

The numerical range of a contraction with finite defect indices.

Abstract: In 2001 Choi and Li have proved an older conjecture of Halmos, showing that the closure of the numerical ranges of a contraction can be obtained by intersecting the closure of the numerical ranges of its unitary dilations. This qualitative result has been subsequently refined by several authors. We present a general theorem which subsumes all these developments. This is joint work with Hari Bercovici.