubits, such that for any efficiently computable functions $\alpha(n)$ and $\beta(n)$, where $\beta(n) + \sqrt{1 - \alpha(n)^2} < 1$, and any $q \in [1, 2]$, the following holds:*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{T}(|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0|, |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|) \geq \alpha(n) &\Rightarrow S_q(\rho'_0) - S_q(\rho'_1) \geq g_q(n') = g_q(n+1), \\ \mathbb{T}(|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0|, |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|) \leq \beta(n) &\Rightarrow S_q(\rho'_1) - S_q(\rho'_0) \geq g_q(n') = g_q(n+1), \end{aligned}$$

where $g_q(n+1) := 2^{-q} \cdot H_q(1/2) \cdot \left(1 - \beta(n)^q - \sqrt{1 - \alpha(n)^2}\right)$.

Proof. Our proof strategy is inspired by the proof of [Liu25b, Corollary 4.3 and Lemma 4.4]. We begin by considering the following constant-rank quantum states ρ'_0 and ρ'_1 , which can be prepared by the quantum circuits Q'_0 and Q'_1 , respectively:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho'_0 &:= (p_0|0\rangle\langle 0| + p_1|1\rangle\langle 1|) \otimes \frac{1}{2} (|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0| + |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|) \\ \rho'_1 &:= \frac{1}{2}|0\rangle\langle 0| \otimes |\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0| + \frac{1}{2}|1\rangle\langle 1| \otimes |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|. \end{aligned}$$

Here, (p_0, p_1) is some two-element probability distribution that will be specified later. Moreover, for any $b \in \{0, 1\}$, the quantum circuit Q'_b uses $O(1)$ queries to controlled- Q_0 and controlled- Q_1 as well as $O(1)$ one- and two-qubit gates, as presented in [Liu25b, Figure 1 and Figure 2].

Using the pseudo-additivity of S_q (Lemma 2.9), we can obtain that:

$$S_q(\rho'_0) = H_q(p_0) + S_q\left(\frac{|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0| + |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|}{2}\right) - (q-1) \cdot H_q(p_0) \cdot S_q\left(\frac{|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0| + |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|}{2}\right) \quad (44a)$$

$$= H_q(p_0) + (1 - (q-1)H_q(p_0)) \cdot S_q\left(\frac{|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0| + |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|}{2}\right). \quad (44b)$$

By the joint q -Tsallis entropy theorem (Lemma 2.12), we have:

$$S_q(\rho'_1) = H_q(1/2) + 2^{-q}(S_q(|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0|) + S_q(|\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|)) = H_q(1/2). \quad (45)$$

Combining Equations (44) and (45), we conclude that:

$$S_q(\rho'_0) - S_q(\rho'_1) = (1 - (q-1)H_q(p_0)) \cdot S_q\left(\frac{|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0| + |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|}{2}\right) + H_q(p_0) - H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \quad (46a)$$

$$= (1 - (q-1)H_q(p_0)) \cdot \text{QJT}_q(|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0|, |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|) + H_q(p_0) - H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right). \quad (46b)$$

Next, we choose $p_0 \in (0, 1/2)$ satisfying the following equality:

$$H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - H_q(p_0) = \frac{1 - (q-1)H_q(p_0)}{2} \left(H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - H_q\left(\frac{1-\alpha}{2}\right) + H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot \beta^q\right). \quad (47)$$

As a consequence, we can derive that:

- For the case where $\mathbb{T}(|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0|, |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|) \geq \alpha$, plugging the lower bound on QJT_q in terms of the trace distance (Lemma 4.6) into Equations (46) and (47), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} S_q(\rho'_0) - S_q(\rho'_1) &\geq (1 - (q-1)\mathbb{H}_q(p_0)) \cdot \left(\mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1-\alpha}{2}\right) \right) + \mathbb{H}_q(p_0) - \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \\ &= \frac{1 - (q-1)\mathbb{H}_q(p_0)}{2} \left(\mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot (1 - \beta^q) - \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1-\alpha}{2}\right) \right) := \tilde{g}_q. \end{aligned}$$

- For the case where $\mathbb{T}(|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0|, |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|) \leq \beta$, plugging the upper bound on QJT_q in terms of the trace distance (Lemma 4.7) into Equations (46) and (47), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} S_q(\rho'_0) - S_q(\rho'_1) &\leq (1 - (q-1)\mathbb{H}_q(p_0)) \cdot \beta^q \cdot \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + \mathbb{H}_q(p_0) - \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \\ &= -\frac{1 - (q-1)\mathbb{H}_q(p_0)}{2} \left(\mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot (1 - \beta^q) - \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1-\alpha}{2}\right) \right) = -\tilde{g}_q. \end{aligned}$$

It is left to show a lower bound on $\tilde{g}(n)$. Using $\mathbb{H}_q(x) \leq \mathbb{H}_q(1/2)$ in Lemma 2.3, we have

$$\frac{1 - (q-1) \cdot \mathbb{H}_q(p_0)}{2} \geq \frac{1}{2} - \frac{q-1}{2} \cdot \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 2^{-q}. \quad (48)$$

Plugging the Tsallis binary entropy upper bound (Lemma 4.9) and Equation (48) into $\tilde{g}(n)$, we complete the proof by concluding the following:

$$\tilde{g}_q(n) \geq 2^{-q} \cdot \mathbb{H}_q(1/2) \cdot \left(1 - \beta(n)^q - \sqrt{1 - \alpha^2(n)} \right) := g_q(n+1) = g_q(n'). \quad \square$$

5.2 Mixed-state reductions

In this subsection, we present two reductions for mixed states. The first reduction is from the trace distance between two n -qubit states (QSD), to the quantum q -Tsallis entropy difference between two new $(n+1)$ -qubit states (TSALLISQED_q), for $1 \leq q \leq 2$, under appropriate assumptions about $S_q(\rho_0)$ and $S_q(\rho_1)$, as stated in Lemma 5.5. The second reduction is from the trace distance between an n -qubit quantum state (QSCMM) and the n -qubit maximally mixed state to the quantum q -Tsallis entropy of the state (TSALLISQEA_q) for $q = 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$, as stated in Lemma 5.6.

5.2.1 QSD \leq TSALLISQED_q for $1 \leq q \leq 2$

Lemma 5.5 ($\text{QSD} \leq \text{TSALLISQED}_q$). *Let Q_0 and Q_1 be quantum circuits acting on m qubit, defined in Definition 5.1, that prepares the purification of n -qubit mixed states ρ_0 and ρ_1 , respectively. For any $b \in \{0, 1\}$, there is a new quantum circuits Q'_b acting on $m+3$ qubits, requiring $O(1)$ queries to controlled- Q_0 and controlled- Q_1 , as well as $O(1)$ one- and two-qubit gates, that prepares a new n' -qubit mixed state ρ'_b , where $n' := n+1$, such that: For any ρ_0 and ρ_1 satisfying $\max\{S_q(\rho_0), S_q(\rho_1)\} \leq \gamma(n)$ with $S_q(I/2) \leq \gamma(n) \leq S_q((I/2)^{\otimes n})$, any $\varepsilon(n) \in (0, 1/2)$, and any $q \in [1, 2]$, there is a $g(n) > 0$ with appropriate ranges of γ , ε , and n such that*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{T}(\rho_0, \rho_1) \geq 1 - \varepsilon(n) &\quad \Rightarrow \quad S_q(\rho'_0) - S_q(\rho'_1) \geq g_q(n') = g_q(n+1), \\ \mathbb{T}(\rho_0, \rho_1) \leq \varepsilon(n) &\quad \Rightarrow \quad S_q(\rho'_1) - S_q(\rho'_0) \geq g_q(n') = g_q(n+1), \end{aligned}$$

where $g_q(n) := \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \gamma(n)\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2^q}\right) - \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^q}\right) \left(\frac{\varepsilon(n)^q}{2^q} \ln_q(2^n) + \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \sqrt{\varepsilon(n)(2-\varepsilon(n))} \right)$.

Proof. Our proof strategy is somewhat inspired by [BASTS10, Section 5.4]. We start by consid-

ering the following mixed states ρ'_0 and ρ'_1 :

$$\begin{aligned}\rho'_0 &:= (\vartheta|0\rangle\langle 0| + (1 - \vartheta)|1\rangle\langle 1|) \otimes \rho_+, \text{ where } 2\mathbb{H}_q(\vartheta) = \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \text{ and } \rho_+ := \frac{\rho_0 + \rho_1}{2}, \\ \rho'_1 &:= \frac{1}{2}|0\rangle\langle 0| \otimes \rho_0 + \frac{1}{2}|1\rangle\langle 1| \otimes \rho_1.\end{aligned}$$

These states ρ'_0 and ρ'_1 can be prepared by the quantum circuits Q'_0 and Q'_1 , respectively. For instance, adapting the constructions in [Liu25b, Figure 1 and Figure 2], for any $b \in \{0, 1\}$, the quantum circuit Q'_b uses $O(1)$ queries to controlled- Q_0 and controlled- Q_1 , as well as $O(1)$ one- and two-qubit gates.

Utilizing the pseudo-additivity of S_q (Lemma 2.9), we have:

$$S_q(\rho'_0) = \mathbb{H}_q(\vartheta) + (1 - (q - 1)\mathbb{H}_q(\vartheta))S_q(\rho_+) = \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + \left(1 - \frac{q - 1}{2} \cdot \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right)S_q(\rho_+). \quad (49)$$

Using the joint q -Tsallis entropy theorem (Lemma 2.12), we obtain:

$$S_q(\rho'_1) = \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{2^q}(S_q(\rho_0) + S_q(\rho_1)). \quad (50)$$

Combining Equations (49) and (50), we obtain:

$$S_q(\rho'_0) - S_q(\rho'_1) = \left(1 - \frac{q - 1}{2} \cdot \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right)S_q(\rho_+) - \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{2^q}(S_q(\rho_0) + S_q(\rho_1)) \quad (51)$$

Next, we can consider the following two cases:

- For the case where $T(\rho_0, \rho_1) \geq 1 - \varepsilon$, using the lower bound on QJT_q (Lemma 4.6), we have:

$$S_q(\rho_+) - \frac{1}{2}(S_q(\rho_0) + S_q(\rho_1)) = \text{QJT}_q(\rho_0, \rho_1) \geq \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1 - T(\rho_0, \rho_1)}{2}\right). \quad (52)$$

Substituting Equation (52) into Equation (51), we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}& S_q(\rho'_0) - S_q(\rho'_1) \\ & \geq \left(1 - \frac{q-1}{2} \cdot \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right) \left(\frac{1}{2}(S_q(\rho_0) + S_q(\rho_1)) + \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)\right) - \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{2^q}(S_q(\rho_0) + S_q(\rho_1)) \\ & \geq \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2^q} - \frac{q-1}{4}\mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right) (S_q(\rho_0) + S_q(\rho_1)) + \left(1 - \frac{q-1}{2}\mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right) \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \sqrt{\varepsilon(2 - \varepsilon)}\right) - \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \\ & \geq \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^q}\right) \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \sqrt{\varepsilon(2 - \varepsilon)}\right) - \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \\ & = \frac{1}{2^q} \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^q}\right) \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \sqrt{\varepsilon(2 - \varepsilon)} := \tilde{g}_q^Y(\varepsilon).\end{aligned}$$

Here, the third line uses the Tsallis binary entropy upper bound (Lemma 4.9) and the fact that $1 - \frac{q-1}{2}\mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) > 0$ for $q \in [1, 2]$. The last line relies on the following facts: (a) $S_q(\rho) \geq 0$ for any quantum state ρ ; (b) $2\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2^q} - \frac{q-1}{4}\mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2^q} \geq 0$ for $q \in [1, 2]$; and (c) $1 - \frac{q-1}{2}\mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^q}$.

- For the case where $T(\rho_0, \rho_1) \leq \varepsilon$, by Fannes' inequality for the q -Tsallis entropy (Lemma 2.13), we have:

$$S_q(\rho_+) \leq \frac{|S_q(\rho_+) - S_q(\rho_0)|}{2} + \frac{|S_q(\rho_+) - S_q(\rho_1)|}{2} + \frac{S_q(\rho_0) + S_q(\rho_1)}{2} \quad (53a)$$

$$\leq T(\rho_+, \rho_b)^q \cdot \ln_q(2^n - 1) + \mathbb{H}_q(T(\rho_+, \rho_b)) + \frac{S_q(\rho_0) + S_q(\rho_1)}{2} \quad (53b)$$

$$\leq \left(\frac{T(\rho_0, \rho_1)}{2}\right)^q \ln_q(2^n) + \mathbb{H}_q\left(\frac{T(\rho_0, \rho_1)}{2}\right) + \frac{S_q(\rho_0) + S_q(\rho_1)}{2} \quad (53c)$$

Here, the first line is due to the triangle inequality, and the last line is because $\ln_q(x)$ is monotonically increasing on $x > 0$ for any fixed $q > 1$.

Plugging Equation (53) into Equation (51), we can derive that:

$$\begin{aligned}
& S_q(\rho'_0) - S_q(\rho'_1) \\
& \leq \left(1 - \frac{q-1}{2} H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right) \left(\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)^q \ln_q(2^n) + H_q\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{2}(S_q(\rho_0) + S_q(\rho_1))\right) - \frac{1}{2} H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{2^q} (S_q(\rho_0) + S_q(\rho_1)) \\
& \leq \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2^q} - \frac{q-1}{4} H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right) (S_q(\rho_0) + S_q(\rho_1)) + \left(1 - \frac{q-1}{2} H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right) \left(\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)^q \ln_q(2^n) + H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \sqrt{\varepsilon(2-\varepsilon)}\right) - \frac{1}{2} H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \\
& \leq \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2^q}\right) \cdot \gamma + \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^q}\right) \left(\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)^q \cdot \ln_q(2^n) + H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \sqrt{\varepsilon(2-\varepsilon)}\right) - \frac{1}{2} H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) := -\tilde{g}_q^N(\varepsilon, n, \gamma).
\end{aligned}$$

Here, the third line uses the Tsallis binary entropy upper bound (Lemma 4.9) and the fact that $1 - \frac{q-1}{2} H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) > 0$ for $q \in [1, 2]$. The last line relies on the following facts: (a) $1 - \frac{q-1}{2} H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^q}$; (b) $2\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2^q} - \frac{q-1}{4} H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2^q} \geq 0$ for $q \in [1, 2]$; and (c) $S_q(\rho) \leq \gamma \leq S_q((I/2)^{\otimes n})$ for any n -qubit state ρ .

It is evident that $\tilde{g}_q^N(\varepsilon, n, \gamma)$ is monotonically decreasing on $\gamma \geq 0$ for any fixed q, ε , and n . Consequently, it remains to show that $\tilde{g}_q^Y(\varepsilon) \geq \tilde{g}_q^N(\varepsilon, n, H_q(1/2)) \geq \tilde{g}_q^N(\varepsilon, n, \gamma)$ for $H_q(1/2) = S_q(I/2) \leq \gamma \leq S_q((I/2)^{\otimes n})$. In particular, by noting that $(\varepsilon/2)^q \cdot \ln_q(2^n) \geq 0$ for $q \geq 1$ and $\varepsilon \geq 0$, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{g}_q^Y(\varepsilon) - \tilde{g}_q^N\left(\varepsilon, n, H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right) &= \frac{1}{2^q} H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^q}\right) \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)^q \ln_q(2^n) - \frac{1}{2} H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2^q}\right) H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \\
&= \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^q}\right) \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)^q \ln_q(2^n) \\
&\geq 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we complete the proof by choosing $g_q(n) = \tilde{g}_q^N(\varepsilon(n), n, \gamma(n))$, specifically:

$$g_q(n) := \frac{1}{2} H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - \gamma(n) \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2^q}\right) - \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^q}\right) \left(\frac{\varepsilon(n)^q}{2^q} \ln_q(2^n) + H_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \sqrt{\varepsilon(n)(2-\varepsilon(n))}\right). \quad \square$$

5.2.2 QSCMM \leq TSALLISQEA $_q$ for $q(n) = 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$

Lemma 5.6 (QSCMM \leq TSALLISQEA $_q$). *Let Q be a quantum circuit acting on m qubit, defined in Definition 5.2, that prepares the purification of n -qubit mixed states ρ , respectively. For any ρ , any $n \geq 5$, and any $q(n) = 1 + 1/(n-1)$, let $t(n) := \frac{1}{4}(3n - n^{1+\frac{1}{n}} - 1)$, we have:*

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{T}(\rho, (I/2)^{\otimes n}) \leq 1/n &\quad \Rightarrow \quad S_q(\rho) > t(n) + 1/150, \\
\mathbb{T}(\rho, (I/2)^{\otimes n}) \geq 1 - 1/n &\quad \Rightarrow \quad S_q(\rho) < t(n) - 1/150.
\end{aligned}$$

Proof. Let $\rho = \sum_{i \in [2^n]} \lambda_i |v_i\rangle\langle v_i|$ be the spectral decomposition of ρ , where $\{v_i\}_{i \in [2^n]}$ is an orthonormal basis and $p := (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{2^n})$ is a probability distribution of dimension 2^n . And let ν be the uniform distribution of dimension 2^n . Noting that ρ and $(I/2)^{\otimes n}$ commute, we have $\mathbb{T}(\rho, (I/2)^{\otimes n}) = \text{TV}(p, \nu)$ and $S_q(\rho) = H_q(p)$.

Let $t(n) := \frac{1}{4}(3n - n^{1+\frac{1}{n}} - 1)$. Next, we can consider the following two cases:

- For the case where $\mathbb{T}(\rho, (I/2)^{\otimes n}) \leq 1/n$, by the lower bound on $H_q(p)$ in Lemma 4.10, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
S_q(\rho) &\geq \ln_{1+\frac{1}{n-1}}(2^n) \cdot (1 - \mathbb{T}(\rho, (I/2)^{\otimes n}) - 2^{-n}) \\
&\geq (n-1) \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{n-1}}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{n} - 2^{-n}\right) := \tau_Y(n).
\end{aligned}$$

By a direct calculation, we obtain:

$$S_q(\rho) - t(n) \geq \tau_Y(n) - t(n) = g_1(n) + g_2(n) + g_3(n) - \frac{7}{4}, \quad (54a)$$

$$\text{where } g_1(n) := 2^{-n} + \frac{1 - 2^{\frac{n}{1-n}}}{n} + 2^{\frac{n^2}{1-n}}(n-1) + \frac{n}{4} \left(1 - 2^{\frac{1}{1-n}}\right), \quad (54b)$$

$$g_2(n) := 2^{\frac{1}{1-n}} - 2^{-n}n, \quad g_3(n) := \frac{n}{4} \left(n^{\frac{1}{n}} - 2^{\frac{1}{1-n}}\right). \quad (54c)$$

Through a fairly tedious calculation, we know that $g_1(n)$, $g_2(n)$, and $g_3(n)$ defined in Equation (54) satisfy the properties in Fact 5.6.1, and the proof is deferred in Section A.2.

Fact 5.6.1. *Let $g_1(n)$, $g_2(n)$, and $g_3(n)$ be functions defined in Equation (54). It holds that:*

- (1) For $n \geq 3$, $g_1(n) \geq 0$.
- (2) For $n \geq 3$, $g_2(n)$ and $g_3(n)$ are monotonically increasing.

Combining Equation (54) and Fact 5.6.1, we obtain that:

$$\forall n \geq 5, S_q(\rho) - t(n) \geq \tau_Y(n) - t(n) \geq g_2(n) + g_3(n) - \frac{7}{4} > \frac{1}{150}. \quad (55)$$

- For the case where $T(\rho, (I/2)^{\otimes n}) \geq 1 - 1/n$, by noting $T(\rho, (I/2)^{\otimes n})q \geq (1 - \frac{1}{n}) \left(1 + \frac{1}{n-1}\right) = 1$ and using the upper bound on $H_q(p)$ in Lemma 4.10, it holds that

$$\begin{aligned} S_q(\rho) &\leq \ln_{1+\frac{1}{n-1}} \left(2^n (1 - T(\rho, (I/2)^{\otimes n}))\right) \\ &\leq \ln_{1+\frac{1}{n}} \left(2^n (1 - T(\rho, (I/2)^{\otimes n}))\right) \\ &\leq n \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot n^{1/n}\right) := \tau_N(n). \end{aligned}$$

Here, the second line is because $\ln_q(x) < \ln_{q'}(x)$ for $q > q' > 0$ and $\frac{1}{n-1} > \frac{1}{n}$.

Similarly, a direct calculation implies that:

$$t(n) - S_q(\rho) \geq t(n) - \tau_N(n) = \frac{g_4(n) - 1}{4}, \text{ where } g_4(n) := n \left(n^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1\right). \quad (56)$$

Next, we will prove that $g_4(n)$ is monotonically non-decreasing for $n \geq 2$. We proceed by expressing the first and second derivative of $g_4(n)$:

$$\frac{d}{dn} g_4(n) = \frac{n^{\frac{1}{n}}}{n} (n - \log(n) + 1) - 1, \text{ and } \frac{d^2}{dn^2} g_4(n) = \frac{n^{\frac{1}{n}}}{n^3} \left((\log(n) - 1)^2 - n\right).$$

Since $\sqrt{n} > \log n$, we know that $\frac{d^2}{dn^2} g_4(n)$ has one zero at $n = 1$. As $\frac{d^2}{dn^2} g_4(n)|_{n=e} = -e < 0$, we have that $\frac{d}{dn} g_4(n)$ is monotonically decreasing for $n \geq 2$, and thus, $\frac{d}{dn} g_4(n) \geq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d}{dn} g_4(n) = 0$ for $n \geq 2$. Hence, we conclude that $g_4(n)$ is monotonically non-decreasing for $n \geq 2$. Consequently, combining with Equation (56), we obtain:

$$\forall n \geq 3, t(n) - S_q(\rho) \geq t(n) - \tau_N(n) = \frac{g_4(n) - 1}{4} > \frac{1}{13}. \quad (57)$$

Lastly, we finish the proof by comparing Equation (55) with Equation (57). \square

5.3 Computational hardness results

In this subsection, we present the computational hardness results for various settings of TSALISQED $_q$ and TSALLISQEA $_q$ by using our reductions established in Sections 5.1 and 5.2.

5.3.1 BQP hardness results

Theorem 5.7 ($\text{CONSTRANKTSALLISQED}_q$ is BQP-hard for $1 \leq q \leq 2$). *For any $q \in [1, 2]$ and any $n \geq 3$, the following holds:*

$$\forall g_q(n) \in \left[\frac{1}{\text{poly}(n)}, 2^{-q} \text{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - 2^{-\frac{n}{2}+2}\right) \right], \text{CONSTRANKTSALLISQED}_q[g_q(n)] \text{ is BQP-hard.}$$

Proof. Using Lemma 2.17, we have that $\text{PUREQSD}\left[\sqrt{1 - 2^{-2\hat{n}}}, 2^{(-\hat{n}+1)/2}\right]$ is BQP-hard for $\hat{n} \geq 2$. Let Q_0 and Q_1 be the corresponding BQP-hard instance such that these circuits are polynomial-size and prepare the pure states $|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0|$ and $|\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|$, respectively. Leveraging the reduction from PUREQSD to $\text{CONSTRANKTSALLISQED}_q$ (Lemma 5.4), there are two polynomial-size quantum circuits Q'_0 and Q'_1 , which prepares the purifications of constant-rank states ρ'_0 and ρ'_1 , such that: For any $1 \leq q \leq 2$ and any $n = \hat{n} + 1 \geq 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{T}(|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0|, |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|) \geq 1 - 2^{-\hat{n}} &\Rightarrow S_q(\rho'_0) - S_q(\rho'_1) \geq g_q(n) = g_q(\hat{n} + 1), \\ \text{T}(|\psi_0\rangle\langle\psi_0|, |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1|) \leq 2^{-\hat{n}} &\Rightarrow S_q(\rho'_1) - S_q(\rho'_0) \geq g_q(n) = g_q(\hat{n} + 1). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we complete the proof by a direct calculation:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall n \geq 3, \quad g_q(n) &:= 2^{-q} \cdot \text{H}_q(1/2) \cdot \left(1 - 2^{-q(n-2)/2} - \sqrt{1 - (1 - 2^{-2(n-1)})}\right) \\ &\geq 2^{-q} \cdot \text{H}_q(1/2) \cdot \left(1 - 2^{-(n-2)/2} - 2^{-(n-1)}\right) \\ &= 2^{-q} \cdot \text{H}_q(1/2) \cdot \left(1 - 2^{-\frac{n}{2}+2}\right) > 0. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 5.8 ($\text{CONSTRANKTSALLISQEA}_q$ is BQP-hard under Turing reduction for $1 \leq q \leq 2$). *For any $q \in [1, 2]$ and any $n \geq 3$, the following holds:*

$\text{CONSTRANKTSALLISQEA}_q$ with $g(n) = \Theta(1)$ is BQP-hard under Turing reduction.

Proof. For any $1 \leq q \leq 2$ and $n \geq 3$, since $\text{CONSTRANKTSALLISQED}_q[\hat{g}_q(n)]$ is BQP-hard under Karp reduction (Theorem 5.7), where $\hat{g}_q(n) := 2^{-q} \text{H}_q(1/2) (1 - 2^{-\frac{n}{2} + \frac{7}{5}})$, it suffices to provide an algorithm for $\text{CONSTRANKTSALLISQED}_q[\hat{g}_q(n)]$ by using $\text{CONSTRANKTSALLISQEA}_q[t(n), g(n)]$ as subroutines, with appropriately adaptive choices of $t(n)$ and $g(n)$.

Let Q_0 and Q_1 be the corresponding BQP-hard instance such that these circuits are polynomial-size and prepare the constant-rank states ρ_0 and ρ_1 , respectively. Let $\text{TsallisQEA}_q(Q, t(n), g(n))$ be the subroutine for decide whether $S_q(\rho) \geq t(n) + g(n)$ or $S_q(\rho) \leq t(n) - g(n)$. Next, we estimate $S_q(\rho_b)$ to within additive error $\hat{g}_q(n)/2$ for $b \in \{0, 1\}$. This procedure, inspired by [Amb14, Appendix A.2 Part 1], is denoted by BiSearch , as presented in Algorithm 3.

To solve $\text{CONSTRANKTSALLISQED}_q[\hat{g}_q(n)]$, noting that $\max\{\text{rank}(\rho_0), \text{rank}(\rho_1)\} \leq r \leq O(1)$, we choose $\tau(n) = S_q((I/2)^{\otimes r})$. Subsequently, let $t_0(n) = \text{BiSearch}(Q_0, \tau(n), \hat{g}_q(n))$ and $t_1(n) = \text{BiSearch}(Q_1, \tau(n), \hat{g}_q(n))$, we obtain:

$$S_q(\rho_0) - S_q(\rho_1) \geq \hat{g}_q(n) \quad \Rightarrow \quad t_0(n) - t_1(n) \geq S_q(\rho_0) - \frac{\hat{g}_q(n)}{2} - \left(S_q(\rho_1) + \frac{\hat{g}_q(n)}{2}\right) \geq 0, \quad (58a)$$

$$S_q(\rho_0) - S_q(\rho_1) \leq -\hat{g}_q(n) \quad \Rightarrow \quad t_0(n) - t_1(n) \leq S_q(\rho_0) + \frac{\hat{g}_q(n)}{2} - \left(S_q(\rho_1) - \frac{\hat{g}_q(n)}{2}\right) \leq 0. \quad (58b)$$

Note that $\hat{g}_q(n) = 2^{-q} \text{H}_q(1/2) (1 - 2^{-\frac{n}{2} + \frac{7}{5}}) \geq 2^{-q-1} (2 - 2^{\frac{9}{10}}) \cdot \text{H}_q(1/2)$ for $n \geq 3$ and $\tau(n) \leq S((I/2)^r) \leq O(1)$. Since each query to TsallisQEA_q in BiSearch decreases the size of the interval $[a, b]$ by almost a half, we can conclude that the number of adaptive queries to TsallisQEA_q in $\text{BiSearch}(Q_0, \tau(n), \hat{g}_q(n))$ and $\text{BiSearch}(Q_1, \tau(n), \hat{g}_q(n))$ is $O(\log(1/\hat{g}_q(n))) = O(1)$. \square

Algorithm 3 Tsallis entropy estimation BiSearch(Q, τ, g) via queries to TsallisQEA $_q$.

Input: A quantum circuit Q that prepares the purification of ρ , an upper bound τ on the q -Tsallis entropy $S_q(\rho)$, and a precision parameter g .

Output: Return t such that $|t - S_q(\rho)| \leq g/2$.

```

1: Let  $\delta \leftarrow g/2$ , and set the interval  $[a, b] \leftarrow [0, \tau]$ .
2: while  $b - a > g/2$  do
3:   Query TsallisQEA $_q(Q, \frac{a+b}{2}, \frac{\delta}{4})$  to decide whether  $S_q(\rho) \geq \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{\delta}{4}$  or  $S_q(\rho) \leq \frac{a+b}{2} - \frac{\delta}{4}$ .
4:   if  $S_q(\rho) \geq \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{\delta}{4}$  then
5:      $[a, b] \leftarrow [\frac{a+b}{2} - \frac{g}{4}, b]$ .
6:   else
7:      $[a, b] \leftarrow [a, \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{g}{4}]$ .
8:   end if
9: end while
10: return  $\frac{a+b}{2}$ .

```

5.3.2 QSZK hardness results

Theorem 5.9 (TSALLISQED $_q$ is QSZK-hard for $1 < q \leq 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$). *For any $q \in (1, 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}]$ and any $n \geq 90$, it holds that*

$$\forall g(n) \in [1/\text{poly}(n), 1/400], \text{ TSALLISQED}_q[g(n)] \text{ is QSZK-hard.}$$

Proof. Following Lemma 2.16, we have that $\text{QSD}[1 - 2^{-\hat{n}^{0.49}}, 2^{-\hat{n}^{0.49}}]$ is QSZK-hard for $\hat{n} \geq 1$. Let Q_0 and Q_1 be the corresponding QSZK-hard instance such that these circuits are polynomial-size and prepare the purification of ρ_0 and ρ_1 , respectively. Leveraging the reduction from QSD to TSALLISQED $_q$ (Lemma 5.5), there are two polynomial-size quantum circuits Q'_0 and Q'_1 , which prepare the purifications of n -qubit ρ'_0 and ρ'_1 where $n := \hat{n} + 1$, respectively, such that:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{T}(\rho_0, \rho_1) \geq 1 - 2^{-\hat{n}^{0.49}} &\Rightarrow S_q(\rho'_0) - S_q(\rho'_1) \geq g_q(n) = g_q(\hat{n} + 1), \\ \text{T}(\rho_0, \rho_1) \leq 2^{-\hat{n}^{0.49}} &\Rightarrow S_q(\rho'_1) - S_q(\rho'_0) \geq g_q(n) = g_q(\hat{n} + 1). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sqrt{2^{-\hat{n}^{0.49}}(2 - 2^{-\hat{n}^{0.49}})} \leq 2^{\frac{1-\hat{n}^{0.49}}{2}}$ and $\gamma(n) \leq S_q((I/2)^{\otimes \hat{n}}) = \frac{1-2^{\hat{n}(1-q)}}{q-1}$, we have

$$g_q(\hat{n}) \geq \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \text{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}_{G_1(q; \hat{n})} - \underbrace{\frac{1 - 2^{\hat{n}(1-q)}}{q-1} \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2^q}\right)}_{G_2(q; \hat{n})} - \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^q}\right) \frac{2^{-\hat{n}^{0.49}q}}{2^q} \ln_q(2^{\hat{n}})}_{G_3(q; \hat{n})} - \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^q}\right) \text{H}_q\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) 2^{\frac{1-\hat{n}^{0.49}}{2}}}_{G_3(q; \hat{n})}.$$

It remains to show that $g_q(\hat{n}) \geq G_1(q; \hat{n}) - G_2(q; \hat{n}) - G_3(q; \hat{n}) > 0$ for $1 \leq q \leq 1 + \frac{1}{\hat{n}}$ and large enough n . By the Taylor expansion of $G_1(q; \hat{n})$, $G_2(q; \hat{n})$, and $G_3(q; \hat{n})$ at $q = 1$, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} g_q(\hat{n}) &\geq G_1(q; \hat{n}) - G_2(q; \hat{n}) - G_3(q; \hat{n}) \\ &\geq \left(\frac{\log(2)}{2} - \frac{1}{4}(2\hat{n} + 1) \log^2(2)(q-1)\right) - \frac{\log(2)}{2} \cdot \hat{n} 2^{-\hat{n}^{0.49}} - \log(2) \cdot 2^{\frac{1-\hat{n}^{0.49}}{2}} := G(q; \hat{n}) \end{aligned}$$

Noting that $\frac{\partial}{\partial q} G(q; \hat{n}) = -\frac{1}{4}(2\hat{n} + 1) \log^2(2) < 0$ for $\hat{n} \geq 1$, we know that $G(q; \hat{n})$ is monotonically decreasing on $q > 1$ for any fixed $\hat{n} \geq 1$. As a consequence, as $1 \leq q \leq 1 + \frac{1}{\hat{n}}$, it is left to show that $G(1 + \frac{1}{\hat{n}}; \hat{n}) > 0$ for large enough \hat{n} , specifically:

$$G\left(1 + \frac{1}{\hat{n}}; \hat{n}\right) = \frac{\log(2)}{4} \left(2 - 2 \log(2) - 2^{1-\hat{n}^{0.49}} \hat{n} - 4 \cdot 2^{\frac{1-\hat{n}^{0.49}}{2}} - \frac{\log(2)}{\hat{n}}\right) > 0.$$

A direct calculation implies that

$$\frac{d}{d\hat{n}}G\left(1+\frac{1}{\hat{n}};\hat{n}\right) = \frac{\log(2)}{200} \left(49\sqrt{2^{1-\hat{n}^{0.49}}}\hat{n}^{1.49}\log(2) + 2^{-\hat{n}^{0.49}}\hat{n}^2(49\hat{n}^{0.49}\log(2) - 100) + 50\log(2)\right).$$

Since it is evident that $49\hat{n}^{0.49}\log(2) - 100 > 0$, we can deduce that $\frac{d}{d\hat{n}}G(1+\frac{1}{\hat{n}};\hat{n}) > 0$. As $49\hat{n}^{0.49}\log(2) - 100 > 0$ holds when $\hat{n} \geq 10$, we obtain that $G(1+\frac{1}{\hat{n}};\hat{n})$ is monotonically increasing for $\hat{n} \geq 10$. Therefore, we complete the proof by noticing $\hat{n} = n - 1$ and the following:

For any $q \in \left(1, 1+\frac{1}{\hat{n}}\right]$ and $\hat{n} \geq 89$, $g_q(\hat{n}) \geq G(q;\hat{n}) \geq G\left(1+\frac{1}{\hat{n}};\hat{n}\right) \geq G\left(1+\frac{1}{89};89\right) > \frac{1}{400}$. \square

Theorem 5.10 (TSALLISQEA $_q$ is QSZK-hard under Turing reduction for $1 < q \leq 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$). For any $q \in \left(1, 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}\right]$ and any $n \geq 90$, the following holds:

TSALLISQEA $_q$ with $g(n) = \Theta(1)$ is QSZK-hard under Turing reduction.

Proof. This proof is very similar to the proof of Theorem 5.8. For any $1 < q \leq 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$ and $n \geq 90$, since TSALLISQED $_q[\hat{g}_q(n)]$ is QSZK-hard under Karp reduction (Theorem 5.9), where $\hat{g}_q(n) = 1/400$, it suffices to provide an algorithm for TSALLISQED $_q[\hat{g}_q(n)]$ by using TSALLISQEA $_q[t(n), g(n)]$ as subroutines, with appropriately adaptive choices of $t(n)$ and $g(n)$.

Let Q_0 and Q_1 be the corresponding QSZK-hard instance such that these circuits are polynomial-size and prepare the states ρ_0 and ρ_1 , respectively. Let $\text{TsallisQEA}_q(Q, t(n), g(n))$ be the subroutine for decide whether $S_q(\rho) \geq t(n) + g(n)$ or $S_q(\rho) \leq t(n) - g(n)$. Next, we estimate $S_q(\rho_b)$ to within additive error $\hat{g}_q(n)/2$ for $b \in \{0, 1\}$ via the procedure **BiSearch**, as specified in Algorithm 3. To solve TSALLISQED $_q[\hat{g}_q(n)]$, noting that $\max\{\text{rank}(\rho_0), \text{rank}(\rho_1)\} \leq 2^n$, we choose $\tau(n) = S_q((I/2)^{\otimes n})$. Subsequently, let $t_0(n) = \text{BiSearch}(Q_0, \tau(n), \hat{g}_q(n))$ and $t_1(n) = \text{BiSearch}(Q_1, \tau(n), \hat{g}_q(n))$, we obtain the same inequalities in Equation (58).

Note that $\hat{g}_q(n) = 1/400$ for $n \geq 90$ and $\tau(n) \leq S_q((I/2)^n) \leq S((I/2)^n) = n \ln 2$. Since each query to TsallisQEA_q in **BiSearch** decreases the size of the interval $[a, b]$ by almost a half, we complete the proof by concluding that the number of adaptive queries to TsallisQEA_q in $\text{BiSearch}(Q_0, \tau(n), \hat{g}_q(n))$ and $\text{BiSearch}(Q_1, \tau(n), \hat{g}_q(n))$ is $O(\log(\tau(n)/\hat{g}_q(n))) = O(\log n)$. \square

5.3.3 NIQSZK hardness result

Theorem 5.11 (TSALLISQEA $_q$ is NIQSZK-hard for $q = 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}$). For any $n \geq 5$, it holds that:

$$\forall g(n) \in [1/\text{poly}(n), 1/150], \text{TSALLISQEA}_{1+\frac{1}{n-1}} \text{ with } g(n) \text{ is NIQSZK-hard.}$$

Proof. Utilizing Lemma 2.18, we know that QSCMM $[1/n, 1 - 1/n]$ is NIQSZK-hard for $n \geq 3$. Following the reduction from QSCMM to TSALLISQEA $_{1+\frac{1}{n-1}}$ for $n \geq 5$ (Lemma 5.6), and the specific choice of $t(n)$ in the reduction, we can conclude that $g(n) \leq 1/150$. \square

5.4 Quantum query complexity lower bounds

In this subsection, we present two quantum query complexity lower bounds for estimating the quantum Tsallis entropy $S_q(\rho)$: When q is constantly larger than 1, the lower bound is *independent* of the rank of ρ (Theorem 5.12). However, when $q > 1$ is inverse-polynomially close to 1 or even closer, the lower bound *depends polynomially* on the rank of ρ (Theorem 5.13).

Theorem 5.12 (Query complexity lower bound for estimating quantum Tsallis entropy with q constantly above 1). For any $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$ and sufficiently small $\epsilon > 0$, the quantum query complexity for estimating the q -Tsallis entropy of a quantum state to within additive error ϵ , in the purified quantum query access model, is $\Omega(1/\sqrt{\epsilon})$.

Proof. Consider the task of distinguishing two quantum unitary operators U_ϵ and U_0 corresponding to two probability distributions p_ϵ and p_0 , where $p_x := (1-x, x)$, U_x is a unitary operator satisfying

$$U_x|0\rangle = \sqrt{1-x}|0\rangle|\varphi_0\rangle + \sqrt{x}|1\rangle|\varphi_1\rangle,$$

with $|\varphi_0\rangle$ and $|\varphi_1\rangle$ being any orthogonal unit vectors. By the quantum query complexity of distinguishing probability distributions given in Lemma 2.20, we know that distinguishing U_ϵ and U_0 requires quantum query complexity $\Omega(1/d_H(p_\epsilon, p_0))$, where $d_H(\cdot, \cdot)$ is the Hellinger distance between two probability distributions. Direct calculation shows that if $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$,

$$d_H(p_\epsilon, p_0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{(\sqrt{1-\epsilon} - 1)^2 + (\sqrt{\epsilon} - 0)^2} \leq \sqrt{\epsilon}.$$

Thus the query complexity of distinguishing U_0 and U_ϵ is $\Omega(1/\sqrt{\epsilon})$.

On the other hand, U_x prepares a purification of $\rho_x := (1-x)|0\rangle\langle 0| + x|1\rangle\langle 1|$. Then, for sufficiently small $\epsilon > 0$, we have

$$|S_q(\rho_\epsilon) - S_q(\rho_0)| = \frac{1 - (1-\epsilon)^q - \epsilon^q}{q-1} = \Omega(\epsilon).$$

Therefore, any quantum query algorithm that can compute the q -Tsallis entropy of a quantum state to within additive error $\Theta(\epsilon)$ can be used to distinguish U_ϵ and U_0 , thus requiring query complexity $\Omega(1/\sqrt{\epsilon})$. \square

Theorem 5.13 (Query complexity lower bound for estimating quantum Tsallis entropy with $q > 1$ near 1). *For any $q \in (1, 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}]$, there exists a mixed quantum state ρ of sufficiently large rank r such that the quantum query complexity for estimating $S_q(\rho)$, in the purified quantum query access model, is $\Omega(r^{0.17-c})$ for any constant $c > 0$.*

Remark 5.14 (τ -dependence in the lower bounds). The lower bounds on query and sample complexities in Theorems 5.13 and 5.16 are $\Omega(r^{\frac{1-\tau}{3}-c})$ and $\Omega(r^{1-\tau-c'})$, respectively, where $\tau = 0.49$ is chosen to establish the QSZK hardness (Theorem 5.9) and $c' = 3c$. Notably, these bounds can be further improved by selecting a smaller τ that still satisfies all requirements in the reduction (Lemma 5.5), which is left for future work.

Proof of Theorem 5.13. By Lemma 2.19 with $\epsilon = 1/2$, there exists an \hat{n} -qubit state $\hat{\rho}$ of rank $\hat{r} \geq 2$ and the corresponding ‘‘uniform’’ state $\hat{\rho}_U$ of rank r on the same support as $\hat{\rho}$ such that the quantum query complexity to decide whether $T(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\rho}_U)$ is at least $1/2$ or exactly 0 is $\Omega(\hat{r}^{1/3})$. We apply the polarization lemma for the trace distance to the states $\hat{\rho}$ and $\hat{\rho}_U$, particularly using only the direct product lemma [Wat02, Lemma 8]. Let $\rho := \hat{\rho}^{\otimes \hat{r}^k}$ and $\rho_U := \hat{\rho}_U^{\otimes \hat{r}^k}$ be the resulting states, where k is a parameter to be determined later. Then, for any constant $k > \frac{\tau}{1-\tau}$ with $\tau = 0.49$ and for sufficiently large \hat{r} , the following holds:

$$\begin{aligned} T(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\rho}_U) \geq 1/2 & \Rightarrow T(\rho, \rho_U) \geq 1 - \exp(-\hat{r}^k/8) \geq 1 - 2^{-r^\tau}, \\ T(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\rho}_U) = 0 & \Rightarrow T(\rho, \rho_U) \leq \hat{r}^k \cdot 0 = 0 \leq 2^{-r^\tau}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the query complexity of deciding whether $T(\rho, \rho_U)$ is at least $1 - 2^{-r^\tau}$ or at most 2^{-r^τ} is $\Omega(r^{\frac{1}{3(1+k)}})$, where $r := \hat{r} \cdot \hat{r}^k = \hat{r}^{1+k}$. For any $q \in (1, 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}] \subseteq (1, 1 + \frac{1}{r-1}]$, using the reduction from QSD to TSALLISQED $_q$ (Lemma 5.5) with parameters from Theorem 5.9, there are two corresponding states ρ'_0 and ρ'_1 of rank at most $2r$ such that the quantum query complexity for deciding whether $S_q(\rho'_0) - S_q(\rho'_1)$ is at least $1/400$ or at most $-1/400$ is $\Omega(r^{\frac{1}{3(1+k)}}) = \Omega(r^{\frac{1-\tau}{3}-c}) = \Omega(r^{0.17-c})$ for any constant $c > 0$. Thus, estimating $S_q(\rho'_b)$ for $b \in \{0, 1\}$ to within additive error $1/800$ requires at least the same number of quantum queries. \square

5.5 Quantum sample complexity lower bounds

In this subsection, we present two quantum sample complexity lower bounds for estimating the quantum Tsallis entropy $S_q(\rho)$: When q is constantly larger than 1, the lower bound is *independent* of the rank of ρ (Theorem 5.15). However, when $q > 1$ is inverse-polynomially close to 1, the lower bound *depends polynomially* on the rank of ρ (Theorem 5.16).

Theorem 5.15 (Sample complexity lower bound for estimating quantum Tsallis entropy with q constantly above 1). *For any $q \geq 1 + \Omega(1)$ and sufficiently small $\epsilon > 0$, the quantum sample complexity for estimating the quantum q -Tsallis entropy of a quantum state to within additive error ϵ is $\Omega(1/\epsilon)$.*

Proof. Consider the hypothesis testing problem where the given quantum state ρ is promised to be either ρ_0 or ρ_ϵ , each with equal probability. Specifically, the states are defined as

$$\forall x \in [0, 1], \quad \rho_x := (1 - x)|0\rangle\langle 0| + x|1\rangle\langle 1|.$$

For sufficiently small $\epsilon > 0$, we know that $|S_q(\rho_\epsilon) - S_q(\rho_0)| = \Omega(\epsilon)$, as shown in the proof of Theorem 5.12. Now, assume that there is a quantum estimator for $S_q(\rho)$ to within additive error $\Theta(\epsilon)$ with sample complexity S . This estimator can then be used to distinguish these two states ρ_0 and ρ_ϵ with success probability $p_{\text{succ}} \geq 2/3$. On the other hand, by Lemma 2.7, we have

$$p_{\text{succ}} \leq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{T}(\rho_0^{\otimes S}, \rho_\epsilon^{\otimes S}).$$

By applying the Fuchs–van de Graaf inequalities [FvdG99, Theorem 1], we have

$$\mathbb{T}(\rho_0^{\otimes S}, \rho_\epsilon^{\otimes S}) \leq \sqrt{1 - F(\rho_0^{\otimes S}, \rho_\epsilon^{\otimes S})^2},$$

where $F(\rho, \sigma) = \text{tr}(\sqrt{\sqrt{\sigma}\rho\sqrt{\sigma}})$ is the fidelity of quantum states. A direct calculation shows that $F(\rho_0, \rho_\epsilon) = \sqrt{1 - \epsilon}$, which gives that

$$p_{\text{succ}} \leq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{1 - (1 - \epsilon)^S}.$$

By combining this with the condition $p_{\text{succ}} \geq 2/3$, we conclude that $S = \Omega(1/\epsilon)$. \square

Theorem 5.16 (Sample complexity lower bound for estimating quantum Tsallis entropy with $q > 1$ near 1). *For any $q \in (1, 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}]$, there exists a mixed quantum state ρ of sufficiently large rank r such that the quantum sample complexity for estimating $S_q(\rho)$ is $\Omega(r^{0.51-c})$ for any constant $c > 0$.*

Notably, Remark 5.14 on the τ -dependence in the lower bound also applies to Theorem 5.16. Moreover, the proof strategy of Theorem 5.16 is similar to that of Theorem 5.13, as both rely on the direct product lemma for the trace distance [Wat02, Lemma 8].³⁵

Proof of Theorem 5.16. By Lemma 2.21 with $\epsilon = 1/2$, there exists an \hat{n} -qubit state $\hat{\rho}$ of rank $\hat{r} \geq 2$ and the corresponding “uniform” state $\hat{\rho}_{\text{U}}$ of rank r on the same support as $\hat{\rho}$ such that the quantum sample complexity to decide whether $\mathbb{T}(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\rho}_{\text{U}})$ is at least $1/2$ or exactly 0 is $\Omega(\hat{r})$. We apply the direct product lemma [Wat02, Lemma 8] to the states $\hat{\rho}$ and $\hat{\rho}_{\text{U}}$. Let $\rho := \hat{\rho}^{\otimes \hat{r}^k}$ and $\rho_{\text{U}} := \hat{\rho}_{\text{U}}^{\otimes \hat{r}^k}$ be the resulting states, where k is a parameter to be determined later. Then, for any constant $k > \frac{\tau}{1-\tau}$ with $\tau = 0.49$ and for sufficiently large \hat{r} , the following holds:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{T}(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\rho}_{\text{U}}) \geq 1/2 & \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbb{T}(\rho, \rho_{\text{U}}) \geq 1 - \exp(-\hat{r}^k/8) \geq 1 - 2^{-r^\tau}, \\ \mathbb{T}(\hat{\rho}, \hat{\rho}_{\text{U}}) = 0 & \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbb{T}(\rho, \rho_{\text{U}}) \leq \hat{r}^k \cdot 0 = 0 \leq 2^{-r^\tau}. \end{aligned}$$

³⁵This inequalities can also be derived using the polarization lemma for the measured quantum triangular discrimination, specifically combining Theorem 3.3 and Lemma 4.11 in [Liu25b].

As a consequence, the sample complexity of deciding whether $T(\rho, \rho_U)$ is at least $1 - 2^{-r^\tau}$ or at most 2^{-r^τ} is $\Omega(r^{\frac{1}{1+k}})$, where $r := \hat{r} \cdot \hat{r}^k = \hat{r}^{1+k}$. For any $q \in (1, 1 + \frac{1}{n-1}] \subseteq (1, 1 + \frac{1}{r-1}]$, utilizing the reduction from QSD to TSALLISQED $_q$ (Lemma 5.5) with parameters from Theorem 5.9, there are two corresponding states ρ'_0 and ρ'_1 of rank at most $2r$ such that the quantum sample complexity for deciding whether $S_q(\rho'_0) - S_q(\rho'_1)$ is at least $1/400$ or at most $-1/400$ is $\Omega(r^{\frac{1}{1+k}}) = \Omega(r^{1-\tau-c}) = \Omega(r^{0.51-c})$ for any constant $c > 0$. Therefore, estimating $S_q(\rho'_b)$ for $b \in \{0, 1\}$ to within additive error $1/800$ requires at least the same number of copies of ρ . \square

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A Omitted proofs

A.1 Omitted proof in Section 4

Proposition 4.10.1. *For the optimization problem presented in Equation (42), an optimal solution is the distribution provided in Equation (43), where $\varepsilon = N(1 - \gamma) - \lfloor N(1 - \gamma) \rfloor$:*

$$p_{\max}(i) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{N} + \frac{\gamma}{k_{\max}}, & \text{if } i \in [k_{\max}] \\ \frac{\varepsilon}{N(N - k_{\max})}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \text{ where } k_{\max} := \lfloor N(1 - \gamma) \rfloor. \quad (43)$$

Proof. We begin by noting that $H_q(p) = \frac{1}{q-1} \left(1 - \sum_{i \in [N]} p(i)^q \right)$ is concave (Lemma 2.3) for any fixed $q > 1$. Consequently, an optimal solution p_{\max} to the optimization problem specified in Equation (42) has a particular form. Specifically, p_{\max} is one of probability distributions $p^{(k)}$ for integer $k \in [\lfloor N(1 - \gamma) \rfloor]$ defined in Equation (59) with a maximum Tsallis entropy:³⁶

$$H_q(p_{\max}) = \max_{k \in [\lfloor N(1 - \gamma) \rfloor]} H_q(p^{(k)}), \text{ where } p^{(k)}(i) := \begin{cases} \frac{1}{N} + \frac{\gamma}{k}, & \text{if } i \in [k] \\ \frac{1}{N} - \frac{\gamma}{N-k}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}. \quad (59)$$

Plugging Equation (59) into Equation (42), it suffices to solve the following optimization problem with $q > 1$:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{minimize} \quad & F_q(N, k, \gamma) := \sum_{i \in [N]} p(i)^q = k \cdot \left(\frac{1}{N} + \frac{\gamma}{k} \right)^q + (N - k) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{N} - \frac{\gamma}{N - k} \right)^q \\ \text{subject to} \quad & 1/q \leq \gamma \leq 1 - 1/N, \\ & 1 \leq k \leq \lfloor N(1 - \gamma) \rfloor, \\ & k, N \in \mathbb{Z}_+ \end{aligned} \quad (60)$$

To establish that Equation (43) is an optimal solution to Equation (60), it remains to show that the objective function $F_q(N, k, \gamma)$ is monotonically non-increasing in k for N, γ ,

³⁶It is easy to verify that $\frac{1}{N} - \frac{\gamma}{N-k} \geq 0$ holds if and only if $k \leq N(1 - \gamma)$ holds.

and $q > 1$ satisfying the constraints in Equation (60). Equivalently, it needs to be shown that $\frac{\partial}{\partial k} F_q(N, k, \gamma) \leq 0$ for $1/q \leq \gamma \leq 1 - 1/N$ and $1 \leq k \leq \lfloor N(1 - \gamma) \rfloor$, specifically:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial k} F_q(N, k, \gamma) = \frac{(k - \gamma N(q - 1)) \left(\frac{\gamma}{k} + \frac{1}{N}\right)^q}{k + \gamma N} + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{N} - \frac{\gamma}{N - k}\right)^q (\gamma N(q - 1) + N - k)}{\gamma N - (N - k)} \leq 0. \quad (61)$$

Since it is evident that $\frac{\gamma}{k} + \frac{1}{N} \geq 0$, $k + \gamma N \geq 0$, and $k \leq \lfloor N(1 - \gamma) \rfloor \leq N(1 - \gamma)$, we can deduce Equation (61) by combining the following inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned} k - \gamma N(q - 1) &\leq N(1 - \gamma) - \gamma N(q - 1) = N(1 - q\gamma) \leq 0, \\ \frac{1}{N} - \frac{\gamma}{N - k} &\geq \frac{1}{N} - \frac{\gamma}{N - N(1 - \gamma)} = 0, \\ \gamma N(q - 1) + N - k &\geq N(q - 1) + N - N(1 - \gamma) = Nq\gamma \geq N > 0, \\ \gamma N - (N - k) &\leq N - (N - N(1 - \gamma)) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Here, the first and the third line hold also due to $\gamma \geq 1/q$. This completes the proof. \square

A.2 Omitted proof in Section 5

Fact 5.6.1. *Let $g_1(n)$, $g_2(n)$, and $g_3(n)$ be functions defined in Equation (54). It holds that:*

- (1) For $n \geq 3$, $g_1(n) \geq 0$.
- (2) For $n \geq 3$, $g_2(n)$ and $g_3(n)$ are monotonically increasing.

Proof. We begin by defining $f_1(n) := 2^{-n} + \frac{1-2^{\frac{n}{1-n}}}{n}$, $f_2(n) := 2^{\frac{n^2}{1-n}}(n - 1)$, and $f_3(n) := \frac{n}{4} \left(1 - 2^{\frac{1}{1-n}}\right)$ such that $g_1(n) = f_1(n) + f_2(n) + f_3(n)$. We then prove the first item separately:

- For $f_1(n)$, since $2^{\frac{n}{1-n}} = 2^{-(1+\frac{1}{n-1})}$, we know that $f_1(n)$ is monotonically decreasing for $n \geq 2$, and thus, $f_1(n) \geq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_1(n) = 0$ for $n \geq 2$.
- For $f_2(n)$, noting that $\frac{d}{dn} f_2(n) = \frac{2^{n^2/(1-n)}}{n-1} (-\log(2)n^2 + (1 + \log(2))n - 1)$, we obtain that $f_2(n)$ is monotonically decreasing for $n \geq 3 > \frac{1+2\log(2)+\sqrt{1+4\log(2)^2}}{2\log(2)} \approx 2.9544$, and consequently, $f_2(n) \geq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_2(n) = 0$ for $n \geq 3$.
- For $f_3(n)$, it suffices to show that $2^{1/(1-n)} \leq 1$ for $n \geq 3$. Since $2^{1/(1-n)}$ is monotonically increasing for $n \geq 3$, we prove the first item by noting that $2^{1/(1-n)} \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2^{1/(1-n)} = 1$.

For $g_2(n)$, noting that $\frac{d}{dn} g_3(n) = \frac{2^{\frac{1}{1-n}} \log(2)}{(n-1)^2} + 2^{-n}(n \log(2) - 1)$ and $n \log(2) \geq 1$ for $n \geq 2$, we obtain that $g_3(n)$ is monotonically increasing for $n \geq 2$.

For $g_3(n)$, since $2^{-1/x}$ is monotonically increasing for $x \geq 1$, we have $g_3(n) \geq \frac{1}{4}n(n^{1/n} - 2^{-1/n})$. It remains to show that $\tilde{g}_3(n) := \frac{1}{4}n(n^{1/n} - 2^{-1/n})$ are monotonically increasing for $n \geq 3$, namely:

$$\frac{d}{dn} \tilde{g}_3(n) = \frac{1}{4n} \underbrace{\left(n^{1/n} - 2^{-1/n} \log(2)\right)}_{f_4(n)} + \frac{1}{4n} \underbrace{\left(n^{1/n} n - n^{1/n} \log(n) - n 2^{-1/n}\right)}_{f_5(n)} \geq 0. \quad (62)$$

Noting that $\frac{d}{dn} f_4(n) = -\frac{1}{n^2} (n^{1/n}(\log(n) - 1) + 2^{-1/n} \log^2(2)) < 0$ for $n > e$, namely $f_4(n)$ is monotonically decreasing for $n \geq 3$, we obtain that $\frac{f_4(n)}{4n} \geq \frac{1}{4n} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_4(n) = \frac{1}{4n} > 0$. Let $f_6(n) := \left(\frac{1}{2n}\right)^{1/n}$. Notice that $\frac{d}{dn} f_6(n) = 2^{-1/n} \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^{\frac{1}{n}+2} (-\log\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) - 1 + \log(2)) \geq 0$ for $n \geq e/2$, we have that $f_6(n) = \left(\frac{1}{2n}\right)^{1/n} \geq f_6(2) = 1/2$ for $n \geq 2$. Consequently, we can derive that:

$$\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^{\frac{1}{n}} \frac{d}{dn} f_5(n) = \frac{(\log(n) - 1) \log(n) - \left(\frac{1}{2n}\right)^{\frac{1}{n}} n \log(2)}{4n^3} \leq \frac{1}{4n^2} \left(\frac{(\log(n) - 1) \log(n)}{n} - \frac{\log(2)}{2}\right) < 0.$$

Here, the last inequality follows by assuming $f_7(n) := \frac{\log(n)(\log(n)-1)}{n} < \frac{\log(2)}{2}$. A direct calculation implies that $\frac{d}{dn} f_7(n) = -\frac{1}{n^2} ((\log(n) - 3) \log(n) + 1) = 0$ have two zeros at $n = \exp\left(\frac{3 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}\right)$. Therefore, we establish Equation (62) by noticing

$$f_7(n) \leq \max \left\{ f_7 \left(\frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right), f_7 \left(\frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right) \right\} < \frac{\log(2)}{2}. \quad \square$$