

Title: Higher-order Quantum Processes are Characterized by the Logic of their Signaling Relations

Speakers: Timothy Hoffmann

Series: Quantum Foundations, Quantum Information

Date: September 16, 2024 - 4:34 PM

URL: <https://pirsa.org/24090145>

# Higher-order Quantum Processes are Characterized by the Logic of their Signaling Relations

Timothée Hoffreumon\* & Ognyan Oreshkov

Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB)  
Centre for Quantum Information and Communication (QuIC)

\*: now at QuaCS - LMF - Université Paris-Saclay

Flash Talk for Causalworlds 2024  
September 16, 2024

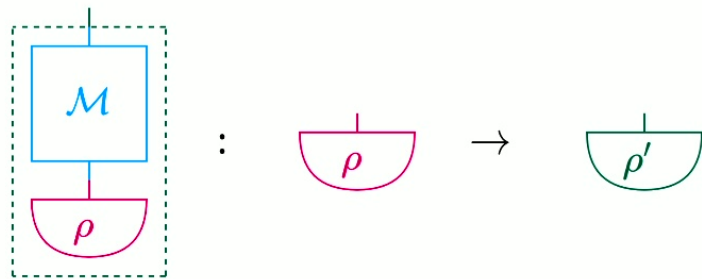


# Higher-order transformations in quantum theory

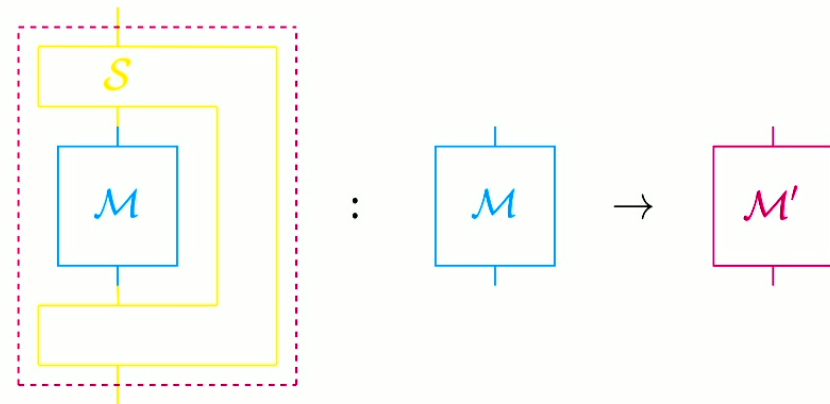
Higher-Order Quantum Processes (HOQP) = **nested** transformations

Example:

Quantum channel  $\mathcal{M}$  =  
Transformation between any two states

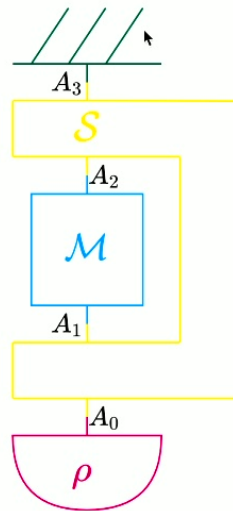


Quantum supermap  $\mathcal{S}$  =  
Transformation between any two channels

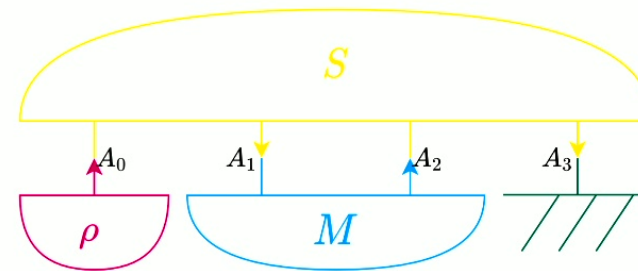


## Enter the Matrices: the Choi-Jamiołkowski picture

Maps of maps are awkward to work with...



$\mapsto$



$$\text{Tr}_{A_3} \left[ [S(M)](\rho) \right]$$

$$\text{Tr}_{A_0 A_1 A_2 A_3} \left[ S \cdot (\rho \otimes M \otimes \mathbf{1}) \right]$$

**Channel-state duality: every object is an operator**

## Goals of Research

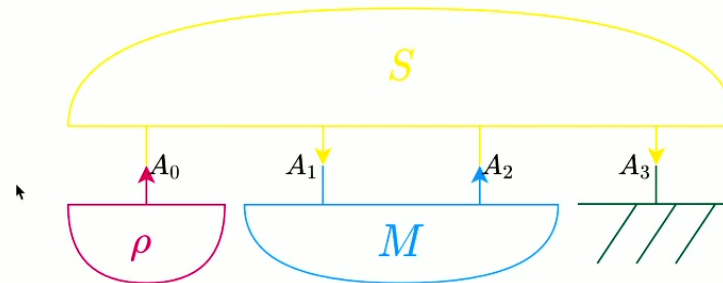
- 1 Generalize to all conceivable HOQP
- 2 Quicken their characterization

**Projective  
Characterization**

## Goals of Research

- 1 Generalize to all conceivable HOQP
- 2 Quicken their characterization

**Projective  
Characterization**



$$\text{Tr}_{A_0 A_1 A_2 A_3} \left[ \underbrace{S}_{\text{yellow}} \cdot (\rho \otimes M \otimes \mathbb{1}) \right]$$

The valid  $S$ 's span a subset of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^{A_0} \otimes \mathcal{H}^{A_1} \otimes \mathcal{H}^{A_2} \otimes \mathcal{H}^{A_3})$

Most of the properties of HOQP are encoded in the span of their CJ representation

### Projective Characterization

Is  $S$  in a given class of HOQP  $\Rightarrow$  Is  $S$  in the associated subspace?  $\Rightarrow$  Is  $\mathcal{P}[S] = S$ ?

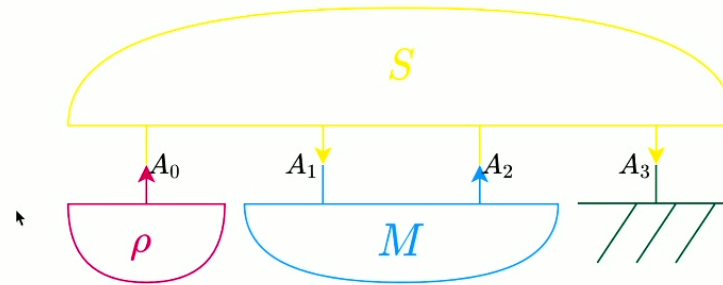
## Goals of Research

- 1 Generalize to all conceivable HOQP
- 2 Quicken their characterization
- 3 Compare the different types of processes
- 4 Assess the causal structure(s) allowed in a type

**Projective  
Characterization**

**Algebra of Projectors**





$$\text{Tr}_{A_0 A_1 A_2 A_3} \left[ S \cdot \left( \underbrace{\rho}_{\mathcal{P}_{in}} \otimes \underbrace{M}_{f(\mathcal{P}_{in}, \mathcal{P}_{out})} \otimes \underbrace{\mathbf{1}}_{\mathcal{P}_{out}} \right) \right]$$

Characterization of higher-orders depends on the characterization of their inputs and outputs

## Algebra of Projectors

Forming projector to higher-order processes = Composing projectors of lower-order  
 Study of HOQP = Study of the algebraic rules for composing projectors

## Goals of Research

- ① Generalize to all conceivable **finite-dimensional** HOQP
- ② Quicken their characterization
  
- ③ Compare the different types of processes
- ④ Assess the causal structure(s) allowed in a type
  - ▶ **...simplifying causality by signaling**

**Projective  
Characterization**

**Algebra of Projectors**

## Goals of Research

- 1 Generalize to all conceivable **finite-dimensional** HOQP
- 2 Quicken their characterization
- 3 Compare the different types of processes
- 4 Assess the **signaling** structure(s) allowed in a type

**Projective  
Characterization**

**Algebra of Projectors**

## Methodology summary

Signaling Relations  
between

Allowed  
Deterministic  
Interventions

classify  
Higher-order  
Processes

**What we are  
interested in**



Relations  
between

Sets of  
Admissible  
Processes

obey the  
(BV-)Logic of  
Signaling

ruled  
by

Composite

State  
Structures

form the  
Signaling  
Lattices

yields

Composition Rules  
of

Projectors

define the  
Projector  
Algebra

**Where it is easy  
to work**

## Message to take home

- Classes of processes = Projectors
- New classes of processes = Composite projectors
- How to compose projectors = BV-logic
- What (de)composes projectors = Signaling relations

Higher-order Quantum Processes are Characterized  
by the Logic of their Signaling Relations

Thank you for your attention!

ArXiv:2206.06206  
(Upcoming new version!)