

Title: Matrix range characterizations of operator system properties

Abstract: Given an operator system S , one can create two sequences of new operator systems from it, denoted $OMAX_k(S)$ and $OMIN_k(S)$. The first is the universal operator system with the property that every k -positive map with domain S is completely positive as a map from $OMAX_k(S)$. The second has the property that every k -positive map with range S is completely positive as a map into $OMIN_k(S)$. A natural question is if these new operator systems in some sense “converge to S ” as k tends to infinity. The answer is “not always”, but convergence does characterize certain important properties of S . Finally, when S is the finite dimensional operator system spanned by an N -tuple of operators $T=(T_1, \dots, T_n)$, then these convergences can be characterized in terms of geometrical properties of the joint matricial ranges of T . Of special importance is the case when (T_1, \dots, T_n) are the unitary generators of the universal C^* -algebra of the free group on n -generators.