Perfect transfer of enhanced entanglement and asymmetric steering in a cavity-magnomechanical system

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We propose a hybrid cavity magnomechanical system to realize and transfer the bipartite entanglements and Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen (EPR) steerings between magnons, photons, and phonons in the regime of stability of the system. As a parity-time-symmetric-like structure exhibiting the natural magnetostrictive magnon-phonon interaction, our passive-active cavity system can be explored to enhance the robust distant quantum entanglement and generate the relatively obvious asymmetric (even directional) EPR steering that is useful for the task with the highly asymmetric trusts of the bidirectional local measurements between two entangled states. It is of great interest that, based on such a tunable magnomechanical system, the perfect transfer between near and distant entanglements and steerings of different mode pairs is realized by adjusting the coupling parameters; in particular, we propose a perfect transfer scheme of steerings. These transferring processes suggest indeed an alternative method for quantum information storage and manipulation. In addition, the entanglements and steerings can also be exchanged between different mode pairs by adjusting the detunings between different modes. This work may provide a potential platform for distant and asymmetric quantum modulation.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Quantum phenomena have been widely studied in various optomechanical systems [\[1–4\]](#page-8-0). Recently, however, technologies engineered from the cavity magnomechanical system have flourished [\[5–11\]](#page-8-0), providing a fertile arena for the realization of the quantum coherence between magnons, cavity photons, and phonons. Based on collective excitations of a ferromagnetic spin system like yttrium iron garnet (YIG), magnons can be freely used for realizing the strong coupling to cavities and superconducting qubits theoretically $[12-15]$ and experimentally [\[10,16\]](#page-8-0), owing to their low damping rate and rich magnonic nonlinearities $[17–20]$. In particular, it is viable to adjust the magnons' frequency via a bias magnetic field [\[11\]](#page-8-0) and to control the damping rate by a grounded loop antenna above the YIG sphere to be much weaker than that of cavities [\[21\]](#page-8-0), which is beneficial to the precise measurement [\[22\]](#page-8-0). As a kind of magnetic material with high spin density, YIG has a magnon mode and also hosts a magnomechanical vibrational phonon mode by the geometric deformation of the surface as an effective mechanical resonator. These two modes can couple with each other via magnetostrictive interaction, which has almost been ignored in common dielectric or metallic materials [\[11,23,24\]](#page-8-0). Benefiting from this special feature, the interest in systems involving YIG has been raised and various coherent phenomena similar to those in optomechanical systems can be studied, such as magnomechanically induced transparency or absorption $[11,25]$, the bistability in cavity magnon polaritons [\[26\]](#page-8-0), magnon-induced nonreciprocity [\[27,28\]](#page-8-0), high-order sidebands generation [\[23,24\]](#page-8-0),

and quantum entanglement [\[29–31\]](#page-8-0). Recently, hybrid systems involving magnons have become a promising platform for implementing exceptional points [\[32,33\]](#page-8-0), exceptional magnetic sensitivity of magnon polaritons [\[34\]](#page-8-0), enhanced sideband responses [\[23\]](#page-8-0), and magnetic chaos [\[35–37\]](#page-8-0). However, the cavity magnomechanics as a novel scheme requires a more comprehensive understanding in physics.

As a vital quantum-mechanical phenomenon, entanglement has been realized in many sorts of systems at the mesoscopic level [\[38–40\]](#page-8-0) or the microscopic level [\[41–43\]](#page-8-0). It is regarded as a key resource required to operate a quantum computer and to communicate with security guaranteed by physical laws [\[44\]](#page-8-0). The entanglement between remote and distant objects can also serve as quantum memories [\[45\]](#page-8-0). In optomechanics, entanglement has been generated between phonons and photons [\[46\]](#page-8-0), photons [\[47\]](#page-8-0), and phonons [\[43\]](#page-8-0). With atoms, atom-cavity-mirror tripartite entanglement emerges [\[48,49\]](#page-8-0) and the entanglement transfer [\[50,51\]](#page-8-0) is observed. Note that, in the cavity magnomechanical system, the magnon-photon-phonon tripartite entanglement has been proposed, where the magnon-phonon entanglement can transfer to other subsystems via coupling [\[29\]](#page-8-0). The magnon-magnon entanglement has been achieved and enhanced via a fluxdriven Josephson parametric amplifier [\[30\]](#page-8-0), the Kerr nonlinear effect [\[52\]](#page-8-0), and quantum correlated microwave fields [\[53\]](#page-8-0).

In recent years, one quantum inseparability called Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen (EPR) steering has become a hot topic [\[54,55\]](#page-8-0). In nature, there are three different types of nonlocal correlations: entanglement, Bell nonlocality that can be stated without any reference to quantum theory [\[56\]](#page-8-0), and EPR steering as an intermediate quantum nonlocality between the first two [\[57\]](#page-8-0). While describing the ability of one party to remotely affect another's state through local measurements,

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EPR steering is a subset of entanglement and stronger than entanglement [\[58,59\]](#page-8-0). Essentially distinct from entanglement, it can feature a unique asymmetry between two observers under proper conditions [\[60–62\]](#page-9-0), which has been experimentally demonstrated [\[63\]](#page-9-0). Moreover, for experimental implementations, quantum-refereed steering, only requiring one joint measurement, might be considerably easier to test than the entanglement witnessing requiring two joint measurements [\[64\]](#page-9-0). Thus, the observation of steering has been used for detecting entanglements in some systems, such as Bose-Einstein condensates [\[65\]](#page-9-0) and atomic ensembles [\[66\]](#page-9-0). Being important for explaining basic characteristics of quantum mechanics, asymmetric steering can also be used to complete the task involving highly asymmetric quantum modulation and to realize many quantum information protocols with super security. Recently, asymmetric steering has shown several significant applications, e.g., cryptography [\[67\]](#page-9-0), randomness generation [\[68\]](#page-9-0), channel discrimination [\[69\]](#page-9-0), and teleamplification [\[55\]](#page-8-0). However, compared with entanglement, the generation of asymmetric steering requires relatively strict conditions, such as a stronger two-mode quantum correlation and asymmetric mean quantum numbers of two modes which determine the steering direction [\[59\]](#page-8-0).

On the other hand, non-Hermitian parity-time (\mathcal{PT}) symmetry has been exploited to explore and enhance some interesting quantum phenomena, and the optical \mathcal{PT} -symmetric system can be realized using microcavity or optomechanical systems [\[70,71\]](#page-9-0). One important effect in the \mathcal{PT} -symmetric cavity system is the photonic localization around the \mathcal{PT} phase-transition point, which can induce dynamical accumulations of optical energy in two-supermode-based cavities and then be used to enhance the photon blockade [\[70\]](#page-9-0) and generate unidirectional phonon transport [\[72\]](#page-9-0). Note that the optical PT symmetry requires an exact balance between the loss and gain. However, a strong enough gain may break the stationary response of the system, and the balance condition may also be too strict for the realistic implementation, especially when tiny disturbances are inevitable. The PT -symmetric-like system not requiring the strict balance can still follow the predictions of the true \mathcal{PT} one in many cases and thus attract considerable attention [\[23,](#page-8-0)[73\]](#page-9-0). Identical to the \mathcal{PT} -symmetric system, the real and imaginary parts of the Hamiltonian eigenvalues of the PT -like one can spontaneously coalesce or separate, i.e., there is a transition point between the unbroken and broken PT -like phases. Moreover, such a system can also show the photonic localization effect for some useful applications, such as the enhancement of optical linear [\[73\]](#page-9-0) and nonlinear [\[74\]](#page-9-0) transmissions and significant light group delay [\[23\]](#page-8-0). Therefore, we try to use the PT -like system for enhancing the quantum entanglement and satisfying the requirements of the creation of the EPR steering.

With a four-mode magnomechanical system of the PT symmetric-like scheme obtained by adding an auxiliary active cavity, we would realize robust enhanced bipartite entanglements and asymmetric EPR steerings between magnon, phonon, and photon modes. We just add a cavity to the basic magnomechanical system of a cavity coupling a YIG sphere, which seems a little complex but is necessary for our aims. Here we focus on the underlying physical understanding of the creation of entanglements and steerings in the cavity

FIG. 1. (a) Schematic diagram of a passive-active double-cavity magnomechanical system. A YIG sphere is in the passive cavity a_1 coupled with the active cavity *a*² directly. (b) Implementation of the magnomechanical system with the photon-tunneling strength *J* between two three-dimensional cavities.

magnomechanics and consequently find the mechanism by which the incoherent gain process affects the entanglement arising from the coherent nonlinear coupling. Furthermore, such a well-designed double-cavity system can be used to entangle and steer distant subsystems and then the perfect transfer from the initial near entanglement and steering to the distant ones can be realized due to the tunability of the system. For the quantum-communication network [\[75\]](#page-9-0), our system, as a basic component, could be used to transfer quantum information and modulation involving the entanglement and steerability further via adding more sites to extend a communicating chain with a relatively high efficiency. Our work focuses on an efficient scheme for realizing the perfect transfer of quantum steering.

II. MODEL AND METHOD

As schematically shown in Fig. 1, we consider a cavity magnetomechanical system including two three-dimensional microwave cavities coupled with each other via mutual optical tunneling, of which the coupling strength *J* can be tuned by the adjustment of the distance between two cavities. Cavity a_1 (a_2) is passive (active) and such a \mathcal{PT} -symmetric-like structure may further affect the properties of this cavity magnetomechanical system. A YIG sphere of volume \mathcal{V} , whose size is smaller than the wavelength of the cavity field, is put into cavity a_1 and near the maximum of the magnetic field of *a*¹ along the *x* axis. Via the magnetostrictive effect, the YIG is driven by a strong driving magnetic field of amplitude (frequency) $B_0(\omega_0)$ along the *y* axis to generate a magnomechanical vibrational phonon mode, which is nonlinearly coupled with the magnon mode [\[11,29\]](#page-8-0). The photon mode of the cavity and the magnon mode of the YIG are coupled with each other via magnetic dipole interaction induced by a uniform bias magnetic field of intensity *H* along the *z* axis, where the coupling strength is tunable by adjusting the intensity of the bias magnetic field or the position of the YIG.

The Hamiltonian of such a system under the rotating-wave approximation can be written as $(h = 1)$

$$
\mathcal{H} = \omega_1 a_1^{\dagger} a_1 + \omega_2 a_2^{\dagger} a_2 + \omega_m m^{\dagger} m + \mathcal{K} m^{\dagger} m m^{\dagger} m \n+ \frac{\omega_b}{2} (q^2 + p^2) + g_{mb} m^{\dagger} m q + g_{ma} (a_1 m^{\dagger} + a_1^{\dagger} m) \n+ J(a_1 a_2^{\dagger} + a_1^{\dagger} a_2) + i \varepsilon_d (m^{\dagger} e^{-i\omega_0 t} - \text{H.c.}),
$$
\n(1)

where ω_i (*i* = 1, 2), ω_m , and ω_b are resonant frequencies of the cavity photon modes, the magnon mode, and the mechanical phonon mode, respectively; a_i (a_i^{\dagger}) , m (m^{\dagger}) , and b (b^{\dagger}) are the annihilation (creation) operators of the cavity, magnon, and phonon modes, respectively, and satisfy the commuting relation $[o, o^{\dagger}] = 1$ ($o = a_i, b, m$); $q = (b + b^{\dagger})/\sqrt{2}$ and *p* = *i*(*b*[†] − *b*)/ $\sqrt{2}$ are dimensionless position and momentum *p* = *i*(*b*[†] − *b*)/ $\sqrt{2}$ are dimensionless position and momentum quadratures of the phonon mode, respectively; and the frequency ω_m of the magnon mode is defined as $\omega_m = H\gamma_g$, with the bias magnetic field and the gyromagnetic ratio of the YIG sphere $\gamma_g/2\pi = 28$ GHz/T [\[29\]](#page-8-0). The well-accepted Young's modulus of the YIG is about $Y = 2 \times 10^{11}$ Pa [\[76\]](#page-9-0), the Poisson ratio is about $v = 0.29$, the spin density $\rho = 4.22 \times 10^{27}$ m⁻³, the spin number $S = \frac{5}{2}$ [\[11\]](#page-8-0), and the total number of spins $N = \rho V$. In the interaction terms of the Hamiltonian, g_{ma} (*gmb*) is the coupling strength of the single-magnon-photon (single-magnon-phonon) interaction. Here *gma*, depending on the position of the YIG $[12,13]$, is assumed in the strongcoupling regime, which may promote the perfect transfer of the entanglement and steering, as $g_{ma} > \kappa_1, \kappa_m$, with κ_1 (κ_m) the decay rate of the photon (magnon) mode, whereas, *gmb* is much weaker and related to the spin density and spin number [\[11\]](#page-8-0). The Rabi frequency $\varepsilon_d = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4} \gamma_g \sqrt{N} B_0$ [\[29\]](#page-8-0) determines the coupling strength between the driving field B_0 and the magnon. The term $\mathcal{K}m^{\dagger}mm^{\dagger}m$ with the Kerr nonlinear coefficient K describes the Kerr nonlinear effect that can be neglected under the condition of $K|\langle m \rangle|^3 \ll \varepsilon_d$ [\[26\]](#page-8-0). Specifically, for this approximation, choosing a proper volume V is important in the experimental implementation. The reason is that K is inversely proportional to V [\[29\]](#page-8-0), but the magnomechanical coupling strength is obviously weakened with the increasing of V in terms of the experimental results [\[11\]](#page-8-0). Here we choose a proper sphere of diameter $D = 250 \mu m$ so as to neglect the Kerr nonlinearity as used in the experiment [\[77\]](#page-9-0). In addition, the other nonlinear effect considered here, i.e., the natural magnetostrictive magnon-phonon interaction within the YIG sphere, plays a key role in the generation of the entanglement and steering, which will be discussed in the next section.

In the rotating frame with respect to the driving field frequency ω_0 , the quantum Langevin equations for the operators in the system with the relevant dissipations and noises can be obtained as

$$
\begin{aligned}\n\dot{a}_1 &= -(i\Delta_1 + \kappa_1)a_1 - ig_{ma}m - iJa_2 + \sqrt{2\kappa_1}a_{1,\text{in}}, \\
\dot{a}_2 &= -(i\Delta_2 + \kappa_{2t})a_2 - iJa_1 + \sqrt{2\kappa_2}a_{2,\text{in}} + \sqrt{2ga_{2,\text{in}}^{(g)}}, \\
\dot{m} &= -(i\Delta_m + \kappa_m)m - ig_{ma}a_1 - ig_{mb}mq + \varepsilon_d + \sqrt{2\kappa_m}m_{\text{in}}, \\
\dot{q} &= \omega_b p, \\
\dot{p} &= -\omega_b q - \gamma_b p - g_{mb}m^{\dagger}m + \xi,\n\end{aligned}
$$
\n(2)

with $\Delta_i = \omega_i - \omega_0$ (*i* = 1, 2) and $\Delta'_m = \omega_m - \omega_0$ the relevant detunings. Here $\kappa_{2t} = \kappa_2 - g$ is the effective damping rate of cavity a_2 , where g is the real gain into cavity *a*₂. Via defining $\eta = \kappa_{2t}/\kappa_1$, *a*₂ is an active (passive) cavity with $\eta < 0$ ($\eta > 0$). In addition, $a_{i,in}$, m_{in} , and ξ are the noise operators associated with the photon, magnon, and phonon modes, respectively, with zero mean values and are characterized by nonzero time-domain correlation

functions [\[78\]](#page-9-0) as $\langle k_{\text{in}}(t)k_{\text{in}}^{\dagger}(t') \rangle = [N_k(\omega_k) + 1]\delta(t - t')$ and $\langle k_{\text{in}}^{\dagger}(t)k_{\text{in}}(t')\rangle = N_{k}(\omega_{k})\delta(t-t')$ with $k = a_{1}, a_{2}, m$; the noise operators associated with the gain in cavity a_2 are [\[79\]](#page-9-0) $\langle a_{2,in}^{(g)}(t) a_{2,in}^{(g)\dagger}(t') \rangle = N_{a_2}(\omega_{a_2}) \delta(t - t')$ and $\langle a_{2,in}^{(g)\dagger}(t) a_{2,in}^{(g)}(t') \rangle =$ $[N_{a_2}(\omega_{a_2}+1)]\delta(t-t')$; under a large mechanical quality factor $Q_m = \omega_b / \gamma \gg 1$ [\[80\]](#page-9-0), the Langevin force operator ξ is simplified as a δ-correlated function with the Markovian approximation, i.e., $\langle \xi(t)\xi(t') + \xi(t')\xi(t) \rangle/2 \simeq \gamma_b(2N_b\omega_b +$ $1)\delta(t - t')$. Here $N_k(\omega_k) = [\exp(\frac{\hbar \omega_k}{k_B T}) - 1]^{-1}$ and $N_b(\omega_b) =$ $[\exp(\frac{\hbar \omega_b}{k_B T}) - 1]^{-1}$ are the mean thermal excitation numbers in the environmental temperature T , where k_B is the Boltzmann constant. The bipartite steady-state entanglement between modes $M_{1,2}$ can be quantified by the logarithmic negativity $E_{M_1M_2}$ arising from the covariance matrix (CM) which is obtained by solving Eq. $(A6)$, and the EPR steering can be

quantified by $\zeta^{M_1 \rightarrow M_2}$ or $\zeta^{M_2 \rightarrow M_1}$ with Eq. [\(A7\)](#page-7-0). Calculation

methods of these quantities are detailed in the Appendix. Note that, before quantifying the entanglement in the steady state, the analysis of the stable parameter regimes of the system ought to be done. Stability refers to the existence of an asymptotic steady state of the system, i.e., the system can be retained at a steady state for a long evolution time. Then, in the parameter regime of the stability, the stationary response of the system can be observed. When unstable, the system can evolve toward another state and may even show the oscillation behavior between different states. For steady-state entanglements and steerings, in our system, the steady-state covariance matrix V in Eq. $(A5)$ is required to be asymptotically stable. To find the stable regime, based on the Routh-Hurwitz criterion [\[81\]](#page-9-0), we need to clarify the real part sign of the eigenvalues of the Jacobian matrix *A* as shown in Eq. $(A3)$. Only if the real parts of all eigenvalues are negative will the system be stable $[81,82]$. Finally, with such parameters of a stable region, the steady-state entanglement can be generated.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In our scheme, it is worth noting that, via the addition of the auxiliary cavity a_2 , the distant bipartite photon-magnon entanglement E_{a_2m} can be generated and then be modulated to be more salient than the near one $E_{a_{1}m}$. The experimentally reach-able parameters [\[11,29\]](#page-8-0) in our system are $\omega_b/2\pi = 10$ MHz, $\omega_1/2\pi = \omega_2/2\pi = 10$ GHz, $\kappa_1/2\pi = 1$ MHz, $\kappa_m/2\pi = 0.56$ MHz, $\gamma_b/2\pi = 10^2$ Hz, $g_{ma}/2\pi = 3.2$ MHz, $g_{mb}/2\pi = 0.2$ MHz, and the driving magnetic field $B_0 = 3.9 \times 10^{-5}$ T corresponding to the driving power $P = 8.9$ mW with the relation $P = \frac{B_0^2 \pi (D/2)^2 c}{2\mu_0}$.

Here the magnon mode *m* is driven to near resonance on the blue (anti-Stokes) sideband $\omega_0 + \omega_b$; then the cavities a_1 and a_2 are both near resonance on the red (Stokes) sideband $\omega_0 - \omega_b$. The nonlinear magnomechanical coupling between magnon and phonon modes plays a key role in the generation of the entanglement and steering. With the fluctuation operators as in Eq. $(A2)$, the magnon-phonon interaction term of the Hamiltonian, i.e., the sixth term in Eq. [\(1\)](#page-1-0), can be rewritten and decomposed into two terms as $G_{mb}(\delta m^{\dagger} \delta b + \delta m \delta b^{\dagger})$ + $G_{mb}(\delta m \delta b + \delta m^{\dagger} \delta b^{\dagger})$, with the effective magnomechanical $G_{mb}(\delta m \delta b + \delta m^{\dagger} \delta b^{\dagger})$, with the effective magnomechanical coupling coefficient $G_{mb} = i \sqrt{2} g_{mb} \langle m \rangle$ as in Eq. [\(A4\)](#page-7-0). The

FIG. 2. Logarithmic negativity of the entanglement (a) E_{a_2m} versus Δ_1 and η with $\Delta_m = 0.9 \omega_b$, (b) E_{a_2m} versus Δ_m and η with $\Delta_1 = -0.91\omega_b$, (c) E_{a_2m} versus *T* and η with $\Delta_1 = -0.91\omega_b$ and $\Delta_m = 0.89 \omega_b$, and (d) E_{a_1m} and E_{a_2m} versus *T* with $\Delta_1 = -0.91 \omega_b$, $\Delta_m = 0.89 \omega_b$, and $\eta = -0.5$. The environmental temperature *T* = 15 mK in (a) and (b). Here $\Delta_1 = \Delta_2$, $J = 2\kappa_1$, and $\eta = \frac{\kappa_{2t}}{\kappa_1}$ is the dimensionless ratio of the loss and gain of two cavities.

first beam-splitter interaction term can be used to cool phonons and to generate a state swap between the magnon and phonon modes; the second two-mode-squeezing interaction term describes a magnomechanical analog to the nonlinear optical down-conversion process and then create the initial entanglement from coherent input states, i.e., phonons and magnons in pairs [\[1,40\]](#page-8-0). Then the initial magnon-phonon entanglement can transfer to other subsystems via coupling, i.e., magnon-photon, photon-phonon, and photon-photon entanglements. Compared with such a magnomechanical system, the generation in a linear-coupling cavity and magnon system may need the injection of external two-mode squeezed fields for generating entanglements [\[53\]](#page-8-0) or other conditions.

In Figs. $2(a)$ and $2(b)$ we plot the distant entanglement E_{a_2m} in the parameter regime of the stable system. With the decreasing of η , the entanglement E_{a_2m} gradually increases, especially when $\eta \equiv \kappa_{2t}/\kappa_1 < 0$ (introducing gain to a_2). This means the entanglement arising from the *coherent* nonlinear coupling can be enhanced by the *incoherent* gain process in the PT symmetric-like structure. The reason is that the increasing number of photons in the active cavity a_2 corresponding to the increasing gain may induce the enhancement of the entanglement E_{a_2m} even if this entanglement is distant. Specifically, the gain introduced increases the mean number of photons $|\langle a_2 \rangle|^2$ in the active cavity a_2 and then the energy can transfer from a_2 to the passive cavity a_1 and the magnon *m* via the coupling. The dependence of the mean number of magnons $|\langle m \rangle|^2$ on the gain can be observed analytically in Eq. [\(A1\)](#page-7-0). According to Eq. $(A1)$, $|\langle m \rangle|$ becomes large gradually with the increasing gain, i.e., the decreasing κ_{2t} . Then the effective magnomechanical coupling strength $|G_{mb}| = \sqrt{2}g_{mb}|\langle m\rangle|$ also becomes large in the parameter range. This implies that, in the effective nonlinear magnetostrictive coupling between magnons and phonons, the incoherent gain can strengthen the

FIG. 3. Quantum steering (a) $\zeta^{a_2 \to m}$ and (b) $\zeta^{m \to a_2}$ versus Δ_1 and Δ_m with $\eta = -0.5$. The other parameters are the same as those in Fig. 2.

two-mode-squeezing interaction so that the initial entanglements can be enhanced obviously, which can be transferred to other subsystems. These can also be shown in relevant equations, i.e., Eqs. $(A4)$ – $(A6)$. The magnon-phonon entanglement E_{mb} arises from relevant entries of the real covariance matrix *V* including $|G_{mb}|$. However, to maintain the system stability, the gain cannot be too large to satisfy the ideal gain-loss balance; thus such a system is in the regime of the PT -symmetric-like scheme. Meanwhile, when the gain goes up, the near entanglement E_{a_1m} can also increase because the photons also transfer from a_2 to a_1 via tunneling. Moreover, the maximum of E_{a_2m} can reach about 0.45 and thus is more than twice as large as that of E_{a_1m} . Thus, the \mathcal{PT} -symmetriclike scheme of such a system can raise the possibility to obtain more magnon-photon pairs and it may enhance both the distant and near entanglements.

Figure $2(c)$ shows the robustness of the distant entanglement $E_{a,m}$ against the environment temperature *T*. As η decreases, $E_{a,m}$ becomes more obvious, especially when η < 0. Meanwhile, note that the critical temperature, below which the entanglement E_{a_2m} appears ($E_{a_2m} > 0$), increases gradually; when $\eta = -0.5$, the entanglement can be observed until $T \approx 0.25$ K. The PT -symmetric-like passive-active cavity system exhibits a performance superior to the passive-passive one ($\eta > 0$), of which the critical temperature is about 0.1 K. In addition, the robustness of the near entanglement can also be strengthened in such a system (not shown here). However, note that the critical temperature of the distant entanglement E_{a} _{*n*} is much higher than that of the near entanglement E_{a} _{*n*} in Fig. 2(d) with $\eta = -0.5$. At a proper temperature, the distant entanglement with a suppressed near entanglement would be an advantage. As for the low-temperature environment, we can use a dilution fridge to accommodate the system [\[31\]](#page-8-0). However, in such a \mathcal{PT} -symmetric-like system, the gain introduced also enhances the robustness against the temperature, i.e., entanglement of a relatively large degree can be observed in a wider temperature range. Thus, this PT -symmetric-like scheme reduces the need for a harsh temperature to generate entanglement, which may be conducive to the actual experiment.

In such a system, there may be asymmetric two-way (even directional) EPR steering between two modes of the subsystem due to the different decay and gain in the PT symmetric-like scheme and the different coupling sidebands in the anti-Stokes and Stokes processes. As shown in Fig. 3, we obtain the directional distant steering $a_2 \rightarrow m$ from photon

FIG. 4. Logarithmic negativity of the entanglements E_{a_1b} , E_{a_2b} , E_{a_1m} , and E_{a_2m} versus (a) photon-photon coupling strength *J*, (b) magnon-photon coupling strength *gma*, and (c) effective magnonphonon coupling strength G_{mb} with $\Delta_1 = -0.91\omega_b$, $\Delta_m = 0.89\omega_b$, and $\eta = -0.5$. The other parameters are the same as those in Fig. [2.](#page-3-0)

mode a_2 to magnon mode *m*, described by $\zeta^{a_2 \to m} \neq 0$ and $\zeta^{m\rightarrow a_2} = 0$, i.e., *a*₂ can steer *m* when the steerability disappears in the opposite direction, whereas in the passive-passive system the steerability is tiny (not shown here). Generally, the addition of the losses or thermal noises can lead to one-way steering [\[60,83\]](#page-9-0). However, in our model, the gain can produce the obvious steering, which implies the feasibility for adjusting (steering) the state of the YIG sphere by the auxiliary cavity *a*2. In addition, such a directional steering is obtained when the magnon and photon modes are driven on different sidebands for the appearance of the obvious distant entanglement. Generally speaking, the creation of asymmetric steering requires a sufficiently strong two-mode quantum correlation and the asymmetric mean numbers of two modes, both of which can be satisfied in our PT -symmetric-like system. The reason is that as the gain in the auxiliary cavity a_2 strengthens the two-mode correlation via the two-mode-squeezing interaction, such a non-Hermitian PT -symmetric-like system composed of an asymmetric spatial distribution of the loss and gain can show an obvious difference between the mean quantum numbers of the two modes, which is caused by the photonic localization effect [\[72\]](#page-9-0).

The perfect transfer between entanglements of various modes (distant and near entanglements) is very important for quantum information processing and transmission [\[29,50,51\]](#page-8-0). Figure 4 shows the magnon-photon entanglements E_{a} _{*n*} and E_{a_1m} and the magnon-phonon entanglements E_{a_2b} and E_{a_1b} in the subsystems with varying cavity-cavity coupling strength *J*, magnon-cavity coupling strength g_{ma} , and magnon-phonon coupling strength G_{mb} . The photon-photon entanglement $E_{a_1a_2}$

FIG. 5. Quantum steerings between photons a_1 and a_2 , magnon *m*, and phonon *b* versus *J* with (a) $\Delta_1 = -0.91\omega_b$, $\Delta_m = 0.89\omega_b$, and $\Delta_1 = \Delta_2$ and (b) $\Delta_1 = 0.06\omega_b$, $\Delta_m = 0.375\omega_b$, and $\Delta_1 = -\Delta_2$. Here $\eta = -0.5$ and the other parameters are the same as those in Fig. [2.](#page-3-0)

constantly disappears with the parameters used (not shown here). In Fig. $4(a)$ it is clear that the near photon-phonon entanglement E_{a_1b} peaks at $J = 1.6\kappa_1$; then, with the increasing of *J*, while E_{a_1b} decreases, the distant magnon-photon entanglement E_{a_2m} appears, increases, exceeds E_{a_1b} at $J = 1.7\kappa_1$, and peaks at $J = 1.9\kappa_1$. That process can be regarded as the transfer between E_{a_2m} and E_{a_1b} , i.e., between distant and near entanglements of different modes. When both E_{a_1b} and E_{a_2m} decrease, both the near entanglement E_{a_1m} and the distant one E_{a_2b} appear at $J = 1.97\kappa_1$; then, when *J* becomes big enough, there are still E_{a_2b} and E_{a_1m} when both E_{a_1b} and E_{a_2m} nearly disappear. That process implies the perfect entanglement transfer, i.e., one entanglement tends to die while the other one appears, by adjusting coupling strength. Except *J*, the coupling *gma* can also adjust the entanglement. As shown in Fig. 4(b), four entanglements all appear from $g_{ma} = 0$, but E_{a_1b} , E_{a_2b} , and E_{a_1m} die at $g_{ma} = 3.6\kappa_1$ and only distant entanglement E_{a_2m} exists in the range $g_{ma}/\kappa_1 \in [3.6, 4.2]$. When analyzing the effect of the effective magnon-phonon coupling G_{mb} in Fig. 4(c), we can also realize the transfer between different entanglements. This means that the stationary entanglement can be transferred from the subsystems at an obvious degree due to the transfer of photons, phonons, and magnons among subsystems. Note in particular that when $G_{mb} = 0$ there exists no entanglement due to the vanishing of the two-mode-squeezing interaction. In those processes of controllable entanglements, with the gain in cavity a_2 , it can be maintained that photon *a*² and magnon *m* can show the biggest entanglement among all subsystems in the presence of abundant photons.

Moreover, it is worth noting that the perfect transfer of the asymmetric quantum EPR steering can also be realized in such a tunable hybrid system. In Fig. 5 we plot the steerings as functions of the cavity-cavity coupling strength *J*. With

FIG. 6. Logarithmic negativity of the entanglements (a) E_{a_1m} , (b) E_{a_2m} , and (c) $E_{a_1a_2}$ versus Δ_1 and Δ_m . Also shown are E_{a_1m} , E_{a_2m} , and $E_{a_1a_2}$ versus Δ_1 with (d) $\Delta_m = 0.87\omega_b$ and (e) $\Delta_m = 0.06\omega_b$. Here $\eta = -0.5$ and the other parameters are the same as those in Fig. [2.](#page-3-0)

 $\eta = -0.5$, the maximum of the steering $\zeta^{a_2 \to m}$ appears in the vicinity of $J = 1.8\kappa_1$, corresponding to the entanglement E_{a_2m} as shown in Fig. $2(a)$; however, the steering of the opposite direction $\zeta^{m \to a_2} = 0$. With increasing *J*, the directional steering $a_2 \rightarrow m$ dies and the asymmetric two-way steering between *a*₂ and *b* appears from $J = 2.5\kappa_1$. When $J/\kappa_1 \in [2.5, 3.2]$, the asymmetric two-way steering between a_2 and b is observed with the suppressed steering between a_2 and m , which means the perfect transfer of steerings. That process implies that we realize the transfer of directional steering between the photonmagnon pair and the photon-phonon pair. Figure $5(b)$ shows the transfer from directional steering $a_2 \rightarrow b$ to directional steering $a_1 \rightarrow b$, i.e., the perfect transfer between distant and near directional steerings.

To further understand the modulation of the near and distant entanglements and steerings, we plot the entanglements and steerings as functions of detunings. In Figs. $6(a)$ and 6(c) we plot the entanglements against the detunings Δ_1 and Δ_m with $\eta = -0.5$ in the stable region of the system. The two photon-magnon entanglements E_{a_1m} and E_{a_2m} are obvious in the vicinity of $\Delta_1 \simeq -\omega_b$ and $\Delta_m \simeq \omega_b$, while photon-photon entanglement $E_{a_1a_2}$ just appears in the vicinity of $\Delta_1 = \Delta_2 \simeq 0$. It is interesting that, in certain regions, the stationary near entanglements $E_{a_1a_2}$ and E_{a_1m} vanish (emerge), while the distant entanglement E_{a_2m} emerges (vanishes). That can provide the platform for the perfect exchange between the near and distant entanglements of enhancement by adjusting the relevant detunings. To show the entanglement exchange between the three subsystems, we plot $E_{a_1a_2}$, E_{a_1m} , and E_{a_2m} against Δ_1 with $\Delta_m = 0.87\omega_b$ and $0.06\omega_b$ in Figs. 6(d) and $6(e)$, respectively. In Fig. $6(d)$ the three entanglements are different; in particular, only the distant entanglement E_{a} exists with the suppressed near entanglements $E_{a_1a_2}$ and E_{a_1m} in the range $\Delta_1/\kappa_1 \in [-0.907, -0.943]$. However, Fig. 6(e) shows only the nonzero near entanglement E_{a_1m} . That implies the perfect exchange from the distant entanglement E_{a} to the near one E_{a_1m} just by adjusting Δ_m from 0.87 ω_b to 0.06 ω_b .

FIG. 7. Quantum steerings $\zeta^{a_2 \to m}$, $\zeta^{m \to a_2}$, $\zeta^{a_1 \to a_2}$, and $\zeta^{a_2 \to a_1}$ versus Δ_m with (a) $\Delta_1 = -0.96\omega_b$ and (b) $\Delta_1 = -0.13\omega_b$. The other parameters are the same as those in Fig. [2.](#page-3-0)

The adjustment of detunings also can modulate the asymmetric EPR steerings. Figure 7 provides the steerings as a function of detuning Δ_m in subsystems; the steering between a_1 and m is too tiny to be shown here. As shown in Fig. 7(a), with $\Delta_1 = -0.96\omega_b$, there is a distant directional steering $a_2 \rightarrow m$ without the steering between two photon modes a_1 and a_2 in the range $\Delta_m/\omega_b \in [0.8, 1.3]$. As shown in Fig. $7(b)$, by tuning Δ_1 to $-0.13\omega_b$, the steering between *a*² and *m* disappears, but the asymmetric two-way steerability between a_1 and a_2 appears. That means we can realize the exchange between the distant directional steering in the $a_2 - m$ subsystem and the near asymmetric two-way (even directional) steering in the $a_1 - a_2$ subsystem just by adjusting the detuning. Thus, this tunable scheme with the transfer or exchange of entanglements and steerings might be used to engineer the wanted entanglement and steering between optional modes in the steady state by adjusting the relevant parameters.

As mentioned above, the introduction of an auxiliary cavity is critical for generating the distant entanglement and steering and transferring them. Based on the entanglement and steering transfer (exchange) behaviors, as a basic component, this system can be extended to a cavity lattice or chain involving magnons and phonons via coupling more auxiliary cavities. In such a chain, a more distant entanglement or steering between the YIG sphere on one side and a further cavity may appear. That is, the entanglement or steering can transfer through this communicating chain to a greater distance, which is beneficial to the distant transfer of quantum information and remote quantum modulation in the quantum networking [\[75\]](#page-9-0) with a relatively high efficiency. In addition, Ref. [\[84\]](#page-9-0) also realized the EPR entanglement and steering in a mechanical-magnonic cavity system. To a certain extent, it can demonstrate the reliability of our scheme for the entanglement and steering.

Finally, as for detecting the generated entanglement in the experiment, we introduce one feasible way to measure the steady-state entanglement via some observable quantities, such as the cavity output modes. According to Eq. $(A6)$, the entanglement could be deduced based on the CM *V* , every entry of which can be measured from the cavity output mode spectrum. The entries of the CM of bosonic modes are real and can be precisely extracted via the measurement of the orthogonal quadratures of light mode, which has been realized in the experiment [\[85\]](#page-9-0). Generally, the arbitrary quadratures of light mode can be obtained by the homodyne detection of the cavity output using a local oscillator with an appropriate phase. In our system, there are three types of modes: the cavity photon, magnon, and mechanical phonon. The photonic quadratures could be read out directly by homodyning the cavity output. The quadratures of magnon can be measured by homodyning an additional cavity coupled to the magnon and driven by a weak microwave probe field. For the magnon mode, an additional cavity of operator c_1 and frequency ω_{c_1} is used to couple the magnon that has been driven by the magnetic field ω_0 and then the magnon quadratures can be measured by homodyning the cavity c_1 probed by a weak microwave field. The dynamics is given as

$$
\dot{c}_1 = -[i(\omega_{c_1} - \omega_0) + \kappa_{c_1}]c_1 - ig_{mc}m + \sqrt{2\kappa_{c_1}}c_{1\text{in}}, \quad (3)
$$

where κ_{c_1} , g_{mc} , and c_{1in} are the relevant decay rate, coupling strength, and input noise, respectively. Using the input-output relation $c_{1\text{out}} = \sqrt{2\kappa_{c_1}}c_1 - c_{1\text{in}}$ [\[86\]](#page-9-0), we get

$$
c_{1\text{out}} = -\left(\frac{i\sqrt{2}g_{mc}}{\sqrt{\kappa_{c_1}}}\right)m + c_{1\text{in}}.\tag{4}
$$

Then the beam-splitter interaction causes a state swap between the magnon and cavity modes, which can map the magnon quadratures into the cavity output c_{1out} . Thus, we can get the magnon quadratures via measuring $c_{1_{out}}$. The process of measuring the mechanical quadratures is similar to the magnon case, via coupling the YIG sphere with an additional cavity c_2 of frequency ω_c . A red-detuned field of frequency ω_d , i.e., $\omega_{c_2} - \omega_d = \omega_b$, drives the cavity to induce the beamsplitter interaction but suppress the other interaction. Then the consequent state swap maps the mechanical quadratures into the cavity output. The relevant analytical expressions are

$$
\dot{c}_2 = -\big(i\omega_b + \kappa_{c_2}\big)c_2 - ig_{bc}c_2(b^\dagger + b) + \sqrt{2\kappa_{c_2}}c_{2\text{in}},\qquad(5)
$$

where κ_{c_2} , g_{bc} , and c_{2in} are the relevant decay rate, coupling strength, and input noise, respectively. Using the input-output relation, we have

$$
c_{2\text{out}} = -\left(\frac{i\sqrt{2}g_{bc}|c_2|}{\sqrt{\kappa_{c_2}}}\right)b + c_{2\text{in}}.\tag{6}
$$

When c_2 is driven by a much weaker intracavity field, its backaction on the mechanical mode can be neglected. Thus, with Eq. (6) , c_{2out} can show the mechanical dynamics. Then, via measuring the correlations between the above cavity outputs, one can extract all entries of the CM to yield the logarithmic negativity as a measurement of the entanglement [\[40,46\]](#page-8-0). In addition, there is another type of entanglement, called output entanglement, describing the optomechanical entanglement between the experimentally detectable output fields of the cavity and the vibrator in optomechanical systems [\[75,87,88\]](#page-9-0). Such a straightforwardly detectable entanglement in the magnomechanics is worth discussing in future work.

IV. CONCLUSION

In the stable parameter regime of a passive-active doublecavity magnomechanical system, we have analyzed and modulated the stationary continuous-variable entanglement and asymmetric EPR steering between the two photon modes of cavities: the magnon mode and the mechanical phonon mode of a YIG sphere. In such a well-designed system, the magnon is directly coupled with only the passive cavity that is also coupled with an active cavity via the tunneling effect for the distant entanglement and steering. Results show that the natural magnetostrictive magnon-phonon interaction within the YIG sphere, i.e., the two-mode-squeezing interaction, leads to the initial magnon-phonon entanglement based on the magnomechanics. Then, in the PT -symmetric-like scheme, the incoherent gain of the auxiliary active cavity can strengthen the effective nonlinear magnomechanical coupling so as to obviously enhance entanglements and improve their robustness against the environment temperature. Special features of the PT -symmetric-like structure can satisfy the requirements of the creation of the relatively obvious asymmetric two-way (even directional) distant steering. In such a tunable system, with the adjustment of the coupling strengths, we can realize the perfect transfer between near and distant entanglements (directional steerings) of different-type modes; both of the entanglements and steerings can also be exchanged between different subsystems by adjusting detunings. Thus, the entanglements and steerings can be dynamically switched between different two-mode pairs. Our work presents a feasible method for generating the enhanced distant entanglement and EPR steering involving magnons and realizing their transfer or exchange, which may be used in quantum networks and information processing. Furthermore, it can be found that, with such a system, the process involving the entanglement and steering generation, transfer, and storage can be designed; in that process, the mechanical oscillator with a low decay relative to the magnon and cavity can show the storage of information. Those results may pave the way to study entanglements and steerings on the macroscopic scale and more intriguing quantum phenomena based on magnomechanics, providing an ideal playground for feasible multiple quantum modulations.

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APPENDIX: STEADY-STATE ENTANGLEMENT AND STEERING

By virtue of the driving field B_0 and the magnon-photon beam-splitter interaction, we have large cavity and magnon mode amplitudes $|\langle a_i \rangle, \langle m \rangle| \gg 1$. Therefore, we can replace the operators with their mean values plus small fluctuations in Eq. [\(2\)](#page-2-0), i.e., $\aleph(t) = \langle \aleph \rangle + \delta \aleph(t)$, in which $\aleph \equiv (a_i, m, q, p)$. Then the steady-state values of the operators are obtained as

$$
\langle m \rangle = \frac{\varepsilon_d (J^2 + f_1 f_2)}{J^2 f_m + f_1 f_2 f_m + g_{ma}^2 f_2},
$$

\n
$$
\langle a_1 \rangle = -\frac{i g_{ma} f_1 f_2 \langle m \rangle}{(J^2 + f_1 f_2) f_1},
$$

\n
$$
\langle a_2 \rangle = -\frac{i J \langle a_1 \rangle}{f_2},
$$

\n
$$
\langle p \rangle = 0,
$$

\n
$$
\langle q \rangle = -\frac{g_{mb}}{\omega_b} |\langle m \rangle|^2,
$$

\n(A1)

in which $f_1 = i\Delta_1 + \kappa_1$, $f_2 = i\Delta_2 + \kappa_{2t}$, $f_m = i\Delta_m + \kappa_m$, and $\Delta_m = \Delta'_m + g_{mb} \langle q \rangle$ represents the effective detuning of the magnon mode. Note that we aim at the dynamic of the quantum fluctuations of the system. By introducing the orthogonal components as

$$
\delta I_i = (\delta a_i + \delta a_i^{\dagger})/\sqrt{2}, \quad \delta \varphi_i = i(\delta a_i^{\dagger} - \delta a_i)/\sqrt{2},
$$

\n
$$
\delta x = (\delta m + \delta m^{\dagger})/\sqrt{2}, \quad \delta y = i(\delta m^{\dagger} - \delta m)/\sqrt{2}, \quad (A2)
$$

\n
$$
\delta q = (\delta b + \delta b^{\dagger})/\sqrt{2}, \quad \delta p = i(\delta b^{\dagger} - \delta b)/\sqrt{2},
$$

we define the vector of quadratures as $W(t) =$ $[\delta I_1(t), \delta \varphi_1(t), \delta I_2(t), \delta \varphi_2(t), \delta x(t), \delta y(t), \delta q(t), \delta p(t)]^T$ and the noise vectors as $\mu(t) = [\sqrt{2\kappa_1}I_1^{\text{in}}(t), \sqrt{2\kappa_1}\varphi_1^{\text{in}}(t)]$
and the noise vectors as $\mu(t) = [\sqrt{2\kappa_1}I_1^{\text{in}}(t), \sqrt{2\kappa_1}\varphi_1^{\text{in}}(t)]$. d the noise vectors as $\mu(t) = [\sqrt{2k_1}t_1^{\text{th}}(t), \sqrt{2k_1}\varphi_1^{\text{th}}(t)]$
 $2k_2t_2^{\text{in}}(t), \sqrt{2k_2t}\varphi_2^{\text{in}}(t), \sqrt{2k_mx^{\text{in}}(t)}, \sqrt{2k_my^{\text{in}}(t)}, 0, \xi(t)]^T$. We obtain the quadratures in the compact form

$$
\dot{W}(t) = AW(t) + \mu(t),\tag{A3}
$$

corresponding to

$$
\begin{array}{ccccccccc}\n-\kappa_1 & \Delta_1 & 0 & J & 0 & g_{ma} & 0 & 0 \\
-\Delta_1 & -\kappa_1 & -J & 0 & -g_{ma} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & J & -\kappa_{2t} & \Delta_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
-J & 0 & -\Delta_2 & -\kappa_{2t} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & g_{ma} & 0 & 0 & -\kappa_m & \Delta_m & -G_{mb} & 0 \\
-g_{ma} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \Delta_m & -\kappa_m & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \omega_b \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & G_{mb} & -\omega_b & -\gamma_b\n\end{array}
$$
\n(A4)

where $G_{mb} = i\sqrt{2}g_{mb}\langle m \rangle$ is the effective magnomechanical coupling between the magnon and phonon modes. Generally, the CM of *n* bosonic modes is a real and symmetric matrix in 2*n* dimensions [\[89–91\]](#page-9-0). In our system, there are four modes (two photon modes, a magnon mode, and a phonon mode), which can be written as eight quadrature operators as shown in Eq. $(A2)$, satisfying the specific commutation relation. Thus, as a continuous-variable four-mode Gaussian state, the system can be completely characterized by an 8×8 CM *V* . The steady-state *V* can be straightforwardly obtained by solving the Lyapunov equation [\[46\]](#page-8-0)

 $A =$

 $\sqrt{2}$

⎜ ⎜ ⎜ ⎜ ⎜ ⎜ ⎜ ⎜ ⎜ ⎝

$$
AV + VAT = -D.
$$
 (A5)

For steady-state entanglements and steerings, the steadystate CM *V* is required to be asymptotically stable, and thus the eigenvalues of the Jacobian matrix *A* in Eq. (A4) need to be solved first. With a set of parameters, the system is stable only if the real parts of all eigenvalues are negative [\[82\]](#page-9-0); then we use the CM V from Eq. $(A5)$ to yield the quantities to quantify the steady-state entanglement within the stable parameter regime. Otherwise, the system is unstable and then the relevant parameters are not used.

We define *V* as $V_{ij} = \langle v_i(t)v_j(t') + v_j(t')v_i(t) \rangle/2$ $(i, j = 1, 2, ..., 8)$ and $D = diag[\kappa_1(2N_{a_1}+1), \kappa_1(2N_{a_1}+1),$ $\kappa_{2t}(2N_{a_2}+1), \kappa_{2t}(2N_{a_2}+1), \kappa_m(2N_m+1), \kappa_m(2N_m+1), 0,$ $\gamma_b(2N_b+1)$, in which the diffusion matrix *D* is defined by $\delta(t - t')D_{i,j} = \frac{1}{2} \langle n_i(t)n_j^{\dagger}(t') + n_j^{\dagger}(t)n_i(t') \rangle$. Equation (A5) can be straightforwardly solved; however, it is too complicated to give the exact expression. Thus, under local operations, classical communications, and an upper bound for the distillable entanglement [\[92\]](#page-9-0), we consider the logarithmic negativity $E_{M_1M_2}$ to quantify the entanglement between mode M_1 and mode M_2 as [\[93\]](#page-9-0)

$$
E_{M_1M_2} \equiv \max[0, -\ln 2\tilde{v}_-\,].\tag{A6}
$$

Here \tilde{v}_- = min[eig($i\Omega P V_4 P$)], where $\Omega = \bigoplus_{j=1}^2 i\sigma_y$ with the Pauli matrix σ_v , \mathcal{V}_4 is the 4×4 CM of the underresearched modes M_1 and M_2 by removing the unwanted rows and columns of other modes in *V*, and $P = diag(1, -1, 1, 1)$ is the matrix that performs partial transposition on the CM [\[94\]](#page-9-0).

For the discussion of the EPR steering, the proposed measurements of the Gaussian steerability in different directions between mode M_1 and mode M_2 are [\[61,91\]](#page-9-0)

$$
\mathcal{V}_4 = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ B^T & C \end{pmatrix},
$$

\n
$$
\zeta^{M_1 \to M_2} = \max\{0, S(2A) - S(2V_4)\},
$$

\n
$$
\zeta^{M_2 \to M_1} = \max\{0, S(2C) - S(2V_4)\},
$$
\n(A7)

with $S(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \ln \det(\rho)$.

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