# Numerical ranges, operator systems, and quantum channels 

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## Introduction

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- If $T=\left(\begin{array}{ll}0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right)$, then $W(T)=\{z \in \mathbb{C}:|z| \leq 1\}$, the unit disk centered at the origin.



## Numerical range and dilation

- We say that $T \in B(H)$ has a dilation $A \in B(K)$ with $H \subseteq K$ if $A$ has operator matrix $\left(\begin{array}{ll}T & * \\ * & *\end{array}\right)$ with respect to some orthonormal basis.


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- Note that $W(A)=W(I \otimes A)$. There are results showing that $W(T) \subseteq W(A)$ ensures that $T \in B(H)$ has a dilation of the form $I \otimes A$.


## Existing results

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## Positive maps and completely positive maps

- A map $\Phi: B(H) \rightarrow B(K)$ is positive if $\Phi(T)$ is positive whenever $T$ is.
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- For $k \in \mathbb{N}, \Phi$ is $k$-positive if

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\left(I_{k} \otimes \Phi\right)\left(T_{i j}\right)=\left(\Phi\left(T_{i j}\right)\right) \in M_{k}(B(K)) \quad \text { is positive }
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- If $\Phi$ is $k$-positive for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$ then it is completely positive.


## Proposition [Choi and Li, 2000]

Let $T \in B(H)$ and $A \in M_{n}$. Consider the linear map

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\phi\left(\mu_{0} I+\mu_{1} A+\mu_{2} A^{*}\right)=\mu_{0} I+\mu_{1} T+\mu_{2} T^{*}
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for any $\mu_{0}, \mu_{1}, \mu_{2} \in \mathbb{C}$.

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- The map $\phi$ is completely positive, i.e., $I_{m} \otimes \phi$ send positive operators to positive operators for all positive integers $m$, if and only if
$T$ has a dilation of the form $I \otimes A$.


## Operator Systems

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## Theorem

Let $\mathcal{S}=\operatorname{span}\left\{I, A, A^{*}\right\}$, where $A \in M_{2}$ or $A \in M_{3}$ such that the boundary of
$W(A)$ has a flat portion. Equivalently, $e^{i t} A+e^{-i t} A^{*}$ has a repeated eigenvalue for some $t \in[0, \pi]$.
Then every positive linear map $\Phi: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow B(H)$ is a completely positive map. ( $\dagger$ )

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An operator system $\mathcal{S}$ is a maximal operator system (OMAX) if it satisfies $(\dagger)$.
The study of OMAX is related to the study of quantum channels such as entanglement breaking channels; see Paulsen et al. (2017).

The joint numerical ranges

- The joint numerical range of self-adjoint operators $T_{1}, \ldots, T_{m} \in B(H)$ is

$$
W\left(T_{1}, \ldots, T_{m}\right)=\left\{\left(\left\langle T_{1} x, x\right\rangle, \ldots,\left\langle T_{m} x, x\right\rangle\right): x \in H,\langle x, x\rangle=1\right\} .
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- If $T_{j}=H_{j}+i G_{j}$ for self-adjoint $H_{j}, K_{j}$ for $j=1, \ldots, m$, then

$$
W\left(T_{1}, \ldots, T_{m}\right) \subseteq \mathbb{C}^{m} \text { and } W\left(H_{1}, G_{1}, \ldots, H_{m}, G_{m}\right) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{2 m}
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- The $m$-tuple $\left(T_{1}, \ldots, T_{m}\right)$ has a joint dilation $\left(A_{1}, \ldots, A_{m}\right)$ if there is a partial isometry $X$ such that

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- Let $\mathcal{S}$ have a basis $\left\{I_{n}, A_{1}, \ldots, A_{m}\right\}$ such that $A_{1}, \ldots, A_{m}$ are Hermitian. Then $\mathcal{S}$ is an OMAX if and only if $\left(T_{1}, \ldots, T_{m}\right) \in B(H)^{m}$ has a joint dilation of the form $\left(I \otimes A_{1}, \ldots, I \otimes A_{m}\right)$ whenever

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W\left(T_{1}, \ldots, T_{m}\right) \subseteq \operatorname{conv} W\left(A_{1}, \ldots, A_{m}\right)
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## Extension of Mirman's result

- If $W\left(T_{1}, T_{2}, T_{3}\right)$ lies inside in a simplex in $\mathbb{R}^{3}$ with vertices:

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v_{1}=\left(\begin{array}{l}
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then $\left(T_{1}, T_{2}, T_{3}\right)$ has a joint dilation $\left(D_{1}, D_{2}, D_{3}\right)$ with

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\end{array}\right), v_{2}=\left(\begin{array}{l}
b_{1} \\
b_{2} \\
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\end{array}\right), v_{3}=\left(\begin{array}{l}
c_{1} \\
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\end{array}\right), v_{4}=\left(\begin{array}{l}
d_{1} \\
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d_{3}
\end{array}\right),
$$

then $\left(T_{1}, T_{2}, T_{3}\right)$ has a joint dilation $\left(D_{1}, D_{2}, D_{3}\right)$ with

$$
D_{j}=I \otimes \operatorname{diag}\left(a_{j}, b_{j}, c_{j}, d_{j}\right) \text { for } j=1,2,3
$$

- Note that one can choose any $v_{1}, v_{2}, v_{3}, v_{4} \in \mathbb{R}^{3}$ as long as

$$
W\left(T_{1}, T_{2}, T_{3}\right) \subseteq \operatorname{conv}\left\{v_{1}, v_{2}, v_{3}, v_{4}\right\}
$$



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Suppose $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{m}$ is a simplex with vertices

$$
v_{1}=\left(\begin{array}{c}
v_{11} \\
\vdots \\
v_{1 m}
\end{array}\right), \cdots, v_{m+1}=\left(\begin{array}{c}
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That is, there is a partial isometry $X$ such that

$$
X^{*}\left(I_{N} \otimes A_{j}\right) X=T_{j}, \quad j=1, \ldots, m
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## Operator systems of higher dimension

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## Corollary

An operator system $\mathcal{S}=\operatorname{span}\left\{I, A_{1}, A_{2}, A_{3}\right\} \subseteq M_{3}$ is an OMAX if $W\left(A_{1}, A_{2}, A_{3}\right)$ is a non-degenerate ice-cream cone, i.e., the convex hull of a point and an elliptical disk with non-empty interior.

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\Phi(A)=F_{1} A F_{1}^{*}+\cdots+F_{r} A F_{r}^{*}, \quad A \in M_{n}
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- Properties of $\mathcal{S}(\Phi)$, and hence $\Phi$ can be studied via certain generalized numerical ranges of $\left(A_{1}, \ldots, A_{m}\right)$.


## Numerical Ranges and Operator Systems

- (Paulsen et al, 2017; Li, Poon and Watrous, 2019+) If $\mathcal{S} \subseteq M_{n}$ is an operator system, then there is a quantum operation $\Psi: M_{n} \rightarrow M_{k}$ such that $\mathcal{S}=\mathcal{S}(\Psi)$. If $\operatorname{dim} \mathcal{S} \leq \ell^{2}$, then we can have $k<n$.


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- (Quantum Channel Complexity) For a given channel $\Phi$ and $\mathcal{S}=\mathcal{S}(\Phi)$, the smallest $k$ for the existence of a quantum channel $\Psi: M_{n} \rightarrow M_{k}$ such that $\mathcal{S}(\Phi)=\mathcal{S}(\Psi)$ is the complexity of $\Phi$.


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$X^{*} A_{j} X=D_{j} \in M_{k}$ for some diagonal matrix $D_{j}$ for $j=1, \ldots, m$.


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- One may get "better" quantum error correction code if there is an $n \times k$ matrix $X$ such that $X^{*} X=I_{k}$ and

$$
X^{*} A_{j} X=\left(I_{p_{1}} \otimes B_{1 j}\right) \oplus \cdots \oplus\left(I_{p_{r}} \otimes B_{r j}\right)=\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
I_{p_{1}} \otimes B_{1 j} & & \\
& \ddots & \\
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\end{array}\right)
$$

with positive integers $p_{1}, \ldots, p_{k}$, diagonal / square matrices $B_{1 j}, \ldots, B_{r j}$.

Look forward to hearing your comments.

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Thank you for your attention!


