

Research Article

On Kadison-Schwarz Type Quantum Quadratic Operators on $M_2(\mathbb{C})$

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We study the description of Kadison-Schwarz type quantum quadratic operators (q.q.o.) acting from $M_2(\mathbb{C})$ into $M_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes M_2(\mathbb{C})$. Note that such kind of operators is a generalization of quantum convolution. By means of such a description we provide an example of q.q.o. which is not a Kadison-Schwarz operator. Moreover, we study dynamics of an associated nonlinear (i.e., quadratic) operators acting on the state space of $M_2(\mathbb{C})$.

1. Introduction

It is known that one of the main problems of quantum information is the characterization of positive and completely positive maps on C^* -algebras. There are many papers devoted to this problem (see, e.g., [1–4]). In the literature the completely positive maps have proved to be of great importance in the structure theory of C^* -algebras. However, general positive (order-preserving) linear maps are very intractable [2, 5]. It is therefore of interest to study conditions stronger than positivity, but weaker than complete positivity. Such a condition is called *Kadison-Schwarz property*, that is, a map ϕ satisfies the Kadison-Schwarz property if $\phi(a)^* \phi(a) \leq \phi(a^* a)$ holds for every a . Note that every unital completely positive map satisfies this inequality, and a famous result of Kadison states that any positive unital map satisfies the inequality for self-adjoint elements a . In [6] relations between n -positivity of a map ϕ and the Kadison-Schwarz property of certain map is established. Certain relations between complete positivity, positive, and the Kadison-Schwarz property have been considered in [7–9]. Some spectral and ergodic properties of Kadison-Schwarz maps were investigated in [10–12].

In [13] we have studied quantum quadratic operators (q.q.o.), that is, maps from $M_2(\mathbb{C})$ into $M_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes M_2(\mathbb{C})$, with the Kadison-Schwarz property. Some necessary conditions for the trace-preserving quadratic operators are found to

be the Kadison-Schwarz ones. Since trace-preserving maps arise naturally in quantum information theory (see, e.g., [14]) and other situations in which one wishes to restrict attention to a quantum system that should properly be considered a subsystem of a larger system with which it interacts. Note that in [15, 16] quantum quadratic operators acting on a von Neumann algebra were defined and studied. Certain ergodic properties of such operators were studied in [17, 18] (see for review [19]). In the present paper we continue our investigation; that is, we are going to study further properties of q.q.o. with Kadison-Schwarz property. We will provide an example of q.q.o. which is not a Kadison-Schwarz operator and study its dynamics. We should stress that q.q.o. is a generalization of quantum convolution (see [20]). Some dynamical properties of quantum convolutions were investigated in [21].

Note that a description of bistochastic Kadison-Schwarz mappings from $M_2(\mathbb{C})$ into $M_2(\mathbb{C})$ has been provided in [22].

2. Preliminaries

In what follows, by $M_2(\mathbb{C})$ we denote an algebra of 2×2 matrices over complex field \mathbb{C} . By $M_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes M_2(\mathbb{C})$ we mean tensor product of $M_2(\mathbb{C})$ into itself. We note that such a product can be considered as an algebra of 4×4 matrices $M_4(\mathbb{C})$ over \mathbb{C} . In the sequel $\mathbb{1}$ means an identity matrix, that

is, $\mathbb{1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. By $S(\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ we denote the set of all states (i.e., linear positive functionals which take value 1 at $\mathbb{1}$) defined on $\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$.

Definition 1. A linear operator $\Delta : \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ is said to be

(a) a *quantum quadratic operator (q.q.o.)* if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (i) unital, that is, $\Delta \mathbb{1} = \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1}$;
- (ii) Δ is positive, that is, $\Delta x \geq 0$ whenever $x \geq 0$;

(b) a *Kadison-Schwarz operator (KS)* if it satisfies

$$\Delta(x^*x) \geq \Delta(x^*)\Delta(x), \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}). \quad (1)$$

One can see that if Δ is unital and KS operator, then it is a q.q.o. A state $h \in S(\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ is called a *Haar state* for a q.q.o. Δ if for every $x \in \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ one has

$$(h \otimes \text{id}) \circ \Delta(x) = (\text{id} \otimes h) \circ \Delta(x) = h(x) \mathbb{1}. \quad (2)$$

Remark 2. Note that if a quantum convolution Δ on $\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ becomes a $*$ -homomorphic map with a condition

$$\begin{aligned} & \overline{\text{Lin}}((\mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})) \Delta(\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}))) \\ &= \overline{\text{Lin}}((\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{1}) \Delta(\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}))) = \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}), \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

then a pair $(\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}), \Delta)$ is called a *compact quantum group* [20]. It is known [20] that for any given compact quantum group there exists a unique Haar state w.r.t. Δ .

Remark 3. Let $U : \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ be a linear operator such that $U(x \otimes y) = y \otimes x$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$. If a q.q.o. Δ satisfies $U\Delta = \Delta$, then Δ is called a *quantum quadratic stochastic operator*. Such a kind of operators was studied and investigated in [17].

Each q.q.o. Δ defines a conjugate operator $\Delta^* : (\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}))^* \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})^*$ by

$$\Delta^*(f)(x) = f(\Delta x), \quad f \in (\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}))^*, \quad x \in \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}). \quad (4)$$

One can define an operator V_Δ by

$$V_\Delta(\varphi) = \Delta^*(\varphi \otimes \varphi), \quad \varphi \in S(\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})), \quad (5)$$

which is called a *quadratic operator (q.c.)*. Thanks to conditions (a) (i), (ii) of Definition 1 the operator V_Δ maps $S(\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ to $S(\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}))$.

3. Quantum Quadratic Operators with Kadison-Schwarz Property on $\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$

In this section we are going to describe quantum quadratic operators on $\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ and find necessary conditions for such operators to satisfy the Kadison-Schwarz property.

Recall [23] that the identity and Pauli matrices $\{\mathbb{1}, \sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3\}$ form a basis for $\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$, where

$$\sigma_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (6)$$

In this basis every matrix $x \in \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ can be written as $x = w_0 \mathbb{1} + \mathbf{w}\sigma$ with $w_0 \in \mathbb{C}$, $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, w_2, w_3) \in \mathbb{C}^3$, here $\mathbf{w}\sigma = w_1 \sigma_1 + w_2 \sigma_2 + w_3 \sigma_3$.

Lemma 4 (see [3]). *The following assertions hold true:*

- (a) x is self-adjoint if and only if w_0, \mathbf{w} are reals;
- (b) $\text{Tr}(x) = 1$ if and only if $w_0 = 0.5$; here Tr is the trace of a matrix x ;
- (c) $x > 0$ if and only if $\|\mathbf{w}\| \leq w_0$, where $\|\mathbf{w}\| = \sqrt{|w_1|^2 + |w_2|^2 + |w_3|^2}$.

Note that any state $\varphi \in S(\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ can be represented by

$$\varphi(w_0 \mathbb{1} + \mathbf{w}\sigma) = w_0 + \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{f} \rangle, \quad (7)$$

where $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, f_2, f_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ with $\|\mathbf{f}\| \leq 1$. Here as before $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ stands for the scalar product in \mathbb{C}^3 . Therefore, in the sequel we will identify a state φ with a vector $\mathbf{f} \in \mathbb{R}^3$.

In what follows by τ we denote a normalized trace, that is, $\tau(x) = (1/2) \text{Tr}(x)$, $x \in \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$.

Let $\Delta : \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ be a q.q.o. with a Haar state τ . Then one has

$$\begin{aligned} \tau \otimes \tau(\Delta x) &= \tau(\tau \otimes \text{id})(\Delta(x)) \\ &= \tau(x) \tau(\mathbb{1}) = \tau(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}), \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

which means that τ is an invariant state for Δ .

Let us write the operator Δ in terms of a basis in $\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ formed by the Pauli matrices, namely,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta \mathbb{1} &= \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1}, \\ \Delta(\sigma_i) &= b_i (\mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1}) + \sum_{j=1}^3 b_{ji}^{(1)} (\mathbb{1} \otimes \sigma_j) \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=1}^3 b_{ji}^{(2)} (\sigma_j \otimes \mathbb{1}) + \sum_{m,l=1}^3 b_{ml,i} (\sigma_m \otimes \sigma_l), \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

where $b_i, b_{ij}^{(1)}, b_{ij}^{(2)}, b_{ijk} \in \mathbb{C}$ ($i, j, k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$).

One can prove the following.

Theorem 5 (see [13, Proposition 3.2]). *Let $\Delta : \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ be a q.q.o. with a Haar state τ , then it has the following form:*

$$\Delta(x) = w_0 \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1} + \sum_{m,l=1}^3 \langle \mathbf{b}_{ml}, \bar{\mathbf{w}} \rangle \sigma_m \otimes \sigma_l, \quad (10)$$

where $x = w_0 + \mathbf{w}\sigma$, $\mathbf{b}_{ml} = (b_{ml,1}, b_{ml,2}, b_{ml,3}) \in \mathbb{R}^3$, $m, n, k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$.

Let us turn to the positivity of Δ . Given vector $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, f_2, f_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ put

$$\beta(\mathbf{f})_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^3 b_{ki,j} f_k. \quad (11)$$

Define a matrix $\mathbb{B}(\mathbf{f}) = (\beta(\mathbf{f})_{ij})_{ij=1}^3$.

By $\|\mathbb{B}(\mathbf{f})\|$ we denote a norm of the matrix $\mathbb{B}(\mathbf{f})$ associated with Euclidean norm in \mathbb{C}^3 . Put

$$S = \{\mathbf{p} = (p_1, p_2, p_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : p_1^2 + p_2^2 + p_3^2 \leq 1\} \quad (12)$$

and denote

$$\|\mathbb{B}\| = \sup_{\mathbf{f} \in S} \|\mathbb{B}(\mathbf{f})\|. \quad (13)$$

Proposition 6 (see [13, Proposition 3.3]). *Let Δ be a q.q.o. with a Haar state τ , then $\|\mathbb{B}\| \leq 1$.*

Let $\Delta : \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ be a liner operator with a Haar state τ . Then due to Theorem 5 Δ has the form (10). Take arbitrary states $\varphi, \psi \in S(\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ and let $\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{p} \in S$ be the corresponding vectors (see (7)). Then one finds that

$$\Delta^*(\varphi \otimes \psi)(\sigma_k) = \sum_{i,j=1}^3 b_{ij,k} f_i p_j, \quad k = 1, 2, 3. \quad (14)$$

Thanks to Lemma 4 the functional $\Delta^*(\varphi \otimes \psi)$ is a state if and only if the vector

$$\mathbf{f}_{\Delta^*(\varphi, \psi)} = \left(\sum_{i,j=1}^3 b_{ij,1} f_i p_j, \sum_{i,j=1}^3 b_{ij,2} f_i p_j, \sum_{i,j=1}^3 b_{ij,3} f_i p_j \right) \quad (15)$$

satisfies $\|\mathbf{f}_{\Delta^*(\varphi, \psi)}\| \leq 1$.

So, we have the following.

Proposition 7 (see [13, Proposition 4.1]). *Let $\Delta : \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ be a liner operator with a Haar state τ . Then $\Delta^*(\varphi \otimes \psi) \in S(\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ for any $\varphi, \psi \in S(\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ if and only if the following holds:*

$$\sum_{k=1}^3 \left| \sum_{i,j=1}^3 b_{ij,k} f_i p_j \right|^2 \leq 1, \quad \forall \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{p} \in S. \quad (16)$$

From the proof of Proposition 6 and the last proposition we conclude that $\|\mathbb{B}\| \leq 1$ holds if and only if (16) is satisfied.

Remark 8. Note that characterizations of positive maps defined on $\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ were considered in [24] (see also [25]). Characterization of completely positive mappings from $\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ into itself with invariant state τ was established in [3] (see also [26]).

Next we would like to recall (see [13]) some conditions for q.q.o. to be the Kadison-Schwarz ones.

Let $\Delta : \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ be a linear operator with a Haar state τ ; then it has the form (10). Now we are going

to find some conditions to the coefficients $\{b_{ml,k}\}$ when Δ is a Kadison-Schwarz operator. Given $x = w_0 + \mathbf{w}\sigma$ and state $\varphi \in S(\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}))$, let us denote

$$\mathbf{x}_m = (\langle \mathbf{b}_{m1}, \mathbf{w} \rangle, \langle \mathbf{b}_{m2}, \mathbf{w} \rangle, \langle \mathbf{b}_{m3}, \mathbf{w} \rangle), \quad f_m = \varphi(\sigma_m), \quad (17)$$

$$\alpha_{ml} = \langle \mathbf{x}_m, \mathbf{x}_l \rangle - \langle \mathbf{x}_l, \mathbf{x}_m \rangle, \quad \gamma_{ml} = [\mathbf{x}_m, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_l] + [\bar{\mathbf{x}}_m, \mathbf{x}_l], \quad (18)$$

where $m, l = 1, 2, 3$. Here and in what follows $[\cdot, \cdot]$ stands for the usual cross-product in \mathbb{C}^3 . Note that here the numbers α_{ml} are skew symmetric, that is, $\overline{\alpha_{ml}} = -\alpha_{ml}$. By π we will denote mapping $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ to $\{1, 2, 3\}$ defined by $\pi(1) = 2, \pi(2) = 3, \pi(3) = 1, \pi(4) = \pi(1)$.

Denote

$$\mathbf{q}(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{w}) = (\langle \beta(\mathbf{f})_1, [\mathbf{w}, \bar{\mathbf{w}}] \rangle, \langle \beta(\mathbf{f})_2, [\mathbf{w}, \bar{\mathbf{w}}] \rangle, \langle \beta(\mathbf{f})_3, [\mathbf{w}, \bar{\mathbf{w}}] \rangle), \quad (19)$$

where $\beta(\mathbf{f})_m = (\beta(\mathbf{f})_{m1}, \beta(\mathbf{f})_{m2}, \beta(\mathbf{f})_{m3})$ (see (11)).

Theorem 9 (see [13, Theorem 3.6]). *Let $\Delta : \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ be a Kadison-Schwarz operator with a Haar state τ ; then it has the form (10) and the coefficients $\{b_{ml,k}\}$ satisfy the following conditions:*

$$\|\mathbf{w}\|^2 \geq i \sum_{m=1}^3 f_m \alpha_{\pi(m), \pi(m+1)} + \sum_{m=1}^3 \|\mathbf{x}_m\|^2, \quad (20)$$

$$\left\| \mathbf{q}(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{w}) - i \sum_{m=1}^3 f_m \gamma_{\pi(m), \pi(m+1)} - [\mathbf{x}_m, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_m] \right\| \leq \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 - i \sum_{k=1}^3 f_k \alpha_{\pi(k), \pi(k+1)} - \sum_{m=1}^3 \|\mathbf{x}_m\|^2 \quad (21)$$

for all $\mathbf{f} \in S, \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{C}^3$. Here as before $\mathbf{x}_m = (\langle \mathbf{b}_{m1}, \mathbf{w} \rangle, \langle \mathbf{b}_{m2}, \mathbf{w} \rangle, \langle \mathbf{b}_{m3}, \mathbf{w} \rangle)$; $\mathbf{b}_{ml} = (b_{ml,1}, b_{ml,2}, b_{ml,3})$, and $\mathbf{q}(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{w}), \alpha_{ml}$, and γ_{ml} are defined in (19), (17), and (18), respectively.

Remark 10. The provided characterization with [2, 3] allows us to construct examples of positive or Kadison-Schwarz operators which are not completely positive (see next section).

Now we are going to give a general characterization of KS operators. Let us first give some notations. For a given mapping $\Delta : \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$, by $\Delta(\sigma)$ we denote the vector $(\Delta(\sigma_1), \Delta(\sigma_2), \Delta(\sigma_3))$, and by $\mathbf{w}\Delta(\sigma)$ we mean the following:

$$\mathbf{w}\Delta(\sigma) = w_1 \Delta(\sigma_1) + w_2 \Delta(\sigma_2) + w_3 \Delta(\sigma_3), \quad (22)$$

where $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{C}^3$. Note that the last equality (22), due to the linearity of Δ , can also be written as $\mathbf{w}\Delta(\sigma) = \Delta(\mathbf{w}\sigma)$.

Theorem 11. *Let $\Delta : \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ be a unital *-preserving linear mapping. Then Δ is a KS operator if and only if one has*

$$i[\mathbf{w}, \bar{\mathbf{w}}] \Delta(\sigma) + (\mathbf{w}\Delta(\sigma))(\bar{\mathbf{w}}\Delta(\sigma)) \leq 1 \otimes 1, \quad (23)$$

for all $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{C}^3$ with $\|\mathbf{w}\| = 1$.

Proof. Let $x \in M_2(\mathbb{C})$ be an arbitrary element, that is, $x = w_0 \mathbb{1} + \mathbf{w}\sigma$. Then $x^* = \overline{w_0} \mathbb{1} + \overline{\mathbf{w}}\sigma$. Therefore

$$x^*x = (|w_0|^2 + \|\mathbf{w}\|^2) \mathbb{1} + (w_0 \overline{\mathbf{w}} + \overline{w_0} \mathbf{w} - i[\mathbf{w}, \overline{\mathbf{w}}]) \sigma. \quad (24)$$

Consequently, we have

$$\Delta(x) = w_0 \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1} + \mathbf{w}\Delta(\sigma), \quad (25)$$

$$\Delta(x^*) = \overline{w_0} \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1} + \overline{\mathbf{w}}\Delta(\sigma),$$

$$\Delta(x^*x) = (|w_0|^2 + \|\mathbf{w}\|^2) \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1} \quad (26)$$

$$+ (w_0 \overline{\mathbf{w}} + \overline{w_0} \mathbf{w} - i[\mathbf{w}, \overline{\mathbf{w}}]) \Delta(\sigma),$$

$$\Delta(x)^* \Delta(x) = |w_0|^2 \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1} + (w_0 \overline{\mathbf{w}} + \overline{w_0} \mathbf{w}) \Delta(\sigma) \quad (27)$$

$$+ (\mathbf{w}\Delta(\sigma)) (\overline{\mathbf{w}}\Delta(\sigma)).$$

From (26) and (27) one gets

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(x^*x) - \Delta(x)^* \Delta(x) \\ = \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1} - i[\mathbf{w}, \overline{\mathbf{w}}] \Delta(\sigma) - (\mathbf{w}\Delta(\sigma)) (\overline{\mathbf{w}}\Delta(\sigma)). \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

So, the positivity of the last equality implies that

$$\|\mathbf{w}\|^2 \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1} - i[\mathbf{w}, \overline{\mathbf{w}}] \Delta(\sigma) - (\mathbf{w}\Delta(\sigma)) (\overline{\mathbf{w}}\Delta(\sigma)) \geq 0. \quad (29)$$

Now dividing both sides by $\|\mathbf{w}\|^2$ we get the required inequality. Hence, this completes the proof. \square

4. An Example of Q.Q.O. Which Is Not Kadison-Schwarz One

In this section we are going to study dynamics of (57) for a special class of quadratic operators. Such class operators are associated with the following matrix $\{b_{ij,k}\}$ given by

$$\begin{aligned} b_{11,1} &= \varepsilon, & b_{11,2} &= 0, & b_{11,3} &= 0, \\ b_{12,1} &= 0, & b_{12,2} &= 0, & b_{12,3} &= \varepsilon, \\ b_{13,1} &= 0, & b_{13,2} &= \varepsilon, & b_{13,3} &= 0, \\ b_{22,1} &= 0, & b_{22,2} &= \varepsilon, & b_{22,3} &= 0, \\ b_{23,1} &= \varepsilon, & b_{23,2} &= 0, & b_{23,3} &= 0, \\ b_{33,1} &= 0, & b_{33,2} &= 0, & b_{33,3} &= \varepsilon, \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

and $b_{ij,k} = b_{ji,k}$.

Via (10) we define a linear operator Δ_ε , for which τ is a Haar state. In the sequel we would like to find some conditions to ε which ensures positivity of Δ_ε .

It is easy that for given $\{b_{ij,k}\}$ one can find a form of Δ_ε as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_\varepsilon(x) &= w_0 \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1} + \varepsilon w_1 \sigma_1 \otimes \sigma_1 + \varepsilon w_3 \sigma_1 \otimes \sigma_2 \\ &+ \varepsilon w_2 \sigma_1 \otimes \sigma_3 + \varepsilon w_3 \sigma_2 \otimes \sigma_1 + \varepsilon w_2 \sigma_2 \otimes \sigma_2 \\ &+ \varepsilon w_1 \sigma_2 \otimes \sigma_3 + \varepsilon w_2 \sigma_3 \otimes \sigma_1 + \varepsilon w_1 \sigma_3 \otimes \sigma_2 \\ &+ \varepsilon w_3 \sigma_3 \otimes \sigma_3, \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

where, as before, $x = w_0 \mathbb{1} + \mathbf{w}\sigma$.

Theorem 12. A linear operator Δ_ε given by (31) is a q.q.o. if and only if $|\varepsilon| \leq 1/3$.

Proof. Let $x = w_0 \mathbb{1} + \mathbf{w}\sigma$ be a positive element from $M_2(\mathbb{C})$. Let us show positivity of the matrix $\Delta_\varepsilon(x)$. To do it, we rewrite (31) as follows: $\Delta_\varepsilon(x) = w_0 \mathbb{1} + \varepsilon \mathbf{B}$; here

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} \omega_3 & \omega_2 - i\omega_1 & \omega_2 - i\omega_1 & \omega_1 - 2i\omega_3 - \omega_2 \\ \omega_2 + i\omega_1 & -\omega_3 & \omega_1 + \omega_2 & -\omega_2 + i\omega_1 \\ \omega_2 + i\omega_1 & \omega_1 + \omega_2 & -\omega_3 & -\omega_2 + i\omega_1 \\ \omega_1 + 2i\omega_3 - \omega_2 & -\omega_2 - i\omega_1 & -\omega_2 - i\omega_1 & \omega_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (32)$$

where positivity of x yields that $w_0, \omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3$ are real numbers. In what follows, without loss of generality, we may assume that $w_0 = 1$, and therefore $\|\mathbf{w}\| \leq 1$. It is known that positivity of $\Delta_\varepsilon(x)$ is equivalent to positivity of the eigenvalues of $\Delta_\varepsilon(x)$.

Let us first examine eigenvalues of \mathbf{B} . Simple algebra shows us that all eigenvalues of \mathbf{B} can be written as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_1(\mathbf{w}) &= \omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3 \\ &+ 2\sqrt{\omega_1^2 + \omega_2^2 + \omega_3^2 - \omega_1\omega_2 - \omega_1\omega_3 - \omega_2\omega_3}, \\ \lambda_2(\mathbf{w}) &= \omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3 \\ &- 2\sqrt{\omega_1^2 + \omega_2^2 + \omega_3^2 - \omega_1\omega_2 - \omega_1\omega_3 - \omega_2\omega_3}, \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

$$\lambda_3(\mathbf{w}) = \lambda_4(\mathbf{w}) = -\omega_1 - \omega_2 - \omega_3.$$

Now examine maximum and minimum values of the functions $\lambda_1(\mathbf{w}), \lambda_2(\mathbf{w}), \lambda_3(\mathbf{w}), \lambda_4(\mathbf{w})$ on the ball $\|\mathbf{w}\| \leq 1$.

One can see that

$$\begin{aligned} |\lambda_3(\mathbf{w})| = |\lambda_4(\mathbf{w})| &\leq \sum_{k=1}^3 |\omega_k| \leq \sqrt{3} \sum_{k=1}^3 |\omega_k|^2 \\ &\leq \sqrt{3}. \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

Note that the functions λ_3, λ_4 can reach values $\pm\sqrt{3}$ at $\pm(1/\sqrt{3}, 1/\sqrt{3}, 1/\sqrt{3})$.

Now let us rewrite $\lambda_1(\mathbf{w})$ and $\lambda_2(\mathbf{w})$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_1(\mathbf{w}) &= \omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3 \\ &+ \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{3(\omega_1^2 + \omega_2^2 + \omega_3^2) - (\omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3)^2}, \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_2(\mathbf{w}) &= \omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3 \\ &- \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{3(\omega_1^2 + \omega_2^2 + \omega_3^2) - (\omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3)^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

One can see that

$$\lambda_k(h\omega_1, h\omega_2, h\omega_3) = h\lambda_k(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3), \quad \text{if } h \geq 0, \quad (37)$$

$$\lambda_1(h\omega_1, h\omega_2, h\omega_3) = h\lambda_2(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3), \quad \text{if } h \leq 0. \quad (38)$$

where $k = 1, 2$. Therefore, the functions $\lambda_k(\mathbf{w}), k = 1, 2$ reach their maximum and minimum on the sphere $\omega_1^2 + \omega_2^2 + \omega_3^2 = 1$

(i.e., $\|\mathbf{w}\| = 1$). Hence, denoting $t = \omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3$ from (37) and (36) we introduce the following functions:

$$g_1(t) = t + \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}}\sqrt{3-t^2}, \quad g_2(t) = t - \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}}\sqrt{3-t^2}, \quad (39)$$

where $|t| \leq \sqrt{3}$.

One can find that the critical values of g_1 are $t = \pm 1$, and the critical value of g_2 is $t = -1$. Consequently, extremal values of g_1 and g_2 on $|t| \leq \sqrt{3}$ are the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{|t| \leq \sqrt{3}} g_1(t) &= -\sqrt{3}, & \max_{|t| \leq \sqrt{3}} g_1(t) &= 3, \\ \min_{|t| \leq \sqrt{3}} g_2(t) &= -3, & \max_{|t| \leq \sqrt{3}} g_2(t) &= \sqrt{3}. \end{aligned} \quad (40)$$

Therefore, from (37) and (38) we conclude that

$$-3 \leq \lambda_k(\mathbf{w}) \leq 3, \quad \text{for any } \|\mathbf{w}\| \leq 1, \quad k = 1, 2. \quad (41)$$

It is known that for the spectrum of $\mathbb{1} + \varepsilon \mathbf{B}$ one has

$$Sp(\mathbb{1} + \varepsilon \mathbf{B}) = 1 + \varepsilon Sp(\mathbf{B}). \quad (42)$$

Therefore,

$$Sp(\mathbb{1} + \varepsilon \mathbf{B}) = \{1 + \varepsilon \lambda_k(\mathbf{w}) : k = \overline{1, 4}\}. \quad (43)$$

So, if

$$|\varepsilon| \leq \frac{1}{\max_{\|\mathbf{w}\| \leq 1} |\lambda_k(\mathbf{w})|}, \quad k = \overline{1, 4}, \quad (44)$$

then one can see $1 + \varepsilon \lambda_k(\mathbf{w}) \geq 0$ for all $\|\mathbf{w}\| \leq 1$, $k = \overline{1, 4}$. This implies that the matrix $\mathbb{1} + \varepsilon \mathbf{B}$ is positive for all \mathbf{w} with $\|\mathbf{w}\| \leq 1$.

Now assume that Δ_ε is positive. Then $\Delta_\varepsilon(x)$ is positive whenever x is positive. This means that $1 + \varepsilon \lambda_k(\mathbf{w}) \geq 0$ for all $\|\mathbf{w}\| \leq 1$ ($k = \overline{1, 4}$). From (34) and (41) we conclude that $|\varepsilon| \leq 1/3$. This completes the proof. \square

Theorem 13. *Let $\varepsilon = 1/3$ then the corresponding q.q.o. Δ_ε is not KS operator.*

Proof. It is enough to show the dissatisfaction of (21) at some values of \mathbf{w} ($\|\mathbf{w}\| \leq 1$) and $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, f_1, f_2)$.

Assume that $\mathbf{f} = (1, 0, 0)$; then a little algebra shows that (21) reduces to the following one:

$$\sqrt{A+B+C} \leq D, \quad (45)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \left| \varepsilon (\bar{\omega}_2 \omega_3 - \bar{\omega}_3 \omega_2) - i \varepsilon^2 (2\bar{\omega}_2 \omega_3 - 2|\omega_1|^2 - \bar{\omega}_2 \omega_1 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \bar{\omega}_1 \omega_2 - \bar{\omega}_1 \omega_3 + \bar{\omega}_3 \omega_1) \right|^2, \\ B &= \left| \varepsilon (\bar{\omega}_1 \omega_2 - \bar{\omega}_2 \omega_1) - i \varepsilon^2 (2\bar{\omega}_1 \omega_2 - 2|\omega_3|^2 - \bar{\omega}_1 \omega_3 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \bar{\omega}_3 \omega_1 - \bar{\omega}_3 \omega_2 + \bar{\omega}_2 \omega_3) \right|^2, \\ C &= \left| \varepsilon (\bar{\omega}_3 \omega_1 - \bar{\omega}_1 \omega_3) - i \varepsilon^2 (2\bar{\omega}_3 \omega_1 - 2|\omega_2|^2 - \bar{\omega}_3 \omega_2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \bar{\omega}_2 \omega_3 - \bar{\omega}_2 \omega_1 + \bar{\omega}_1 \omega_2) \right|^2, \\ D &= (1 - 3|\varepsilon|^2) (|\omega_1|^2 + |\omega_2|^2 + |\omega_3|^2) \\ &\quad - i \varepsilon^2 (\bar{\omega}_3 \omega_2 - \bar{\omega}_2 \omega_3 + \bar{\omega}_2 \omega_1 - \bar{\omega}_1 \omega_2 + \bar{\omega}_1 \omega_3 - \bar{\omega}_3 \omega_1). \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

Now choose \mathbf{w} as follows:

$$\omega_1 = -\frac{1}{9}, \quad \omega_2 = \frac{5}{36}, \quad \omega_3 = \frac{5i}{27}. \quad (47)$$

Then calculations show that

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \frac{9594}{19131876}, & B &= \frac{19625}{86093442}, \\ C &= \frac{1625}{3779136}, & D &= \frac{589}{17496}. \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

Hence, we find

$$\sqrt{\frac{9594}{19131876} + \frac{19625}{86093442} + \frac{1625}{3779136}} > \frac{589}{17496}, \quad (49)$$

which means that (45) is not satisfied. Hence, Δ_ε is not a KS operator at $\varepsilon = 1/3$. \square

Recall that a linear operator $T : \mathbb{M}_k(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_m(\mathbb{C})$ is *completely positive* if for any positive matrix $(a_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n \in \mathbb{M}_k(\mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{C}))$ the matrix $(T(a_{ij}))_{i,j=1}^n$ is positive for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Now we are interested when the operator Δ_ε is completely positive. It is known [1] that the complete positivity of Δ_ε is equivalent to the positivity of the following matrix:

$$\widehat{\Delta}_\varepsilon = \begin{pmatrix} \Delta_\varepsilon(e_{11}) & \Delta_\varepsilon(e_{12}) \\ \Delta_\varepsilon(e_{21}) & \Delta_\varepsilon(e_{22}) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (50)$$

here e_{ij} ($i, j = 1, 2$) are the standard matrix units in $\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$.

From (31) one can calculate that

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_\varepsilon(e_{11}) &= \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1} + \varepsilon B_{11}, & \Delta_\varepsilon(e_{22}) &= \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1} - \varepsilon B_{11}, \\ \Delta_\varepsilon(e_{12}) &= \varepsilon B_{12}, & \Delta_\varepsilon(e_{21}) &= \varepsilon B_{12}^*. \end{aligned} \quad (51)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 B_{11} &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}, \\
 B_{12} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1-i}{2} \\ i & 0 & \frac{1+i}{2} & 0 \\ i & \frac{1+i}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1-i}{2} & -i & -i & 0 \end{pmatrix}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{52}$$

Hence, we find that

$$2\widehat{\Delta}_\varepsilon = \mathbb{1}_8 + \varepsilon\mathbb{B}, \tag{53}$$

where $\mathbb{1}_8$ is the unit matrix in $\mathbb{M}_8(\mathbb{C})$ and

$$\mathbb{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -2i & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1-i \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 2i & 0 & 1+i & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 2i & 1+i & 0 & 0 \\ 2i & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1-i & -2i & -2i & 0 \\ 0 & -2i & -2i & 1+i & -1 & 0 & 0 & 2i \\ 0 & 0 & 1-i & 2i & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1-i & 0 & 2i & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1+i & 0 & 0 & 0 & -2i & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.
 \tag{54}$$

So, the matrix $\widehat{\Delta}_\varepsilon$ is positive if and only if

$$|\varepsilon| \leq \frac{1}{\lambda_{\max}(\mathbb{B})}, \tag{55}$$

where $\lambda_{\max}(\mathbb{B}) = \max_{\lambda \in \text{Sp}(\mathbb{B})} |\lambda|$.

One can easily calculate that $\lambda_{\max}(\mathbb{B}) = 3\sqrt{3}$. Therefore, we have the following.

Theorem 14. *Let $\Delta_\varepsilon : \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$ be given by (31). Then Δ_ε is completely positive if and only if $|\varepsilon| \leq 1/3\sqrt{3}$.*

5. Dynamics of Δ_ε

Let Δ be a q.q.o. on $\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$. Let us consider the corresponding quadratic operator defined by $V_\Delta(\varphi) = \Delta^*(\varphi \otimes \varphi)$, $\varphi \in S(\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}))$. From Theorem 5 one can see that the defined operator V_Δ maps $S(\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ into itself if and only if $\|\mathbb{B}\| \leq 1$ or equivalently (16) holds. From (14) we find that

$$V_\Delta(\varphi)(\sigma_k) = \sum_{i,j=1}^3 b_{ij,k} f_i f_j, \quad \mathbf{f} \in S. \tag{56}$$

Here, as before, $S = \{\mathbf{f} = (f_1, f_2, f_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : f_1^2 + f_2^2 + f_3^2 \leq 1\}$.

So, (56) suggests that we consider the following nonlinear operator $V : S \rightarrow S$ defined by

$$V(\mathbf{f})_k = \sum_{i,j=1}^3 b_{ij,k} f_i f_j, \quad k = 1, 2, 3, \tag{57}$$

where $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, f_2, f_3) \in S$.

It is worth to mention that uniqueness of the fixed point (i.e., $(0, 0, 0)$) of the operator given by (57) was investigated in [13, Theorem 4.4].

In this section, we are going to study dynamics of the quadratic operator V_ε corresponding to Δ_ε (see (31)), which has the following form

$$\begin{aligned}
 V_\varepsilon(f)_1 &= \varepsilon(f_1^2 + 2f_2f_3), \\
 V_\varepsilon(f)_2 &= \varepsilon(f_2^2 + 2f_1f_3), \\
 V_\varepsilon(f)_3 &= \varepsilon(f_3^2 + 2f_1f_2).
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{58}$$

Let us first find some condition on ε which ensures (16).

Lemma 15. *Let V_ε be given by (58). Then V_ε maps S into itself if and only if $|\varepsilon| \leq 1/\sqrt{3}$ is satisfied.*

Proof. “If” Part. Assume that V_ε maps S into itself. Then (16) is satisfied. Take $\mathbf{f} = (1/\sqrt{3}, 1/\sqrt{3}, 1/\sqrt{3})$, $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{f}$. Then from (16) one finds that

$$\sum_{k=1}^3 \left| \sum_{i,j=1}^3 b_{ij,k} f_i f_j \right|^2 = 3\varepsilon^2 \leq 1 \tag{59}$$

which yields $|\varepsilon| \leq 1/\sqrt{3}$.

“Only If” Part. Assume that $|\varepsilon| \leq 1/\sqrt{3}$. Take any $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, f_2, f_3)$, $\mathbf{p} = (p_1, p_2, p_3) \in S$. Then one finds that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\sum_{k=1}^3 \left| \sum_{i,j=1}^3 b_{ij,k} f_i p_j \right|^2 \\
 &= \varepsilon^2 (|f_1 p_1 + f_3 p_2 + f_2 p_3|^2 \\
 &\quad + |f_3 p_1 + f_2 p_2 + f_1 p_3|^2 + |f_2 p_1 + f_1 p_2 + f_3 p_3|^2) \\
 &\leq \varepsilon^2 ((f_1^2 + f_2^2 + f_3^2)(p_1^2 + p_2^2 + p_3^2) \\
 &\quad + (f_3^2 + f_2^2 + f_1^2)(p_1^2 + p_2^2 + p_3^2) \\
 &\quad + (p_1^2 + p_2^2 + p_3^2)(f_2^2 + f_1^2 + f_3^2)) \\
 &\leq \varepsilon^2 (1 + 1 + 1) = 3\varepsilon^2 \leq 1.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{60}$$

This completes the proof. \square

Remark 16. We stress that condition (16) is necessary for Δ to be a positive operator. Namely, from Theorem 12 and Lemma 15 we conclude that if $\varepsilon \in (1/3, 1/\sqrt{3}]$ then the operator Δ_ε is not positive, while (16) is satisfied.

In what follows, to study dynamics of V_ε we assume $|\varepsilon| \leq 1/\sqrt{3}$. Recall that a vector $\mathbf{f} \in S$ is a fixed point of V_ε if $V_\varepsilon(\mathbf{f}) = \mathbf{f}$. Clearly $(0, 0, 0)$ is a fixed point of V_ε . Let us find others. To do it, we need to solve the following equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon(f_1^2 + 2f_2f_3) &= f_1, \\ \varepsilon(f_2^2 + 2f_1f_3) &= f_2, \\ \varepsilon(f_3^2 + 2f_1f_2) &= f_3. \end{aligned} \tag{61}$$

We have the following.

Proposition 17. *If $|\varepsilon| < 1/\sqrt{3}$ then V_ε has a unique fixed point $(0, 0, 0)$ in S . If $|\varepsilon| = 1/\sqrt{3}$ then V_ε has the following fixed points: $(0, 0, 0)$ and $(\pm 1/\sqrt{3}, \pm 1/\sqrt{3}, \pm 1/\sqrt{3})$ in S .*

Proof. It is clear that $(0, 0, 0)$ is a fixed point of V_ε . If $f_k = 0$, for some $k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ then due to $|\varepsilon| \leq 1/\sqrt{3}$, one can see that the only solution of (61) belonging to S is $f_1 = f_2 = f_3 = 0$. Therefore, we assume that $f_k \neq 0$ ($k = 1, 2, 3$). So, from (61) one finds

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{f_1^2 + 2f_2f_3}{f_2^2 + 2f_1f_3} &= \frac{f_1}{f_2}, \\ \frac{f_1^2 + 2f_2f_3}{f_3^2 + 2f_1f_2} &= \frac{f_1}{f_3}, \\ \frac{f_2^2 + 2f_1f_3}{f_3^2 + 2f_1f_2} &= \frac{f_2}{f_3}. \end{aligned} \tag{62}$$

Denoting

$$x = \frac{f_1}{f_2}, \quad y = \frac{f_1}{f_3}, \quad z = \frac{f_2}{f_3}. \tag{63}$$

From (62) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} x \left(\frac{x(1+2/xy)}{1+2x/z} - 1 \right) &= 0, \\ y \left(\frac{y(1+2/xy)}{1+2yz} - 1 \right) &= 0, \\ z \left(\frac{z(1+2x/z)}{1+2yz} - 1 \right) &= 0. \end{aligned} \tag{64}$$

According to our assumption x, y, z are nonzero, so from (64) one gets

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x(1+2/xy)}{1+2x/z} &= 1, \\ \frac{y(1+2/xy)}{1+2yz} &= 1, \\ \frac{z(1+2x/z)}{1+2yz} &= 1, \end{aligned} \tag{65}$$

where $2x \neq -z$ and $2yz \neq -1$.

Dividing the second equality of (65) to the first one of (65) we find that

$$\frac{y(1+2x/z)}{x(1+2yz)} = 1, \tag{66}$$

which with $xz = y$ yields

$$y + 2x^2 = x + 2y^2. \tag{67}$$

Simplifying the last equality one gets

$$(y-x)(1-2(y+x)) = 0. \tag{68}$$

This means that either $y = x$ or $x + y = 1/2$.

Assume that $x = y$. Then from $xz = y$, one finds $z = 1$. Moreover, from the second equality of (65) we have $y + 2/y = 1 + 2y$. So, $y^2 + y - 2 = 0$; therefore, the solutions of the last one are $y_1 = 1, y_2 = -2$. Hence, $x_1 = 1, x_2 = -2$.

Now suppose that $x + y = 1/2$; then $x = 1/2 - y$. We note that $y \neq 1/2$, since $x \neq 0$. So, from the second equality of (65) we find

$$y + \frac{4}{1-2y} = 1 + \frac{4y^2}{1-2y}. \tag{69}$$

So, $2y^2 - y - 1 = 0$ which yields the solutions $y_3 = -1/2, y_4 = 1$. Therefore, we obtain $x_3 = 1, z_3 = -1/2$ and $x_4 = -1/2, z_4 = -2$.

Consequently, solutions of (65) are the following ones:

$$(1, 1, 1), \quad \left(1, -\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}\right), \quad \left(-\frac{1}{2}, 1, -2\right), \quad (-2, -2, 1). \tag{70}$$

Now owing to (63) we need to solve the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{f_1}{f_2} &= x_k, \\ \frac{f_2}{f_3} &= z_k, \end{aligned} \quad k = \overline{1, 4}, \tag{71}$$

According to our assumption $f_k \neq 0$, we consider cases when $x_k z_k \neq 0$.

Now let us start to consider several cases.

Case 1. Let $x_2 = 1, z_2 = 1$. Then from (71) one gets $f_1 = f_2 = f_3$. So, from (61) we find $3\varepsilon f_1^2 = f_1$, that is, $f_1 = 1/3\varepsilon$. Now taking into account $f_1^2 + f_2^2 + f_3^2 \leq 1$ one gets $1/3\varepsilon^2 \leq 1$. From the last inequality we have $|\varepsilon| \geq 1/\sqrt{3}$. Due to Lemma 15 the operator V_ε is well defined if and only if $|\varepsilon| \leq 1/\sqrt{3}$; therefore, one gets $|\varepsilon| = 1/\sqrt{3}$. Hence, in this case a solution is $(\pm 1/\sqrt{3}, \pm 1/\sqrt{3}, \pm 1/\sqrt{3})$.

Case 2. Let $x_2 = 1, z_2 = -1/2$. Then from (71) one finds $f_1 = f_2, 2f_2 = -f_3$. Substituting the last ones to (61) we get $f_1 + 3f_1^2\varepsilon = 0$. Then, we have $f_1 = -1/3\varepsilon, f_2 = -1/3\varepsilon, f_3 = 2/3\varepsilon$. Taking into account $f_1^2 + f_2^2 + f_3^2 \leq 1$ we find $1/9\varepsilon^2 + 4/9\varepsilon^2 + 1/9\varepsilon^2 \leq 1$. This means $|\varepsilon| \geq \sqrt{2/3}$; due to Lemma 15

in this case the operator V_ε is not well defined; therefore, we conclude that there is no fixed point of V_ε belonging to S .

Using the same argument for the rest of the cases we conclude the absence of solutions. This shows that if $|\varepsilon| < 1/\sqrt{3}$ the operator V_ε has unique fixed point in S . If $|\varepsilon| = 1/\sqrt{3}$, then V_ε has three fixed points belonging to S . This completes the proof. \square

Now we are going to study dynamics of operator V_ε .

Theorem 18. *Let V_ε be given by (58). Then the following assertions hold true:*

- (i) if $|\varepsilon| < 1/\sqrt{3}$, then for any $\mathbf{f} \in S$ one has $V_\varepsilon^n(\mathbf{f}) \rightarrow (0, 0, 0)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.
- (ii) if $|\varepsilon| = 1/\sqrt{3}$, then for any $\mathbf{f} \in S$ with $\mathbf{f} \notin \{(\pm 1/\sqrt{3}, \pm 1/\sqrt{3}, \pm 1/\sqrt{3})\}$ one has $V_\varepsilon^n(\mathbf{f}) \rightarrow (0, 0, 0)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Proof. Let us consider the following function $\rho(\mathbf{f}) = f_1^2 + f_2^2 + f_3^2$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(V_\varepsilon(\mathbf{f})) &= \varepsilon^2 \left((f_1^2 + 2f_2f_3)^2 + (f_2^2 + 2f_1f_3)^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (f_3^2 + 2f_1f_2)^2 \right) \\ &\leq \varepsilon^2 (f_1^2 + 2|f_2||f_3| + f_2^2 + 2|f_1||f_3| \\ &\quad + f_3^2 + 2|f_1||f_2|) \\ &\leq \varepsilon^2 (f_1^2 + f_2^2 + f_3^2 + f_2^2 + f_1^2 + f_3^2 \\ &\quad + f_3^2 + f_1^2 + f_2^2) \\ &= 3\varepsilon^2 (f_1^2 + f_2^2 + f_3^2) = 3\varepsilon^2 \rho(\mathbf{f}). \end{aligned} \quad (72)$$

This means

$$\rho(V_\varepsilon(\mathbf{f})) \leq 3\varepsilon^2 \rho(\mathbf{f}). \quad (73)$$

Due to $\varepsilon^2 \leq 1/3$ from (73) one finds that

$$\rho(V_\varepsilon^{n+1}(\mathbf{f})) \leq \rho(V_\varepsilon^n(\mathbf{f})), \quad (74)$$

which yields that the sequence $\{\rho(V_\varepsilon^n(\mathbf{f}))\}$ is convergent. Next we would like to find the limit of $\{\rho(V_\varepsilon^n(\mathbf{f}))\}$.

- (i) First we assume that $|\varepsilon| < 1/\sqrt{3}$; then from (73) we obtain

$$\rho(V_\varepsilon^n(\mathbf{f})) \leq 3\varepsilon^2 \rho(V_\varepsilon^{n-1}(\mathbf{f})) \leq \dots \leq (3\varepsilon^2)^n \rho(\mathbf{f}). \quad (75)$$

This yields that $\rho(V_\varepsilon^n(\mathbf{f})) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, for all $\mathbf{f} \in S$.

- (ii) Now let $|\varepsilon| = 1/\sqrt{3}$. Then consider two distinct subcases.

Case A. Let $f_1^2 + f_2^2 + f_3^2 < 1$ and denote $d = f_1^2 + f_2^2 + f_3^2$. Then one gets

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(V_\varepsilon(\mathbf{f})) &\leq \varepsilon^2 \left((f_1^2 + 2|f_2||f_3|)^2 + (f_2^2 + 2|f_1||f_3|)^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (f_3^2 + 2|f_1||f_2|)^2 \right) \\ &\leq \varepsilon^2 \left((f_1^2 + f_2^2 + f_3^2)^2 + (f_2^2 + f_1^2 + f_3^2)^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (f_3^2 + f_1^2 + f_2^2)^2 \right) \\ &= 3\varepsilon^2 d^2 = dd = d\rho(\mathbf{f}). \end{aligned} \quad (76)$$

Hence, we have $\rho(V_\varepsilon(\mathbf{f})) \leq d\rho(\mathbf{f})$. This means $\rho(V_\varepsilon^n(\mathbf{f})) \leq d^n \rho(\mathbf{f}) \rightarrow 0$. Hence, $V_\varepsilon^n(\mathbf{f}) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Case B. Now take $f_1^2 + f_2^2 + f_3^2 = 1$ and assume that \mathbf{f} is not a fixed point. Therefore, we may assume that $f_i \neq f_j$ for some $i \neq j$, otherwise from Proposition 17 one concludes that \mathbf{f} is a fixed point. Hence, from (58) one finds

$$\begin{aligned} V_\varepsilon(\mathbf{f})_1 &= \varepsilon (f_1^2 + 2f_2f_3) = \varepsilon (1 - f_2^2 - f_3^2 + 2f_2f_3) \\ &= \varepsilon (1 - (f_2 - f_3)^2). \end{aligned} \quad (77)$$

Similarly, one gets

$$\begin{aligned} V_\varepsilon(\mathbf{f})_2 &= \varepsilon (1 - (f_1 - f_3)^2), \\ V_\varepsilon(\mathbf{f})_3 &= \varepsilon (1 - (f_1 - f_2)^2). \end{aligned} \quad (78)$$

It is clear that $|V_\varepsilon(\mathbf{f})_k| \leq |\varepsilon|$ ($k = 1, 2, 3$). According to our assumption $f_i \neq f_j$ ($i \neq j$) we conclude that one of $|V_\varepsilon(\mathbf{f})_k|$ is strictly less than $1/\sqrt{3}$; this means $V_\varepsilon(\mathbf{f})_1^2 + V_\varepsilon(\mathbf{f})_2^2 + V_\varepsilon(\mathbf{f})_3^2 < 1$. Therefore, from Case A, one gets that $V_\varepsilon^n(\mathbf{f}) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. \square

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