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# On Representations Associated with Completely n-Positive Linear Maps on Pro- $C^*$ -Algebras\*\*

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Abstract It is shown that an  $n \times n$  matrix of continuous linear maps from a pro- $C^*$ -algebra A to L(H), which verifies the condition of complete positivity, is of the form  $[V^*T_{ij}\Phi(\cdot)V]_{i,j=1}^n$ , where  $\Phi$  is a representation of A on a Hilbert space K, V is a bounded linear operator from H to K, and  $[T_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  is a positive element in the  $C^*$ -algebra of all  $n \times n$  matrices over the commutant of  $\Phi(A)$  in L(K). This generalizes a result of C. Y. Suen in Proc. Amer. Math. Soc., 112(3), 1991, 709–712. Also, a covariant version of this construction is given.

### 1 Introduction and Preliminaries

Pro- $C^*$ -algebras are generalizations of  $C^*$ -algebras. Instead of being given by a single  $C^*$ -norm, the topology on a pro- $C^*$ -algebra is defined by a directed family of  $C^*$ -seminorms. In fact, a pro- $C^*$ -algebra is a projective limit of  $C^*$ -algebras. A pro- $C^*$ -algebra A is a complete Hausdorff topological \*-algebra over  $\mathbb C$  whose topology is determined by its continuous  $C^*$ -seminorms in the sense that the net  $\{a_i\}_{i\in I}$  converges to 0 in A if and only if the net  $\{p(a_i)\}_{i\in I}$  converges to 0 for any continuous  $C^*$ -seminorm p on A. The set S(A) of all continuous  $C^*$ -seminorms on A is directed  $(p \geq q \text{ if } p(a) \geq q(a) \text{ for all } a \text{ in } A)$ . For each  $p \in S(A)$ ,  $\ker p = \{a \in A; p(a) = 0\}$  is a closed two-sided ideal in A and the quotient \*-algebra  $A/\ker p$ , denoted by  $A_p$ , is a  $C^*$ -algebra in the  $C^*$ -norm induced by p. The canonical map from A to  $A_p$  is denoted by  $\pi_p$ . For p and q in S(A) with  $p \geq q$ , there is a canonical morphism  $\pi_{pq}: A_p \to A_q$  of  $C^*$ -algebras such that  $\pi_{pq}(a + \ker p) = a + \ker q$  for all  $a \in A$ . Moreover,  $\{A_p, \pi_{pq}\}_{p \geq q}, p, q \in S(A)$  is an inverse system of  $C^*$ -algebras and  $\lim_{\leftarrow} A_p$  is a pro- $C^*$ -algebra which is algebraically and

topologically isomorphic with A. In the literature, pro- $C^*$ -algebras have been given by different name such as  $b^*$ -algebras (by C. Apostol),  $LMC^*$ -algebras (by G. Lessner, K. Schmüdgen) or locally  $C^*$ -algebras (by A. Inoue, M. Fragoulopoulou, etc.). Besides an intrinsic interest in pro- $C^*$ -algebras as topological algebras comes from the fact that they provide an important tool in investigation of certain aspect of  $C^*$ -algebras (like multipliers of Pedersen ideal; tangent algebra of a  $C^*$ -algebra) and quantum field theory.

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A continuous \*-morphism from a pro- $C^*$ -algebra A to another pro- $C^*$ -algebra B is called a morphism of pro- $C^*$ -algebras. An isomorphism of pro- $C^*$ -algebras is a bijective map  $\Phi: A \to B$  such that  $\Phi$  and  $\Phi^{-1}$  are morphisms of pro- $C^*$ -algebras.

A representation of a pro- $C^*$ -algebra A on a Hilbert space H is a continuous \*-morphism  $\varphi$  from A to L(H), the  $C^*$ -algebra of all bounded linear operators on H. A representation  $(\varphi, H)$  of A is nondegenerate if  $\varphi(A)H$  is dense in H (see [3]).

A continuous action of a locally compact group G on a pro- $C^*$ -algebra A is a morphism of groups  $\alpha: G \to \operatorname{Aut}(A)$ . Here  $\operatorname{Aut}(A)$  is the group of all isomorphisms of pro- $C^*$ -algebras from A onto A, such that the map  $(g,a) \mapsto \alpha_g(a)$  from  $G \times A$  to A is jointly continuous. The action  $\alpha$  is an inverse limit action if we can write A as an inverse limit  $\lim_{\delta \in \Delta} A_\delta$  of  $C^*$ -algebras in such

a way that there are continuous actions  $\alpha^{(\delta)}$  of G on  $A_{\delta}$ ,  $\delta \in \Delta$  such that  $\alpha_g = \lim_{\stackrel{\leftarrow}{\delta \in \Delta}} \alpha_g^{(\delta)}$  for all  $g \in G$  (see [15]). If G is a compact group, then any continuous action of G on A is an inverse limit action (see [15]).

A covariant representation of a dynamical system  $(A, G, \alpha)$  is a triple  $(\varphi, u, H)$ , where  $(\varphi, H)$  is a representation of A and (u, H) is a unitary representation of G, such that

$$\varphi(\alpha_q(a)) = u_q \varphi(a)(u_q)^*$$

for all  $a \in A$  and for all  $g \in G$ . A covariant representation  $(\varphi, u, H)$  is nondegenerate if  $(\varphi, H)$  is nondegenerate.

A pro- $C^*$ -dynamical system is a triple  $(A, G, \alpha)$ , where A is a pro- $C^*$ -algebra, G is a locally compact group and  $\alpha$  is a continuous inverse limit action of G on A.

Let  $(A, G, \alpha)$  be a pro- $C^*$ -dynamical system. The set  $C_c(G, A)$  of continuous functions from G to A with compact support is a \*-algebra with multiplication of two elements defined by  $(f, h) \mapsto f \times h$ ,

$$(f \times h)(s) = \int_{G} f(t)\alpha_{t}(h(t^{-1}s))dt,$$

and involution  $f \mapsto f^{\#}$ ,

$$f^{\#}(s) = \gamma(s)^{-1} \alpha_s (f(s^{-1})^*),$$

where  $\gamma$  is the modular function on G. The Hausdorff completion of  $C_c(G, A)$  with respect to the topology defined by the family of submultiplicative \*-seminorms  $\{N_p\}_{p\in S(A)}$   $(N_p)$  is defined by

$$N_p(f) = \int_G p(f(t)) dt,$$

 $f \in C_c(G, A)$ ) is a complete locally m-convex \*-algebra  $L^1(A, G, \alpha)$  with bounded approximate unit. The enveloping algebra of  $L^1(A, G, \alpha)$  is a pro- $C^*$ -algebra, denoted by  $A \times_{\alpha} G$  and called the crossed product of A by  $\alpha$  (see [7]).

If A is a pro- $C^*$ -algebra, then  $M_n(A)$ , the set of all  $n \times n$  matrices over A with the algebraic operations and the topology obtained by regarding it as a direct sum of  $n^2$  copies of A is a pro- $C^*$ -algebra. The concept of matricial order plays an important role to understand the infinite-dimensional noncommutative structure of operator algebras. Completely positive linear maps as the natural ordering attached to this structure have been extensively studied in [1, 4–6, 8–12, 16, 17].

A completely *n*-positive linear map from A to L(H) is an  $n \times n$  matrix  $[\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  of continuous linear maps from A to L(H) such that the map  $\rho: M_n(A) \to M_n(L(H))$  defined by

$$\rho([a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n) = [\rho_{ij}(a_{ij})]_{i,j=1}^n$$

is completely positive. We say that a completely *n*-positive linear map  $[\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  from A to L(H) is nondegenerate if for some approximate unit  $\{e_{\lambda}\}_{{\lambda}\in\Lambda}$  of A, the nets  $\{\rho_{ii}(e_{\lambda})\}_{{\lambda}\in\Lambda}$ ,  $i=1,2,\cdots,n$ , converge strictly to the identity operator on H (see [6]).

In [17], Suen showed that each unital completely n-positive linear map  $[\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  from a unital  $C^*$ -algebra A to L(H) is of the form  $[V^*T_{ij}\Phi(\cdot)V]_{i,j=1}^n$  where  $\Phi$  is a unital representation of A on a Hilbert space K, V is a partial isometry from H to K, and  $[T_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  is a positive element in  $M_n(\Phi(A)')$ .  $\Phi(A)'$  denotes the commutant of  $\Phi(A)$  in L(K).

In this paper, using a Radon-Nikodym type theorem for completely positive linear maps from a pro- $C^*$ -algebra A to L(H), we extend the result of Suen in the context of pro- $C^*$ -algebras (see Theorem 2.1). Moreover, we prove that the representation associated with a completely n-positive linear map is unique up to unitary equivalence and give a necessary and sufficient criterion of irreducibility for this representation (see Corollary 2.1). In Section 3, we prove a covariant version of Theorem 2.1. Also we prove that a u-covariant, nondegenerate completely n-positive linear map  $[\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  from A to L(H) induces a nondegenerate completely n-positive linear map  $[\theta^{\rho}_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  from  $A \times_{\alpha} G$  to L(H) such that the representation of  $A \times_{\alpha} G$  induced by  $[\theta^{\rho}_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  is unitarily equivalent with the representation of  $A \times_{\alpha} G$  associated with the covariant representation of  $(A, G, \alpha)$  induced by  $[\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  (see Proposition 3.1 and Remark 3.2).

## 2 Representations Associated with Completely n-Positive Linear Maps

Remark 2.1 Let A be a  $C^*$ -algebra. If  $\rho = [\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  is a completely n-positive linear map from A to L(H), then for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , the map  $\rho_{ii}$  is completely positive and for each  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  with  $i \neq j$ ,  $\rho_{ji} = \rho_{ij}^*$  ( $\rho_{ij}^*$  is a linear map from A to L(H) defined by  $\rho_{ij}^*(a) = (\rho_{ij}(a^*))^*$  for all  $a \in A$ ). Moreover, the linear maps  $(\rho_{ii} + \rho_{jj}) \pm 2\text{Re }\rho_{ij}$  and  $(\rho_{ii} + \rho_{jj}) \pm 2\text{Im }\rho_{ij}$  are completely positive for each  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  with  $i \neq j$  (see, for example, [13]). Then the linear maps  $\sum_{k=1}^n \rho_{kk}$ ,  $\sum_{k=1}^n \rho_{kk} \pm 2\text{Re }\rho_{ij}$  and  $\sum_{k=1}^n \rho_{kk} \pm 2\text{Im }\rho_{ij}$ ,  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  with  $i \neq j$  are completely positive.

Remark 2.2 If  $\rho = [\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  is a continuous completely n-positive linear map from a pro- $C^*$ -algebra A to L(H), then there is  $p \in S(A)$  and a completely n-positive linear map  $\rho^p = [\rho_{ij}^p]_{i,j=1}^n$  from  $A_p$  to L(H) such that  $[\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n = [\rho_{ij}^p \circ \pi_p]_{i,j=1}^n$  (see [5]). From this fact and Remark 2.1 we deduce that for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , the continuous linear map  $\rho_{ii}$  is completely positive and for each  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  with  $i \neq j$ , the continuous linear maps  $\sum_{k=1}^n \rho_{kk}, \sum_{k=1}^n \rho_{kk} \pm 2\operatorname{Re} \rho_{ij}$  and  $\sum_{k=1}^n \rho_{kk} \pm 2\operatorname{Im} \rho_{ij}$ , are completely positive.

The following theorem is a generalization of [17, Proposition 2.7].

**Theorem 2.1** Let A be a pro-C\*-algebra, let H be a Hilbert space, and let  $\rho = [\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  be a completely n-positive linear map from A to L(H).

(1) Then there is a representation  $\Phi_{\rho}$  of A on a Hilbert space  $H_{\rho}$ , a bounded linear operator  $V: H \to H_{\rho}$ , and a positive element  $[T_{ij}^{\rho}]_{i,j=1}^n \in M_n(\Phi(A)')$  with  $\sum_{i=1}^n T_{ii}^{\rho} = n \operatorname{id}_{H_{\rho}}$  such that

- (a)  $\rho_{ij}(a) = V_{\rho}^* T_{ij}^{\rho} \Phi_{\rho}(a) V_{\rho}$  for all  $a \in A$  and  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$ ;
- (b)  $\{\Phi_{\rho}(a)V_{\rho}\xi; a \in A, \xi \in H\}$  is dense in  $H_{\rho}$ .
- (2) If  $\Phi$  is another representation of A on a Hilbert space  $K, V : H \to K$  is a bounded linear operator and  $[S_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  is a positive element in  $M_n(\Phi(A)')$  with  $\sum_{i=1}^n S_{ii} = n \operatorname{id}_K$  such that
  - (a)  $\rho_{ij}(a) = V^* S_{ij} \Phi(a) V$  for all  $a \in A$  and  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ;
  - (b)  $\{\Phi(a)V\xi; a \in A, \xi \in E\}$  is dense in K;

then there is a unitary operator  $U: H_{\rho} \to K$  such that

- (i)  $\Phi(a) = U\Phi_{\rho}(a)U^*$  for all  $a \in A$ ;
- (ii)  $V = UV_{\rho}$ ;
- (iii)  $S_{ij} = UT_{ij}^{\rho}U^* \text{ for all } i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$

**Proof** (1) Let  $\widetilde{\rho} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \rho_{kk}$ . By Remark 2.2,  $\widetilde{\rho}$  is completely positive. Let  $(\Phi_{\rho}, V_{\rho}, H_{\rho})$  be the Stinespring representation associated with  $\widetilde{\rho}$  (see [9, Theorem 2.2]). Then  $\{\Phi_{\rho}(a)V_{\rho}\xi; a \in A, \xi \in H\}$  generates a dense subspace in  $H_{\rho}$ .

Let  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  with  $i \neq j$ . Since  $\widetilde{\rho} - \frac{1}{2}(\widetilde{\rho} + \frac{2}{n}\operatorname{Re}\rho_{ij}) = \frac{1}{2}(\widetilde{\rho} - \frac{2}{n}\operatorname{Re}\rho_{ij})$  and  $\widetilde{\rho} - \frac{1}{2}(\widetilde{\rho} + \frac{2}{n}\operatorname{Im}\rho_{ij}) = \frac{1}{2}(\widetilde{\rho} - \frac{2}{n}\operatorname{Im}\rho_{ij})$  and since the linear maps  $\widetilde{\rho} - \frac{2}{n}\operatorname{Re}\rho_{ij}$  and  $\widetilde{\rho} - \frac{2}{n}\operatorname{Im}\rho_{ij}$  are completely positive (see Remark 2.2), by Radon Nikodym type theorem for completely positive linear maps [9, Theorem 3.5], there are two positive operators  $T_{ij}^{(1)}, T_{ij}^{(2)} \in \Phi_{\rho}(A)'$  such that

$$(\operatorname{Re} \rho_{ij})(a) = V_{\rho}^{*} \left( n T_{ij}^{(1)} - \frac{n}{2} \operatorname{id}_{H_{\rho}} \right) \Phi_{\rho}(a) V_{\rho},$$
  

$$(\operatorname{Im} \rho_{ij})(a) = V_{\rho}^{*} \left( n T_{ij}^{(2)} - \frac{n}{2} \operatorname{id}_{H_{\rho}} \right) \Phi_{\rho}(a) V_{\rho}$$

for all  $a \in A$ . Moreover, the positive bounded linear operators  $T_{ij}^{(1)}, T_{ij}^{(2)} \in \Phi_{\rho}(A)'$  are unique with the above properties. Let  $T_{ij}^{\rho} = (nT_{ij}^{(1)} - \frac{n}{2}\mathrm{id}_{H_{\rho}}) + i(nT_{ij}^{(2)} - \frac{n}{2}\mathrm{id}_{H_{\rho}})$ . Clearly,  $T_{ij}^{\rho} \in \Phi_{\rho}(A)'$  and

$$\rho_{ij}(a) = V_{\rho}^* T_{ij}^{\rho} \Phi_{\rho}(a) V_{\rho}$$

for all  $a \in A$ . It is not difficult to check that  $T_{ij}^{\rho}$  is unique with the above property. Moreover,  $(T_{ij}^{\rho})^* = T_{ii}^{\rho}$ .

Let  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . Since  $\frac{1}{n}\rho_{ii} \leq \widetilde{\rho}$ , by Radon Nikodym type theorem for completely positive linear maps (see [9, Theorem 3.5]), there is a unique positive element  $T_{ii}^{\rho} \in \Phi_{\rho}(A)'$  such that

$$\rho_{ii}(a) = V_{\rho}^* T_{ii}^{\rho} \Phi_{\rho}(a) V_{\rho}$$

for all  $a \in A$ . From

$$\widetilde{\rho}(a) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \rho_{ii}(a) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} V_{\rho}^{*} T_{ii}^{\rho} \Phi_{\rho}(a) V_{\rho} = V_{\rho}^{*} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} T_{ii}^{\rho}\right) \Phi_{\rho}(a) V_{\rho}$$

and [9, Theorem 3.5], we conclude that  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} T_{ii}^{\rho} = n \operatorname{id}_{H_{\rho}}$ .

From

$$\langle [T_{ij}^{\rho}]_{i,j=1}^{n} (\Phi_{\rho}(a_k) V_{\rho} \xi_k)_{k=1}^{n}, (\Phi_{\rho}(a_k) V_{\rho} \xi_k)_{k=1}^{n} \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} \langle T_{ij}^{\rho} \Phi_{\rho}(a_j) V_{\rho} \xi_j, \Phi_{\rho}(a_i) V_{\rho} \xi_i \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} \langle V_{\rho}^* T_{ij}^{\rho} \Phi_{\rho}(a_i^* a_j) V_{\rho} \xi_j, \xi_i \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} \langle \rho_{ij}(a_i^* a_j) \xi_j, \xi_i \rangle$$

for all  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n \in H$  and for all  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in A$ , and taking into account that  $\rho = [\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  is completely positive and  $\{\Phi_{\rho}(a)V_{\rho}\xi; a \in A, \xi \in E\}$  generates  $H_{\rho}$ , we conclude that  $[T_{ij}^{\rho}]_{i,j=1}^n$  is a positive element in  $M_n(\Phi_{\rho}(A)')$ .

(2) We consider the linear map  $U_0: \operatorname{Sp}\{\Phi_{\rho}(a)V_{\rho}\xi; a \in A, \xi \in H\} \to \operatorname{Sp}\{\Phi(a)V\xi; a \in A, \xi \in E\}$  defined by

$$U(\Phi_{\rho}(a)V_{\rho}\xi) = \Phi(a)V\xi.$$

Since

$$\begin{split} \langle U_0(\Phi_\rho(a)V_\rho\xi), U_0(\Phi_\rho(a)V_\rho\xi) \rangle &= \langle \Phi(a)V\xi, \Phi(a)V\xi \rangle = \langle V^*\Phi(a^*a)V\xi, \xi \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \Big\langle V^* \Big( \sum_{i=1}^n S_{ii} \Big) \Phi(a^*a)V\xi, \xi \Big\rangle = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \rho_{ii}(a^*a)\xi, \xi \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \langle V_\rho^* T_{ii}^\rho \Phi_\rho(a^*a)V_\rho\xi, \xi \rangle = \langle V_\rho^* \Phi_\rho(a^*a)V_\rho\xi, \xi \rangle \\ &= \langle \Phi_\rho(a)V_\rho\xi, \Phi_\rho(a)V_\rho\xi \rangle \end{split}$$

for all  $a \in A$  and for all  $\xi \in E$ ,  $U_0$  extends to a unitary operator U from  $H_\rho$  to K. It is easy to verify that  $U\Phi_\rho(a) = \Phi(a)U$  for all  $a \in A$  and  $UV_\rho = V$ . Let  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and  $a \in A$ . Clearly,  $U^*S_{ij}U \in \Phi_\rho(A)'$ . From

$$\rho_{ij}(a) = V^* S_{ij} \Phi(a) V = V_{\rho}^* U^* S_{ij} \Phi(a) U V_{\rho} = V_{\rho}^* U^* S_{ij} U \Phi_{\rho}(a) V_{\rho}$$

and taking into account that  $T_{ij}^{\rho}$  is the unique element in  $\Phi_{\rho}(A)'$  such that

$$\rho_{ij}(a) = V_{\rho}^* T_{ij}^{\rho} \Phi_{\rho}(a) V_{\rho}$$

for all  $a \in A$ , we deduce that  $U^*S_{ij}U = T_{ij}^{\rho}$  and the theorem is proved.

**Remark 2.3** If  $\rho = [\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  is nondegenerate, then  $V_{\rho}$  is an isometry, since for some approximate unit  $\{e_{\lambda}\}_{{\lambda} \in {\Lambda}}$  of A, we have

$$\xi = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lim_{\lambda} \rho_{ii}(e_{\lambda}) \xi = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lim_{\lambda} V_{\rho}^{*} T_{ii}^{\rho} \Phi_{\rho}(e_{\lambda}) V_{\rho} \xi = \lim_{\lambda} V_{\rho}^{*} \Phi_{\rho}(e_{\lambda}) V_{\rho} \xi$$
$$= V_{\rho}^{*} V_{\rho} \xi \quad \text{(by [5, Proposition 4.2])}$$

for all  $\xi \in H$ .

Corollary 2.1 Let A be a pro-C\*-algebra, let H be a Hilbert space, and let  $\rho = [\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  be a continuous completely n-positive linear map from A to L(H). The representation  $(\Phi_{\rho}, H_{\rho})$  of A associated with  $\rho$  is irreducible if and only if there is a pure completely positive linear map  $\theta$  from A to L(H) and a positive matrix  $[\lambda_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  in  $M_n(\mathbb{C})$  with  $\sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_{kk} = n$  such that  $\rho = [\lambda_{ij}\theta]_{i,j=1}^n$ .

**Proof** First we suppose that  $(\Phi_{\rho}, H_{\rho})$  is irreducible. Then  $\widetilde{\rho}$  is pure and for each  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  there is  $\lambda_{ij} \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $T_{ij}^{\rho} = \lambda_{ij} \mathrm{id}_{H_{\rho}}$  (see [9, Corollary 3.6]). Moreover,  $[\lambda_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  is a positive matrix in  $M_n(\mathbb{C})$  with  $\sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_{kk} = n$ , and since

$$\rho_{ij}(a) = \lambda_{ij} V_{\rho}^* \Phi_{\rho}(a) V_{\rho} = \lambda_{ij} \widetilde{\rho}(a)$$

for all  $a \in A$  and for all  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,

$$\rho = [\lambda_{ij}\widetilde{\rho}]_{i,j=1}^n.$$

Conversely, if  $\rho = [\lambda_{ij}\theta]_{i,j=1}^n$  and  $\sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_{kk} = n$ , then  $\widetilde{\rho} = \theta$  and since  $\theta$  is pure, the representation of A associated with  $\widetilde{\rho}$  is irreducible (see [9, Corollary 3.6]). Therefore the representation  $(\Phi_{\rho}, H_{\rho})$  of A associated with  $\rho$  is irreducible.

# 3 Covariant Representations Associated with Covariant Completely *n*-Positive Linear Maps

**Definition 3.1** Let A be a pro- $C^*$ -algebra, let  $(G, A, \alpha)$  be a pro- $C^*$ -dynamical system and let u be a unitary representation of G on a Hilbert space H. We say that a completely n-positive linear map  $\rho = [\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  from A to L(H) is u-covariant with respect to the pro- $C^*$ -dynamical system  $(G, A, \alpha)$  if

$$\rho_{ij}(\alpha_g(a)) = u_g \rho_{ij}(a)(u_g)^*$$

for all  $a \in A$  and for all  $g \in G$ .

The following theorem is a covariant version of Theorem 2.1.

**Theorem 3.1** Let A be a pro- $C^*$ -algebra, let  $(G, A, \alpha)$  be a pro- $C^*$ -dynamical system, let u be a unitary representation of G on a Hilbert space H, and let  $\rho = [\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  be a u-covariant nondegenerate completely n-positive linear map from A to L(H).

- (1) Then there is a covariant representation  $(\Phi_{\rho}, v^{\rho}, H_{\rho})$  of  $(G, A, \alpha)$ , an isometry  $V_{\rho}$  in  $L(H, H_{\rho})$  and a positive element  $[T_{ij}^{\rho}]_{i,j=1}^{n}$  in  $M_{n}(\Phi_{\rho}(A)' \cap v^{\rho}(G)')$  with  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} T_{ii}^{\rho} = n \operatorname{id}_{H_{\rho}}$  such that
  - (a)  $\rho_{ij}(a) = V_{\rho}^* T_{ij}^{\rho} \Phi_{\rho}(a) V_{\rho}$  for all  $a \in A$  and for all  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ;
  - (b)  $\{\Phi_{\rho}(a)V_{\rho}\xi; a \in A, \xi \in H\}$  spans a dense subspace of  $H_{\rho}$ ;
  - (c)  $v_q^{\rho}V_{\rho} = V_{\rho}u_g$  for all  $g \in G$ .
- (2) If  $(\Phi, v, K)$  is a covariant representation of  $(G, A, \alpha)$ , V is an isometry in L(H, K), and  $[S_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  is a positive element in  $M_n(\Phi(A)' \cap v(G)')$  with  $\sum_{i=1}^n S_{ii} = n \operatorname{id}_K$  such that

- (a)  $\rho(a) = V^* S_{ij} \Phi(a) V$  for all  $a \in A$  and for all  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ;
- (b)  $\{\Phi(a)V\xi; a \in A, \xi \in H\}$  spans a dense subspace of K;
- (c)  $v_q V = V u_q$  for all  $g \in G$ ,

then there is a unitary operator U in  $L(H_{\rho}, K)$  such that

- (i)  $\Phi(a) = U\Phi_{\rho}(a)U^*$  for all  $a \in A$ ;
- (ii)  $v_q = Uv_q^{\rho}U^*$  for all  $g \in G$ ;
- (iii)  $V = UV_{\rho}$ ;
- (iv)  $S_{ij} = UT_{ij}^{\rho}U^*$  for all  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

**Proof** (1) Let  $\tilde{\rho} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \rho_{ii}$ . Clearly,  $\tilde{\rho}$  is a u-covariant nondegenerate continuous completely positive linear map from A to L(H). Let  $(\Phi_{\rho}, v^{\rho}, V_{\rho}, H_{\rho})$  be the covariant Stinespring construction associated with  $\tilde{\rho}$  (see, for example, [8, Theorem 3.6]). Moreover, the triple  $(\Phi_{\rho}, V_{\rho}, H_{\rho})$  is the Stinespring representation associated with  $\tilde{\rho}$ . Therefore the quadruple  $(\Phi_{\rho}, v^{\rho}, V_{\rho}, H_{\rho})$  verifies the relations Theorem 3.1(1)(a) and Theorem 3.1(1)(c) and by the proof of Theorem 2.1, there is a positive element  $[T_{ij}^{\rho}]_{i,j=1}^{n}$  in  $M_n(\Phi_{\rho}(A)')$  with  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} T_{ii}^{\rho} = n \operatorname{id}_{H_{\rho}}$ , such that

$$\rho_{ij}(a) = V_{\rho}^* T_{ij}^{\rho} \Phi_{\rho}(a) V_{\rho} \quad \text{for all } a \in A \text{ and for all } i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Let  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . To show that  $T_{ij}^{\rho} \in v^{\rho}(G)'$ , let  $a \in A$ . From

$$\rho_{ij}(a) = u_g^* \rho_{ij}(\alpha_g(a)) u_g = u_g^* V_\rho^* T_{ij}^\rho \Phi_\rho(\alpha_g(a)) V_\rho u_g$$

$$= V_\rho^* (v_g^\rho)^* T_{ij}^\rho v_g^\rho \Phi_\rho(a) (v_g^\rho)^* v_g^\rho V_\rho$$

$$= V_\rho^* (v_g^\rho)^* T_{ij}^\rho v_g^\rho \Phi_\rho(a) V_\rho$$

for all  $g \in G$  and the uniqueness of  $T_{ij}^{\rho}$  such that  $\rho_{ij}(a) = V_{\rho}^* T_{ij}^{\rho} \Phi_{\rho}(a) V_{\rho}$ , we deduce that  $T_{ij}^{\rho} = (v_g^{\rho})^* T_{ij}^{\rho} v_g^{\rho}$  for all  $g \in G$  and so  $T_{ij}^{\rho} \in v^{\rho}(G)'$ .

(2) Since

$$\widetilde{\rho}(a) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \rho_{ii}(a) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} V^* S_{ii} \Phi(a) V = V^* \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} S_{ii} \right) \Phi(a) V = V^* \Phi(a) V$$

for all  $a \in A$ ,  $\{\Phi(a)V\xi; a \in A, \xi \in H\}$  spans a dense subspace of K and since  $v_gV = Vu_g$  for all  $g \in G$ ,  $(\Phi, v, K)$  is a covariant representation of  $(A, G, \alpha)$  associated with  $\widetilde{\rho}$  and then there is a unitary operator  $U : H_{\rho} \to K$  (see [8, Theorem 3.6]) such that

- (a)  $\Phi(a) = U\Phi_{\rho}(a)U^*$  for all  $a \in A$ ;
- (b)  $v_g = Uv_q^{\rho}U^*$  for all  $g \in G$ ;
- (c)  $V = UV_{\rho}$ .

Let  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . From

$$\rho_{ij}(a) = V^* S_{ij} \Phi(a) V = V_{\rho}^* U^* S_{ij} \Phi(a) U V_{\rho} = V_{\rho}^* (U^* S_{ij} U) \Phi_{\rho}(a) V_{\rho}$$

for all  $a \in A$  and the uniqueness of the bounded linear operator  $T_{ij}^{\rho} \in \Phi_{\rho}(A)'$  such that  $\rho_{ij}(a) = V_{\rho}^* T_{ij}^{\rho} \Phi_{\rho}(a) V_{\rho}$  for all  $a \in A$ , we deduce that  $T_{ij}^{\rho} = U^* S_{ij} U$  and the theorem is proved.

**Remark 3.1** Any *u*-covariant completely *n*-positive linear map  $\rho = [\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  from *A* to L(H) with respect the pro- $C^*$ -dynamical system  $(G, A, \alpha)$  induces a nondegenerate covariant

representation  $(\Phi_{\rho}, v^{\rho}, H_{\rho})$  of  $(G, A, \alpha)$  and so a nondegenerate representation  $(\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho}, H_{\rho})$  of  $A \times_{\alpha} G$  (see [7]).

**Proposition 3.1** Let  $(G, A, \alpha)$  be a pro- $C^*$ -dynamical system, let H be a Hilbert space, and let u be a unitary representation of G on H. If  $\rho = [\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  is a u-covariant nondegenerate completely n-positive linear map from A to L(H), then there is a unique completely n-positive linear map  $\theta^{\rho} = [\theta_{ij}^{\rho}]_{i,j=1}^n$  from  $A \times_{\alpha} G$  to L(H) such that

$$\theta_{ij}^{\rho}(f) = \int_{G} \rho_{ij}(f(g)) u_g \mathrm{d}g$$

for all  $f \in C_c(G, A)$  and for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Moreover,  $\theta^{\rho}$  is nondegenerate.

**Proof** Let  $(\Phi_{\rho}, v^{\rho}, V_{\rho}, H_{\rho}, [T_{ij}^{\rho}]_{i,j=1}^{n})$  be the construction associated with  $\rho$  by Theorem 3.1. Since  $T_{ij}^{\rho} \in \Phi_{\rho}(A)' \cap v^{\rho}(G)'$ , it is not difficult to verify that  $T_{ij}^{\rho} \in (\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho})(A \times_{\alpha} G)'$  for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

For each  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , we consider the linear map  $\theta_{ij}^{\rho}: A \times_{\alpha} G \to L(H)$  defined by

$$\theta_{ij}^{\rho}(x) = V_{\rho}^* T_{ij}^{\rho}(\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho})(x) V_{\rho}.$$

Clearly,  $\theta_{ij}^{\rho}$  is continuous. To show that  $\theta^{\rho} = [\theta_{ij}^{\rho}]_{i,j=1}^{n}$  is completely *n*-positive, it is sufficient to show that the map  $S(\theta^{\rho}): A \times_{\alpha} G \to M_n(L(H))$  defined by

$$S(\theta^{\rho})(x) = [\theta^{\rho}_{ij}(x)]_{i,j=1}^n$$

is completely positive (see [9, Remark 2.1] and [4, Theorem 1.4]). Let  $x_1, \dots, x_m \in A \times_{\alpha} G$  and  $(\xi_{1i})_{i=1}^n, \dots, (\xi_{mi})_{i=1}^n \in \bigoplus_{i=1}^n H$ . Then

$$\sum_{l,k=1}^{m} \langle S(\theta^{\rho})(x_l^* x_k)(\xi_{ki})_{i=1}^n, (\xi_{li})_{i=1}^n \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{l,k=1}^{m} \langle [\theta_{ij}^{\rho}(x_l^* x_k)]_{i,j=1}^n (\xi_{ki})_{i=1}^n, (\xi_{li})_{i=1}^n \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{l,k=1}^{m} \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} \langle \theta_{ij}^{\rho}(x_l^* x_k) \xi_{ki}, \xi_{lj} \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{l,k=1}^{m} \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} \langle V_{\rho}^* T_{ij}^{\rho}(\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho})(x_l^* x_k) V_{\rho} \xi_{ki}, \xi_{lj} \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{l,k=1}^{m} \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} \langle T_{ij}^{\rho}(\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho})(x_k) V_{\rho} \xi_{ki}, (\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho})(x_l) V_{\rho} \xi_{lj} \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} \langle T_{ij}^{\rho} \sum_{k=1}^{m} (\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho})(x_k) V_{\rho} \xi_{ki}, \sum_{l=1}^{m} (\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho})(x_l) V_{\rho} \xi_{lj} \rangle.$$

From this fact and taking into account that  $[T_{ij}^{\rho}]_{i,j=1}^{n}$  is a positive element in  $M_n(\Phi_{\rho}(A)')$ , we conclude that  $\theta^{\rho}$  is completely *n*-positive.

Let  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and  $f \in C_c(G, A)$ . Then

$$\theta_{ij}^{\rho}(f) = V_{\rho}^* T_{ij}^{\rho} (\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho})(f) V_{\rho} = V_{\rho}^* T_{ij}^{\rho} \int_{G} \Phi_{\rho}(f(g)) v_{g}^{\rho} V_{\rho} \mathrm{d}g$$
$$= \int_{G} V_{\rho}^* T_{ij}^{\rho} \Phi_{\rho}(f(g)) V_{\rho} u_{g} \mathrm{d}g = \int_{G} \rho_{ij}(f(g)) u_{g} \mathrm{d}g.$$

From this fact and taking into account that  $C_c(G, A)$  is dense in  $A \times_{\alpha} G$ , we conclude that  $\theta^{\rho}$  is unique such that

$$\theta_{ij}^{\rho}(f) = \int_{G} \rho_{ij}(f(g)) u_g \mathrm{d}g$$

for all  $f \in C_c(G, A)$  and for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

Let  $\{f_{\delta}\}_{{\delta}\in\Delta}$  be an approximate unit of  $A\times_{\alpha}G$ ,  $\{e_{\lambda}\}_{{\lambda}\in\Lambda}$  an approximate unit for A such that the nets  $\{\rho_{ii}(e_{\lambda})\}_{{\lambda}\in\Lambda}$ ,  $i=1,2,\cdots,n$ , converge strictly to the identity operator on H, and  $\xi\in H$ . Then

$$\lim_{\delta} \theta_{ii}^{\rho}(f_{\delta})\xi = \lim_{\delta} V_{\rho}^{*} T_{ii}^{\rho}(\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho})(f_{\delta}) V_{\rho}\xi = V_{\rho}^{*} T_{ii}^{\rho} V_{\rho}\xi$$
$$= \lim_{\delta} V_{\rho}^{*} T_{ii}^{\rho} \Phi_{\rho}(e_{\delta}) V_{\rho}\xi = \lim_{\delta} \rho_{ii}(e_{\delta})\xi = \xi$$

for all  $i=1,2,\cdots,n$ . Therefore,  $\theta^{\rho}$  is nondegenerate.

Remark 3.2 Let  $(G, A, \alpha)$  be a pro- $C^*$ -dynamical system, let  $\rho = [\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  be a u-covariant nondegenerate completely n-positive linear map from A to L(H), and let  $(\Phi_{\rho}, v^{\rho}, V_{\rho}, H_{\rho}, [T_{ij}^{\rho}]_{i,j=1}^n)$  be the construction associated with  $\rho$  by Theorem 3.1. Then  $\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho}$  is a nondegenerate representation of  $A \times_{\alpha} G$  on  $H_{\rho}$  (see [7]). Moreover,  $[T_{ij}^{\rho}]_{i,j=1}^n$  is a positive element in  $M_n((\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho})(A \times_{\alpha} G)')$  such that

$$\theta_{ij}^{\rho}(x) = V_{\rho}^* T_{ij}^{\rho} (\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho})(x) V_{\rho}$$

for all  $x \in A \times_{\alpha} G$  and for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and  $\{(\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho})(x)V_{\rho}\xi; \xi \in H, x \in A \times_{\alpha} G\}$  spans a dense subspace of  $H_{\rho}$ , since

$$(\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho})(a \times f)V_{\rho}\xi = \int_{G} \Phi_{\rho}(af(g))v_{g}^{\rho}V_{\rho}\xi dg = \Phi_{\rho}(a)V_{\rho}\int_{G} f(g)u_{g}\xi dg$$

for all  $a \in A$  for all  $f \in C_c(G, A)$  and for all  $\xi \in H$ , and since  $\{\Phi_{\rho}(a)V_{\rho}\xi; a \in A, \xi \in H\}$  spans a dense subspace of  $H_{\rho}$ . From these facts and Theorem 2.1, we conclude that there is a unitary operator  $U: H_{\rho} \to H_{\theta\rho}$  such that

- (1)  $(\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho})(x) = U\Phi_{\theta^{\rho}}(x)U^*$  for all  $x \in A \times_{\alpha} G$ ;
- (2)  $V_{\rho} = UV_{\theta^{\rho}};$
- (3)  $T_{ij}^{\rho} = U T_{ij}^{\theta^{\rho}} U^*$  for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

Therefore the representation of  $A \times_{\alpha} G$  induced by  $\theta^{\rho}$  is unitarily equivalent to the representation  $\Phi_{\rho} \times v^{\rho}$  induced by the covariant nondegenerate completely *n*-positive linear map  $\rho = [\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$ .

Suppose that  $(G, A, \tau)$  is a trivial pro- $C^*$ -dynamical system (that is,  $\tau_g = \operatorname{id}_A$  for all  $g \in G$ ). Then the pro- $C^*$ -algebras  $A \times_{\tau} G$  and  $A \otimes_{\max} C^*(G)$ , where  $C^*(G)$  is the universal  $C^*$ -algebra associated with G, are isomorphic (see [7, 2, 3, 12]). By Theorem 3.1, any u-covariant

nondegenerate completely *n*-positive linear map  $\rho = [\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  from A to L(H) with respect to  $(G, A, \tau)$  induces a nondegenerate covariant representation of  $(G, A, \tau)$  and so it induces a nondegenerate representation of  $A \otimes_{\max} C^*(G)$  on a Hilbert space K.

Corollary 3.1 Let  $\rho = [\rho_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$  be a u-covariant nondegenerate completely n-positive linear map from A to L(H) with respect to the trivial pro- $C^*$ -dynamical system  $(G, A, \tau)$ . Then,  $\rho$  induces a completely n-positive linear map  $\theta^{\rho} = [\theta_{ij}^{\rho}]_{i,j=1}^n$  from  $A \otimes_{\max} C^*(G)$  to L(H). Moreover, the representation of  $A \otimes_{\max} C^*(G)$  induced by  $\rho$  is unitarily equivalent to the representation induced by  $\theta^{\rho}$ .

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