

# The Infimum Norm of Completely Positive Maps

Ching Yun Suen

Correspondence: Ching-Yun Suen, Foundational Sciences, Texas A&M University at Galveston, P. O. Box 1675, Galveston, Texas 77553-1675, USA.

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## Abstract

Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra, let  $L: A \rightarrow B(H)$  be a linear map, and let  $\emptyset: A \rightarrow B(H)$  be a completely positive linear

map. We prove the property in the following:  $\inf\{\|\emptyset\|: \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L & 0 \\ L^* & \emptyset & L \\ 0 & L^* & \emptyset \end{pmatrix} \text{ is completely positive}\} = \inf\{\|T^*T +$

$TT^*\|_2^{\frac{1}{2}}: L = V^*T\pi V \text{ which is a minimal commutant representation with isometry}\}$ . Moreover, if  $L = L^*$ , then

$\inf\{\|\emptyset\|: \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L & 0 \\ L & \emptyset & L \\ 0 & L & \emptyset \end{pmatrix} \text{ is completely positive}\} = \sqrt{2}\|L\|_{cb}$ . In the paper we also extend the result  $\inf\{\|\emptyset\|: \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L \\ L^* & \emptyset \end{pmatrix}$

is completely positive  $\} = \inf\{\|T\|: L = V^*T\pi V\}$  [3, Corollary 3.12].

**Keywords:** positive operators, completely positive maps, completely bounded maps

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $M_n$  denote the  $C^*$ -algebra of complex  $n \times n$  matrices and  $B(H)$  the algebra of all bounded linear operators on a Hilbert space  $H$ . Let  $A$  and  $B$  be  $C^*$ -algebras and let  $L: A \rightarrow B$  be a bounded map linear map. The map  $L$  is called positive if  $L(a)$  is positive whenever  $a$  is positive. The map  $L$  is called completely positive if  $L \otimes I_n: A \otimes M_n \rightarrow B \otimes M_n$  defined by  $L \otimes I_n(a \otimes b) = L(a) \otimes b$  is positive for all  $n$ . From [3],  $\|L\|_{w_\rho} = \sup\{w_\rho(L(a)): w_\rho(a) \leq 1\}$ . The map  $L$  is  $w_\rho$  completely bounded if  $\sup_n \|L \otimes I_n\|_{w_\rho}$  is finite. Notice that  $\|L\|_{cb} = \|L\|_{w_1cb}$  and  $\|L\|_{wcb} = \|L\|_{w_2cb}$ . The map  $L = L^*$  if  $L(a) = L(a^*)^*$ . From [2], we know that every completely bounded map  $L$  from  $A$  to  $B(H)$  has a minimal commutant representation  $L = V^*T\pi V$  (*m. c. r. i*) with  $T$  in the commutant of  $\pi(A)$  and isometry

$V$ . In the paper we obtain a lower bound for the set  $\{\|\emptyset\|: \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L & 0 & 0 \\ L^* & \emptyset & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & L \\ 0 & 0 & L^* & \emptyset \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m} \text{ is completely positive with } m \geq 2\}$

which extends the property [3]  $\inf\{\|\emptyset\|: \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L \\ L^* & \emptyset \end{pmatrix} \text{ is completely positive}\} = \inf\{\|T\|: L = V^*T\pi V \text{ (m. c. r. i)}\}$ . In

particular, we have the value of  $\inf\{\|\emptyset\|: \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L & 0 \\ L^* & \emptyset & L \\ 0 & L^* & \emptyset \end{pmatrix} \text{ is completely positive}\}$  in the paper.

## 2. Infimum Norm

**Proposition 2.1.** Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra and  $L: A \rightarrow B(H)$  be a completely bounded map, then  $\inf\{\|\emptyset\|:$

$\begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L & 0 & 0 \\ L^* & \emptyset & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & L \\ 0 & 0 & L^* & \emptyset \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m}$  is completely positive} =  $\inf \{k: \begin{pmatrix} k & T & 0 & 0 \\ T^* & k & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & T \\ 0 & 0 & T^* & k \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m}$  is positive,  $L = V^*T\pi V$  (m.c.r.i)},

$m \geq 2$ . **Proof.** If  $\begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L & 0 & 0 \\ L^* & \emptyset & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & L \\ 0 & 0 & L^* & \emptyset \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m}$  is completely positive, from the proof of [4, Theorem 2.6], the matrix

$\begin{pmatrix} \|\emptyset\| & T & 0 & 0 \\ T & \|\emptyset\| & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & T \\ 0 & 0 & T^* & \|\emptyset\| \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m}$  is positive, where  $L = V^*T\pi V$  (m.c.r.i) with an isometry  $V$ , a  $*$ -representation  $\pi$ , and

$T$  in the commutant of  $\pi(A)$ . Conversely, if  $\begin{pmatrix} k & T & 0 & 0 \\ T^* & k & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & T \\ 0 & 0 & T^* & k \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m}$  is positive and  $L = V^*T\pi V$  (m.c.r.i),

by [2, Proposition 2.6], we have  $\begin{pmatrix} kV^*\pi V & L & 0 & 0 \\ L^* & kV^*\pi V & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & L \\ 0 & 0 & L^* & kV^*\pi V \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m}$  is completely positive, where  $V^*\pi V$  is a

unital completely positive.

**Corollary 2.2.** [3]  $\inf \{\|\emptyset\|: \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L \\ L^* & \emptyset \end{pmatrix}$  is completely positive} =  $\inf \{\|T\|: L = V^*T\pi V$  (m.c.r.i)} =  $\|L\|_{w_2cb}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $m = 2$  in Proposition 2.1.

**Lemma 2.3.**  $\begin{pmatrix} k & T & 0 \\ T^* & k & T \\ 0 & T^* & k \end{pmatrix} \geq 0$  if and only if  $k^2I \geq T^*T + TT^*$  where  $k > 0$ .

**Proof.** Since  $\begin{pmatrix} k & T \\ T^* & k \end{pmatrix} \geq \frac{1}{k}(T, 0)^*(T, 0)$ , we have  $\begin{pmatrix} k - \frac{1}{k}T^*T & T \\ T^* & k \end{pmatrix} \geq 0$ .

Since  $\begin{pmatrix} k & T^* \\ T & k - \frac{1}{k}T^*T \end{pmatrix} \geq 0$ , we have  $k - \frac{1}{k}T^*T \geq \frac{1}{k}TT^*$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** [5]  $\min \{k: \begin{pmatrix} k & T & 0 \\ T^* & k & T \\ 0 & T^* & k \end{pmatrix} \geq 0\} = \|T^*T + TT^*\|^{\frac{1}{2}}$ .

**Proof.** If  $\begin{pmatrix} k & T & 0 \\ T^* & k & T \\ 0 & T^* & k \end{pmatrix} \geq 0$ , applying Lemma 2.3, we have  $k \geq \|T^*T + TT^*\|^{\frac{1}{2}}$ .

Since  $(\|T^*T + TT^*\|^{\frac{1}{2}})^2I \geq T^*T + TT^*$ , applying Lemma 2.3, we have

$\begin{pmatrix} \|T^*T + TT^*\|^{\frac{1}{2}} & T & 0 \\ T^* & \|T^*T + TT^*\|^{\frac{1}{2}} & T \\ 0 & T^* & \|T^*T + TT^*\|^{\frac{1}{2}} \end{pmatrix} \geq 0$ .

**Theorem 2.5.**  $\inf \{\|\emptyset\|: \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L & 0 \\ L^* & \emptyset & L \\ 0 & L^* & \emptyset \end{pmatrix}$  is completely positive} =  $\inf \{\|T^*T + TT^*\|^{\frac{1}{2}}: L = V^*T\pi V$  (m.c.r.i)}.

**Proof.** Let  $m = 3$  in Proposition 2.1, applying Lemma 2.4, we have the Theorem.

**Lemma 2.6.** Let  $T \in B(H)$ . Then  $2w(S_m)S(L) \leq \inf\{\|\emptyset\|: \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L & 0 & 0 \\ L^* & \emptyset & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & L \\ 0 & 0 & L^* & \emptyset \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m} \text{ is completely positive}\} \leq$

$2w(S_m)\|L\|_{w_2cb}$  ( $m \geq 2$ ), where  $S_m = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & 1 \\ 0 & \cdot & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m}$ ,  $S(L) = \inf\{w(T): L = V^*T\pi V \text{ (m.c.r.i)}\}$ , and [3,

Corollary 3.12]  $\|L\|_{w_2cb} = \inf\{\|T\|: L = V^*T\pi V \text{ (m.c.r.i)}\}$ .

**Proof.** From [6], we know that  $2w(S_m)w(T) \leq \inf\{k: \begin{pmatrix} k & T & 0 & 0 \\ T^* & k & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & T \\ 0 & 0 & T^* & k \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m} \text{ is positive}\} \leq 2w(S_m)\|T\|$  with

$m \geq 2$ . Applying Proposition 2.1, we have  $2w(S_m)\inf\{w(T): L = V^*T\pi V \text{ (m.c.r.i)}\} \leq \inf\{\|\emptyset\|: \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L & 0 & 0 \\ L^* & \emptyset & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & L \\ 0 & 0 & L^* & \emptyset \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m} \text{ is completely positive}\} \leq 2w(S_m)\inf\{\|T\|: L = V^*T\pi V \text{ (m.c.r.i)}\}$ . Applying [4, Theorem 2.6]

and [3, Corollary 3.12], we have the Lemma.

**Theorem 2.7.** If  $L = L^*$ , then  $\inf\{\|\emptyset\|: \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L & 0 & 0 \\ L & \emptyset & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & L \\ 0 & 0 & L & \emptyset \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m} \text{ is completely positive}\} = \inf\{k:$

$\begin{pmatrix} k & T & 0 & 0 \\ T & k & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & T \\ 0 & 0 & T & k \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m} \text{ is positive and } L = V^*T\pi V \text{ (m.c.r.i)}\} = 2w(S_m)\|L\|_{cb}$ .

**Proof.** Applying Proposition 2.1, Lemma 2.6, and [3, Corollary 3.3], we have the Theorem.

**Corollary 2.8.** If  $L = L^*$ , then  $\inf\{\|\emptyset\|: \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L & 0 \\ L & \emptyset & L \\ 0 & L & \emptyset \end{pmatrix} \text{ is completely positive}\} = \sqrt{2}\|L\|_{cb}$ .

**Proof.** From [1],  $w(S_3) = \cos \frac{\pi}{4}$ .

**Corollary 2.9.** If  $L = L^*$ , then  $\inf\{\|\emptyset\|: \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L & 0 & 0 \\ L & \emptyset & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & L \\ 0 & 0 & L & \emptyset \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m} \text{ is completely positive for all } m \geq 2\} = 2\|L\|_{cb}$ .

**Proof.**  $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} w(S_m) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \cos \frac{\pi}{m+1}$ .

**Example 2.10.** Let  $L: C \rightarrow M_2(C)$  be defined by  $L(z) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & z \\ z & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\emptyset: C \rightarrow M_2(C)$  be defined by  $\emptyset(z) = \begin{pmatrix} z & 0 \\ 0 & z \end{pmatrix}$ .

Then  $L$  is completely bounded and  $\emptyset$  is a unital completely positive. Since  $L^* = L$  and the map  $\begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L \\ L & \emptyset \end{pmatrix}$  is completely positive, by [3, Corollary 3.3 and Corollary 3.12], we have  $\|L\|_{cb} = \|L\|_{wcb} = \|\emptyset\| = 1$ . Hence

$\inf\{\|\emptyset\|: \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L & 0 \\ L & \emptyset & L \\ 0 & L & \emptyset \end{pmatrix} \text{ is completely positive}\} = \sqrt{2}$ ,  $\inf\{\|\emptyset\|: \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L & 0 & 0 \\ L & \emptyset & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & L \\ 0 & 0 & L & \emptyset \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m} \text{ is completely positive with}$

$m \geq 2\} = 2\cos \frac{\pi}{m+1}$ ,

and  $\inf\{\|\Phi\| : \begin{pmatrix} \emptyset & L & 0 & 0 \\ L & \emptyset & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & L \\ 0 & 0 & L & \emptyset \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m}$  is completely positive for all  $m \geq 2\} = 2$ .

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