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Proof of the strong subadditivity of quantum-mechanical entropy

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We prove several theorems about quantum-mechanical entropy, in particular, that it is strongly subadditive.

1. INTRODUCTION

In this paper we prove several theorems about quantum mechanical entropy, in particular, that it is strongly subadditive (SSA). These theorems were announced in an earlier note,¹ to which we refer the reader for a discussion of the physical significance of SSA and for a review of the historical background. We repeat here a bibliography of relevant papers.²⁻⁹

The setting for these theorems is as follows:

(a) Given a separable Hilbert space H and a positive, trace-class operator, ρ , on H [i.e., $\rho \geq 0$ means $(\psi, \rho\psi) \geq 0$ for all ψ in H], the entropy of ρ is defined to be

$$S(\rho) \equiv -\text{Tr} \rho \ln \rho = -\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \lambda_i \ln \lambda_i, \quad (1.1)$$

where Tr means trace, the λ_i are the eigenvalues of ρ , $0 \ln 0 \equiv 0$, and we permit the possibility $S(\rho) = \infty$. In physical applications one also requires that $\text{Tr} \rho = 1$, in which case ρ is called a density matrix.

(b) If $H_{12} = H_1 \otimes H_2$ is the tensor product of two Hilbert spaces and ρ_{12} is a positive, trace-class operator on H_{12} , we can define a positive, trace-class operator, ρ_1 , on H_1 by the partial trace, i.e.,

$$\rho_1 \equiv \text{Tr}_2 \rho_{12} \quad (1.2)$$

by which we mean

$$(\varphi, \rho_1 \psi) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (\varphi \otimes e_i, \rho_{12} [\psi \otimes e_i]) \quad (1.3)$$

for all φ, ψ in H_1 and $\{e_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ any orthonormal basis in H_2 . We shall denote $S(\rho_1)$ by S_1 , etc. In like manner one can have $H_{123} = H_1 \otimes H_2 \otimes H_3$, and ρ_{123} a positive, trace-class operator on H_{123} , and define ρ_{12} on $H_{12} \equiv H_1 \otimes H_2$, ρ_1 on H_1 , etc. by partial traces. When no confusion arises, we shall frequently use the symbol ρ_1 to denote the operator $\rho_1 \otimes 1_2$ on H_{12} .

Our main results are the following two theorems.

Theorem 1: Let $H_{12} = H_1 \otimes H_2$. Then the function

$$\rho_{12} \mapsto S_1 - S_{12} \quad (1.4)$$

is convex on the set of positive, trace-class operators on H_{12} .

Theorem 2 (Strong Subadditivity): Let H_{123} and ρ_{123} be defined as in (b) above. Then

$$(i) \quad S_{123} + S_2 - S_{12} - S_{23} \leq 0 \quad (1.5)$$

and

$$(ii) \quad S_1 + S_3 - S_{12} - S_{23} \leq 0. \quad (1.6)$$

In the next section we prove these theorems in the

finite-dimensional case. In Sec. 3 we elucidate the connection between these two theorems and give some related results. Sec. 4 contains the proofs for the infinite-dimensional case and is based on the appendix kindly contributed by B. Simon, to whom we are most grateful.

2. PROOFS OF THEOREMS 1 AND 2 IN THE FINITE-DIMENSIONAL CASE

Proof of Theorem 1: The theorem states that

$$(S_1 - S_{12})(\rho_{12}) \leq \alpha(S_1 - S_{12})(\rho'_{12}) + (1 - \alpha)(S_1 - S_{12})(\rho''_{12}) \quad (2.1)$$

where $\rho_{12} = \alpha\rho'_{12} + (1 - \alpha)\rho''_{12}$, $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$, and ρ'_{12} and ρ''_{12} are any positive, trace-class operators on H_{12} . We shall assume that both ρ'_{12} and ρ''_{12} are strictly positive and appeal to continuity of $\rho \mapsto S(\rho)$ in the semidefinite case. Letting

$$\Delta = \alpha \text{Tr}_{12} \rho'_{12} (-\ln \rho'_{12} + \ln \rho'_1 + \ln \rho_{12} - \ln \rho_1)$$

and

$$\Gamma = (1 - \alpha) \text{Tr}_{12} \rho''_{12} (-\ln \rho''_{12} + \ln \rho''_1 + \ln \rho_{12} - \ln \rho_1),$$

one sees that (2.1) is equivalent to $\Delta + \Gamma \leq 0$. We now use Klein's inequality^{7,10}:

$$\text{Tr}(-A \ln A + A \ln B) \leq \text{Tr}(B - A). \quad (2.2)$$

(Alternatively, one could use the Peierls-Bogoliubov inequality in a similar way.²) We first apply (2.2) to Δ with $A = \rho'_{12}$ and $B = \exp(\ln \rho'_1 + \ln \rho_{12} - \ln \rho_1)$ and then similarly to Γ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta + \Gamma &\leq \alpha \text{Tr}_{12} [\exp(\ln \rho'_1 + \ln \rho_{12} - \ln \rho_1) - \rho'_{12}] \\ &\quad + (1 - \alpha) \text{Tr}_{12} [\exp(\ln \rho''_1 + \ln \rho_{12} - \ln \rho_1) - \rho''_{12}] \\ &\leq \text{Tr}_{12} [\exp(\ln \rho_1 + \ln \rho_{12} - \ln \rho_1) - \rho_{12}] = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

The second inequality in (2.3) follows from the concavity¹¹ of $C \mapsto \text{Tr}[\exp(K + \ln C)]$ for positive C applied to $\rho_1 = \alpha\rho'_1 + (1 - \alpha)\rho''_1$ with $K = \ln \rho_{12} - \ln \rho_1$. Q.E.D.

Proof of Theorem 2: It has already been pointed out² that (1.5) and (1.6) are equivalent; however, we shall prove each statement separately.

(i) *Proof of (1.5):* We use Klein's inequality, (2.2), with $A = \rho_{123}$ and $B = \exp(-\ln \rho_2 + \ln \rho_{12} + \ln \rho_{23})$. One finds

$$\begin{aligned} F(\rho_{123}) &\equiv S_{123} + S_2 - S_{12} - S_{23} \\ &\leq \text{Tr}_{123} [\exp(\ln \rho_{12} - \ln \rho_2 + \ln \rho_{23}) - \rho_{123}]. \end{aligned}$$

We now apply a generalization¹¹ of the Golden-Thompson inequality, i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}[\exp(\ln B - \ln C + \ln D)] \\ \leq \text{Tr} \int_0^\infty B(C+x1)^{-1} D(C+x1)^{-1} dx. \quad (2.4) \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} F(\rho_{123}) &\leq \text{Tr}_{123} \left(\int_0^\infty \rho_{12}(\rho_2+x1)^{-1} \right. \\ &\quad \times \rho_{23}(\rho_2+x1)^{-1} dx - \rho_{123} \Big) \\ &= \text{Tr}_2 \int_0^\infty \rho_2(\rho_2+x1)^{-1} \rho_2(\rho_2+x1)^{-1} dx - \text{Tr}_{123} \rho_{123} \\ &= \text{Tr}_2 \rho_2 - \text{Tr}_{123} \rho_{123} = 0. \quad \text{Q.E.D.} \end{aligned}$$

(ii) *Proof of (1.6):* Call the left side of (1.6) $G(\rho_{123})$. Note that $S_1 - S_{12}$ is convex in ρ_{12} by Theorem 1; since ρ_{12} is linear in ρ_{123} , $S_1 - S_{12}$ is convex in ρ_{123} . Thus, $G(\rho_{123})$ is convex in ρ_{123} . In the convex cone of positive matrices, the extremal rays consist of matrices of the form $\rho = \alpha P$ where $\alpha \geq 0$ and P is a one-dimensional projection. If ρ_{123} is extremal, then (see Ref. 2, Lemma 3) $S_1 = S_{23}$ and $S_3 = S_{12}$, so that $G(\rho_{123}) = 0$. Every positive matrix ρ_{123} can be written as a convex combination of extremal matrices; it then follows from the convexity of G that $G(\rho_{123}) \leq 0$. Q.E.D.

3. REMARKS AND RELATED RESULTS

We have already noted in the proof of (1.6) that Theorem 1 implies Theorem 2. We now note that the converse is also true and give several alternative proofs of Theorems 1 and 2. We then show that $F(\rho_{123})$ is not convex and give a corollary to Theorem 1.

(A) To show Theorem 2 implies Theorem 1 it suffices to note that [apart from the trivial interchange of the subscripts 1 and 2 in (2.1)] (1.5) is identical to (2.1) for a special choice of ρ_{123} , i.e., $\rho_{123} = \alpha \rho'_{12} \otimes E_3 + (1-\alpha) \rho''_{12} \otimes F_3$ where H_3 is chosen to be two-dimensional and E_3 and F_3 are orthogonal, one-dimensional projections on H_3 .

(B) Uhlmann⁹ has shown that (1.5) follows from the concavity of $C \mapsto \text{Tr} \exp(K + \ln C)$. This has been shown to be true by Lieb,¹¹ and an alternate proof was later found by Epstein.¹² Therefore, Uhlmann's remark gives an alternate proof of (1.5).

(C) The proof of (1.6) shows that Theorem 1 implies Theorem 2. However, (1.6) is not equivalent to (1.5) in other contexts.¹³ [In fact, (1.6) is false in the classical continuous case.⁶] Therefore, it is instructive to note that one can show that Theorem 1 implies (1.5) directly without using (1.6). Baumann and Jost^{3,5} have shown that a special choice of ρ'_{12} and ρ''_{12} in (2.1) implies that $\text{Tr} \int_0^\infty A^*(C+x1)^{-1} A(C+x1)^{-1} dx$ is jointly convex in (A, C) where A and C are matrices with $C > 0$. Lieb has then shown¹¹ that this implies $C \mapsto \text{Tr} \exp(K + \ln C)$ is concave in C . The last statement was used to prove¹¹ (2.4) which, as we have already seen, implies (1.5). Alternatively, we have already noted in (B) above that concavity of $C \mapsto \text{Tr} \exp[K + \ln C]$ implies (1.5).

(D) We have already shown that the left side of (1.6), $G(\rho_{123})$, is convex. One might wonder, therefore, if the left side of (1.5), $F(\rho_{123})$, is also convex. In fact, it is not. If it were, one could choose H_2 to be one-dimensional so that

$$F(\rho_{123}) = S_{13} - S_1 - S_3 \equiv E(\rho_{13})$$

would have to be a convex function of ρ_{13} . Take H_1 and H_3 to be two-dimensional and choose ρ_{13} and ρ'_{13} to be the following orthogonal, one-dimensional projections:

$$\rho'_{13}(i_1, i_3; j_1, j_3) = \frac{1}{2} \delta(i_1, i_3) \delta(j_1, j_3)$$

and

$$\rho''_{13}(i_1, i_3; j_1, j_3) = \frac{1}{2} [1 - \delta(i_1, i_3)] [1 - \delta(j_1, j_3)],$$

where δ is the Kronecker delta. Then $\rho'_1 = \rho''_1 = \frac{1}{2} 1_1$, $\rho'_3 = \rho''_3 = \frac{1}{2} 1_3$, and $E(\rho'_{13}) + E(\rho''_{13}) - 2E(\frac{1}{2}\rho'_{13} + \frac{1}{2}\rho''_{13}) = -2 \ln 2 < 0$, which is a contradiction.

(E) It was pointed out in Ref. 11 that if $f(A)$ is a convex function from the set of positive matrices into \mathbb{R} , and if it is also homogeneous [i.e., $f(\lambda A) = \lambda f(A)$ for all $\lambda > 0$], then

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(A + xB) \Big|_{x=0} \equiv \lim_{x \downarrow 0} x^{-1} [f(A + xB) - f(A)] \leq f(B), \quad (3.1)$$

whenever A, B are positive matrices and the above limit exists. The function $(S_1 - S_{12})(\rho_{12})$ has these properties. To apply (3.1) we compute

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} S(\rho + x\gamma) &= -\frac{d}{dx} \text{Tr}[(\rho + x\gamma) \ln(\rho + x\gamma)] \\ &= -\text{Tr} \gamma \ln(\rho + x\gamma) - \text{Tr} \gamma. \end{aligned}$$

Using this in (3.1) we conclude

Corollary: Let γ_{12} and ρ_{12} be positive, trace-class matrices on H_{12} . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}_{12} \gamma_{12} \ln \rho_{12} - \text{Tr}_{12} \gamma_{12} \ln \gamma_{12} \\ \leq \text{Tr}_{12} \gamma_{12} \ln \gamma_{12} - \text{Tr}_{12} \gamma_{12} \ln \rho_{12}, \quad (3.2) \end{aligned}$$

i.e., for each fixed γ_{12} , the left side of (3.2) achieves its maximum when $\rho_{12} = \gamma_{12}$.

4. EXTENSION TO INFINITE-DIMENSIONS

We can use Theorem A2 to extend Theorems 1 and 2 to infinite dimensions. For simplicity, we confine our discussion to Theorem 1 where $H_{12} = H_1 \otimes H_2$. The extension of Theorem 2 is similar and we point out the necessary changes at the end of this section.

Let $E_n^i (i = 1, 2 \text{ and } n = 1, 2, \dots)$ be sequences of increasing, finite-dimensional projections on H_i , converging strongly to the identity, and define

$$\begin{aligned} E^n &= E_1^n \otimes E_2^n, \\ \rho_{12}^n &= E^n \rho_{12} E^n, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\rho_1^n = \text{Tr}_2 \rho_{12}^n = E_1^n (\text{Tr}_2 E_2^n \rho_{12} E_2^n) E_1^n \quad (4.1)$$

Since the spaces $E_n^i H_i$ are finite dimensional, Theorem 1 is satisfied by ρ_{12}^n on $E_1^n H_1 \otimes E_2^n H_2$ for each n . Thus, it suffices to show that the sequences of matrices $\{\rho_{12}^n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ and $\{\rho_1^n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ satisfy the hypotheses of Theorem A2 so that, e.g., $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(\rho_{12}^n) = S(\rho_{12}) = S_{12}$.

To show that $\{\rho_{12}^n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ satisfies Theorem A2, we first note that $E^n \xrightarrow{s} 1_{12}$. If¹⁴ the sequences $A_n \xrightarrow{s} A$ and $B_n \xrightarrow{s} B$, then $A_n B_n \xrightarrow{s} AB$. Consequently, ρ_{12}^n converges to ρ_{12} strongly, and therefore weakly. It follows from the Ritz principle (see Proposition A1) that $\rho_{12}^n = E^n \rho_{12} E^n \leq E^{n+1} \rho_{12} E^{n+1} \leq \rho_{12}$, with \leq as defined

in the Appendix. Therefore, the hypotheses of Theorem A2 are satisfied and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(\rho_{12}^n) = S_{12}. \quad (4.2)$$

To show that $\{\rho_1^n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ also satisfies Theorem A.2, define $\tilde{\rho}_1^n = \text{Tr}_2 E_3 \rho_{12}^n E_3$. Then $\rho_1^n = E_1 \tilde{\rho}_1^n E_1$. To show that ρ_1^n converges to ρ_1 weakly, it suffices to show that $\tilde{\rho}_1^n$ converges to ρ_1 strongly. (In fact, it converges uniformly.) To do this we can assume, without loss of generality, that E_3 projects on the space spanned by $e_1 \cdots e_n$ where $\{e_i; i = 1, 2, \dots\}$ is an orthonormal basis in H_2 . Then

$$(\psi, \tilde{\rho}_1^n \psi) = \sum_{i=1}^n (\psi \otimes e_i, \rho_{12} \psi \otimes e_i)$$

for all ψ in H_1 , and it follows that

$$\tilde{\rho}_1^n \leq \tilde{\rho}_1^{n+1}, \quad (4.3)$$

and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\psi, (\rho_1 - \tilde{\rho}_1^n) \psi) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=n+1}^\infty (\psi \otimes e_i, \rho_{12} \psi \otimes e_i) = 0 \quad (4.4)$$

Since $\tilde{\rho}_1^n$ is a monotone sequence of positive operators, (4.4) implies that $\tilde{\rho}_1^n \xrightarrow{s} \rho_1$ and therefore $\rho_1^n \xrightarrow{s} \rho_1$. Further, it follows from (4.3), i.e., the monotonicity of ρ_1^n , that

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_1^n &\nless E_1^{n+1} \tilde{\rho}_1^n E_1^{n+1} \\ &\leq E_1^{n+1} \tilde{\rho}_1^{n+1} E_1^{n+1} = \rho_1^{n+1} \nless \rho_1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, Theorem A2 implies

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(\rho_1^n) = S(\rho_1) = S_1.$$

The analysis for Theorem 2 is similar. One defines

$$\begin{aligned} E^n &= E_1^n \otimes E_2^n \otimes E_3^n, \\ \rho_{123}^n &= E^n \rho_{123} E^n, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\rho_{12}^n = \text{Tr}_3 \rho_{123}^n, \text{ etc.}$$

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APPENDIX: CONVERGENCE THEOREMS FOR ENTROPY By B. Simon §

We discuss a variety of convergence theorems which are useful in extending entropy inequalities from finite dimensional matrices to infinite dimensional operators on a Hilbert space.

Definition: Let A be a positive compact operator. $\mu_k(A)$ denotes the k th largest eigenvalue of A counting multiplicity.

Definition: Let $s(x)$ be the function on $[0, \infty)$ given by

$$s(x) = \begin{cases} -x \ln x & \text{if } x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 0. \end{cases}$$

If A is positive and compact, we set

$$S(A) = \sum_{k=1}^\infty s(\mu_k(A)),$$

the value infinity being allowed.

Definition: Let A and B be positive, compact operators. We write $A \nless B$ if and only if $\mu_k(A) \leq \mu_k(B)$ for all k .

Definition: Let $\{A_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ and A be positive, compact operators. We write $A_n \xrightarrow{\mu} A$ if and only if $\mu_k(A_n) \rightarrow \mu_k(A)$ for each fixed k .

Remarks: (1) The topology defined by μ -convergence is, of course, non-Hausdorff. (2) The order \nless is useful because of the following consequence of the Ritz principle:

Proposition A1: Let A be a positive, compact operator and let P be a projection. Then $PAP \nless A$. In particular, if P and Q are projections and $P \leq Q$, then $PAP \nless QAQ$.

The above is false if \nless is replaced by \leq .

Theorem A1 (Basic Convergence Theorem): Let B be a positive, compact operator with $S(B) < \infty$. Suppose $\{A_n\}$ and A are given positive, compact operators with

- (1) $A_n \xrightarrow{\mu} A$,
- (2) $A_n \nless B$ for each n .

Then, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(A_n) = S(A)$.

Proof: The proof is based on the fact that s is monotone in $[0, e^{-1}]$. Since B is compact, $\mu_k(B) \rightarrow 0$. Suppose $\mu_N(B) \leq e^{-1}$. By (1) and the continuity of s , $s(\mu_k(A_n)) \rightarrow s(\mu_k(A))$, each k , and by (2) and the monotonicity of s in $[0, e^{-1}]$, $s(\mu_k(A_n)) \leq s(\mu_k(B))$ for $k \geq N$, each n . Thus by the dominated convergence theorem for sums, $\sum_{k \geq N} s(\mu_k(A_n)) \rightarrow \sum_{k \geq N} s(\mu_k(A))$. Since $\sum_{k \leq N-1} s(\mu_k(A_n))$ certainly converges, the theorem is proven. Q.E.D.

For applications of Theorem A1, it is convenient to have statements expressed in a more usual form than μ -convergence.

Theorem A2: Let $\{A_n\}$ and A be positive, compact operators. If

- (1) $w\text{-}\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = A$

and

- (2) $A_n \nless A$ for all n ,

then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(A_n) = S(A)$.

Proof: We first prove that $A_n \xrightarrow{\mu} A$. Fix k and ϵ . By weak convergence and the min-max principle, it is easy to find a k -dimensional space, V , and an N such that

$$(\psi, A_n \psi) \geq (\mu_k(A) - \epsilon) \|\psi\|^2$$

if $\psi \in V$ and $n \geq N$. But then $\mu_k(A_n) \geq \mu_k(A) - \epsilon$ if $n \geq N$. Since $\mu_k(A) \geq \mu_k(A_n)$ by (2), this means $|\mu_k(A) - \mu_k(A_n)| < \epsilon$ if $n \geq N$ and hence $A_n \xrightarrow{\mu} A$. If $S(A) < \infty$, the theorem then follows from Theorem A1. If $S(A) = \infty$, for any M we can find an L such that

$\sum_{k=1}^L s(\mu_k(A)) > M$. However, for L sufficiently large, $S(A_n) \geq \sum_{k=1}^L s(\mu_k(A_n))$ and, since $\mu_k(A_n) \rightarrow \mu_k(A)$, the latter sum can be made arbitrarily close to M . Thus $S(A_n) \rightarrow \infty$. Q.E.D.

Theorem A3: (Dominated Convergence Theorem for Entropy): Let $\{A_n\}$, A and B be positive, compact operators and suppose that

- (1) $S(B) < \infty$,
- (2) $w\text{-}\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = A$,
- (3) $A_n \leq B$ (operator inequality!).

Then,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(A_n) = S(A).$$

Proof: Since B is compact, for any $\epsilon > 0$ we can find a finite-dimensional subspace $K \subset H$ such that $\langle u, Bu \rangle = \|B^{1/2}u\|^2 < \epsilon \|u\|^2$ for $u \in L$, where L is the orthogonal complement of K . Since $A_n \leq B$, $\|A_n^{1/2}u\| = \langle u, A_n u \rangle \leq \langle u, Bu \rangle \leq \epsilon \|u\|^2$ for all u in L . Since $A_n \xrightarrow{w} A$, $A \leq B$, and $\|A^{1/2}u\| \leq \epsilon \|u\|^2$ for all u in L also. We now show $A_n \rightarrow A$ uniformly. Recall that $\|A_n - A\| = \sup \{ |\langle \varphi, (A_n - A)\psi \rangle| : \varphi, \psi \in H, \|\varphi\| = \|\psi\| = 1 \}$. Now write $\varphi = f + u$, $\psi = g + v$ where f, g are in K and u, v in L . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \varphi, (A_n - A)\psi \rangle &= \langle (f + u), (A_n - A)(g + v) \rangle \\ &\leq \langle f, (A_n - A)g \rangle + \|A_n^{1/2}f\|^{1/2} \|A_n^{1/2}v\|^{1/2} \\ &\quad + \|A^{1/2}f\|^{1/2} \|A^{1/2}v\|^{1/2} + \|A_n^{1/2}u\|^{1/2} \|A_n^{1/2}g\|^{1/2} \\ &\quad + \|A^{1/2}u\|^{1/2} \|A^{1/2}g\|^{1/2} + \|A_n^{1/2}u\|^{1/2} \|A_n^{1/2}v\|^{1/2} \\ &\quad + \|A^{1/2}u\|^{1/2} \|A^{1/2}v\|^{1/2}, \end{aligned}$$

which can be arbitrarily small since $A_n \rightarrow A$ uniformly on K , $A_n^{1/2}$ and $A^{1/2}$ are bounded on K , $\|A_n^{1/2}u\| < \epsilon$, $\|A^{1/2}u\| < \epsilon$, etc., and $\|f\| \leq \|\varphi\|$, etc. Thus $|\langle \varphi, (A_n - A)\psi \rangle|$ can be made arbitrarily small independent of φ, ψ (for all φ, ψ with $\|\varphi\| = \|\psi\| = 1$) and thus $\|A_n - A\| \rightarrow 0$. By the min-max principle, $|\mu_k(A_n) - \mu_k(A)| \leq \|A_n - A\|$. Thus $A_n \xrightarrow{\mu} A$, and (1) implies that Theorem A1 is applicable. Q.E.D.

Example: Let $\{A_n\}$, A and B be the following operators on H , where $\{\varphi_n\}$ is an orthonormal basis for H :

$$A\varphi_k = 0, \quad \text{each } k,$$

$$A_n\varphi_k = \delta_{nk}e^{-1}\varphi_n,$$

$$B = A_1.$$

Then $A_n \nless B$, $A_n \rightarrow A$ strongly, but $S(A_n)$ does not converge to $S(A)$. This example shows that \leq and not \nless is needed in Theorem A3.

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