

# Operator upper bounds for Davis-Choi-Jensen's difference in Hilbert spaces

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we obtain several operator inequalities providing upper bounds for the Davis-Choi-Jensen's Difference

$$\Phi(f(A)) - f(\Phi(A))$$

for any convex function  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , any selfadjoint operator  $A$  in  $H$  with the spectrum  $\text{Sp}(A) \subset I$  and any linear, positive and normalized map  $\Phi : \mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(K)$ , where  $H$  and  $K$  are Hilbert spaces. Some examples for convex and operator convex functions are also provided.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $H$  be a complex Hilbert space and  $\mathcal{B}(H)$ , the Banach algebra of bounded linear operators acting on  $H$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{B}_h(H)$  the semi-space of all selfadjoint operators in  $\mathcal{B}(H)$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{B}^+(H)$  the convex cone of all positive operators on  $H$  and by  $\mathcal{B}^{++}(H)$  the convex cone of all positive definite operators on  $H$ .

Let  $H, K$  be complex Hilbert spaces. Following [1] (see also [9, p. 18]) we can introduce the following definition.

**Definition 1.** A map  $\Phi : \mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(K)$  is linear if it is additive and homogeneous, namely

$$\Phi(\lambda A + \mu B) = \lambda \Phi(A) + \mu \Phi(B)$$

for any  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $A, B \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ . The linear map  $\Phi : \mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(K)$  is positive if it preserves the operator order, i.e. if  $A \in \mathcal{B}^+(H)$  then  $\Phi(A) \in \mathcal{B}^+(K)$ . We write  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ . The linear map  $\Phi : \mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(K)$  is normalized if it preserves the identity operator, i.e.,  $\Phi(1_H) = 1_K$ . We write  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ .

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We observe that a positive linear map  $\Phi$  preserves the *order relation*, namely

$$A \leq B \text{ implies } \Phi(A) \leq \Phi(B)$$

and preserves the adjoint operation  $\Phi(A^*) = \Phi(A)^*$ .

If  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$  and  $\alpha 1_H \leq A \leq \beta 1_H$ , then  $\alpha 1_K \leq \Phi(A) \leq \beta 1_K$ .

If the map  $\Psi : \mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(K)$  is linear, positive and  $\Psi(1_H) \in \mathcal{B}^{++}(K)$ , then by putting  $\Phi = \Psi^{-1/2}(1_H) \Psi \Psi^{-1/2}(1_H)$  we get  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ , namely it is also normalized.

A real valued continuous function  $f$  on an interval  $I$  is said to be *operator convex (concave)* on  $I$  if

$$f((1-\lambda)A + \lambda B) \leq (\geq) (1-\lambda)f(A) + \lambda f(B)$$

for all  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$  and for every selfadjoint operators  $A, B \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  whose spectra are contained in  $I$ .

The following Jensen's type result is well known [9, p. 22]:

**Theorem 1** (Davis-Choi-Jensen's Inequality). *Let  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an operator convex function on the interval  $I$  and  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ , then for any selfadjoint operator  $A$  whose spectrum is contained in  $I$  we have*

$$(1) \quad f(\Phi(A)) \leq \Phi(f(A)).$$

We observe that if  $\Psi \in \mathfrak{P}[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$  with  $\Psi(1_H) \in \mathcal{B}^{++}(K)$ , then by taking  $\Phi = \Psi^{-1/2}(1_H) \Psi \Psi^{-1/2}(1_H)$  in (1) we get

$$f\left(\Psi^{-1/2}(1_H) \Psi(A) \Psi^{-1/2}(1_H)\right) \leq \Psi^{-1/2}(1_H) \Psi(f(A)) \Psi^{-1/2}(1_H).$$

If we multiply both sides of this inequality by  $\Psi^{1/2}(1_H)$  we get the following *Davis-Choi-Jensen's inequality for general positive linear maps*

$$(2) \quad \Psi^{1/2}(1_H) f\left(\Psi^{-1/2}(1_H) \Psi(A) \Psi^{-1/2}(1_H)\right) \Psi^{1/2}(1_H) \leq \Psi(f(A)).$$

Let  $C_j \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, k$  be contractions with

$$(3) \quad \sum_{j=1}^k C_j^* C_j = 1_H.$$

The map  $\Phi : \mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H)$  defined by [9, p. 19]

$$\Phi(A) := \sum_{j=1}^k C_j^* A C_j$$

is a normalized positive linear map on  $\mathcal{B}(H)$ .

For more results on inequalities for selfadjoint operators in Hilbert spaces, see [2, 3, 6–8] and the references therein.

In this paper we obtain several operator inequalities providing upper bounds for the Davis-Choi-Jensen's Difference

$$\Phi(f(A)) - f(\Phi(A))$$

for any convex function  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , any selfadjoint operator  $A$  in  $H$  with the spectrum  $\text{Sp}(A) \subset I$  and any linear, positive and normalized map  $\Phi : \mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(K)$ , where  $H$  and  $K$  are Hilbert spaces. Some examples for convex and operator convex functions are also provided.

## 2. MAIN RESULTS

We use the following result that was obtained in [4].

**Lemma 1.** *If  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a convex function on  $[a, b]$ , then*

$$(4) \quad 0 \leq \frac{(b-t)f(a) + (t-a)f(b)}{b-a} - f(t) \\ \leq (b-t)(t-a) \frac{f'_-(b) - f'_+(a)}{b-a} \leq \frac{1}{4} (b-a) [f'_-(b) - f'_+(a)]$$

for any  $t \in [a, b]$ .

If the lateral derivatives  $f'_-(b)$  and  $f'_+(a)$  are finite, then the second inequality and the constant  $1/4$  are sharp.

We have:

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $f : [m, M] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a convex function on  $[m, M]$  and  $A$  a selfadjoint operator with the spectrum  $\text{Sp}(A) \subset [m, M]$ .*

*If  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ , then*

$$(5) \quad \Phi(f(A)) - f(\Phi(A)) \\ \leq \frac{f'_-(M) - f'_+(m)}{M-m} (M1_K - \Phi(A)) (\Phi(A) - m1_K) \\ \leq \frac{1}{4} (M-m) [f'_-(M) - f'_+(m)] 1_K.$$

*Proof.* Utilizing the continuous functional calculus for a selfadjoint operator  $T$  with  $0 \leq T \leq 1_H$  and the convexity of  $f$  on  $[m, M]$ , we have

$$(6) \quad f(m(1_H - T) + MT) \leq f(m)(1_H - T) + f(M)T$$

in the operator order.

If we take in (6)

$$0 \leq T = \frac{A - m1_H}{M - m} \leq 1_H,$$

then we get

$$(7) \quad f\left(m\left(1_H - \frac{A - m1_H}{M - m}\right) + M\frac{A - m1_H}{M - m}\right) \\ \leq f(m)\left(1_H - \frac{A - m1_H}{M - m}\right) + f(M)\frac{A - m1_H}{M - m}.$$

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} & m \left( 1_H - \frac{A - m1_H}{M - m} \right) + M \frac{A - m1_H}{M - m} \\ &= \frac{m(M1_H - A) + M(A - m1_H)}{M - m} = A \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & f(m) \left( 1_H - \frac{A - m1_H}{M - m} \right) + f(M) \frac{A - m1_H}{M - m} \\ &= \frac{f(m)(M1_H - A) + f(M)(A - m1_H)}{M - m} \end{aligned}$$

and by (7) we get the following inequality of interest

$$(8) \quad f(A) \leq \frac{f(m)(M1_H - A) + f(M)(A - m1_H)}{M - m}.$$

If we take the map  $\Phi$  in (8), then we get

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(f(A)) &\leq \Phi \left[ \frac{f(m)(M1_H - A) + f(M)(A - m1_H)}{M - m} \right] \\ &= \frac{f(m)\Phi(M1_H - A) + f(M)\Phi(A - m1_H)}{M - m} \\ &= \frac{f(m)(M\Phi(1_H) - \Phi(A)) + f(M)(\Phi(A) - m\Phi(1_H))}{M - m} \\ &= \frac{f(m)(M1_K - \Phi(A)) + f(M)(\Phi(A) - m1_K)}{M - m}, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that

$$(9) \quad \begin{aligned} & \Phi(f(A)) - f(\Phi(A)) \\ &\leq \frac{f(m)(M1_K - \Phi(A)) + f(M)(\Phi(A) - m1_K)}{M - m} - f(\Phi(A)). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $m1_K \leq \Phi(A) \leq M1_K$ , then by using (4) for  $a = m$ ,  $b = M$  and the continuous functional calculus, we have

$$(10) \quad \begin{aligned} & \frac{f(m)(M1_K - \Phi(A)) + f(M)(\Phi(A) - m1_K)}{M - m} - f(\Phi(A)) \\ &\leq \frac{f'_-(M) - f'_+(m)}{M - m} (M1_K - \Phi(A)) (\Phi(A) - m1_K) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} (M - m) [f'_-(M) - f'_+(m)] 1_K. \end{aligned}$$

By making use of (9) and (10) we get the desired result (5).  $\square$

**Corollary 1.** Let  $f : [m, M] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an operator convex function on  $[m, M]$  and  $A$  a selfadjoint operator with the spectrum  $\text{Sp}(A) \subset [m, M]$ .

If  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ , then

$$(11) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \Phi(f(A)) - f(\Phi(A)) \\ &\leq \frac{f'_-(M) - f'_+(m)}{M - m} (M1_K - \Phi(A))(\Phi(A) - m1_K) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} (M - m) [f'_-(M) - f'_+(m)] 1_K. \end{aligned}$$

We also have the following scalar inequality of interest:

**Lemma 2.** Let  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a convex function on  $[a, b]$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$ , then

$$(12) \quad \begin{aligned} 2 \min\{t, 1-t\} &\left[ \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} - f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \right] \\ &\leq (1-t)f(a) + tf(b) - f((1-t)a + tb) \\ &\leq 2 \max\{t, 1-t\} \left[ \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} - f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

The proof follows, for instance, by Corollary 1 from [5] for  $n = 2$ ,  $p_1 = 1 - t$ ,  $p_2 = t$ ,  $t \in [0, 1]$  and  $x_1 = a$ ,  $x_2 = b$ .

**Theorem 3.** Let  $f : [m, M] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a convex function on  $[m, M]$  and  $A$  a selfadjoint operator with the spectrum  $\text{Sp}(A) \subset [m, M]$ .

If  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ , then

$$(13) \quad \begin{aligned} 2 &\left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right] \\ &\times \left( \frac{1}{2} (M - m) 1_K - \left| \Phi(A) - \frac{1}{2} (m + M) 1_K \right| \right) \\ &\leq \frac{f(m)(M1_K - \Phi(A)) + f(M)(\Phi(A) - m1_K)}{M - m} - f(\Phi(A)) \\ &\leq 2 \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right] \\ &\times \left( \frac{1}{2} (M - m) 1_K + \left| \Phi(A) - \frac{1}{2} (m + M) 1_K \right| \right) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(14) \quad \begin{aligned} 2 &\left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right] \\ &\times \left( \frac{1}{2} (M - m) 1_K - \Phi \left( \left| A - \frac{1}{2} (m + M) 1_K \right| \right) \right) \\ &\leq \frac{f(m)(M1_K - \Phi(A)) + f(M)(\Phi(A) - m1_K)}{M - m} - \Phi(f(A)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq 2 \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right] \\ &\quad \times \left( \frac{1}{2} (M-m) 1_K + \Phi \left( \left| A - \frac{1}{2} (m+M) 1_H \right| \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* We have from (12) that

$$\begin{aligned} (15) \quad &2 \left( \frac{1}{2} - \left| t - \frac{1}{2} \right| \right) \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right] \\ &\leq (1-t) f(m) + t f(M) - f((1-t)m + tM) \\ &\leq 2 \left( \frac{1}{2} + \left| t - \frac{1}{2} \right| \right) \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right], \end{aligned}$$

for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ .

Utilizing the continuous functional calculus for a selfadjoint operator  $T$  with  $0 \leq T \leq 1_H$  we get from (15) that

$$\begin{aligned} (16) \quad &2 \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right] \left( \frac{1}{2} 1_H - \left| T - \frac{1}{2} 1_H \right| \right) \\ &\leq (1-T) f(m) + T f(M) - f((1-T)m + TM) \\ &\leq 2 \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right] \left( \frac{1}{2} 1_H + \left| T - \frac{1}{2} 1_H \right| \right), \end{aligned}$$

in the operator order.

If we take in (16)

$$0 \leq T = \frac{A - m1_H}{M - m} \leq 1_H,$$

then, like in the proof of Theorem 2, we get

$$\begin{aligned} (17) \quad &2 \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right] \\ &\quad \times \left( \frac{1}{2} (M-m) 1_H - \left| A - \frac{1}{2} (m+M) 1_H \right| \right) \\ &\leq \frac{f(m)(M1_H - A) + f(M)(A - m1_H)}{M - m} - f(A) \\ &\leq 2 \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right] \\ &\quad \times \left( \frac{1}{2} (M-m) 1_H + \left| A - \frac{1}{2} (m+M) 1_H \right| \right). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $m1_K \leq \Phi(A) \leq M1_K$ , then by writing the inequality (17) for  $\Phi(A)$  instead of  $A$  we get (13).

If we take  $\Phi$  in (17), then we get

$$\begin{aligned}
& 2 \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right] \\
& \quad \times \Phi \left( \frac{1}{2} (M-m) 1_H - \left| A - \frac{1}{2} (m+M) 1_H \right| \right) \\
& \leq \Phi \left[ \frac{f(m)(M1_H - A) + f(M)(A - m1_H)}{M-m} \right] - \Phi f(A) \\
& \leq 2 \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right] \\
& \quad \times \Phi \left( \frac{1}{2} (M-m) 1_H + \left| A - \frac{1}{2} (m+M) 1_H \right| \right),
\end{aligned}$$

which is equivalent to (14).  $\square$

**Corollary 2.** *Let  $f : [m, M] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an operator convex function on  $[m, M]$  and  $A$  a selfadjoint operator with the spectrum  $\text{Sp}(A) \subset [m, M]$ .*

*If  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ , then*

$$\begin{aligned}
(18) \quad & 2 \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right] \\
& \quad \times \left( \frac{1}{2} (M-m) 1_K - \Phi \left( \left| A - \frac{1}{2} (m+M) 1_H \right| \right) \right) \\
& \leq \frac{f(m)(M1_K - \Phi(A)) + f(M)(\Phi(A) - m1_K)}{M-m} - \Phi(f(A)) \\
& \leq \frac{f(m)(M1_K - \Phi(A)) + f(M)(\Phi(A) - m1_K)}{M-m} - f(\Phi(A)) \\
& \leq 2 \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right] \\
& \quad \times \left( \frac{1}{2} (M-m) 1_K + \left| \Phi(A) - \frac{1}{2} (m+M) 1_K \right| \right).
\end{aligned}$$

We also have:

**Corollary 3.** *Let  $f : [m, M] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a convex function on  $[m, M]$  and  $A$  a selfadjoint operator with the spectrum  $\text{Sp}(A) \subset [m, M]$ .*

*If  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ , then*

$$\begin{aligned}
(19) \quad & \Phi(f(A)) - f(\Phi(A)) \leq 2 \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right] \\
& \quad \times \left( \frac{1}{2} (M-m) 1_K + \left| \Phi(A) - \frac{1}{2} (m+M) 1_K \right| \right) \\
& \leq 2(M-m) \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m+M}{2}\right) \right] 1_K.
\end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* From (9) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \Phi(f(A)) - f(\Phi(A)) \\ & \leq \frac{f(m)(M1_K - \Phi(A)) + f(M)(\Phi(A) - m1_K)}{M - m} - f(\Phi(A)) \end{aligned}$$

and from (14) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{f(m)(M1_K - \Phi(A)) + f(M)(\Phi(A) - m1_K)}{M - m} - f(\Phi(A)) \\ & \leq 2 \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m + M}{2}\right) \right] \\ & \quad \times \left( \frac{1}{2}(M - m)1_K + \left| \Phi(A) - \frac{1}{2}(m + M)1_K \right| \right), \end{aligned}$$

which produce the desired result (19).  $\square$

**Remark 1.** If  $f : [m, M] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is an operator convex function on  $[m, M]$ ,  $A$  a selfadjoint operator with the spectrum  $\text{Sp}(A) \subset [m, M]$  and  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} (20) \quad & 0 \leq \Phi(f(A)) - f(\Phi(A)) \\ & \leq 2 \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m + M}{2}\right) \right] \\ & \quad \times \left( \frac{1}{2}(M - m)1_K + \left| \Phi(A) - \frac{1}{2}(m + M)1_K \right| \right) \\ & \leq 2(M - m) \left[ \frac{f(m) + f(M)}{2} - f\left(\frac{m + M}{2}\right) \right] 1_K. \end{aligned}$$

We also have [4]:

**Lemma 3.** Assume that  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is absolutely continuous on  $[a, b]$ . If  $f'$  is  $K$ -Lipschitzian on  $[a, b]$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} (21) \quad & |(1 - t)f(a) + tf(b) - f((1 - t)a + tb)| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2}K(b - t)(t - a) \leq \frac{1}{8}K(b - a)^2 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ .

The constants  $1/2$  and  $1/8$  are the best possible in (21).

**Remark 2.** If  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is twice differentiable and  $f'' \in L_\infty[a, b]$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} (22) \quad & |(1 - t)f(a) + tf(b) - f((1 - t)a + tb)| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} \|f''\|_{[a, b], \infty} (b - t)(t - a) \leq \frac{1}{8} \|f''\|_{[a, b], \infty} (b - a)^2, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\|f''\|_{[a, b], \infty} := \text{esssup}_{t \in [a, b]} |f''(t)| < \infty$ . The constants  $1/2$  and  $1/8$  are the best possible in (22).



We have:

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $f : [m, M] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a twice differentiable convex function on  $[m, M]$  with  $\|f''\|_{[m, M], \infty} := \operatorname{ess\,sup}_{t \in [m, M]} f''(t) < \infty$  and  $A$  a selfadjoint operator with the spectrum  $\operatorname{Sp}(A) \subset [m, M]$ . If  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ , then*

$$(23) \quad \begin{aligned} & \Phi(f(A)) - f(\Phi(A)) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} \|f''\|_{[m, M], \infty} (M1_K - \Phi(A)) (\Phi(A) - m1_K) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{8} \|f''\|_{[m, M], \infty} (M - m)^2 1_K. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* From (22) and the continuous functional calculus, we get

$$(24) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 & \leq \frac{f(m)(M1_H - B) + f(M)(B - m1_H)}{M - m} - f(B) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} \|f''\|_{[m, M], \infty} (M1_H - B)(B - m1_H) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{8} \|f''\|_{[m, M], \infty} (M - m)^2 1_H \end{aligned}$$

where  $B$  is a selfadjoint operator with the spectrum  $\operatorname{Sp}(B) \subset [m, M]$ .

If we use (24) for  $\Phi(A)$  we get

$$(25) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 & \leq \frac{f(m)(M1_K - \Phi(A)) + f(M)(\Phi(A) - m1_K)}{M - m} - f(\Phi(A)) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} \|f''\|_{[m, M], \infty} (M1_K - \Phi(A)) (\Phi(A) - m1_K) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{8} \|f''\|_{[m, M], \infty} (M - m)^2 1_K. \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} & \Phi(f(A)) - f(\Phi(A)) \\ & \leq \frac{f(m)(M1_K - \Phi(A)) + f(M)(\Phi(A) - m1_K)}{M - m} - f(\Phi(A)), \end{aligned}$$

hence by (25) we get (23).  $\square$

**Corollary 4.** *Let  $f : [m, M] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an operator convex function on  $[m, M]$  and  $A$  a selfadjoint operator with the spectrum  $\operatorname{Sp}(A) \subset [m, M]$ .*

*If  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ , then*

$$(26) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 & \leq \Phi(f(A)) - f(\Phi(A)) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} \|f''\|_{[m, M], \infty} (M1_K - \Phi(A)) (\Phi(A) - m1_K) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{8} \|f''\|_{[m, M], \infty} (M - m)^2 1_K. \end{aligned}$$

## 3. SOME EXAMPLES

We consider the exponential function  $f(x) = \exp(\alpha x)$  with  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ . This function is convex but not operator convex on  $\mathbb{R}$ . If  $A$  is selfadjoint with  $\text{Sp}(A) \subset [m, M]$  for some  $m < M$  and  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ , then by (5), (19) and (23) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (27) \quad & \Phi(\exp(\alpha A)) - \exp(\alpha \Phi(A)) \\
 & \leq \alpha \frac{\exp(\alpha M) - \exp(\alpha m)}{M - m} (M1_K - \Phi(A)) (\Phi(A) - m1_K) \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{4} \alpha (M - m) [\exp(\alpha M) - \exp(\alpha m)] 1_K,
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (28) \quad & \Phi(\exp(\alpha A)) - \exp(\alpha \Phi(A)) \\
 & \leq 2 \left[ \frac{\exp(\alpha m) + f(\alpha M)}{2} - \exp\left(\alpha \frac{m + M}{2}\right) \right] \\
 & \quad \times \left( \frac{1}{2} (M - m) 1_K + \left| \Phi(A) - \frac{1}{2} (m + M) 1_K \right| \right) \\
 & \leq 2(M - m) \left[ \frac{\exp(\alpha m) + f(\alpha M)}{2} - \exp\left(\alpha \frac{m + M}{2}\right) \right] 1_K
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 (29) \quad & \Phi(\exp(\alpha A)) - \exp(\alpha \Phi(A)) \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{2} \alpha^2 \begin{cases} \exp(\alpha M) & \text{if } \alpha > 0 \\ \exp(\alpha m) & \text{if } \alpha < 0 \end{cases} \times (M1_K - \Phi(A)) (\Phi(A) - m1_K) \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{8} \alpha^2 (M - m)^2 \begin{cases} \exp(\alpha M) & \text{if } \alpha > 0 \\ \exp(\alpha m) & \text{if } \alpha < 0 \end{cases} \times 1_K.
 \end{aligned}$$

The function  $f(x) = -\ln x$ ,  $x > 0$  is operator convex on  $(0, \infty)$ . If  $A$  is selfadjoint with  $\text{Sp}(A) \subset [m, M]$  for some  $0 < m < M$  and  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ , then by (11), (20) and (26) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (30) \quad & 0 \leq \ln(\Phi(A)) - \Phi(\ln(A)) \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{mM} (M1_V - \Phi(A)) (\Phi(A) - m1_K) \leq \frac{1}{4mM} (M - m)^2 1_K,
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (31) \quad & 0 \leq \ln(\Phi(A)) - \Phi(\ln(A)) \\
 & \leq 2 \ln\left(\frac{m + M}{2\sqrt{mM}}\right) \left( \frac{1}{2} (M - m) 1_K + \left| \Phi(A) - \frac{1}{2} (m + M) 1_K \right| \right) \\
 & \leq 2(M - m) \ln\left(\frac{m + M}{2\sqrt{mM}}\right) 1_K
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 (32) \quad 0 &\leq \ln(\Phi(A)) - \Phi(\ln(A)) \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{2m^2} (M1_K - \Phi(A)) (\Phi(A) - m1_K) \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{8m^2} (M - m)^2 1_K.
 \end{aligned}$$

We observe that if  $M > 2m$  then the bound in (30) is better than the one from (32). If  $M < 2m$ , then the conclusion is the other way around.

The function  $f(x) = x \ln x$ ,  $x > 0$  is operator convex on  $(0, \infty)$ . If  $A$  is selfadjoint with  $\text{Sp}(A) \subset [m, M]$  for some  $0 < m < M$  and  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{F}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ , then by (11), (20) and (26) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (33) \quad 0 &\leq \Phi(A \ln(A)) - \Phi(A) \ln(\Phi(A)) \\
 &\leq \frac{\ln(M) - \ln(m)}{M - m} (M1_K - \Phi(A)) (\Phi(A) - m1_K) \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{4} (M - m) [\ln(M) - \ln(m)] 1_K,
 \end{aligned}$$

(34)

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 &\leq \Phi(A \ln(A)) - \Phi(A) \ln(\Phi(A)) \\
 &\leq 2 \left[ \frac{m \ln(m) + M \ln(M)}{2} - \left( \frac{m + M}{2} \right) \ln \left( \frac{m + M}{2} \right) \right] \\
 &\quad \times \left( \frac{1}{2} (M - m) 1_K + \left| \Phi(A) - \frac{1}{2} (m + M) 1_K \right| \right) \\
 &\leq 2 (M - m) \left[ \frac{m \ln(m) + M \ln(M)}{2} - \left( \frac{m + M}{2} \right) \ln \left( \frac{m + M}{2} \right) \right] 1_K
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 (35) \quad 0 &\leq \Phi(A \ln(A)) - \Phi(A) \ln(\Phi(A)) \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{2m} (M1_K - \Phi(A)) (\Phi(A) - m1_K) \leq \frac{1}{8m} (M - m)^2 1_K.
 \end{aligned}$$

Consider the power function  $f(x) = x^r$ ,  $x \in (0, \infty)$  and  $r$  a real number. If  $r \in (-\infty, 0] \cup [1, \infty)$ , then  $f$  is convex and for  $r \in [-1, 0] \cup [1, 2]$  is operator convex. If we use the inequalities (5), (19) and (23) we have for  $r \in (-\infty, 0] \cup [1, \infty)$  that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (36) \quad &\Phi(A^r) - (\Phi(A))^r \\
 &\leq r \frac{M^{r-1} - m^{r-1}}{M - m} (M1_K - \Phi(A)) (\Phi(A) - m1_K) \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{4} r (M - m) (M^{r-1} - m^{r-1}) 1_K,
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(37) \quad & \Phi(A^r) - (\Phi(A))^r \\
& \leq 2 \left[ \frac{m^r + M^r}{2} - \left( \frac{m + M}{2} \right)^r \right] \\
& \quad \times \left( \frac{1}{2} (M - m) 1_K + \left| \Phi(A) - \frac{1}{2} (m + M) 1_K \right| \right) \\
& \leq 2(M - m) \left[ \frac{m^r + M^r}{2} - \left( \frac{m + M}{2} \right)^r \right] 1_K
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
(38) \quad & \Phi(A^r) - (\Phi(A))^r \\
& \leq \frac{1}{2} r(r-1) \begin{cases} M^{r-2} & \text{for } r \geq 2 \\ m^{r-2} & \text{for } r \in (-\infty, 0] \cup [1, 2] \end{cases} \\
& \quad \times (M1_K - \Phi(A)) (\Phi(A) - m1_K) \\
& \leq \frac{1}{8} r(r-1) (M-m)^2 \begin{cases} M^{r-2} & \text{for } r \geq 2 \\ m^{r-2} & \text{for } r \in (-\infty, 0] \cup [1, 2] \end{cases} \times 1_K,
\end{aligned}$$

where  $A$  is selfadjoint with  $\text{Sp}(A) \subset [m, M]$  for some  $0 < m < M$  and  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ .

If  $r \in [-1, 0] \cup [1, 2]$ , then we also have  $0 \leq \Phi(A^r) - (\Phi(A))^r$  in the inequalities (36)-(38).

For  $r = -1$  we have the inequalities

$$\begin{aligned}
(39) \quad & 0 \leq \Phi(A^{-1}) - (\Phi(A))^{-1} \\
& \leq \frac{M+m}{M^2 m^2} (M1_K - \Phi(A)) (\Phi(A) - m1_K) \\
& \leq \frac{1}{4} (M-m)^2 \frac{M+m}{M^2 m^2} 1_K,
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(40) \quad & 0 \leq \Phi(A^{-1}) - (\Phi(A))^{-1} \\
& \leq \frac{(M-m)^2}{mM(m+M)} \left( \frac{1}{2} (M-m) 1_K + \left| \Phi(A) - \frac{1}{2} (m+M) 1_K \right| \right) \\
& \leq \frac{(M-m)^3}{mM(m+M)} 1_K
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
(41) \quad & 0 \leq \Phi(A^{-1}) - (\Phi(A))^{-1} \\
& \leq \frac{1}{m^3} (M1_K - \Phi(A)) (\Phi(A) - m1_K) \leq \frac{1}{4m^3} (M-m)^2 1_K,
\end{aligned}$$

where  $A$  is selfadjoint with  $\text{Sp}(A) \subset [m, M]$  for some  $0 < m < M$  and  $\Phi \in \mathfrak{P}_N[\mathcal{B}(H), \mathcal{B}(K)]$ .

## 4. CONCLUSION

In this paper we obtained several operator inequalities providing upper bounds for the celebrated Davis-Choi-Jensen's Difference for any convex function  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , any selfadjoint operator  $A$  in  $H$  with the spectrum  $\text{Sp}(A) \subset I$  and any linear, positive and normalized map  $\Phi : \mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(K)$ , where  $H$  and  $K$  are Hilbert spaces. Some examples for fundamental convex and operator convex functions of interest, to illustrate the main results, were also provided.

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