# Operator Systems in Quantum Contextuality and Nonlocality

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## 1 Motivation

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## Nonlocality

Fix A, B, X, Y finite sets.

Alice's lab:

Questions: X Answers: A Measurements:  $\{E_{a,x}\}_{a \in A}, x \in X$  Bob's lab:

Questions: YAnswers: BMeasurements:  $\{F_{b,y}\}_{b\in B}, y \in Y$ 

Correlations 
$$\rightsquigarrow p = \{(p(a, b|x, y))_{a,b} : x, y\}$$

Local correlations: Convex combinations of  $p_A(a|x) \cdot p_B(b|y)$ . Notation:  $C_{loc}$ .

<u>Quantum</u>: Assuming the tensor paradigm  $p(a, b|x, y) = \langle E_{a,x} \otimes F_{y,b} \psi, \psi \rangle$ , with

 $\psi \in H_A \otimes H_B, \quad \{E_{a,x}\}_{a \in A} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H_A), \quad \{F_{b,y}\}_{b \in B} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H_B) \text{ POVM's.}$ 

\*We assume  $H_A$ ,  $H_B$  finite dimensional. Notation:  $C_q$ .

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Quantum commuting: Assuming the commutativity paradigm

$$p(a, b|x, y) = \langle E_{a,x}F_{y,b}\psi, \psi \rangle \text{ such that}$$
  
$$\psi \in H, \quad \{E_{a,x}\}_{a \in A}, \{F_{b,y}\}_{b \in B} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H) \text{ POVM's}, \quad E_{a,x}F_{b,y} = F_{b,y}E_{a,x}.$$

Notation:  $C_{qc}$ .

 $\mathcal{C}_{\mathit{loc}} \subseteq \mathcal{C}_{\mathit{q}} \subseteq \mathcal{C}_{\mathit{qc}}$  .

**Nonlocality**: Correlations p with  $p \in C_q \setminus C_{loc}$  (Bell's Theorem, CHSH inequality)

**Tsirelson's Problem (TP)**: Is  $\overline{C_q} = C_{qc}$ ? (No, MIP\*=RE 20')

We denote  $C_{qa} := \overline{C_q}$ .

## Connes, Tsirelson, and Kirchberg's problems

Kirchberg's Problem (KP): Is  $C^*(\mathbb{F}_2) \otimes_{min} C^*(\mathbb{F}_2) = C^*(\mathbb{F}_2) \otimes_{max} C^*(\mathbb{F}_2)$ ?

 $\mathsf{Tsirelson's Problem} \Leftrightarrow \mathsf{Kirchberg's Problem} \Leftrightarrow \mathsf{Connes Embedding Problem}$ 

 $\mathsf{KP} \Rightarrow \mathsf{TP}:\mathsf{Passes}$  through the following characterisation

<u>**Theorem**</u> [Fritz 10']: Set  $\mathbb{F}_{X,A} = \underbrace{\mathbb{Z}_A * \cdots * \mathbb{Z}_A}_{X-times}$  (similarly  $\mathbb{F}_{Y,B}$ ). A correlation p is

in the set:

 $\bigcirc C_{qa}$  if and only if there exists a state s of  $C^*(\mathbb{F}_{X,A}) \otimes_{min} C^*(\mathbb{F}_{Y,B})$  such that

$$p(a,b|x,y) = s(e_{x,a} \otimes e_{y,b})$$

**2**  $\mathcal{C}_{qc}$  if and only if there exists a state s of  $C^*(\mathbb{F}_{X,A}) \otimes_{max} C^*(\mathbb{F}_{Y,B})$  such that

$$p(a,b|x,y) = s(e_{x,a} \otimes e_{y,b})$$

Set 
$$\mathcal{A}_{X,A} = \underbrace{\ell_A^{\infty} *_1 \cdots *_1 \ell_A^{\infty}}_{X-times}$$
 and  $\mathcal{S}_{X,A} = \underbrace{\ell_A^{\infty} \oplus_1 \cdots \oplus_1 \ell_A^{\infty}}_{X-times}$  where  $\mathcal{S}_{X,A} \subseteq \mathcal{A}_{X,A}$ .  
Using  $C^*(\mathbb{F}_{X,A}) = \mathcal{A}_{X,A}$  and the theory of tensor products for operator systems:

**<u>Theorem</u>** [Paulsen-Todorov 13']: A correlation p is in the set: **1**  $C_{qa}$  if and only if there exists a state s of  $S_{X,A} \otimes_{min} S_{Y,B}$  such that

$$p(a,b|x,y) = s(e_{x,a} \otimes e_{y,b})$$

**2**  $C_{qc}$  if and only if there exists a state *s* of  $S_{X,A} \otimes_c S_{Y,B}$  such that

$$p(a,b|x,y) = s(e_{x,a} \otimes e_{y,b})$$

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We denote the algebra of bounded operators on a Hilbert space H by B(H).

<u>Definition</u>: A concrete operator system is a unital self-adjoint subspace  $S \subseteq B(H)$ , meaning:

$$\mathcal{S}^* = \mathcal{S}, \quad I_H \in \mathcal{S}.$$

<u>Definition</u>: An **abstract operator system** is a \*-vector space S equipped with:

- a matrix ordering  $\{C_n\}_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  (cones  $C_n \subseteq M_n(\mathcal{S})_{sa}$ ), and
- an Archimedean matrix order unit  $e \in S$ .

<u>Definition</u>: Let S, T be operator systems. A linear map  $\phi : S \to T$  is **unital** completely positive (u.c.p.) if

$$\phi^{(n)}: M_n(\mathcal{S}) \to M_n(\mathcal{T}), \quad [s_{ij}] \mapsto [\phi(s_{ij})]$$

is positive for all n and  $\phi(e_S) = e_T$ . We say that  $\phi$  is a **complete order** isomorphism (c.o.i.), if  $\phi$  is a completely positive bijection and  $\phi^{-1}$  is completely positive and a **complete order embedding (c.o.e.)**, if  $\phi$  is a complete order isomorphism onto its range.

**Choi–Effros Representation Theorem**: The concrete and abstract definitions of operator systems coincide.

• A state of an operator system S is a unital positive linear functional.

**Arveson's Extension Theorem:** Let  $S \subseteq T$  be operator systems and  $\phi : S \to \mathcal{B}(H)$  a unital completely positive map. Then there exists a u.c.p. map  $\tilde{\phi} : T \to \mathcal{B}(H)$  such that  $\tilde{\phi}|_S = \phi$  and  $\|\tilde{\phi}\| = \|\phi\|$ .

**Stinespring's Dilation Theorem:** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra and  $\phi : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  a unital completely positive map. Then there exists a Hilbert space K, an isometry  $V : \mathcal{H} \to K$ , and a unital \*-homomorphism  $\pi : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{B}(K)$  such that

$$\phi(x) = V^* \pi(x) V, \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{A}.$$

• If  $\phi(x) = V^*\pi(x)V$  with V an isometry, and H is identified with V(H), then  $\phi(x) = P_H\pi(x)|_H$ , i.e.,  $\phi$  is the compression of a \*-homomorphism.

• Given an operator system S, a  $C^*$ -cover is a pair  $(C, \iota)$ , where C is a unital  $C^*$ -algebra and  $\iota : S \to C$  is a unital complete order embedding such that  $\iota(S)$  generates C as a  $C^*$ -algebra.

Let A, B be unital C\*-algebras.

• There is a minimal and a maximal C\*-algebra tensor product, denoted by  $A \otimes_{\min} B$  and  $A \otimes_{\max} B$  respectively.

• For any appropriate norm  $\|\cdot\|_{\gamma}$  on  $A\otimes B$  that turns its completion into a C\*-algebra we have:

 $\|x\|_{\min} \le \|x\|_{\gamma} \le \|x\|_{\max}$ 

• A C\*-algebra A is **nuclear** if

$$A \otimes_{\min} B = A \otimes_{\max} B \quad \forall C^*-algebras B$$

<u>**Remark**</u>: The minimal tensor product is injective: If  $A_0 \subseteq A$ ,  $B_0 \subseteq B \implies$ 

$$A_0 \otimes_{\min} B_0 \subseteq A \otimes_{\min} B.$$

## **Operator System Tensor Products**

Let  $\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T}$  be operator systems.

• An **operator system structure** on  $S \otimes T$  is a family of cones  $\{C_n^{\tau}\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subseteq M_n(S \otimes T)$  satisfying some reasonable properties such that

 $\mathcal{S} \otimes_{\tau} \mathcal{T} := (\mathcal{S} \otimes \mathcal{T}, \{\mathcal{C}_n^{\tau}\}, e_{\mathcal{S}} \otimes e_{\mathcal{T}})$  is an operator system.

• We may write  $C_n = M_n(S \otimes_{\tau} T)^+$  and given two structures  $\tau_1, \tau_2$ , we write  $\tau_1 \ge \tau_2$  if

$$M_n(\mathcal{S} \otimes_{\tau_1} \mathcal{T})^+ \subseteq M_n(\mathcal{S} \otimes_{\tau_2} \mathcal{T})^+$$

• An operator system tensor product is a map  $\tau$  assigning to each pair (S, T) a structure  $S \otimes_{\tau} T$ .

• Let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be two operator system tensor products. An operator system S is called  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -nuclear if for every operator system  $\mathcal{T}$ :

$$\mathcal{S} \otimes_{lpha} \mathcal{T} \cong \mathcal{S} \otimes_{eta} \mathcal{T}$$

#### Minimal tensor product:

For  $S \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H)$ ,  $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(K)$ , then

 $\mathcal{S} \otimes_{\min} \mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{K})$ 

#### Maximal tensor product:

$$D_n^{\max} = \left\{ \alpha(P \otimes Q) \alpha^* \in M_n(S \otimes T) : P \in M_k(S)^+, Q \in M_m(T)^+, \alpha \in M_{n,km} \right\}$$
$$C_n^{\max} = \left\{ A \in M_n(S \otimes T) : re_n + A \in D_n^{\max} \text{ for all } r > 0 \right\}$$

$$\mathcal{S} \otimes_{\mathsf{max}} \mathcal{T} := (\mathcal{S} \otimes \mathcal{T}, \{C_n^{\mathsf{max}}\}, e_1 \otimes e_2)$$

## Commuting and Essential tensor product

We have two extremal C\*-covers:

- The C\*-envelope C<sup>\*</sup><sub>e</sub>(S) is the unique C\*-cover having the following universal property: For any C\*-cover ι : S → A there exists a unique unital \*-homomorphism π : A → C<sup>\*</sup><sub>e</sub>(S) such that π(ι(s)) = s for every s ∈ S.
- The universal C\*-cover is the unique C\*-algebra C<sup>\*</sup><sub>u</sub>(S) generated by S such that for any other C\*-algebra B and unital completely positive map φ : S → B, there exists a \*-homomorphism π<sub>φ</sub> : C<sup>\*</sup><sub>u</sub>(S) → B that extends φ.
   Commuting tensor product:

 $\mathcal{S} \otimes_{\mathsf{c}} \mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{C}^*_u(\mathcal{S}) \otimes_{\max} \mathcal{C}^*_u(\mathcal{T})$ 

Essential tensor product:

 $\mathcal{S} \otimes_{\mathsf{ess}} \mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{C}^*_e(\mathcal{S}) \otimes_{\max} \mathcal{C}^*_e(\mathcal{T})$ 

 $\mathsf{min} \leq \mathsf{ess} \leq \mathsf{c} \leq \mathsf{max}$ 

## Coproducts

<u>Definition</u>: In a category C, a **coproduct** of objects A and B is an object  $A \sqcup B$  together with morphisms

$$i_A: A \to A \sqcup B, \quad i_B: B \to A \sqcup B$$

such that for any object X and morphisms  $f_A : A \to X$ ,  $f_B : B \to X$ , there exists a unique morphism  $f : A \sqcup B \to X$  making the following diagram commute:



Unital C\*-algebras: The coproduct  $A *_1 B$  identifies the units of A and B. More generally, if  $\mathcal{D} \subseteq A$ , B, then  $A *_{\mathcal{D}} B$  amalgamates over  $\mathcal{D}$ .

<u>Operator systems</u>: The coproduct  $S \oplus_1 T$  is the universal operator system for unital completely positive maps from S and T.

Let X, A be finite sets.

•  $\ell_A^{\infty}$  encodes POVM's:

 $\{E_a\}_{a\in A}$  POVM on  $H \longleftrightarrow \phi : \ell^{\infty}_A \to \mathcal{B}(H) : \phi(\delta_a) = E_a$  is ucp.

•  $S_{X,A} := \underbrace{\ell_A^{\infty} \oplus_1 \cdots \oplus_1 \ell_A^{\infty}}_{|X| - times}$  encodes families of POVM's:

 $\{E_{a,x}\}_{a\in A}$  POVM on  $H, \forall x \in X \longleftrightarrow \phi : S_{X,A} \to \mathcal{B}(H) : \phi(\delta_{a,x}) = E_{a,x}$  is ucp

where  $\{\delta_{a,x}\}_{a\in A}$  is the canonical basis of the x-th copy of  $\ell_A^{\infty}$ .

<u>Motivation</u>: The measurements  $\{E_{x,a}\}_{a \in A}, x \in X$  considered are disjoint. We want to encode measurements with shared entries (e.g. in contextuality).

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## Operator A-systems

Definition: Let S be an operator system and A a unital C\*-algebra. We say that S is an (abstract) operator A-system if:
S is an A-bimodule
(a ⋅ s)\* = s\* ⋅ a\*
a ⋅ e = e ⋅ a
[a<sub>i,j</sub>] ⋅ [s<sub>i,j</sub>] ⋅ [a<sub>i,j</sub>]\* ∈ M<sub>n</sub>(S)<sup>+</sup>
for all [a<sub>i,j</sub>] ∈ M<sub>n,m</sub>(A), [s<sub>i,j</sub>] ∈ M<sub>m</sub>(S)<sup>+</sup>, s ∈ S, a ∈ A.

Concretely: Suppose

$$1 \in \mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H),$$

where S is a concrete operator system and A is a C\*-algebra such that the operator multiplication satisfies  $A \cdot S \subseteq S$ . Then

$$\mathcal{S} \cdot \mathcal{A} = \mathcal{S}^* \cdot \mathcal{A}^* = (\mathcal{A} \cdot \mathcal{S})^* \subseteq \mathcal{S}^* = \mathcal{S},$$

and hence  ${\mathcal S}$  is an operator  ${\mathcal A}\text{-system}.$ 

<u>**Theorem</u></u>: Let \mathcal{A} be a unital \mathcal{C}^\*-algebra and \mathcal{S} an operator \mathcal{A}-system. Then there exist a Hilbert space \mathcal{H}, a unital complete order embedding \phi: \mathcal{S} \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}), and a unital \*-homomorphism \pi: \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) such that</u>** 

$$\phi(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{s}) = \pi(\mathbf{a}) \phi(\mathbf{s}), \quad \forall \mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{A}, \ \mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}.$$

• Consider the category whose objects are operator A-systems and whose morphisms are unital completely positive (ucp) A-bimodule maps; that is, maps

$$\phi: \mathcal{S} \to \mathcal{T}$$

that satisfy:

- $\phi$  is unital and completely positive,
- $\phi(a \cdot s) = a \cdot \phi(s)$  and  $\phi(s \cdot a) = \phi(s) \cdot a$ , for all  $a \in \mathcal{A}, s \in \mathcal{S}$ .

<u>**Remark**</u>: Operator systems = operator A-systems with  $A = \mathbb{C}$ .

## No coproducts in the category

• Let  $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C}$ , and define operator  $\mathcal{A}$ -systems

$$\mathcal{S} = \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathcal{T} = \mathbf{0} \oplus \mathbb{C}$$

with actions

$$a \cdot s = a_1 s$$
,  $a \cdot t = a_2 t$ ,  $a = (a_1, a_2) \in \mathcal{A}$ .

• Assume that X is a coproduct with ucp A-bimodule maps  $\phi_1 : S \to X$ ,  $\phi_2 : T \to X$ .

• For  $a' = (0, a_2)$ ,  $a' \cdot e_S = 0 \implies a' \cdot e_X = 0$ . Similarly, for  $a'' = (a_1, 0)$ ,  $a'' \cdot e_T = 0 \implies a'' \cdot e_X = 0$ .

• For all  $a \in \mathcal{A}$ ,

$$a \cdot e_X = 0,$$

but  $1_{\mathcal{A}} \cdot e_X = e_X \neq 0$ .

#### Conclusion: No coproduct exists.

<u>Definition</u>: Let S be an operator A-system with module action  $a \cdot s$ . We say S is faithful if

$$a \cdot e \neq 0$$
, for all  $a \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}$ .

<u>Remark</u>: If S is faithful, then by the representation Theorem there exist

$$H, \phi: S \to \mathcal{B}(H)$$
 (unital c.o.e.),  $\pi: \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{B}(H)$  (faithful \*-rep.)

such that

$$\phi(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{s}) = \pi(\mathbf{a}) \phi(\mathbf{s}), \quad \forall \mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{A}, \mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}.$$

We can then identify

$$1 \in \mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H)$$

and view the module action as operator multiplication.

# Coproducts of Faithful Operator $\mathcal{A}$ -Systems

<u>**Theorem**</u> [C.]: Let  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  be faithful operator A-systems. Then their coproduct exists in the category of operator A-systems with morphisms the ucp A-bimodule maps. Moreover:

- The coproduct is itself a faithful operator  $\mathcal{A}$ -system.
- It is unique up to a complete order isomorphism that is also an  $\mathcal{A}$ -bimodule map.

## <u>Proof</u> (sketch)

- Let  $S_1 \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H_1)$  and  $S_2 \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H_2)$  be faithful operator  $\mathcal{A}$ -systems with faithful \*-representations  $\pi_i : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{B}(H_i)$ .
- Consider the amalgamated free product  $\mathcal{B}(H_1) *_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{B}(H_2)$ , the universal  $C^*$ -algebra amalgamated over  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- Define the operator system:

$$S_1 + S_2 := \{s_1 + s_2 : s_i \in S_i\} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H_1) *_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{B}(H_2).$$

•  $S_1 + S_2$  is an operator A-system with module action given by multiplication inside the free product.

## Universal Property

• Given an operator A-system  $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(K)$  and unital completely positive A-bimodule maps

 $\psi_i: \mathcal{S}_i \to \mathcal{T},$ 

extend them via Arveson's extension theorem to

$$\tilde{\psi}_i: \mathcal{B}(H_i) \to \mathcal{B}(K),$$

agreeing on  $\mathcal{A}$ .

• By Boca's theorem, there exists a unital completely positive map

$$\Psi: \mathcal{B}(H_1) *_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{B}(H_2) \to \mathcal{B}(K),$$

extending  $\tilde{\psi}_i$ .

• Restricting  $\Psi$  to  $\mathcal{S}_1+\mathcal{S}_2$  yields a unital completely positive  $\mathcal{A}\text{-bimodule}$  map  $\Phi$  with

$$\Phi|_{\mathcal{S}_i}=\psi_i.$$

• Hence,  $S_1 + S_2$  satisfies the universal property of the coproduct.

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<u>Theorem</u> [C.]: Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra, and let  $\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T}$  be faithful operator  $\mathcal{A}$ -systems. Define the subspace

$$\mathcal{J} := \{ a \oplus (-a) : a \in \mathcal{A} \} \subseteq \mathcal{S} \oplus \mathcal{T}.$$

Then:

- The quotient  $\mathcal{S}\oplus\mathcal{T}/\mathcal{J}$  admits an operator  $\mathcal{A}$ -system structure.
- There is a complete order isomorphism

$$\mathcal{S}\oplus_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{T}\cong\mathcal{S}\oplus\mathcal{T}\,/\mathcal{J},$$

which preserves the  $\mathcal{A}$ -bimodule structure.

$$\mathcal{S} \oplus_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{T}$$
 denotes the amalgamated coproduct.

**Definition:** Let G = (V, E) be a graph on n vertices. Define an operator system  $S_G \subseteq M_n$  as

$$\mathcal{S}_{G} = \operatorname{span} \{ E_{i,j} : i = j \text{ or } (i,j) \in E \}.$$

This is called the graph operator system of G.

- Each  $S_G$  is a  $D_n$ -bimodule, so it is a faithful operator  $D_n$ -system.
- Conversely, any operator subsystem of M<sub>n</sub> that is a D<sub>n</sub>-bimodule arises this way from a graph G with

$$E = \{(i, j) : i \neq j \text{ and } E_{i,i} S E_{j,j} \neq \{0\}\}.$$

Question: Is the coproduct of two graph operator systems itself a graph operator system?

**Unique Extension Property.** Let S be an operator system and  $(A, \iota)$  a  $C^*$ -cover of S. A unital completely positive map  $\phi : S \to \mathcal{B}(H)$  has the *unique extension* property with respect to  $(A, \iota)$  if it extends uniquely to a completely positive map  $\tilde{\phi} : A \to \mathcal{B}(H)$  that is also a \*-representation.

**Definition (Hyperrigidity).** Let  $S \subseteq A$  be an operator system and  $(A, \iota)$  a  $C^*$ -cover. S is *hyperrigid* in A if for every representation  $\pi : A \to \mathcal{B}(H)$ , the restriction  $\pi|_S$  has the unique extension property.

**Proposition.** If S is hyperrigid in A, then  $A \cong C_e^*(S)$ .

<u>**Theorem**</u> [C.]: Let  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  be faithful operator A-systems that are hyperrigid in their respective  $C^*$ -envelopes. Then:

$$C_e^*(\mathcal{S}_1 \oplus_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{S}_2) \cong C_e^*(\mathcal{S}_1) *_{\mathcal{A}} C_e^*(\mathcal{S}_2).$$

**Proposition** [C.]: The coproduct of two graph operator systems is not necessarily a graph operator system.

There exist graph operator systems whose coproduct is not completely order isomorphic to any operator system  $\mathcal{S}_{G'} \subseteq M_k$  that is a bimodule over  $\mathcal{D}_k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

#### Outline of the proof:

- Let G be the complete graph on 2 vertices; then  $S_G = M_2$ .
- Consider the coproduct  $S_G \oplus_{D_2} S_G = M_2 \oplus_{D_2} M_2$ .
- Assume this is completely order isomorphic to a graph operator system  $\mathcal{S}_{G'} \subseteq M_k$ .
- M<sub>2</sub> is hyperrigid
- From the previous theorem

$$M_2 *_{\mathcal{D}_2} M_2 \cong C^*_e(M_2 \oplus_{\mathcal{D}_2} M_2) \cong C^*_e(\mathcal{S}_{G'}) \cong C^*(\mathcal{S}_{G'})/\mathcal{I}.$$

- But  $M_2 *_{D_2} M_2$  is infinite-dimensional (contains words of any length).
- Contradiction as  $C^*({\mathcal S}_{G'})\subseteq M_k$

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## Introduction

A hypergraph is a pair  $\mathbb{G} = (V, E)$ , where V is a finite set and E is a finite set of subsets of V.

<u>Definition</u>: A contextuality scenario is a hypergraph  $\mathbb{G} = (V, E)$  such that  $\bigcup_{e \in E} e = V$ .

Vertices represent the "outcomes" and edges represent the "measurements".

<u>Definition</u>: Let  $\mathbb{G} = (V, E)$  be a contextuality scenario. A **probabilistic model** on  $\mathbb{G}$ , is an assignment  $p: V \to [0, 1]$  such that

$$\sum_{x\in e} p(x) = 1, \;\; ext{for every} \;\; e\in E.$$

<u>Notation</u>:  $\mathcal{G}(\mathbb{G})$ .

\*Not all scenarios admit probabilistic models. We restrict to the ones that do.

• This hypergraph theoretic framework was introduced by *A. Acín, T. Fritz, A. Leverrier, A. B. Sainz 15'* to study contextuality.



Figure 1: Example of a scenario that does not admit a probabilistic model.

<u>Definition</u>: Let  $\mathbb{G} = (V, E)$  be a contextuality scenario. A **Projective Representation (PR)** of  $\mathbb{G}$  on a Hilbert space H is a collection of projections  $(P_x)_{x \in V} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H)$  such that  $\sum_{x \in e} P_x = 1$ , for every  $e \in E$ .

Consider the scenario  $\mathbb{B}_{X,A}$  such that

$$V = X \times A$$
 and  $E = \{\{x\} \times A : x \in X\},\$ 

then a PR  $E = (E_{x,a})_{x \in X, a \in A}$  is a family of PVM's. Such scenarios are called Bell scenarios.

<u>Definition</u>: Let  $\mathbb{G} = (V, E)$  be a contextuality scenario. A probabilistic model  $p \in \mathcal{G}(\mathbb{G})$  is called

- **1** deterministic, if  $p(x) \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $\forall x \in V$ .
- **2** classical, if it is a convex combination of deterministic ones. <u>Notation</u>:  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{G})$
- **3** quantum, if there exists a Hilbert space H, a PR  $(P_x)_{x \in V}$  on H and a state  $\psi \in H$  such that

$$p(x) = \langle P_x \psi, \psi \rangle \quad \forall x \in V$$

<u>Notation</u>:  $\mathcal{Q}(\mathbb{G})$ 

$$\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{G})\subseteq\mathcal{Q}(\mathbb{G})\subseteq\mathcal{G}(\mathbb{G})$$

<u>Theorem</u> [Kochen-Specker]: There exists a contextuality scenario  $\mathbb{G}_{KS}$ , such that  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{G}_{KS}) = \emptyset$ , while  $\mathcal{Q}(\mathbb{G}_{KS}) \neq \emptyset$ .



Figure: The scenario  $\mathbb{G}_{\textit{KS}}$  proving the Kochen-Specker Theorem.

• Also,  $\mathcal{Q}(\mathbb{G}) \subsetneq \mathcal{G}(\mathbb{G})$ 



The **free hypergraph C\*-algebra**  $C^*(\mathbb{G})$  [AFLS15] is the universal C\*-algebra generated by orthogonal projections  $p_X$ ,  $x \in V$  such that  $\sum_{x \in e} p_x = 1$  for every  $e \in E$ . e.g.  $C^*(\mathbb{B}_{X,A}) = \underbrace{\ell_A^{\infty} *_1 \cdots *_1 \ell_A^{\infty}}_{X-times}$ .

The \*-representations  $\pi : C^*(\mathbb{G}) \to \mathcal{B}(H)$  correspond precisely to PR's  $(P_x)_{x \in V}$  of  $\mathbb{G}$  on H via  $\pi(p_x) = P_x$ ,  $x \in V$ . Hence quantum models arise as

$$p(x) = \langle \pi(p_x)\xi, \xi \rangle.$$

<u>Definition</u>: Let  $\mathbb{G} = (V, E)$  be a contextuality scenario. A **Positive Operator Representation (POR)** of  $\mathbb{G}$  on a Hilbert space H is a collection  $(A_x)_{x \in V} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H)^+$  such that

$$\sum_{x\in e} A_x = 1, \;\; ext{for every} \;\; e\in E.$$

A PR, is a POR such that  $A_x$  is a projection for every  $x \in V$ .

• For the Bell scenarios  $\mathbb{B}_{X,A}$  a POR  $E = (E_{x,a})_{x \in X, a \in A}$  is a family of POVM's.

<u>Remark</u>: A family of POVM's always dilates to a family of PVM's. It's not true for POR's as we will see.

We will construct an operator system universal for positive operator representations.

• Fix a scenario  $\mathbb{G} = (V, E)$ , and write  $E = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_d\}$ . For each  $e \in E$  we set

$$\mathcal{S} := \ell_{e_1}^\infty \oplus \cdots \oplus \ell_{e_d}^\infty$$
.

For  $x \in V$ , denote by  $\delta_x^e \in \ell_e^\infty$  the element with 1 in the x-th, and zero in the remaining ones.

Define

$$\mathcal{J} := \operatorname{span}\{(1 \oplus -1 \oplus \cdots \oplus 0), (1 \oplus 0 \oplus -1 \oplus \cdots \oplus 0), \dots, (1 \oplus 0 \oplus \cdots \oplus -1), \\ (0 \oplus \cdots \oplus \delta_x^{e_i} \oplus \cdots \oplus -\delta_x^{e_j} \oplus \cdots 0) : \forall i \neq j \in \{1, \dots, n\} \text{ s.t. } x \in e_i \cap e_j\}.$$

• By taking an appropriate quotient we turn  $\mathcal{S} \, / \, \mathcal{J}$  into an operator system.

<u>Remark</u>: If the hyperedges in  $\mathbb{G}$  are mutually disjoint,  $S / \mathcal{J}$  is simply the unital coproduct  $\ell_{e_1}^{\infty} \oplus_1 \ell_{e_2}^{\infty} \oplus_1 \cdots \oplus_1 \ell_{e_d}^{\infty}$ .

For  $e \in E$ , let  $\iota_e : \ell_e^{\infty} \to \bigoplus_{f \in E} \ell_f^{\infty}$  be the natural embedding let  $i_e : \ell_e^{\infty} \to S / \mathcal{J}$  be the map given by

$$i_e(u) = |E|(q \circ \iota_e)(u), \quad u \in \ell_e^{\infty}.$$

The maps  $i_e$  are ucp but may not always be complete order embeddings so set

$$a_x := i_e(\delta^e_x), \ \ x \in V$$

and thus  $\mathcal{S} / \mathcal{J} = \operatorname{span} \{ a_x : x \in V \}.$ 

**Proposition** [Anoussis, C., Todorov]: If  $\Phi : S / \mathcal{J} \to \mathcal{B}(H)$  is a unital completely positive map then  $(\Phi(a_x))_{x \in V}$  is a POR of  $\mathbb{G}$ . Conversely, if  $(A_x)_{x \in V} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H)$  is a POR of  $\mathbb{G}$  then there exists a unique unital completely positive map  $\Phi : S / \mathcal{J} \to \mathcal{B}(H)$  such that  $\Phi(a_x) = A_x, x \in V$ . Moreover, it is the unique operator system with this property.

We set 
$$\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{G}} := \mathcal{S} / \mathcal{J}$$
.

## The operator system for dilatable POR's

Recall the **free hypergraph C\*-algebra**  $C^*(\mathbb{G})$ ,

e.g. 
$$C^*(\mathbb{B}_{X,A}) = \underbrace{\ell_A^{\infty} *_1 \cdots *_1 \ell_A^{\infty}}_{X-times}$$
 while  $\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{B}_{X,A}} = \underbrace{\ell_A^{\infty} \oplus_1 \cdots \oplus_1 \ell_A^{\infty}}_{X-times}$ 

Consider

$${\mathcal T}_{\mathbb G} := \operatorname{span}\{p_x : x \in V\} \subseteq C^*({\mathbb G}).$$

• We say that a POR  $(A_x)_{x \in V} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H)$  of  $\mathbb{G}$  dilates to a PR, if there exist a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{K}$ , an isometry  $V : H \to \mathcal{K}$  and a PR  $(P_x)_{x \in V}$  of  $\mathbb{G}$  such that  $A_x = V^* P_x V, x \in V$ .

•  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{G}}$  is universal for dilatable POR's.

<u>Definition</u>: We say that a POR  $(A_x)_{x \in V}$  is **classically dilatable** if there exists a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{K}$  and an isometry  $V : H \to \mathcal{K}$  and a PR  $(P_x)_{x \in V}$  with commuting entries such that  $A_x = V^* P_x V$ ,  $x \in V$ .

• We can define an operator system  $\mathcal{R}_{\mathbb{G}}$  inside an abelian C\*-algebra  $\mathcal{D}_{\mathbb{G}}$ , which is *universal* for classically dilatable POVM representations.

The following diagram of canonical u.c.p. maps arises from their universal properties:

$$\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{G}} \xrightarrow{\Phi} \mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{G}} \xrightarrow{\Psi} \mathcal{R}_{\mathbb{G}}$$

As a consequence, we obtain the following correspondence:

Prob. models	~~~ <del>`</del>	States on OpSys	
$\mathcal{G}(\mathbb{G})$	$\leftrightarrow \rightarrow$	${\mathcal S}_{\mathbb G}$	
$\mathcal{Q}(\mathbb{G})$	$\leftrightarrow \rightarrow$	${\mathcal T}_{\mathbb G}$	
$\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{G})$	$\leftrightarrow \rightarrow$	$\mathcal{R}_{\mathbb{G}}$	

## Dilations

<u>Definition</u>: We say that a scenario  $\mathbb{G}$  is dilating (resp. classically dilating), if every POR of  $\mathbb{G}$  dilates to a PR (resp. PR with commuting entries) of  $\mathbb{G}$ . • e.g.  $\mathbb{B}_{X,A}$  is dilating.

<u>**Theorem**</u> [Anoussis, C., Todorov ]: Let  $\mathbb{G} = (V, E)$  be a contextuality scenario. Then,

- $\mathbb{G}$  is dilating if and only if  $\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{G}} = \mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{G}}$ ;
- $\mathbb{G}$  is classically dilating if and only if  $\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{G}} = \mathcal{R}_{\mathbb{G}}$

Proposition [Anoussis, C., Todorov]: Scenarios  $\mathbb{G} = (V, E)$  such that  $e' \cap e'' = \bigcap_{e \in E} e \neq \emptyset$  for all  $e', e'' \in E$  with  $e' \neq e''$  are dilating.



#### Proof of Proposition:

• To each edge  $e_j$  we associate  $\ell_{e_j}^{\infty}$ , and view these as (faithful) operator  $\mathcal{A}$ -systems over the C\*-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  generated by vectors of length equal to the size of  $f = \bigcap e_i$  in  $\ell_{\mathcal{V}}^{\infty}$  adjoined with a unit.

• A POR corresponds to POVM's of sizes  $e_j$  that overlap on f, so they give rise to u.c.p. maps  $\phi_{e_i} : \ell_{e_i}^{\infty} \to \mathcal{B}(H)$  that agree on  $\mathcal{A}$ .

• By the universal property of the coproduct  $\bigoplus_{\mathcal{A}} \ell_{e_j}^{\infty}$  we obtain a ucp map  $\phi : \bigoplus_{\mathcal{A}} \ell_{e_j}^{\infty} \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  which extends to a u.c.p. map  $\Phi$  on the amalgamated free product of C\*-algebras  $*_{\mathcal{A}} \ell_{e_j}^{\infty}$ .

• A Stinespring dilation theorem for  $\Phi$  yields a dilation of the POR into a PR.

## Quantum magic squares

<u>Definition</u>  $A = [a_{i,j}] \in M_n(\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C}^s))$  is called a **quantum magic square**, if  $a_{i,j} \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C}^s)^+$ ,  $\forall i, j$  and all rows and columns sum to 1. It's called a **quantum permutation matrix** if moreover  $a_{i,j}$  are projections.

Given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  define a hypergraph  $\mathbb{G}_n$  by

$$V = [n] \times [n]$$
 and  $E = \{\{i\} \times [n], [n] \times \{j\} : i, j = 1, ..., n\},\$ 

so that a quantum magic square  $A = [a_{i,j}]_{i,j=1}^n$ , is a POR  $(a_{i,j})_{(i,j)\in V}$  on  $H = \mathbb{C}^s$  (PR if A was a quantum permutation matrix).

[De las Coves, Drescher, Netzer 20']: For every  $n \ge 3$  there exists a quantum magic square of size n that does not dilate to a quantum permutation matrix.

**Proposition** [Anoussis, C., Todorov]: For every  $n \ge 3$  there is a POR of  $\mathbb{G}_n$ , that doesn't admit a dilation into a PR. That is,  $\mathbb{G}_n$  are not dilating for  $n \ge 3$  and  $\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{G}_n} \neq \mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{G}_n}$ .

Let  $\mathbb{G} = (V, E)$  and  $\mathbb{H} = (W, F)$  and  $\mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{H} = (V \times W, E \times F)$ . A probabilistic model p on  $\mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{H}$  is called:

(1) deterministic, if  $p(x, y) \in \{0, 1\}$  for all  $(x, y) \in V \times W$ .

2 classical, if it's a convex combination of deterministic models

$$p(x,y) = p^1(x)p^2(y), \ x \in V, \ y \in W$$

where  $p^1 \in \mathcal{G}(\mathbb{G})$ ,  $p^2 \in \mathcal{G}(\mathbb{H})$ . <u>Notation</u>:  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{H})$ .

generalised tensor probabilistic model (resp. tensor probabilistic models), if

$$p(x,y) = \langle (A_x \otimes B_y)\psi, \psi \rangle, \quad (x,y) \in V \times W$$

for POR's (resp. PR's)  $(A_x)_{x \in V} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H_{\mathbb{G}})$  and  $(B_y)_{y \in W} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H_{\mathbb{H}})$ , dim $H_{\mathbb{G}}$ , dim $H_{\mathbb{H}} < \infty$  and  $\psi \in H_{\mathbb{G}} \otimes H_{\mathbb{H}}$  unit vector. Notation:  $\tilde{\mathcal{Q}}_q(\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{H})$  (resp.  $\mathcal{Q}_q(\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{H})$ ).

generalised commuting probabilistic model (resp. commuting probabilistic models), if

$$p(x,y) = \langle (A_x B_y)\psi, \psi \rangle, \quad (x,y) \in V \times W$$

for POR's (resp. PR's)  $(A_x)_{x \in V} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H)$  and  $(B_y)_{y \in W} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(H)$  that commute and  $\psi \in H$  unit vector. Notation:  $\tilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{qc}(\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{H})$  (resp.  $\mathcal{Q}_{qc}(\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{H})$ ).

## Bell Scenarios and Correlations

#### A correlation

 $p = \{p(a, b \mid x, y)\}_{a \in A, b \in B}^{x \in X, y \in Y}$ 

gives rise to a **probabilistic model**  $\tilde{p}$  on  $\mathbb{B}_{X,A} \times \mathbb{B}_{Y,B}$  via:

$$p(a, b \mid x, y) \longmapsto \tilde{p}((x, a), (y, b))$$

and vice versa.

Correlations 🛶	Probabilistic Models
$\mathcal{C}_{\mathrm{loc}}(X,Y,A,B)$	$= \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{B}_{X,A},\mathbb{B}_{Y,B})$
$\mathcal{C}_q(X, Y, A, B)$	$= \mathcal{Q}_q(\mathbb{B}_{X,A},\mathbb{B}_{Y,B})$
$\mathcal{C}_{qa}(X,Y,A,B)$	$= \mathcal{Q}_{qa}(\mathbb{B}_{X,A},\mathbb{B}_{Y,B})$
$\mathcal{C}_{qc}(X,Y,A,B)$	$= \mathcal{Q}_{qc}(\mathbb{B}_{X,A},\mathbb{B}_{Y,B})$

*Note:*  $Q_{qa}(\mathbb{G},\mathbb{H}) = \overline{Q_q(\mathbb{G},\mathbb{H})}.$ 

#### Theorem [Anoussis, C., Todorov ]:

Prob. Models	$\longleftrightarrow$	States on OpSys	$\leftrightarrow \rightarrow$	States on $C^*$ -alg
$ ilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{qc}(\mathbb{G},\mathbb{H})$	$\longleftrightarrow$	${\mathcal S}_{\mathbb G} \otimes_{{\boldsymbol{c}}} {\mathcal S}_{\mathbb H}$	$\longleftrightarrow$	$\mathcal{C}^*_u(\mathcal{S}_\mathbb{G}) \otimes_{max} \mathcal{C}^*_u(\mathcal{S}_\mathbb{H})$
$ ilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{qa}(\mathbb{G},\mathbb{H})$	$\longleftrightarrow$	${\mathcal S}_{\mathbb G} \otimes_{min} {\mathcal S}_{\mathbb H}$	$\longleftrightarrow$	$\mathcal{C}^*_u(\mathcal{S}_\mathbb{G})\otimes_{min}\mathcal{C}^*_u(\mathcal{S}_\mathbb{H})$
$\mathcal{Q}_{qc}(\mathbb{G},\mathbb{H})$	$\longleftrightarrow$	${\mathcal T}_{\mathbb G} \otimes_{ess} {\mathcal T}_{\mathbb H}$	$\longleftrightarrow$	$C^*(\mathbb{G})\otimes_{\sf max} C^*(\mathbb{H})$
$\mathcal{Q}_{qa}(\mathbb{G},\mathbb{H})$	$\longleftrightarrow$	${\mathcal T}_{\mathbb G} \otimes_{min} {\mathcal T}_{\mathbb H}$	$\longleftrightarrow$	$C^*(\mathbb{G})\otimes_{min} C^*(\mathbb{H})$
$\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{G},\mathbb{H})$	$\longleftrightarrow$	$\mathcal{R}_{\mathbb{G}} \otimes_{min} \mathcal{R}_{\mathbb{H}}$	$\longleftrightarrow$	$\mathcal{D}_{\mathbb{G}}\otimes_{min}\mathcal{D}_{\mathbb{H}}$

Where  $\tilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{qa}(\mathbb{G},\mathbb{H}) = \overline{\tilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{q}(\mathbb{G},\mathbb{H})}.$ 

#### Remarks:

- C<sup>\*</sup><sub>u</sub>(S<sub>G</sub>) is the universal C<sup>\*</sup>-cover of S<sub>G</sub> and corresponds also to the universal C<sup>\*</sup>-algebra generated by positive elements a<sub>x</sub>, x ∈ V that ∑<sub>x∈E</sub> a<sub>x</sub> = 1, for all e ∈ E,
- $c^*(\mathbb{G}) = C^*_e(\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{G}}).$

## Equivalence with Connes embedding problem

#### **Theorem** [Anoussis, C., Todorov]: The following are equivalent:

- CEP has an affirmative answer
- $\tilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{qa}(\mathbb{G},\mathbb{G}) = \tilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{qc}(\mathbb{G},\mathbb{G})$  for every scenario  $\mathbb{G}$ .
- $C^*_u(\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{G}}) \otimes_{\min} C^*_u(\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{G}}) = C^*_u(\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{G}}) \otimes_{\max} C^*_u(\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{G}})$  for every scenario  $\mathbb{G}$ .
- $\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{G}} \otimes_{\min} \mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{G}} = \mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{G}} \otimes_{c} \mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{G}}$  for every scenario  $\mathbb{G}$ .

#### and also

- CEP has an affirmative answer
- $\mathcal{Q}_{qa}(\mathbb{G},\mathbb{G}) = \mathcal{Q}_{qc}(\mathbb{G},\mathbb{G})$  for every dilating scenario  $\mathbb{G}$ .
- $C^*(\mathbb{G}) \otimes_{\min} C^*(\mathbb{G}) = C^*(\mathbb{G}) \otimes_{\max} C^*(\mathbb{G})$  for every dilating scenario  $\mathbb{G}$ .
- $\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{G}} \otimes_{\min} \mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{G}} = \mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{G}} \otimes_{c} \mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{G}}$  for every dilating scenario  $\mathbb{G}$ .

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- $\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{G}} \otimes_{\min} \mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{G}} = \mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{G}} \otimes_{c} \mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{G}}$  for every dilating scenario  $\mathbb{G}$ .

#### Thank you!

Motivation

- Preliminaries
- **3** Operator A-systems
- Quantum Contextuality

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