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The ultimate norm estimate for complex matrices

It is often a complicated matter to estimate the C^*-norm (the usual Hilbert-space operator-norm) of a complex matrix. Nevertheless, an ultimate answer (without hard computation) can be sought for the best bound of the norm of $T = A+iB$ where A and B are (non-commuting) hermitian operators with known eigenvalues. Moreover, the main result can be extended to cover the case of the sum of two normal matrices.

(This is a joint work with Chi-Kwong Li.)