

# On the combinatorial structure of types of higher order quantum maps

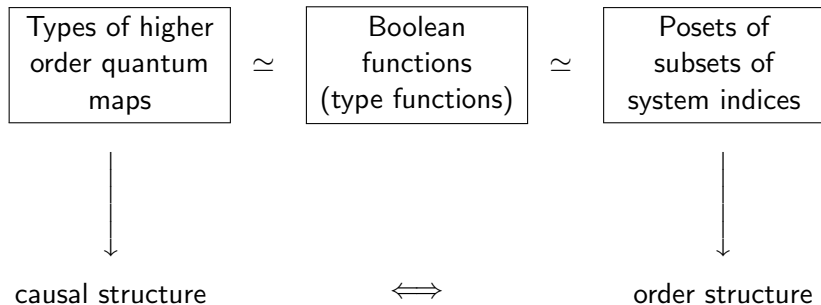
Anna Jenčová

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SSAOS 2025



# Introduction



# Higher order quantum maps

Quantum channel:

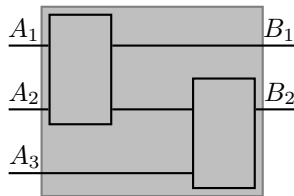
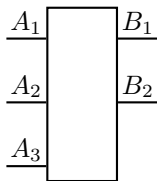


# Higher order quantum maps

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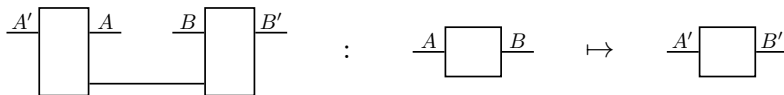


More complicated structure:



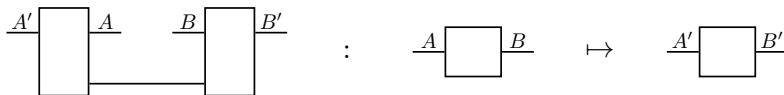
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Quantum superchannels: transform channels to channels



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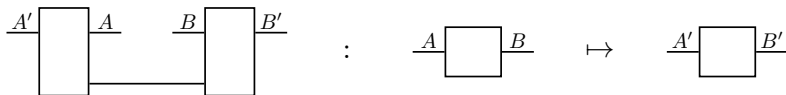


## Higher order maps

- recursively built hierarchy of "transformations between transformations"

# Higher order quantum maps

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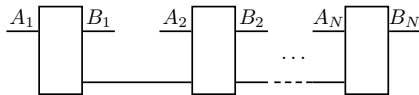


## Higher order maps

- recursively built hierarchy of "transformations between transformations"
- most general quantum information protocols

# Causal order

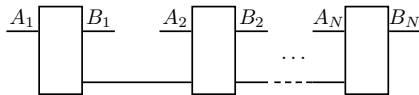
Quantum combs: a subclass of HOMs





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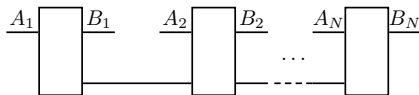
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- circuits with holes

# Causal order

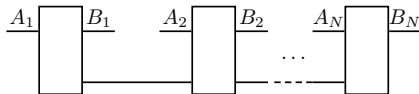
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- circuits with holes
- definite causal order of input and output "wires"

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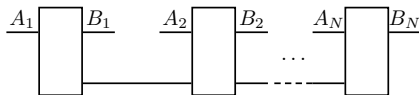
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- quantum switch: superposition of definite orders

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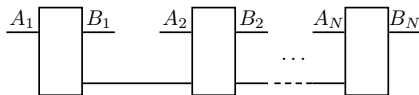
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Quantum combs: a subclass of HOMs



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- definite causal order of input and output "wires"

Indefinite causal order:

- quantum switch: superposition of definite orders
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Many different frameworks are being developed for HOM

# Types of higher order maps

Type theory of higher order maps:

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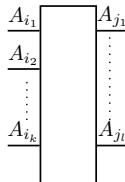
Any HOM type is a term over elementary types  $A_1, \dots, A_n$ :

$$x = x(A_1, \dots, A_n) = \overline{(A_{i_1} \otimes \bar{A}_{i_2})} \otimes (A_{i_3} \otimes \overline{(A_{i_4} \otimes (A_{i_5} \otimes \dots))})$$

# All HOMs of type $x$ ?

A map of type  $x$ :

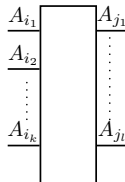
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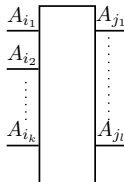
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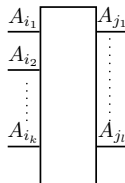
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## Theorem (Combinatorial description of HOM types)

The set of all HOMs of type  $x$  can be described by a unique Boolean function = **type function**:

$$f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}, \quad f(0 \dots 0) = 1.$$

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Bisio and Perinotti, 2019

# The type functions

Set of type functions:

$$\mathcal{T}_n \subseteq \mathcal{F}_n := \{f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\} \mid f(0 \dots 0) = 1\}$$

## Questions

- Characterize  $\mathcal{T}_n$ ?
- Properties of type functions  $\equiv$  properties of HOMs?

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(some examples)

# Construction of type functions

Types  $\equiv$  terms over variables  $A_1, \dots, A_n$ :

$$x = \overline{(A_{i_1} \otimes \bar{A}_{i_2})} \otimes (A_{i_3} \otimes \overline{(A_{i_4} \otimes (A_{i_5} \otimes \dots))})$$

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- if  $x \mapsto f$  then

$$\bar{x} \mapsto f^* \text{ - complement of } f \text{ in } \mathcal{F}_n.$$

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**Möbius transform:** the unique function  $\hat{f} : 2^{[n]} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$f(s) = \sum_{T \subseteq [n]} \hat{f}(T) p_T(s).$$

# The poset related to a type function

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$$f = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{P}_f} (-1)^{\rho(T)} p_T,$$

where  $\rho$  is the **rank function** of  $\mathcal{P}_f$ .

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Not all functions of this form are in  $\mathcal{T}_n$ !

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Type posets are constructed from singletons using products and complements.

## A representation of $\mathcal{P}_f$

Hasse diagram with labels:

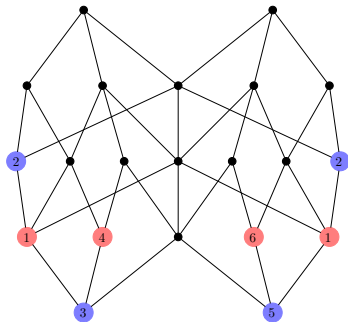
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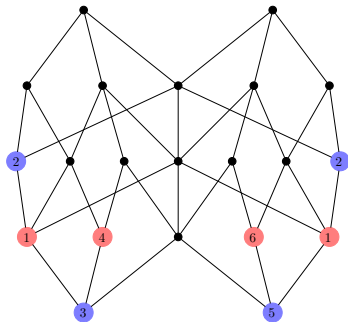
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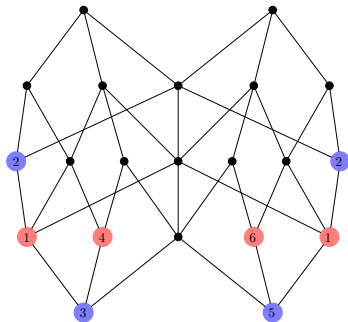
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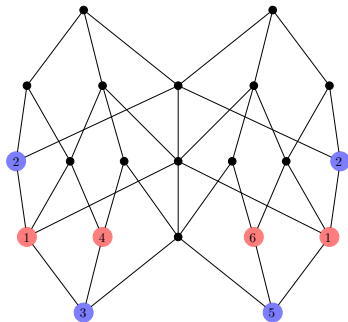
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$$\Longleftrightarrow$$

$i \in \ell_T$ ,  $\rho(T)$  is even

- $i \in [n]$  is not a label  $\equiv$  free output



# Chains and combs

## Theorem

$f \in \mathcal{T}_n$  corresponds to **combs** if and only if  $\mathcal{P}_f$  is a **chain** (of even length).

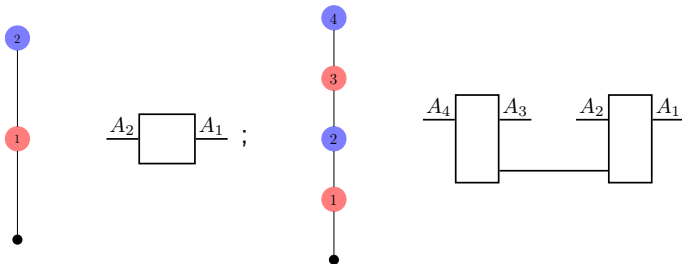
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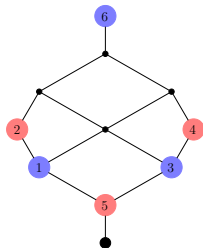
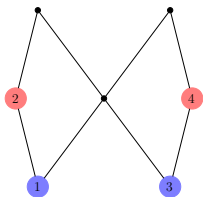
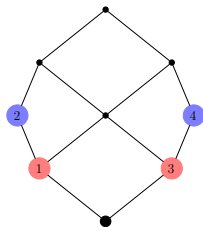
## Examples

With  $n = 2$  and  $n = 4$ :

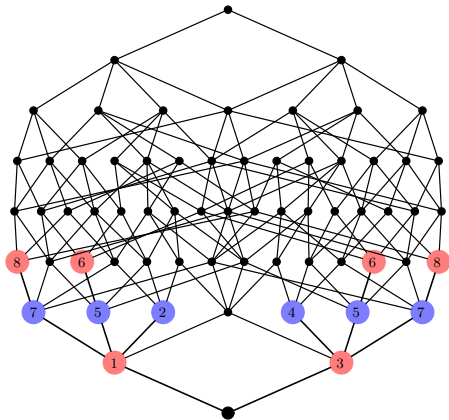




## Further examples

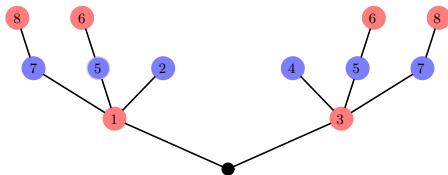


## Further examples



# The restricted type poset

Let  $\mathcal{P}_f^0$  be the subposet consisting of labeled elements and  $\emptyset$  (if present in  $\mathcal{P}_f$ ):

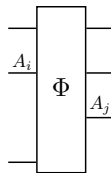


## Theorem

Let  $f \in \mathcal{T}_n$ , then  $f$  is fully determined by  $\mathcal{P}_f^0 \subseteq 2^{[n]}$ .

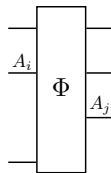
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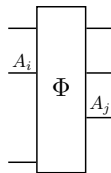


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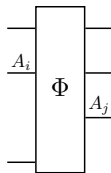
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- **No-signaling for a type:**  $(i \not\rightarrow_f j)$   
 $(i \not\rightarrow_{\Phi} j)$  for all  $\Phi$  of a type with type function  $f$

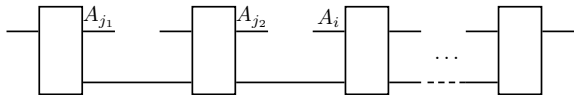
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- **Combs** are characterized by no-signaling conditions:

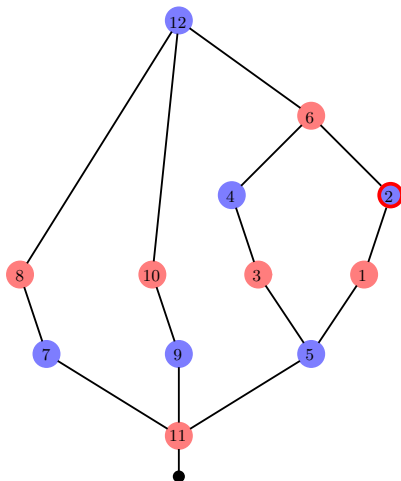
$$\begin{aligned} i &\not\rightarrow j_1 \\ i &\not\rightarrow j_2 \end{aligned}$$



# No-signaling in $\mathcal{P}_f^0$

Let  $i \in \ell_S$  be an input label.  
Then  $i \not\rightsquigarrow_f j$  for an output  $j$   
iff one of the following holds:

- $j$  is not a label,

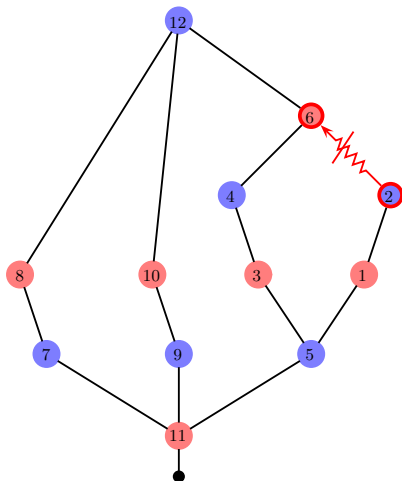




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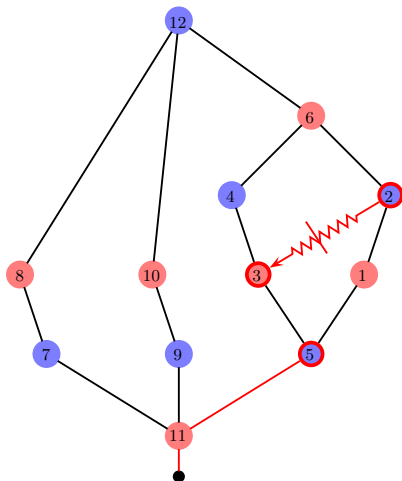
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Then  $i \not\rightsquigarrow_f j$  for an output  $j$   
iff one of the following holds:

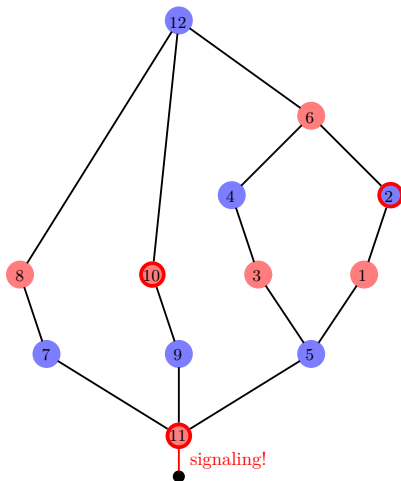
- $j$  is not a label,
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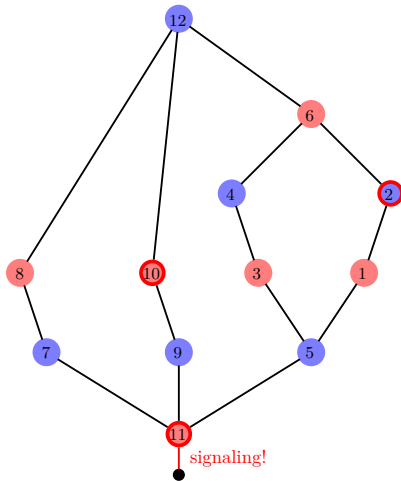
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Repeated labels - similar conditions with some quantifiers

# The normal form of a type function

## Theorem

For any  $f \in \mathcal{T}_n$ , there are chains (combs)  $\beta_{ab} \in \mathcal{T}_n$ ,  $a \in A$ ,  $b \in B$ , with the same inputs and outputs as  $f$ , such that

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## Question

Is there a better way to obtain this?

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