FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS - NOTES

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1 Convexity

1.1 Locally convex spaces

Let $\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\}$ be a field.

Definition 1.1. A topological vector space (TVS) is a $\mathbb{F}$-vector space that is also a topological space and the two structures are compatible. This means that the usual operations on vector spaces

$$V \times V \to v, \ (x,y) \mapsto x + y, \qquad \mathbb{F} \times V \to V, \ (\lambda, x) \mapsto \lambda x$$

are continuous maps.

Example 1.2. *Normed spaces are TVS.*

Definition 1.3. Let V be a $\mathbb{F}$-space. Map $p : V \to \mathbb{R}$ is a seminorm if:
1. $p(x) \geq 0, \ \forall x \in V$ (positivity);
2. $p(\lambda x) = |\lambda| p(x), \ \forall x \in V, \ \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{F}$ (positive homogeneity);
3. $p(x + y) \leq p(x) + q(x), \ \forall x, y \in \mathbb{F}$ (triangle inequality).
A seminorm is therefore almost a norm, except that it's not necessarily positively definite.

Let V be a $\mathbb{F}$-vector space and $\mathcal{P}$ a family of seminorms in V. Let $\mathcal{T}$ be the topology in V with the following subbasis:

$$U(x_0, p, \varepsilon) = \{x \in V \mid p(x - x_0) < \varepsilon\}; \ x_0 \in V, \ p \in \mathcal{P}, \ \varepsilon > 0.$$

Basis of $\mathcal{T}$ are finite intersections of such sets. The set $U \subseteq V$ is open iff for every $x_0 \in U$ there exist seminorms $p_1, \ldots, p_n \in \mathcal{P}$ and $\varepsilon_1, \ldots, \varepsilon_n > 0$ such that

$$U \supset \bigcap_{j=1}^{n} U(x_0, p_j, \varepsilon_j).$$

The space $(V, \mathcal{T})$ is then a TVS. If $\mathcal{P}$ is a singleton and its element is a norm, then $(V, \mathcal{T})$ is a normed space.

Definition 1.4. A TVS X is a locally-convex space (LCS) if its topology is generated by a family of seminorms $\mathcal{P}$ satisfying

$$\bigcap_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \{x \in X \mid p(x) = 0\} = \{0\}.$$

Equivalently, for every $x \in X \setminus \{0\}$ there exists a seminorm $p \in \mathcal{P}$ such that $p(x) \neq 0$.

Corollary 1.5. *Let X be a space with a topology generated by a family of seminorms. Then X is a LCS iff it is Hausdorff.*

Proof. Start with ($\Rightarrow$). Let $x, y \in X$ be two distinct points. There exists a seminorm p such that $p(x - y) = b \neq 0$. Define the sets

$$V = U\left(x, p, \frac{b}{2}\right), \quad W = U\left(y, p, \frac{b}{2}\right).$$

By triangle inequality property of a seminorm, V and W separate the points x, y. Now the converse ($\Leftarrow$). Choose a point $X \ni x \neq 0$. Then there exist the open sets $0 \in V, x \in W$ that separate 0 from x. There exists a basis set $\bigcap_{j=1}^{n} U(0, p_j, \varepsilon_j) \subseteq V$, so $x \notin U(0, p_j, \varepsilon_j)$ for some index j. As a result, $p_j(x - 0) = p_j(x) \geq \varepsilon > 0$. $\square$

LCS generally aren't first-countable, so we need to go beyond the usual sequences.

Definition 1.6. Partially ordered set $(I, \leq)$ is upwards-directed if

$$\forall i', i'' \in I : \ \exists i \in I : \ i \geq i', i \geq i''.$$

Example 1.7.   *1. Every linearly ordered set is upwards-directed.*
      2. Let $(X, \mathcal{T})$ be a topological space and $x_0 \in X$. Define a family of sets

$$\mathcal{U} = \{U^{open} \subseteq X \mid x_0 \in U\}$$

      and a relation $U \geq V \Leftrightarrow U \subseteq V$. Then $(\mathcal{U}, \leq)$ is an upwards-directed set.
      3. Let S be a set and $\mathcal{F}$ a family of all finite subsets of S. Define $F_1 \geq F_2$ in $\mathcal{F}$ if $F_1 \supseteq F_2$. Then $(\mathcal{F}, \leq)$ is again an upwards-directed set.

Definition 1.8. A generalized sequence (net) is $((I, \leq), x)$, where $(I, \leq)$ is upwards-directed and $x : I \to X$ is a function. We usually write $(x_i)_{i \in I}$ or $(x(i))_{i \in I}$.

Example 1.9.   *1. Every sequence is a net.*
      2. Let $(X, \mathcal{T})$ be a topological space, $x_0 \in X$ and $\mathcal{U}$ a collection of all open sets which contain x_0 (see the previous example). For each $U \in \mathcal{U}$ pick a $x_U \in U$. Then $(x_U)_{U \in \mathcal{U}}$ is a net.

Definition 1.10. Let X be a topological space. A net $(x_i)_{i \in I}$ converges to an $x \in X$ if

$$\forall U^{\text{open}} \subseteq X, \ x \in U : \ \exists i_0 \in I : \ \forall i \geq i_0 : \ x_i \in U.$$

We write $\lim_{i \in I} x_i = x$ or alternatively $x_i \xrightarrow[i \in I]{} x$. A point $x \in X$ is called a cluster point of a net $(x_i)_{i \in I}$ if

$$\forall U^{\text{open}} \subseteq X, \ x \in U : \ \forall i_0 \in I : \ \exists i \geq i_0 : \ x_i \in U.$$

Example 1.11. *Take a net $(x_U)_{U \in \mathcal{U}}$ from the previous example. It follows from the definition that $x_U \xrightarrow[U \in \mathcal{U}]{} x_0$.*

Proposition 1.12.   *1. Let X be a topological space and $A \subseteq X$. Then $x \in \overline{A}$ iff there exists a net $(a_i)_{i \in I}$ in A such that $a_i \to x$.*

      2. Let X, Y be topological spaces and $f : X \to Y$. Then f is continuous in $x_0 \in X$ iff $f(x_i) \to f(x_0)$ for every net $(x_i)_{i \in I}$ that converges to x_0.

Proof.   1. We begin with an implication to the left ($\Leftarrow$). Take any $U^{\text{open}} \subseteq X$ such that $x \in U$. Since $a_i \to x$, there exists an index $i_0 \in I$, such that for every $i \geq i_0$ we have $a_i \in U$. Hence $a_i \in A \cap U \neq \emptyset$ and $x \in \overline{A}$. The converse is similar ($\Rightarrow$). Define $\mathcal{U} = \{U^{\text{open}} \subseteq X \mid x \in U\}$. Since $x \in \overline{A}$, for each $U \in \mathcal{U}$, we have $A \cap U \neq \emptyset$. Pick $a_U \in A \cap U$. Then the net $(a_U)_{U \in \mathcal{U}}$ in A converges to x.

2. Start with the implication ($\Rightarrow$). Let f be a continuous function and let $(x_i)_{i \in I}$ converge to x_0. Let $f(x_0) \in U^{\text{open}} \subseteq Y$. Then $x_0 \in f^{-1}(U)^{\text{open}} \subseteq X$, which means there exists an $i_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for every $i \geq i_0$, $x_i \in f^{-1}(U)$. But that implies that for every $i \geq i_0$, $f(x_i) \in U$, which is what we wanted. Now we prove the converse ($\Leftarrow$). Let's say that for every net $(x_i)_{i \in I}$ that converges to x_0, we have $f(x_i) \xrightarrow{i \in I} f(x_0)$. So for every set $A \subseteq X$ we have $f(\overline{A}) \subseteq \overline{f(A)}$ (using the first item), which proves that f is continuous. $\qquad\square$

Proposition 1.13. *(a) A net $(x_i)_{i \in I}$ in a LCS converges to x_0 iff a net $(p(x_i - x_0))_{i \in I}$ converges to 0 for all $p \in \mathcal{P}$.*

(b) The topology in a LCS X is the coarsest (smallest) topology in which all the maps $x \mapsto p(x - x_0)$ are continuous for every $x_0 \in X$ and $p \in \mathcal{P}$.

Proof.   (a) Start with the right implication ($\Rightarrow$). Take any $p \in \mathcal{P}$. If we take $U = U(x_0, p, \varepsilon)$ in the definition of a limit of a net, we get

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 : \ \exists i_0 \in I : \ \forall i \geq i_0 : \ p(x_i - x_0) \in (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon).$$

This proves our claim. Now with the opposite direction ($\Leftarrow$). For every $p \in \varepsilon$ and $\varepsilon_p > 0$ there exists an i_p such that for every $i \geq i_p$, $x_i \in U(x_0, p, \varepsilon_p)$. Now let U be an arbitrary basis set that includes the point x_0. That means U is the finite intersection of the sets $U(x_0, p, \varepsilon_p)$. Now let i_0 be the greater than all indices i_p. By our assumption, for every $i \geq i_0$ we have $x_i \in U$.

(b) Pick any point $x_0 \in X$ and a seminorm $p \in \mathcal{P}$. Denote

$$f_{x_0, p} : X \to \mathbb{R}, \quad f_{x_0, p}(x) = p(x - x_0).$$

We essentially have to prove that the sets

$$f_{x_0, p}^{-1}(V), \ V^{\text{open}} \subseteq \mathbb{R}, \ x_0 \in X, \ p \in \mathcal{P}$$

generate a subbasis for the seminorm topology of a LCS space. Since f_{p, x_0} are continuous functions (by the first point and proposition 1.12), these are all open sets in the seminorm topology. But on the other hand, all subbasis sets $U(x_0, p, \varepsilon)$ of the seminorm topology are of this type, so the above subbasis generates the seminorm topology, thus concluding our proof. $\qquad\square$

Example 1.14. *Let X be a topological space. For every $K^{compact} \subseteq X$ we define a seminorm*

$$p_K : C(X) \to \mathbb{R}, \quad f \mapsto \sup_{x \in K} |f(x)|.$$

We endow $C(X)$ with the topology induced by the family of seminorms $\{p_K \mid K^{compact} \subseteq X\}$. It's trivial to see that $C(X)$ is then a LCS. Moreover, we notice that the induced seminorm topology coincides with the topology of compact convergence on X. In the future, we will require X to be locally compact Hausdorff (this implies complete regularity) so that $C(X)$ has nice properties. There are examples of not completely regular spaces X such that the only elements of $C(X)$ are constant maps.

Example 1.15. *Let $D^{open} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ and $\mathcal{H}(D)$ the set of all holomorphic functions on D. As in the previous point, we define $\mathcal{P} = \{p_K \mid K^{compact} \subseteq D\}$. This endows $\mathcal{H}(D)$ with a topology and makes $\mathcal{H}(D)$ into a LCS. Convergence in this topology concides with the uniform convergence on compacts in D.*

Example 1.16. *Let X be a normed space and let X^* be its dual. For every $f \in X^*$ we define a seminorm*

$$p_f : X \to \mathbb{R}, \quad x \mapsto |f(x)|.$$

We claim that $\mathcal{P} = \{p_f \mid f \in X^*\}$ is a family of seminorms that induces a topology on X which makes X a LCS. Indeed, for any $x \in X \setminus \{0\}$ define a nonzero linear functional $f : \mathrm{span}(x) \to \mathbb{F}$ and extend it to $F : X \to \mathbb{F}$ using Hahn–Banach. Then $p_F(x) \neq 0$. The induced topology is the weak topology on X. We denote it $\sigma(X, X^*)$. A net $(x_i)_{i \in I}$ converges to $x_0 \in X$ with regards to the weak topology iff $p_f(x_i - x_0) \to 0, \forall f \in X^*$ which is then equivalent to $f(x_i) \to f(x_0), \ \forall f \in X^*$. We use the notation $x_i \xrightarrow{*} x_0$.

Example 1.17. *Let $X = \mathbb{R}^n$. Then $X^* = \mathbb{R}^n$ and every linear functional f is of the form $f(x) = \langle x, y \rangle$ for some $y \in X$ (Riesz' representation theorem). The subbasis sets are*

$$U(0, p_y, \varepsilon) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |\langle x, y \rangle| < \varepsilon\}.$$

Weak topology in this case coincides with Euclidean topology.

Example 1.18. *Let X be a normed space. To a $x \in X$ we assign a seminorm*

$$p_x : X^* \to \mathbb{R}, \quad f \mapsto |f(x)|.$$

The family $\{p_x \mid x \in X\}$ defines a topology in X^* in which X^* becomes a LCS. This topology is called weak-* topology and is denoted by $\sigma(X^*, X)$. We can easily check that $f_i \xrightarrow{w^*} f$ iff $f_i(x) \to f(x)$ for all $x \in X$. We can compare weak-* topology on X^* with its weak topology. By Hahn-Banach, the map

$$\iota : X \hookrightarrow X^{**}, \quad x \mapsto (f \mapsto f(x))$$

is an isometry (see the argument below), which implies it is injective. This means that every seminorm in the weak-* topology is also a seminorm in a weak topology on X^*, so the weak topology is finer (stronger) than the weak-* topology on X^*.

Remark. Weak and weak-* topology can be defined even if X is merely a LCS. In that case, X^* is of course defined as the space of continuous linear functionals on X.

1.2 Banach-Alaoglu theorem

Theorem 1.19 (Banach-Alaoglu)**.**

Let X be a normed space. Then the closed unit ball in X^* (denoted by $(X^*)_1$) is compact in the weak-* topology in X^*.

Proof. To $x \in X$ we assign $D_x = \{z \in \mathbb{F} \mid |z| \leq \|x\|\}$ and endow D_x with the Euclidean topology. Then D_x is clearly compact. The set $P = \prod_{x \in X} D_x$ is compact with regards to the product topology (Tychonoff theorem). Now we construct a map

$$\Phi : (X^*)_1 \to P, \quad f \mapsto (f(x))_{x \in X} \in P.$$

Clearly, Φ is well-defined and injective. We start by proving that Φ is continuous. Let $(f_i)_{i \in I}$ be a net in $(X^*)_1$ converges to $f \in X^*$ in a weak-* topology. Then $f_i(x) \to f(x)$ for each $x \in X$. By the definition of the product topology in P, this means that $\Phi(f_i) \mapsto \Phi(f)$ in P. Hence Φ is continuous. Since Φ is injective, it induces an inverse map

$$\Phi^{-1} : \mathrm{im}(\Phi) \to (X^*)_1$$

that is also continuous (we read the previous argument backwards). Finally, we prove that $\mathrm{im}(\Phi)$ is closed in P. Suppose that $(\Phi(f_i))_{i \in I}$ converges to $p = (p_x)_{x \in X} \in P$. By definition of product topology, this means that $f_i(x) \to p_x$ for all $x \in X$. Define

$$f : X \to \mathbb{F}, \quad x \mapsto p_x.$$

Then f is linear and $f \in (X^*)_1$. Thus $p = \Phi(f) \in \mathrm{im}(\Phi)$. This in turn implies that $(\mathrm{im}\,\Phi)^{\mathrm{closed}} \subseteq P^{\mathrm{compact}}$. But we know that $(X^*)_1 \cong \mathrm{im}(\Phi)$, which implies that $(X^*)_1$ is also compact. $\qquad\square$

Corollary 1.20. *Every Banach space X is isometrically isomorphic to a closed subspace of $C(K)$ for some compact T_2 space K.*

Proof. Denote $K = (X^*)_1$ with weak-* topology. By the Banach-Alaoglu, K is compact and T_2. We now define a map
$$\Delta : X \to C(K), \quad x \mapsto (f \mapsto f(x)).$$

First, we prove that Δ is isometric. By Hahn-Banach, for every $x \in X \setminus \{0\}$ there exists an $f \in X^*$ such that $\|f\| = 1$ and $f(x) = \|x\|$. Then we have

$$\|\Delta(x)\|_\infty = \sup_{g \in K} |g(x)| = \|x\|.$$

Since Δ is an isometry, its image is complete and thus closed in $C(K)$. Obviously Δ is a linear map, so we are done. $\qquad\square$

1.3 Minkowski gauge

Definition 1.21. Let X be a $\mathbb{F}$-vector space. A set $A \subseteq X$ is
- balanced if:
$$\forall x \in A : \ \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{F}, \ |\alpha| \le 1 : \ \alpha x \in A.$$
- absorbing if:
$$\forall x \in X : \ \exists \varepsilon > 0 : \ \forall t \in (0, \varepsilon) : \ tx \in A.$$
- absorbing in $a \in A$ if $A - a = \{x - a \mid x \in A\}$ is absorbing.

Example 1.22. *Let X be a vector space and p a seminorm in X. Then*

$$V = \{x \in X \mid p(x) < 1\}$$

is convex, balanced, absorbing in each of its points.

Theorem 1.23.

Let X be a vector space and $V \subseteq X$ convex, balanced and absorbing in each of its points. Then there exists a unique seminorm $p \in X$ such that

$$V = \{x \in X \mid p(x) < 1\}.$$

Proof. To V we associate a Minkowski gauge:

$$p(x) = \inf\{t \geq 0 \mid x \in t \cdot V\},$$

where $t \cdot V = \{t \cdot v \mid v \in V\}$. First we prove that p is well defined. Since V is absorbing, we have $X = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} n \cdot V$, so for every $x \in X$ the set $\{t \geq 0 \mid x \in t \cdot V\}$ is nonempty. It's also clear to see that $p(0) = 0$. Next we check for homogeneity. Suppose $\alpha \neq 0$. Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
p(\alpha x) &= \inf\{t \geq 0 \mid \alpha x \in t \cdot V\} \\
&= \inf\left\{t \geq 0 \mid x \in \frac{t}{\alpha} \cdot V\right\} \\
&= \inf\left\{t \geq 0 \mid x \in \frac{t}{|\alpha|} \cdot V\right\} \\
&= \inf|\alpha|\left\{\frac{t}{|\alpha|} \geq 0 \mid x \in \frac{t}{|\alpha|} \cdot V\right\} \\
&= |\alpha|p(x).
\end{aligned}
$$

Now we do the same for triangle inequality: let $\alpha, \beta \geq 0$ so that $\alpha + \beta > 0$. Let $a, b \in V$. Then

$$\alpha a + \beta b = (\alpha + \beta)\left(\frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta}a + \frac{\beta}{\alpha + \beta}b\right) \in (\alpha + \beta) \cdot V.$$

This means that $\alpha \cdot V + \beta \cdot V \subseteq (\alpha + \beta) \cdot V$. Now let $x, y \in X$ and $p(x) = \alpha, p(y) = \beta$. Take $\delta > 0$. Then $x \in (\alpha + \delta) \cdot V, y \in (\beta + \delta) \cdot V$. Then

$$x + y \in (\alpha + \delta) \cdot V + (\beta + \delta) \cdot V \subseteq (\alpha + \beta + 2\delta) \cdot V$$

and by definition $p(x + y) \leq \alpha + \beta + 2\delta$. Since $\delta > 0$ was arbitrary, we have $p(x + y) \leq \alpha + \beta = p(x) + p(y)$. Now that we proved that p is a seminorm, we can show that

$$V = \{x \in X \mid p(x) < 1\}.$$

The right inclusion ($\supseteq$) is easy: if $p(x) < 1$, then $x \in (p(x) + \varepsilon) \cdot V$ for all $\varepsilon > 0$. By choosing $\varepsilon = 1 - p(x) > 0$, we get $x \in V$. Now we prove the other inclusion ($\subseteq$). Let $x \in V$. Since V is absorbing in x, there exists an $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $y = x + tx \in V$ for all $t \in (0, \varepsilon)$. This means that $x = \frac{1}{t+1}y$, where $y \in V$. This implies that

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{t+1}p(y) \leq \frac{1}{1+t} \leq 1,$$

which proves the equality. Lastly, we prove the p is unique. Suppose there is some other seminorm q such that

$$\{x \in X \mid p(x) < 1\} = \{x \in X \mid q(x) < 1\}.$$

Suppose $p \neq q$. WLOG there exists an $x \neq 0$ such that $p(x) > q(x)$. By homogeneity, we can assume that $p(x) = 1 > q(x)$, contradicting our assumption. $\square$

Remark. If X is a TVS and V is an open subset, then V is absorbing at each of its points.

Corollary 1.24. *Let X be a TVS and $\mathcal{U}$ a collection of all open convex balanced subsets of X. Then X is locally convex iff $\mathcal{U}$ is a basis for the neighborhood system at 0.*

1.4 Applications of Hahn-Banach

Recall: if X is a $\mathbb{R}$-vector space then $p : X \to \mathbb{R}$ is a sublinear functional if

$$p(x + y) \leq p(x) + p(y), \ \forall x, y \in X$$

and
$$p(\alpha x) = \alpha x, \ \forall x \in X, \ \alpha > 0.$$

Theorem 1.25 (Hahn-Banach theorem)**.**

$\mathbb{R}$: *Suppose X is a $\mathbb{R}$-vector space and $p : X \to \mathbb{R}$ is a sublinear functional. Given a linear functional f on $Y \leq X$ such that $f(y) \leq p(y)$ for every $y \in Y$, f extends to a linear functional $F : X \to \mathbb{R}$ such that $F(x) \leq p(x)$ for every $x \in X$.*

$\mathbb{C}$: *Suppose X is a $\mathbb{C}$-vector space and $p : X \to \mathbb{R}$ is a seminorm. Given a linear functional f on $Y \leq X$ such that $|f(y)| \leq p(y)$ for every $y \in Y$, f extends to a linear functional $F : X \to \mathbb{R}$ such that $|F(x)| \leq p(x)$ for every $x \in X$.*

Corollary 1.26 (The extension theorem)**.** *Let X be a normed space, $f \in X^*$ and $Y \leq X$. Then there exists an $F \in X^*$ such that $F\big|_Y = f$ and $\|F\| = \|f\|$.*

Corollary 1.27 (The separation theorem)**.** *Suppose X is a LCS and $A, B \subseteq X$ are disjoint closed convex sets. If B is compact then there exists an $f \in X^*$ that seperates A from B:*

$$\exists \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R} : \ \forall a, b \in B : \ \operatorname{Re} f(a) \leq \alpha < \beta \leq \operatorname{Re} f(b).$$

Theorem 1.28.

Let X be a LCS and $A \subseteq X$ convex. Then $\overline{A} = \overline{A}^{weak}$.

Proof. Since the weak topology is weaker than the original topology, we have $\overline{A} \subseteq \overline{A}^{\text{weak}}$. Let $x \notin \overline{A}$. We now seperate $\overline{A}$ and $\{x\}$: there exists $f \in X^*$ so that there exist $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ such that we have
$$\operatorname{Re} f(a) \leq \alpha < \beta \leq \operatorname{Re} f(x)$$
for $a \in \overline{A}$. This means that
$$\overline{A} \subseteq \{y \in X \mid \operatorname{Re} f(y) \leq \alpha\} = (\operatorname{Re} f)^{-1}(-\infty, \alpha] = C.$$

Since C is closed in weak topology, it follows from $A \subseteq C$ that $\overline{A}^{\text{weak}} \subseteq \overline{C}^{\text{weak}} = C$. Since $x \notin C$, we have $x \notin \overline{A}^{\text{weak}}$. $\qquad\square$

Corollary 1.29. *A convex set in a LCS is closed iff it is weakly closed.*

Proposition 1.30. *Let X be a TVS and $f : X \to \mathbb{F}$ a linear functional. The following is equivalent:*

1. *f is continuous;*

2. *f is continuous in 0;*

3. *f is continuous in some point;*

4. *$\ker f$ is closed;*

5. *$x \mapsto |f(x)|$ is a seminorm.*

If X is a LCS, then these are also equivalent to

6. $\exists \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ and $\exists p_1, \ldots, p_n \in \mathcal{P}$ such that

$$|f(x)| \leq \sum_{k=1}^{n} \alpha_k p_k(x), \ \forall x \in X.$$

Proof. Equivalence of the first five statements is obvious. Assume that X is a LCS. We prove the equivalence of (2) and (6). We start with (6) $\Rightarrow$ (2). Let $(x_i)_{i \in I}$ be a net in X that converges to 0. Then we have

$$0 \leq |f(x_i)| \leq \sum_{k=1}^{n} \alpha_k p_k(x_i) \xrightarrow[i \in I]{} 0.$$

This implies that $f(x_i) \xrightarrow[i \in I]{} 0$, proving the implication. Now the opposite: (2) $\Rightarrow$ (6). We know that $f^{-1}(\text{Int } B_1(0)) = \{x \in X \mid |f(x)| < 1\}$ is an open neighborhood of 0 in X. Then there exist $p_1, \ldots, p_r \in \mathcal{P}$ and an $\varepsilon > 0$ such that

$$0 \in \bigcap_{i=1}^{r} U(0, p_i, \varepsilon) \subseteq f^{-1}(B_1^{\circ}(0)).$$

If $p_i(x) < \varepsilon$ for all $i \leq r$, then $|f(x)| < 1$. Pick any $\delta > 0$. Then

$$p_i\left(x \cdot \frac{\varepsilon}{\sum p_i(x) + \delta}\right) = \frac{\varepsilon}{\delta + \sum p_i(x)} \cdot p_i(x) < \varepsilon,$$

which implies

$$\left| f\left(x \cdot \frac{\varepsilon}{\sum p_i(x) + \delta}\right) \right| < 1.$$

From this we get $|f(x)| < \frac{1}{\varepsilon}\left(\sum p_i(x) + \delta\right)$. Since $\delta > 0$ was arbitrary, we get

$$|f(x)| \leq \sum_{i=1}^{r} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} p_i(x). \qquad \square$$

Recall the following theorem from measure theory.

Theorem 1.31 (Riesz-Markoff theorem)**.**

Let X be a compact T_2 space, $\Phi \in C(X)^*$. Then there exists a regular Borel measure such that

$$\Phi(f) = \int_X f \, d\mu, \ \forall f \in C(X).$$

Further, $\|\Phi\| = \|\mu\| = |\mu|(X)$.

Remark. The above also works if K is locally compact and $\Phi \in C_0(X)^*$.

As a corollary, we get the following proposition.

Proposition 1.32. *Let X be completely regular. Endow $C(X)$ with a topology induced by its seminorms. If $L \in C(X)^*$ then there exists a compact $K \subseteq X$ and a regular Borel measure on K such that*

$$L(f) = \int_K f \, d\mu, \ \forall f \in C(X).$$

Conversely, every such pair (K, μ) defines $L \in C^*(K)$ with the above map.

Proof. Begin with the implication ($\Leftarrow$). Given (K, μ), we just need to prove that the induced functional L is continuous on X. We have

$$|L(f)| = \left| \int_K f \, d\mu \right| \leq \|\mu\| \sup_K |f| = \|\mu\| p_K(f)$$

and L is continuous. Now the converse ($\Rightarrow$). Let $L \in C(X)$. By the previous proposition, there exist compact sets $K_1, \ldots, K_p \subseteq X$ and $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_p > 0$ such that

$$|L(f)| \leq \sum_{j=1}^{p} \alpha_j p_{K_j}(f).$$

Let $K = \bigcup_{j=1}^{p} K_j$ and $\alpha = \max\{\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_p\}$. Then $\|f\| \leq \alpha p_K(f)$ for all $f \in C(X)$. Observe that if $f \in C(X)$ and $f|_K = 0$, then $L(f) = 0$. We now define a map $F : C(K) \to \mathbb{F}$. Since X is completely regular, we have a Tietze-like extension theorem: for any compact $K \subseteq X$ and a continuous function $g \in C(K)$, there exists an extension $\widetilde{g} \in C(X)$. Define $F(g) := L(\widetilde{g})$. First we need to check if F is even well defined. Suppose we have two extensions $\widetilde{g}$ and $\widetilde{\widetilde{g}}$ of $g \in C(K)$. Since $\widetilde{g} - \widetilde{\widetilde{g}}$ is evidently zero on K, we have

$$L(\widetilde{g}) - L(\widetilde{\widetilde{g}}) = L(\widetilde{g} - \widetilde{\widetilde{g}}) = 0$$

and F really is well defined. It is also clearly linear, so we just need to check continuity:

$$|F(g)| = |L(\widetilde{g})| \leq \alpha \cdot p_K(\widetilde{g}) = \alpha \cdot \|g\|_{\infty, K},$$

therefore $\|F\| \leq \alpha$ and F is continuous. Lastly we apply Riesz-Markoff: there exists a regular Borel Measure μ so that $F(g) = \int_K g \, d\mu$. If $f \in C(X)$, then $g := f|_K \in C(K)$ and we have

$$L(f) = F(g) = \int_K g \, d\mu = \int_K f \, d\mu. \qquad \square$$

1.5   Krein-Milman theorem

Definition 1.33. Let X be a vector space and $C \subseteq X$ its convex subset.
  (a) A nonempty convex subset $F \subseteq C$ is a face if for any $x, y \in C$ we have

$$(\exists t \in (0, 1): \ tx + (1 - t)y \in F) \Rightarrow x, y \in F.$$

  (b) A point $x \in C$ is a called an extreme point if $\{x\} \subseteq C$ is a face.
We use the notation $\mathrm{ext}(C)$ for a set of all extreme points of C.

Example 1.34. *If we take spaces of real sequences, we have*
  - $\mathrm{ext}((\ell^\infty)_1) = \{(\pm 1, \pm 1, \ldots)\}$;
  - $\mathrm{ext}((\ell^1)_1) = \{(0, 0, \ldots, \pm 1, \ldots)\}$.

Example 1.35. *We prove that for c_0 (the space of complex sequences that converge to 0) we have* $\mathrm{ext}(c_0)_1 = \emptyset$. *Indeed, let $x = (x_n)_n \in (c_0)_1$. Since $\lim_n x_n = 0$, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $|x_n| < \frac{1}{2}$ for all $n > N$. Now define $y, z \in c_0$ by setting $y_n = z_n = x_n$ for $n \leq N$ and*

$$y_n = x_n + \frac{1}{2^n}, \quad z_n = x_n - \frac{1}{2^n}$$

for $n > N$. Then $y, z \in (c_0)_1$ and $x = \frac{1}{2}(y + z)$, so $x \notin \mathrm{ext}(c_0)_1$.

Example 1.36. *Let us show that* $\text{ext}(L^1[0,1])_1 = \emptyset$. *Take any* $f \in (L^1[0,1])_1$. *Then* $\int_0^1 |f(t)|\, dt = 1$, *so there must exist an* $x \in [0,1]$ *such that* $\int_0^x |f(t)|\, dt = 1/2$. *Now define* $g := 2 \cdot f \cdot \chi_{[0,x]}$ *and* $h := 2 \cdot f \cdot \chi_{[x,1]}$. *Now we have* $g,h \in (L^1[0,1])_1$ *and* $f = \frac{1}{2}g + \frac{1}{2}h$, *so* f *cannot be an extreme point.*

Example 1.37. *Finally, let us prove that* $\text{ext}(C[0,1])_1 = \{\pm 1\}$ *for real valued functions. Take any* $f \in (C[0,1])_1$. *Then define functions* $g(t) = \min\{2f(t)+1,1\}$ *and* $h(t) = \max\{2f(t)-1,-1\}$. *Clearly* $g,h \in (C[0,1])_1$ *and* $f = \frac{1}{2}g + \frac{1}{2}h$. *If* f *is an extreme point, then* $g = h$, *which happens only if* $f = \pm 1$.

Definition 1.38. For a vector space X and $A \subseteq X$ define a convex hull $\text{co}\, A$ as the intersection of all convex sets in X that contain A. If X is a TVS, then define closed convex hull $\overline{\text{co}}A$ as the intersection of all closed convex sets that contain A.

Convex hull of a set A can be written explicitly:

$$\text{co}\, A = \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i x_i \mid n \in \mathbb{N}, \alpha_i \geq 0, \sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i = 1, x_i \in A \right\}.$$

If X is a TVS, then define $\overline{\text{co}}A = \overline{\text{co}\, A}$.

Lemma 1.39. *If* $C \subseteq X$ *is a convex subset of a vector space and* $a \in C$, *then the following is equivalent.*
   (a) $a \in \text{ext}\, C$.
   (b) If $x_1, x_2 \in C$ *and* $a = \frac{1}{2}(x_1 + x_2)$, *then* $x_1 = x_2 = a$.
   (c) If $x_1, x_2 \in C$, $t \in (0,1)$ *and* $a = tx_1 + (1-t)x_2$, *then* $x_1 = x_2 = a$.
   (d) If $x_1, \ldots, x_n \in C$ *and* $a \in \text{co}\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$, *then* $x_1 = \cdots = x_n = a$.
   (e) $C \setminus \{a\}$ *is a convex set.*

Proof. Items (a) and (c) are equivalent by definition.
   (b) $\Rightarrow$ (c): Let $a = tx_1 + (1-t)x_2$. Then

$$a = \frac{1}{2}(2tx_1 + (1-2t)x_2) + \frac{1}{2}x_2,$$

   so we get $2tx_1 + (1-2t)x_2 = x_2$, which gives us $x_1 = x_2$.
   (c) $\Rightarrow$ (d): We prove this by induction on n. The base case $n = 2$ is exactly the item (c). Now if the statement is true for $n-1$, it is also true for n. Indeed, let $a \in \text{co}\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$, so $a = \sum_{i=1}^n t_i x_i$ such that all $t_i \in [0,1]$ and $\sum_{i=1}^n t_i = 1$. Then

$$a = t_1 x_1 + (1-t_1) \underbrace{\frac{\sum_{i=2}^n t_i x_i}{1-t_1}}_{\in \text{co}\{x_2, \ldots, x_n\}}.$$

   By (c), $x_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=2}^n t_i x_i}{1-t_1} = a$. Now we use the induction hypothesis to get $x_2 = \cdots = x_n = a$.
   (c) $\Rightarrow$ (d): Take any $x_1, x_2 \in C \setminus \{a\}$. Since C is convex, $tx_1 + (1-t)x_2 \in C$. Now if $a = tx_1 + (1-t)x_2 \in \text{co}\{x_1, x_2\}$, then $a = x_1 = x_2$, which contradicts our assumption. So $tx_1 + (1-t)x_2 \in C \setminus \{a\}$ and $C \setminus \{a\}$ is convex.
   (d) $\Rightarrow$ (b): Suppose $a = \frac{1}{2}(x_1 + x_2)$. If x_1 and x_2 were both in $C \setminus \{a\}$, then their convex combination would also lie in $C \setminus \{a\}$, so at least one of x_1, x_2 is equal to a. WLOG suppose $x_1 = a$. Then $a = \frac{1}{2}(a + x_2)$, which also implies $x_2 = a$. $\qquad\square$

Lemma 1.40. *Let X be a TVS and $C \subseteq X$ a nonempty compact convex set. Then for $\Phi \in X^*$ the set*

$$F = \{x \in C \mid \operatorname{Re}\Phi(x) = \min_C \operatorname{Re}\Phi\}$$

is a closed face of C.

Proof. Since C is compact and $x \mapsto \operatorname{Re}\Phi(x)$ is continuous, it attains its minimum on C. Hence F is nonempty. Since F is a continuous preimage of a point, it is also closed. By the linearity of Φ, F is convex. Now suppose that $t \in (0,1)$ and $x, y \in C$ are such that $tx + (1-t)y \in F$, we have

$$\min_C \operatorname{Re}\Phi = \operatorname{Re}\Phi(tx + (1-t)y)$$
$$= t \cdot \operatorname{Re}\Phi(x) + (1-t)\operatorname{Re}\Phi(y)$$
$$\geq t \cdot \min_C \operatorname{Re}\Phi + (1-t)\min_C \operatorname{Re}$$
$$= \min_C \operatorname{Re}\Phi.$$

Since we have the equality in the second-to-last line, we have $\operatorname{Re}\Phi(x) = \min_C \operatorname{Re}\Phi$ and $\operatorname{Re}\Phi(y) = \min_C \operatorname{Re}\Phi$, meaning that $x, y \in F$. $\square$

Remark. Not all closed convex faces are of this form.

Theorem 1.41 (Krein-Milman)**.**

Let X be a LCS and $C \subseteq X$ its nonempty compact convex subset. Then $C = \overline{\operatorname{co}}(\operatorname{ext} C)$. In particular, $\operatorname{ext} C \neq \emptyset$.

Proof. Let $\mathcal{F} = \{\text{closed faces in } C\}$ be ordered with $\supset$. Since $C \in \mathcal{F}$, it is nonempty. The set $\mathcal{F}$ is then partially ordered. Since any increasing chain in $\mathcal{F}$ has finite intersection property, it has a nonempty intersection due to C being compact. As a result, any increasing chain in $\mathcal{C}$ has an upper bound. This tells us that we can apply Zorn's lemma to obtain a maximal element $F_0 \in \mathcal{F}$. We prove that $F_0 \in \operatorname{ext} C$. Assume that there are distinct $x, y \in F_0$. By Hahn-Banach, there exists a $\Phi \in X^*$ such that $\Phi(x) \neq \Phi(y)$. WLOG we assume that $\operatorname{Re}\Phi(x) < \operatorname{Re}\Phi(y)$. Define a set

$$F_1 = \{z \in F_0 \mid \operatorname{Re}\Phi(z) = \min_{F_0} \operatorname{Re}\Phi\}.$$

Then $F_1 \subsetneq F_0$, since $y \notin F_0$. By the previous lemma, F_1 is a closed face in F_0, so it is a closed face in C, contradicting maximality of F_0. Thus we have $F_0 \in \operatorname{ext} C$ and $\operatorname{ext} C \neq \emptyset$. Since we have $C \supset \operatorname{ext} C$, we also have $C = \overline{\operatorname{co}}(C) \supseteq \overline{\operatorname{co}}(\operatorname{ext} C)$. Suppose $x \in C \setminus \overline{\operatorname{co}}(\operatorname{ext} C)$. By Hahn-Banach, there exists a $\Psi \in X^*$ such that $\operatorname{Re}\Psi(x) < \min_{\overline{\operatorname{co}}(\operatorname{ext} C)} \operatorname{Re}\Psi$. So the set

$$F = \{z \in C \mid \operatorname{Re}\Psi(z) = \min_C \operatorname{Re}\Psi\}$$

is a closed face in C. By the first part of this proof, there exists a $z \in \operatorname{ext} F \subseteq \operatorname{ext} C$. Hence

$$\min_C \operatorname{Re}\Psi = \operatorname{Re}\Psi(z) = \min_{\overline{\operatorname{co}}(\operatorname{ext} C)} \operatorname{Re}\Psi > \operatorname{Re}\Psi(x) \geq \min_C \operatorname{Re}\Psi,$$

which leads to a contradiction. Therefore $\overline{\operatorname{co}}(\operatorname{ext} C) = C$. $\square$

Example 1.42. *Let $\mathcal{H}$ be a Hilbert space. Then*

$$\operatorname{ext}(\mathcal{H})_1 = \{v \in \mathcal{H} \mid \|v\| = 1\}.$$

First we prove the inclusion ($\supseteq$). Suppose that $\|v\| = 1$ and $v = tx + (1-t)y$, where $t \in (0,1)$ and $x, y \in (\mathcal{H})_1$. We have

$$
\begin{aligned}
1 &= \|v\|^2 \\
&= \|tx + (1-t)y\|^2 \\
&= \langle tx + (1-t)y, tx + (1-t)y \rangle \\
&= t^2\|x\|^2 + (1-t)^2\|y\|^2 + 2t(1-t)\operatorname{Re}\langle x, y\rangle \\
&\le t^2 + (1-t)^2 + 2t(1-t) = 1.
\end{aligned}
$$

We get equality in the Cauchy-Schwartz, so x, y are linearly dependent and therefore equal. For the reverse inclusion, let $v \in \operatorname{ext}(\mathcal{H})_1$. If $\|v\| < 1$, then

$$
v = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{v}{\|v\|} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot (2\|v\| - 1)\frac{v}{\|v\|}
$$

Example 1.43. *We have the identity*

$$
\operatorname{ext}(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))_1 = \{V \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \mid V \text{ or } V^* \text{ is an isometry}\}.
$$

Here, we will just prove the inclusion ($\supseteq$). Let $V \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be an isometry and suppose $V = tS + (1-t)T$ for $t \in (0,1)$ and $S, T \in (\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))_1$. For $x \in \mathcal{H}$ we have:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\|x\| &= \|Vx\| \\
&= \|tSx + (1-t)Tx\| \\
&\le t\|Sx\| + (1-t)\|Tx\| \\
&\le t\|S\|\|x\| + (1-t)\|T\|\|x\| \\
&\le t\|x\| + (1-t)\|x\| = \|x\|.
\end{aligned}
$$

Since we have equality, we get $\|S\| = \|T\| = 1$ and $\|Sx\| = \|Tx\| = \|x\|$. So S, T are isometries. For every $x \in \partial(\mathcal{H})_1 = \operatorname{ext}(\mathcal{H})_1$, we have

$$
Vx = t \cdot Sx + (1-t)Tx
$$

and by the previous example that implies $Tx = Sx = Vx$, so we really have $S = T = V$. We use the same argument if V^*

Example 1.44. *If X be a Banach space, then $(X^*)_1$ is weak-* compact (by Banach-Alaoglu), so Krein-Milman gives us $(X^*)_1 = \overline{\operatorname{co}}(\operatorname{ext}(X^*)_1)$. Hence $(X^*)_1$ has a lot of extreme points. As a corollary, c_0, $L^1[0,1]$ and $C[0,1]$ are not duals of Banach spaces.*

Theorem 1.45 (Milman)**.**

Let X be a LCS, $K \subseteq X$ compact and assume $\overline{\operatorname{co}}K$ is compact. Then $\operatorname{ext}(\overline{\operatorname{co}}(K)) \subseteq K$.

Proof. Assume there exists $x_0 \in \operatorname{ext}(\overline{\operatorname{co}}(K)) \setminus K$. Then there exists a basis neighborhood V of 0 in X such that $(x_0 + \overline{V}) \cap K = \emptyset$ or equivalently $x_0 \notin K + \overline{V}$. If we write $K \subseteq \bigcup_{x \in K}(x + V)$, we get

$$
K \subseteq \bigcup_{j=1}^{n}(x_j + V).
$$

Form $K_j = \overline{\text{co}}(K \cap (x_j + V))$. Then K_j is convex and compact since $K_j \subseteq \overline{\text{co}}(K)$. We also have $K_j \subseteq \overline{x_j + V} = x_j + \overline{V}$ since V is convex. Also, $K \subseteq K_1 \cup \cdots \cup K_n$. Next we prove that $\text{co}(K_1 \cup \cdots \cup K_n)$ is compact. Define

$$\Sigma = \{(t_1, \ldots, t_n) \in [0,1]^n \mid \sum_{j=1}^{n} t_j = 1\}$$

and the function

$$f : \Sigma \times K_1 \times \cdots \times K_n \to X, \quad (t, k_1, \ldots, k_n) \mapsto \sum_{j=1}^{k} t_j k_j.$$

Denote $C := \text{im } f$. Obviously, $C \subseteq \text{co}(K_1 \cup \cdots \cup K_n)$ and C is a convex compact set. Furthermore, $C \supset K_j$ for each j, so $C = \text{co}(K_1 \cup \cdots \cup K_n)$. From there, we get

$$\overline{\text{co}}(K) \subseteq \overline{\text{co}}(K_1 \cup \cdots \cup K_n) = \text{co}(K_1 \cup \cdots \cup K_n).$$

But since $K_j \subseteq \overline{\text{co}}(K)$ for all j, we deduce $\overline{\text{co}}(K) = \overline{\text{co}}(K_1 \cup \cdots \cup K_n)$. We know that $x_0 \in \overline{\text{co}}(K)$, so

$$x_0 = t_1 y_1 + \cdots + t_n y_n$$

for some $t_i \in [0,1]$, $\sum t_i = 1$ and $y_j \in K_j$. But $x_0 \in \text{ext}(\overline{\text{co}})(K)$, so $y_j = x_0$ for some j. So we get $x_0 \in K_j \subseteq x_j + \overline{V} \subseteq K + \overline{V}$, a contradiction. $\qquad \square$

Remark.   1. In finite dimensions, the convex hull of a compact set is compact. In infinite dimensions this fails.

   2. The set $\text{ext}(C)$ is not always closed, even if $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ is convex and compact.

2 C^*-algebras and continuous functional calculus

2.1   Spectrum

Let A be a complex algebra with a unit 1 and

$$GL(A) = \{a \in A \mid a \text{ is invertible}\}.$$

If $x \in A$, then we define the spectrum

$$\sigma_A(x) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \mid x - \lambda \cdot 1 \notin GL(A)\}.$$

Proposition 2.1. *Let A be a complex algebra with unity 1 and $x, y = A$. Then*

$$\sigma_A(xy) \cup \{0\} = \sigma_A(yx) \cup \{0\}.$$

Proof. Suppose $1 - xy \in GL(A)$. Formally, we can write

$$(1 - xy)^{-1} = 1 + xy + (xy)^2 + \cdots$$

and

$$(1 - yx)^{-1} = 1 + yx + (yx)^2 + \cdots = 1 + y(1 - xy)^{-1}x.$$

From that, we claim that indeed $1 - yx \in GL(A)$ and

$$(1 - yx)^{-1} = 1 + y(1 - xy)^{-1}x.$$

The proof is straightforward:

$$(1 + y(1 - xy)^{-1}x)(1 - yx) = (1 - yx)(1 + y(1 - xy)^{-1}x) = 1.$$

Now the proof of the statement is at hand: if $\lambda \in \sigma_A(xy) \setminus \{0\}$, then

$$\lambda - xy \notin GL(A) \Rightarrow 1 - \frac{x}{\lambda}y \notin GL(A) \Rightarrow 1 - y\frac{x}{\lambda} \notin GL(A)$$
$$\lambda - yx \notin GL(A)\lambda \in \sigma_A(yx).$$

Similarly, if $\lambda \in \sigma_A(yx) \setminus \{0\}$, then $\lambda \in \sigma_A(xy)$. $\qquad \square$

Example 2.2. *Let $S, S^* \in \mathcal{B}(\ell^2)$ be right and left shift operators, respectively. Then $SS^* = I$, but*

$$SS^*(x_1, x_2, \dots) = (0, x_1, x_2, \dots).$$

This imples that $0 \in \sigma(SS^*)$, but $0 \notin \sigma(S^*S)$.

2.2 Banach and C^*-algebras

Definition 2.3.
- A Banach algebra is a Banach space A that is also an algebra and $\|xy\| \leq \|x\|\|y\|$, $\forall x, y \in A$. If a Banach algebra has a 1, we also demand $\|1\| = 1$.
- An involution on a Banach algebra A is a skew-linear map

$$* : A \to A, \quad a \mapsto a^*$$

satisfying

$$(xy)^* = y^*x^*, \quad (x^*)^* = x, \quad \|x^*\| = \|x\|.$$

A Banach $*$-algebra A that also satisfies $\|x^*x\| = \|x\|^2$, $\forall x \in A$ is a C^*-algebra.

The C^*-algebras considered here are, for the most part, unital.

Proposition 2.4. *We collect some basic properties of C^*-algebras.*

1. *If A is a Banach $*$-algebra, then $(x^*)^{-1} = (x^{-1})^*$ and $\sigma_A(x^*) = \overline{\sigma_A(x)}$.*

2. *Let A be a Banach algebra. If $\|x\| < 1$, then $1 - x \in GL(A)$ and*
$$(1 - x)^{-1} = 1 + x + x^2 + \cdots$$
   As a consequence, if $\|1 - x\| < 1$, then $x \in GL(A)$.

3. *Let A be a Banach algebra. Then $GL(A) \subseteq A$ is open and $x \mapsto x^{-1}$ is continuous in $GL(A)$.*

4. *If A is a Banach algebra and $x \in A$, then $\sigma_A(x)$ is a nonempty compact set.*

Proof. Let us prove the third item. Let $y \in GL(A)$. If $\|x - y\| \leq \frac{1}{\|y^{-1}\|}$, then

$$\|1 - xy^{-1}\| = \|(y - x)y^{-1}\| \leq \|y - x\|\|y^{-1}\| \leq 1,$$

which implies that $xy^{-1} \in GL(A)$ and so $x = xy^{-1} \cdot y \in GL(A)$. We have proved that $GL(A)$ is open. Using the same notation and $(xy^{-1})^{-1} = (1 - (1 - xy^{-1}))^{-1}$, we get

$$\|(xy^{-1})^{-1}\| \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \|(1 - xy^{-1})\|^n \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \|y^{-1}\|^n\|x - y\|^n \leq \frac{1}{1 - \|y^{-1}\| \cdot \|x - y\|}.$$

Now

$$\|x^{-1} - y^{-1}\| = \|x^{-1}(y-x)y^{-1}\|$$
$$\leq \|y^{-1}(xy^{-1})^{-1}\|\|y-x\|\|y^{-1}\|$$
$$\leq \|(xy^{-1})^{-1}\|\|y-x\|\|y^{-1}\|^2$$
$$\leq \frac{\|y^{-1}\|^2}{1 - \|y^{-1}\| \cdot \|x-y\|}\|y-x\|.$$

Since the function $t \mapsto \frac{\|y^{-1}\|^2}{1-\|y^{-1}\|\cdot t}t$ is continuous at $t = 0$, the map $x \mapsto x^{-1}$ is continuous. □

Theorem 2.5 (Gelfand-Mazur)**.**

If A is Banach algebra that is also a division ring, then $A = \mathbb{C}$.

Proof. Let $x \in A$ and $\lambda \in \sigma_A(x)$. Then $x - \lambda \cdot 1 \notin GL(A) = A \setminus \{0\}$. So $x - \lambda = 0$ and $x = \lambda \in \mathbb{C}$. □

Definition 2.6. If $f(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{n} a_j x^j$ is a polynomial and $a \in A$ then we define $f(a) = \sum_{j=0}^{n} a_j a^j \in A$.

Theorem 2.7 (Spectral mapping theorem for polynomials)**.**

Let A be a complex unitary algebra and $f \in \mathbb{C}[x]$. Then $f(\sigma_A(a)) = \sigma_A(f(a))$ for all $a \in A$.

Proof. If $\lambda \in \sigma_A(a)$ and $f(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{n} a_j x^j$, then

$$f(x) - f(\lambda) = \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_j(x^j - \lambda^j) = (x - \lambda) \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_j \sum_{k=0}^{j-1} x^k \lambda^{j-1-k}.$$

From there we get

$$f(a) - f(\lambda) = (a - \lambda) \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_j \sum_{k=0}^{j-1} a^k \lambda^{j-1-k}.$$

Since $a - \lambda$ commutes with $\sum_{j=1}^{n} a_j \sum_{k=0}^{j-1} a^k \lambda^{j-1-k}$, $f(a) - f(\lambda)$ is not invertible and therefore $f(\lambda) \in \sigma_A(f(a))$. Conversely, if $\mu \notin f(\sigma_A(a))$, we factor

$$f(x) - \mu = a_n(x - \lambda_1) \cdots (x - \lambda_n).$$

Since $f(\lambda) - \mu \neq 0$ for any possible $\lambda \in \sigma_A(a)$, we have $\lambda_i \notin \sigma_A(a)$ for every index i. So we have $f(a) - \mu \in GL(A)$. □

Definition 2.8. Let A be a Banach algebra and $x \in A$. The spectral radius of x is

$$r(x) = \sup_{\lambda \in \sigma_A(x)} |\lambda|.$$

Remark. It is trivial to see that $r(xy) = r(yx)$.

Theorem 2.9 (Spectral radius formula)**.**

Let A be a Banach algebra and $x \in A$. Then $\lim_{n \to \infty} \|x^n\|^{\frac{1}{n}}$ exists and is equal to $r(x)$.

Definition 2.10. Let A be a Banach $*$-algebra and $x \in A$.
- x is normal iff $xx^* = x^*x$.
- x is self-adjoint iff $x = x^*$.
- x is skew self-adjoint iff $x = -x^*$.

Remark. Every $a \in A$ can be uniquely written as a sum of a self-adjoint and skew self-adjoint element:

$$a = \frac{a + a^*}{2} + \frac{a - a^*}{2}.$$

Alternatively, we can uniquely write it in the form

$$\left(\frac{a + a^*}{2} \right) + i \cdot \left(\frac{a - a^*}{2i} \right)$$

where both terms in parenthesis are self-adjoint.

Corollary 2.11. *Let A be a Banach $*$-algebra and $x \in X$ normal. Then $r(x^*x) \leq r(x)^2$. If A is a C^*-algebra, then $r(x^*x) = r(x)^2$.*

Proof. We use the spectral radius formula:

$$\begin{aligned}
r(x^*x) &= \lim_{n \to \infty} \|(x^*x)^n\|^{\frac{1}{n}} \\
&= \lim_{n \to \infty} \|(x^*)^n x^n\|^{\frac{1}{n}} \\
&= \lim_{n \to \infty} \|(x^n)^* x^n\|^{\frac{1}{n}} \\
&\leq \lim_{n \to \infty} \|x^n\|^{\frac{2}{n}} = r(x)^2.
\end{aligned}$$

If A is a C^*-algebra, then we obviously have an equality in the last line of the above calculation. $\square$

Proposition 2.12. *Let A be a C^*-algebra and $x \in A$ normal. Then $r(x) = \|x\|$.*

Proof. First we assume x is self-adjoint. Then

$$\|x^2\| = \|xx^*\| = \|x\|^2.$$

By induction, we get $\|x^{2^n}\| = \|x\|^{2^n}$ for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Hence we get

$$r(x) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \|x^n\|^{\frac{1}{n}} = \lim_{n \to \infty} \|x^{2^n}\|^{\frac{1}{2^n}} = \|x\|.$$

If x is only normal, then

$$\|x\|^2 = \|x^*x\| = r(x^*x) = r(x)^2,$$

so $\|x\| = r(x)$. $\square$

Corollary 2.13. *Let A, B be C^*-algebras and $\Phi : A \to B$ a $*$-homomorphism ($\Phi(x^*) = \Phi(x)^*$). Then Φ is a contraction. Furthermore, if Φ is an isomorphism, then it is isometric.*

Proof. Obviously, Φ maps invertible elements into invertible elements, so $\Phi(GL(A)) \subseteq GL(B)$.

This implies $\sigma_B(\Phi(x)) \subseteq \sigma_A(x)$, hence $r(\Phi(x)) \leq r(x)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\Phi(x)\|^2 &= \|\Phi(x)\Phi(x)^*\| \\
&= \|\Phi(x)\Phi(x^*)\| \\
&= \|\Phi(xx^*)\|
\end{aligned}$$

and using the previous proposition, we get

$$r(\Phi(xx^*)) \leq r(xx^*) = \|xx^*\| = \|x\|^2.$$

If Φ is a $*$-isomorphism, we apply the same logic to its inverse, so it has to be an isometry. $\qquad\square$

Corollary 2.14. *If A is a $*$-algebra, then there exists at most one norm on A that makes it into a C^*-algebra.*

Proof. If we consider the identity map

$$(A, \|\|_1) \to (A, \|\|_2),$$

it is a $*$-isomorphism, so it preserves the norm by the previous corollary. $\qquad\square$

Lemma 2.15. *Let A be a C^*-algebra and $x \in A$ self-adjoint. Then $\sigma_A(x) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$.*

Proof. Suppose $\lambda = \alpha + i\beta \in \sigma_A(x)$ for some $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$. Define $y = x - \alpha + it$ for $t \in \mathbb{R}$. Then $i(\beta + t) \in \sigma_A(y)$ and y is normal. Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
|i(\beta + t)|^2 &= (\beta + t)^2 \\
&\leq r(y) \\
&= \|y\|^2 \\
&= \|yy^*\| \\
&= \|(x - \alpha)^2 + t^2\| \\
&\leq \|x - \alpha\|^2 + t^2.
\end{aligned}$$

We have $\beta^2 + 2\beta t \leq \|x - \alpha\|^2$ and since $t \in \mathbb{R}$ was arbitrary, we have $\beta = 0$. $\qquad\square$

Lemma 2.16. *Let A be a Banach algebra and $x \notin GL(A)$. If $(x_n)_n \subseteq GL(A)$ satisfies $x_n \to x$, then $\|x_n^{-1}\| \to \infty$.*

Proof. If the sequence $\|x_n^{-1}\|$ is bounded, then

$$\|1 - xx_n^{-1}\| = \|(x_n - x)x_n^{-1}\| \leq \|x_n - x\| \cdot \|x_n^{-1}\| \to 0.$$

In particular, there exists some $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\|1 - xx_n^{-1}\| < 1$, which implies $xx_n^{-1} \in GL(A)$ and therefore $x = (xx_n^{-1})x_n \in GL(A)$, contradiction. $\qquad\square$

Proposition 2.17. *Let B be a C^*-algebra and $A \subseteq B$ a unital C^*-subalgebra. Then for all $x \in A$, we have $\sigma_A(x) = \sigma_B(x)$.*

Proof. Obviously, $GL(A) \subseteq GL(B)$. For a self adjoint $x \in A \setminus GL(A)$, it $\notin \sigma_A(x)$ for $t \in \mathbb{R}$. So there exists $(x - it)^{-1} \in A$. Clearly,

$$x - it \in GL(A) \xrightarrow[t \to 0]{} x \notin GL(A),$$

so $\|(x - it)^{-1}\| \to \infty$. Since the inverse function is continuous, this immediately yields $x \notin GL(B)$. For general $x \in A$: if $x \in GL(B)$, then $x^*x \in GL(B)$ is self-adjoint. By the first part of the proof, $x^*x \in GL(A)$. It follows that

$$x^{-1} = (x^*x)^{-1}x^* \in A,$$

so $x \in GL(A)$. $\qquad\square$

Example 2.18. *Let X be a topological space and $C_b(X)$ a set of continuous bounded complex functions on X, endowed with the sup metric. Then $C_b(X)$ is a C^*-algebra ($f^*(x) = \overline{f(x)}$). If X is compact then $C(X)$ is also an C^*-algebra.*

Example 2.19. *Define $C_0(X)$ as the subset of $f \in C_b(X)$ that vanish at infinity ($\forall \varepsilon > 0 : \exists K \subseteq X$ compact, such that $\|f|_{X \setminus K}\| < \varepsilon$). Then $C_0(X)$ is a nonunital C^*-subalgebra of $C_b(X)$.*

Example 2.20. *Let (X, μ) be a measure space. Then $L^\infty(X, \mu)$, a set of essentially bounded functions endowed with the essential supremum, is a unital C^*-algebra.*

Example 2.21. *For a Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}$, $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is a non-abelian C^*-algebra: $\forall x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ we have $\|x^*x\| = \|x\|^2$.*

Example 2.22. *If Γ is a group, we define*

$$\ell^1(\Gamma) = \{(\alpha_s)_{s \in \Gamma} \mid \alpha_s \in \mathbb{C}, \sum_{s \in \Gamma} |\alpha_s| < \infty\}.$$

We can then introduce the convolution multiplication on $\ell^1\Gamma$:

$$(\alpha * \beta)_s = \sum_{t \in \Gamma} \alpha_{st} \beta_{t^{-1}}.$$

This is a Banach algebra; it is even a Banach $*$-algebra with involution $(\alpha^*)_s = \overline{\alpha_{s^{-1}}}$. However, it is not a $C*$-algebra.

2.3 Gelfand transform

Definition 2.23. Let A be an abelian Banach algebra. The spectrum of A is defined as

$$\sigma(A) := \{\varphi : A \to \mathbb{C} \mid \varphi \neq 0 \text{ continuous algebra homomorphism}\} \subseteq A^*$$

endowed with a weak-* topology. Its elements are called characters.

If $\varphi \in \sigma(A)$, then $\ker \varphi \cap GL(A) = \emptyset$. For $x \in A$, we have $\varphi(x) \in \sigma_A(x)$:

$$\varphi(x - \varphi(x)) = \varphi(x) - \varphi(\varphi(x) \cdot 1)$$
$$= \varphi(x) - \varphi(x)\varphi(1)$$
$$= \varphi(x) - \varphi(x) = 0.$$

Therefore $|\varphi(x)| \leq r(x) \leq \|x\|$, we have the bound $\|\varphi\| \leq 1$. But since $\varphi(1) = 1$, we get $\|\varphi\| = 1$. We know that $\sigma(A)$ is closed in $(A^*)_1$, so $\sigma(A)$ is a compact Hausdorff space by Banach-Alaoglu.

Proposition 2.24. *Let A be a C^*-algebra and $h : A \to \mathbb{C}$ a non-zero homomorphism (not necessarily a *-homomorphism). Then the following is true:*

1. *$h(a) \in \mathbb{R}$ for self-adjoint a;*

2. *$h(a^*) = \overline{h(a)}$ for all $a \in A$;*

3. *$h(aa^*) \geq 0$ for all $a \in A$;*

4. *if $1 \in A$ and $u \in U(A)$, then $|h(u)| = 1$.*

Proof. 1. Since $h(a) \in \sigma_A(a)$ and self-adjoint elements have real spectrum, this is trivial.
2. Let $a = a_1 + ia_2$, where a_1, a_2 are self-adjoint. Then $a^* = a_1 - ia_2$ and

$$h(a^*) = h(a_1 - ia_2) = h(a_1) - ih(a_2) = \overline{h(a_1) + ih(a_2)} = \overline{h(a)}.$$

3. Follows from (b).
4. If u is unitary, then $|h(u)|^2 = h(u)h(u^*) = h(uu^*) = h(1) = 1$. $\qquad \square$

Remark. The first three items also hold for non-unital algebra A.

Corollary 2.25. *Every nonzero algebra homomorphism $h : A \to \mathbb{C}$ is a character.*

Proposition 2.26. *Let A be an abelian Banach algebra. Then the map $\varphi \mapsto \ker \varphi$ is a bijection from $\sigma(A)$ to the set of all maximal ideals of A.*

Proof. If $\varphi \in \sigma(A)$, then $\ker \varphi \lhd A$. If $\ker \varphi \subsetneq I \lhd A$, then there exists an element $x \in I \setminus \ker \varphi$. That is, $\varphi(x) \neq 0$. from $1 - \frac{x}{\varphi(x)} \in \ker \varphi$ it follows that

$$1 = \left(1 - \frac{x}{\varphi(x)} \right) + \frac{1}{\varphi(x)} \cdot x \in I$$

and $\ker \varphi$ is a maximal ideal. Conversely, let $I \lhd A$ be a maximal ideal. Then $I \cap GL(A) = \emptyset$ and since $GL(A)$ is open, we also have $\overline{I} \cap GL(A) = \emptyset$. Thus $\overline{I} \lhd A$ and $1 \notin \overline{I}$, so $I \subseteq \overline{I} \subsetneq A$. By maximality, $\overline{I} = I$. Then A/I is a Banach algebra and since I is maximal, every nonzero element in A/I is invertible. By Gelfand-Mazur, $A/I \cong \mathbb{C}$. The projection $\pi : A \to A/I \cong \mathbb{C}$ is in $\sigma(A)$ and $\ker \pi = I$. $\qquad \square$

Corollary 2.27. *Let A be an abelian Banach algebra and $x \in A \setminus GL(A)$. Then there exists $\varphi \in \sigma(A)$ such that $\varphi(x) = 0$. In particular, $\sigma(A) \neq 0$.*

Proof. If $x \notin GL(A)$. Since $\langle x \rangle \subsetneq A$, it has to be included in a maximal ideal I of A (Zorn's lemma). By the previous proposition, there exists a $\varphi : A \to \mathbb{C}$ in $\sigma(A)$ such that $x \in I = \ker \varphi$. $\qquad \square$

Theorem 2.28 (Stone-Čech**).**

Let X be a topological space. For $x \in X$, let $\beta_x : C_b(X) \to \mathbb{C}$ be an evaluation homomorphism $f \mapsto f(x)$. Then

$$\beta : X \to \sigma(C_b(X)), \quad x \mapsto \beta_x$$

is a continuous map whose image is dense in the codomain and with the following universal property: if $\pi : X \to K^{T_2, \text{ compact}}$ is continuous, then there exists a unique continuous mapping

$$\beta_\pi : \sigma(C_b(X)) \to K$$

such that $\pi(x) = \beta_\pi(\beta_x)$ for all $x \in X$. In particular, if X is compact T_2, then β is a homeomorphism.

Proof.   1. First, we prove that β is continuous. If $(x_i)_i$ is a net in X and $x_i \to x$. Then $\forall f \in C_b(X)$ we have $\beta_{x_i} = f(x_i) \to f(x) = \beta_x(f)$. Hence $\beta_{x_i} \to \beta_x$ in weak-* topology.

    2. Next, we prove that $\operatorname{im} \beta$ is dense. Assume otherwise and pick $\varphi \in \sigma(C_b(X)) \setminus \overline{\beta(x)}$. Define $I := \ker \varphi$. For all $\psi \in \overline{\beta(x)}$ there exists $f_\psi \in I$ such that $f_\psi \in \ker \psi$. Hence there exists c_ψ and a neighborhood U_ψ of ψ such that $|\widetilde{\psi}(f)| > c_\psi$ for all $\widetilde{\psi} \in U_\psi$. Thus $\overline{\beta(x)} \subseteq U_{\psi \in \overline{\beta(x)}} \overline{U_\psi}$. By compactness, there exists a finite subcovering of $\overline{\beta x}$, so $\overline{\beta x} \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n U_{\psi_j}$. Then there exist $f_{\psi_1}, \ldots, f_{\psi_n} \in I$ and $c > 0$ such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \psi(|f_{\psi_i}|^2) > c, \quad \forall \psi \in \overline{\beta x}.$$

Hence

$$\sum_{i=1}^n |f_{\psi_i}|^2(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \beta x(|f_{\psi_i}|^2) > c, \quad \forall x \in X.$$

So $\sum_{i=1}^n |f_{\psi_i}|^2 \in I$ and $(\sum |f_{\psi_i}|^2)^{-1} \in C_b(X)$. As a result, $I = C_b(X)$.

    3. If X is compact and Hausdorff, so β is surjective since βx is dense and compact. Also, β is injective since $C_b(X)$ separate points. In that case, β is a continuous bijection between compact Hausdorff spaces, therefore a homeomorphism.

    4. Now onto the universal property: let $\pi : X \to K$, where K is compact Hausdorff. Then there exists a continuous map

$$C(K) \xrightarrow{\pi^*} C_b(X), \quad f \mapsto f \circ \pi.$$

This induces a continuous map

$$\widetilde{\pi} : \sigma(C_b(X)) \to \sigma(C(K)), \quad \varphi \mapsto \varphi \circ \pi^*.$$

Since K is compact Hausdorff, the map $\beta^K : K \to \sigma(C(K))$ is a homeomorphism. Define

$$\beta_\pi : \sigma(C_b(X)) \to K, \quad \beta_\pi = (\beta^K)^{-1} \circ \widetilde{\pi}.$$

Then we have

$$\widetilde{\pi}(\beta_x)(g) = \beta_x(\pi^*(g)) = \pi^*(g)(x) = g(\pi(x)) = \beta^K_{\pi(x)}(g).$$

By left multiplying by $(\beta^K)^{-1}$, we get $\beta_\pi(\beta_x) = \pi(x)$. $\qquad \square$

Definition 2.29. Let A be an abelian Banach algebra. The Gelfand transform of A is the map

$$\Gamma : A \to C(\sigma(A)), \quad x \mapsto (\varphi \mapsto \varphi(x)).$$

Theorem 2.30.

Let A be an abelian algebra. Then Γ is a homomorphism, contraction and for $x \in A$ we have

$$\Gamma(x) \in GL(C(\sigma(A))) \Leftrightarrow x \in GL(A).$$

Proof. Homomorphism part is routine. We prove that Γ is a contraction by following:

$$\|\Gamma(x)\| = \sup_{\varphi \in \sigma(A)} \|\Gamma(x)\varphi\| = \sup_{\varphi} |\varphi(x)| \leq \|x\|.$$

We proceed onto the equivalence. The right implication ($\Rightarrow$) is trivial, since

$$\Gamma(x^{-1})\Gamma(x) = \Gamma(x^{-1}x) = \Gamma(1) = 1.$$

Now the converse ($\Leftarrow$): if $x \notin GL(A)$, then by the lemma $\exists \varphi \in \sigma(A)$, $\varphi(x) = 0$. Then $\Gamma(x)(\varphi) = \varphi(x) = 0$, so the continuous map $\Gamma(x)$ is not invertible. $\square$

Corollary 2.31. *Let A be an abelian Banach algebra. Then we have*

$$\sigma(\Gamma(x)) = \sigma(x)$$

and

$$\|\Gamma(x)\| = r(\Gamma(x)) = r(x).$$

Theorem 2.32 (Gelfand)**.**

Let A be an abelian C^*-algebra. Then Γ is an isometric $*$-isomorphism.

Proof. For a self-adjoint $x \in A$ we have $\sigma(\Gamma(x)) = \sigma(x) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. Then $\overline{\Gamma(x)} = \Gamma(x)$. An arbitrary $x \in A$ can be written as $x = a + ib$ for self-adjoint $a = \frac{x+x^*}{2}$ and $b = \frac{i(x^*-x)}{2}$. Then

$$\Gamma(x^*) = \Gamma(a - ib) = \Gamma(a) - i\Gamma(b) = \overline{\Gamma(a) + i\Gamma(b)} = \overline{\Gamma(x)}.$$

This implies that Γ is a *-homomorphism. Since A is abelian, each $x \in A$ is normal so

$$\|x\| = r(x) = r(\Gamma(x)) = \|\Gamma(x)\|$$

and Γ is an isometry. In particular, Γ is injective. We know that $\Gamma(A)$ is closed under $*$. Since Γ is isometric, $\Gamma(A)$ is a closed subalgebra in $C(\sigma(A))$ that separates points. By Stone-Weierstrass, $\Gamma(A) = C(\sigma(A))$. $\square$

Remark. If A is a C^*-algebra and $x \in A$ is normal, then the C^*-algebra generated by x, $C^*(x)$, is an abelian C^*-algebra.

Corollary 2.33. *Let A be an abelian C^*-algebra, generated by $x \in A$. Then $\sigma(A) \cong \sigma(x)$.*

Proof. Let $\Gamma : A \to C(\sigma(A))$ be a Gelfand transform. Define

$$\tau : \sigma(A) \to \sigma(x), \quad \varphi \mapsto \varphi(x) = \Gamma(x)(\varphi).$$

Clearly, τ is well-defined, since $\varphi(x) \in \sigma(x)$, $\forall x$. Next we show that τ is onto. For $\lambda \in \sigma(x)$, $x - \lambda \notin GL(A)$, so there exists $\psi \in \sigma(A)$ such that $\psi(x) - \psi(\lambda) = \psi(x - \lambda) = 0$. We show that τ is injective. Let $\tau(\varphi_1) = \tau(\varphi_2)$. Then $\varphi_1(x) = \varphi_2(x)$. Since

$$\varphi_j(x^*) = \Gamma(x^*)(\varphi_j) = \overline{\Gamma(x)(\varphi_j)} = \overline{\varphi_j(x)},$$

we have $\varphi_1(x^*) = \varphi_2(x^*)$. Hence $\varphi_1(p(x, x^*)) = \varphi_2(p(x, x^*))$, for every polynomial p. Since $\{p(x, x^*) \mid p \text{ polynomial}\}$ is by definition dense in A, we have $\varphi_1 = \varphi_2$. Finally, we prove the continuity of τ. Let $(\varphi_\alpha)_\alpha$ is a net in $\sigma(A)$ such that $\varphi_\alpha \to \varphi$. Then $\varphi_\alpha(y) \to \varphi(y)$ for all $y \in A$, so in particular $\varphi_\alpha(x) \to \varphi(x)$, which proves $\tau(\varphi_\alpha) \to \tau(\varphi)$. Since τ is a continuous bijection between compact Hausdorff spaces, it is a homeomorphism. $\square$

Remark. Since $\varphi \in \sigma(A)$ is an algebra homomorphism, we have $\varphi(p(x, x^*)) = p(\varphi(x), \overline{\varphi(x)})$ for a complex polynomial $p(z, \overline{z})$ in z and $\overline{z}$. Using the notation from above proof, we get $\Gamma(p(x, x^*)) = p \circ \tau$.

If τ is defined as in the previous proof, then

$$\tau^\# : C(\sigma(x)) \to C(\sigma(A)), \quad f \mapsto f \circ \tau$$

is a $*$-isomorphism and an isometry. We know that $A = C^*(x)$ is closure of $\{p(x, x^*) \mid p(z, \overline{z}) \text{ polynomial}\}$ and $\Gamma(p(x, x^*)) = \tau^\#(p)$. We define a map $\rho : C(\sigma(x)) \to C^*(x)$ so that the following diagram commutes:

2.4 Continuous functional theorem

If A is any C^*-algebra and x is a normal element of A, then $C^*(x)$ is an abelian C^*-algebra contained in A. Since the spectrum $\sigma(x)$ is independent of the C^* algebra $C^*(x)$ or A, we can define a function $\rho : C(\sigma(x)) \to C^*(x) \subseteq A$ and use the notation $f(x) := \rho(f)$.

Theorem 2.34.

Let A, B be C^*-algebras and let $x \in A$ be normal.

1. $f \mapsto f(x)$ is a *-homomorphism $C(\sigma(x)) \to A$ and if

$$f = \sum_{j,k=0}^n a_{jk} z^j \overline{z}^k$$

   is a polynomial, then

$$f(x) = \sum_{j,k=0}^n a_{jk} x^j (x^*)^k.$$

   In particular, if $f = z$ is the identity polynomial, then $f(x) = x$.

2. For $f \in C(\sigma(x))$, then $\sigma(f(x)) = f(\sigma(x))$.

3. If $\Phi : A \to B$ is a *-homomorphism, then $\Phi(f(x)) = f(\Phi(x))$.

4. If $(x_n)_n$ is a sequence of normal elements of A such that $\|x_n - x\| \to 0$ and Ω is a compact neighborhood of $\sigma(x)$, $f \in C(\Omega)$, then for a large enough n, $\sigma(x_n) \subseteq \Omega$ and $\|f(x_n) - f(x)\| \to 0$.

Proof. The points (1), (2) follow directly from Gelfand theorem and properties of continuous functions on compact sets. The point (3) is obvious for polynomials f and the general case follows from Stone-Weierstrass. We prove the point (4). Let $C = \sup_n \|x_n\| < \infty$. First we need to show that $\sigma(x_n) \subseteq \Omega$ for large enough n. If that weren't the case, then for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ there would exist $N_n > n$ such that there exists $\lambda_n \in \sigma(x_{N_n}) \setminus \Omega \subseteq \overline{B_C(0)}$. Thus there exists a convergent subsequence $(\lambda_{n_k})_k$ such that $\lambda_{n_k} \to \lambda \in U$, where U is an open neighborhood of $\sigma(x)$ and $\lambda \notin \sigma(x)$. But then

$$\underbrace{x_{n_k} - \lambda_{n_k}}_{\notin GL(A)} \to \underbrace{x - \lambda}_{\in GL(A)},$$

which contradicts the openness of $GL(A)$. For every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a polynomial $g : \Omega \to \mathbb{C}$ such that $\|f - g\|_\infty < \varepsilon$. Now

$$\limsup_n \|f(x_n) - g(x_n)\| + \|g(x_n) - g(x)\| + \|g(x) - f(x)\|$$
$$\leq 2 \cdot C \cdot \varepsilon + \limsup_n \|g(x_n) - g(x)\|$$
$$= 2C\varepsilon.$$

Since ε was arbitrary, $\lim_{n \to \infty} \|f(x_n) - f(x)\| = 0$. $\qquad\square$

2.5 Application of the continuous functional theorem

Definition 2.35. Let A be a C^*-algebra and $x \in A$.
- x is positive if $x = y^*y$ for some $y \in A$ (x is a hernitian square). The set of positive elements is denoted A_+.
- x is a projection if $x^2 = x^* = x$.
- x is unitary if $xx^* = x^*x = 1$. The set of positive elements is denoted $U(A)$.
- x is an isometry if $x^*x = 1$.
- x is a partial isometry if x^*x is a projection.

Remark. The first three are automatically normal (the first two are even self-adjoint).

The set A_+ induces a partial ordering on A_{sa}: for two elements $a, b \in A_{\text{sa}}$ we define

$$a \leq b \Leftrightarrow b - a \in A_+.$$

We notice that $x^* A_+ x \subseteq A_+$ for any $x \in A$. For any $a, b \in A_{\text{sa}}$ and for any $x \in a$ we have

$$a \leq b \Rightarrow x^*ax \leq x^*bx.$$

Proposition 2.36. *Let A be a C^*-algebra and $x \in A$. Then x is a linear combination of four unitaries.*

Proof. Since $x = \operatorname{Re} x + i \operatorname{Im} x$, where $\operatorname{Re} x, \operatorname{Im} x \in A_{\text{sa}}$, it's enough to show that every self-adjoint is a linear combination of two unitaries. Without loss of generality, assume $\|x\| \leq 1$, so $\sigma(x) \subseteq [-1, 1]$. Consider the continuous function

$$f : [-1, 1] \to \mathbb{T}, \quad z \mapsto z + i(1 - z^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

and by continuous functional theorem, $f(x) \subseteq A$ and because $f \cdot \overline{f} \equiv 1$ on $[-1, 1]$, we have $f(x)f(x)^* = f(x)^*f(x) = 1$. So $f(x) = u$ is unitary and $x = \frac{1}{2}(x + x^*)$ is a linear combination of two unitaries. $\qquad\square$

Definition 2.37. Let $x \in A_{\mathrm{sa}}$. Then $\sigma(x) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ and we can define

$$x_+ = \max\{0, z\}(x) \in A, \quad x_- = -\min\{0, z\}(x) \in A.$$

Then $\sigma(x_+), \sigma(x_-) \subseteq [0, \infty)$, $x = x_+ - x_-$ and $x_+ x_- = x_- x_+ = 0$.

Lemma 2.38. *Suppose* $x, y \in A_{\mathrm{sa}}$ *satisfy* $\sigma(x), \sigma(y) \subseteq [0, \infty)$. *Then* $\sigma(x + y) \subseteq [0, \infty)$.

Proof. Let $a := \|x\|$ and $b := \|y\|$. From $x = x^*$ and $\sigma(x) \subseteq [0, a]$ we deduce $\sigma(a - x) \subseteq [0, a]$, where $\|a - x\| = r(a - x) \le a$. Likewise, $\|b - y\| \le b$. Then

$$\sup_{\lambda \in \sigma(x+y)} \{a + b - \lambda\} = r(a + b - (x + y))$$

$$= \|(a + b) - (x + y)\|$$
$$\le \|a - x\| + \|b - y\|$$
$$\le a + b. \qquad \square$$

Theorem 2.39.

Let A be a C^*-algebra and $x \in A$ normal.

1. $x = x^* \Leftrightarrow \sigma(x) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$;

2. $x \in A_+ \Leftrightarrow \sigma(x) \subseteq [0, \infty)$;

3. $x \in U(A) \Leftrightarrow \sigma(x) \subseteq \mathbb{T}$;

4. $x^2 = x^* = x \Leftrightarrow \sigma(x) \subseteq \{0, 1\}$.

Proof. We prove the item (2). For the implication $\Leftarrow$, apply the function $\sqrt{\cdot} : [0, \infty) \to \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$x = (\sqrt{x})^2 = (\sqrt{x})^* \cdot \sqrt{x} \in A_+.$$

Now the converse ($\Rightarrow$). Suppose $x = y^* y$ for some $y \in A$. Write $x = x_+ - x_-$ and let $z := y \cdot x_-$. Then

$$z^* z = x_- y^* y x_- = x_- x x_- = -x_-^3.$$

From there we get

$$\sigma(zz^*) \subseteq \sigma(z^* z) \cup \{0\} \subseteq (-\infty, 0].$$

Let $z = a + ib$ for $a, b \in A_{\mathrm{sa}}$. Then

$$zz^* + z^* z = 2a^2 + 2b^2 \Rightarrow \sigma(zz^* + z^* z) \subseteq [0, \infty).$$

From there we get

$$\sigma(z^* z) = \sigma((2a^2 + 2b^2) - zz^*) \subseteq [0, \infty).$$

This implies that

$$\sigma(-x_-^3) = \sigma(z^* z) \subseteq \{0\},$$

so $x_-^3 = 0$ and $x_- = 0$. This proves that $x = x_+$ has nonnegative spectrum. $\qquad \square$

Corollary 2.40. *Let A be a C^*-algebra and $x \in A$. Then x is a partial isometry iff x^* is a partial isometry.*

Proof.

$$x \text{ partial isometry} \Leftrightarrow x^*x \text{ projection}$$
$$\Leftrightarrow \sigma(x^*x) \subseteq \{0,1\}$$
$$\Leftrightarrow \sigma(xx^*) \subseteq \{0,1\}$$
$$\Leftrightarrow xx^* \text{ projection}$$
$$\Leftrightarrow x^* \text{ partial isometry.} \qquad \square$$

Corollary 2.41. *Let A be a C^*-algebra.*

1. *A_+ is a closed convex cone ($\lambda A_+ \subseteq A_+$ for $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$).*

2. *If $a \in A_{\text{sa}}$, then $a \leq \|a\|$.*

Proposition 2.42. *Let A be a C^*-algebra and $x, y \in A_+$.*

1. *If $x \leq y$, then $\sqrt{x} \leq \sqrt{y}$ (in fact, this is true for any exponent $r \in [0,1]$).*

2. *If $x, y \in GL(A)$ and $x \leq y$, then $y^{-1} \leq x^{-1}$.*

Proof. 1. Let us prove the second point first. Suppose $x, y \in GL(A)$. Then we have $y^{-\frac{1}{2}} x y^{-\frac{1}{2}} \leq 1$ and

$$x^{\frac{1}{2}} y^{-1} x^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \|x^{\frac{1}{2}} y^{-1} x^{\frac{1}{2}}\|$$
$$= r(x^{\frac{1}{2}} y^{-1} x^{\frac{1}{2}})$$
$$= r(y^{-\frac{1}{2}} x y^{-\frac{1}{2}})$$
$$\leq 1,$$

so multiplying on both sides by $x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ we get $y^{-1} \leq x^{-1}$.

2. Now we prove the first point:

$$\|y^{-\frac{1}{2}} x^{\frac{1}{2}}\|^2 = \|(y^{-\frac{1}{2}} x^{\frac{1}{2}})(y^{-\frac{1}{2}} x^{\frac{1}{2}})^*\|$$
$$= \|y^{-\frac{1}{2}} x y^{-\frac{1}{2}}\|$$
$$\leq 1,$$

which implies

$$y^{-\frac{1}{4}} x^{\frac{1}{2}} y^{-\frac{1}{4}} \leq \|y^{-\frac{1}{4}} x^{\frac{1}{2}} y^{-\frac{1}{4}}\|$$
$$= r(y^{-\frac{1}{4}} x^{\frac{1}{2}} y^{-\frac{1}{4}})$$
$$= r(y^{-\frac{1}{2}} x^{\frac{1}{2}})$$
$$= \|y^{-\frac{1}{2}} x^{\frac{1}{2}}\| \leq 1,$$

so multiplying on both sides by $y^{\frac{1}{4}}$ we get $y^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq x^{\frac{1}{2}}$ For general non invertible x, y, pick $\varepsilon > 0$ and notice that

$$0 \leq x + \varepsilon \leq y + \varepsilon$$

and $x + \varepsilon, y + \varepsilon \in GL(A)$. By the above, $(x + \varepsilon)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq (y + \varepsilon)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ and we send $\varepsilon \to 0$ to get $x^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq y^{\frac{1}{2}}$. $\qquad \square$

Remark. Let $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ and $f : I \to \mathbb{R}$ continuous. Then the function f is operator monotone iff for every C^*-algebra A and $a, b \in A_{\text{sa}}$, $a \leq b$, $\sigma(a), \sigma(b) \subseteq I$ we have $f(a) \leq f(b)$. By the above proposition, $\sqrt{z}$ and $\frac{1}{z}$ are operator monotone on $[0, \infty)$, while z^2 for example isn't.

Definition 2.43. Absolute value of $x \in A$ is
$$|x| = (x^* x)^{\frac{1}{2}} \in A_+.$$

Corollary 2.44. *For $x, y \in A$ we have $|xy| \leq \|x\|\|y\|$.*

Proof. Notice that
$$|xy|^2 = y^* x^* xy \leq y^* \|x^* x\| y = \|x\|^2 (y^* y)$$
and now apply the operator-monotone $\sqrt{\cdot}$ and the previous proposition. $\qquad\square$

Example 2.45. *Let A be a C^*-algebra.*
  1. $\mathrm{ext}(A_+)_1 = \{\text{projections in } A\}$.
  2. $\mathrm{ext}(A)_1 \subseteq \{\text{partial isometries in } A\}$.
  3. $\mathrm{ext}(A_{\mathrm{sa}})_1 = U(A) \cap A_{\mathrm{sa}}$.

Proof.   1. Let $x \in (A_+)_1$. Then $x^2 \leq 2x$ since $z^2 - 2z \leq 0$ on $[0,1] = \sigma(x)$. So $x = \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{2}(2x - x^2)$. If x is an extreme point, then $x = x^2$ and $x \in A_+ \subseteq A_{\mathrm{sa}}$, so x is an projection. For the converse we firstly assume A is abelian, which means $A = C(K)$ for a compact K (by Gelfand). If $x \in A = C(K)$ is a projection, then $x = \chi_E$ for some clopen $E \subseteq K$. Since $\mathrm{ext}[0,1] = \{0,1\}$, χ_E is an extreme point. Let A now be a general C^*-algebra and $p \in A^*$ a projection. Suppose $p = \frac{1}{2}(a + b)$ for some $a, b \in (A_+)_1$. Then $\frac{1}{2}a = p - \frac{1}{2}b \leq p$. Hence
$$0 \leq (1-p)a(1-p) \leq (1-p)2p(1-p) = 0,$$
so
$$(\sqrt{a}(1-p))^*(\sqrt{a}(1-p)) = (1-p)a(1-p) = 0$$
and $\sqrt{a}(1-p) = 0$. This implies that $a(1-p) = 0$, so
$$ap = a = a^* = (ap)^* = p^* a^* = pa.$$

Similarly, we can show that a, b, p all commute, so the C^*-subalgebra $C^*(a, b, p)$ is abelian and we just use the previous observation.
  2. Suppose $x \in (A)_1$ is not a partial isometry (alternatively, $x^* x$ is not a projection). First, we notice that $\|x^* x\| = \|x\|^2 \leq 1$. Since it is not a projection, $\sigma(x^* x) \subsetneq (0, 1)$. Then we apply continuous functional calculus to obtain a function $f : \sigma(x^* x) \to [0, 1]$ such that $|t(1 \pm f(t))^2| \leq 1$ for $t \in \sigma(x^* x)$ (f can be a small bump function on an interval $[a, b] \subseteq (0, 1)$ where $[a, b] \cap \sigma(x^* x) \neq \emptyset$). Then $y := f(x^* x) \in A_+$ gives us $yx^* x \neq x^* xy \neq 0$ and $\|x^* x(1 \pm y)^2\| \leq 1$. Then $\|x(1 \pm y)\|^2 \leq 1$ and
$$x = \frac{1}{2}((x + xy) + (x - xy)) \notin \mathrm{ext}(A)_1.$$

  3. If $u \in U(A) \in (A_{\mathrm{sa}})$, then $x \mapsto ux$ is an isometry and as in the case $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, u is an extreme point, so $A_{\mathrm{sa}} \cap U(A) \subseteq \mathrm{ext}(A_{\mathrm{sa}})_1$. For the converse, assume $x \in \mathrm{ext}(A_{\mathrm{sa}})_1$ and $x_+ = \frac{1}{2}(a + b)$ for $a, b \in (A_+)_1$. Then
$$0 = x_- x_+ x_- = \frac{1}{2}(x_- a x_- + x_- b x_-) \geq 0.$$

So from $x_- a x_- = 0$, we get $(\sqrt{a}x_-)^*(\sqrt{a}x_-) = 0$, from there it follows that $\sqrt{a}x_- = 0$ and $ax_- = 0$. Likewise, $x_- a = bx_- = x_- b = 0$. By Gelfand, the commutative C^*-algebra $C^*(a, b, x_-)$ is isometrically $*$-isomorphic to $C(K)$ for some compact K, so a and x_- are

functions such that for every point in K, at least one of them is zero. So $a - x_-$ is above bounded by 1 and we have $a - x_- \in (A_{\mathrm{sa}})_1$. Similarly, $b - x_- \in (A_{\mathrm{sa}})_1$, so

$$x = \frac{1}{2}((a - x_-) + (b - x_-)) \in (A_{\mathrm{sa}})_1.$$

But since x is an extreme point, we have $a - x_- = b - x_-$ and $a = b = x_+$. So $x_+ \in \mathrm{ext}(A_+)_1$ is a projection by (i) and by symmetry, so is x_-. Now we prove that x is unitary:

$$x^* x = x^2 = (x_+ - x_-)^2 = x_+^2 + x_-^2 = x_+ + x_- = |x|.$$

This implies that $|x|$ is a projection. Now set $q := 1 - |x|$. Then $x + q$ and $x - q$ are both in $(A_{\mathrm{sa}})_1$, so

$$x = \frac{1}{2}((x + q) + (x - q))$$

gives us $q = 0$, which further implies $|x| = 1$ and $x^* x = x x^* = 1$. $\qquad\square$

3   Representations of C^*-algebras and states

3.1   States

Let A be a C^*-algebra, then A^* can be given an A-bimodule structure: if $\psi \in A^*$ and $a, b \in A$, then

$$(a \cdot \psi \cdot b)(x) = \psi(bxa), \quad \forall x \in A.$$

We have

$$\|a \cdot \psi \cdot b\| = \sup_{x \in (A)_1} \|\psi(bxa)\| \leq \sup_{x \in (A)_1} \|\psi\| \|bxa\| \leq \|\psi\| \|a\| \|b\|.$$

Definition 3.1. Let A be a C^*-algebra and $\varphi \in A^*$.
- We say that φ is positive if $\varphi(x) \geq 0$, $\forall x \in A_+$. If φ is positive and $a \in A$, then $a\varphi a^*$ is also positive.
- A positive element $\varphi \in A^*$ is faithful if $\varphi(x) \neq 0$, $\forall x \in A_+ \setminus \{0\}$.
- An element $\varphi \in A^*$ is a state if it is positive and $\|\varphi\| = 1$. The set of states is denoted $S(A) \subseteq (A^*)_1$.

Remark. The set $S(A)$ is compact Hausdorff in the weak-* topology.

We notice that if $\varphi \in A^*$ is positive and $x \in A_{\mathrm{sa}}$, then

$$\varphi(x) = \varphi(x_+ - x_-) = \varphi(x_+) - \varphi(x_-) \in \mathbb{R}.$$

If $y \in A$, then $y = y_1 + iy_2$, where y_1, y_2 are self-adjoint. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\varphi(y^*) &= \varphi((y_1 + iy_2)^*) = \varphi(y_1 - iy_2) \\
&= \varphi(y_1) - i\varphi(y_2) = \overline{\varphi(y_1) + i\varphi(y_2)} \\
&= \overline{\varphi(y_1 + iy_2)} = \overline{\varphi(y)}
\end{aligned}$$

Such a functional $\varphi \in A^*$ is called hermitian. For any $\varphi \in A^*$, define $\varphi^*(y) = \overline{\varphi(y^*)}$. Then $\varphi + \varphi^*$ and $i(\varphi - \varphi^*)$ are hermitian. One can, of course, define these notions for unbounded linear functionals. However, positivity implies continuity: for every $a \in A_{\mathrm{sa}}$ we have $-\|a\| \cdot 1 \leq a \leq \|a\| \cdot 1$, which implies

$$-\|a\| \varphi(1) \leq \varphi(a) \leq \|a\| \varphi(1)$$

and φ is bounded. For $a \in A$, we can of course write $a = b + ic$ for $b, c \in A_{\mathrm{sa}}$. Here, $\|b\| \leq \|a\|$ and $\|c\| \leq \|a\|$. Let $\varphi(1) = C$. Then

$$|\varphi(a)|^2 = |\varphi(b) + i\varphi(c)|^2 = \varphi(b)^2 + \varphi(c)^2 \leq C^2(\|b\|^2 + \|c\|^2) \leq 2C^2\|a\|^2.$$

Lemma 3.2. *Let $\varphi \in A^*$ be positive. Then $\forall x, y \in A$:*

$$|\varphi(y^*x)|^2 \leq \varphi(y^*y) \cdot \varphi(x^*x).$$

Proof. Consider the sesquilinear form $\langle x, y \rangle = \varphi(y^*x)$. Since φ is positive, this is a positive sesquilinear form and we can apply Cauchy-Schwartz. $\square$

Theorem 3.3.

An element $\varphi \in A^*$ is positive iff $\|\varphi\| = \varphi(1)$.

Remark. This implies that the set of states $S(A)$ is convex.

Proof. First we prove the right implication ($\Rightarrow$). We know that $x^*x \leq \|x^*x\|$, so

$$\begin{aligned}
|\varphi(x)|^2 &\leq \varphi(1)\varphi(x^*x) \\
&\leq \varphi(1)\varphi(\|x^*x\|) \\
&= \varphi(1)^2\|x^*x\| \\
&= \varphi(1)^2\|x\|^2,
\end{aligned}$$

so $|\varphi(x)| \leq \varphi(1)\|x\|$. From there we get $\|\varphi\| \leq \varphi(1) \leq \|\varphi\|$, so $\varphi(1) = \|\varphi\|$. Now the converse ($\Leftarrow$). Suppose $x \in A_+$ and $\varphi(x) = \alpha + i\beta$. For each $t \in \mathbb{R}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha^2 + (\beta + t\|\varphi\|)^2 &= |\alpha + i(\beta + t\varphi(1))|^2 \\
&= |\varphi(x + it)|^2 \\
&= \|x + it\|^2 \cdot \|\varphi\|^2 \\
&\leq \left(\|x\|^2 + t^2\right)\|\varphi\|^2.
\end{aligned}$$

From this it directly follows $2\beta t\|\varphi\| \leq \|x\|^2 \cdot \|\varphi\|^2$. Since $t \in \mathbb{R}$ was arbitrary, we have $\beta = 0$ and $\varphi(x) = \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$. Lastly, we derive

$$\begin{aligned}
\|x\| \cdot \|\varphi\| - \varphi(x) = \varphi(\|x\| - x) \\
&\leq \|\|x\| - x\| \cdot \|\varphi\| \\
&\leq \|x\| \cdot \|\varphi\|,
\end{aligned}$$

so $\varphi(x) \geq 0$. $\square$

Proposition 3.4. *Let A be a C^*-algebra and $x \in A$. Then $\forall \lambda \in \sigma(x)$ there exists a $\varphi \in S(A)$ such that $\varphi(x) = \lambda$.*

Proof. We know that $\mathbb{C}x + \mathbb{C} \cdot 1 \subseteq A$. Define

$$\varphi_0 : \mathbb{C}x + \mathbb{C}1 \to \mathbb{C}, \quad \alpha x + \beta \mapsto \alpha \cdot \lambda + \beta.$$

Since $\varphi_0(\alpha x + \beta) \in \sigma(\alpha x + \beta)$, we have

$$\|\varphi_0\| \leq 1 = \varphi_0(1),$$

therefore $\|\varphi_0\| = 1$. Now we apply Hahn-Banach to get an extension $\varphi \in A^*$ such that $\varphi|_{\mathbb{C}x+\mathbb{C}1} = \varphi_0$ and $\|\varphi\| = 1 = \varphi(1)$, so $\varphi \in S(A)$. $\qquad\square$

Proposition 3.5. *Let A be a C^*-algebra and $x \in A$.*

1. $x = 0$ iff $\varphi(x) = 0$, $\forall \varphi \in S(A)$.

2. $x \in A_{\mathrm{sa}}$ iff $\varphi(x) \in \mathbb{R}$, $\forall \varphi \in S(A)$.

3. $x \in A_+$ iff $\varphi(x) \geq 0$, $\forall \varphi \in S(A)$.

Proof.   1. If $\varphi x = 0$ for all $\varphi \in S(A)$, then writing $x = x_1 + ix_2$ for self-adjoint x_1, x_2 gives us

$$0 = \varphi(x) = \varphi(x_1) + i\varphi(x_2),$$

which implies $\varphi(x_1) = \varphi(x_2) = 0$. For the converse implication, use the previous proposition to get $\sigma(x) = \{0\}$, which can only imply $x = 0$.
2. If $\varphi(x) \in \mathbb{R}$ for all $\varphi \in S(A)$, then

$$\varphi(x - x^*) = \varphi(x) - \varphi(x^*) = \varphi(x) - \overline{\varphi(x)} = 0$$

and we use the previous item to show that $x - x^*$. The converse implication follows from positiveness.
3. If $\varphi(x) \geq 0$ for all $\varphi \in S(A)$, then $x \in A_{\mathrm{sa}}$ by previous item and $\sigma(x) \subseteq [0, \infty)$, so $x \in A_+$. The converse once again follows from positiveness. $\qquad\square$

3.2   Gelfand-Naimark-Segal (GNS) construction

Definition 3.6.   • A representation of a C^*-algebra is a *-homomorphism $\pi : A \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ for some Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}$.
• If $\mathcal{K}^{\mathrm{closed}} \leq \mathcal{H}$ and $\pi(x)\mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{K}$, $\forall x \in A$ ($\mathcal{K}$ is invariant for π), then the restriction of π to $\mathcal{K}$ is a subrepresentation.
• If a representation has no other representations besides $\mathcal{K} = (0)$ and $\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{H}$ (equivalently, $\pi(A)$ only has (0) and $\mathcal{H}$ as closed invariant subspaces), then π is called irreducible.
• Representations $\pi : A \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ and $\rho : A \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{K})$ are equivalent if there exists a unitary $U : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{K}$ such that
$$U\pi(x) = \rho(x)U, \quad \forall x \in A.$$
• Vector $\mu \in \mathcal{H}$ is cyclic (for a representation $\pi : A \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$) if

$$\pi(A)\mu := \{\pi(a)\mu \mid a \in A\}$$

is dense in $\mathcal{H}$ (this means that $\overline{\pi(A)\mu} = \mathcal{H}$).

Example 3.7. *Each $w \in \mathcal{H}$ define a subrepresentation in $K := \overline{\pi(A)w}$.*

Example 3.8. *Let $\pi : A \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a representation and $\mu \in \mathcal{H}$, $\|\mu\| = 1$. Then*

$$\varphi_\mu : A \to \mathbb{C}, \quad x \mapsto \langle \pi(x)\mu, \mu \rangle$$

is a state. Indeed,

$$\varphi_\mu(1) = \langle 1 \cdot \mu, \mu \rangle = \|\mu\|^2 = 1$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\varphi_\mu(x^*x) &= \langle \pi(x^*x)\mu, \mu \rangle \\
&= \langle \pi(x^*)\pi(x)\mu, \mu \rangle \\
&= \langle \pi(x)^*\pi(x)\mu, \mu \rangle \\
&= \langle \pi(x)\mu, \pi(x)\mu \rangle \\
&= \|\pi(x)\mu\|^2 \geq 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Theorem 3.9 (GNS construction)**.**

Let A be a C^*-algebra and $\rho \in S(A)$. Then there exists a Hilbert space $L^2(A, \varphi)$ and a unique (up to equivalence) representation $\pi : A \to \mathcal{B}(L^2(A, \varphi))$ and a unit cyclic vector 1_φ such that

$$\varphi(x) = \langle \pi(x)1_\varphi, 1_\varphi \rangle, \quad \forall x \in A.$$

Proof. 1. We start by defining
$$N_\varphi = \{x \in A \mid \varphi(x^*x) = 0\}$$
whose elements we call nullvectors of φ. By Cauchy-Schwartz lemma, we have
$$N_\varphi = \{x \in A \mid \varphi(yx) = 0, \ \forall y \in A\}.$$
Thus N_φ is a closed subspace of A.
2. We prove that N_φ is a left ideal: for $x \in N_\varphi$ and $a \in A$, we have $ax \in N_\varphi$. Indeed,
$$\varphi((ax)^*ax) = \varphi((x^*a^*a)x) = 0.$$
3. Now $\mathcal{H}_0 = A/N_\varphi$ is a vector space and we can endow it with the dot product $\langle [x], [y] \rangle :=$ $\varphi(y^*x)$ for $x, y \in A$. It can easily be checked that this is a well-defined dot product in $\mathcal{H}_0$. We denote the completion of $\mathcal{H}_0$ by $L^2(A, \varphi)$.
4. To an arbitrary $a \in A$, we associate the map
$$\pi_0(a) : \mathcal{H}_0 \to \mathcal{H}_0, \quad [x] \mapsto [ax].$$
Since N_φ is a left ideal of A, $\pi_0(a)$ is a well-defined linear map.
$$\begin{aligned}
\|\pi_0(a)[x]\|^2 &= \|[ax]\|^2 \\
&= \langle [ax], [ax] \rangle \\
&= \varphi((ax)^*ax) \\
&= \varphi(x^*a^*ax) \\
&\leq \|a\|^2 \cdot \varphi(x^*x) \leq \|a\|^2 \|x\|^2.
\end{aligned}$$
Since $\pi_0(a)$ is continuous, it exdends uniquely to $\pi(a) \in \mathcal{B}(L^2(A, \varphi))$ with $\|\pi(a)\| \leq \|a\|$. Then we get
$$\pi : A \to \mathcal{B}(L^2(A, \varphi)), \quad a \mapsto \pi(a),$$
which is a homomorphism and has the property
$$\begin{aligned}
\langle [x], \pi(a^*)[y] \rangle &= \langle [x], [a^*y] \rangle \\
&= \varphi((a^*y)^*x) \\
&= \varphi(y^*ax) \\
&= \langle [ax], [y] \rangle \\
&= \langle \pi(a)[x], [y] \rangle.
\end{aligned}$$
So $\pi(a)^* = \pi(a^*)$ and π is a representation.

5. We define $1_\varphi := [1] \in \mathcal{H}_0 \subseteq L^2(A, \varphi)$ and notice that

$$\langle \pi(a)1_\varphi, 1_\varphi \rangle = \langle \pi(a)[1], [1] \rangle = \langle [a], [1] \rangle = \varphi(a).$$

Since $\{\pi(a)1_\varphi \mid a \in A\} = \mathcal{H}_0$, the vector 1_φ is cyclic for π.

6. Next we prove uniqueness: let $\rho : A \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{K})$ be a representation, $\mu \in \mathcal{K}$ a unit cyclic vector and assume $\varphi(a) = \langle \rho(a)\mu, \mu \rangle$, $\forall a \in A$. We will prove that ρ is equivalent to π. Define

$$U_0 : \mathcal{H}_0 \to \mathcal{K}, \quad [x] \mapsto \rho(x)\mu.$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle U_0[x], U_0[y] \rangle_\mathcal{K} &= \langle \rho(x)\mu, \rho(y)\mu \rangle \\
&= \langle \rho(y)^* \rho(x)\mu, \mu \rangle \\
&= \langle \rho(y^* x)\mu, \mu \rangle = \varphi(y^* x) = \langle [x], [y] \rangle_{L^2(A, \varphi)},
\end{aligned}$$

so U_0 really is a well-defined isometry. For all $a, x \in A$:

$$U_0(\pi(a)[x]) = U_0([ax]) = \rho(ax)\mu = \rho(a)\rho(x)\mu = \rho(a)U_0[x].$$

Therefore, U_0 induces an isometry $U : L^2(A, \varphi) \to \mathcal{K}$ such that $U\pi(a) = \rho(a)U$ for all $a \in A$. Since μ is cyclic and $\rho(a)\mu \subseteq \operatorname{im} U$, it is dense in $\mathcal{K}$. It is also closed since U is isometric. We just proved that U is isometric and onto, so it is unitary. $\qquad\square$

Corollary 3.10. *Every C^*-algebra has a faithful (i.e. injective) representation. In particular, every C^*-algebra is isometrically *-isomorphic to a closed subalgebra of $\mathcal{B}(H)$ for some Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}$.*

Proof. Let π be a direct sum of all representations from GNS construction over all states. Then the proposition 3.5 tells us that π is injective. An injective *-monomorphism is isometric and we are done. $\qquad\square$

Definition 3.11. If $S \subseteq A$, then

$$S' := \{x \in A \mid \forall s \in S : \ xs = sx\}$$

is a commutant.

Proposition 3.12 (Radon-Nikodym for linear functionals)**.** *Let φ, ψ be positive linear functionals on a C^*-algebra A and $\varphi \in S(A)$. Then $\varphi \le \psi$ iff there exists a unique $y \in \pi_\psi(A)'$ such that $0 \le y \le 1$ and*

$$\varphi(a) = \langle \pi_\psi(a)y1_\psi, 1_\psi \rangle, \quad \forall a \in A.$$

Proof. Start with ($\Leftarrow$). For $a \in A_+$ we have

$$\pi_\psi(a)y = \pi_\psi(a)^{\frac{1}{2}} y \pi_\psi(a)^{\frac{1}{2}} \le \pi_\psi(a).$$

Then

$$\varphi(a) = \langle \pi_\psi(a)y1_\psi, 1_\psi \rangle \le \langle \pi_\psi(a)1_\psi, 1_\psi \rangle = \psi(a).$$

Now the opposite ($\Rightarrow$). By Cauchy-Schwartz,

$$\begin{aligned}
\varphi(b^* a)|^2 &\le \varphi(a^* a)\varphi(b^* b) \\
&\le \psi(a^* a)\psi(b^* b) \\
&= \|\pi_\psi(a)1_\psi\|^2 \cdot \|\pi_\psi(b)1_\psi\|^2.
\end{aligned}$$

This means that $\langle \pi_\psi(a)1_\psi, \pi_\psi(b)1_\psi \rangle_\varphi := \varphi(b^*a)$ is a nonnegative sesquilinear form on $\pi_\varphi(A)1_\psi^{\text{dense}} \subseteq L^2(A, \psi)$, which is bounded by 1. This further implies that it is continuous and we can extend it to $L^2(A, \psi)$. By Riesz, there exists $y \in \mathcal{B}(L^2(A, \psi))$ such that

$$\varphi(b^*a) = \langle y\pi_\psi(a)1_\psi, \pi_\psi(b)1_\psi \rangle, \quad \forall a, b \in A$$

and $0 \le y \le 1$. For $a, b, c \in A$ we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\langle y\pi_\psi(a)\pi_\psi(b)1_\psi, \pi_\psi(c)1_\psi \rangle &= \langle y\pi_\psi(ab)1_\psi, \pi_\psi(c)1_\psi \rangle \\
&= \varphi(c^* \cdot ab) = \varphi((a^*c)^*b) \\
&= \langle y\pi_\psi(b)1_\psi, \pi_\psi(a^*)\pi_\psi(c)1_\psi \rangle \\
&= \langle \pi_\psi(a)y\pi_\psi(b)1_\psi, \pi_\psi(c)1_\psi \rangle,
\end{aligned}
$$

so $y\pi_\psi(a) = \pi_\psi(a)y$ for all $a \in A$ and $y \in \pi_\psi(A)'$. Finally, the uniqueness. Say that there exists a $z \in \pi_\psi(A)'$ such that $0 \le z \le 1$ and

$$\langle \pi_\psi(a)y1_\psi, 1_\psi \rangle = \langle \pi_\psi(a)z1_\psi, 1_\psi \rangle, \quad \forall a \in A.$$

Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
\langle \pi_\psi(b^*a)z1_\psi, 1_\psi \rangle &= \langle \pi_\psi(b^*a)y1_\psi, 1_\psi \rangle \\
&= \langle y\pi_\psi(a)1_\psi, \pi_\psi(b)1_\psi \rangle \\
&= \langle z\pi_\psi(a)1_\psi, \pi_\psi(b)1_\psi \rangle,
\end{aligned}
$$

which implies $y = z$. $\qquad \square$

Proposition 3.13. *Suppose that A is a separable C^*-algebra. Then A has a faithful cyclic representation on a separable Hilbert space.*

Proof. If A is separable, then it has a dense subset $\{a_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$. We can embed $S(A)$ into a space $\prod_{i=1}^\infty \overline{B_1(0)}$, where $\overline{B_1(0)}$ is a closed unit ball in $\mathbb{C}$. The latter topological space is metrizable by metric $\rho(x, y) = \sum_{i=1}^\infty \frac{\rho_i(x_i, y_i)}{2^i(\rho_i(x_i, y_i)+1)}$, and so is $S(A)$. Therefore, $S(A)$ with the weak-* topology is a metrizable compact, therefore separable. Let $\{f_i\}_i^\infty$ countable weak-* dense subset of $S(A)$. Then

$$f(a) := \sum_{i=1}^\infty 2^{-i} f_i(a)$$

defines a faithful ($f(a^*a) = 0$ iff $a = 0$) state on A. Then the GNS construction π_f is faithful: if $\pi_f(a) = 0$, then

$$f(b^*a^*ab) = \langle \pi_f(a)[b], \pi_f(a)[b] \rangle = 0$$

for every $b \in A$. In particular for $b = 1$, we get $f(a^*a) = 0$ and so $a = 0$. Since $a \mapsto [a]$ is a continuous map of A onto a dense subspace of some Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}_f$ (induced by $\pi_f : A \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_f)$), the latter space is separable. $\qquad \square$

Proposition 3.14. *Every representation of a C^*-algebra is equivalent to a direct sum of cyclic representations.*

Proof. Let $\pi : A \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be some representation of A. Let $\mathcal{E}$ be the collection of all subsets E of nonzero vectors in $\mathcal{H}$ such that $\pi(A)e \perp \pi(A)f$ for any $e, f \in E$. If we order $\mathcal{E}$ by inclusion, then Zorn's lemma tells us that $\mathcal{E}$ has a maximal element E_0. Let $\mathcal{H}_0 = \bigoplus_{e \in E_0} \overline{\pi(A)e}$. Take $h \in \mathcal{H}_0^\perp$ in $\mathcal{H}$. Then for any $a, b \in A$ and $e \in E_0$ we have

$$\langle \pi(a)e, \pi(b)h \rangle = \langle \pi(b)^*\pi(a)e, h \rangle = \langle \pi(b^*a)e, h \rangle = 0,$$

so $\pi(A)e \perp \pi(A)h$ for each $e \in E_0$. By maximality, $h = 0$ and $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_0$. For $e \in E_0$, define $\mathcal{H}_e := \overline{\pi(A)e}$. Obviously, $\mathcal{H}_e$ is invariant for π, so $\pi_e := \pi|_{\mathcal{H}_e}$ is a cyclic representation of A. Clearly, $\pi = \bigoplus_{e \in E_0} \pi_e$. $\qquad\square$

3.3 Pure states and irregular representations

Definition 3.15. A state $\varphi \in S(A)$ is called pure if it's an extreme point of $S(A)$.

Proposition 3.16. *A state $\varphi \in S(A)$ is pure iff GNS $\pi_\varphi : A \to \mathcal{B}(L^2(A, \varphi))$ with a cyclic vector 1_φ is irreducible.*

Proof. ($\Rightarrow$) Let $\mathcal{K} \leq L^2(A, \varphi)$ be a closed invariant subspace. Then $\mathcal{K}^\perp$ is also a closed invariant subspace: for $a \in A$, $x \in \mathcal{K}^\perp$ and $k \in \mathcal{K}$ we have

$$\langle \pi_\varphi(a)x, k \rangle = \langle x, \pi_\varphi(a^*)k \rangle = 0.$$

Since $L^2(A, \varphi) = \mathcal{K} \oplus \mathcal{K}^\perp$ we write $1_\varphi = \underbrace{\mu_1}_{\in \mathcal{K}} + \underbrace{\mu_2}_{\in \mathcal{K}^\perp}$ and form

$$\varphi_j := \frac{\langle \pi_\varphi(x)\mu_j, \mu_j \rangle}{\|\mu_j\|^2}, \quad j = 1, 2.$$

These are states and so is

$$\varphi(x) = \|\mu_1\|^2 \varphi_1(x) + \|\mu_2\|^2 \varphi_2(x)$$

because $1 = \|1_\varphi\|^2 = \|\mu_1\|^2 + \|\mu_2\|^2$. Since $\varphi \in \text{ext}\, S(A)$, we either have $\mu_1 = 0$ or $\mu_2 = 0$, which implies that $\mathcal{K}$ is either (0) or $\mathcal{H}$.

($\Leftarrow$) Suppose $\varphi = \frac{1}{2}(\varphi_1 + \varphi_2)$ for $\varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in S(A)$. Define a linear map

$$U : L^2(A, \varphi) \to L^2(A, \varphi_1) \oplus L^2(A, \varphi_2), \quad \pi_\varphi(x)1_\varphi \mapsto \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\pi_{\varphi_1}(x)1_{\varphi_1} \oplus \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\pi_{\varphi_2}(x)1_{\varphi_2}.$$

First we notice that U preserves scalar product:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\langle \pi_\varphi(x)1_\varphi, \pi_\varphi(y)1_\varphi \rangle &= \varphi(x^*y) \\
&= \frac{1}{2}\varphi_1(x^*y) + \frac{1}{2}\varphi_2(x^*y) \\
&= \langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\pi_{\varphi_1}(x)1_{\varphi_1} \oplus \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\pi_{\varphi_2}(x)1_{\varphi_2}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\pi_{\varphi_1}(y)1_{\varphi_1} \oplus \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\pi_{\varphi_2}(y)1_{\varphi_2} \rangle \\
&= \langle U\pi_\varphi(x)1_\varphi, U\pi_\varphi(y)1_\varphi \rangle
\end{aligned}
$$

Additionally, U intertwines: for all $x \in A$, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
U\pi_\varphi(x)(\pi_\varphi(y)1_\varphi) &= U\pi_\varphi(xy)1_\varphi \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\pi_{\varphi_1}(xy)1_{\varphi_1} \oplus \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\pi_{\varphi_2}(xy)1_{\varphi_2} \\
&= (\pi_{\varphi_1}(x) \oplus \pi_{\varphi_2}(x)) (\pi_{\varphi_1}(y)1_{\varphi_1} \oplus \pi_{\varphi_2}(y)1_{\varphi_2}) \\
&= (\pi_{\varphi_1}(x) \oplus \pi_{\varphi_2}(x)) U(\pi_\varphi(y)1_\varphi).
\end{aligned}
$$

If we star the intertwining identity, we get

$$\pi_\varphi(x^*)U^* = U^* (\pi_{\varphi_1}(x^*) \oplus \pi_{\varphi_2}(x^*)), \quad \forall x^* \in A.$$

If we plug in x instead of x^*, we get

$$\pi_\varphi(x)U^* = U^* \left(\pi_{\varphi_1}(x) \oplus \pi_{\varphi_2}(x)\right), \quad \forall x \in A.$$

Now let

$$p_1 \in \mathcal{B}(L^2(A, \varphi_1) \oplus L^2(A, \varphi_2))$$

be orthogonal projection onto the first factor. Clearly, we have

$$p_1 \left(\pi_{\varphi_1}(x) \oplus \pi_{\varphi_2}(x)\right) = \left(\pi_{\varphi_1}(x) \oplus \pi_{\varphi_2}(x)\right) p_1$$

Putting it all together, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\pi_\varphi(x)U^* p_1 U &= U^*(\pi_{\varphi_1}(x) \oplus \pi_{\varphi_2}(x))p_1 U \\
&= U^* p_1 (\pi_{\varphi_1}(x) \oplus \pi_{\varphi_2}(x))U \\
&= U^* p_1 U(\pi_{\varphi_1}(x) \oplus \pi_{\varphi_2}(x))
\end{aligned}$$

so $U^* p_1 U$ commutes with $\pi_\varphi(x)$ for all $x \in A$. If $\sigma(U^* p_1 U)$ has more than one element, then $\exists t \in (0, 1]$ such that $\sigma(U^* p_1 U - t)$ has both positive and negative elements. By CFC, we can write $U^* p_1 U = a - b$ for positive $0 \neq a, b$ such that $ab = ba = 0$. Then a, b commute with $\pi_\varphi(A)$, so $\ker a \neq 0$ is an closed subspace of $L^2(A, \varphi)$ that is invariant under $\pi_\varphi(x)$, which is a contradiction. So $U^* p_1 U$ has a single element spectrum $\{\alpha\}$ and since $U^* p_1 U$ is normal (because it is positive), so is $U^* p_1 U - \alpha I$. But now we can write

$$\|U^* p_1 U - \alpha I\| = r(U^* p_1 U) = 0,$$

which proves that $U^* p_1 U = \alpha I$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha &= \alpha \varphi(1) = \varphi(\alpha) \\
&= \langle \alpha 1_\varphi, 1_\varphi \rangle \\
&= \langle U^* p_1 U 1_\varphi, 1_\varphi \rangle \\
&= \left\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} 1_{\varphi_1} \oplus 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} 1_{\varphi_1} \oplus \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} 1_{\varphi_2} \right\rangle \\
&= \left\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} 1_{\varphi_1}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} 1_{\varphi_1} \right\rangle_{\varphi_1} = \frac{1}{2}.
\end{aligned}$$

This means that we can write

$$\left(\sqrt{2} p_1 U\right)^* \left(\sqrt{2} p_1 U\right) = 1,$$

so

$$u_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} p_1 U : L^2(A, \varphi) \to L^2(A, \varphi_1)$$

is an isometry. We also have the identities

$$u_1 1_\varphi = 1_{\varphi_1}, \quad u_1 \pi_\varphi(x) = \pi_{\varphi_1}(x) u_1.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
\varphi(x) &= \langle \pi_\varphi(x) 1_\varphi, 1_\varphi \rangle \\
&= \langle u_1^* u_1 \pi_\varphi(x) 1_\varphi, 1_\varphi \rangle \\
&= \langle u_1^* \pi_{\varphi_1}(x) u_1 1_\varphi, 1_\varphi \rangle \\
&= \langle \pi_{\varphi_1}(x) u_1 1_\varphi, u_1 1_\varphi \rangle \\
&= \langle \pi_{\varphi_1}(x) 1_{\varphi_1}, 1_{\varphi_1} \rangle = \varphi_1(x)
\end{aligned}$$

and we are done. $\qquad\square$

Theorem 3.17.

A representation $\pi : A \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ if irreducible iff $\pi(A)' = \mathbb{C} \cdot \mathrm{id}$.

Proof. Start with ($\Leftarrow$). Suppose there exists a closed invariant subspace $(0) \neq \mathcal{K} \lneq \mathcal{H}$. Let $p \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be the orthogonal projection onto $\mathcal{K}$. Then $p \notin \mathbb{C} \cdot \mathrm{id}$. Now we prove that $p \in \pi(A)'$. let $a \in A$. For $\mu \in \mathcal{K}$, we have

$$(p\pi(a))\mu = p(\pi(a)\mu) = \pi(a)\mu = \pi(a)(p\mu) = (\pi(a)p)\mu.$$

Now for $\mu \in \mathcal{K}^\perp$, we get

$$(p\pi(a))\mu = p(\pi(a)\mu) = 0 = \pi(a)(0) = \pi(a)(p\mu) = (\pi(a)p)\mu.$$

For the converse ($\Rightarrow$), suppose there exists a non-scalar self-adjoint $h \in \pi(A)'$. Then $\sigma(h)$ has at least two elements. By CFC, there exist nonzero $f, g \in C(\sigma(h))$ such that $fg = 0$. Then $f(h) \neq 0$ since $f \neq 0$. Then also $\mathcal{K} := \overline{\mathrm{im}\, f(h)} \leq \mathcal{H}$ is nonzero. Also, $g(h) \neq 0$ and $g(h)\big|_{\mathcal{K}} = 0$ since $g(h) \cdot f(h) = 0$. in particular, $\mathcal{K} \subsetneq \mathcal{H}$. From $h \in \pi(A)'$, we deduce $f(h) \in \pi(A)'$. We claim that $\mathcal{K}$ is invariant; it's enough to show that $\mathrm{im}\, f(h)$ is invariant. For $a \in A, \mu \in \mathcal{H}$ we have

$$\pi(a)(f(h)\mu) = \pi(a)f(h)\mu = f(h)\pi(a)\mu \in \mathrm{im}\, f(h).$$

In general, if $q \in \pi(A)'$, then $q^* \in \pi(A)'$ and we can reduce the problem to self-adjoint case above. $\square$

Corollary 3.18. *Irreps of abelian C^*-algebras are 1-dimensional.*

Proof. Let A be an abelian C^*-algebra and $\pi : A \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ an irrep. Then by theorem, $\pi(A)' = \mathbb{C}$. Moreover,

$$\pi(A) = Z(\pi(A)) = \pi(A)' \cap \pi(A) = \mathbb{C} \cdot \mathrm{id}. \qquad \square$$

Corollary 3.19. *If A is an abelian C^*-algebra, then $\mathrm{ext}\, S(A) = \sigma(A)$.*

Proof. Let $\sigma \in \sigma(A)$. Then σ is 1-dimensional (therefore irreducible) representation and so $\sigma \in \mathrm{ext}\, S(A)$. For the converse, take $\varphi \in \mathrm{ext}\, S(A)$. Then the GNS construction π_φ is irreducible, therefore 1-dimensional. So $L^2(A, \varphi) = \mathbb{C}$ with the standard scalar product and $\varphi(x) = \langle \pi_\varphi(x) 1_\varphi, 1_\varphi \rangle = \pi_\varphi(x)$. $\square$

Proposition 3.20. *Let A be a C^*-algebra. Then $\mathrm{co}\,\mathrm{ext}\, S(A)$ is weak-* dense in $S(A)$.*

Proof. We know that $S(A)$ is compact Hausdorff wrt the weak-* topology. The conclusion follows from Krein-Milman. $\square$

Corollary 3.21. *Let A be a C^*-algebra and $x \in A \setminus (0)$. Then there exist an irrep $\pi : A \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $\pi(x) \neq 0$.*

Proof. By proposition, there exists $\varphi \in S(A)$ such that $\varphi(x) \neq 0$. by previous proposition (Krein-Milman), there exists a $\tau \in \mathrm{ext}\, S(A)$ such that $\tau(x) \neq 0$. Then apply GNS: π_τ is irreducible and $\pi_\tau(x) \neq 0$. $\square$

Theorem 3.22 (Jordan decomposition for linear functionals**).**

Let A be a C^*-algebra and $\varphi \in A^*$ hermitian. Then there exist (unique - without proof) positive linear functionals $\varphi_+, \varphi_- \in A^*$ such that $\varphi = \varphi_+ - \varphi_-$ and $\|\varphi\| = \|\varphi_+\| = \|\varphi_-\|$.

Proof. WLOG $\|\varphi\| = 1$. Let Σ denote the set of positive linear functionals with norm ≤ 1. By Banach-Alaoglu, Σ is weak-* compact and Hausdorff. Consider

$$\gamma : A \to C(\Sigma), \quad a \mapsto (\psi \mapsto \psi(a)).$$

This is an isometry and $\gamma(A_+) \subseteq C(\Sigma)_+$. By Hahn-Banach, there exists a $\widetilde{\varphi} : C(\Sigma) \to \mathbb{C}$ such that $\|\widetilde{\varphi}\| = \|\varphi\|$ and $\varphi = \widetilde{\varphi} \circ \gamma$. Assume $\widetilde{\varphi}$ is hermitian (otherwise, we can it by $\frac{\widetilde{\varphi}+\widetilde{\varphi}^*}{2}$). By Riesz-Markoff, there exists a regular Radon Measure μ on Σ such that $\widetilde{\varphi}(f) = \int f \, d\mu$ for all $f \in C(\Sigma)$. Then we use Jordan decomposition for measures to obtain μ_+, μ_- such that $\mu = \mu_+ - \mu_-$ and $\|\mu\| = \|\mu_+\| = \|\mu_-\|$. Now we just define $\varphi_\pm(a) := \int a \, d\mu_\pm$. $\qquad\square$

Corollary 3.23. *For a C^*-algebra A, A^* is the span of positive linear functionals on A.*

Corollary 3.24. *Let A be a C^*-algebra and $\varphi \in A^*$. Then there exists a representation $\pi : A \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ and $\mu, \theta \in \mathcal{H}$ such that $\varphi(a) = \langle \pi(a)\theta, \mu \rangle$.*

Proof. Unite $\varphi = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \psi_i$ for some $\psi_j \in S(A)$. Let π_i be the GNS representation of ψ_i. Define $\pi := \bigoplus_i \pi_i$, $\theta := \bigoplus_i \alpha_i 1_{\psi_i}$ and $\mu = \bigoplus_i 1_{\psi_i}$. The result then follows immediately. $\qquad\square$

3.4 Examples of C^*-algebras

Example 3.25. *The most canonical example of a C^*-algebra is $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Similarly, the algebra of compact operators $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{H})$ is a C^*-algebra (if $\dim \mathcal{H} = \infty$, it is non-unital).*

Example 3.26. *If $\dim \mathcal{H} = \infty$, then $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})/\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{H})$ is a so-called Calkin algebra. It is simple and it does not have a separable representation.*

Example 3.27. *The algebra of matrices $M_n(\mathbb{C}) = \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C}^n)$ is a C^*-algebra.*

Proposition 3.28 (Artin-Wedderburn for C^*-algebras)**.** *Every finite-dimensional C^*-algebra A is*

$$A \cong M_{n_1}(\mathbb{C}) \oplus \cdots \oplus M_{n_r}(\mathbb{C})$$

for uniquely determined $n_1, \ldots, n_r$.

Proof. Since A is a finite-dimensional algebra over $\mathbb{C}$, it is artinian. It is enough to prove that it is J-semisimple. Denote $J = \operatorname{rad} A$, which is finitely-generated. By artinian property, the sequence

$$J \supseteq J^2 \supseteq J^3 \supseteq \ldots$$

has to stabilize somewhere, so assume $J^n = J^{n+1}$. By Nakayama's lemma, we have $J \cdot J^n = J^n$, which implies $J^n = (0)$, so J is nilpotent. Take any $a \in J$. Then $a^*a \in J$ and so $(a^*a)^n = 0$. Then we have

$$0 = \|(a^*a)^{2^n}\| = \|a^*a\|^{2^n} = \|a\|^{2^{n+1}}$$

and $a = 0$. So A is artinian and J-semisimple, therefore semisimple. Now we use Artin-Wedderburn for algebras, together with the fact that $\mathbb{C}$ is an algebraically-closed field, so any finite-dimensional division algebra over $\mathbb{C}$ is $\mathbb{C}$ itself. $\qquad\square$

Let G be a group. Then the (complex) group algebra $\mathbb{C}[G]$ is the algebra with basis $\{u_g \mid g \in G\}$ and

multiplication given by $u_g \cdot u_h = u_{gh}$. Then $\mathbb{C}[G]$ has the involution

$$\left(\sum_{g \in G}^{\text{finite}} a_g u_g\right)^* = \sum_g \overline{a_g} u_{g^{-1}}.$$

Multiplication is convolutive:

$$\left(\sum_g a_g u_g\right)\left(\sum_h b_h u_h\right) = \sum_{g,h} a_g b_h u_g u_h$$

$$= \sum_{g,h} a_g b_h u_{gh}$$

$$= \sum_k \left(\sum_g a_g b_{g^{-1}k}\right) u_k.$$

To introduce norms on $\mathbb{C}[G]$ we use representations $\pi : \mathbb{C}[G] \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. In such a case, we define the C^*-algebra

$$C_\pi^*(G) := \overline{\pi(\mathbb{C}[G])} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}).$$

For $g \in G$, we get

$$\pi(u_g)\pi(u_g)^* = \pi(u_g) \cdot \pi(u_g^*)$$

$$= \pi(u_g) \cdot \pi(u_{g^{-1}})$$

$$= \pi(u_g \cdot u_{g^{-1}}) = \pi(u_e) = 1.$$

Similarly, $\pi(u_g)^*\pi(u_g) = 1$. Under any representation of $\mathbb{C}[G]$, each u_g is mapped to a unitary.

Example 3.29. *Take $\mathcal{H} = \ell^2(G)$ (this is a Hilbert space with ONB $\{\delta_g \mid g \in G\}$). Then*

$$\lambda : \mathbb{C}[G] \to \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(G)), \quad u_g \mapsto (\delta_h \mapsto \delta_{gh})$$

is a faithful representation. We call it the left regular representation of G. The induced group C^*-algebra $C_r^*(G) := \overline{\lambda(\mathbb{C}[G])} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(G))$.

Definition 3.30. Universal (or full) group C^*-algebra is $\mathbb{C}[G]$ where the norm of an element $a \in \mathbb{C}[G]$ is $\|a\|_u = \sup\{\|\pi(a)\| \mid \pi \text{ rep of } \mathbb{C}[G]\}$.

Lemma 3.31. *If π is a representation of $\mathbb{C}[G]$ and $a = \sum_{g \in G}^{\text{finite}} a_g u_g \in \mathbb{C}[G]$, then $\|\pi(a)\| \leq \sum |a_g|$.*

Proof. Then $\pi(a) = \sum a_g \cdot \pi(u_g)$. Then

$$\|\pi(a)\| = \left\|\sum a_g \pi(u_g)\right\| \leq \sum |a_g| \cdot \|\pi(u_g)\| = \sum |a_g|.$$

$\square$

This implies that $\|\cdot\|_u$ is a norm on $\mathbb{C}[G]$. The universal C^*-algebra of G is $C^*(G)$ the completion of $\mathbb{C}[G]$ wrt $\|\cdot\|_u$.

Remark. Then $\mathbb{C}[G]$ is dense in both $C_\lambda^*(G)$ and $C^*(G)$.

Theorem 3.32 (Universal property)**.**

*For each representation π of $\mathbb{C}[G]$ there exists a surjective *-homomorphism $\widehat{\pi} : C^*(G) \to C^*_\pi(G)$ such that*

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathbb{C}[G] & \xrightarrow{\ \pi\ } & C^*_\pi(G) \\
\downarrow & \nearrow & \\
C^*(G) & \exists!\widehat{\pi} &
\end{array}
$$

Proof. Define first $\widehat{\pi}$ on $\mathbb{C}[G] \subseteq C^*G$ by $\widehat{\pi}(a) := \pi(a) \in C^*_\pi(G)$. Then $\widehat{\pi}$ on $\mathbb{C}[G]$. Firstly, $\widehat{\pi}$ on $\mathbb{C}[G]$ is contractive:

$$\|\widehat{\pi}(a)\| = \|\pi(a)\| \leq \|a\|_u.$$

By density, $\widehat{\pi}$ uniquely extends to a continuous *-homomorphism $\widehat{\pi} : C^*(G) \to C^*_\pi(G)$. This $\widehat{\pi}$ is contractive and $\operatorname{im} \pi$ is dense, so $\widehat{\pi}$ is onto. $\qquad\square$

Example 3.33. *Let G be abelian and $|G| = n$. Then $\mathbb{C}[G] = \mathbb{C}^{|G|}$ as vector space. Hence $C^*G = \mathbb{C}[G] = C^*_r(G)$. Further, $\mathbb{C}[G]$ is commutative, so by structure theorem*

$$\mathbb{C}[G] \cong \underbrace{\mathbb{C} \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{C}}_{n \ times}.$$

For instance, $\mathbb{C}\left[\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}\right] = \mathbb{C}\left[\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}\right]$.

Example 3.34. *Let $G = S_3$. Then $|G| = 6$ and once again $C^*(G) = \mathbb{C}[G] = C^*_r(G)$. By structure theorem, $\mathbb{C}[G] \cong M_2(\mathbb{C}) \oplus \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C}$ (otherwise it would be commutative).*

Example 3.35. *Let $G = S_4$. Again, $C^*(G) = \mathbb{C}[G] = C^*_r(G)$. By Maschke's theorem, $\mathbb{C}[G]$ is semisimple, therefore it is a direct sum of matrix algebras over $\mathbb{C}$. Since S_4 has five conjugacy classes, there are five factors[a]. Adding up all the dimensions, the only combination that works is $9 + 9 + 4 + 1 + 1 = 24$, therefore*

$$\mathbb{C}[G] = M_3(\mathbb{C}) \oplus M_3(\mathbb{C}) \oplus M_2(\mathbb{C}) \oplus \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C}.$$

---

[a]Pierre Antoine Grillet, *Abstract algebra*, theorem IX.7.9.

Example 3.36. *What is $C^*(\mathbb{Z})$? Representations $\pi(\mathbb{C}[Z]) \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ are determined by choice of unitary $U \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $\pi(u_1) = U$. By universal property, for every $\mathcal{H}$ and $U \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ there exists a unique *-homomorphism*

$$\widehat{\pi} : C^*(\mathbb{Z}) \to C^*(\{U\}),$$

where the latter is a C^*-subalgebra of $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, generated by U. We call $C^*(\mathbb{Z})$ the universal C^*-algebra, generated by a unitary.

3.5 Abelian group C^*-algebras

If G is abelian, then $\mathbb{C}[G]$ is commutative and $C^*_r(G)$ is abelian. By Gelfand, there exists a compact hausdorff space $\widehat{G}$ such that $C^*_r(G) \cong C(\widehat{G})$ and $\widehat{G} = \sigma(C^*_r(G))$.

Definition 3.37. To each abelian group G we associate its Pontryagin dual

$$\widehat{G} = \{w : G \to \mathbb{T} \text{ group homomorphism}\}.$$

Then $\widehat{G}$ is a group under pointwise multiplication. We endow $\widehat{G}$ with the topology induced from $\widehat{G} \subseteq \mathbb{T}^G$. The basis sets for this topology are

$$B_{\varepsilon,F}(w) = \{\eta \in \widehat{G} \mid |\eta(h) - w(h)| < \varepsilon, \ \forall h \in F\}$$

for $\varepsilon > 0$, $w \in \widehat{G}$ and $F \subseteq G$ finite. Notice that a net $(w_i)_{i \in I} \subseteq \widehat{G}$ is Cauchy iff $(w_i(g))_{i \in I} \subseteq \mathbb{T}$ is Cauchy for all $g \in G$.

Theorem 3.38.

The map

$$h : \widehat{G} \to \sigma(C_r^*(G)), \quad w \mapsto \left(\sum a_g u_g \mapsto \sum a_g w(g)\right)$$

is a homeomorphism.

Proof. First, we prove that $h(w) \in \sigma(C_r^*(G))$ for all $w \in \widehat{G}$. We begin by showing $h(w) : \mathbb{C}[G] \to \mathbb{C}$ is a homomorphism. Take $b = \sum b_k u_k \in \mathbb{C}[G]$. Then

$$h(w)(a \cdot b) = \sum_g \left(\sum_h a_h b_{h^{-1}g}\right) \cdot w(g)$$

and

$$h(w)(a) \cdot h(w)(b) = \left(\sum_g a_g w(g)\right) \cdot \left(\sum_h b_h w(h)\right) = \sum_k \left(\sum_h a_{kh^{-1}} b_h\right) w(k),$$

so $h(w)$ is multiplicative. To extend it to C_r^*, we must prove that $|h(w)a| \le \|a\|_r$ for all $a \in \mathbb{C}[G]$. To $\chi \in \sigma(C_r^*(G))$ and $a \in \mathbb{C}[G]$ we associate

$$\widetilde{a} = \sum a_g w(g) \cdot \overline{\chi(u_g)} u_g,$$

so $h(w)a = \chi(\widetilde{a})$. By Gelfand,

$$\|\widetilde{a}\|_r = \sup\{|\mu(\widetilde{a})| \mid \mu \in \sigma(C_r^*(G))\} \ge |\chi(\widetilde{a})| = |h(w)a|.$$

Next, we show that $\|\widetilde{a}\|_r = \|a\|_r$: to $\theta \in \ell^2(G)$ assign $\widetilde{\theta}$ by $\widetilde{\theta}_h := \chi(u_{h^{-1}})\overline{w(h)}\theta_h$. Then $\|\theta\|_2 = \|\widetilde{\theta}\|_2$. Further, $\|\lambda(\widetilde{a})\widetilde{\theta}\|_2 = \|\lambda(a)\theta\|_2$ (short calculation), so

$$\|\widetilde{a}\|_r = \sup\{\|\lambda(\widetilde{a})\widetilde{\theta}\| \mid \|\widetilde{\theta}\|_2 = 1\} = \sup\{\|\lambda(\widetilde{a})\theta\| \mid \|\theta\|_2 = 1\} = \|a\|_r.$$

Next, we prove that h is continuous. Suppose the net $(w_i)_{i \in I} \subseteq \widehat{G}$ is Cauchy. We prove that for every $a \in C_r^*(G)$ the net $(h(w_i)(a))_{i \in I}$ is Cauchy. Pick $\varepsilon > 0$. There exists J such that for every $i, j \ge J$, we have

$$|w_i(g) - w_j(g)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{|\{g \mid a_g \ne 0\}|}, \quad \forall g \in G.$$

Then for all $i, j \ge J$ we get $|h(w_i)(g) - h(w_j)(g)| < \varepsilon$. For the general case $a \in C_r^*(G)$, we can take a as a limit of a sequence $(a_n)_n \subseteq \mathbb{C}G$, approximate a with a_n and use the triangle inequality to establish that $(h(w_i)(a))_i$ is Cauchy. Now on to bijectivity of h. It's enough to check that it is surjective: take $\phi \in \sigma(C_r^*(G))$. Define

$$w_\phi : G \to \mathbb{C}, \quad g \mapsto \phi(u_g).$$

Since ϕ is a *-homomorphism, $\operatorname{im} w_\phi \subseteq \mathbb{T}$. We have to prove that $w_\phi \in \widehat{G}$. We just check the multiplicativity:

$$w_\phi(g) \cdot w_\phi(h) = \phi(u_g)\phi(u_h) = \phi(u_g u_h) = \phi(u_{gh}) = w_\phi(gh).$$

For every $w \in \widehat{G}$, we get $w_{h(w)} = w$. So $w_\phi = w_{h(w_\phi)}$, which gives us $h(w_\phi) = \phi$. Now since h is a bijective continuous map between compact and Hausdorff spaces, it is a homeomorphism. $\qquad\square$

Example 3.39. $\widehat{\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}} = \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$, $\widehat{\mathbb{R}} = \mathbb{R}$, $\widehat{\mathbb{Z}} = \mathbb{T}$, $\widehat{\mathbb{T}} = \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}$.

Theorem 3.40 (Pontryagin)**.**

If G is a locally compact abelian group (it's underlying topological space is locally compact Hausdorff), then $G \cong \widehat{\widehat{G}}$.

4 Bounded operators on Hilbert spaces

Let $\mathcal{H}$ be a complex Hilbert space. Then $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is a $\mathbb{C}$-algebra with norm $\|A\| = \sup_{\mu \in \mathcal{H}, \|\mu\|=1} \|A\mu\|$.

Remark. Recall that $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is:

1. normal $\Leftrightarrow A^*A = AA^* \Leftrightarrow \|A\mu\| = \|A^*\mu\|$, $\forall \mu \in \mathcal{H}$

2. self-adjoint $\Leftrightarrow A^* = A \Leftrightarrow \langle A\mu, \mu \rangle \in \mathbb{R}$, $\forall \mu \in \mathcal{H}$

3. positive $\Leftrightarrow A = B^*B$ for some $B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \Leftrightarrow \langle A\mu, \mu \rangle \geq 0$, $\forall \mu \in \mathcal{H}$

4. isometry $\Leftrightarrow A^*A = I \Leftrightarrow \|A\mu\| = \|\mu\|$, $\forall\| \in \mathcal{H}$

5. projection $\Leftrightarrow A^2 = A = A^* \Leftrightarrow A$ is an orthogonal projection onto some closed subspace of $\mathcal{H}$

Lemma 4.1. *An operator $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is a partial isometry iff there exists a closed subspace $\mathcal{K} \leq \mathcal{H}$ such that $A\big|_{\mathcal{K}}$ is an isometry and $A\big|_{\mathcal{K}^\perp} = 0$.*

Proof. We first prove ($\Leftarrow$). Obviously, $\mathcal{K}^\perp \subseteq \ker A$. From $Ax = 0$, where $x = y + z$ and $y \in \mathcal{K}, z \in \mathcal{K}^\perp$, we have
$$0 = Ax = A(y + z) = Ay + Az = Ay.$$
But since $A\big|_{\mathcal{K}}$ is an isometry, $\|Ay\| = \|y\| = 0$, so $y = 0$ and $x \in \mathcal{K}^\perp$. Now we prove that $P = A^*A$ is a standard projection onto $\mathcal{K}$. For $x \in \mathcal{K}$, we have
$$\langle Px, x \rangle = \langle A^*Ax, x \rangle = \langle Ax, Ax \rangle = \|Ax\|^2 = \|x\|^2,$$
so
$$\|P\| = \|A^*A\| \leq \|A\|\|A^*\| = \|A\|^2 = 1.$$
From Cauchy-Schwartz:
$$\langle Px, x \rangle \leq \|Px\|\|x\| \leq \|P\|\|x\|^2 \leq \|x\|^2.$$
Since we have equality in Cauchy-Schwartz, there exists a $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ such that $Px = \lambda x$. But from $\langle Px, x \rangle = \|x\|^2$, it follows that $\lambda = 1$. So $P\big|_{\mathcal{K}} = \operatorname{id}$ and for $x \in \mathcal{K}^\perp$, $Px = A^*Ax = 0$. Therefore, $P = A^*A$ is indeed a projection. Now onto the opposite direction ($\Rightarrow$). Suppose $P = A^*A$ is a

projection and denote $\mathcal{K} = \operatorname{im} P$. Since $\mathcal{K} = \ker(I - P)$, it is a closed subspace of $\mathcal{H}$. For $x \in \mathcal{K}$, we have
$$\|Ax\|^2 = \langle Ax, Ax \rangle = \langle Px, x \rangle = \langle x, x \rangle = \|x\|^2.$$

But for $x \in \mathcal{K}^\perp$, we use the identity
$$(\operatorname{im} P)^\perp = \ker P^* = \ker P$$

to get $Px = 0$, so $\|Ax\|^2 = \langle Px, x \rangle = 0$ and $\|Ax\| = 0$. $\qquad\square$

Theorem 4.2.

Let $\mathcal{H}$ be a Hilbert space and $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Then there exists a partial isometry v such that $x = v \cdot |x|$ and $\ker v = \ker |x| = \ker x$. This decomposition is unique if $x = wy$ for $y \geq 0$ and partial isometry w such that $\ker y = \ker w$. Then $w = v$ and $y = |x|$.

Proof. First we prove the existence. Define
$$v_x : \operatorname{im} |x| \to \operatorname{im} x, \quad |x|y \mapsto xy.$$

Since
$$\begin{aligned}
\||x|y\|^2 &= \langle |x|y, |x|y \rangle \\
&= \langle |x|^2 y, y \rangle \\
&= \langle x^* x y, y \rangle \\
&= \langle xy, xy \rangle \\
&= \|xy\|^2.
\end{aligned}$$

The above v_x is well defined. It is also linear and isometric. By continuity, extend v_x to a map $\overline{\operatorname{im} |x|} \to \overline{\operatorname{im} x}$. Now v_0 can be extended to $v : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{H}$ by setting $v\big|_{(\operatorname{im} |x|)^\perp} = 0$. By previous lemma, v is a partial isometry. By definition, $x = v \cdot |x|$ and $\ker v = (\operatorname{im} |x|)^\perp = \ker |x| = \ker x$. Next, we prove uniqueness. If $x = wy$ as in the statement, then $\ker w = \ker y = (\operatorname{im} y)^\perp$, so w is a partial isometry on $\overline{\operatorname{im} y}$. From there, we get
$$|x|^2 = (wy)^*(wy) = y^* w^* w y = y^* y = y^2,$$

which implies
$$|x| = (|x|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} = (y^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} = y.$$

Now
$$w|x|\mu = wy\mu = x\mu$$

together with
$$\ker w = (\operatorname{im} y)^\perp = (\operatorname{im} |x|)^\perp$$

implies $w = v$. $\qquad\square$

4.1 Trace class operators

Recall that $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ has finite rank if $\operatorname{rank} A = \dim \overline{\operatorname{im} A} < \infty$. We know that
$$\operatorname{im} A^* = \operatorname{im}(A^*\big|_{(\ker A^*)^\perp}) = \operatorname{im}(A^*\big|_{\overline{\operatorname{im} A}}).$$

So $\operatorname{rank} A < \infty$ iff $\operatorname{rank} A^* < \infty$. Define a set
$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H}) = \{A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \mid \operatorname{rank} A < \infty\}$$

of finite rank operators. Now if $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{H}$, then we can define

$$\alpha \otimes \overline{\beta} : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{H}, \quad y \mapsto \langle y, \beta \rangle \cdot \alpha.$$

It is trivial to see that $\text{rank}(\alpha \otimes \overline{\beta}) \leq 1$ and $(\alpha \otimes \overline{\beta})^* = \beta \otimes \overline{\alpha}$. If $\|\alpha\| = \|\beta\| = 1$, then $\alpha \otimes \overline{\beta}$ is a partial isometry with initial space $\mathbb{C}\beta$ and image $\mathbb{C}\alpha$. Then

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H}) = \text{span}\,\{\alpha \otimes \overline{\beta} \mid \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{H}\}.$$

For $x, y \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ we have

$$x(\alpha \otimes \overline{\beta})y = (x\alpha) \otimes \overline{(y^*\beta)}.$$

Lemma 4.3. *Let $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ have the polar decomposition $x = v \cdot |x|$. Then for all $y \in \mathcal{H}$, we have*

$$2\,|\langle xy, y \rangle| \leq \langle |x|y, y \rangle + \langle |x|v^*y, v^*y \rangle.$$

Proof. Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{T}$. Then

$$0 \leq \|(|x|^{\frac{1}{2}} - \lambda|x|^{\frac{1}{2}}v^*)y\|^2$$
$$= \||x|^{\frac{1}{2}}y\|^2 - 2\,\text{Re}\,\overline{\lambda}\langle |x|^{\frac{1}{2}}y, |x|^{\frac{1}{2}}v^*y \rangle + \||x|^{\frac{1}{2}}v^*y\|^2.$$

Now pick λ such that $\overline{\lambda}\langle |x|^{\frac{1}{2}}y, |x|^{\frac{1}{2}}v^*y \rangle \geq 0$ and we are done. $\square$

Definition 4.4. Let $(e_i)_{i \in I}$ be an orthonormal system for $\mathcal{H}$. For $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})_+$, define the trace

$$\text{Tr}(x) = \sum_{i \in I} \langle xe_i, e_i \rangle \in [0, \infty].$$

We call $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ trace class if

$$\|x\| = \text{Tr}(|x|) < \infty.$$

The set of trace class operators on $\mathcal{H}$ will be denoted by $L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}), \text{Tr})$.

Remark. By $\sum_{i \in I} \langle xe_i, e_i \rangle$, we mean the limit of the net $a_F = \sum_{i \in F} \langle xe_i, e_i \rangle$, where $F \subseteq I$ is a finite subset. Indeed, one can check that finite subsets $F \subseteq I$ together with the inclusion relation form a directed set. Furthermore, the above net is monotone, therefore it either converges (if it is above bounded) or it goes to infinity. Therefore, it has a generalized limit. If the sum converges, then $\langle xe_i, e_i \rangle$ is non-zero for at most countable many e_i and our definition of the sum coincides with the usual sum of the series.

Lemma 4.5. *For all $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ we have $\text{Tr}(x^*x) = \text{Tr}(xx^*)$.*

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{Tr}(x^*x) &= \sum_i \langle x^*xe_i, e_i \rangle = \sum_i \langle xe_i, xe_i \rangle \\
&= \sum_i \|xe_i\|^2 = \sum_i \sum_j \langle xe_i, e_j \rangle \overline{\langle xe_i, e_j \rangle} \\
&= \sum_j \sum_i \langle e_i, x^*e_j \rangle \overline{\langle e_i, x^*e_j \rangle} = \sum_j \sum_i \langle x^*e_j, e_i \rangle \overline{\langle x^*e_j, e_i \rangle} \\
&= \sum_j \|x^*e_j\|^2 = \sum_j \langle x^*e_j, x^*e_j \rangle \\
&= \sum_j \langle xx^*e_j, e_j \rangle = \operatorname{Tr}(xx^*)
\end{aligned}$$

$\square$

Corollary 4.6. *If* $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})_+$ *and* $u \in \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H})$, *then*

$$\operatorname{Tr}(u^*xu) = \operatorname{Tr}(x).$$

In particular, the trace of a positive operator is independent of the choice of the orthonormal basis for $\mathcal{H}$.

Proof. Since $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})_+$, there exists a $y \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $x = y^*y$. By lemma, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{Tr}(x) &= \operatorname{Tr}(y^*y) = \operatorname{Tr}(yy^*) \\
&= \operatorname{Tr}(u^*y^*yu) = \operatorname{Tr}(u^*xu).
\end{aligned}$$

If (f_i) is another ONB for $\mathcal{H}$, then there exists $u \in \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $ue_i = f_i$ for all indices i:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_i \langle xf_i, f_i \rangle &= \sum_i \langle xue_i, ue_i \rangle \\
&= \sum_i \langle u^*xue_i, e_i \rangle \\
&= \operatorname{Tr}(u^*xu) = \operatorname{Tr}(x).
\end{aligned}$$

$\square$

Definition 4.7. If (e_i) is ONB for $\mathcal{H}$ and $x \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$, then its trace is

$$\operatorname{Tr}(x) := \sum_{i \in I} \langle xe_i, e_i \rangle.$$

By one of the lemmas above, this series is absolutely convergent:

$$2|\operatorname{Tr}(x)| \leq \operatorname{Tr}(|x|) + \operatorname{Tr}(v|x|v^*) \leq \|x\|_1 + \|x\|_1 = 2\|x\|_1.$$

This is the result of the following proof.

Theorem 4.8.

1. $L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ *is a two-sided ideal in* $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ *that is closed under involution.*

2. $L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ *is a linear span of all positive operators of finite trace.*

3. *Trace is independent of the ONB and* $\|\cdot\|_1$ *is a norm on* $L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$.

Proof. Let $A, B \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ and satisfy the polar decompositions:

$$A + B = U|A + B|, \quad A = V|A|, \quad B = W|B|.$$

Let (e_i) be an ONB. Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} \langle |A + B|e_i, e_i \rangle = \sum_{n=1}^{N} |\langle U^*(A + B)e_n, e_n \rangle|$$

$$\leq \sum_{n=1}^{N} |\langle U^* A e_n, e_n \rangle| + \sum_{n=1}^{N} |\langle U^* B e_n, e_n \rangle|$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{N} |\langle U^* V |A| e_n, e_n \rangle| + \sum_{n=1}^{N} |\langle U^* W |B| e_n, e_n \rangle|.$$

We can bound the first term:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{N} |\langle U^* V |A| e_n, e_n \rangle| = \sum_{n=1}^{N} |\langle |A|^{\frac{1}{2}} e_n, |A|^{\frac{1}{2}} V^* U e_n \rangle|$$

$$\leq \sum_{n=1}^{N} \||A|^{\frac{1}{2}} e_n\| \||A|^{\frac{1}{2}} V^* U e_n\|$$

$$\leq \left(\sum_{n=1}^{N} \||A|^{\frac{1}{2}} e_n\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{N} \||A|^{\frac{1}{2}} V^* U e_n\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Since $\||A|^{\frac{1}{2}} e_n\|^2 = \langle |A|^{\frac{1}{2}} e_n, |A|^{\frac{1}{2}} e_n \rangle = \langle |A| e_n, e_n \rangle$, the expression in the first bracket goes to $\operatorname{Tr} |A|$. Next, we prove that the expression in the second bracket is less or equal to $\operatorname{Tr} |A|$:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{N} \langle |A|^{\frac{1}{2}} V^* U e_n, |A|^{\frac{1}{2}} V^* U e_n \rangle = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \langle U^* V |A| V^* U e_n, e_n \rangle \xrightarrow{N \to \infty} \operatorname{Tr} |A|.$$

Pick an ONB for $\mathcal{H}$ as follows: each f_j should be in $\ker U$ or $(\ker U)^\perp$. Then

$$\operatorname{Tr}(U^* V |A| V^* U) \leq \operatorname{Tr}(V |A| V^*).$$

By similar argument,

$$\operatorname{Tr}(V |A| V^*) \leq \operatorname{Tr}(|A|)$$

and we are done:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{N} |\langle U^* V |A| e_n, e_n \rangle| \leq \operatorname{Tr} |A|.$$

Similarly,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{N} |\langle U^* W |B| e_n, e_n \rangle| \leq \operatorname{Tr} |B|,$$

which implies $\operatorname{Tr} |A + B| \leq \operatorname{Tr} |A| + \operatorname{Tr} |B|$. We have proved that $L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ is a vector space and $\| \cdot \|_1$ is a norm. Clearly, $L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ contains all positive operators with finite trace, so also their linear span. Next we prove that it is a two-sided ideal of $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Let $A \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ and $B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Since every operator is a linear combination of four unitaries, we can assume WLOG that $B = U$ is a unitary. Then

$$|UA| = (A^* U^* U A)^{\frac{1}{2}} = (A^* A)^{\frac{1}{2}} = |A|,$$

so $BA = UA \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$. Furthermore,

$$|AU| = (U^* A^* A U)^{\frac{1}{2}} = U^* |A| U,$$

which implies
$$\operatorname{Tr}|AU| = \operatorname{Tr}(U^*|A|U) = \operatorname{Tr}|A|$$

and $AB = AU \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$. Now we prove that $L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ is closed under involution. Let $A = U|A|$ and $A^* = V|A^*|$ be polar decompositions. Then

$$|A^*| = V^*A^* = V^*(U|A|)^* = V^*|A|U^*.$$

If $A \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$, then $|A| \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$, so

$$|A^*| = V^*|A|U^* \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})).$$

This gives us $A^* \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$. Finally, we prove that $L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ is a linear span of all positive operators of finite trace. Let $x \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ and $a \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. The following glorization identity holds:

$$4a|x| = \sum_{k=0}^{3} i^k \underbrace{(a+i^k)|x|(a+i^k)^*}_{\text{positive and finite trace}}.$$

If $a = v$ partial isometry from the polar decomposition theorem, then

$$x = v|x| = \sum_{k=0}^{3} \frac{i^k}{4}(v+i^k)|x|(v+i^k)^*.$$

is a linear combination of four positive operators with finite trace. $\qquad\square$

As an obvious corollary, the definition of trace is independent of the choice of an ONB of $\mathcal{H}$.

Proposition 4.9. *Let $x \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ and $a, b \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Then*

- $\|x\| \le \|x\|_1$;

- $\|axb\|_1 \le \|a\|\|b\|\|x\|_1$;

- $\operatorname{Tr}(ax) = \operatorname{Tr}(xa)$.

Proof.   1.
$$
\begin{aligned}
\|x\| = \||x|\| = \||x|^{\frac{1}{2}}\|^2 \\
= \sup_{\|\alpha\|=1} \langle |x|^{\frac{1}{2}}\alpha, |x|^{\frac{1}{2}}\alpha \rangle = \sup_{\|\alpha\|=1} \langle |x|\alpha, \alpha \rangle \\
\le \operatorname{Tr}|x| = \|x\|_1.
\end{aligned}
$$

2. We begin with
$$|ax|^2 = x^*a^*ax \le \|a^*a\|x^*x = \|a^*a\| \cdot |x|^2 = \|a\|^2 \cdot |x|^2$$

and since $|ax| \le \|a\| \cdot |x|$ we get $\|ax\|_1 \le \|a\| \cdot \|x\|_1$. But $\|x\|_1 = \|x^*\|_1$, we also get $\|xb\|_1 \le \|b\| \cdot \|x\|_1$.
3. WLOG $a = u \in \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H})$. Then
$$
\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{Tr}(xu) = \sum_i \langle xue_i, e_i \rangle = \sum_i \langle xue_i, u^*ue_i \rangle \\
= \sum_i \langle uxue_i, ue_i \rangle = \operatorname{Tr}(ux). \qquad\square
\end{aligned}
$$

Remark. We have the following identities:

1. $\mathrm{Tr}(\alpha \otimes \overline{\beta}) = \langle \alpha, \beta \rangle$;

2. $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H})$ is dense in $(L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})), \|\cdot\|_1)$. Of course, we know that $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H})$ is dense in $(\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{H}), \|\cdot\|)$.

Theorem 4.10.

$(L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})), \|\cdot\|_1)$ *is a Banach space.*

Proof. We only have to prove completeness. Let $(x_n)_n$ be a Cauchy sequence in $(L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})), \|\|\cdot\|\|_1)$. Since $\|\cdot\| \leq \|\cdot\|_1$, (x_n) is a Cauchy sequence in $(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}), \|\|\cdot\|\|)$. But $(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}), \|\|\cdot\|\|)$ is a Banach space, so there exists $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $x_n \to x$ in $\|\|\cdot\|\|$-topology. Notice that

$$x^*x - x_n^*x_n = x^*(x - x_n) + (x - x_n)^*x_n.$$

By continuity of continuous functional calculus, this implies $|x_n| \to |x|$, meaning $\|\|x_n| - |x|\|\| \to 0$. Next we prove that $x \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$. For any ONB $(e_i)_i$, we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \langle |x|e_i, e_i \rangle = \lim_{n\to\infty} \sum_{i=1}^k \langle |x_n|e_i, e_i \rangle \leq \lim_{n\to\infty} \mathrm{Tr}\,|x_n| = \lim_{n\to\infty} \|x_n\|_1 < \infty.$$

Here, we used the fact that $\|x_n - x_k\|_1 \geq \|x_n\|_1 - \|x_k\|_1$, so the sequence $(\|x_n\|_1)_n$ is Cauchy and therefore has a limit. This proves that $x \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ and $\|x\|_1 \leq \lim_{n\to\infty} \|x_n\|_1$. Finally, we have to show that $\|x_n - x\|_1 \to 0$. Let $\varepsilon > 0$. Pick $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for every $n > N$, we get $\|x_n - x_N\|_1 < \frac{\varepsilon}{3}$. Let $\mathcal{H}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ be a finite dimensional subspace such that

$$\|x_N P_{\mathcal{H}_0^\perp}\|_1, \ \|x P_{\mathcal{H}_0^\perp}\|_1 < \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$

Then for every $n > N$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\|x - x_n\|_1 &\leq \|(x - x_n)P_{\mathcal{H}_0}\|_1 + \|(x - x_n)P_{\mathcal{H}_0^\perp}\|_1 \\
&\leq \|(x - x_n)P_{\mathcal{H}_0}\|_1 + \|x P_{\mathcal{H}_0^\perp} - x_N P_{\mathcal{H}_0^\perp}\|_1 + \|x_N P_{\mathcal{H}_0^\perp} - x_n P_{\mathcal{H}_0^\perp}\|_1 \\
&\leq \|(x - x_n)P_{\mathcal{H}_0}\|_1 + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + \|x_N - x_n\|_1 \|P_{\mathcal{H}_0^\perp}\| \\
&= \|(x - x_n)P_{\mathcal{H}_0}\|_1 + \varepsilon \\
&\leq \|(x - x_n)\|\|\|P_{\mathcal{H}_0}\|_1 + \varepsilon \xrightarrow[n\to\infty]{} \varepsilon.
\end{aligned}$$

Since $\varepsilon > 0$ was arbitrary, this shows $x_n \xrightarrow[\|\cdot\|_1]{} x$. $\square$

Theorem 4.11.

The map
$$\Psi : \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \to L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))^*, \quad a \mapsto (\psi_a : x \mapsto \mathrm{Tr}(ax))$$
is an isometric isomorphism of Banach spaces.

Corollary 4.12. *The map*
$$\Phi : L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})) \to \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{H})^*, \quad x \mapsto (\varphi_x : a \mapsto \mathrm{Tr}(ax))$$
is an isometric isomorphism of Banach spaces.

Proof of the theorem. We notice that Ψ is linear and a contraction because the norms $\|\cdot\|$ and $\|\cdot\|_1$ are comparable. We will first show that Ψ is surjective. Let $\varphi \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))^*$. Notice that

$$(\alpha, \beta) \mapsto \varphi(\alpha \otimes \overline{\beta})$$

is a bounded sesquilinear form in $\mathcal{H}$. By the introductory course, there exists an $a \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that

$$\varphi(\alpha \otimes \overline{\beta}) = \langle a\alpha, \beta \rangle = \mathrm{Tr}(a\alpha \otimes \overline{\beta}) = \mathrm{Tr}(a(\alpha \otimes \overline{\beta})) = \psi_a(\alpha \otimes \overline{\beta}).$$

So φ and ψ_a agree on $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H})$, so by bounded density $\varphi = \psi_a$. Finally,

$$\|a\| = \sup_{\alpha,\beta \in (\mathcal{H})_1} |\langle a\alpha, \beta \rangle| = \sup_{\alpha,\beta \in (\mathcal{H})_1} |\mathrm{Tr}(a(\alpha \otimes \overline{\beta}))| \leq \|\psi_a\|_1.$$

But since

$$\|\psi_a\|_1 = \sup_{x \in (L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})))_1} |\mathrm{Tr}(ax)| = \sup_{x \in (L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})))_1} \|ax\|_1 \leq \sup_{x \in (L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})))_1} \|a\|\|x\|_1 = \|a\|,$$

we have $\|a\| = \|\psi_a\|_1$ and ψ is isometric. $\qquad\square$

Recall that $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is compact if $T((\mathcal{H})_1)$ is relatively compact. Equivalently, image under T of a bounded sequence in $\mathcal{H}$ has a convergent subsequence. For Hilbert spaces, this is also equivalent to $T \in \overline{\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H})}$ in the norm $\|\cdot\|$. For compact operators in Hilbert space, we have the singular value decomposition. For $K \in \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{H})$, then there exists an orthonormal basis $(e_i)_i$ and $(f_j)_j$ for $\mathcal{H}$ and $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \cdots \geq 0$ such that

$$Kx = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sigma_n \langle x, e_n \rangle f_n.$$

This implies

$$|K|x = \sum \sigma_n \langle x, e_n \rangle e_n.$$

Theorem 4.13.

1. $L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})) \subseteq K(\mathcal{H})$.

2. $K \in \mathcal{H}$ is a $L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ iff $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sigma_n < \infty$.

Proof.   1. If $x \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})) = \mathcal{F}$ then there exists $(x_n)_n$ in $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $\|x_n - x\|_1 \to 0$. Since $\|\cdot\| \leq \|\cdot\|_1$, we get $\|x_n - x\| \to 0$ and $x \in \overline{\mathcal{F}}^{\|\cdot\|} = \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{H})$.
   2. This follows from $\mathrm{Tr}\,|K| = \sum \sigma_n$. $\qquad\square$

4.2   Hilbert-Schmidt operators

Definition 4.14. An element $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is a Hilbert-Schmidt operator if

$$|x|^2 = x^*x \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})).$$

The set of all such elements is denoted by $L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}), \mathrm{Tr})$.

Proposition 4.15.   1. $L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})) \lhd \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ *and is closed under* $*$.

2. *If* $x, y \in L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$, *then* $xy, yx \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ *and* $\mathrm{Tr}(xy) = \mathrm{Tr}(yx)$.

Remark. Beware: $\exists a, b \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $ab \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ and $ba \notin L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$. However, if $ab, ba \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$, then $\operatorname{Tr}(ab) = \operatorname{Tr}(ba)$.

Proof. For $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ and $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, we have $|\alpha x|^2 = |\alpha|^2 |x|^2$. Similarly, $|x + y|^2 \leq |x + y|^2 + |x - y|^2 = 2(|x|^2 + |y|^2)$, so $L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ is a complex vector space. Since $|ax|^2 \leq \|a\|^2 \cdot |x|^2$, we have $L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ is a left ideal of $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. From

$$\operatorname{Tr} |x|^2 = \operatorname{Tr}(x^*x) = \operatorname{Tr}(xx^*) = \operatorname{Tr} |x^*|^2,$$

we deduce that $L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ is closed under involution. If $x \in L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ and $b \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, then $x^* \in L^2$, which implies $b^*x^* \in L^2$ and finally $xb = (b^*x^*)^* \in L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$, so $L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})) \lhd \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Next, we use the polarization identity

$$4y^*x = \sum_{k=0}^{3} i^k |x + i^k y|^2.$$

If $x, y \in L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$, then this shows $y^*x \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ and

$$\begin{aligned} 4\operatorname{Tr}(y^*x) &= \sum_{k=0}^{3} i^k \operatorname{Tr}((x + i^k y)^*(x + i^k y)) \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{3} i^k \operatorname{Tr}((x + i^k y)(x + i^k y)^*) \\ &= 4\operatorname{Tr}(xy^*). \end{aligned}$$

On $L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ we have the sesquilinear form $\langle x, y \rangle_2 := \operatorname{Tr}(y^*x)$. It is well-defined and positive definite, so it is a scalar product. The induced norm is denoted as $\|\cdot\|_2$. For every $y \in L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$, we have

$$\|y\| = \|y^*y\|^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \|y^*y\|_1^{\frac{1}{2}} = \|y\|_2.$$

Similarly, we have

$$\|axb\|_2 = \|a\| \cdot \|x\|_2 \cdot \|b\|$$

for all $x \in L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ and $a, b \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. As before, $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H})$ are dense in $L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ with regards to $\|\cdot\|_2$ and $L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$. Using singular values $(\sigma_n)_n$ of compact $K \in \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{H})$, we have $K \in L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ iff $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sigma_j^2 < \infty$. For every $x \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$, we have

$$\|x\|_2 = \sup_{y \in L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})), \ \|y\|_2=1} |\operatorname{Tr}(y^*x)| \leq \sup_{y \in L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})), \ \|y\|_2=1} \|y\| \cdot \|x\|_1 \leq \|x\|_1.$$

As a result $(L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})), \langle \cdot \rangle_2)$ is a Hilbert space. $\qquad \square$

Theorem 4.16 (Hölder inequality)**.**

For all $x, y \in L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ we have
$$\|xy\|_1 \leq \|x\|_2 \|y\|_2.$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \|xy\|_1 = \operatorname{Tr} |xy| &= |\operatorname{Tr}(v^*xy)| \\ &= |\langle y, x^*v \rangle_2| \leq \|x^*v\|_2 \|y\|_2 \\ &\leq \|x^*\|_2 \|v\| \|y\|_2 \leq \|x\|_2 \cdot \|y\|_2. \end{aligned}$$
$\qquad \square$

4.3 Hilbert-Schmidt integral operators

Let (X, μ) be a σ-finite measure space. This means that X is a countable union of finite-measure sets:

$$X = \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} A_j, \quad \mu(A_j) < \infty.$$

For $K \in L^2(X \times X, \mu \times \mu)$, then we can define a Hilbert-Schmidt integral operator with kernel K:

$$T_K : L^2(X, \mu) \to L^2(X, \mu), \quad f \mapsto \left(y \mapsto \int_X K(x, y) f(y) \, d\mu(x) \right).$$

Suppose $(\varphi_\alpha)_\alpha$ is an ONB for $L^2(K, \mu)$. By Fubini, $\left(\overline{\varphi_a(x)} \varphi_\beta(y) \right)_{\alpha, \beta}$ is an orthonormal basis for $L^2(X \times X, \mu \times \mu)$. Since $K \in L^2(X \times X, \mu \times \mu)$, there exist $c_{ij} \in \mathbb{C}$ such that

$$K(x, y) = \sum_{i,j} c_{ij} \overline{\varphi_i(x)} \varphi_j(y), \quad \|K\|_{L^2(X \times X)}^2 = \sum |c_{ij}|^2 < \infty.$$

We show that T_K is well-defined: for $f \in L^2(X, \mu)$, we have $T_K f \in L^2(X, \mu)$. Indeed,

$$T_k f(y) = \sum_{i,j} c_{ij} \langle f, \varphi_i \rangle \varphi_j(y),$$

which implies

$$\|T_K f\|_{L^2(X)}^2 \le \sum_{i,j} |c_{ij}|^2 |\langle f, \varphi_j \rangle|^2 \|\varphi_j\|_{L^2(X)}^2$$

$$\le \|f\|_{L^2}^2 \sum_{i,j} |c_{ij}|^2 \|\varphi\|_{L^2}^2 \|\varphi_j\|_{L^2}^2$$

$$= \|f\|_{L^2}^2 \sum |c_{ij}|^2$$

$$= \|f\|_{L^2}^2 \|K\|_{L^2(X \times X)}^2$$

and finally $\|T_K\| \le \|K\|_{L^2}$. Suppose that $T_K^* : L^2(X, \mu) \to L^2(X, \mu)$ is the integral operator with kernel

$$K^*(y, x) := \overline{K(x, y)}.$$

Now

$$\langle T_K f, g \rangle = \int_Y \left(\int_X K(x, y) f(x) \, d\mu(x) \right) \cdot \overline{g(y)} \, d\mu(y)$$

$$= \int_X f(x) \cdot \left(\overline{\int_Y \overline{K(x, y)} g(y) \, d\mu(y)} \right) d\mu(x)$$

$$= \langle f, T_{K^*} g \rangle.$$

Remark (Fubini's theorem). If X, Y are measure spaces and $\int_{X \times Y} |f| d(x, y) < \infty$, then

$$\int_{X \times Y} f = \int_Y \left(\int_X f \, dx \right) dy = \int_X \left(\int_Y f \, dy \right) dx.$$

Theorem 4.17.

1. For $K \in L^2(X \times X, \mu \times \mu)$ we have $T_K \in L^2(\mathcal{B}(L^2(X, \mu)))$.

2. The mapping $\Phi : K \mapsto T_K$ is a unitary

$$L^2(X \times X, \mu \times \mu) \mapsto L^2(\mathcal{B}(L^2(X, \mu))).$$

Proof. 1. We will prove that $\|T_K\|_2 = \|K\|_{L^2}$. We want to approximate T_K with finite rank operators, so we first approximate K:

$$K(x, y) = \sum_{i,j=1}^{\infty} c_{ij} \overline{\varphi_i(x)} \varphi_j(x)$$

for orthonormal basis $(\varphi_\alpha)_\alpha$ for $L^2(X, \mu)$. For $N \in \mathbb{N}$ let $K_N(x, y) = \sum_{i,j}^{N} c_{ij} \overline{\varphi_i(x)} \varphi_j(x)$. Then

$$T_{K_N} f = \sum_{i,j=1}^{N} c_{ij} \langle f, \varphi_i \rangle \varphi_j \in \mathcal{F}(L^2(X, \mu)).$$

By the above inequality,

$$\|T_K - T_{K_N}\| \le \|K - K_N\|_{L^2} \to 0,$$

so $T_K \in \overline{\mathcal{F}}^{\|\cdot\|} = \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{H})$. Then

$$\|T_K\|_2^2 = \sum_i \|T_K \varphi_i\|_{L^2}^2 = \sum_{i,j,k} \|c_{jk} \varphi_j(x) \delta_{ik}\|^2 = \sum |c_{ij}|^2 = \|K\|_{L^2}^2.$$

2. It remains to prove surjectivity. Since Φ is isometric, $\operatorname{im} \Phi$ is closed. So it suffices to show that $\operatorname{im} \Phi$ is dense. In particular, we will show that $\operatorname{im} \Phi \supseteq \mathcal{F}(L^2(X, \mu))$. Let $A \in \mathcal{F}(L^2(X, \mu))$, so rank $A < \infty$. Let $(\psi_1, \ldots, \psi_m)$ be an orthonormal basis for $\operatorname{im} A$. Then $A\varphi = c_1(\varphi)\psi_1 + \cdots + c_m(\varphi)\psi_m$ for some bounded linear functionals c_j on $L^2(X, \mu)$. By Riesz, there exist $\mu_j \in L^2(X, \mu)$ such that $c_j(\varphi) = \langle \varphi, \mu_j \rangle$. Hence

$$A\varphi(x) = \int_X \left(\sum_{j=1}^{m} \psi_j(x) \cdot \overline{\mu_j(y)} \cdot \varphi(y) \right) d\mu(y) = T_{\sum_{i=1}^{m} \psi_j(x) \overline{\mu_j(y)}} \in \operatorname{im} \Phi. \qquad \square$$

Now let $\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{K}$ be Hilbert spaces and $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{K})$. We associate to A the map

$$\widetilde{A} \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathcal{K}, \mathcal{H} \oplus \mathcal{K}), \quad \alpha \oplus \beta \mapsto 0 \oplus A\alpha$$

or in matrix form

$$\widetilde{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ A & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We denote the set of Hilbert-Schmidt operators $\mathcal{H} \mapsto \mathcal{K}$ as

$$HS(\mathcal{H}, \mathbb{C}) = \{A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{K}) \mid \widetilde{A} \in L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathcal{K}))\}.$$

Using this notation, $HS(\mathcal{H}, \mathbb{C})$ is just the dual of $\mathcal{H}$, so $\mathcal{H}^*$. By Riesz, we have a natural anti-isomorphism

$$\mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{H}^*, \quad \alpha \mapsto \langle \cdot, \alpha \rangle =: \overline{\alpha}$$

and a natural anti-linear bijection

$$\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}^*), \quad A \mapsto (\overline{A} : \overline{\alpha} \mapsto \overline{A\alpha}).$$

We denote the Hilbert space $\mathcal{H} \overline{\otimes} \mathcal{K} := HS(\mathcal{K}^*, \mathcal{H})$. This is called the tensor product of Hilbert spaces. If $(e_\alpha)_\alpha$ is an ONB for $\mathcal{H}$ and $(f_\beta)_\beta$ for $\mathcal{K}$, then $(e_\alpha \otimes \overline{f_\beta})_{\alpha,\beta}$ is an ONB for $\mathcal{H} \overline{\otimes} \mathcal{K}$. The algebraictensor product $\mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{K}$ are exactly the operators in $HS(\mathcal{K}^*, \mathcal{H})$ that are of finite rank, which are span$\{\varphi \otimes \overline{\psi} \mid \varphi \in \mathcal{H}, \ \psi \in \mathcal{K}\}$.

4.4 Locally convex topologies on $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$

If $\mathcal{H}$ is a Hilbert space, then $(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}), \|\cdot\|)$ is a Banach algebra with its norm topology.

> **Definition 4.18.** 1. The weak operator topology (WOT) is given by the seminorms
> $$T \mapsto |\langle T\alpha, \beta \rangle|, \quad \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{H}.$$
>
> 2. The strong operator topology (SOT) is given by the seminorms
> $$T \mapsto \|T\alpha\|, \quad \forall \alpha \in \mathcal{H}.$$

These topologies are comparable: WOT $\subseteq$ SOT $\subseteq$ uniform.

- Uniform topology has the subbasis
$$\{S \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \mid \|S - T\| < \varepsilon\}$$
for $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. The net T_i converges to T iff $\|T_i - T\|$ converges to 0.

- WOT topology has the subbasis
$$\{S \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \mid \langle (S - T)\alpha, \beta \rangle < \varepsilon\}$$
for $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{H}$, $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. The net T_i converges to T iff $\langle T_i \alpha, \beta \rangle$ converges to $\langle T\alpha, \beta \rangle$ for all α, β.

- SOT topology has the subbasis
$$\{S \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \mid \|(S - T)\alpha\| < \varepsilon\}$$
for $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}$, $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. The net T_i converges to T iff $\|(T_i - T)\alpha\|$ converges to 0 for all α.

> **Example 4.19.** *Let $\mathcal{H} = \ell^2(\mathbb{N})$ and denote $T_n = \frac{1}{n} \circ \text{id}$. Then $T_n \to 0$ in the norm topology. Now if we introduce the operator*
> $$S(x_1, x_2, \dots) = (0, 0, \dots, 0, x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}, \dots),$$
> *then $S_n \to 0$ in SOT, but not in norm topology, since $\|S_n\| = 1$. Lastly, we define*
> $$W_n(x_1, x_2, \dots) = (0, 0, \dots, x_1, x_2, \dots).$$
> *We get that $W_n \to 0$ in WOT, but not in SOT and norm topology.*

> **Example 4.20.** *Let $(y_n)_n$ be a countable dense subset of $\mathcal{H} = \ell^2$. Consider the following metrics on $(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))_1$:*
> $$d_S(A, B) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n} \|(A - B)y_n\|, \quad d_W(A, B) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n} |\langle (A - B)y_n, y_n \rangle|.$$
> *Then d_S induces SOT and d_W induces WOT on $(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))_1$.*

> **Example 4.21.** *The multiplication*
> $$\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \times \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}), \quad (A, B) \mapsto A \cdot B$$

is not jointly continuous with regards to SOT or WOT. Indeed, if $S : \ell^2 \to \ell^2$ is right shift (and S^* left shift), then $S^n \to 0$ and $(S^*)^n \to 0$ in WOT, but $(S^*)^n S^n = I$. However, multiplication is WOT- and SOT- continuous in each factor separately. Suppose that $(x_\alpha)_\alpha \to x$ in WOT and $y \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Then for each $v, w \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, we have

$$|\langle x_\alpha y v - x y v, w \rangle| \to 0,$$

since $x_\alpha \to x$ in WOT. Similarly,

$$|\langle y x_\alpha v - y x v, w \rangle| = |\langle x_\alpha v - x v, y^* w \rangle| \to 0,$$

which implies $x_\alpha y \to xy$ and $y x_\alpha \to yx$ in WOT.

Example 4.22. *The adjoint is isometric in uniform topology. It is also continuous in WOT:*

$$|\langle x^* v - y^* v, w \rangle| < \varepsilon \Leftrightarrow |\langle xw - yw, v \rangle| < \varepsilon.$$

However, it is not continuous with regards to SOT. If $(e_n)_n$ is an ONB for $\mathcal{H}$, consider $e_1 \otimes \overline{e_n}$. Then for every $x \in \mathcal{H}$, we have

$$\|(e_1 \otimes \overline{e_n})x\| = |\langle x, e_n \rangle| \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 0,$$

so $e_1 \otimes \overline{e_n} \to 0$ in SOT. However,

$$\|(e_1 \otimes \overline{e_n})^* x\| = \|(e_n \otimes \overline{e_1})x\| = |\langle x, e_1 \rangle|$$

does not go to 0 for all $x \in \mathcal{H}$, which proves our statement.

Remark. If $T : X \to Y$ is continuous, then T remains continuous if X is given a finer topology or Y is given a coarser topology. But if both topologies are made coarser or both finer, nothing can be said in general. In particular, if $T : X \to X$ is continuous with respect to a given topology on X in both domain and codomain, you cannot generally conclude anything about continuity of T when X is given a finer or coarser topology on both domain and codomain. The previous example illustrates this.

Lemma 4.23. *Let $\varphi : \mathcal{B} \to \mathbb{C}$ be linear. The following is equivalent.*
  1. There exist $v_1, \ldots, v_n \in \mathcal{H}$ and $w_1, \ldots, w_n \in \mathcal{H}$ such that

$$\varphi(T) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \langle T v_i, w_i \rangle.$$

  2. φ is WOT-continuous.
  3. φ is SOT-continuous.

Proof. The implications $(1) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3)$ is obvious. Let us prove $(3) \Rightarrow (1)$. By a proposition in chapter 1 (the application of Hahn-Banach), there exists a $K > 0$ and $v_1, \ldots, v_n \in \mathcal{H}$ such that

$$|\varphi(T)|^2 \le K \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{n} \|T v_i\|^2.$$

Define

$$\mathcal{H}_0 := \overline{\left\{ \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n} T v_i \mid T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \right\}} \le \mathcal{H}^{\oplus n}.$$

The map
$$\mathcal{H}_0 \ni \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n} Tv_i \mapsto \varphi(T) \in \mathbb{C}$$
is a well-defined and bounded linear functional, which by continuity extends to $\mathcal{H}_0 \to \mathbb{C}$. By Riesz, there exist $w_1, \ldots, w_n \in \mathcal{H}$ such that
$$\varphi(T) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \langle Tv_i, w_i \rangle.$$

Recall that $v \otimes \overline{w} \in \mathcal{FH}$ and $\text{Tr}(v \otimes \overline{w}) = \langle v, w \rangle$, so
$$\text{Tr}(T(v \otimes \overline{w})) = \langle Tv, w \rangle.$$

The previous identity is really
$$\varphi(T) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \text{Tr}(T(v \otimes \overline{w})) = \text{Tr}(T \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{n} v_i \otimes \overline{w}_i).$$

This means that $\varphi(T) = \text{Tr}(T \cdot A)$ for $A \in \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{H})$. $\qquad\square$

Corollary 4.24. *If $K \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is convex, then*
$$\overline{K}^{\text{WOT}} = \overline{K}^{\text{SOT}}.$$

Proof.
$$\overline{K}^{\text{WOT}} = \overline{K}^{\text{weak}, WOT} = \overline{K}^{\text{weak}, SOT} = \overline{K}^{\text{SOT}} \square$$

Definition 4.25. The σ-weak operator topology (σ-WOT or ultra-weak) is the topology in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ given by the seminorms
$$x \mapsto \left| \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \langle x\alpha_i, \alpha_i \rangle \right|$$
for $\alpha_j \in \mathcal{H}$ with $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \|\alpha_j\|^2 < \infty$. A subbasis of open sets is thus
$$\left\{ x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \mid \left| \sum \langle (x - x_0), \alpha_i, \alpha_i \rangle \right| < \varepsilon \right\}$$
for $\alpha_j \in \mathcal{H}$ with $\varepsilon > 0$, $x_0 \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ and $\sum \|\alpha_j\|^2 < \infty$.

Definition 4.26. The σ-strong operator topology (σ-SOT or ultra-strong) is the topology in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ given by the seminorms
$$x \mapsto \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \|x\alpha_i\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
for $\alpha_j \in \mathcal{H}$ with $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \|\alpha_j\|^2 < \infty$. A subbasis of open sets is thus
$$\left\{ x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \mid \left(\sum \|(x - x_0)\alpha_i\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} < \varepsilon \right\}$$
for $\alpha_j \in \mathcal{H}$ with $\varepsilon > 0$, $x_0 \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ and $\sum \|\alpha_j\|^2 < \infty$.

Remark. σ-WOT can also be given by seminorms

$$x \mapsto |\operatorname{Tr}(xa)|$$

for $a \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ positive. Let $(f_i)_i$ be an ONB for $\mathcal{H}$ and define

$$b : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{H}, \quad f_i \mapsto \alpha_i.$$

Since $\sum \|\alpha_j\|^2 < \infty$, we can conclude $b \in L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_i \langle x\alpha_i, \alpha_i \rangle &= \sum_i \langle xbf_i, bf_i \rangle \\
&= \sum_i \langle b^* xbf_i, f_i \rangle \\
&= \operatorname{Tr}(b^* xb) \\
&= \operatorname{Tr}(xbb^*),
\end{aligned}$$

where $a := bb^* \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$. Since $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) = L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))^*$, the σ-WOT is just the weak-* topology (with regards to this pairing).

Remark. The map

$$\operatorname{id} \otimes 1 : \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H} \overline{\otimes} \ell^2), \quad x \mapsto x \otimes 1$$

is an isometric *-isomorphism of C^*-algebras. It is neither SOT- nor WOT-continuous. Despite that, σ-WOT on $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is induced by WOT on $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H} \overline{\otimes} \ell^2)$ and the σ-SOT on $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is induced by SOT on $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H} \overline{\otimes} \ell^2)$. Indeed, if $(e_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ is an ONB for ℓ^2, define $\alpha := \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha_i \otimes e_i \in \mathcal{H} \overline{\otimes} \ell^2$. Then

$$\sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \langle x\alpha_i, \alpha_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \langle (\operatorname{id} \otimes 1)(x)\alpha, \alpha \rangle_{\mathcal{H} \overline{\otimes} \ell^2}$$

and similarly

$$\left(\sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \|x\alpha_i\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \|(\operatorname{id} \otimes 1)(x)\alpha\|_{\mathcal{H} \overline{\otimes} \ell^2}$$

Lemma 4.27. *Let* $\varphi : \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \to \mathbb{C}$ *be a linear functional operator. Then the following is equivalent.*
  1. $\exists a \in L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ *such that* $\varphi(x) = \operatorname{Tr}(ax)$, $\forall x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$;
  2. φ *is* σ-*WOT continuous;*
  3. φ *is* σ-*SOT continuous.*

Proof. As previously, the implication $(1) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3)$ is obvious. Let us prove $(3) \Rightarrow (1)$. Assume φ is σ-SOT continuous. By identifying $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ via $\operatorname{id} \otimes 1$ with a subspace in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H} \otimes \ell^2)$, φ is SOT-continuous on this subspace. By Hahn-Banach, φ extends to a SOT-continuous linear functional on $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H} \otimes \ell^2)$. By the previous lemma, $\exists \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n, \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_n \in \mathcal{H} \overline{\otimes} \ell^2$.

$$\varphi(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \langle (\operatorname{id} \otimes 1)(x)\alpha_i, \beta_i \rangle.$$

With

$$\alpha_i \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{ij} \otimes e_j, \quad \sum_j \|\alpha_{ij}\|^2 < \infty$$

and

$$\beta_i \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \beta_{ij} \otimes e_j, \quad \sum_j \|\beta_{ij}\|^2 < \infty.$$

Then

$$\varphi(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \langle (x \otimes 1) \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{ij} \otimes e_j, \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \beta_{ik} \otimes e_k \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \langle x\alpha_{ij}, \beta_{ik} \rangle \langle e_j, e_k \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \langle x\alpha_{ij}, \beta_{ij} \rangle.$$

Define

$$A_i : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{H}, \quad A_i f_k = \alpha_{ik}$$

and

$$B_i : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{H}, \quad B_i f_k = \beta_{ik}$$

for an orthonormal basis $(f_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$. By assumption, $A_i, B_i \in L^2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$. As before, this gives $\varphi(x) = \sum_i \operatorname{Tr}(B_i^* x A_i) = \operatorname{Tr}(x A_i B_i^*)$. □

Corollary 4.28. *The unit disk $(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))_1$ is compact with respect to σ-WOT topology.*

Proof. σ-WOT on $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is the weak-* topology from $L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))^* = \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. The statement now follows from Banach-Alaoglu. □

Corollary 4.29. *WOT and σ-WOT agree on bounded subsets $B \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$.*

Proof. WLOG B is closed. Then the identity $(B, \sigma\text{-WOT}) \to (B, \text{WOT})$ is a continuous map from a T_2 compact (previous corollary) to a T_2 space. Therefore an identity map is a closed continuous bijection, so a homeomorphism. □

We use the following notation: if A is vector space and $B \subseteq \mathcal{L}(A, \mathbb{C})$ is a set of linear functionals, then $\sigma(A, B)$ is the weakest topology in A such that linear functionals in B are continuous.
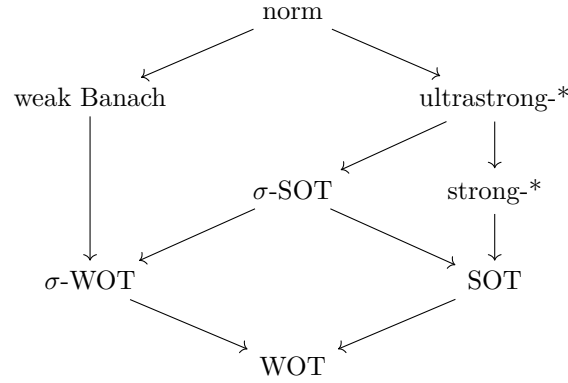
Definition 4.30. Let A be a vector space and $B \subseteq \mathcal{L}(A, \mathbb{C})$ a set of some of its linear functionals. Then we define $\sigma(A, B)$ as the weakest topology such that functionals in B are continuous.

Remark. σ-WOT is $\sigma(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}), L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})))$.

Definition 4.31. Let us define the following topologies on $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$.
1. Weak Banach topology is $\sigma(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}), \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})^*)$.
2. Ultrastrong-* topology is the weakest topology stronger than σ-SOT such that * is continuous.
3. Strong-* topology is generated by seminorms $x \mapsto \|x\alpha\|$ and $x \mapsto \|x^*\alpha\|$ for $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}$.

In the end, we get the following diagram which demonstrates which topologies are comparable.

```
                          norm
                        ↙        ↘
          weak Banach              ultrastrong-*
                                  ↙          ↓
                        σ-SOT              strong-*
                      ↙        ↘              ↓
          σ-WOT                    SOT
                ↘                ↙
                      WOT
```

5 von Neumann algebras

5.1 Bicommutant theorem

Definition 5.1. A von Neumann algebra (on Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}$) is a *-subalgebra of $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ that is WOT-closed. Equivalently, a *-subalgebras that is SOT-closed.

Definition 5.2. If $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, then $W^*(A)$ denotes the vNa generated by A. This is equivalent to the smallest vNa in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ that contains A, which is equivalent to

$$\bigcap \{W \mid A \subseteq W, \ W \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \text{ is vNa}\}.$$

Lemma 5.3. *Let $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a vNa. Then $(A)_1$ is WOT-compact.*

Proof. Follows from Banach-Alaoglu and σ-WOT and WOT topologies being equivalent on bounded sets. □

Corollary 5.4. *Let $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ vNa. Then $(A)_1$ and A_{sa} are SOT-closed and WOT-closed.*

Proof. By the lemma above, * is continuous in WOT, so A_{sa} is closed in WOT. Since A_{sa} is convex, we use Hahn-Banach to see that it is also SOT-closed. The same exact argument applies for $(A)_1$. □

Definition 5.5. Commutant of $B \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is

$$B' = \{T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \mid \forall S \in B: \ ST = TS\}.$$

Bicommutant is $B'' := (B')'$. By definition, $B'' \supseteq B$.

Theorem 5.6.

*Suppose $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is closed under *. Then A' is vNa.*

Proof. Obviously, A' is a subalgebra of $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ closed under *. We prove that it is WOT-closed. Let

```

$(x_\alpha)_\alpha$ be a net in $A'$ that WOT-converges to $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Pick $a \in A$ and $\varphi, \mu \in \mathcal{H}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle [x, a]\varphi, \mu \rangle &= \langle (xa - ax)\varphi, \mu \rangle \\
&= \langle xa\varphi, \mu \rangle - \langle ax\varphi, \mu \rangle \\
&= \langle xa\varphi, \mu \rangle - \langle x\varphi, a^*\mu \rangle \\
&= \lim_\alpha \langle x_\alpha a\varphi, \mu \rangle - \langle x_\alpha \varphi, a^*\mu \rangle \\
&= \lim_\alpha \langle (x_\alpha a - ax_\alpha)\varphi, \mu \rangle \\
&= \lim_\alpha \langle [x_\alpha, a]\varphi, \mu \rangle = 0,
\end{aligned}$$

so $x \in A'$ and we're done. $\qquad\square$

**Corollary 5.7.** *Every vNa is unital.*

**Example 5.8.** *For an infinitely-dimensional Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}$, the set of all compact operators $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{H})$ is not a vNa, since it doesn't include the identity (the latter is a consequence of Riesz lemma). Another way: as we'll see later, the finite-rank projections converge strongly to identity, $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{H})$ is not SOT-closed, so it is also not WOT-closed.*

**Corollary 5.9.** *Suppose $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is a maximal commutative subalgebra and is closed under \*. Then $A$ is vNa.*

*Proof.* Since $A$ is commutative, $A' \supseteq A$. Take $b \in A' \subseteq A$ and consider the subalgebra, generated by $A$ and $b$. This is an abelian algebra, so by maximality we have we have $b \in A$ and $A = A'$. Then by theorem, $A$ is a vNa. $\qquad\square$

**Lemma 5.10.** *Let $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a \*-subalgebra. Then $\forall \mu \in \mathcal{H}$ and $\forall x \in A''$ there exists a net $(x_\alpha)_\alpha$ in $A$ such that $\lim_\alpha \|(x_\alpha - x)\mu\| = 0$.*

*Proof.* Define $\mathcal{K} := \overline{A\mu} \leq \mathcal{H}$. Let $p : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{K}$ be the orthogonal projection onto $\mathcal{K}$. By definition, $a\mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{K}$, $\forall a \in A$. Equivalently, $pap = ap$. Then

$$pa = (a^*p)^* = (pa^*p)^* = pap = ap,$$

so $p \in A'$. But $x \in A''$, so
$$xp = xp^2 = pxp$$

and $x\mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{K}$. In particular, since $\mu \in \mathcal{K}$, we have $x\mu \in \mathcal{K} = \overline{A\mu}$. So there must exist some net in $A\mu$ that converges to $x\mu$. $\qquad\square$

**Theorem 5.11 (**von Neumann's bicommutant theorem**).**

*Let $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a \*-subalgebra. Then $\overline{A}^{\text{WOT}} = A''$.*

*Proof.* By the previous theorem, $A''$ is a vNa. In particular, it is WOT-closed. Since $A \subseteq A''$, it suffices to show that $A$ is WOT-dense in $A''$. Because $A$ is convex, it is enough to show that $A$ is SOT-dense in $A''$. Let $x \in A''$ and $\mu_1, \ldots, \mu_n \in \mathcal{H}$. Form the following subalgebra of

$\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}^n) \cong M_n(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$. Define

$$
\widetilde{A} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & a \end{bmatrix} \in M_n(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})) \mid a \in A \right\}.
$$

Then $\widetilde{A}' = M_n(A')$. Hence we get

$$
\widetilde{A}'' \subseteq M_n(A')' = \widetilde{A}''.
$$

This implies that

$$
\begin{bmatrix} x & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & x \end{bmatrix} \in \widetilde{A}'' \subseteq \widetilde{A}''.
$$

Now we apply lemma to $\widetilde{A}$ to get a net $(a_i)_i$ in $A$ such that

$$
\lim_i \| (x - a_i)\mu_j \| = 0, \quad \forall j = 1, \dots, n. \qquad \square
$$

**Corollary 5.12.** *Let $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a \*-subalgebra. Then $A$ is a vNa iff $A = A''$.*

*Remark.* WOT-closed implies norm-closed. In particular, every vNa is a $C^*$-algebra. However, the converse is not always true: $\mathcal{C}([0,1])$ is a $C^*$-algebra that is not vNa.

**Corollary 5.13** (Polar decomposition in vNa). *Let $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a vNa and $x \in A$. Then for its polar decomposition $x = v|x|$ we have $v \in A$.*

*Proof.* We know that

$$
\ker v = (\operatorname{im} |x|)^\perp = \ker |x| = \ker x.
$$

For $a \in A'$ and $\mu \in \ker x$ we have $a\mu \in \ker x$:

$$
x(a\mu) = ax\mu = 0,
$$

which implies $a \ker |x| \subseteq \ker |x|$. We know that $\mathcal{H} = \ker |x| \oplus \overline{\operatorname{im} |x|}$. Suppose that $|x|\mu \in \operatorname{im} |x|$. Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
[a, v]|x|\mu &= (av - va)|x|\mu = av|x|\mu - va|x|\mu \\
&= ax\mu - v|x|a\mu = ax\mu - xa\mu \\
&= [a, x]\mu = 0.
\end{aligned}
$$

But for $\beta \in \ker |x| = \ker v$, we have

$$
[a, v]\beta = (av - va)\beta = av\beta - va\beta = 0.
$$

Since $av$ and $va$ agree on $\ker |x| \oplus \overline{\operatorname{im} |x|} = \mathcal{H}$, we have $v \in A'' = A$. $\qquad \square$

**Example 5.14** (Commutative vNa - IMPORTANT). *Let $(X, \mu)$ be a $\sigma$-finite measure space and*

$$
M : L^\infty(X, \mu) \to B(L^p(X, \mu)), \quad g \mapsto M_g,
$$

*where we define*

$$
(M_g f)(x) = g(x)f(x).
$$

*Then $M$ is an isometric \*-isomorphism $L^\infty(X, \mu) \to M(L^\infty(X, \mu))$ and $M(L^\infty(X, \mu))$ is a maximal commutative vNa in $\mathcal{B}(L^2(X, \mu))$.*

*Remark.* A measurable function $f : X \to \mathbb{C}$ is essentially bounded if there exists a real number $M$ (called an essential bound) such that

$$\mu\left(\{x \in X \mid |f(x)| > M\}\right) = 0.$$

We define $\|f\|_\infty$ to be an essential supremum of $f$, which is the infimum of its essential bounds. If $\mathcal{L}^\infty(X, \mu)$ are essentially-bounded functions and $\mathcal{N} = \{f \mid \|f\|_\infty = 0\}$. Then $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ is a norm on the space $L^\infty(X, \mu) = \mathcal{L}^\infty(X, \mu) / \mathcal{N}$.

*Proof of the example.* Clearly, $M$ is injective, additive and multiplicative. First, we prove that $M$ is a \*-homomorphism. This follows from the next calculation:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\langle M_{\overline{g}}\mu, \varphi \rangle &= \int_X M_{\overline{g}}\mu \cdot \overline{\varphi} \, d\mu \\
&= \int_X \overline{g}\mu\overline{\varphi} \\
&= \int_X \mu\overline{g}\overline{\varphi} \, d\mu \\
&= \langle \mu, M_g\varphi \rangle = \langle M_g^*\mu, \varphi \rangle,
\end{aligned}
$$

so $M_{\overline{g}} = M_g^*$. Next, we prove that $M$ is isometric. For $g \in L^\infty(X, \mu)$, there exists a sequence $E_n \subseteq X$ such that $0 < \mu(E_n) < \infty$ and $|g|\big|_{E_n} \geq \|g\|_\infty - \frac{1}{n}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then

$$\|M_g\| \geq \frac{\|M_g 1_{E_n}\|_2}{\|1_{E_n}\|_2} \geq \|g\|_\infty - \frac{1}{n}, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N},$$

which implies $\|M_g\| \geq \|g\|_\infty$. For the reverse, notice that

$$
\begin{aligned}
\|M_g 1_{E_n}\|^2 &= \int_X |g \cdot 1_{E_n}|^2 \, d\mu \\
&= \int_{E_n} |g|^2 \, d\mu \\
&\geq \int_{E_n} (\|g\|_\infty - \frac{1}{n})^2 \, d\mu \\
&= (\|g\|_\infty - \frac{1}{n})^2 \cdot \mu(E_n)
\end{aligned}
$$

and

$$
\begin{aligned}
\|M_g\|^2 &= \sup_{\|\mu\|_2 = 1} \|M_g\mu\|_2^2 = \sup_{\|\mu\|_2 = 1} \int_X |g\mu|^2 \, d\mu \\
&\leq \|g\|_\infty^2 \cdot \sup_{\|\mu\|_2 = 1} \int_X |\mu|^2 \, d\mu = \|g\|_\infty^2.
\end{aligned}
$$

We've just shown that $\|Mg\| = \|g\|_\infty$. Lastly, we prove that $M(L^\infty(X, \mu))$ is a maximal commutative subalgebra of $\mathcal{B}(L^2(X, \mu))$. Take $T \in \mathcal{B}(L^2(X, \mu))$ and assume it commutes with all $M_g$'s. Now pick a measurable sequence $E_n \subseteq X$ such that $0 < \mu(E_n) < \infty$, $E_n \subseteq E_{n+1}$ and $X = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} E_n$. Define $f_n := T(1_{E_n}) \in (X, \mu)$. First we prove that $f_n \in L^\infty(X, \mu)$. If $A$ is measurable and $0 < \mu(A) < \infty$, then

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{\mu(A)} \int_X |f_n \cdot 1_A|^2 \, d\mu &= \frac{1}{\mu(A)} \cdot \|M_{1_A} T(1_{E_n})\|^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{\mu(A)} \cdot \|T(1_{A \cap E_n})\|^2 \\
&\leq \frac{1}{\mu(A)} \cdot \|T\|^2 \cdot \|1_A\|^2 = \|T\|^2.
\end{aligned}
$$

If $f \notin L^\infty$, then for all $M \in \mathbb{R}$ we have

$$0 < \mu(\underbrace{\{x \in X \mid |f_n(x)| > M\}}_{A_{n,M}}) < \infty,$$

since $f_n \in L^2$. By above calculation,

$$M^2 \leq \frac{1}{\mu(A_{n,M})} \cdot \int_X |f \cdot 1_{A_{n,M}}|^2 \, d\mu \leq \|T\|^2,$$

which is of course a contradiction. This proves that $f_n \in L^\infty(X, \mu)$ and $\|f_n\|_\infty \leq \|T\|$. For $n \leq m$ we have

$$\begin{aligned}
1_{E_n} \cdot f_m &= 1_{E_n} \cdot T(1_{E_m}) \\
&= M_{1_{E_n}}(T(1_{E_m})) \\
&= T(M_{1_{E_n}} 1_{E_m}) \\
&= T(1_{E_n} 1_{E_m}) = f_n.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $f_m\big|_{E_n} = f_n$. Sequence $(f_n)_n$ converges to a measurable $f : X \to \mathbb{C}$. From $\|f_n\|_\infty \leq \|T\|$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ we also deduce $\|f\|_\infty \leq T$, so $f \in L^\infty(X, \mu)$. Lastly, we prove $T = M_f$. Note that simple functions $\sum_{j=i}^r \alpha_j 1_{A_j}$ are $L^2$-dense. Let $A \subseteq X$ be measurable with $\mu(A) < \infty$. Then $\|1_{A \cap E_n} - 1_A\|_2 \xrightarrow{n \to \infty} 0$. Hence

$$\|(T - M_f)1_A\|_2 = \lim_{n \to \infty} \|(T - M_f)1_{A \cap E_n}\|_2 = 0,$$

as we shall prove.

$$\begin{aligned}
T(1_{A \cap E_n}) = T(1_A \cdot 1_{E_n}) &= T(M_{1_A} 1_{E_n}) \\
&= M_{1_A}(T(1_{E_n})) = M_{1_A}(f_n) \\
&= 1_A \cdot f_n.
\end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$M_f(1_{A \cap E_n}) = f \cdot 1_{A \cap E_n} = f \cdot 1_{E_n} \cdot 1_A = 1_A \cdot f_n$$

and we are done. $\qquad\square$

Another possible characterization of vNa's is given by the following.

**Theorem 5.15** (Sakai)**.**

 *Let $A$ be a $C^*$-algebra such that for a Banach space there exists an isometric \*-isomorphism $A \to E^*$. Then there exists a vNa $B \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $A \cong B$ as a $C^*$-algebra.*

For the proof, see R.V.Kadison's *The von Neumann algebra characterization theorems* (1985).

## 5.2 Kaplansky's density theorem

**Lemma 5.16.** *Multiplication $(A, B) \mapsto A \cdot B$ is SOT-continuous on bounded sets.*

*Proof.* Let $(A_i)_i$ and $(B_i)_i$ be nets with $\sup \|A_i\|, \sup \|B_i\| < M$ for some $M \in \mathbb{R}$. Suppose $A_i \to A$

and $B_i \to B$ in SOT. For any $x$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\|ABx - A_iB_ix\| &= \|ABx - A_iBx + A_iBx - A_iB_ix\| \\
&\leq \|ABx - A_iBx\| + \|A_iBx - A_iB_ix\| \\
&\leq \|A(Bx) - A_i(Bx)\| + \|A_i\| \cdot \|Bx - B_ix\| \\
&\leq \|A(Bx) - A_i(Bx)\| + M \cdot \|Bx - B_ix\| \to 0,
\end{aligned}$$

so $A_iB_i \xrightarrow{\text{SOT}} AB$. $\qquad\square$

**Proposition 5.17.** *Let $f \in C(\mathbb{C})$. Then $x \mapsto f(x)$ is SOT-continuous on each bounded set of normal operators in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$.*

*Proof.* By Stone-Weierstrass, we can uniformly approximate $f$ by polynomials on a bounded subset $B_R(0) \subseteq \mathbb{C}$. By the previous lemma, multiplication is SOT-continuous on this bounded set of normal operators. But for normal operator $A$, we have $\|Ax\| = \|A^*x\|$ for every $x \in \mathcal{H}$, so $*$ is also SOT-continuous on normal operators and we're done. $\qquad\square$

**Theorem 5.18 (**Cayley transform**).**

*Mapping $x \mapsto (x-i)(x+i)^{-1}$ is SOT-continuous $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})_{\text{sa}} \to \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H})$.*

*Proof.* If $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})_{\text{sa}}$, then $\sigma(x) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ and $(x+i) \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is invertible. We notice that $z \mapsto \frac{z-i}{z+i} : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{C}$ has its range in $\mathbb{T}$, so the Cayley transform does in fact map into the unitaries. Now onto the SOT-continuity: let $(x_k)_k$ be a net in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})_{\text{sa}}$ with $x_k \to x$ in SOT. By spectral mapping theorem, $\|(x_k+i)^{-1}\| \leq 1$. For each $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\|(x-i)(x+i)^{-1}\alpha - (x_k-i)(x_k+i)^{-1}\alpha\| &= \|(x_k+i)^{-1}\left((x_k+i)(x-i)(x+i^{-1}) - (x_k-i)\right)\alpha\| \\
&= \|(x_k+i)^{-1}\left((x_k+i)(x-i) - (x_k-i)(x+i)\right)(x+i)^{-1}\alpha\| \\
&= \|(x_k+i)^{-1}2i(x-x_k)(x+i)^{-1}\alpha\| \\
&\leq 2\|(x_k+i)^{-1}\|\|(x-x_k)\underbrace{(x+i)^{-1}\alpha}_{\beta}\| \\
&\leq 2\|(x-x_k)\beta\| \to 0. \qquad\square
\end{aligned}$$

**Corollary 5.19.** *If $f \in C_0(\mathbb{R})$, then $x \mapsto f(x)$ is SOT-continuous on $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})_{\text{sa}}$.*

*Proof.* Suppose

$$g(t) = \begin{cases} f\left(i\frac{1+t}{1-t}\right); & t \neq 1 \\ 0; & t = 1 \end{cases}$$

which maps $\mathbb{T} \to \mathbb{C}$. By previous proposition, $x \mapsto g(x)$ is SOT-continuous on unitaries. Letting $U(z) = \frac{z-i}{z+i}$, denote the Cayley transform, we have that $f = g \circ U$ is a composite of two SOT-continuous maps, which is a SOT-continuous map of itself. $\qquad\square$

**Theorem 5.20 (**Kaplansky's density theorem**).**

*Let $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a *-subalgebra and $B = \overline{A}^{\text{SOT}}$, then*

*1. $\overline{A_{\text{sa}}}^{\text{SOT}} = B_{\text{sa}}$;*

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$2.\ \overline{(A)_1}^{\text{SOT}} = (B)_1.$

*Proof.* WLOG $A$ is a $C^*$-algebra, so norm-closed.

1. First we prove that $\overline{A_{\text{sa}}}^{\text{SOT}} \subseteq B_{\text{sa}}$. Since $\overline{A_{\text{sa}}}^{\text{SOT}} = \overline{A_{\text{sa}}}^{\text{WOT}}$, take $x \in \overline{A_{\text{sa}}}^{\text{SOT}}$ and the net $(x_k)_k \subseteq A_{\text{sa}}$ converges to $x$. Since $*$ is WOT continuous, $(x_k^*)_k = (x_k)_k$ converge to $x^*$, so $x = x^*$. Now the converse inclusion: suppose the net $(x_k)_k$ SOT-converges to $x \in B_{\text{sa}}$. Then $\frac{x_k + x_k^*}{2} \to x$ in WOT-topology, which implies

$$B_{\text{sa}} \subseteq \overline{A_{\text{sa}}}^{\text{WOT}} = \overline{A_{\text{sa}}}^{\text{SOT}}.$$

2. Suppose the net $(y_i)_i$ in $A_{\text{sa}}$ SOT-converges to $x \in B_{\text{sa}}$. Take $f \in C_0(\mathbb{R})$ such that for all we have $f(t) = t$, $\forall |t| \leq \|x\|$ and $|f(t)| \leq \|x\|$, $\forall t \in \mathbb{R}$. By functional calculus, $\|f(y_k)\| \leq \|x\|$. By the previous corollary, $(f(y_i))_i \xrightarrow{\text{SOT}} f(x) = x$. This proves that $(A)_1 \cap A_{\text{sa}}$ is SOT-dense in $(B)_1 \cap B_{\text{sa}}$. Pass over to $M_2(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})) = \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathcal{H})$. Then $M_2(A)$ is SOT-dense in $M_2(B)$ by assumption. For $x \in (B)_1$, we have

$$\widetilde{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x \\ x^* & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in (M_2(B))_1 \cap (M_2(B))_{\text{sa}}.$$

That means there exists a net

$$\widetilde{x_i} = \begin{pmatrix} a_i & b_i \\ c_i & d_i \end{pmatrix} \in (M_2(A))_1$$

such that $\widetilde{x_i} \to \widetilde{x}$ and therefore $b_i \in (A)_1$ converge to $x$. $\qquad\square$

**Corollary 5.21.** *Let $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a \*-algebra. Then $A$ is a vNa iff $(A)_1$ is SOT-closed.*

## 5.3 Examples of vNa's

**Definition 5.22.** A vNa $M$ is called a factor if $Z(M) = M \cap M' = \mathbb{C} \cdot 1$.

**Example 5.23.** *Clearly, $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is a factor. If $n = \dim \mathcal{H} < \infty$, then $M_n(\mathbb{C})$ is a factor.*

Let $\Gamma$ be a group and $\mathcal{H} = \ell^2(\Gamma)$. Consider the left regular representation

$$\lambda : \Gamma \to \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(\Gamma)), \quad g \mapsto (\delta_h \mapsto \delta_{gh})$$

and extend linearly to $\lambda : \mathbb{C}[\Gamma] \to \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(\Gamma))$. The group vNa of $\Gamma$ is $VN(\Gamma) := \lambda(\mathbb{C}[\Gamma])''$ in $\mathcal{B}(\ell^2(\Gamma))$. It has a trace, which is the linear functional

$$\tau : VN(\Gamma) \to \mathbb{C}, \quad x \mapsto \langle x\delta_e, \delta_e \rangle.$$

For $g \in \Gamma$, $\tau(\lambda(g)) = 1$ if $g = e$, otherwise zero. For $g_1, \ldots, g_r \in \Gamma$, we have

$$g_1 \ldots g_r = e \Leftrightarrow \tau(\lambda(g_1) \ldots \lambda(g_r)) = 1.$$

Since $\tau$ is a positive linear functional and $\tau(1) = 1$, $\tau$ is a state. For any two elements $g, h \in \Gamma$ we have $gh = e \Leftrightarrow hg = e$, which together with the above line implies

$$\tau(\lambda(g)\lambda(h)) = \tau(\lambda(h)\lambda(g)).$$

By linearity, $\tau$ has a cyclic property on $\lambda(\mathbb{C}[\Gamma])$. But since $\tau$ is, by definition, WOT-continuous and $VN(\Gamma) = (\lambda(\mathbb{C}[\Gamma]))'' = \overline{\lambda(\mathbb{C}[\Gamma])}^{\text{WOT}}$, $\tau$ is cyclic on the entire $VN(\Gamma)$. Now if $|\Gamma| = \infty$, then $VN(\Gamma) \neq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, since the latter does not have a trace if $\dim \mathcal{H} = \infty$. If $\Gamma$ is Abelian, then $VN(\Gamma)$ is commutative.

**Definition 5.24.** Group $\Gamma$ has icc (infinite conjugacy classes) if for all $g \in \Gamma \setminus \{e\}$ the set $\{f^{-1}gf \mid f \in \Gamma\}$ is infinite.

**Example 5.25.** *The group*

$$S_\infty = \{bijections\ \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}\ that\ only\ permute\ finitely\ many\ elements\}$$

*has icc.*

**Example 5.26.** *Free groups $\mathbb{F}_n$ for $n > 1$ have icc.*

**Theorem 5.27.**

*If $\Gamma$ has icc, then $VN(\Gamma)$ is a factor.*

**Definition 5.28.** $VN(S_\infty) =: R$ is the hyperfinite $II_1$-factor.

Open problem: does $VN(\mathbb{F}_2) \cong VN(\mathbb{F}_3)$ hold?

## 5.4 Operations with vNa's

**Direct sums**

Let $M_i \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_i)$ be vNa's. Define the isometric embedding

$$\iota_j : \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_j) \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathcal{H}_n), \quad x \mapsto ((\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n) \mapsto (0, \ldots, 0, x\alpha_j, 0, \ldots, 0)).$$

This map is the $n \times n$ bounded matrix where the $(j,j)$-th element is $x$ and the rest are zero. Then

$$M_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus M_n := \operatorname{span}\{\iota_j(x) \mid j = 1, \ldots, n,\ x \in M_j\}$$

is the direct sum of vNa's. If $n \geq 2$, then from

$$Z(M_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus M_n) = Z(M_1) \oplus \cdots \oplus Z(M_n),$$

we deduce that $M_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus M_n$ is not a factor.

**Tensor products**

The algebraic tensor product $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1) \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{H}_n)$ acts on $\mathcal{H}_1 \overline{\otimes} \ldots \overline{\otimes} \mathcal{H}_n$ by

$$(x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_n)(\alpha_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \alpha_n) = (x_1\alpha_1) \otimes \cdots \otimes (x_n\alpha_n)$$

for $x_j \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_j)$ and $\alpha_j \in \mathcal{H}_j$, which implies

$$\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1) \otimes \ldots \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_n) \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1 \overline{\otimes} \ldots \overline{\otimes} \mathcal{H}_n).$$

Finally, we define the tensor product of vNa's as

$$M_1 \overline{\otimes} \ldots \overline{\otimes} M_n = (M_1 \otimes \ldots \otimes M_n)'' \cap \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_1 \overline{\otimes} \ldots \overline{\otimes} \mathcal{H}_n).$$

**Compressions**

**Definition 5.29.** Let $M \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a vNa and $p \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ a projection. A compression of $M$ is $pMp = \{pxp \mid x \in M\}$. When $p \in M$, it is also called a corner.

If $\mathcal{H} = \operatorname{im} p \oplus (\operatorname{im} p)^{\perp} = \operatorname{im} p \oplus (1 - p)$. In this basis, elements of $pMp$ has the matrix form

$$\begin{bmatrix} pxp & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

If $M \ni p \neq 1$, then $pMp$ is a $*$-algebra and $pMp \subseteq M$ but it is not a subalgebra since $1_M = 1_{\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})} \notin pMp$. However, $pMp$ is a subalgebra of $\mathcal{B}(p\mathcal{H})$ with identity element $p$.

**Definition 5.30.** Let $\mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ and $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$.
1. $\mathcal{K}$ is invariant for $x$ if $x\mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{K}$;
2. $\mathcal{K}$ is reducing for $x$ if $\mathcal{K}$ is invariant for both $x$ and $x^*$.

Now if $S \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, then
1. $\mathcal{K}$ is invariant for $S$ if $x\mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{K}$ for all $x \in S$;
2. $\mathcal{K}$ is reducing for $S$ if $\mathcal{K}$ is reducing for all $x \in S$.

If $S \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is closed under $*$, then $\mathcal{K}$ is invariant for $S$ iff it is reducing for $S$.

**Lemma 5.31.** *Let $\mathcal{K}^{\text{closed}} \leq \mathcal{H}$ and $M \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ an $*$-algebra. Let $p : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{K}$ be an orthogonal projection. Then $\mathcal{K}$ is reducing for $M$ iff $p \in M'$.*

**Theorem 5.32.**

Let $M \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a vNa and $p \in M$ a projection. Then $pMp$ and $M'p$ are vNa's in $\mathcal{B}(p\mathcal{H})$.

*Proof.* We will show that

$$(M'p)' \cap \mathcal{B}(p\mathcal{H}) = pMp, \quad (pMp)' \cap \mathcal{B}(p\mathcal{H}) = M'p.$$

Then the bicommutant theorem will take care of the rest. It is obvious that $(M'p)' \cap \mathcal{B}(p\mathcal{H}) \supseteq pMp$. For the converse, pick $x \in (M'p)' \cap \mathcal{B}(p\mathcal{H})$. Define $\widetilde{x} = xp = px \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. For $y \in M'$, we have

$$y\widetilde{x} = ypx = xyp = xpy = \widetilde{x}y,$$

which implies $\widetilde{x} \in M'' = M$. Then $x = pxp = p\widetilde{x}p \in pMp$. As before $(pMp)' \cap \mathcal{B}(p\mathcal{H}) \supseteq M'p$ is trivial and we just prove the converse. Take $y \in (pMp)' \cap \mathcal{B}(p\mathcal{H})$. Using CFC, we can write $y$ as a linear combinations of 4 unitaries. Since $pMp$ is closed under $*$, $(pMp)'$ is a vNa (and therefore a $C^*$-algebra). So we can assume WLOG that $y = u$ a unitary. Set $\mathcal{K} := \overline{Mp\mathcal{H}}$ and $q : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{K}$ an orthogonal projection. Since $\mathcal{K}$ is reducing for $M$ and $M'$, which implies

$$q \in M' \cap M'' = M' \cap M = Z(M).$$

Next, we extend $u$ to $\mathcal{K}$:

$$\widetilde{u}(\sum_i \underbrace{x_i}_{\in M} p \underbrace{\alpha_i}_{\in \mathcal{H}}) = \sum_i x_i u p \alpha_i.$$

We shall show that this is a well-defined isometry in $Mp\mathcal{H}$:

$$\|\widetilde{u}\sum_i x_i p\alpha_i\|^2 = \sum_{i,j}\langle x_i up\alpha_i, x_j up\alpha_j\rangle$$

$$= \sum_{i,j}\langle (px_j^* x_i p)u\alpha_i, u\alpha_j\rangle$$

$$= \sum_{i,j}\langle upx_j^* x_i p\alpha_i, u\alpha_j\rangle$$

$$= \sum_{i,j}\langle px_j^* x_i p\alpha_i, \alpha_j\rangle = \|\sum_i x_i p\alpha_i\|^2.$$

So $\widetilde{u}$ extends to an isometry on $\mathcal{K} = \overline{Mp\mathcal{H}}$. By definition, $\widetilde{u}$ commutes with $M$ on $Mp\mathcal{H}$, so also on $\mathcal{K}$. Thus for every $x \in M$ and $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}$, we have

$$x(\widetilde{u}q)\alpha = \widetilde{u}xq\alpha = (\widetilde{u}q)x\alpha,$$

which implies $\widetilde{u}q \in M' \cap \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Then

$$\widetilde{u}qp\alpha = \widetilde{u}1p\alpha = 1up\alpha,$$

which implies $u = \widetilde{u}qp \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ and $u \in M'p$. $\qquad\square$

**Corollary 5.33.** *Suppose the vNa $M \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is a factor and let $p \in M$ be a projection. Then $pMp$ and $M'p$ are factor (in $\mathcal{B}(p\mathcal{H})$).*

*Proof.* Let $\mathcal{K} = \overline{Mp\mathcal{H}}$ and $q : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{K}$ a projection. From the previous proof, $q \in Z(M) = \mathbb{C}$. Then $q \in \{0,1\}$. WLOG $p \neq 0$, so $q = 1$. Thus $\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{H}$, so $Mp\mathcal{H}$ is dense in $\mathcal{H}$. Consider

$$\psi : M' \to M'p, \quad y \mapsto yp.$$

We will prove that $\psi$ is an isomorphism of algebras. Obviously, it is additive. Since

$$\psi(xy) = xyp = xyp^2 = xpyp = \psi(x)\psi(y),$$

it is also multiplicative. Same calculation shows $\psi(y^*) = \psi(y)^*$. Obviously, $\psi$ is surjective. Finally, we prove injectivity. Suppose $y \in M'$ satisfies $yp = 0$. Then for every $x \in M$ and $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}$, we get $yxp\alpha = x(yp)\alpha = 0$. Hence $y\big|_{Mp\mathcal{H}} = 0$, so by continuity, $y\big|_{\overline{Mp\mathcal{H}}} = y\big|_{\mathcal{K}} = 0$. But because $\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{H}$, this yields $y\big|_{\mathcal{H}} = 0$. As a result, we get

$$Z(M'p) = Z(M')p = \mathbb{C} \cdot p,$$

so $M'p$ is a factor. Similarly,

$$Z(pMp) = (pMp) \cap (pMp)' = (M'p)' \cap M'p = Z(M'p) = \mathbb{C}p,$$

so $pMp$ is a factor. $\qquad\square$

# 6 Spectral theorem and Borel functional calculus

## 6.1 Spectral theorem

Recall the spectral theorem for $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{H})$. Let $T \in \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{H})$ be self-adjoint and for $\lambda \in \sigma_p(T)$, define $E(\lambda)$ as an orthogonal projection onto the eigenspace $\ker(T - \lambda I)$. For $\mu \neq \lambda$, we get $E(\lambda)E(\mu) = 0$ and

$$T = \sum_{\lambda \in \sigma_p(T) \setminus \{0\}} \lambda E(\lambda).$$

Our first goal will be to generalize this to non-compact self-adjoint operator.

**Theorem 6.1 (Vigier).**

*Let $(u_\lambda)$ be a net of increasing (decreasing) and above (below) bounded self-adjoint operators on $\mathcal{H}$. Then $(u_\lambda)$ converges.*

*Proof.* We prove the statement for above-bounded increasing net. We can assume $(u_\lambda)$ has a lower bound $m$ by considering a truncated net. WLOG we can assume $u_\lambda$ are positive (otherwise we can consider $u_\lambda - m$). There exists $M \geq 0$ such that $\|u_\lambda\| \leq M$ for indices $\lambda$. So the net $\langle u_\lambda x, x \rangle$ is real and increasing and bounded above by $M\|x\|^2$. Using the polarization identity

$$\langle u_\lambda x, x \rangle = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=0}^{3} i^k \langle u_\lambda(x + i^k y), x + i^k y \rangle,$$

we see that $\langle u_\lambda x, y \rangle$ is an convergent net for all $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$. Letting $\sigma(x, y)$ denote its limit, we can eaasily check that $\sigma$ is a bounded sesquilinear form ($|\sigma(x, y)| \leq M\|x\|\|y\|$). By Riesz, there exists an operator $u \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $\langle ux, y \rangle = \sigma(x, y)$. Then $u$ is self-adjoint, $\|u\| \leq M$ and $u_\lambda \leq u$. Note that

$$\begin{aligned}
\|(u - u_\lambda)x\|^2 &\leq \|(u - u_\lambda)^{\frac{1}{2}}(u - u_\lambda)^{\frac{1}{2}} x\|^2 \\
&\leq \|(u - u_\lambda)\|\|(u - u_\lambda)^{\frac{1}{2}} x\|^2 \\
&\leq 2M\langle (u - u_\lambda)x, x \rangle \to 0,
\end{aligned}$$

so $u_\lambda$ converge strongly to $u$. $\qquad\square$

*Remark.* If $(p_\lambda)$ is a net of projections converging strongly to some operator $u$, then $u$ is also a projection. Clearly, $u$ is self-adjoint and

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle ux, y \rangle = \lim_\lambda \langle p_\lambda x, y \rangle &= \lim_\lambda \langle p_\lambda x, p_\lambda y \rangle \\
&= \langle ux, uy \rangle = \langle u^2 x, y \rangle,
\end{aligned}$$

therefore $u^2 = u$.

**Corollary 6.2.** *If $(p_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a sequence of pairwise orthogonal orthogonal projections in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, then $\left(\sum_{n=1}^{N} p_n\right)$ SOT-converges for $N \to \infty$ (we denote the limit by $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p_n$).*

**Definition 6.3.** Let $X$ be a set, $\Omega$ a $\sigma$-algebra in $X$ and $\mathcal{H}$ a Hilbert space. Then we define a projection-valued measure (PVM) for $(X, \Omega, \mathcal{H})$ is a map $E : \Omega \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that
1. $E(S)$ is a projection for all $S \in \Omega$;
2. $E(\emptyset) = 0$ and $E(X) = 1$;
3. $E(S \cap T) = E(S)E(T)$ for all $S, T \in \Omega$;

4. If $(S_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq \Omega$ is a sequence of pairwise disjoint sets, then

$$E(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} S_n) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} E(S_n).$$

*Remark.* Projections $E(S)$ commute with each other (follows directly from the third point of the definition).

---

**Example 6.4.** *Let $(X, \Omega, \mu)$ be a $\sigma$-finite measure space. Let $\mathcal{H} = L^2(X, \mu)$ and $S \in \Omega$, then $\chi_S \in L^\infty(X, \mu) \subseteq \mathcal{B}(L^2(X, \mu))$ is a projection (with pointwise multiplication in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$). Letting $E(S) := \chi_S \in \mathcal{B}(L^2(X, \mu))$, we get a PVM $E : \Omega \to \mathcal{B}(L^2(X, \mu))$.*

---

**Lemma 6.5.** *Let $E$ be a PVM for $(X, \Omega, \mathcal{H})$. Then for all $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{H}$ the mapping*

$$E_{\alpha, \beta} : \Omega \to \mathbb{C}, \quad S \mapsto \langle E(S)\alpha, \beta \rangle$$

*is a complex measure in $\Omega$ with total variation $\leq \|\alpha\|\|\beta\|$.*

---

*Proof.* Let $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{H}$. Then $E_{\alpha, \beta}$ is $\sigma$-additive (countably-additive for disjoint sets) since $E$ is $\sigma$-additive by (4). Total variation of a complex measure is

$$\|E_{\alpha, \beta}\| := \sup\{\sum_{S \in \pi} |E_{\alpha, \beta}(S)|\},$$

where the sum is over all partitions of $X$ into finitely many pieces of measurable sets. Let $\pi = \{S_1, \ldots, S_n\}$ be a partition of $X$ with $S_j \in \Omega$. For each $j$ pick $\alpha_j \in \mathbb{C}$ such that $|\alpha_j| = 1$ and

$$\alpha_j \cdot E_{\alpha, \beta}(S_j) = \alpha_j \langle E(S_j)\alpha, \beta \rangle = |\langle E(S_j)\alpha, \beta \rangle| = |E_{\alpha, \beta}(S_j)|.$$

Then

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} |E_{\alpha, \beta}(S_j)| = \langle \sum \alpha_j E(S_j)\alpha, \beta \rangle| \leq \| \sum \alpha_j E(S_j)\alpha\| \cdot \|\beta\|.$$

For $i \neq j$ we have

$$E(S_i)E(S_j) = E(S_i \cap S_j) = E(\emptyset) = 0,$$

so $E(S_i)$ are pairwise orthogonal. Finally, we can use Pythagoras to get

$$\|\sum_{j=1}^{n} \alpha_j E(S_j)\alpha\|^2 = \sum_{j=1}^{n} \|E(S_j)\alpha\|^2$$

$$= \|\sum_{j=1}^{n} E(S_j)\alpha\|^2$$

$$= \|E\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^{n} S_j\right)\alpha\|^2$$

$$= \|E(X)\alpha\|^2 = \|\alpha\|^2. \qquad \square$$

*Remark.* Let $E$ be a PVM for $(X, \Omega, \mathcal{H})$, $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}$ and $S \in \Omega$. Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
E_{\alpha,\alpha}(S) &= \langle E(S)\alpha, \alpha \rangle \\
&= \langle E(S)^2 \alpha, \alpha \rangle \\
&= \langle E(S)\alpha, E(S)\alpha \rangle \geq 0,
\end{aligned}
$$

so $E_{\alpha,\alpha}$ is a positive measure on $X$. Furthermore, if $\|\alpha\| = 1$, then $E_{\alpha,\alpha}$ is a probability measure.

Let

$$
(\alpha, \beta) \mapsto \int_X 1 \, dE_{\alpha,\beta}.
$$

Since $E_{\alpha+\lambda\alpha',\beta} = E_{\alpha,\beta} + \lambda E_{\alpha',\beta}$ and $E_{\alpha,\beta+\lambda\beta'} = E_{\alpha,\beta} + \overline{\lambda} E_{\alpha,\beta'}$, the above is a sesquilinear form on $\mathcal{H}$. In particular, it is bounded

$$
\| \int_X dE_{\alpha,\beta} \| \leq \|E_{\alpha,\beta}\| \leq \|\alpha\| \|\beta\|.
$$

Suppose $f : X \to \mathbb{C}$ is a bounded $\Omega$-measurable function. Then

$$
(\alpha, \beta) \mapsto \int_X f \, dE_{\alpha,\beta}
$$

is a bounded sesquilinear form:

$$
\| \int_X f \, dE_{\alpha,\beta} \| \leq \|f\|_\infty \|E_{\alpha,\beta}\| \leq \|f\|_\infty \|\alpha\| \|\beta\|.
$$

So there exists an $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $\|x\| \leq \|f\|_\infty$ and $\langle x\alpha, \beta \rangle = \int_X f \, dE_{\alpha,\beta}$. If $f = \chi_S$ for $S \in \Omega$, then $x = E(S)$:

$$
\int_X \chi_S \, dE_{\alpha,\beta} = E_{\alpha,\beta}(S) = \langle E(S)\alpha, \beta \rangle.
$$

**Definition 6.6.** Let $E$ be a PVM for $(X, \Omega, \mathcal{H})$ and $f : X \to \mathbb{C}$ be a bounded $\Omega$-measurable function and $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. We call $x$ the integral of $f$ with regards to $E$ if

$$
\langle x\alpha, \beta \rangle = \int_X f \, dE_{\alpha,\beta}, \quad \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{H}.
$$

We denote it by $x := \int_X f \, dE$.

*Remark.* Define $B(X, \Omega)$ as the set of all bounded $\Omega$-measurable complex functions on $X$ and endow it with the sup norm. If $X$ is a topological space and $\Omega = \mathcal{B}_X$ is the Borel $\sigma$-algebra on $X$, then $B(X) = B(X, \mathcal{B}_X)$.

**Proposition 6.7.** *Let $E$ be a PVM for $(X, \Omega, \mathcal{H})$. Then*

$$
\rho : B(X, \Omega) \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}), \quad f \mapsto \int_X f \, dE.
$$

*is a \*-homomorphism and contractive. Furthermore:*

1. *If $(f_n)_n \subseteq B(X, \Omega)$ is an increasing sequence of nonnegative functions and $f = \sup_n f_n \in B(X, \Omega)$, then $\int_X f_n dE \to \int_X f \, dE$ in SOT.*

2. *If $X$ is compact and $T_2$, then $\rho(B(X)) \subseteq \rho(C(X))''$.*

*Proof.* We already saw that $\|\rho(f)\| \leq \|f\|_\infty$, hence $\rho$ is contractive. It is also clear that $\rho$ is linear and $\rho(f)^* = \rho(\overline{f})$. Next, we prove multiplicativity: $\rho(\chi_S) = E(S)$ for $S \in \Omega$. Then

$$\rho(\chi_S) \cdot \rho(\chi_T) = E(S) \cdot E(T) = E(S \cap T) = \rho(\chi_{S \cap T}) = \rho(\chi_S \cdot \chi_T).$$

Since $\rho$ is linear, it is also multiplicative on simple functions (these are finite linear combinations of characteristic functions). Since each $f \in B(X, \Omega)$ is a uniform limit of a uniformly bounded sequence of simple functions, we deduce that $\rho(fg) = \rho(f)\rho(g)$ for all $f, g \in B(X, \Omega)$.

1. Let $f, f_n$ be as in the statement. Since $\rho$ is a *-homomorphism, $(\rho(f_n))_n$ is an increasing sequence of positive operators and $\sup_n \|\rho(f_n)\| \leq \sup_n \|f\|_\infty = \|f\|$. By Vigier, there exists $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $\rho(f_n) \xrightarrow{\text{SOT}} x$. This $x$ is a natural candidate for $\rho(f)$. Indeed, for $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{H}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle \rho(f)\alpha, \beta \rangle &= \int_X f \, dE_{\alpha,\beta} \\
&= \lim_{n \to \infty} \int_X f_n \, dE_{\alpha,\beta} \\
&= \lim_{n \to \infty} \langle \rho(f_n)\alpha, \beta \rangle,
\end{aligned}$$

so $\rho(f_n) \xrightarrow{\text{WOT}} \rho(f)$ and therefore $\rho(f) = x$.

2. Let $X$ be compact Hausdorff and $a \in \rho(C(X))'$. Take $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{H}$. Then for all $f \in C(X)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &= \langle (a\rho(f) - \rho(f)a)\alpha, \beta \rangle \\
&= \langle \rho(f)\alpha, a^*\beta \rangle - \langle \rho(f)(a\alpha), \beta \rangle \\
&= \int_X f \, dE_{\alpha, a^*\beta} - \int_X f \, dE_{a\alpha, \beta},
\end{aligned}$$

so by uniqueness from Riesz-Markoff we get $E_{\alpha, a^*\beta} = E_{a\alpha, \beta}$. This same calculation backwards tells us that $a$ commutes with all $\rho(g) = \int_X g \, dE$ for $g \in B(X)$, so $\rho(B(X)) \subseteq \rho(C(X))''$ □

*Remark.* The map $\rho$ is not necessarily isometric. However, we can define $E$-null sets

$$\{S \in \Omega \mid E(S) = 0\},$$

which gives us an equivalence relation on $B(X, \Omega)$ as follows: $f \sim_E g$ if $f(x) = g(s)$ except possibly on some $E$-null set. Then we have

$$\ker \rho = \{f \in B(X, \Omega) \mid f \sim_E 0\}$$

and an essential supremum

$$\|\rho(f)\| = \|f\|_\infty := \inf\{t > 0 \mid E(\{x \in X \mid |f(x)| \geq t\}) = 0\}.$$

Define $L^\infty(X, E) = \frac{B(X, \Omega)}{\sim_E}$ with norm induced by an essential supremum above. Then the map $\rho$ from the above proposition induces an isometric *-isomorphism $\widetilde{\rho} : L^\infty(X, E) \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$.

Recall that for a commutative $C^*$-algebra $A$ the Gelfand transform

$$\Gamma : A \to C(\sigma(A))$$

is an isometric *-isomorphism.

**Theorem 6.8** (Spectral theorem)**.**

Let $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a commutative $C^*$-algebra and $\mathcal{B}_{\sigma(A)}$ be the Borel $\sigma$-algebra on $\sigma(A)$. Then there exists a PVM $E$ for $(\sigma(A), \mathcal{B}_{\sigma(A)}, \mathcal{H})$ such that

$$x = \int_{\sigma(A)} \Gamma(x) \, dE$$

for all $x \in A$.

*Proof.* For all $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{H}$ and

$$\varphi : C(\sigma(A)) \to \mathbb{C}, \quad f \mapsto \langle \Gamma^{-1}(f)\alpha, \beta \rangle$$

is a bounded linear functional. Indeed, since $\Gamma$ is an isometry we get

$$\langle \Gamma^{-1}(f)\alpha, \beta \rangle \leq \|f\|_\infty \|\alpha\| \|\beta\|.$$

By Riesz-Markoff, there exists a unique regular Borel measure $\mu_{\alpha,\beta}$ such that

$$\langle \Gamma^{-1}(f)\alpha, \beta \rangle = \int_{\sigma(A)} f \, d\mu_{\alpha,\beta}.$$

We will show that $\mu_{\alpha,\beta} = E_{\alpha,\beta}$ for a PVM $E$. For $f, g \in C(\sigma(A))$ we have

$$\int_{\sigma(A)} fg \, d\mu_{\alpha,\beta} = \langle \Gamma^{-1}(fg)\alpha, \beta \rangle = \langle \Gamma^{-1}(f)\Gamma(g)\alpha, \beta \rangle = \int_{\sigma(A)} f \, d\mu_{\Gamma^{-1}(g)\alpha,\beta}.$$

Now we notice that this is equal to

$$\langle \Gamma^{-1}(f)\alpha, \Gamma^{-1}(\overline{g})\beta \rangle = \int_{\sigma(A)} f \, d\mu_{\alpha,\Gamma^{-1}(\overline{g})\beta}.$$

From the uniqueness of Riesz-Markoff, we get

$$g \, d\mu_{\alpha,\beta} = d\mu_{\Gamma^{-1}(g)\alpha,\beta} = d\mu_{\alpha,\Gamma^{-1}(\overline{g})\beta}.$$

Finally, we have

$$\int_{\sigma(A)} f \, d\overline{\mu_{\alpha,\beta}} = \overline{\int \overline{f} \, d\mu_{\alpha,\beta}}$$
$$= \overline{\langle \Gamma^{-1}(\overline{f})\alpha, \beta \rangle}$$
$$= \overline{\langle \alpha, \Gamma^{-1}(f)\beta \rangle}$$
$$= \langle \Gamma^{-1}(f)\beta, \alpha \rangle$$
$$= \int_{\sigma(A)} f \, d\mu_{\beta,\alpha}$$

for all $f \in C(\sigma(A))$, which implies $\overline{\mu_{\alpha,\beta}} = \mu_{\beta,\alpha}$. To each $S \in \mathcal{B}_{\sigma(A)}$ we assign the sesquilinear form

$$\mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{H} \to \mathbb{C}, \quad (\alpha, \beta) \mapsto \int_{\sigma(A)} \chi_S \, d\mu_{\alpha,\beta}.$$

This form is bounded by $\|\alpha\| \|\beta\| = \|\mu_{\alpha,\beta}\|$. Thus there exists $E(S) \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that

$$\int_{\sigma(A)} \chi_S \, d\mu_{\alpha,\beta} = \langle E(S)\alpha, \beta \rangle.$$

Now notice that

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle E(S)^* \alpha, \beta \rangle &= \overline{\langle \alpha, E(S)\beta \rangle} \\
&= \overline{\overline{\langle E(S)\beta, \alpha \rangle}} \\
&= \overline{\int_{\sigma(A)} \chi_S \, d\mu_{\beta,\alpha}} \\
&= \int_{\sigma(A)} \chi_S \, d\overline{\mu_{\beta,\alpha}} \\
&= \int_{\sigma(A)} \chi_S d\mu_{\alpha,\beta} \\
&= \langle E(S)\alpha, \beta \rangle,
\end{aligned}$$

so $E(S) = E(S)^*$. For any $f \in C(\sigma(A))$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle \Gamma^{-1}(f) E(S)\alpha, \beta \rangle &= \langle E(S)\alpha, \Gamma^{-1}(\overline{f})\beta \rangle \\
&= \int \chi_S \, d\mu_{\alpha, \Gamma^{-1}(\overline{f})} \\
&= \int \chi_S f \, d\mu_{\alpha,\beta}.
\end{aligned}$$

By the lemma below, $C(\sigma(A))$ is weak-* dense in $C(\sigma(A))^{**}$. Furthermore, the latter set contains $B(\sigma(A))$: indeed, given any $\psi \in C(\sigma(A))^*$, we have that $\psi(\cdot) = \int \cdot \, d\mu$ for some measure $\mu$. For any $r \in B(\sigma(A))$, we have $r(\psi) = \int_{\sigma(A)} r \, d\mu$. Hence, $i : C \to C^{**}$ extends to $\widehat{i} : B \to C^{**}$. In particular, for $T \in \mathcal{B}_{\sigma(A)}$, there exists a net $(f_i)_i \subseteq C(\sigma(A))$ such that $f_i \xrightarrow{\text{weak-*}} \chi_T$. As a result, $\int_{\sigma(A)} f_i \, d\mu_{\alpha,\beta} \to \int_{\sigma(A)} \chi_T \, d\mu_{\alpha,\beta}$ for all $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{H}$, so $\Gamma^{-1}(f_i) \xrightarrow{\text{WOT}} E(T)$. Now

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle E(T) \cdot E(S)\alpha, \beta \rangle &= \lim_i \langle \Gamma^{-1}(f_i) E(S)\alpha, \beta \rangle \\
&= \lim_i \langle E(S)\alpha, \Gamma^{-1}(\overline{f_i})\beta \rangle \\
&= \lim_i \int_{\sigma(A)} \chi_S f_i \, d\mu_{\alpha,\beta} \\
&= \int_{\sigma(A)} \chi_S \cdot \chi_T \, d\mu_{\alpha,\beta} \\
&= \int_{\sigma(A)} \chi_{S \cap T} \, d\mu_{\alpha,\beta} = \langle E(S \cap T)\alpha, \beta \rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

Since $\alpha, \beta$ were arbitrary, we get $E(S) \cdot E(T) = E(S \cap T)$ for all $S, T \in \mathcal{B}_{\sigma(A)}$. As a consequence, $E(S)^2 = E(S)$, so $E(S)$ is a projection. Obviously, $E(\emptyset) = 0$. Further,

$$\langle E(\sigma(A))\alpha, \beta \rangle = \int_{\sigma(A)} 1 \, d\mu_{\alpha,\beta} = \langle \Gamma^{-1}(1)\alpha, \beta \rangle = \langle 1\alpha, \beta \rangle,$$

so $E(\sigma(A)) = 1$. Since all $\mu_{\alpha,\beta}$ are $\sigma$-additive, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle E\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} S_i\right)\alpha, \beta \rangle &= \mu_{\alpha,\beta}\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} S_i\right) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu_{\alpha,\beta}(S_i) \\
&= \langle \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} E(S_i)\alpha, \beta \rangle
\end{aligned}$$

for each sequence $(S_i)_i \subseteq \mathcal{B}_{\sigma(A)}$ of pairwise disjoint sets, so $E\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} S_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} E(S_i)$. We have proved that $E$ is a PVM for $(\sigma(A), \mathcal{B}_{\sigma(A)}, \mathcal{H})$. For any $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{H}$, we get

$$E_{\alpha,\beta}(S) = \langle E(S)\alpha, \beta \rangle = \int \chi_S \, d\mu_{\alpha,\beta} = \mu_{\alpha,\beta}(S),$$

so $E_{\alpha,\beta} = \mu_{\alpha,\beta}$ and therefore $\int f \, dE_{\alpha,\beta} = \langle \Gamma^{-1}\alpha, \beta \rangle$. But this proves that $x = \int_{\sigma(A)} \Gamma(x) \, dE$ for all $x \in A$. Uniqueness: suppose that $E'$ is another such PVM. For $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{H}$ and $f \in C(\sigma(A))$, we have

$$\int_{\sigma(A)} f \, dE_{\alpha,\beta} = \langle \Gamma^{-1}(f)\alpha, \beta \rangle = \int_{\sigma(A)} f \, dE'_{\alpha,\beta},$$

which proves that $E_{\alpha,\beta} = E'_{\alpha,\beta}$ as elements in $C(\sigma(A))^*$. Thus

$$\langle E(S)\alpha, \beta \rangle = E_{\alpha,\beta}(S) = E'_{\alpha,\beta}(S) = \langle E'(S)\alpha, \beta \rangle.$$

Since $\alpha, \beta$ were arbitrary, $E(S) = E'(S)$. But since $S$ was also arbitrary, $E = E'$. $\qquad\square$

**Lemma 6.9** (Goldstine's theorem). *Let $X$ be a Banach space. Then the image of*

$$\iota : X \to X^{**}, \quad x \mapsto (f \mapsto f(x))$$

*is dense in weak-\* topology.*

*Proof.* Let $\beta \in X^{**}$ and $f_1, \ldots, f_r \in X^*$ (WLOG linearly independent). Then

$$U = \{\alpha \in X^{**} \mid |(\alpha - \beta)(f_j)| < \varepsilon, \; j = 1, \ldots, r\}.$$

is a basic open set in weak-\* topology in $X^{**}$. WLOG assume $X$ is infinitely-dimensional. Consider the linear map

$$\Phi : X \to \mathbb{C}^r, \quad x \mapsto (f_1(x), \ldots, f_r(x)).$$

This map is surjective. In particular, there exists $x_0 \in X$ such that

$$\Phi(x_j) = (f_1(x_0), \ldots, f_r(x_0)) = (\rho_0(f_1), \ldots, \rho_0(f_r)),$$

hence $\iota(x_0) \in U \cap \iota(X)$. $\qquad\square$

## 6.2 Borel functional calculus

Let $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be normal ($x^*x = xx^*$) and $A = C^*(x) \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Then $\sigma(A) \cong \sigma(x)$. By the spectral theorem, there exists a PVM $E$ for $(\sigma(x), \mathcal{B}_{\sigma(x)}, \mathcal{H})$ and

$$B(\sigma(x)) \to \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}), \quad f \mapsto \int_{\sigma(x)} f \, dE$$

is a \*-homomorphism and a contraction (proposition above). Furthermore, $f \in C(\sigma(x))$ maps into $\int_{\sigma(x)} f \, dE = \Gamma^{-1}(f)$, so the above map, when restricted to $C(\sigma(x))$, coincides with $\Gamma^{-1}$. Furthermore, If $f = \mathrm{id} \in B(\sigma(x))$, meaning $f(z) = z$ for $z \in \sigma(x)$, then

$$\int_{\sigma(x)} \mathrm{id} \, dE = \Gamma^{-1}(\mathrm{id}) = x.$$

For $f \in B(\sigma(x))$, define

$$f(x) := \int_{\sigma(x)} f \, dE \in A'' = W^*(x),$$

which is a vNa generated by $x$.

**Definition 6.10.** Let $x \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be normal. The mapping
$$B(\sigma(x)) \to W^*(x), \quad f \mapsto f(x)$$
is the Borel functional calculus.

**Theorem 6.11 (**Spectral mapping theorem**).**

*Let $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a vNa and let $x \in A$ be normal. Then the Borel functional calculus has the following properties:*

1. *The map*
$$B(\sigma(x)) \to A, \quad f \mapsto f(x)$$
   *is a bounded \*-homomorphism.*

2. *If $f \in C(\sigma(x))$, then this $f(x)$ is the same $f(x)$ as in continuous functional calculus.*

3. *For $f \in B(\sigma(x))$, we have $\sigma(f(x)) \subseteq f(\sigma(x))$.*

*Proof.*  1. This is the above proposition.
2. Obvious.
3. For $\lambda \notin f(\sigma(x))$, then $f - \lambda \in \mathcal{B}(\sigma(x))$ is invertible in $\mathcal{B}(\sigma(x))$, so there exists $g \in \mathcal{B}(\sigma^{-1})$ such that $(f - \lambda)g = \mathrm{id}$. By Borel functional calculus, $(f(x) - \lambda I) \cdot g(x) = I$, so $\lambda \notin \sigma(f(x))$. $\square$

**Corollary 6.12.** *Every vNa is the norm-closure of the linear span of the projections.*

*Proof.* Let $M \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a vNa and $x \in M$. By using $\operatorname{Re} x, \operatorname{Im} x \in M_{\mathrm{sa}}$, we may WLOG assume $x \in A_{\mathrm{sa}}$. Hence $x$ is normal and for all $f \in B(\sigma(x))$ we have $f(x) \in M$. For $S \in \mathcal{B}_{\sigma(x)}$, $\chi_S(x) \in M$ is a projection. Now we can uniformly approximate id on $\sigma(x)$ by using simple functions. By BFC, $x$ is uniformly approximated by linear combinations of projections. $\square$

*Remark.* There exist $C^*$-algebras without nontrivial projections. For example, for a compact Hausdorff connected $X$, the algebra $C(X)$ only has trivial projections 0 and 1. There exist noncommutative examples, too.

## 6.3   Commutative von Neumann algebras

**Definition 6.13.** Let $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a subalgebra. Vector $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}$ is:
1. cyclic if $A$ if $A\alpha$ is dense in $\mathcal{H}$.
2. separating for $A$ if $x\alpha = 0$ for $x \in A$ implies $x = 0$.

**Proposition 6.14.** *Let $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a subalgebra.*

1. *If $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}$ is cyclic for $A$, then it is separating for $A'$.*

2. *Assume $A$ is a \*-subalgebra. Then if $\alpha$ is separating for $A'$, it is cyclic for $A$.*

3. *Suppose $W \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is a vNa. Then $\alpha$ is cyclic for $M$ iff it is separating for $M'$ and separating for $M$ iff it is cyclic for $M'$.*

*Proof.*    1. Let $\alpha$ be cyclic for $A$. Let $y \in A'$ satisfy $y\alpha = 0$. Pick any $\beta \in \mathcal{H}$. there exists a sequence $(x_n)_n \subseteq A$ such that $\|x_n\alpha - \beta\| \to 0$. Hence

$$y\beta = \lim_{n\to\infty} yx_n\alpha = \lim_{n\to\infty} x_n(y\alpha) = 0$$

and $\alpha$ is separating for $A'$.

2. Define $\mathcal{K} := (A\alpha)^{\perp} \leq \mathcal{H}$. Let $p : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{K}$ be the orthogonal projection. For $x_1, x_2 \in A$ and $\beta \in \mathcal{K}$ we have

$$\langle x_1\beta, x_2\alpha \rangle = \langle \beta, x_1^* x_2\alpha \rangle = 0,$$

so $x_1\beta \in \mathcal{K}$ and $\mathcal{K}$ is an invariant subspace for $A$. But since $A$ is *-closed, $\mathcal{K}$ is reducing and by lemma 5.31 $p \in A'$. Of course, $\alpha \in A\alpha$ and $p\alpha = 0$. Now we use the fact that $\alpha$ is separating for $A'$ and therefore $p = 0$. This implies $\mathcal{K} = (0)$.

3. This follows immediately from $M = M''$ and the previous two points.

$\square$

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**Example 6.15.** *Recall $VN(\Gamma) := \lambda(\mathbb{C}[\Gamma])'' \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(\Gamma))$. Similarly, we can use the right regular map*

$$\rho : \Gamma \to \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(\Gamma)), \quad g \mapsto (\rho_g : \delta_k \mapsto \delta_{kg^{-1}})$$

*to define $VN_{\mathrm{right}}(\Gamma) = \rho(\Gamma)'' \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(\Gamma))$. Notice that $\delta_e \in \ell^2(\Gamma)$ is cyclic for $\lambda(\mathbb{C}[\Gamma])$ as well as $\rho(\mathbb{C}[\Gamma])$. This means that it is cyclic for both $VN(\Gamma)$ and $VN_{\mathrm{right}}(\Gamma)$. It's easy to see that $VN(\Gamma)' = VN_{\mathrm{right}}(\Gamma)$, so $\delta_e$ is separating for $VN(\Gamma)$ and $VN_{\mathrm{right}}(\Gamma)$.*

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**Corollary 6.16.** *If $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is commutative, then each cyclic vector for $A$ is also separating for $A$.*

*Proof.* If $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}$ is cyclic for $A$, then it is separating for $A'$, but since $A \subseteq A'$ it is also separating for $A$.

$\square$

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**Theorem 6.17** (Classification of commutative vNa's)**.**

*Let $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a commutative vNa with a cyclic vector $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}$. Suppose $A_0 \subseteq A$ is a $C^*$-algebra that is SOT-dense. Then there exists a finite regular positive Borel measure $\mu$ on $\sigma(A_0)$ and an isomorphism*

$$\widetilde{\Gamma} : A \to L^{\infty}(\sigma(A_0), \mu) \subseteq \mathcal{B}(L^2(\sigma(A_0), \mu))$$

*that extends the Gelfand transform $\Gamma : A_0 \to C(\sigma(A_0))$. Furthermore, $\widetilde{\Gamma}$ is spacial, that is induced by conjugation with a unitary $U : \mathcal{H} \to L^2(\sigma(A_0), \mu)$.*

---

*Proof.* Since $A_0$ is a commutative $C^*$-algebra, the Gelfand transform $\Gamma : A_0 \to C(\sigma(A_0))$ is an isometric *-isomorphism. Define $\varphi_0 : A \to \mathbb{C}$ by $x \mapsto \langle x\alpha_0, \alpha_0 \rangle$. Then $\varphi_0 \Gamma^{-1} : C(\sigma(A_0)) \to \mathbb{C}$ is a bounded linear functional, so by Riesz-Markoff there exists a regular Borel measure $\mu$ on $\sigma(A_0)$ such that

$$\varphi_0 \Gamma^{-1}(f) = \int_{\sigma(A_0)} f \, d\mu.$$

For every positive function $f \in C(\sigma(A_0))$ we have

$$\int_{\sigma(A_0)} f \, d\mu = \int \sqrt{f}^2 \, d\mu = \varphi_0 \Gamma^{-1}(\sqrt{f}^2) = \langle \Gamma^{-1}(\sqrt{f}^2)\alpha_0, \alpha_0 \rangle$$

$$= \langle \Gamma^{-1}(\sqrt{f})^2 \alpha_0, \alpha_0 \rangle = \langle \Gamma^{-1}(\sqrt{f})\alpha_0, \Gamma^{-1}(\sqrt{f})\alpha_0 \rangle$$

$$= \|\Gamma^{-1}(\sqrt{f})\alpha_0\|^2 \geq 0$$

and $\mu$ is a positive measure. Furthermore, $\mu$ is finite, since

$$\mu(\sigma(A_0)) = \varphi(1) = \|\alpha_0\|^2 < \infty.$$

Now we prove that $\operatorname{supp}\mu = \sigma(A_0)$. If $\operatorname{supp}\mu \subsetneq \sigma(A_0)$, then there exists $\emptyset \neq S^{\mathrm{open}} \subseteq \sigma(A_0)$ with $\mu(S) = 0$. Consider a nonnegative $f \in C(\sigma(A_0)) \setminus (0)$ with $f\big|_{S^{\mathrm{c}}} = 0$. Then

$$\|\Gamma^{-1}(\sqrt{f})\alpha_0\|^2 = \int_{\sigma(A_0)} f \, d\mu = \int_S f \, d\mu = 0.$$

We get $\Gamma^{-1}(\sqrt{f})\alpha_0 = 0$, which by cyclicity of $\alpha_0$ implies $\Gamma^{-1}(\sqrt{f}) = 0$, $\sqrt{f} = 0$ and $f = 0$, a contradiction. Define

$$U_0 : A_0 \alpha_0 \to C(\sigma(A_0)) \subseteq L^2(\sigma(A_0), \mu), \quad x\alpha_0 \mapsto \Gamma(x).$$

Since $\alpha_0$ is separating for $A_0$, this $U_0$ is a well-defined linear map. For $x, y \in A_0$, we have

$$\langle U_0(x\alpha_0), U_0(y\alpha_0)\rangle = \langle \Gamma(x), \Gamma(y)\rangle_2$$
$$= \int_{\sigma(A_0)} \overline{\Gamma(y)}\Gamma(x) \, d\mu$$
$$= \int_{\sigma(A_0)} \Gamma(y^*x) \, d\mu$$
$$= \varphi(y^*x) = \langle y^*x\alpha_0, \alpha_0\rangle = \langle x\alpha_0, y\alpha_0\rangle$$

and so $U_0$ is an isometry! Since $\alpha_0$ is cyclic for $A$ and $A_0$ is SOT-dense in $A$, $\alpha_0$ is cyclic for $A_0$. So $A_0\alpha_0$ is dense in $\mathcal{H}$ and the image of $U_0$ is the entire $C(\sigma(A_0))$. By continuity, $U_0$ extends to a surjective isometry

$$U : \mathcal{H} \to L^2(\sigma(A_0), \mu) = \overline{C(\sigma(A_0), \mu)}^{\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_2},$$

where $U$ is unitary. Next, define

$$\widetilde{\Gamma} : A \to \mathcal{B}(L^2(\sigma(A_0), \mu)), \quad x \mapsto UxU^*.$$

We claim that $\widetilde{\Gamma}$ is an isometric *-homomorphism. Since $U$ is unitary, the isometric part is obvious and the homomorphism soon follows. Now we claim that $\widetilde{\Gamma}(A) = M(L^\infty(\sigma(A_0), \mu))$. For $x \in A_0$ and $g \in C(\sigma(A_0))$, we have

$$\widetilde{\Gamma}(x)g = UxU^*g = UxU^{-1}(\Gamma(\Gamma^{-1}(g)))$$
$$= Ux(\Gamma^{-1}(g)\alpha_0) = \Gamma(x\Gamma^{-1}(g))$$
$$= \Gamma(x)g = M_{\Gamma(x)}g$$

and since $C(\sigma(A_0))$ is dense in $L^2(\sigma(A_0), \mu)$, we get $\widetilde{\Gamma}(x) = M_{\Gamma(x)}$. It follows that

$$\widetilde{\Gamma}(A_0) = M(C(\sigma(A_0))) \subseteq M(L^\infty(\sigma(A_0), \mu)).$$

Then we use the fact that $\widetilde{\Gamma}$ is SOT-continuous (by definition) and $M(L^\infty)$ is a vNa (example 5.14) to get

$$\widetilde{\Gamma}(A) = \widetilde{\Gamma}(\overline{A_0}^{\mathrm{SOT}}) \subseteq \overline{\widetilde{\Gamma}(A_0)}^{\mathrm{SOT}} \subseteq \overline{M(L^\infty(\sigma(A_0), \mu))}^{\mathrm{SOT}} = M(L^\infty(\sigma(A_0), \mu)).$$

The reverse inclusion is done by nets. Suppose $(\widetilde{\Gamma}(x_i))_i \subseteq \widetilde{\Gamma}(A_0)$ WOT-converges to $T \in B(L^2(\sigma(A_0), \mu))$. Then for all $\beta\mu \in \mathcal{H}$ we have

$$\langle TU\beta, U\mu\rangle = \lim_i \langle \widetilde{\Gamma}(x_i)U\beta, U\mu\rangle$$
$$= \lim_i \langle Ux_iU^*U\beta, U\mu\rangle$$
$$= \lim_i \langle x_i\beta, \mu\rangle$$

and $(x_i)_i \xrightarrow{\text{WOT}} U^*TU \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Since $\overline{A_0}^{\text{WOT}} = A$, we get $x = U^*TU \in A$ and $\widetilde{\Gamma}(x) = T$, so $\overline{\widetilde{\Gamma}(A_0)}^{\text{WOT}} \subseteq \widetilde{\Gamma}(A)$. Finally, we ask what is $\overline{M(C(\sigma(A_0)))}^{\text{WOT}}$? WOT on that set is generated by seminorms

$$|\langle M_g \alpha, \beta \rangle| = \left| \int_{\sigma(A_0)} g\alpha\beta \, d\mu \right|,$$

where $g \in C(\sigma(A_0))$ and $\alpha, \beta \in L^2(\sigma(A_0), \mu)$. Accordingly, weak-* topology on $L^\infty(\sigma(A_0), \mu)$ is generated by seminorms

$$\left| \int_{\sigma(A_0)} g\gamma \, d\mu \right|,$$

where $\mu \in L^1(\sigma(A_0), \mu)$ (this is because for a $\sigma$-finite $X$, $(L^1(X))^* = L^\infty(X)$). By Hölder, $L^1$ function is a product of two $L^2$ functions, so these two topologies coincide. By Goldstine's theorem, $C(\sigma(A_0))$ are weak-* dense in $L^\infty(\sigma(A_0), \mu)$. Then we have

$$M(L^\infty(\sigma(A_0), \mu)) = \overline{M(C(\sigma(A_0)))}^{\text{WOT}} = \overline{\widetilde{\Gamma}(A_0)}^{\text{WOT}} \subseteq \widetilde{\Gamma}(A)$$

and finally $\widetilde{\Gamma}(A) = M(L^\infty(\sigma(A_0), \mu))$. $\qquad\square$

*Remark.* Applying this theorem to $A_0 = A$ we get

$$M(L^\infty(\sigma(A), \mu)) = \widetilde{\Gamma}(A) = M(C(\sigma(A))).$$

The following statement from the above proof is important in its own right.

**Lemma 6.18.** *$C(\sigma(A_0))$ are weak-* dense in $L^\infty(\sigma(A_0), \mu)$.*

*Proof.* For any bounded measurable function $f \in B(\sigma(A_0))$, there exists a net $(f_i)_i \subseteq C(\sigma(A_0))$ such that $f_i \xrightarrow{\text{weak}-*} f$ by Goldstine (see the proof for theorem 6.8). $\qquad\square$

In the proof, we used the following theorem.

**Theorem 6.19.**

*Suppose $1 \le p < \infty$ and $\mu$ is a $\sigma$-finite positive measure on $X$, and $\Phi$ is a bounded linear functional on $L^p(X, \mu)$. Then there is a unique $g \in L^q(X, \mu)$, where $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$, such that*

$$\Phi(f) = \int_X fg \, d\mu.$$

*Moreover, $\|\Phi\| = \|g\|_q$.*

The theorem tells us that under these conditions, $L^q(X, \mu)$ is isometrically isomorphic to the dual space of $L^q(X, \mu)$. In particular, we used the fact that $(L^1(X, \mu))^* = L^\infty(X, \mu)$. This is theorem 6.16 in W.Rudin's *Real and complex analysis*.

How crucial is the cyclicity assumption? Let $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a commutative vNa. Pick $0 \ne \alpha \in \mathcal{H}$. Define $\mathcal{K} := \overline{A\alpha}$ and let $p : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{K}$ be an orthogonal projection, so by reducibility of $\mathcal{K}$ we get $p \in A'$. Therefore $pAp = Ap \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is a commutative vNa with a cyclic vector $\alpha \in \mathcal{K}$. Then, again by theorem, $Ap \cong L^\infty(X, \mu)$ for some $(X, \mu)$. By Zorn's lemma, $A \cong L^\infty(Y, \nu)$ for some disjoint union of measure spaces $(Y, \nu)$.

**Proposition 6.20.** *Let $\mathcal{H}$ be a separable Hilbert space and $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ a commutative vNa. Then there exists a separating vector for $A$.*

*Proof.* By Zorn, there exists a maximal set of unit vectors $(\alpha_k)_k$ such that $A\alpha_k \perp A\alpha_l$ for $k \neq l$. By maximality, $\sum_k A\alpha_k$ is dense in $\mathcal{H}$. Define $\alpha = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n}\alpha_n$. We claim that $\alpha$ is separating for $A$. Indeed, let $x \in A$ such that $x\alpha = 0$. Then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n} x\alpha_n = 0$. By orthogonality, $x\alpha_n = 0$ for all indices $n$. For all $y \in A$, we get $xy\alpha_n = yx\alpha_n = 0$, so $x\big|_{A\alpha_n} = 0$ for all $n$. But since $\sum_n A\alpha_n$ is dense in $A$, we get $x = 0$. $\square$

**Corollary 6.21.** *Let $\mathcal{H}$ be a separable Hilbert space and $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is a maximal commutative vNa. Then there exists a cyclic vector for $A$.*

*Proof.* By the proposition, there exists a separating vector $\alpha$ for $A$, which is then cyclic for $A'$. But since $A$ is maximal, we get $A = A'$. $\square$

**Theorem 6.22.**

*Let $\mathcal{H}$ be a separable Hilbert space and $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ a commutative vNa. Then there exists a compact Hausdorff space $X$ and a finite regular Borel measure $\mu$ on $X$ such that $A \cong L^{\infty}(X, \mu)$.*

*Proof.* By proposition, there exists a separating vector $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}$ for $A$. Form $\mathcal{K} := \overline{A\alpha}$. Then the algebra $\{x\big|_{\mathcal{K}} \mid x \in A\} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{K})$ is *-isomorphic to $A$, has cyclic vector $\alpha$ and the above theorem applies. $\square$

**Example 6.23.** *Let $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$. Then the spectrum is $\sigma(VN(\Gamma)) = \{e^{\frac{2k\pi i}{n}} \mid 0 \leq k < n\}$ and $\mu(e^{\frac{2k\pi i}{n}}) = \frac{1}{n}$. Then*
$$VN(\Gamma) = L^{\infty}(\sigma(VN(\Gamma)), \mu) \cong \mathbb{C}^n$$
*as an algebra. The generator for $VN(\Gamma)$ is the matrix*

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & 1 \\ 1 & & & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Example 6.24.** *Let $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}$. Then $\mathbb{T}$ is the Pontryagin dual of $\Gamma$, so $C^*(\Gamma) = C(\mathbb{T})$ and $VN(\Gamma) = L^{\infty}(\mathbb{T}, m)$, where $m$ is the normalized Lebesgue measure.*