

Rotationally invariant multipartite states

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Abstract

We construct a class of multipartite states possessing rotational $SO(3)$ symmetry – these are states of K spin- j_A particles and K spin- j_B particles. The construction of symmetric states follows our two recent papers devoted to unitary and orthogonal multipartite symmetry. We study basic properties of multipartite $SO(3)$ symmetric states: separability criteria and multi-PPT conditions.

1 Introduction

Symmetry plays a prominent role in modern physics. In many cases it enables one to simplify the analysis of the corresponding problems and very often it leads to much deeper understanding and the most elegant mathematical formulation of the corresponding physical theory. In Quantum Information Theory [1] the very idea of symmetry was first applied by Werner [2] to construct a highly symmetric family of bipartite $d \otimes d$ states which are invariant under the following local unitary operations

$$\rho \longrightarrow U \otimes U \rho (U \otimes U)^\dagger, \quad (1.1)$$

where U are unitary operators from $U(d)$ — the group of unitary $d \times d$ matrices. Another family of symmetric states (so called isotropic states [3]) is governed by the following invariance rule

$$\rho \longrightarrow U \otimes \bar{U} \rho (U \otimes \bar{U})^\dagger, \quad (1.2)$$

where \bar{U} is the complex conjugate of U in some basis. Other symmetry groups (subgroups of $U(d)$) were first considered in [4].

Let us observe that the problem of symmetric bipartite states may be formulated in more general setting. Consider the composite system living in $\mathcal{H}_{\text{total}} = \mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$ and let G be a symmetry group in question. Let $\mathfrak{D}^{(A)}$ and $\mathfrak{D}^{(B)}$ denote irreducible unitary representations of G in \mathcal{H}_A and \mathcal{H}_B , respectively. Now, a state ρ of the composite is Werner-like $\mathfrak{D}^{(A)} \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(B)}$ -invariant iff

$$[\mathfrak{D}^{(A)}(g) \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(B)}(g), \rho] = 0, \quad (1.3)$$

for all elements $g \in G$. Similarly, ρ is isotropic-like $\mathfrak{D}^{(A)} \otimes \overline{\mathfrak{D}^{(B)}}$ -invariant iff

$$[\mathfrak{D}^{(A)}(g) \otimes \overline{\mathfrak{D}^{(B)}(g)}, \rho] = 0. \quad (1.4)$$

It is clear that taking $\mathcal{H}_A = \mathcal{H}_B = \mathbb{C}^d$ and $\mathfrak{D}^{(A)} = \mathfrak{D}^{(B)} \equiv \mathfrak{D}$ the defining representation of $G = U(d)$ one obtains the standard Werner state [2]. Taking as G a rotational group $SO(3)$ one constructs a

family of rotationally invariant states considered recently in [4] and in more details in [5, 6, 7, 8] (see also [9]). Rotationally invariant bipartite states arise from thermal equilibrium states of low-dimensional spin systems with a rotationally invariant Hamiltonian by tracing out all degrees of freedom but those two spins. Entanglement in generic spin models has recently been studied in [10, 11, 12, 13]. Rotationally invariant states were recently applied in quantum optics to describe multiphoton entangled states produced by parametric down-conversion [14] (see also [15]).

In a present paper we consider a multipartite generalization of $\text{SO}(3)$ -invariant states. Symmetric multipartite states were first considered in [16] (see also [17]) for $G = U(d)$ and $G = O(d)$. An N -partite generalization of Werner state in $\mathcal{H}_{\text{total}} = (\mathbb{C}^d)^{\otimes N}$ is defined by the following requirement [16]:

$$[U^{\otimes N}, \rho] = 0 \quad (1.5)$$

for all $U \in U(d)$. This definition may be slightly generalized as follows: an N -partite state ρ living in $\mathcal{H}_{\text{total}} = \mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{H}_N$ is invariant under $\mathfrak{D}^{(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(N)}$, where $\mathfrak{D}^{(k)}$ denotes an irreducible representation of the symmetry group G in \mathcal{H}_k , iff

$$[\mathfrak{D}^{(1)}(g) \otimes \dots \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(N)}(g), \rho] = 0 \quad (1.6)$$

for all $g \in G$.

Recently [18, 19] we proposed another family of multipartite symmetric states. Our construction works for even number of parties. Consider K copies of \mathcal{H}_A and K copies of \mathcal{H}_B . Let $\mathfrak{D}^{(A)}$ and $\mathfrak{D}^{(B)}$ denote irreducible unitary representations of G in \mathcal{H}_A and \mathcal{H}_B , respectively. Now, a $2K$ -partite state ρ is $(\mathfrak{D}^{(A)} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(A)}) \otimes (\mathfrak{D}^{(B)} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(B)})$ -invariant iff

$$\left[\mathfrak{D}^{(A)}(g_1) \otimes \dots \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(A)}(g_K) \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(B)}(g_1) \otimes \dots \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(B)}(g_K), \rho \right] = 0, \quad (1.7)$$

for all $(g_1, \dots, g_K) \in G \times \dots \times G$. Note the crucial difference between these two definitions (1.5) and (1.7): the first one uses only one element g from G whereas the second one uses K different elements g_1, \dots, g_K , and hence it is much more restrictive. In [18] we considered unitary symmetry, i.e. $G = U(d)$ and $\mathcal{H}_A = \mathcal{H}_B = \mathbb{C}^d$, whereas in [19] we analyzed orthogonal symmetry with $G = O(d) \subset U(d)$. It turns out that contrary to the symmetric states considered in [16, 17] the states constructed in [18, 19] give rise to simple separability criteria. In the present paper we construct multipartite states with rotational $\text{SO}(3)$ symmetry.

The paper is organized as follows: in Section 2 we recall basic properties of rotationally invariant bipartite states. This section summarizes the main results obtained in [5, 6, 7, 8]. In section 3 we construct multipartite $\text{SO}(3)$ -invariant states and study its basic properties: separability and multi-PPT conditions. More technical analysis is moved to appendixes. Final conclusions are collected in the last section.

2 Rotationally invariant bipartite states

2.1 Werner-like states

Let us consider two particles with spins j_A and $j_B \geq j_A$. The composed bipartite system lives in $\mathcal{H}_{AB} = \mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$, with $\mathcal{H}_A = \mathbb{C}^{d_A}$ and $\mathcal{H}_B = \mathbb{C}^{d_B}$, where $d_A = 2j_A + 1$ and $d_B = 2j_B + 1$. Recall that the Hilbert space corresponding to spin- j particle is spanned by $d = 2j + 1$ eigenstates $|j, m\rangle$, where

$m = -j, -j+1, \dots, j$. A bipartite operator ρ is said to be Werner-like rotationally or $\text{SO}(3)$ -invariant iff for any $R \in \text{SO}(3)$

$$[\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A)}(R) \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(j_B)}(R), \rho] = 0, \quad (2.1)$$

where $\mathfrak{D}^{(j)}(R)$ denotes irreducible unitary representation of R in \mathbb{C}^{2j+1} . As is well known the tensor product of two irreducible representations $\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A)}(R) \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(j_B)}(R)$ is no longer irreducible in $\mathbb{C}^{d_A} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{d_B}$. It decomposes into a direct sum of irreducible representations

$$\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A)}(R) \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(j_B)}(R) = \bigoplus_{J=j_B-j_A}^{j_B+j_A} \mathfrak{D}^{(J)}(R), \quad (2.2)$$

each appearing with multiplicity 1. The composite space \mathcal{H}_{AB} is spanned by $d_A \cdot d_B$ vectors $|JM\rangle$ with $J = j_B - j_A, \dots, j_B + j_A$ and $M = -J, \dots, J$, that is

$$|JM\rangle = \sum_{m_A, m_B} \langle j_A, m_A; j_B, m_B | JM \rangle |m_A; m_B\rangle \quad (2.3)$$

where $\langle j_A, m_A; j_B, m_B | JM \rangle$ denote Clebsh-Gordan coefficients [20, 21, 22], and

$$|m_A; m_B\rangle = |j_A, m_A\rangle \otimes |j_B, m_B\rangle. \quad (2.4)$$

Now, the space of Werner-like $\text{SO}(3)$ -invariant operator is spanned by $2j_A + 1$ projectors:

$$Q^J = \sum_{M=-J}^J |JM\rangle \langle JM|, \quad (2.5)$$

that is, any $\text{SO}(3)$ -invariant operator may be written as follows

$$\rho = \sum_J q_J \tilde{Q}^J, \quad (2.6)$$

where $q_J \geq 0$ with $\sum_J q_J = 1$, and we use the following notation $\tilde{A} = A/\text{Tr} A$. Note that $\text{Tr} Q^J = 2J + 1$.

It is evident that an arbitrary bipartite state ρ may be projected onto the $\text{SO}(3)$ -invariant subspace by the following *twirl* operation:

$$\mathbb{T}(\rho) = \int \mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes j_B)}(R) \rho [\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes j_B)}(R)]^\dagger dR, \quad (2.7)$$

where dR is an invariant normalized Haar measure on $\text{SO}(3)$, and we introduce the following slightly more compact notation:

$$\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes j_B)}(R) = \mathfrak{D}^{(j_A)}(R) \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(j_B)}(R). \quad (2.8)$$

Clearly, $\mathbb{T}(\rho)$ is of the form (2.6) with fidelities $q_J = \text{Tr}(\rho Q^J)$.

2.2 Isotropic-like states

Now, a bipartite state ρ is isotropic-like $\text{SO}(3)$ -invariant iff

$$[\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A)}(R) \otimes \overline{\mathfrak{D}^{(j_B)}(R)}, \rho] = 0 , \quad (2.9)$$

where $\overline{\mathfrak{D}^{(j)}(R)}$ denotes conjugate representation. Representations $\mathfrak{D}^{(j)}$ and $\overline{\mathfrak{D}^{(j)}}$ are equivalent and hence there exists an intertwining unitary operator V such that $V\mathfrak{D}^{(j)} = \overline{\mathfrak{D}^{(j)}}V$. It turns out that

$$V|j, m\rangle = (-1)^{j-m}|j, -m\rangle . \quad (2.10)$$

Let us define a family of projectors

$$P^J = (\mathbb{1} \otimes V)Q^J(\mathbb{1} \otimes V^\dagger) . \quad (2.11)$$

Note, that P^J are $\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes \overline{j_B})}$ -invariant, where in analogy to (2.8), we introduced

$$\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes \overline{j_B})}(R) = \mathfrak{D}^{(j_A)}(R) \otimes \overline{\mathfrak{D}^{(j_B)}(R)} . \quad (2.12)$$

Indeed, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes \overline{j_B})}(R)P^J &= \mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes \overline{j_B})}(R)(\mathbb{1} \otimes V)Q^J(\mathbb{1} \otimes V^\dagger) = (\mathbb{1} \otimes V)\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes j_B)}(R)Q^J(\mathbb{1} \otimes V^\dagger) \\ &= (\mathbb{1} \otimes V)Q^J\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes j_B)}(R)(\mathbb{1} \otimes V^\dagger) = (\mathbb{1} \otimes V)Q^J(\mathbb{1} \otimes V^\dagger)\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes \overline{j_B})}(R) \\ &= P^J\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes \overline{j_B})}(R) . \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, any $\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes \overline{j_B})}$ -invariant state has the following form

$$\rho = \sum_J p_J \tilde{P}^J , \quad (2.13)$$

where $p_J \geq 0$ with $\sum_J p_J = 1$. Again, an arbitrary bipartite state ρ may be projected onto the $\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes \overline{j_B})}$ -invariant subspace by the following twirl operation:

$$\mathbb{T}'(\rho) = \int \mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes \overline{j_B})}(R) \rho [\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes \overline{j_B})}(R)]^\dagger dR , \quad (2.14)$$

where dR is an invariant normalized Haar measure on $\text{SO}(3)$. Clearly, $\mathbb{T}'(\rho)$ is of the form (2.13) with fidelities $p_J = \text{Tr}(\rho P_J)$.

2.3 PPT states

Note, that both families of $\text{SO}(3)$ -invariant states, i.e. Werner-like states (2.6) and isotropic-like states (2.13) are not independent. They are related by a partial transposition $\mathbb{1} \otimes \tau$, i.e. ρ is $\mathfrak{D}^{j_A \otimes j_B}$ -invariant (it belongs to the class (2.6)) iff $(\mathbb{1} \otimes \tau)\rho$ is $\mathfrak{D}^{j_A \otimes \overline{j_B}}$ -invariant. Equivalently, using twirl operations \mathbb{T} and \mathbb{T}' one has

$$\mathbb{T}' = (\mathbb{1} \otimes \tau) \circ \mathbb{T} \circ (\mathbb{1} \otimes \tau) . \quad (2.15)$$

for an arbitrary state ρ . Now, for any $\mathfrak{D}^{j_A \otimes j_B}$ -invariant projector Q^J one has

$$(\mathbb{1} \otimes \tau) \tilde{Q}^J = \sum_{J'} X_{JJ'} \tilde{P}^{J'} , \quad (2.16)$$

where the $d_A \times d_A$ matrix $\mathbf{X} = [\mathbf{X}_{JJ'}]$ reads as follows

$$X_{JJ'} = \text{Tr}[(\mathbb{1} \otimes \tau) \tilde{Q}^J P^{J'}] . \quad (2.17)$$

Note that due to $\sum_J P^J = I_{d_A} \otimes I_{d_B}$ one finds

$$\sum_{J'} X_{JJ'} = 1 . \quad (2.18)$$

However the matrix elements $X_{JJ'}$ are not necessarily positive which prevents X to be a stochastic matrix. Interestingly, matrix X satisfies

$$X^2 = I , \quad (2.19)$$

where I stands for $d_A \times d_A$ identity matrix which implies $X^{-1} = X$ (for proof see Appendix A).

It turns out that using several properties of Clebsch-Gordan coefficients matrix $X_{JJ'}$ may be expressed in terms of so called 6- j Wigner symbol well known from the quantum theory of angular momentum [20]. Following [7] we show in the Appendix B that $X_{JJ'}$ may be expressed as follows:

$$X_{JJ'} = (-1)^{2j_B} (2J' + 1) \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} j_A & j_B & J \\ j_A & j_B & J' \end{array} \right\} , \quad (2.20)$$

where the curly brackets denote a 6- j Wigner symbol [20]. Equivalently, using the Racah W -coefficients

$$W(j_A, j_B, j'_A, j'_B; J J') = (-1)^\alpha \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} j_A & j_B & J \\ j'_A & j'_B & J' \end{array} \right\} ,$$

where $\alpha = j_A + j_B + j'_A + j'_B$, one finds

$$X_{JJ'} = (-1)^{2j_A} (2J' + 1) W(j_A, j_B, j_A, j_B; J J') . \quad (2.21)$$

Therefore, if ρ is given by (2.6), then its partial transposition has the following form:

$$(\mathbb{1} \otimes \tau) \rho = \sum_J q'_J \tilde{P}^J , \quad (2.22)$$

where

$$q'_J = \sum_{J'} q_{J'} \mathbf{X}_{J'J} . \quad (2.23)$$

An $\text{SO}(3)$ -invariant state (2.6) is PPT iff $q'_J \geq 0$ for all $J = j_B - j_A, \dots, j_B + j_A$.

Conversely, if ρ is given by (2.13), then its partial transposition has the following form:

$$(\mathbb{1} \otimes \tau) \rho = \sum_J p'_J \tilde{Q}^J , \quad (2.24)$$

with

$$p'_J = \sum_{J'} p_{J'} X_{J'J} , \quad (2.25)$$

where we used the fact that $X^{-1} = X$. An $\text{SO}(3)$ -invariant state (2.13) is PPT iff $p'_J \geq 0$ for all $J = j_B - j_A, \dots, j_B + j_A$.

In Appendix C we show that for $j_B \geq j_A = 1/2$ the 2×2 matrix \mathbf{X} reads as follows:

$$X = \frac{1}{2j_B + 1} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2(j_B + 1) \\ 2j_B & 1 \end{pmatrix} . \quad (2.26)$$

For $j_B \geq j_A = 1$ the corresponding 3×3 matrix X is given by (Appendix C):

$$X = \frac{1}{j_B(j_B + 1)(2j_B + 1)} \begin{pmatrix} j_B + 1 & -(j_B + 1)(2j_B + 1) & j_B(j_B + 1)(2j_B + 3) \\ -(j_B + 1)(2j_B - 1) & (j_B^2 + j_B - 1)(2j_B + 1) & j_B(2j_B + 3) \\ j_B(j_B + 1)(2j_B - 1) & j_B(2j_B + 1) & j_B \end{pmatrix} . \quad (2.27)$$

2.4 Separability

A Werner-like rotationally invariant state ρ is separable iff there exists a separable state σ in \mathcal{H}_{AB} such that

$$\rho = \mathbb{T}(\sigma) . \quad (2.28)$$

Moreover, it is clear that pure separable states $\varphi \otimes \psi \in \mathcal{H}_{AB}$ are mapped via twirl into the extremal separable symmetric states $\mathbb{T}(|\varphi \otimes \psi\rangle\langle\varphi \otimes \psi|)$. Note that among invariant projectors Q^J only one with maximal $J = j_A + j_B$ is separable since

$$\tilde{Q}^{j_A + j_B} = \mathbb{T}(|j_A; j_B\rangle\langle j_A; j_B|) . \quad (2.29)$$

If $J \neq j_A + j_B$ the corresponding Q^J is not PPT and hence it is not separable. It is well known [5, 6, 7, 8] that for $j_A = 1/2$ and arbitrary j_B rotationally invariant state is separable iff it is PPT, i.e.

$$\rho = q_{j_B - 1/2} \tilde{Q}^{j_B - 1/2} + q_{j_B + 1/2} \tilde{Q}^{j_B - 1/2} , \quad (2.30)$$

with $q_{j_B - 1/2}, q_{j_B + 1/2} \geq 0$ and $q_{j_B - 1/2} + q_{j_B + 1/2} = 1$, is separable iff

$$q'_J = \sum_{J'=j_B-1/2}^{j_B+1/2} q_{J'} \mathbf{X}_{J'J} \geq 0 , \quad (2.31)$$

with \mathbf{X} given in (2.26). It gives therefore the following necessary and sufficient condition for separability

$$q_{j_B + 1/2} \geq \frac{1}{d_B} . \quad (2.32)$$

Note that PPT states define a convex set – an interval $[\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{q}']$, with $\mathbf{q} = (0, 1)$ and $\mathbf{q}' = ((d_B - 1)/d_B, 1/d_B)$, where $\mathbf{q} = (q_{j_B-1/2}, q_{j_B+1/2})$. Clearly, a state corresponding to \mathbf{q} is separable — it is $\tilde{Q}^{j_B+1/2}$. To show that a state corresponding to \mathbf{q}' is also separable let us observe that

$$\mathrm{Tr} \left(\sigma Q^{j_B+1/2} \right) = \frac{1}{d_B}, \quad \mathrm{Tr} \left(\sigma Q^{j_B-1/2} \right) = \frac{d_B - 1}{d_B},$$

where e.g. $\sigma = |-1/2; j_B\rangle\langle -1/2; j_B|$. The same result holds for $\sigma = |1/2; -j_B\rangle\langle 1/2; -j_B|$.

Similarly, an isotropic-like rotationally invariant state in $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^{d_B}$ is separable iff it is PPT, that is

$$\rho = p_{j_B-1/2} \tilde{P}^{j_B-1/2} + p_{j_B+1/2} \tilde{P}^{j_B+1/2}, \quad (2.33)$$

with $p_{j_B-1/2}, p_{j_B+1/2} \geq 0$ and $p_{j_B-1/2} + p_{j_B+1/2} = 1$, is separable iff

$$p_{j_B+1/2} \geq \frac{1}{d_B}. \quad (2.34)$$

Another interesting case is when $j_B \geq j_A = 1$. It was shown [7, 8] that for integer j_B , i.e. odd $d_B = 2j_B + 1$, rotationally invariant state is separable iff it is PPT. However, for half-integer j_B (even d_B) there exist bound entangled states, i.e. PPT but entangled. Now, using (2.27), for integer j_B a rotationally invariant state

$$\rho = q_{j_B-1} \tilde{Q}^{j_B-1} + q_{j_B} \tilde{Q}^{j_B} + q_{j_B+1} \tilde{Q}^{j_B+1}, \quad (2.35)$$

is separable iff

$$\begin{aligned} q_{j_B-1} d_B - q_{j_B} (j_B^2 - 1) &\leq 1, \\ q_{j_B} (2j_B^2 + j_B - 1) - q_{j_B-1} (1 - 2j_B^2 + j_B) &\leq j_B d_B. \end{aligned}$$

The above conditions considerably simplify for $j_B = 1$. One obtains

$$q_0 \leq \frac{1}{3}, \quad q_1 \leq \frac{1}{2}, \quad (2.36)$$

which reproduce separability conditions for $O(3) \otimes O(3)$ -invariant states (see formula (27) in [19]). Similar results hold for isotropic-like rotationally invariant states with $j_B \geq j_A = 1$. For $j_B \geq j_A > 1$ the situation is much more complicated. For some partial results consult [5, 6, 7, 8].

2.5 Special case: $j_A = j_B$

Consider now the special case when both particles have the same spin $j_A = j_B \equiv j$. One has two families of projectors:

$$Q^0, Q^1, \dots, Q^{d-1},$$

and

$$P^0 \equiv P_d^+, P^1, \dots, P^{d-1},$$

where $d = 2j + 1$,

$$P_d^+ = \frac{1}{d} \sum_{m_A, m_B = -j}^j |m_A; m_B\rangle\langle m_A; m_B|,$$

denotes a projector onto the maximally entangled state. Using definitions (2.5) and (2.11) and properties of the Clebsch-Gordan coefficients one proves the following

Theorem 1 *The Schmidt number [23] of Q^J and P^J is given by*

$$\text{SN}(Q^J) = \text{SN}(P^J) = d - J , \quad (2.37)$$

for $J = 0, 1, \dots, d - 1$.

Note, that in the case of the standard $U \otimes U$ -invariant Werner state one has only two projectors: Q^{d-2} and Q^{d-1} . Q^{d-2} has Schmidt number 2 and Q^{d-1} is separable. Therefore, contrary to the 1-parameter family of Werner states the $(d-1)$ -parameter family of Werner-like $\text{SO}(3)$ -invariant states gives rise to the full *spectrum* of entangled states: from separable one to states with the maximal Schmidt number d . In the case of isotropic $U \otimes \bar{U}$ -invariant state one has maximally entangled (i.e. with Schmidt number d) $P^0 = P_d^+$ and separable P^{d-1} .

The matrix $X_{JJ'}$ given by (2.38) simplifies to

$$X_{JJ'} = (-1)^{d-1} (2J' + 1) \begin{Bmatrix} j & j & J \\ j & j & J' \end{Bmatrix} , \quad (2.38)$$

In particular for $j = 1/2$ the formula (2.26) reconstructs X matrix for the Werner $U \otimes U$ -invariant states in $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$ (see formula (15) in [18]):

$$X = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} . \quad (2.39)$$

For $j = 1$ the formula (2.27) reconstructs X matrix for the orthogonally $O(3) \otimes O(3)$ -invariant states in $\mathbb{C}^3 \otimes \mathbb{C}^3$ (see formula (30) in [19]):

$$X = \frac{1}{6} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -6 & 10 \\ -2 & 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} . \quad (2.40)$$

3 Multipartite $\text{SO}(3)$ symmetric states

3.1 Werner-like family

Consider now $2K$ -partite system living in $\mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$, where

$$\mathcal{H}_A = \mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{H}_K , \quad (3.1)$$

and

$$\mathcal{H}_B = \mathcal{H}_{K+1} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{H}_{2K} , \quad (3.2)$$

with $\mathcal{H}_1 = \dots = \mathcal{H}_K = \mathbb{C}^{d_A}$ and $\mathcal{H}_{K+1} = \dots = \mathcal{H}_{2K} = \mathbb{C}^{d_B}$. Let $\mathbf{R} = (R_1, \dots, R_K)$ with $R_i \in \text{SO}(3)$ and define

$$\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A)}(\mathbf{R}) \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(j_B)}(\mathbf{R}) = \bigotimes_{i=1}^K \mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes j_B)}(R_i) , \quad (3.3)$$

where for each $i = 1, \dots, K$ a bipartite unitary operator $\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes j_B)}(R_i)$ acts on $\mathcal{H}_i \otimes \mathcal{H}_{K+i}$. Now, we call a $2K$ -partite state a Werner-like $\text{SO}(3)$ -invariant iff

$$[\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A)}(\mathbf{R}) \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(j_B)}(\mathbf{R}), \rho] = 0 , \quad (3.4)$$

for any $\mathbf{R} \in SO(3) \times \dots \times SO(3)$. To parameterize the set of $2K$ -partite invariant states let us introduce the following set of projectors:

$$\mathbf{Q}^{\mathbf{J}} = Q_{1|K+1}^{J_1} \otimes \dots \otimes Q_{K|2K}^{J_K}, \quad (3.5)$$

where $\mathbf{J} = (J_1, \dots, J_k)$ is a K -vector with $J_i = j_B - j_A, \dots, j_B + j_A$. It is clear that

1. $\mathbf{Q}^{\mathbf{J}}$ are $SO(3)$ -invariant,
2. $\mathbf{Q}^{\mathbf{J}} \cdot \mathbf{Q}^{\mathbf{J}'}$ = $\delta_{\mathbf{J}\mathbf{J}'}$ $\mathbf{Q}^{\mathbf{J}}$,
3. $\sum_{\mathbf{J}} \mathbf{Q}^{\mathbf{J}} = (I_{d_A} \otimes I_{d_B})^{\otimes K}$.

Therefore, an arbitrary $2K$ -partite $SO(3)$ -invariant state has the following form

$$\rho = \sum_{\mathbf{J}} q_{\mathbf{J}} \tilde{\mathbf{Q}}^{\mathbf{J}}, \quad (3.6)$$

with $q_{\mathbf{J}} \geq 0$ and $\sum_{\mathbf{J}} q_{\mathbf{J}} = 1$. Hence, the set of rotationally invariant states defines $(d_A^K - 1)$ -dimensional simplex.

3.2 Isotropic-like family

It is clear that we may use the same scheme to define $2k$ -partite isotropic-like states. For any $\mathbf{R} = (R_1, \dots, R_K)$ with $R_i \in SO(3)$ one defines

$$\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A)}(\mathbf{R}) \otimes \overline{\mathfrak{D}^{(j_B)}(\mathbf{R})} = \bigotimes_{i=1}^K \mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes \overline{j_B})}(R_i), \quad (3.7)$$

where for each $i = 1, \dots, K$ a bipartite unitary operator $\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A \otimes \overline{j_B})}(R_i)$ acts on $\mathcal{H}_i \otimes \mathcal{H}_{K+i}$. Now, we call a $2K$ -partite state an isotropic-like $SO(3)$ -invariant iff

$$[\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A)}(\mathbf{R}) \otimes \overline{\mathfrak{D}^{(j_B)}(\mathbf{R})}, \rho] = 0, \quad (3.8)$$

for any $\mathbf{R} \in SO(3) \times \dots \times SO(3)$. To parameterize the set of $2K$ -partite invariant states let us introduce the following set of projectors:

$$\mathbf{P}^{\mathbf{J}} = P_{1|K+1}^{J_1} \otimes \dots \otimes P_{K|2K}^{J_K}, \quad (3.9)$$

where $\mathbf{J} = (J_1, \dots, J_k)$ is a K -vector with $J_i = j_B - j_A, \dots, j_B + j_A$. It is clear that

1. $\mathbf{P}^{\mathbf{J}}$ are $SO(3)$ -invariant,
2. $\mathbf{P}^{\mathbf{J}} \cdot \mathbf{P}^{\mathbf{J}'}$ = $\delta_{\mathbf{J}\mathbf{J}'}$ $\mathbf{P}^{\mathbf{J}}$,
3. $\sum_{\mathbf{J}} \mathbf{P}^{\mathbf{J}} = (I_{d_A} \otimes I_{d_B})^{\otimes K}$.

Therefore, an arbitrary $2K$ -partite $SO(3)$ -invariant state has the following form

$$\rho = \sum_{\mathbf{J}} p_{\mathbf{J}} \tilde{\mathbf{P}}^{\mathbf{J}}, \quad (3.10)$$

with $p_{\mathbf{J}} \geq 0$ and $\sum_{\mathbf{J}} p_{\mathbf{J}} = 1$. The set of rotationally invariant states defines $(d_A^K - 1)$ -dimensional simplex.

3.3 σ -PPT states

Now, following [18] let us introduce the family of partial transpositions parameterized by a binary K -vector $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_K)$:

$$\tau_\sigma = \mathbb{1}^{\otimes K} \otimes \tau^{\sigma_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \tau^{\sigma_K} , \quad (3.11)$$

where $\tau^\alpha = \mathbb{1}$ for $\alpha = 0$ and $\tau^\alpha = \tau$ for $\alpha = 1$. A $2K$ -partite state ρ is σ -PPT iff $\tau_\sigma \rho \geq 0$. In terms of coefficients $q_{\mathbf{J}}$ the property of σ -PPT leads to the following conditions

$$\sum_{\mathbf{J}} q_{\mathbf{J}} \mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{J}\mathbf{J}'}^\sigma \geq 0 , \quad (3.12)$$

for all \mathbf{J}' . The $d_A^K \times d_A^K$ matrix $\mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{J}\mathbf{J}'}^\sigma$ is given by

$$\mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{J}\mathbf{J}'}^\sigma = \text{Tr} \left[(\tau_\sigma \tilde{\mathbf{Q}}^{\mathbf{J}}) \cdot \mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{J}'} \right] . \quad (3.13)$$

Let us observe that

$$\mathbf{X}^\sigma = X^{\sigma_1} \otimes \dots \otimes X^{\sigma_K} , \quad (3.14)$$

where X is defined by in (2.21). In component notation one finds

$$\mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{J}\mathbf{J}'}^\sigma = X_{J_1 J'_1}^{\sigma_1} \dots X_{J_K J'_K}^{\sigma_K} , \quad (3.15)$$

Again, in analogy to (2.18) and (2.19) one has

$$\sum_{\mathbf{J}'} \mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{J}\mathbf{J}'}^\sigma = 1 , \quad (3.16)$$

and $\mathbf{X}^\sigma \cdot \mathbf{X}^\sigma = I^{\otimes K}$ for any σ . Therefore

$$(\mathbf{X}^\sigma)^{-1} = \mathbf{X}^\sigma . \quad (3.17)$$

In the same way one defines a σ -PPT subset of isotropic-like $2K$ -partite symmetric states. A state ρ from the family (3.21) is σ -PPT iff $\tau_\sigma \rho \geq 0$, that is

$$\sum_{\mathbf{J}} p_{\mathbf{J}} \mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{J}\mathbf{J}'}^\sigma \geq 0 , \quad (3.18)$$

for all \mathbf{J}' .

3.4 σ -invariance

Note, that each binary vector σ gives rise to the new $2K$ -partite family of symmetric states. We call a state ρ σ -invariant iff $\tau_\sigma \rho$ is Werner-like invariant. To parameterize this family let us introduce the following set of bipartite operators:

$$\Pi_{(\sigma)}^J = \begin{cases} Q^J , & \sigma = 0 \\ P^J , & \sigma = 1 \end{cases} . \quad (3.19)$$

This operators may be used to construct a set of $2K$ -partite projectors

$$\mathbf{\Pi}_{(\sigma)}^{\mathbf{J}} = \Pi_{(\sigma_1)1|K+1}^{J_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \Pi_{(\sigma_K)K|2K}^{J_K} , \quad (3.20)$$

satisfying

1. $\Pi_{(\sigma)}^{\mathbf{J}}$ are σ -invariant,
2. $\Pi_{(\sigma)}^{\mathbf{J}} \cdot \Pi_{(\sigma)}^{\mathbf{J}'} = \delta_{\mathbf{J}\mathbf{J}'} \Pi_{(\sigma)}^{\mathbf{J}}$,
3. $\sum_{\mathbf{J}} \Pi_{(\sigma)}^{\mathbf{J}} = (I_{d_A} \otimes I_{d_B})^{\otimes K}$.

Therefore, an arbitrary $2K$ -partite σ -invariant state has the following form

$$\rho = \sum_{\mathbf{J}} \pi_{\mathbf{J}} \tilde{\Pi}_{(\sigma)}^{\mathbf{J}}, \quad (3.21)$$

with $\pi_{\mathbf{J}} \geq 0$ and $\sum_{\mathbf{J}} \pi_{\mathbf{J}} = 1$. Clearly, the set of σ -invariant states defines $(d_A^K - 1)$ -dimensional simplex. Let us note that for any two binary vectors μ and ν if ρ is μ -invariant then $\tau_{\nu}\rho$ is $(\mu \oplus \nu)$ -invariant, where $\mu \oplus \nu$ denotes addition mod 2.

3.5 Separability

A $2K$ -partite Werner-like rotationally invariant state ρ is separable iff there exists a separable state σ in $\mathcal{H}_{\text{total}}$ such that

$$\rho = \mathbb{T}_K(\sigma), \quad (3.22)$$

where \mathbb{T}_K denotes $2K$ -partite twirl operation:

$$\mathbb{T}_K(\omega) = \int \left[\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A)}(\mathbf{R}) \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(j_B)}(\mathbf{R}) \right] \omega \left[\mathfrak{D}^{(j_A)}(\mathbf{R}) \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(j_B)}(\mathbf{R}) \right]^{\dagger} dR_1 \dots dR_K.$$

Moreover, it is clear that pure separable states $\varphi_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \varphi_K \otimes \psi_1 \dots \otimes \psi_K \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{total}}$ are mapped via twirl \mathbb{T}_K into the extremal separable symmetric states. Again only one invariant projector $\mathbf{Q}^{\mathbf{J}}$ is separable — that corresponding to $\mathbf{J} = (j_A + j_B, \dots, j_A + j_B)$. It is given by the twirl of $|j_A\rangle \otimes \dots \otimes |j_A\rangle \otimes |j_B\rangle \otimes \dots \otimes |j_B\rangle$.

Using techniques applied in [18, 19] one easily shows the following

Theorem 2 *If $j_B \geq j_A = 1/2$ or $j_B \geq j_A = 1$ with integer j_B , then an arbitrary μ -invariant state ρ is fully separable iff it is ν -PPT for all binary K -vectors ν . Moreover ρ is $(1 \dots K | K + 1 \dots 2K)$ biseparable iff it is $(1 \dots 1)$ -PPT.*

In particular for $j_A = j_B = 1/2$ the above theorem reconstructs separability conditions for μ -invariant states with unitary symmetry $U(2)$, see [18], whereas for $j_A = j_B = 1$ one reconstructs separability conditions for $O(3)$ -invariant states, see [19].

3.6 Reductions

It is evident that reducing the $2K$ partite σ -invariant state with respect to $\mathcal{H}_i \otimes \mathcal{H}_{i+K}$ pair one obtains $2(K-1)$ -partite $\sigma_{(i)}$ -invariant state with

$$\sigma_{(i)} = (\sigma_1, \dots, \check{\sigma}_i, \dots, \sigma_K), \quad (3.23)$$

where $\check{\sigma}_i$ denotes the omitting of σ_i . The reduced state lives in

$$\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \dots \check{\mathcal{H}}_i \otimes \dots \otimes \check{\mathcal{H}}_{i+K} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{H}_{2K}. \quad (3.24)$$

The corresponding fidelities of the reduced symmetric state are given by

$$\pi_{(J_1 \dots J_K)} = \sum_{j=j_B-j_A}^{j_B+j_A} \pi_{(J_1 \dots J_{i-1} j J_{i+1} \dots J_K)} . \quad (3.25)$$

Note, that reduction with respect to a ‘mixed’ pair, say $\mathcal{H}_i \otimes \mathcal{H}_{j+K}$ with $j \neq i$ ($i, j \leq K$), is equivalent to two ‘natural’ reductions with respect to $\mathcal{H}_i \otimes \mathcal{H}_{i+K}$ and $\mathcal{H}_j \otimes \mathcal{H}_{j+K}$ and hence it gives rise to $2(K-2)$ -partite invariant state. This procedure establishes a natural hierarchy of multipartite invariant states.

4 Conclusions

We have introduced a new family of multipartite rotationally symmetric states for $2K$ particles: K spin- j_A and K spin- j_B particles ($j_B \geq j_A$). Within this class we have formulated separability conditions for $j_B \geq j_A = 1/2$ and $j_B \geq j_A = 1$ with integer j_B . It turned out that full $2K$ -separability is equivalent to multi σ -PPT conditions with σ being a binary K -vector.

Recently, a detailed analysis of multipartite symmetric states and their application in quantum information theory was performed by Eggeling in his PhD thesis [17]. This construction may be applied for $SO(3)$ symmetry as follows. Consider N spin- j particles. An N -partite state ρ is rotationally invariant iff

$$[\mathfrak{D}^{(j)}(R) \otimes \dots \otimes \mathfrak{D}^{(j)}(R), \rho] = 0 \quad (4.1)$$

for all $R \in SO(3)$. It is clear that the detailed parametrization of this class is highly nontrivial: it corresponds to addition of N angular momenta and, as is well known even the case $N = 3$ gives rise to considerable complications (see e.g. [20, 21, 22]). If $N = 2K$ our class defines only a commutative subclass within Eggeling’s class.

Note, that our construction may be slightly generalized. Instead of K spin- j_A and K spin- j_B particles we may consider $2K$ particles with arbitrary spins:

$$(j_{A_1}, j_{B_1}), (j_{A_2}, j_{B_2}), \dots, (j_{A_K}, j_{B_K}) .$$

Now, a $2K$ -partite state ρ is $SO(3)$ -invariant iff

$$\left[\bigotimes_{i=1}^K \mathfrak{D}^{(j_{A_i})}(R_i) \otimes \bigotimes_{i=1}^K \mathfrak{D}^{(j_{B_i})}(R_i), \rho \right] = 0 , \quad (4.2)$$

for all $R_1, \dots, R_K \in SO(3)$. It is clear that such general situation does not apply for Eggeling’s construction where all particles carry the same spins.

It is hoped that the multipartite state constructed in this paper may serve as a laboratory for testing various concepts from quantum information theory and they may shed new light on the more general investigation of multipartite entanglement. Note, that using duality between bipartite quantum states and quantum channels [24] one may consider rotationally invariant quantum channels transforming a state of spin- j_B particle into a state of spin- j_A one. Relaxing positivity condition upon ρ the above duality gives rise to rotationally invariant positive maps which may be used to detect quantum bipartite entanglement. In the multipartite case the situation is different. Now a crucial role is played

by maps which are positive but only on separable states. Note that a tensor product of two positive maps is no longer positive but clearly it is positive on separable states. Therefore, our construction of multipartite symmetric states may be dually used to produce invariant classes of multi-linear maps which may serve as a useful tool in detecting multi-partite entanglement.

Appendix A

Using properties of the operator V defined in (2.10) one shows that

$$\text{Tr} \left[(\mathbb{1} \otimes \tau) Q^J P^{J'} \right] = \text{Tr} \left[(\mathbb{1} \otimes \tau) Q^{J'} P^J \right] , \quad (\text{A.1})$$

that is,

$$(2J + 1) X_{JJ'} = (2J' + 1) X_{J'J} . \quad (\text{A.2})$$

Now, following (2.17) one has

$$\begin{aligned} X_{JJ'}^{-1} &= \text{Tr} \left[(\mathbb{1} \otimes \tau) \tilde{P}^J Q^{J'} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2J + 1} \text{Tr} \left[(\mathbb{1} \otimes \tau) P^J Q^{J'} \right] , \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.3})$$

and using (A.1) one shows that $X_{JJ'}^{-1} = X_{JJ'}$, that is, $X^2 = I$.

Appendix B

Using (2.5) and (2.11) one finds for the matrix \mathbf{X} :

$$\mathbf{X}_{JJ'} = \frac{1}{2J + 1} \sum_{M, M'} \text{Tr} \left[(\mathbb{1} \otimes \tau) |JM\rangle \langle JM| (\mathbb{1} \otimes V) |J'M'\rangle \langle J'M'| (\mathbb{1} \otimes V^\dagger) \right] . \quad (\text{B.1})$$

Therefore, taking into account (2.3) and the following relation between Clebsch-Gordan coefficients and 3- j Wigner symbols:

$$\langle j_1, j_2; m_1, m_2 | JM \rangle = (-1)^{j_1 - j_2 + M} \sqrt{2J + 1} \begin{pmatrix} j_1 & j_2 & J \\ m_1 & m_2 & -M \end{pmatrix} , \quad (\text{B.2})$$

one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Tr} \left[(\mathbb{1} \otimes \tau) |JM\rangle \langle JM| (\mathbb{1} \otimes V) |J'M'\rangle \langle J'M'| (\mathbb{1} \otimes V^\dagger) \right] \\ &= (2J + 1)(2J' + 1) \sum_{m_A, m_B} \sum_{l_A, l_B} \sum_{m'_A, m'_B} \sum_{l'_A, l'_B} (-1)^{2(M+M')} \delta_{m_A, l'_A} \delta_{l_A, m'_A} \delta_{m_B, -m'_B} \delta_{l_B, -l'_B} \\ &\times \begin{pmatrix} j_A & j_B & J \\ m_A & m_B & -M \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} j_A & j_B & J \\ l_A & l_B & -M \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} j_A & j_B & J' \\ m'_A & m'_B & -M' \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} j_A & j_B & J' \\ l'_A & l'_B & -M' \end{pmatrix} . \end{aligned}$$

Finally, using the symmetry of 3- j symbols

$$\begin{pmatrix} l_1 & l_2 & l_3 \\ m_1 & m_2 & m_3 \end{pmatrix} = (-1)^{l_1 + l_2 + l_3} \begin{pmatrix} l_1 & l_2 & l_3 \\ -m_1 & -m_2 & -m_3 \end{pmatrix} , \quad (\text{B.3})$$

and the following relation between 3- j and 6- j symbols

$$(-1)^{l'_1+l'_2+l'_3} \begin{Bmatrix} l_1 & l_2 & l_3 \\ l'_1 & l'_2 & l'_3 \end{Bmatrix} = \sum_{m_1, m'_1} \sum_{m_2, m'_2} \sum_{m_3, m'_3} (-1)^{m'_1+m'_2+m'_3} \\ \times \begin{pmatrix} l_1 & l_2 & l_3 \\ m_1 & m_2 & m_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} l_1 & l'_2 & l'_3 \\ -m_1 & m'_2 & -m'_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} l'_1 & l_2 & l'_3 \\ -m'_1 & -m_2 & m'_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} l'_1 & l'_2 & l_3 \\ m'_1 & -m'_2 & -m_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{B.4})$$

one proves (2.38).

Appendix C

The 6- j -symbols are invariant under permutation of their columns, e.g.

$$\begin{Bmatrix} j_1 & j_2 & j_3 \\ J_1 & J_2 & J_3 \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} j_2 & j_1 & j_3 \\ J_2 & J_1 & J_3 \end{Bmatrix}, \quad (\text{C.1})$$

and under exchange of two corresponding elements between rows, e.g.

$$\begin{Bmatrix} j_1 & j_2 & j_3 \\ J_1 & J_2 & J_3 \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} J_1 & J_2 & j_3 \\ j_1 & j_2 & J_3 \end{Bmatrix}. \quad (\text{C.2})$$

Now, to find the \mathbf{X} matrix for $j_A = 1$ we shall use the following formulae [20]:

$$\begin{Bmatrix} j_1 - \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & j_1 \\ j_2 & j & j_2 - \frac{1}{2} \end{Bmatrix} = (-1)^J \left[\frac{(J+1)(J-2j)}{2j_1(2j_1+1)2j_2(2j_2+1)} \right]^{1/2}, \quad (\text{C.3})$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} j_1 - \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & j_1 \\ j_2 - \frac{1}{2} & j & j_2 \end{Bmatrix} = (-1)^{J-1/2} \left[\frac{(J-2j_1+\frac{1}{2})(J-2j_2+\frac{1}{2})}{2j_1(2j_1+1)2j_2(2j_2+1)} \right]^{1/2}, \quad (\text{C.4})$$

with $J = j_1 + j_2 + j$. Using these formulae together with symmetry relations (C.1)–(C.2) one obtains (2.26).

Now, to find the \mathbf{X} matrix for $j_A = 1$ we shall use the following formulae [20]:

$$\begin{Bmatrix} j_1 - 1 & 1 & j_1 \\ j_2 & j & j_2 - 1 \end{Bmatrix} = (-1)^J \left[\frac{J(J+1)(J-2j-1)(J-2j)}{(2j_1-1)2j_1(2j_1+1)(2j_2-1)2j_2(2j_2+1)} \right]^{1/2}, \quad (\text{C.5})$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} j_1 - 1 & 1 & j_1 \\ j_2 - 1 & j & j_2 \end{Bmatrix} = (-1)^{J-1} \left[\frac{(J-2j_1)(J-2j+1)(J-2j_2)(J-2j_2+1)}{(2j_1-1)2j_1(2j_1+1)(2j_2-1)2j_2(2j_2+1)} \right]^{1/2}, \quad (\text{C.6})$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} j_1 & 1 & j_1 \\ j_2 - 1 & j & j_2 \end{Bmatrix} = (-1)^J \left[\frac{2(J+1)(J-2j)(J-2j_1)(J-2j_2+1)}{2j_1(2j_1+1)(2j_1+2)(2j_2-1)2j_2(2j_2+1)} \right]^{1/2}, \quad (\text{C.7})$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} j_1 & 1 & j_1 \\ j_2 & j & j_2 \end{Bmatrix} = (-1)^J \frac{j(j+1) - j_1(j_1+1) - j_2(j_2+1)}{[j_1(2j_1+1)(2j_1+2)j_2(2j_2+1)(2j_2+2)]^{1/2}}, \quad (\text{C.8})$$

together with symmetry relations (C.1)–(C.2). Simple calculations give (2.27).

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