PCMI topological aspects of quantum codes, problem session #3

Instructor: Jeongwan Haah, Teaching Assistant: John Bostanci

1. **(Density Matrices and Linear Functionals.)** Let ρ_{AB} be a density matrix on a bipartite system and consider the linear functional on the space of Hermitian operators acting on A defined by
$$O_{\mathsf{A}} \mapsto \mathrm{Tr}((O_{\mathsf{A}} \otimes \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{B}})\rho_{\mathsf{AB}}).$$
   (a) Does there exists a matrix σ_{A} such that $\mathrm{Tr}(O_{\mathsf{A}}\sigma_{\mathsf{A}}) = \mathrm{Tr}((O_{\mathsf{A}} \otimes \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{B}})\rho_{\mathsf{AB}})$ for all O_{A}?
   (b) Is σ unique?
   (c) How do you compute σ?

2. **(Baker–Campbell–Hausdorff.)** Let H and A be square matrices of the same finite dimension. Show that the following equality holds:
$$e^{iHt}Ae^{-iHt} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty}(it)^k\frac{[H,A]_k}{k!}.$$
   Here $[H,A]_k$ is the nested commutator, defined as
$$[H,A]_0 = A$$
$$[H,A]_k = [H,[H,A]_{k-1}].$$
   Show that the right hand side converges absolutely for any $t \in \mathbb{C}$ (i.e. taking the sum of the norms of the terms in the original sum converges) and hence both sides are complex analytic in t.

3. **(Cats on a Line.)** Consider a cat state, $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0,\dots,0\rangle + |1,\dots,1\rangle)$, where the qubits are arranged on a line.
   (a) Find two observables (one on each end of the line) that have non-zero correlation with each other.
   (b) Prove that the cat state on a line can not be prepared in constant depth.
   (c) Find a linear depth circuit using 1- and 2-qubit local gates that synthesizes the cat state.

4. **(Twist Product.)** Recall the definition of the twisted product. Given operators O_{AB} and O'_{AB}, we can express O and O' as a sum of tensor product operators as follows
$$O = \sum_{i=0}^{k}(\Gamma_i)_{\mathsf{A}} \otimes (\Lambda_i)_{\mathsf{B}}$$
$$O' = \sum_{j=0}^{k'}(\Gamma'_j)_{\mathsf{A}} \otimes (\Lambda'_j)_{\mathsf{B}}$$

Note that the operators in the decomposition are not necessarily positive semi-definite. Then define the twist product as

$$O \infty O' = \sum_{i=0}^{k} \sum_{j=0}^{k'} (\Gamma_i \Gamma'_j)_{\mathsf{A}} \otimes (\Lambda'_j \Lambda_i)_{\mathsf{B}}. \tag{1}$$

(a) Show that the twist product is a bilinear map (i.e. for a fixed O', the map $O \mapsto O \infty O'$ is linear, and vice-versa).

(b) Show that the twist product is well defined, independent of the choice of decomposition of O and O' into a sum of tensor product operators.