

# The Tracial Rokhlin Property for Automorphisms on Non-simple $C^*$ -Algebras\*\*

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**Abstract** Let  $A$  be a unital AF-algebra (simple or non-simple) and let  $\alpha$  be an automorphism of  $A$ . Suppose that  $\alpha$  has certain Rokhlin property and  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -simple. Suppose also that there is an integer  $J \geq 1$  such that  $\alpha_{*0}^J = \text{id}_{K_0(A)}$ . The author proves that  $A \rtimes_{\alpha} \mathbb{Z}$  has tracial rank zero.

**Keywords** Rokhlin property, Tracial rank zero, AF-algebra

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## 1 Introduction

The Rokhlin property in ergodic theory was adopted to the context of von Neumann algebras by Connes [1]. It was adopted by Herman and Oneanu [2] for UHF-algebras. Rørdam [13] and Kishimoto [6] introduced the Rokhlin property to a much more general context of  $C^*$ -algebras, then Osaka and Phillips studied integer group actions which satisfy certain type of Rokhlin property on some simple  $C^*$ -algebras (see [12]). More recently, Lin studied the Rokhlin property for automorphisms on simple  $C^*$ -algebras (see [10]).

Phillips proposed how to introduce appropriate Rokhlin property for automorphisms on non-simple  $C^*$ -algebras. In this paper, we attempt to introduce certain Rokhlin property for automorphisms on non-simple  $C^*$ -algebras; when  $C^*$ -algebra is simple, this Rokhlin property is weaker than the Rokhlin property in [10, 12]. If an integer group action of a  $C^*$ -algebra has this Rokhlin property, we can conclude that its crossed product is in the  $C^*$ -algebra class of tracial rank zero. In particular, these algebras all belong to the class known currently to be classifiable by  $K$ -theoretic invariants in the sense of the Elliott classification program. We hope that this case will lead us to more interesting in the Rokhlin property for automorphisms on non-simple  $C^*$ -algebras.

The organization of this paper is as follows. In Section 1, we briefly recall the notion of  $C^*$ -algebras, then we introduce certain Rokhlin property and discuss some property of crossed product  $A \rtimes_{\alpha} \mathbb{Z}$  when an automorphism  $\alpha$  of a  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$  has the Rokhlin property. In Section 2, we show that if  $A$  is a unital AF-algebra, suppose that  $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$  has the tracial cyclic Rokhlin property and  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -simple, suppose also that there is an integer  $J \geq 1$  such that  $\alpha_{*0}^J = \text{id}_{K_0(A)}$ . Then  $A \rtimes_{\alpha} \mathbb{Z}$  has tracial rank zero.

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## 2 The Tracial Rokhlin Property

We will use the following convention:

(1) Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra,  $a \in A$  be a positive element and  $p \in A$  be a projection. We write  $[p] \leq [a]$  if there is a projection  $q \in \overline{aAa}$  and a partial isometry  $v \in A$  such that  $v^*v = p$  and  $vv^* = q$ .

(2) Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra. We denote by  $\text{Aut}(A)$  the automorphism group of  $A$ . If  $A$  is unital and  $u \in A$  is a unitary, we denote by  $\text{adu}$  the inner automorphism defined by  $\text{adu}(a) = u^*au$  for all  $a \in A$ .

(3) Let  $x \in A$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $\mathcal{F} \subset A$ . We write  $x \in_\varepsilon \mathcal{F}$ , if  $\text{dist}(x, \mathcal{F}) < \varepsilon$ , or there is a  $y \in \mathcal{F}$  such that  $\|x - y\| < \varepsilon$ .

(4) Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra and  $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$ . We say that  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -simple if  $A$  does not have any non-trivial  $\alpha$ -invariant closed two-sided ideals.

(5) A unital  $C^*$ -algebra is said to have real rank zero, written  $\text{RR}(A) = 0$ , if the set of invertible self-adjoint elements is dense in self-adjoint elements of  $A$ . Note that every unital AF-algebra has real rank zero.

(6) A unital  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$  has the (SP)-property if every non-zero hereditary  $C^*$ -subalgebra of  $A$  has a non-zero projection. Note that every  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$  with real rank zero has the (SP)-property.

(7) Let  $T(A)$  be the tracial state space of a unital  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$ . It is a compact convex set.

(8) We say that the order on projection over a unital  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$  is determined by traces, if for any two projections  $p, q \in A$ ,  $\tau(p) < \tau(q)$  for all  $\tau \in T(A)$  implies that  $p$  is equivalent to a projection  $p' \leq q$ .

**Definition 2.1** We denote by  $\mathcal{I}^{(0)}$  the class of all finite dimensional  $C^*$ -algebras, and denote by  $\mathcal{I}^{(k)}$  the class of all unital  $C^*$ -algebras which are unital hereditary  $C^*$ -subalgebras of  $C^*$ -algebras of the form  $C(X) \otimes F$ , where  $X$  is a  $k$ -dimensional finite CW complex and  $F \in \mathcal{I}^{(0)}$ .

We recall the definition of tracial topological rank of  $C^*$ -algebras.

**Definition 2.2** (cf. [8]) Let  $A$  be a unital simple  $C^*$ -algebra. Then  $A$  is said to have tracial (topological) rank no more than  $k$  if for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , any finite subset  $\mathcal{F} \subset A$ , and any non-zero positive element  $a \in A$ , there exist a nonzero projection  $p \in A$  and a  $C^*$ -subalgebra  $B \in \mathcal{I}^{(k)}$  with  $1_B = p$  such that

- (1)  $\|px - xp\| < \varepsilon$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{F}$ ,
- (2)  $pxp \in_\varepsilon B$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{F}$ ,
- (3)  $[1 - p] \leq [a]$ .

If  $A$  has tracial rank no more than  $k$ , we will write  $\text{TR}(A) \leq k$ . If furthermore,  $\text{TR}(A) \not\leq k-1$ , then we say  $\text{TR}(A) = k$ .

**Definition 2.3** Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra,  $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$ ,  $a \in A$  be a positive element, and  $p \in A$  be a projection. We say  $[p] \leq_\alpha [a]$  if there exist the mutually orthogonal projections  $p_i$ , the mutually orthogonal positive elements  $a_i$  and  $s_i \in \mathbb{Z}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  such that  $p = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i$ ,  $\{a_i\}_{i=1}^n$  belong to the hereditary  $C^*$ -subalgebra generated by  $a$ , and  $[\alpha^{s_i}(p_i)] \leq [a_i]$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

$1, \dots, n$ .

By this definition, we can compare nonzero positive elements with full positive elements by the action of  $\alpha$ .

**Example 2.1** Let  $A = A_0 \oplus A_0$ , where  $A_0$  is an infinite dimensional unital simple  $C^*$ -algebra with real rank zero, and let  $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$  such that  $\alpha(a_0, b_0) = (b_0, a_0)$ , where  $a_0, b_0 \in A_0$ . Then for any non-zero projection  $q \in A$ , there exists a projection  $p = (p_1, p_2) \in A$ ,  $p_1 \neq 0$ ,  $p_2 \neq 0$  such that  $[p] \leq_\alpha [q]$ .

**Definition 2.4** Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra and  $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$ . We say that  $\alpha$  has the tracial Rokhlin property if for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , every nonzero positive element  $a \in A$ , every finite set  $\mathcal{F} \subset A$ ,  $\mathcal{F} = \{p_1, \dots, p_m, a_1, \dots, a_s\}$ , where  $\{p_i\}, i = 1, \dots, m$  are the mutually orthogonal projections, there are the mutually orthogonal projections  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n \in A$  such that

- (1)  $\|\alpha(e_j) - e_{j+1}\| < \varepsilon$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n-1$ ,
- (2)  $\|e_j b - b e_j\| < \varepsilon$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n$  and all  $b \in \mathcal{F}$ ,
- (3)  $\|e_1 p_j e_1\| \geq 1 - \varepsilon$  for  $1 \leq j \leq m$ ,
- (4) with  $e = \sum_{j=1}^n e_j$ ,  $[1 - e] \leq_\alpha [a]$ .

When  $A$  is a unital simple  $C^*$ -algebra, the tracial Rokhlin property of the above definition is weaker than the Rokhlin property as in [10, 12], we weak the condition (4) to only require that the positive element  $1 - e$  can be compared with the given positive element  $a$  by the action of  $\alpha$ .

We define a slightly stronger version of the tracial Rokhlin property.

**Definition 2.5** Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra and let  $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$ . We say that  $\alpha$  has the tracial cyclic Rokhlin property if for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , every nonzero positive element  $a \in A$ , every finite set  $\mathcal{F} \subset A$ ,  $\mathcal{F} = \{p_1, \dots, p_m, a_1, \dots, a_s\}$ , where  $\{p_i\}, i = 1, \dots, m$  are the mutually orthogonal projections, there are the mutually orthogonal projections  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n \in A$  such that

- (1)  $\|\alpha(e_j) - e_{j+1}\| < \varepsilon$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n$ , where  $e_{n+1} = e_1$ ,
- (2)  $\|e_j b - b e_j\| < \varepsilon$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n$  and all  $b \in \mathcal{F}$ ,
- (3)  $\|e_1 p_j e_1\| \geq 1 - \varepsilon$  for  $1 \leq j \leq m$ ,
- (4) with  $e = \sum_{j=1}^n e_j$ ,  $[1 - e] \leq_\alpha [a]$ .

The only difference between the tracial Rokhlin property and the tracial cyclic Rokhlin property is that in condition (1), we require  $\|\alpha(e_n) - e_1\| < \varepsilon$ .

**Theorem 2.1** Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra with real rank zero, and let  $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$  have the tracial Rokhlin property. Then  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -simple if and only if the crossed product  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  is simple.

**Proof** Let  $I$  be an  $\alpha$ -invariant norm closed two-sided ideal of  $A$ . Then, by [3, Lemma 1],  $I \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  is a norm closed two-sided ideal of  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$ .

Conversely, let  $a$  be a positive element of the  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$ ,  $\mathcal{F} = \{a_i; i = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$  elements of  $A$ ,  $s_i \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . We prove that there exists a positive element

$x \in A$  with  $\|x\| = 1$  such that

$$\|xax\| \geq \|a\| - \varepsilon, \quad \|xa_i\alpha^{s_i}(x)\| \leq \varepsilon, \quad \|xa_i - a_ix\| < \varepsilon, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n. \quad (*)$$

Because  $A$  has real rank zero, let  $\varepsilon > 0$ , by [9, Theorem 3.2.5], there are mutually orthogonal projections  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_m$  and positive real numbers  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_m$  such that  $\left\|a - \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i p_i\right\| < \frac{\varepsilon}{3}$ . Let  $a_0 = \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i p_i$ ,  $C = \max\{\|a_1\|, \|a_2\|, \dots, \|a_n\|\}$ ,  $N = \max\{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$  and  $\varepsilon_0 = \min\left\{\frac{\varepsilon}{3\|a_0\|}, \frac{\varepsilon}{(N+2)C}\right\}$ .

Apply the tracial Rokhlin property with  $N$  in place of  $n$ , with  $\varepsilon_0$  in place of  $\varepsilon$ . We can obtain  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_N$ , such that

- (1)  $\|\alpha(e_j) - e_{j+1}\| < \varepsilon_0$  for  $1 \leq j \leq N-1$ ,
- (2)  $\|e_j a_i - a_i e_j\| < \varepsilon_0$  for  $1 \leq j \leq N$  and  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,
- (3)  $\|e_1 p_j e_1\| \geq 1 - \varepsilon_0$  for  $1 \leq j \leq m$ .

Then  $\|e_1 a_0 e_1\| = \left\|\sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i e_1 p_i e_1\right\| \geq \|\lambda_i e_1 p_i e_1\| \geq \lambda_i(1 - \varepsilon_0)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ .

We get

$$\|e_1 a_0 e_1\| \geq \|a_0\|(1 - \varepsilon_0) \geq \|a_0\| - \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|e_1 a e_1\| &= \|e_1 a_0 e_1 + e_1 a e_1 - e_1 a_0 e_1\| \geq \|e_1 a_0 e_1\| - \|e_1 a e_1 - e_1 a_0 e_1\| \\ &\geq \|e_1 a_0 e_1\| - \frac{\varepsilon}{3} \geq \|a_0\| - \frac{\varepsilon}{3} - \frac{\varepsilon}{3} \geq \|a\| - \frac{\varepsilon}{3} - \frac{\varepsilon}{3} - \frac{\varepsilon}{3} = \|a\| - \varepsilon, \\ \|e_1 a_i \alpha^{s_i}(e_1)\| &= \|e_1 a_i \alpha^{s_i}(e_1) - e_1 a_i \alpha^{s_i-1}(e_1) + e_1 a_i \alpha^{s_i-1}(e_1) \\ &\quad - e_1 a_i \alpha^{s_i-2}(e_1) + \dots + e_1 a_i \alpha^1(e_1)\| \\ &< \|e_1 a_i \alpha^1(e_1)\| + (s_i - 1)\varepsilon_0 \|a_i\| \\ &< \|a_i e_1 \alpha^1(e_1)\| + s_i \varepsilon_0 \|a_i\| < (s_i + 1)\varepsilon_0 \|a_i\| < \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

So we get (\*). Applying this condition and noticing that  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -simple, we can complete the proof the same as [5, Theorem 3.1]. We omit the details.

Applying (\*) and the same proof of Theorem 4.2 in [4], we can get the following result.

**Theorem 2.2** *Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra with real rank zero and let  $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$  have the tracial Rokhlin property and  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -simple. Then any non-zero hereditary  $C^*$ -subalgebra of the crossed product  $A \rtimes_{\alpha} \mathbb{Z}$  has a non-zero projection which is equivalent to a projection in  $A$ .*

**Lemma 2.1** *Let  $B = M_{r(1)} \oplus M_{r(2)} \oplus \dots \oplus M_{r(l)}$  be a finite dimensional  $C^*$ -subalgebra of a unital  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$ , and let  $e_{i,j}^{(s)} \in B$  be a system of matrix units for  $M_{r(s)}$ ,  $s = 1, 2, \dots, l$ . Then for any  $\delta > 0$ , there exists  $\sigma > 0$  satisfying the following: If  $\|pe_{i,i}^{(s)} - e_{i,i}^{(s)}p\| < \sigma$  and  $\|pe_{i,i}^{(s)}p\| > \frac{1}{2}$  for  $s = 1, 2, \dots, l$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, r(s)$ , then there is a monomorphism  $\varphi : B \rightarrow pAp$  such that  $\|pbp - \varphi(b)\| < \delta\|b\|$  for all  $b \in B$ .*

**Proof** It follows from the arguments in [9, Section 2.5] and [11, Proposition 2.3].

**Proposition 2.1** *Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra. Suppose that  $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$  is approximately inner and has the tracial Rokhlin property. If for any closed two-sided ideal  $I$  of  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$ ,*

there is an  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , here  $n$  only depends on  $I$ , such that  $K_0(A/I)$  is not  $n$ -divisible, then  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -simple.

**Proof** Suppose that  $A$  is not  $\alpha$ -simple, so there exists a closed two-sided ideal  $I$  of  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$  such that  $\alpha(I) = I$ . By the hypothesis, there is an  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $K_0(A/I)$  is not  $n$ -divisible.

Let  $a \in I$  be a non-zero positive element, and  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ . There are the mutually orthogonal projections  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n \in A$  such that

- (1)  $\|\alpha(e_j) - e_{j+1}\| < \varepsilon$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n-1$ ,
- (2) with  $e = \sum_{j=1}^n e_j$ ,  $[1 - e] \leq_\alpha [a]$ .

Because  $\alpha$  is approximately inner and by (1), we have  $[e_1] = [e_2] = \dots = [e_n]$  in  $K_0(A)$ .

If  $p \in A$  is a projection such that  $[p] \leq [b]$ , where  $b \in I$  is a positive element, then there is a  $v \in A$  such that  $v^*v = p$  and  $vv^* \in \overline{bAb} \subset I$ . If  $\pi : A \rightarrow A/I$  denotes quotient map,  $\pi(v)\pi(v^*) = 0$  in  $A/I$ ,  $\pi(v) = 0$  in  $A/I$ , then  $p \in I$ .

In (2),  $[1 - e] \leq_\alpha [a]$ . By the definition of  $\leq_\alpha$ ,  $a \in I$  and the discussion above, we have  $1 - e \in I$ , so  $\pi(1 - e) = 0$ ,  $[1 - e] = 0$  in  $K_0(A/I)$ , then  $n[e_1] = [1]$  in  $K_0(A/I)$ . This contradicts that  $K_0(A/I)$  is not  $n$ -divisible.

### 3 Main Results

In the proof of Theorem 3.2, we first prove  $\text{TR}(A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}) \leq 1$ , then use the following Lemma 3.1 to prove  $\text{RR}(A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ . The following lemma is similar to [12, Lemma 2.5].

**Lemma 3.1** *Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra with real rank zero, and let  $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$  have the tracial Rokhlin property. Suppose that  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -simple and the order on projection over  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  is determined by traces. Let  $\iota : A \rightarrow A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  be the inclusion map. Then for every finite set  $F \subset A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$ , every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , every nonzero positive element  $z \in A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$ , and every sufficiently large  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  (depending on  $F, \varepsilon$  and  $z$ ), there exist a projection  $e \in A \subset A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$ , a unital subalgebra  $D \subset e(A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z})e$ , a projection  $p \in D$ , a projection  $f \in A$ , and an isomorphism  $\varphi : M_n \otimes fAf \rightarrow D$ , such that*

(1) *with  $(e_{j,k})$  being the standard system of matrix units for  $M_n$ , we have  $\varphi(e_{1,1} \otimes a) = \iota(a)$  for all  $a \in fAf$  and  $\varphi(e_{k,k} \otimes 1) \in \iota(A)$  for  $1 \leq k \leq n$ ,*

(2) *with  $(e_{j,k})$  as in (1), we have  $\|\varphi(e_{j,j} \otimes a) - \alpha^{j-1}(\iota(a))\| \leq \varepsilon \|a\|$  for all  $a \in fAf$ ,*

(3) *for every  $a \in F$ , there exist  $b_1, b_2 \in D$  such that  $\|pa - b_1\| < \varepsilon$ ,  $\|ap - b_2\| < \varepsilon$ , and  $\|b_1\|, \|b_2\| \leq \|a\|$ ,*

(4) *there is an  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\frac{2m}{n} < \varepsilon$  and  $p = \sum_{j=m+1}^{n-m} \varphi(e_{j,j} \otimes 1)$ ,*

(5) *the projection  $1 - p$  is Murray-von Neumann equivalent in  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  to a projection in the hereditary subalgebra of  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  generated by  $z$  and  $\tau(1 - p) < \varepsilon$  for all  $\tau \in T(A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z})$ .*

**Proof** Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $F \subset A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  be a finite set, and let  $z \in A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  be a nonzero positive element.

Let  $u$  be a standard unitary in the crossed product  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$ . We regard  $A$  as a subalgebra of  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  in the usual way. Choose  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for every  $x \in F$  there are  $a_l \in A$  for  $-m \leq l \leq m$  such that  $\left\|x - \sum_{l=-m}^m a_l u^l\right\| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ . For each  $x \in F$ , choose one such expression,

and let  $S \subset A$  be a finite set which contains all the coefficients used for all elements of  $F$ . Let  $M = 1 + \sup_{a \in S} \|a\|$ .

Since  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  has (SP)-property and is simple, by Theorems 2.2 and 2.1, we can use [9, Lemma 3.5.7] to find nonzero orthogonal Murray-von Neumann equivalent projections  $g_0, g_1, \dots, g_{2m} \in z(A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z})z$ .

Since  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  is simple,  $g_0$  is a nonzero projection, and the tracial state space  $T(A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z})$  of  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  is weak-\* compact, we have  $\delta = \inf_{\tau \in T(A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z})} \tau(g_0) > 0$ . Now let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  be any integer such that  $n > \max(\frac{1}{\delta}, (N+2)(2m+1), \frac{4m}{\varepsilon})$ .

Set  $\varepsilon_0 = \frac{\varepsilon}{10(2m+1)n^2M}$ .

Choose  $\varepsilon_1 > 0$  so small that whenever  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n$  are mutually orthogonal projections in a unital  $C^*$ -algebra  $B$  and  $u \in B$  is a unitary such that  $\|ue_ju^* - e_{j+1}\| < \varepsilon_1$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n$ , then there is a unitary  $v \in B$  such that  $\|v - u\| < \varepsilon_0$  and  $ve_jv^* = e_{j+1}$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n$ . We can use [9, Lemma 3.5.7] to find nonzero orthogonal Murray-von Neumann equivalent projections  $h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{n+2} \in \overline{g_0(A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z})g_0}$  which are Murray-von Neumann equivalent in  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$ . Further use Theorem 2.2 to find a nonzero projection  $q \in A$  which is Murray-von Neumann equivalent in  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  to a projection in  $\overline{h_1(A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z})h_1}$ .

Apply the tracial Rokhlin property with  $n-1$  in place of  $n$ , with  $\min(1, \varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_1)$  in place of  $\varepsilon$ , with  $S$  in place of  $F$ , and with  $q$  in place of  $x$ . Recall the resulting projections  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n$ , and let  $e = \sum_{j=1}^n e_j$ ,  $[1-e] \leq_\alpha [q]$ . Apply the choice of  $\varepsilon_1$  to these projections and the standard unitary  $u$ , and obtain a unitary  $v \in A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  as in the previous paragraph.

We can get Conditions (1)–(4) by the same proof of Lemma 2.5 in [12]. We omit them.

It remains to verify Condition (5) of the conclusion. We have

$$1 - p = 1 - e + \sum_{j=1}^m e_j + \sum_{j=n-m+1}^n e_j.$$

By construction, we have  $[1-e] \leq_\alpha [h_1] \leq [g_0]$ . Now let  $\tau$  be any tracial state on  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $\tau(e_j) = \tau(e_1)$  for all  $j$ , whence  $\tau(e_j) \leq \frac{1}{n}$ . The inequality  $n > \frac{1}{\delta} \geq \frac{1}{\tau(g_0)}$  therefore implies  $\tau(e_j) < \tau(g_0)$ . Since all  $g_j$  are Murray-von Neumann equivalent, it follows that for any tracial state  $\tau$  on  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$ , we have  $\tau(e_j) < \tau(g_j)$  and  $\tau(e_{n-j}) < \tau(g_{m+j})$  for  $1 \leq j \leq m$ . So the order on projection over  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  is determined by traces implies that  $e_j \leq g_j$  and  $e_{n-j} \leq g_{m+j}$  in  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  for  $1 \leq j \leq m$ . Thus  $[1-p] \leq_\alpha \left[ \sum_{j=0}^{2m} g_j \right]$  which is a projection in the hereditary subalgebra  $\overline{z(A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z})z}$ .

$$\tau(1-p) = \tau(1-e) + \tau\left(\sum_{j=1}^m e_j + \sum_{j=n-m+1}^n e_j\right) \leq \frac{1}{2m(n+2)} + \frac{2m}{n} < \varepsilon.$$

This is Condition (5) of the conclusion.

**Theorem 3.1** *Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra with real rank zero, and let  $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$  have the tracial Rokhlin property. Suppose that  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -simple and the order on projection over  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  is determined by traces. Then  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  has real rank zero.*

**Proof** By applying Lemma 3.1 and the same proof of Theorem 4.5 in [12], we get the theorem.

**Theorem 3.2** *Let  $A$  be a unital AF-algebra. Suppose that  $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$  has the tracial cyclic Rokhlin property and  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -simple. Suppose also that there is an integer  $J \geq 1$  such that  $\alpha_{*0}^J = \text{id}_{K_0(A)}$ . Then  $\text{TR}(A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ .*

**Proof** By Theorem 2.1,  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  is a unital simple  $C^*$ -algebra.

Let  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$  and  $\mathcal{F} \subset A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  be a finite set. To simplify notation, without loss of generality, we may assume  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_0 \cup \{u\}$ , where  $\mathcal{F}_0 \subset A$  is a finite subset of the unit ball which contains  $1_A$  and  $u$  is a unitary which implements  $\alpha$ , i.e.,  $\alpha(a) = u^*au$  for all  $a \in A$ . Choose an integer  $k$  which is a multiple of  $J$  such that  $\frac{2\pi}{k-2} < \frac{\varepsilon}{16}$ . Put  $\mathcal{F}_1 = \mathcal{F}_0 \cup \{u^i a (u^*)^i : a \in \mathcal{F}_0, -k \leq i \leq k\}$ .

Fix  $b_0 \in (A \rtimes \mathbb{Z})_+ \setminus \{0\}$ . It follows from Theorem 2.2 that there is a nonzero projection  $r_0 \in A$  which is equivalent to a nonzero projection in the hereditary  $C^*$ -subalgebra generated by  $b_0$ .

Let  $\delta = \frac{\varepsilon}{16k^2}$ . Since  $A$  is a unital AF-algebra, denoted by  $A = \overline{\bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} A_m}$ , where  $A_m$  is a finite-dimensional  $C^*$ -algebra for  $m = 1, 2, \dots$ , there is a large enough  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $b \in_\delta A_m$  for all  $b \in \mathcal{F}_1$  and  $1_A \in A_m$ . Let  $A_m = M_{r(1)} \oplus M_{r(2)} \oplus M_{r(l)}$ . Note  $[(u^k)^* e u^k] = [e]$  in  $K_0(A)$  for all projection  $e \in A_m$ . By [9, Theorem 3.4.6], there exists a unitary  $w \in U(A)$  such that  $w^*(u^k)^* b u^k w = b$  for all  $b \in A_m$ . Because  $A$  is an AF-algebra,  $w \in U_0(A)$ . By [10, Lemma 2.6], we have the unitaries  $w_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k-1$  associated with finite dimensional  $C^*$ -subalgebra  $A_m$  such that  $w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_{k-1}$ ,  $\|w_i - 1\| \leq \frac{\pi}{k-2}$ . Since  $b \in_\delta A_m$  for all  $b \in \mathcal{F}_1$ , there is an  $a(b) \in A_m$  such that  $\|a(b) - a\| < \delta$ . Let  $e_{ij}^{(s)}$  be a system of matrix units for  $M_{r(s)}$  ( $s = 1, 2, \dots, l$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, r(s)$ ), and let  $\mathcal{G}_0 = \{a(b) \mid b \in \mathcal{F}_1\} \cup \{e_{ij}^{(s)} \mid s = 1, 2, \dots, l, i, j = 1, 2, \dots, r(s)\}$ .

Define  $\mathcal{F}_2 = \{u^i b u^{-i} : b \in \mathcal{G}_0, -k \leq i \leq k\}$  and let  $w_k = 1$ .

$$\mathcal{F}_3 = \{(w_{i_1} w_{i_1+1} \cdots w_i) a (w_{i_2} w_{i_2+1} \cdots w_i)^* : a \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cup \mathcal{F}_2, 1 \leq i, i_1, i_2 \leq k, i_1 \leq i, i_2 \leq i\}.$$

Note that  $w, w_i \in \mathcal{F}_3$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k-1$ .

Since  $\alpha$  has the tracial cyclic Rokhlin property,  $e_{i,j}^{(s)} \in A_m$  is a system of matrix units for  $M_{r(s)}$ ,  $s = 1, 2, \dots, l$ , let  $\sigma > 0$  be associated with  $A_m$  and  $\delta$  in Lemma 2.1, and let  $\eta = \min\{\delta, \sigma\}$ . Then there exist projections  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k \in A$  such that

- (1)  $\|\alpha(e_i) - e_{i+1}\| < \frac{\eta}{k}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $e_{k+1} = e_1$ ,
- (2)  $\|e_i a - a e_i\| < \frac{\eta}{k}$  for  $a \in \mathcal{F}_3$ ,
- (3)  $\|e_1 e_{jj}^{(s)} e_1\| \geq 1 - \frac{\eta}{k}$  for  $s = 1, 2, \dots, l$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, r(s)$ ,
- (4)  $\left[1 - \sum_{i=1}^k e_i\right] \leq_\alpha [r_0]$ .

Set  $p = \sum_{i=1}^k e_i$ . From (1) above, one can estimate

$$\|up - pu\| = \left\| \sum_{i=1}^k u e_{i+1} - \sum_{i=1}^k e_i u \right\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^k \|u e_{i+1} - e_i u\| = \sum_{i=1}^k \|u e_{i+1} - u \alpha(e_i)\| < \eta.$$

By (1) above, one can see that there is a unitary  $v \in A$  such that  $\|v - 1\| < \frac{2\eta}{k}$  and  $v^* u^* e_i u v = e_{i+1}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ . Set  $u_1 = uv$ . Then  $u_1^* e_i u_1 = e_{i+1}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$  and  $e_{k+1} = e_1$ . In particular,  $u_1^k e_1 = e_1 u_1^k$ . For any  $a \in \mathcal{F}_3 \cap A_m$ , since  $w \in \mathcal{F}_3$ ,

$$e_1 w^* e_1 (u_1^k)^* e_1 a e_1 u_1^k e_1 w e_1 \approx_{\frac{3\eta}{k}} e_1 a e_1.$$

By (2) and (3) above, it follows from Lemma 2.1 that there is a monomorphism  $\varphi : A_m \rightarrow e_1 A e_1$  such that  $\|\varphi(a) - e_1 a e_1\| < \delta \|a\|$  for all  $a \in A_m$ .

By applying [10, Lemma 2.9], we obtain unitaries  $x, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{k-1} \in U_0(e_1 A e_1)$  such that  $\|x - e_1 w e_1\| < \delta$ ,  $\|x_i - e_1 w_i e_1\| < \delta$ ,  $x = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_{k-1}$  and  $x^*(u_1^k)^* a u_1^k x = a$  for all  $a \in \varphi(A_m)$ .

Let  $Z = \sum_{i=1}^k e_i u_1^{k+1-i} x_i (u_1^{k-i})^* + (1-p)u_1$ . Define  $B = \varphi(A_m)$ . Then

$$\|Z - u_1\| \leq \max_i \{\|x_i - e_1\|\} \leq \max_i \{\|x_i - e_1 w_i e_1\| + \|e_1 w_i e_1 - e_1\|\} < \delta + \frac{\eta}{k} + \frac{\pi}{k-2},$$

$(Z^k)^* b Z^k = b$  for all  $b \in B$  and

$$(Z^i)^* e_1 Z^i \leq e_{i+1}, \quad Z^i = u_1^k (x_1 x_2 \cdots x_i) (u_1^{k-i})^*, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, k, \quad e_{k+1} = e_1.$$

Write  $B = C_1 \oplus C_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_N$ , let  $\{c_{is}^{(j)}\}$  be the matrix units for  $C_j$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, N$ , where  $C_j = M_{R(j)}$  and put  $q = 1_B$ . Define  $D_0 = B \bigoplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^{k-1} Z^{i*} B Z^i$ , and denote by  $D_1$  the  $C^*$ -subalgebra generated by  $B$  and  $c_{ss}^{(j)} Z^i$ ,  $s = 1, 2, \dots, R(j)$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, N$  and  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, k-1$ . Then  $D_1 \cong B \otimes M_k$  and  $D_1 \supset D_0$ .

Define  $q_{ss}^{(j)} = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} Z^{i*} c_{ss}^{(j)} Z^i$ ,  $q^{(j)} = \sum_{s=1}^{R(j)} q_{ss}^{(j)}$  and  $Q = \sum_{j=1}^N q^{(j)} = 1_{D_1}$ . Note  $Q = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (Z^i)^* q Z^i$  and

$$q_{ss}^{(j)} Z = \left( \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} Z^{i*} c_{ss}^{(j)} Z^i \right) Z = Z \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (Z^{i+1})^* c_{ss}^{(j)} Z^{i+1} = Z \left( \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} Z^{i*} c_{ss}^{(j)} Z^i + c_{ss}^{(j)} \right) = Z q_{ss}^{(j)}.$$

It follows from [10, Lemma 2.11] that  $c_{11}^{(j)}, c_{11}^{(j)} Z^i$  and  $c_{11}^{(j)} Z^k c_{11}^{(j)}$  generate a  $C^*$ -subalgebra which is isomorphic to  $C(X_j) \otimes M_k$  for some compact subset  $X_j \subset S^1$ . Moreover,  $q_{ss}^{(j)} Z q_{ss}^{(j)}$  is in the  $C^*$ -subalgebra. Let  $D$  be the  $C^*$ -subalgebra generated by  $D_1$  and  $c_{11}^{(j)} Z^k c_{11}^{(j)}$ . Then  $D \cong \bigoplus_{j=1}^N C(X_j) \otimes B \otimes M_k$ . It follows that  $q^{(j)}$  and  $Q$  commutes with  $Z$ . Therefore  $Q Z Q \in D$ . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \|Qu - uQ\| &\leq \|Qu - Qu_1\| + \|Qu_1 - QZ\| + \|QZ - u_1Q\| + \|u_1Q - uQ\| \\ &< \frac{4\eta}{k} + 2\delta + \frac{2\pi}{k-2} < \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

From  $Q Z Q \in D$ , we also have  $Q u Q \in_\varepsilon D$ .

For  $b \in \mathcal{F}_0$ , we compute

$$\begin{aligned} (Z^i)^* q (Z^i) b &= (Z^i)^* q u_1^k (x_1 x_2 \cdots x_i) (u_1^{k-i})^* b \\ &\approx_{k\delta+2\eta} (Z^i)^* q u_1^k (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i) (u_1^{k-i})^* b \\ &= (Z^i)^* q u_1^k (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i) (u_1^{k-i})^* b u^{k-i} (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^* \\ &\quad \cdot [u^{k-i} (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^*]^*. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $c_i = (u^{k-i})^* b u^{k-i}$ . Then  $c_i \in \mathcal{F}_1$ . There is an  $a_i \in \mathcal{G}_0 \subset A_m$  such that  $\|c_i - a_i\| < \delta$ . Since  $(w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i) \mathcal{F}_1 (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* \subset \mathcal{F}_3$ , we have

$$(Z^i)^* q u_1^k (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i) (u_1^{k-i})^* b u^{k-i} (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^* [u^{k-i} (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^*]^*$$



$$\begin{aligned}
&= (Z^i)^* q u_1^k (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i) c_i (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^* [u^{k-i} (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^*]^* \\
&\approx {}_\delta (Z^i)^* q u_1^k (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i) a_i (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^* [u^{k-i} (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^*]^* \\
&\approx {}_\delta (Z^i)^* e_1 u_1^k (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i) a_i (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^* [u^{k-i} (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^*]^* \\
&\approx \frac{\eta}{k} (Z^i)^* u_1^k (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i) a_i (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^* e_1 [u^{k-i} (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^*]^* \\
&\approx {}_\delta (Z^i)^* u_1^k (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i) c_i (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^* q [u^{k-i} (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^*]^* \\
&\approx {}_\delta (Z^i)^* u_1^k (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i) (u^{k-i})^* b u^{k-i} (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^* q [u^{k-i} (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^*]^* \\
&\approx {}_{k\delta+2\eta} b (Z^i)^* q Z^i.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\|(Z^i)^* q Z^i b - b (Z^i)^* q Z^i\| < 2(k\delta + 2\eta + \delta + \delta) + \frac{\eta}{k} < \frac{\varepsilon}{k}, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, k-1.$$

Therefore, for  $b \in \mathcal{F}_0$ ,  $\|Qb - bQ\| < k \cdot (\frac{\varepsilon}{k}) = \varepsilon$ . It follows that  $\|Qa - aQ\| < \varepsilon$  for all  $a \in \mathcal{F}$ .

For any  $b \in \mathcal{F}_0$ , a same estimation shows

$$\|q Z^i b (Z^i)^* q - q u_1^k (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i) (u^{k-i})^* b u^{k-i} (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^* q\| < 2k\delta + 4\eta.$$

However,  $q u_1^k (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i) (u^{k-i})^* b u^{k-i} (w_1 w_2 \cdots w_i)^* (u_1^k)^* q \in_{\delta+2\delta+\frac{4\eta}{k}} B$ . It follows that, for  $b \in \mathcal{F}_0$ ,

$$(Z^i)^* q Z^i b (Z^i)^* q Z^i \in_{\frac{\varepsilon}{k}} (Z^i)^* B Z^i, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, k-1.$$

We obtain  $QbQ \in_\varepsilon D_1 \subset D$  and then  $QaQ \in_\varepsilon D$  for all  $a \in \mathcal{F}$ .

Because  $\left[1 - \sum_{i=1}^k e_i\right] = [1 - p] \leq_\alpha [r_0]$  in  $A$ , there exist the mutually orthogonal projections  $p_i$ , the mutually orthogonal positive elements  $a_i$  and  $s_i \in \mathbb{Z}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  such that  $p = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i$ ,  $\{a_i\}_{i=1}^n$  belong to the hereditary  $C^*$ -subalgebra generated by  $r_0$ , and  $[\alpha^{s_i}(p_i)] \leq [a_i]$ ,

$i = 1, \dots, n$ . Because  $[\alpha^{s_i}(p_i)] = [u^{s_i} p_i (u^{s_i})^*] = [p_i]$  in  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$ , we obtain  $\left[1 - \sum_{i=1}^k e_i\right] \leq [r_0]$  in  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$ .

By computation we can get

$$[1 - Q] \leq \left[1 - \sum_{i=1}^k e_i\right] \leq [r_0] \leq [b_0].$$

So  $\text{TR}(A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}) \leq 1$ . The order on projection over  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  is determined by traces by [9, Theorem 3.7.2].

By applying Theorem 3.1, we have  $\text{RR}(A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ . By [10, Lemma 3.2], we conclude  $\text{TR}(A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ .

**Corollary 3.1** *Let  $A$  be a unital AF-algebra. Suppose that  $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$  has the tracial cyclic Rokhlin property and  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -simple. Suppose also that there is an integer  $J \geq 1$  such that  $\alpha_{*0}^J = \text{id}_{K_0(A)}$ . Then the restriction map is a bijection from the tracial states of  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  to the  $\alpha$ -invariant tracial states of  $A$ .*

**Proof** Since  $A$  has real rank zero and  $A \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$  also has real rank zero by Theorem 3.2, the corollary follows from [7, Proposition 2.2].

**Example 3.1** Let  $A = A_0 \oplus A_0$ , where  $A_0$  is an infinite dimensional unital simple AF-algebra. Let  $\beta \in \text{Aut}(A_0)$  be an approximately inner automorphism of  $A_0$  and have the traical cyclic Rokhlin property as in [10]. Define  $\alpha \in \text{Aut} A$  by  $\alpha(a, b) = (\beta(b), \beta(a))$ .

Obviously,  $A$  is  $\alpha$ -simple. Because  $\beta$  is an approximately inner automorphism of  $A_0$ , therefore  $\beta_{*0} = \text{id}_{K_0(A_0)}$ , then we have  $\alpha_{*0}^2 = \text{id}_{K_0(A)}$ .

Because  $\beta$  is an approximately inner automorphism of  $A_0$  and has the traical cyclic Rokhlin property as in [10], furthermore by applying [10, Lemma 2.8], it is easy to verify that  $\alpha$  has the traical cyclic Rokhlin property in this paper.

So  $(A, \alpha)$  satisfies the conditions of Theorem 3.2, then we have  $\text{TR}(A \rtimes_{\alpha} \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ .

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