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1           Classification of classical non-Gaussian noises with respect to their  
2           detrimental effects on the evolution of entanglement using a system of  
3           three-qubit as probe

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7   **Abstract**

We use a system of three non-interacting qubits as a quantum probe to classify three classical non-Gaussian noises (namely the static, colored (pink and brown) and random telegraph noise), according to their detrimental effects on the evolution of entanglement of the latter. The probe system is initially prepared in the GHZ state and coupled to the noises in independent environments. Seven configurations for the qubit-noise coupling (QNC) are considered. To estimate the destructive influence of each kind of noise, we employ the tripartite negativity to compare the evolution of entanglement in these QNC configurations to each other with the same noise parameters. The results show that the evolution of entanglement is drastically impacted by the QNC configuration considered as well as the properties of the environmental noises and that the SN is more detrimental to the survival of entanglement than the RTN and CN, regardless of the Markov or non-Markov character of the RTN and the color of the CN. We also observed that pink noise is more fatal to the system than the RTN and that the situation is totally reversed in the case of brown noise. Finally, we show that these noises, in descending order of destructive influence, can be classified as follows: SN>pink noise>RTN>brown noise.

8   *Keywords:* Classical noise, Non-Gaussian noise, Entanglement, Qubit.

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9   **1. Introduction**

10    Quantum entanglement is one of the most remarkable properties of quantum systems. It has been defined  
11    in 1935 by Erwin Schrödinger [1] as one of the most peculiar phenomenon of quantum mechanics in which  
12    the global states of a compound quantum system cannot be written as product of the states of individual  
13    subsystems [2]. It has been demonstrated that quantum entanglement is a fundamental and indispensable  
14    resource for many potential applications in the field of quantum information theory such as for instance  
15    the quantum cryptography [3, 4] and information processing [5–7]. Unfortunately, real quantum system  
16    cannot refrain from interacting with its external environment (the so-called decoherence) which introduces  
17    noise in the system and which, in turn, results into the destruction of the quantum properties of the system  
18    and consequently make it unusable. However, it has been recognized that decoherence may play a non-  
19    detrimental role on the evolution of entanglement existing among different marginal parts of a quantum  
20    system [8, 9].

21    The interaction of a quantum system with its external environment may be simulated either classically  
22    or quantum mechanically. In the former, the system and the environment is look as a single quantum entity  
23    governed by an overall unitary operator; it is worth noting that this description is more realistic because it  
24    includes the transfer of information and it is also related to the idea that the phenomenon of decoherence is

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25 strongly connected to the entanglement between the quantum system and its external environment. On the  
 26 other hand, in the classical approach (also known as random classical force (RCF) approach), the system  
 27 and the environment is considered as a quantum system coupled to random classical forces. Contrary to the  
 28 first description, in the RCF approach, the system is not entangled with the environment. Furthermore, it is  
 29 important to note that when the environment is very complex (with many degree of freedom); the quantum  
 30 approach becomes very challenging. In such a situation the RCF approach represents a valid and reliable  
 31 alternative to overcome the challenge. Nevertheless, for certain system-environment (SE) interactions, it  
 32 has been pointed out that it is possible to obtain a classical simulation that is completely equivalent to the  
 33 quantum simulation [10–15].

34 Motivated by the desire to minimize the detrimental effects of decoherence on the properties of quantum  
 35 systems (*e.g.*, quantum entanglement), the effects of different classical environments characterized either  
 36 by Gaussian or non-Gaussian distributed noise on the evolution of many quantum systems (*e.g.*, small  
 37 dimensional systems or qubits) have been intensely investigated in recent years both theoretically [16–30]  
 38 and experimentally [31, 32]. So far, interesting results have been obtained. For instance, it has been proved  
 39 in [20–26] that the indirect interaction between the subsystems of a composite system due to their coupling  
 40 to a common classical environmental noise (CEN) can enable to preserves their entanglement indefinitely.  
 41 Besides, the effects of the input configuration of the system as well as the QNC configuration on the evolution  
 42 of entanglement have been investigated both for two- and three-qubit systems [16–26]. On the other hand,  
 43 the joint effects of several kinds of CENs on the evolution of entanglement have also been investigated  
 44 both for two- and three-qubit system [22, 23]. While most of these studies are devoted to the possibility of  
 45 protecting entanglement via the QNC configuration and the initial input state, little attention has been paid  
 46 to classify different kinds of CENs with respect to their detrimental effects on the evolution of entanglement.  
 47 For example is has been shown that when the subsystem of a composite system are coupled to a CEN in  
 48 a common environment, entanglement is better preserves than when there are coupled either in mixed or  
 49 independent environments [16–26]. In other words, even if the effects of many kinds of CENs on the evolution  
 50 of entanglement have been widely investigated in the literature, the classification of these CENs with respect  
 51 to their harmful impact on the evolution of entanglement has not yet been investigated.

52 In this paper, we intend to use a three-qubit system coupled in independent environments and subjected  
 53 to different CENs, as a quantum probe to classify these CENs with respect to their detrimental effects on  
 54 the evolution of entanglement of the probe. In particular, three different kinds of CENs namely the RTN,  
 55 SN and CN are considered. In the case of RTN, two particular regimes namely the fast or Markov RTN and  
 56 slow or non-Markov RTN are considered while for CN, we consider both the case of pink and brown noise.  
 57 Our approach to classify these CENs involves seven QNC configurations: in the first QNC configuration,  
 58 we consider that the first qubit of the probe system is coupled with the RTN, the second with the SN and  
 59 the third with the CN and this is denoted (RTN;SN;CN); the other QNC configurations are obtained from  
 60 the latter by switching each qubits local noise by the local noises of the remaining two qubits. Concretely  
 61 speaking, the second and third QNC configuration denoted (SN;SN;CN) and (CN;SN;CN) are obtained  
 62 from the first one by considering that the first qubit is no longer coupled with the RTN, but rather with  
 63 either the SN or RTN. In the same way, the fourth and fifth QNC configuration denoted (RTN;RTN;CN)  
 64 and (RTN;CN;CN) are obtained from the first QNC configuration by switching the SN to which the second  
 65 qubit of the probe is coupled either by the RTN or the CN. Finally, the sixth and seventh QNC configuration  
 66 denoted (RTN;SN;RTN) and (RTN;SN;SN) are derived from the first one by switching the CN to which  
 67 the third qubit of the probe system is coupled either by the RTN or the SN. It is worth recalling that the  
 68 notation (XX;YY;ZZ) means that the first qubit of the probe system is locally coupled to XX, the second  
 69 to YY and the third to ZZ. By employing the tripartite negativity as entanglement measure, we compare  
 70 the dynamics of entanglement in the seven QNC configurations to each other. These comparisons allow us  
 71 to appreciate the destructive influence of the presence or absence of each kinds of CEN on the evolution  
 72 of entanglement which thereafter should enable us to classify these noises with respect to their detrimental  
 73 effects. The probe is initially prepared in the GHZ state and each CEN is introduced by means of a stochastic  
 74 process. Therefore, the time evolution of the probe system is obtained by performing an ensemble average  
 75 over all the possible realizations of each stochastic process and the entanglement is quantified by means of  
 76 tripartite negativity.

77 The rest of the paper is organized as follows: In Sec. 2, we present the physical model and introduce the  
78 tripartite negativity. The analytical results as well as the behaviors of entanglement for the different QNC  
79 configurations are presented in Sec. 3. Finally, we summarize our result in Sec. 4.

## 80 2. The physical model

81 Our model, similar to those considered in [20–26], consists of three noninteracting qubits coupled in  
82 independent environments in which each qubit interacts with a specific CEN. As we have already pointed  
83 out, three different kinds of CEN namely RTN, SN and CN are considered. In order to fully classify these  
84 CENs with respect to their detrimental effects on the evolution of entanglement of the probe system (three-  
85 qubit system), seven QNC configurations namely respectively (RTN;SN;CN), (SN;SN;CN), (CN;SN;CN),  
86 (RTN;RTN;CN), (RTN;CN;CN), (RTN;SN;RTN) and (RTN;SN;SN) are considered. In these configurations,  
87 the dynamics of the system is governed by the following Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H}(t) = \mathcal{H}_1(t) \otimes \mathbb{I}_2 \otimes \mathbb{I}_3 + \mathbb{I}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2(t) \otimes \mathbb{I}_3 + \mathbb{I}_1 \otimes \mathbb{I}_2 \otimes \mathcal{H}_3(t), \quad (1)$$

88 where,  $\mathbb{I}_k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, 3$  denotes the identity operator in the subspace of the qubits  $k$ ; and  $\mathcal{H}_k(t)$  stands for the  
89 single-qubit Hamiltonian which contains a stochastic variable giving rise to the external noise and can be  
90 explicitly expressed as

$$\mathcal{H}_k(t) = \epsilon_{k,0} \mathbb{I}_k + g_k \vartheta_k^s(t) \sigma_k^x, \quad (2)$$

91 where  $\epsilon_{k,0}$  is the degenerated qubits energy in the absence of noise,  $\mathbb{I}_k$  and  $\sigma_k^x$  are respectively the identity and  
92 the spin-flip Pauli matrix acting on the subspace of the qubit  $k$ .  $g_k$  characterizes the strength of interaction  
93 between qubit  $k$  and its local CEN.  $\vartheta_k^s(t)$  ( $s \in \{RTN, SN, CN\}$ ) stands for a stochastic parameter whose  
94 statistic depends upon the kind of CEN to which the qubit  $k$  is coupled. More precisely, when the qubit  
95 is coupled to the SN, the stochastic parameter  $\vartheta_k^s(t) \equiv \vartheta_k^{SN}(t)$  is assumed to be independent on time and  
96 characterized by the following flat probability distribution [33, 34]

$$P(\vartheta_k^{SN}) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\eta_m} \longrightarrow \left| \vartheta_k^{SN}(t) - \eta_0 \right| \leq \frac{\eta_m}{2} \\ 0 \longrightarrow \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \quad (3)$$

97 where  $\eta_0$  denotes the average value of the distribution and  $\eta_m$  characterizes the degree of disorder of the  
98 environment. However, in the case of RTN the random terms  $\vartheta_k^s(t) \equiv \vartheta_k^{RTN}(t)$  behaves as a random bistable  
99 fluctuator (RBF) with a constant switching rate  $\gamma$ . Note that a RBF can be any quantity which switched  
100 randomly between two discrete values with a certain switching rate  $\gamma$ . In this case  $\vartheta_k^{RTN}(t)$  is characterized  
101 by the probability distribution given in Eq. (11). It is worth noting that, depending on the ratio between the  
102 switching rate  $\gamma$  and the SE coupling constant  $g_k$ , two regimes arise: strong or Markovian RTN and weak  
103 or non-Markovian RTN regime. In the case of CN or  $1/f^\alpha$  noise, the random parameter  $\vartheta_k^s(t) \equiv \vartheta_k^{CN}(t)$   
104 also behaves as a RBF. However, the main difference with the RTN case is that the switching rate of the  
105 RBF is not known a priori [16, 17]. In point of fact, here,  $\vartheta_k^{CN}(t)$  describes a RBF with a switching rate  $\gamma$   
106 distributed according to a specific probability law, depending on the colored of the noise. More precisely,  
107 the colored of the noise depends upon the value of the exponent  $\alpha$  and the cases with  $\alpha = 1$  and  $\alpha = 2$   
108 are often called pink and brown noise respectively. The probability distribution of the switching rate  $\gamma$  as a  
109 function of the parameter  $\alpha$  has been found [16, 17] and it reads

$$P_\alpha(\gamma) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\gamma \ln(\gamma_{\max}/\gamma_{\min})} \longrightarrow \alpha = 1 \\ \frac{\alpha - 1}{\gamma^\alpha} \left[ \frac{(\gamma_{\min} \gamma_{\max})^\alpha}{\gamma_{\max}^{\alpha-1} - \gamma_{\min}^{\alpha-1}} \right] \longrightarrow 1 < \alpha \leq 1 \end{cases}, \quad (4)$$

110 where  $\gamma_{\min}$  and  $\gamma_{\max}$  are respectively the minimum and the maximum value of the switching rate  $\gamma$ .  
 111 Note that, it is also possible to obtain the  $1/f^\alpha$  noise by considering a collection of many RBFs [16] but in  
 112 this work, we will limit ourselves to case of single RBF. As we have already pointed out, since the single qubit  
 113 Hamiltonian of Eq. (2) is stochastic, the time evolution system is obtained by averaging the time-evolved  
 114 density  $\rho(\{\vartheta\}, t) = \mathcal{U}(\{\vartheta\}, t) \rho(0) \mathcal{U}^\dagger(\{\vartheta\}, t)$  both over all the possible realizations of the stochastic  $\vartheta_k^s(t)$   
 115 and over all the possible realizations of the switching rate  $\gamma$ . More precisely the dynamics of the probe  
 116 system at a given time  $t$  can be written as

$$\rho(t) = \left\langle \left\langle \rho(\{\vartheta\}, t) \right\rangle_{\{\vartheta_k^s\}} \right\rangle_{\{\gamma\}} = \left\langle \left\langle \mathcal{U}(\{\vartheta\}, t) \rho(0) \mathcal{U}^\dagger(\{\vartheta\}, t) \right\rangle_{\{\vartheta_k^s\}} \right\rangle_{\{\gamma\}}, \quad (5)$$

117 where  $\rho(0)$  is the input state of the probe system,  $\mathcal{U}(\{\vartheta\}, t) = \mathcal{U}_1(\vartheta_1^s, t) \otimes \mathcal{U}_2(\vartheta_2^s, t) \otimes \mathcal{U}_3(\vartheta_3^s, t)$  stands for the  
 118 global unitary time evolution operator of the probe system for a given noise configuration  $\{\vartheta\} = \{\vartheta_1^s, \vartheta_2^s, \vartheta_3^s\}$ .  
 119  $\langle \dots \rangle_{\{\vartheta_k^s\}}$  and  $\langle \dots \rangle_{\{\gamma\}}$  denote the average over all the possible realizations the stochastic process  $\vartheta_k^s$  and  
 120 switching rate  $\gamma$ , respectively. Since the qubits are not interacting, the single qubit time evolution operator  
 121  $\mathcal{U}_k(\vartheta_k^s, t)$  can be written (in the unit of  $\hbar = 1$ ) as

$$\mathcal{U}_k(\vartheta_k^s, t) = \exp \left[ -i \int_0^t \mathcal{H}_k(t') dt' \right] = e^{-i\epsilon_{k,0}t} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_k^s(t) & i \sin \theta_k^s(t) \\ i \sin \theta_k^s(t) & \cos \theta_k^s(t) \end{bmatrix}, \quad (6)$$

122 where  $\theta_k^s(t) = -g_k \int_0^t \vartheta_k^s(t') dt'$  stands for the noise phase picked by qubit  $k$  during its evolution. In this work,  
 123 we assumed that the probe system is initially prepared in the GHZ state, that is,  $\rho(0) = |GHZ\rangle\langle GHZ|$  with  
 124  $|GHZ\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0_1 0_2 0_3\rangle + |1_1 1_2 1_3\rangle)$ .

125 As pointed out in the introduction, we quantify the entanglement between the qubits of the probe  
 126 system by means of the tripartite negativity [35], which is a powerful entanglement estimator arising from  
 127 the positive partial transpose (PPT) criterion [36] defined as

$$\mathcal{N}^{(3)}(\rho) = \sqrt[3]{\mathcal{N}_{1-23} \mathcal{N}_{2-13} \mathcal{N}_{3-12}}, \quad (7)$$

128 where  $\mathcal{N}_{\ell-mn} = \sum_i |\lambda_i(\rho^{T_\ell})| - 1$  [with  $\lambda_i(\rho^{T_\ell})$  the eigenvalues of the partial transpose  $\rho^{T_\ell}$  of the total density  
 129 with respect to the qubit  $\ell$ ] denotes the bipartite negativity between the subsystem  $\ell$  and the compound  
 130 system  $mn$  with  $\ell \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $mn \in \{12, 13, 23\}$ . Note that for symmetrical tripartite systems (systems  
 131 that remain unchanged under the permutation of its parts) the tripartite negativity reduces to the bipartite  
 132 negativity of any bipartition of the system.

### 133 3. Results and discussions

134 In this section, we deal with analytical and numerical results of the evolution of entanglement in all the  
 135 above mentioned QNC configurations. The entanglement is access by recourse to the tripartite negativity  
 136 and the probe system is initially prepared in the GHZ state.

#### 137 3.1. First QNC configuration: (RTN;SN;CN)

138 For this configuration, the dynamics of the system as given in Eq. (5) can be written in its more explicit  
 139 form as

$$\rho_{c1}(t) = \int_{\gamma_{\min}}^{\gamma_{\max}} d\gamma_3 P_\alpha(\gamma_3) \rho(\gamma_3, t), \quad (8)$$

140 with

$$\rho(\gamma_3, t) = \left\langle \left\langle \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} d\theta_2^{SN} P(\theta_2^{SN}) \rho(\theta_1^{RTN}, \theta_2^{SN}, \theta_3^{CN}) \right\rangle_{\theta_1^{RTN}} \right\rangle_{\theta_3^{CN}}, \quad (9)$$

141 where  $\tau_1 = \eta_0 - \frac{\eta_m}{2}$ ,  $\tau_2 = \eta_0 + \frac{\eta_m}{2}$  and

$$\langle \dots \rangle_{\{\theta_k^s\}} = \int d\theta_k^s (\dots) P(\theta_k^s) \quad (10)$$

142 In Eq. (10),  $P(\theta_k^s)$ ,  $s = \text{RTN}(\text{CN})$  is the probability distribution of the noise phase  $\theta_k^s$  whose explicit form  
143 can be written as [37–39]

$$\begin{aligned} P(\theta_k^s, t) &= \frac{1}{2} e^{-\gamma_k t} \\ &\times \left\{ \left[ \delta(\theta_k^s - g_k t) + \delta(\theta_k^s + g_k t) \right] + \frac{\gamma_k}{g_k} \left[ \Theta(\theta_k^s + g_k t) + \Theta(\theta_k^s - g_k t) \right] \right\} \\ &\times \left[ \frac{I_1(\theta_k^s t \sqrt{1 - (\theta_k^s/g_k t)^2})}{\sqrt{1 - (\theta_k^s/g_k t)^2}} + I_0(\gamma_k t \sqrt{1 - (\theta_k^s/g_k t)^2}) \right], \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

144 where  $\delta(x)$  is the Dirac delta function,  $I_k(x)$  is the modified Bessel function and  $\Theta(x)$  is the Heaviside step  
145 function. Let recall that in the case of RTN the switching  $\gamma_k$  is constant, that is,  $\gamma_k \equiv \gamma$  whereas in the  
146 case of CN,  $\gamma_k$  is no longer constant and is distributed according to the probability law of Eq. (3). Once the  
147 calculations are performed, we obtain the following matrix

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{c1}(t) &= \mathcal{Y}_{c1}(t) \left( |000\rangle + |111\rangle \right) \left( \langle 000| + \langle 111| \right) + \mathcal{K}_{c1}(t) \left( |001\rangle + |110\rangle \right) \times \\ &\times \left( \langle 001| + \langle 110| \right) + \mathcal{L}_{c1}(t) \left( |010\rangle + |101\rangle \right) \left( \langle 010| + \langle 101| \right) + \\ &+ \mathcal{F}_{c1}(t) \left( |100\rangle + |011\rangle \right) \left( \langle 100| + \langle 011| \right), \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Y}_{c1}(t) &= \frac{1}{8} (\Phi(t)\Omega(t) + \Phi(t)\Lambda(t) + \Omega(t)\Lambda(t) + 1), \\ \mathcal{K}_{c1}(t) &= -\frac{1}{8} (\Phi(t)\Omega(t) + \Phi(t)\Lambda(t) - \Omega(t)\Lambda(t) + 1), \\ \mathcal{L}_{c1}(t) &= \frac{1}{8} (\Phi(t)\Omega(t) - \Phi(t)\Lambda(t) - \Omega(t)\Lambda(t) + 1), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\mathcal{F}_{c1}(t) = -\frac{1}{8} (\Phi(t)\Omega(t) - \Phi(t)\Lambda(t) + \Omega(t)\Lambda(t) + 1).$$

148 The time dependent functions  $\Phi(t)$ ,  $\Omega(t)$  and  $\Lambda(t)$  are the decoherence factors induced by the RTN, SN and  
149 CN, respectively. They are defined as follows

$$\Omega(t) = \begin{cases} e^{-\gamma t} \left[ \cosh(\delta t) + \frac{\gamma}{\delta} \sinh(\delta t) \right] \rightarrow \gamma > 2g, \delta = \sqrt{\gamma^2 - 4g^2} \\ e^{-\gamma t} \left[ \cos(\delta t) + \frac{\gamma}{\delta} \sin(\delta t) \right] \rightarrow \gamma < 2g, \delta = \sqrt{4g^2 - \gamma^2} \end{cases}. \quad (13)$$

$$\Phi(t) = \frac{\sin(gt\eta_m)}{gt\eta_m} \cos(2gt\eta_0), \text{ and } \Lambda(t) = \int_{\gamma_{\min}}^{\gamma_{\max}} d\gamma P_\alpha(\gamma) \Omega(\gamma, t). \quad (14)$$

151 For this QNC configuration, the analytical expression of the tripartite negativity obtained from Eq. (7) can  
152 be written as follows

$$\mathcal{N}_{c1}^{(3)}(t) = \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{8} \prod_{\mu=1}^3 \varphi_\mu(t) \prod_{(\mu,\nu)} \left( \varphi_\mu(t) + \varphi_\nu(t) + \left| \varphi_\mu(t) - \varphi_\nu(t) \right| \right)}, \quad (15)$$

153 with  $(\mu, \nu) = \{(1, 2), (1, 3), (2, 3)\}$ ,  $\varphi_1(t) = \Omega(t)$ ,  $\varphi_2(t) = \Lambda(t)$  and  $\varphi_3(t) = \Phi(t)$ . In Fig. 1, we report the  
154 evolution of the tripartite negativity as a function of the scaled time  $\tau = gt$ , in the case of Markov (weak  
155 coupling regime) and non-Markov (strong coupling regime) RTN and both for the case of pink ( $\alpha = 1$ ) and  
156 brown ( $\alpha = 2$ ) noise. Note that the integral  $\Lambda(t)$  in the analytical expression of the tripartite negativity  
has been computed numerically in the scaled range  $[\gamma_{\min}, \gamma_{\max}]/g = [10^{-2}, 10^2]$ . We see that the evolution

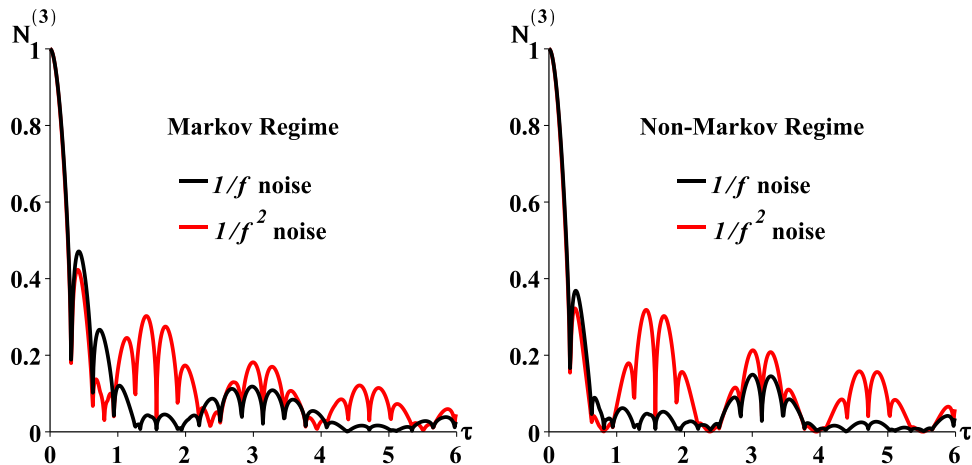


Figure 1: (Color online) Evolution of the tripartite negativity as a function of the scaled time  $\tau = gt$  in the case of Markov (left) and Non-Markov (right) RTN, both for pink (black solid line curves) and brown (red solid line curves) noise, with the following parameters:  $\eta_m = 10$ ,  $\eta_0 = 0$ ,  $\gamma/g = 10$  (weak coupling regime),  $\gamma/g = 0.1$  (strong coupling regime) and  $[\gamma_{\min}, \gamma_{\max}]/g = [10^{-2}, 10^2]$ .

157 of entanglement of the probe system decays with damped oscillations to zero. On the other hand, we see  
158 that the evolution of entanglement is strongly affected not only by the colored of the noise (pink or brown)  
159 but also by the Markov or non-Markov character of the RTN. In point of fact, we observe from both figures  
160 (Markov and non-Markov regime) that for  $0 \leq \tau \leq 1$ , both pink and brown noises have almost the same  
161 destructive influence on the entanglement of the probe system. However, for  $\tau > 1$  we observe that the pink  
162 noise has more destructive influence on the evolution of system with respect to the brown noise. In other  
163 words, the pink noise is more fatal to the survival of entanglement than the brown noise, regardless of the  
164 Markov or non-Markov character of the RTN. Moreover, we observe both in the case of pink and brown  
165 noise that the residual amount of entanglement in the system seems to higher in the Markov regime than  
166 in the non-Markov one.  
167

### 168 3.2. Second and third QNC configuration: $(SN;SN;CN)$ , $(CN;SN;CN)$

169 Here, we investigate how entanglement is affected when the RTN is switched either by the SN or CN.  
170 This should allow us to evaluate the destructive influence of the presence of the SN as well as CN by

171 comparing the evolution of the probe system entanglement obtained in both configurations with the one  
 172 of the first configuration. For both configurations, the dynamics of the system obtained by averaging the  
 173 time-evolved density matrix of the system both over all the possible realizations of the stochastic noise phase  
 174 and switching rate can be written as follows

$$\rho_{c2}(t) = \int_{\gamma_{\min}}^{\gamma_{\max}} d\gamma_3 P_\alpha(\gamma_3) \rho(\gamma_3, t), \quad (16)$$

175 with

$$\rho(\gamma_3, t) = \left\langle \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} d\theta_1^{SN} d\theta_2^{SN} P(\theta_1^{SN}) P(\theta_2^{SN}) \rho(\theta_1^{SN}, \theta_2^{SN}, \theta_3^{CN}) \right\rangle_{\theta_3^{CN}}, \quad (17)$$

176 and

$$\rho_{c3}(t) = \int_{\gamma_{\min}}^{\gamma_{\max}} \int_{\gamma_{\min}}^{\gamma_{\max}} d\gamma_1 P_\alpha(\gamma_1) d\gamma_3 P_\alpha(\gamma_3) \rho(\gamma_1, \gamma_3, t), \quad (18)$$

177 with

$$\rho(\gamma_1, \gamma_3, t) = \left\langle \left\langle \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} d\theta_2^{SN} P(\theta_2^{SN}) \rho(\theta_1^{RTN}, \theta_2^{SN}, \theta_3^{CN}) \right\rangle_{\theta_1^{CN}} \right\rangle_{\theta_3^{CN}}. \quad (19)$$

178 Once the calculations are performed, we find that the density matrices  $\rho_{c2}(t)$  and  $\rho_{c3}(t)$  can be written in  
 179 the three qubits computational basis as

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{c2}(t) = & \mathcal{Y}_{c2}(t) \left( |000\rangle + |111\rangle \right) \left( \langle 000| + \langle 111| \right) + \mathcal{K}_{c2}(t) \left( |001\rangle + |110\rangle \right) \times \\ & \times \left( \langle 001| + \langle 110| \right) + \mathcal{L}_{c2}(t) \left( |010\rangle + |101\rangle \right) \left( \langle 010| + \langle 101| \right) + \\ & + \mathcal{K}_{c2}(t) \left( |100\rangle + |011\rangle \right) \left( \langle 100| + \langle 011| \right), \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

180 and

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{c3}(t) = & \mathcal{Y}_{c3}(t) \left( |000\rangle + |111\rangle \right) \left( \langle 000| + \langle 111| \right) + \mathcal{K}_{c3}(t) \left( |001\rangle + |110\rangle \right) \times \\ & \times \left( \langle 001| + \langle 110| \right) + \mathcal{L}_{c3}(t) \left( |010\rangle + |101\rangle \right) \left( \langle 010| + \langle 101| \right) + \\ & + \mathcal{L}_{c3}(t) \left( |100\rangle + |011\rangle \right) \left( \langle 100| + \langle 011| \right), \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Y}_{c2}(t) = & \frac{1}{8} \left( \Phi^2(t) + 2\Phi(t)\Lambda(t) + 1 \right), \mathcal{K}_{c2}(t) = \frac{1}{8} \left( 1 - \Phi^2(t) \right), \mathcal{L}_{c2}(t) = \mathcal{Y}_{c2}(t) \Big|_{\Phi=-\Phi} \\ \mathcal{Y}_{c3} = & \frac{1}{8} \left( \Lambda^2(t) + 2\Phi(t)\Lambda(t) + 1 \right), \mathcal{K}_{c3}(t) = \mathcal{Y}_{c3}(t) \Big|_{\Lambda=-\Lambda}, \mathcal{L}_{c3}(t) = \frac{1}{8} \left( 1 - \Lambda^2(t) \right). \end{aligned}$$

181 with  $\Phi(t)$  and  $\Lambda(t)$  given in Eq. (14). From these density matrices, we can compute from Eq. (7) the  
 182 tripartite negativities as

$$\mathcal{N}_{c2}^{(3)}(t) = \Phi(t) \sqrt[3]{\Lambda(t) \left( \frac{\Phi(t) + \Lambda(t) + |\Phi(t) - \Lambda(t)|}{2} \right)^2}, \quad (22)$$



183 and

$$\mathcal{N}_{c3}^{(3)}(t) = \Lambda(t) \sqrt[3]{\Phi(t) \left( \frac{\Phi(t) + \Lambda(t) + |\Phi(t) - \Lambda(t)|}{2} \right)^2}. \quad (23)$$

184 Note unlike the first configuration case, these expressions depend only on  $\Phi(t)$  and  $\Lambda(t)$  which are the  
 185 decoherence factors due to the SN and CN, respectively. It is worth nothing that in the limit of sufficiently  
 186 long but finite times, both  $\Phi(t)$  and  $\Lambda(t)$  tend to zero and, as a consequence, the entanglement initially  
 187 present in the probe system is completely suppressed. In figure 2, we plot the evolution of  $\mathcal{N}_{c2}^{(3)}(t)$  and  
 $\mathcal{N}_{c3}^{(3)}(t)$  as a function of the scaled time in the case of pink (left) and brown (right) noise. We observed

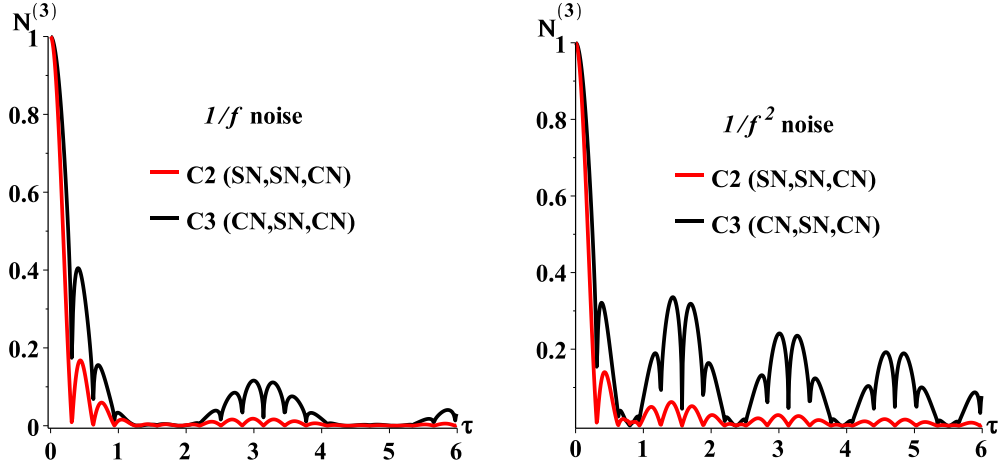


Figure 2: (Color online) Evolution of the tripartite negativity as a function of the scaled time  $\tau$  in the case of pink (left) and brown (right) noise, both for the second (red solid line curves) and third (black solid line curves) QNC configurations, with the following parameters:  $\eta_m = 10$ ,  $\eta_0 = 0$  and  $[\gamma_{\min}, \gamma_{\max}]/g = [10^{-2}, 10^2]$ .

188 immediately that when the RTN is switched by the SN (second QNC configuration), the rate of degradation  
 189 of entanglement is increases with respect to case of the first QNC configuration (Fig. 1), regardless of the  
 190 Markov or non-Markov regime. This clearly indicate that the SN has more destructive effects on the probe  
 191 system than the RTN. Another information that one can observe in this figure is that the CN, independently  
 192 on the colore considered, is less detrimental than the SN. Indeed, we observe from Fig 1 that whatever the  
 193 colore of the CN is, the curves obtained for the second QNC configuration are either slightly or completely  
 194 below those of the third QNC configuration. Overall, Fig. 2 clearly shows that the SN is more fatal to the  
 195 probe system than the RTN and CN. However, for RTN and CN no conclusion can be draw yet.  
 196

### 197 3.3. Fourth and fifth QNC configuration: (RTN;RTN;CN), (RTN;CN;CN)

198 Here, we analyze the situation in which the coupling of the second qubit of the probe system is switched  
 199 from SN to either RTN (fourth QNC configuration) or CN (fifth QNC configuration). Both configurations  
 200 shall enable us to illustrate how the RTN and CN affect the probe system. For both configurations, the  
 201 evolution of the system is described by the following density matrices

$$\rho_{c4}(t) = \int_{\gamma_{\min}}^{\gamma_{\max}} d\gamma_3 P_\alpha(\gamma_3) \rho(\gamma_3, t), \quad (24)$$

202 with

$$\rho(\gamma_3, t) = \left\langle \left\langle \left\langle \rho(\theta_1^{RTN}, \theta_2^{RTN}, \theta_3^{CN}) \right\rangle_{\theta_1^{RTN}} \right\rangle_{\theta_2^{RTN}} \right\rangle_{\theta_3^{CN}}, \quad (25)$$

203 and

$$\rho_{c5}(t) = \int_{\gamma_{\min}}^{\gamma_{\max}} \int_{\gamma_{\min}}^{\gamma_{\max}} d\gamma_2 P_\alpha(\gamma_2) d\gamma_3 P_\alpha(\gamma_3) \rho(\gamma_1, \gamma_3, t), \quad (26)$$

204 with

$$\rho(\gamma_2, \gamma_3, t) = \left\langle \left\langle \left\langle \rho(\theta_1^{RTN}, \theta_2^{CN}, \theta_3^{CN}) \right\rangle_{\theta_1^{RTN}} \right\rangle_{\theta_2^{CN}} \right\rangle_{\theta_3^{CN}}. \quad (27)$$

After performing calculations, we find that the density matrix  $\rho_{c4}(t)$  has the same functional expression of  $\rho_{c2}(t)$  (Eq. (20)), but with the following coefficients

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Y}_{c2}(t) \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}_{c4}(t) &= \frac{1}{8} \left( \Omega^2(t) + 2\Omega(t)\Lambda(t) + 1 \right), \quad \mathcal{K}_{c2}(t) \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_{c4}(t) = \frac{1}{8} \left( 1 - \Omega^2(t) \right) \\ \mathcal{F}_{c2}(t) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{c4}(t) &= \mathcal{Y}_{c4}(t) \Big|_{\Omega=-\Omega} \end{aligned}$$

205 However, the time-evolved density matrix  $\rho_{c5}(t)$  can be written in the three-qubit computational basis as

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{c5}(t) &= \mathcal{Y}_{c5}(t) \left( |000\rangle + |111\rangle \right) \left( \langle 000| + \langle 111| \right) + \mathcal{K}_{c5}(t) \left( |001\rangle + |110\rangle \right) \times \\ &\times \left( \langle 001| + \langle 110| \right) + \mathcal{K}_{c5}(t) \left( |010\rangle + |101\rangle \right) \left( \langle 010| + \langle 101| \right) + \\ &+ \mathcal{F}_{c5}(t) \left( |100\rangle + |011\rangle \right) \left( \langle 100| + \langle 011| \right), \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

206 with

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Y}_{c5}(t) &= \frac{1}{8} \left( \Lambda^2(t) + 2\Omega(t)\Lambda(t) + 1 \right), \quad \mathcal{K}_{c5}(t) = \frac{1}{8} \left( 1 - \Lambda^2(t) \right), \\ \mathcal{F}_{c5}(t) &= \mathcal{Y}_{c5}(t) \Big|_{\Lambda=-\Lambda} \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

207 where  $\Omega(t)$  and  $\Lambda(t)$  are given in Eq. (13) and Eq. (14) respectively. From the definition of the tripartite  
208 negativity expressed in Eq. (7), we obtain

$$\mathcal{N}_{c4}^{(3)}(t) = \lim_{\Phi \rightarrow \Omega} \mathcal{N}_{c2}^{(3)}(t) = \Omega(t) \sqrt[3]{\Lambda(t) \left( \frac{\Omega(t) + \Lambda(t) + |\Omega(t) - \Lambda(t)|}{2} \right)^2}, \quad (30)$$

209 and

$$\mathcal{N}_{c5}^{(3)}(t) = \Lambda(t) \sqrt[3]{\Omega(t) \left( \frac{\Lambda(t) + \Omega(t) + |\Omega(t) - \Lambda(t)|}{2} \right)^2}. \quad (31)$$

210 In figure 3, we report the evolution of the tripartite negativities as a function of the dimensionless time  $\tau$ , for  
211 the cases of pink and brown noise and both for Markov and non-Markov RTN. The observation of this figure  
212 clearly confirms what we have already pointed out that the SN is more fatal to the probe system than the  
213 CN and RTN, regardless of the Markov or non-Markov character of the RTN as well as the color of the CN.  
214 Indeed, by comparing Fig. 3 with Figs. 1 and 2, we observe that when the second qubit of the probe system  
215 is no longer affected by the SN but rather by the RTN or CN, the entanglement is less degraded. This figure  
216 also reveals that the pink noise is more fatal to the probe system than both Markov and non-Markov RTN.  
217 However, the situation is totally reversed in the case of brown noise. In other words, the brown noise is less  
218 fatal to system than the RTN, regardless of the Markov or non-Markov character of the RTN. In point of  
219 fact, as it can clearly be seen in Fig. 3, the curves obtained both in the weak and strong coupling regime  
220 (Markov and non-Markov RTN) in the fourth QNC configuration are either slightly or completely above  
221 (pink noise)/below (brown noise) those obtained in the fifth QNC configuration. So, at this level we can  
222 say that we have achieved the main objective of this work, which was to classify the SN, CN and RTN with  
223 respect to their destructive influence on a quantum system. Nevertheless, in the following we will investigate  
224 two other QNC configurations to reinforce what we have already concluded in both previous subsections.

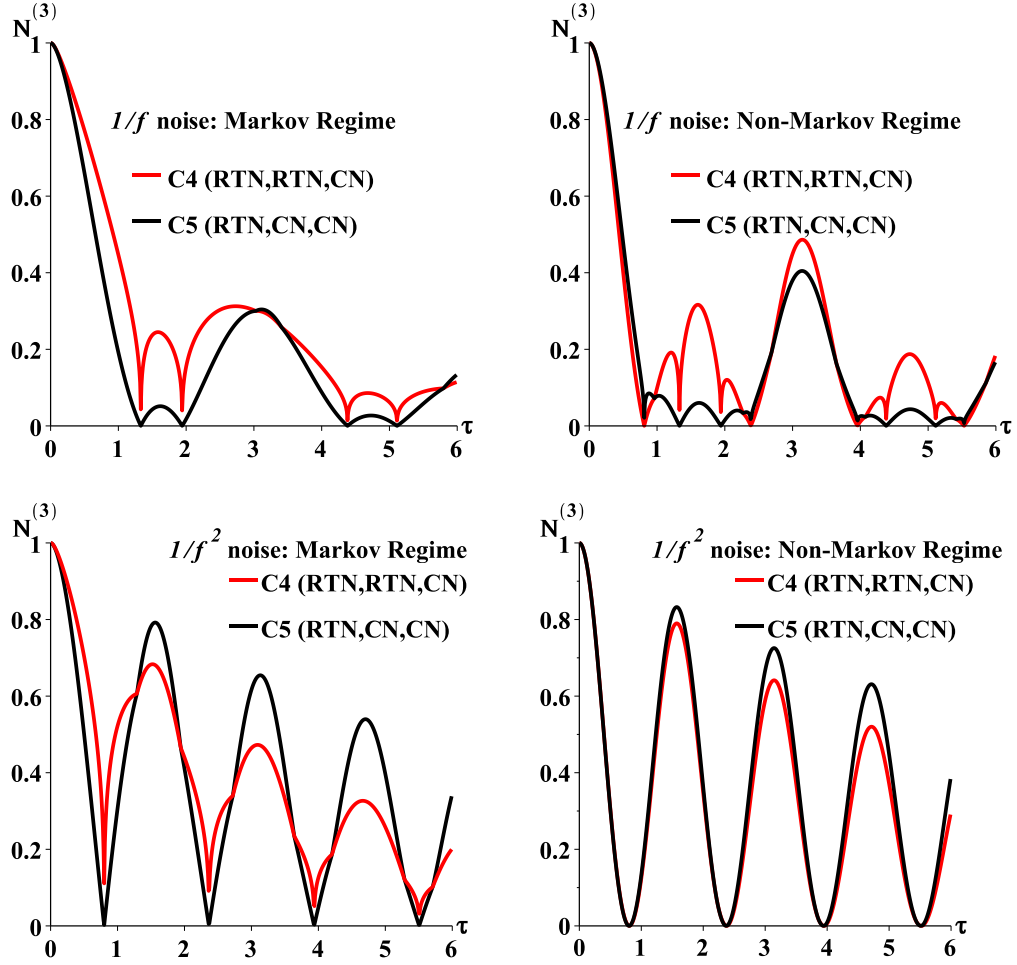


Figure 3: (Color online) Upper panels: evolution of the tripartite negativity as a function of the scaled time  $\tau$  in the case of: (left) pink noise and Markov RTN; (right) pink noise and Non-Markov RTN, both for the fourth (black solid line curves) and fifth (red solid line curves) QNC configuration, with the following parameters:  $\gamma/g = 10$  (weak coupling regime),  $\gamma/g = 0.1$  (strong coupling regime) and  $[\gamma_{\min}, \gamma_{\max}]/g = [10^{-2}, 10^2]$ . Lower panels: Same as in the upper panels but in the case of brown noise.

### 3.4. Sixth and seventh QNC configuration: $(RTN;SN;RTN)$ , $(RTN;SN;SN)$

As we have already mentioned above, if we limit ourselves to previous analyzed QNC we can already classify the SN, CN and RTN with respect to their detrimental effects. However, in order to reinforce what has already been concluded, here we are going to investigate the situation in which the coupling of the third qubit of the probe system is switched from CN to either RTN or SN. In such a situation, the dynamics of the probe system at a given time  $t$  can be written as

$$\rho_{c6}(t) = \left\langle \left\langle \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} d\theta_2^{SN} P(\theta_2^{SN}) \rho(\theta_1^{RTN}, \theta_2^{SN}, \theta_3^{RTN}) \right\rangle_{\theta_1^{RTN}} \right\rangle_{\theta_3^{RTN}}, \quad (32)$$

and

$$\rho_{c7}(t) = \left\langle \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} d\theta_2^{SN} d\theta_3^{SN} P(\theta_2^{SN}) P(\theta_3^{SN}) \rho(\theta_1^{RTN}, \theta_2^{SN}, \theta_3^{SN}) \right\rangle_{\theta_1^{RTN}}. \quad (33)$$

Once performing the calculations, we find again that the density matrices  $\rho_{c6}(t)$  and  $\rho_{c7}(t)$  have the same functional expressions of  $\rho_{c3}(t)$  (Eq. (21) ) and  $\rho_{c5}(t)$  (Eq. (28) ), respectively, but with the following coefficients

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{Y}_{c3}(t) &\rightarrow \mathcal{Y}_{c6}(t) = \frac{1}{8} (\Omega^2(t) + 2\Omega(t)\Phi(t) + 1), \mathcal{K}_{c3}(t) \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_{c6}(t) = \mathcal{Y}_{c6}(t) \Big|_{\Omega=-\Omega}, \\ \mathcal{Y}_{c5}(t) &\rightarrow \mathcal{Y}_{c7}(t) = \frac{1}{8} (\Phi^2(t) + 2\Omega(t)\Phi(t) + 1), \mathcal{F}_{c5}(t) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{c7}(t) = \mathcal{Y}_{c7}(t) \Big|_{\Phi=-\Phi}, \\ \mathcal{L}_{c3}(t) &\rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{c6}(t) = \frac{1}{8} (1 - \Omega^2), \mathcal{K}_{c5}(t) \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_{c7}(t) = \frac{1}{8} (1 - \Phi^2).\end{aligned}$$

232 From the definition of the tripartite negativity expressed in Eq. (7), we obtain

$$\mathcal{N}_{c6}^{(3)}(t) = \lim_{\Lambda \rightarrow \Omega} \mathcal{N}_{c3}^{(3)}(t) = \Omega(t) \sqrt[3]{\Phi(t) \left( \frac{\Omega(t) + \Phi(t) + |\Omega(t) - \Phi(t)|}{2} \right)^2}, \quad (34)$$

233 and

$$\mathcal{N}_{c7}^{(3)}(t) = \lim_{\Lambda \rightarrow \Phi} \mathcal{N}_{c5}^{(3)}(t) = \Phi(t) \sqrt[3]{\Omega(t) \left( \frac{\Omega(t) + \Phi(t) + |\Omega(t) - \Omega(t)|}{2} \right)^2}. \quad (35)$$

234 In figure 4, we report the evolution of  $\mathcal{N}_{c6}^{(3)}(t)$  and  $\mathcal{N}_{c7}^{(3)}(t)$  as a function of the scaled time  $\tau$  in the case of Markov (left) and non-Markov (right) RTN. We observe both in the Markov and non-Markov regime that

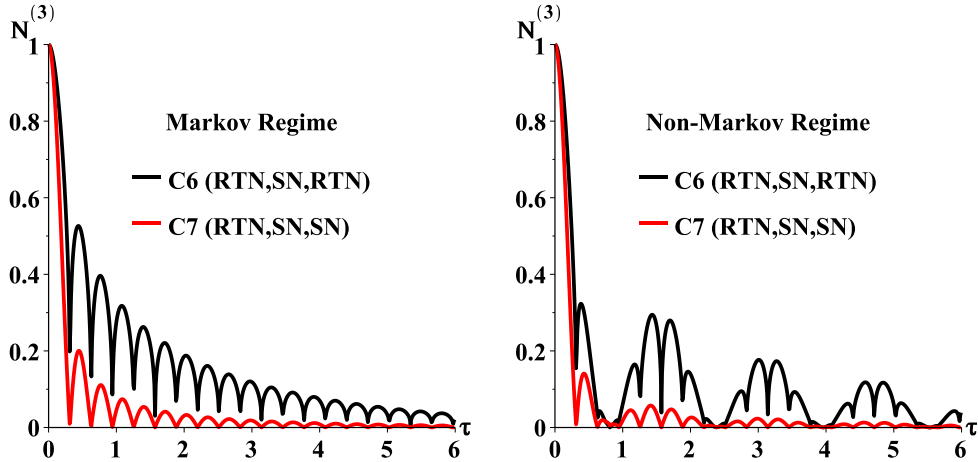


Figure 4: (Color online) Evolution of the tripartite negativity as a function of the scaled time in the case of Markov (left) and non-Markov (right) RTN, both for the sixth (black solid line curves) and fifth (red solid line curves) QNC configurations, with the following parameters:  $\eta_m = 10$ ,  $\eta_0 = 0$ ,  $\gamma/g = 10$  (weak coupling regime), and  $\gamma/g = 0.1$  (strong coupling regime).

235 the probe system is less influence by the overall external noise when its third qubit is coupled to the RTN  
236 than when it is coupled to the SN, demonstrating that the SN is more harmful than the RTN. This result  
237 clearly reinforces what has been previously found. On the other hand, by comparing the left panel of Fig. 2  
238 with Fig. 4, we clearly observe that the pink noise is more detrimental than the Markov and non-Markov  
239 RTN. Moreover, by comparing the left panel of Fig. 2 with its right panel, we observe (on the whole) that  
240 entanglement is less degraded by the Markov RTN with respect to the non-Markov RTN.  
241

## 242 4. Conclusions

243 In this paper we have investigate the classification of three different classical non-Gaussian noises, namely  
244 the static, colored and random telegraph noise, with respect to their negative effects on the evolution of  
245 entanglement, using a system of three noninteracting qubits as probe. The probe system has been initially  
246 prepared in the GHZ state and seven QNC configurations have been analyzed in detail. Moreover, the  
247 probe system has been described by a stochastic Hamiltonian and the dynamics of the system for each  
248 QNC configuration has been computed by performing an ensemble average over all the possible realizations  
249 of the stochastic processes. Using the tripartite negativity as measure of entanglement, the evolutions of  
250 entanglement in these configurations have been compared to each other to evaluate the detrimental effects  
251 of the presence/absence of each of kind of noise considered.

252 In all QNC configurations analyzed, we found that the evolution of entanglement is severely destroyed  
253 by the external noise. On the other hand, we found that depending on the QNC configuration as well the  
254 noise parameters (Markovian or non-Markovian regime/pink or brown noise) considered, the entanglement  
255 decay rate is slowed down or quickened. By comparing the evolutions of entanglement obtained in the first,  
256 second and third QNC configuration to each other, we have found that the SN is more fatal to the survival  
257 of entanglement than the RTN and CN. In the same way, the evolutions of entanglement in the first, fourth  
258 and fifth QNC configuration have been compared to each other and we have found that depending on the  
259 noise color considered, the RTN may be more fatal to the probe system than the CN. In point of fact,  
260 we found that the RTN is less detrimental to the survival of entanglement of the probe system than the  
261 pink noise and that the situation is totally reversed in the case of brown noise. Finally, the evolutions of  
262 entanglement in the sixth and seventh QNC configuration have been compared with those in the first QNC  
263 configuration and once again we have found that whatever the regime (Markov or non-Markov) considered  
264 is, SN is more fatal than the RTN.

265 Overall, we found that these noises can be classified in descending order (according to their detrimental  
266 influence) as: SN>pink noise>RTN (both Markovian and non-Markovian)>brown noise (where “>” means  
267 more detrimental than). Hence, we believe that our investigation can be useful for the engineering of classical  
268 non-Gaussian distributed environmental noise.

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