

Operator Algebras in Lean

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0.1 Introduction

0.2 Continuous functional calculus

Definition 1 (Continuous functional calculus). A \ast - R -algebra is said to have a continuous functional calculus for elements satisfying a predicate p if, for each a satisfying p , there is a \ast -homomorphism $\phi_a : C([R]a, R) \rightarrow A$ sending the identity function to a , and which is a closed embedding. Moreover, $[R]a$ is compact and nonempty, and ϕ_a satisfies the spectral mapping property (i.e., $[R]\phi_a(f) = f([R]a)$).

Definition 2 (Non-unital continuous functional calculus). A non-unital \ast - R -algebra is said to have a non-unital continuous functional calculus for elements satisfying a predicate p if, for each a satisfying p , there is a non-unital \ast -homomorphism $\phi_a : C([R]a, R)_0 \rightarrow A$ (here $C([R]a, R)_0$ is the collection of functions vanishing at zero on the quasispectrum) sending the identity function to a , and which is a closed embedding. Moreover, $[R]a$ is compact (it's always nonempty because it contains 0), and ϕ_a satisfies the spectral mapping property (i.e., $[R]\phi_a(f) = f([R]a)$).

Definition 3. Given $a \in A$ satisfying p and $f : R \rightarrow R$ continuous on $[R]a$, we define $f(a) := \phi_a'(f)$ (and we give it a junk value of zero when either a does not satisfy p or f is not continuous on the spectrum).

Definition 4. Given $a \in A$ satisfying p and $f : R \rightarrow R$ continuous on $[R]a$ and $f(0) = 0$, we define $f(a) := \phi_a'(f)$ (and we give it a junk value of zero when and of the conditions on a and f are not met).

Theorem 5. For every normal element a in a unital C^\ast -algebra A there is a \ast -isomorphism between $C(a, \mathbb{C})$ and the C^\ast -subalgebra of A generated by a .

Proof. Use the Gelfand transform. □

Theorem 6. Every unital C^\ast -algebra has a continuous functional calculus for normal elements.

Proof. Compose the \ast -isomorphism of Theorem ??, which is an isometry because its an isomorphism of C^\ast -algebras, with the inclusion of $C_1^\ast(a)$ (the unital C^\ast -subalgebra generated by a) into A . The latter is also an isometry and therefore a closed embedding. □

Theorem 7. Every unital \ast -algebra A with a continuous functional calculus for normal elements over \mathbb{C} has a continuous functional calculus for self-adjoint elements over \mathbb{R} .

Proof. Since self-adjoint elements are normal, the continuous functional calculus for normal elements over \mathbb{C} with its spectral mapping property guarantees that the \mathbb{C} -spectrum of $a \in A$ normal is actually contained in \mathbb{R} , and so coincides with the \mathbb{R} -spectrum of a . Therefore, the map which sends $f \in C([R]a, \mathbb{R})$ to $\hat{f} \in C([C]a, \mathbb{C})$ is a \ast -homomorphism, and composing it with ϕ_a yields the desired \ast -homomorphism for the continuous functional calculus over \mathbb{R} for self-adjoint elements. □

Theorem 8. Every unital \ast -algebra A which is a \ast -ordered ring (i.e., nonnegative elements are those of the form $x^\ast x$) with the property that nonnegative elements have nonnegative spectrum, and with a continuous functional calculus for self-adjoint elements over \mathbb{R} has a continuous functional calculus for self-adjoint elements over $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$.

Proof. Omitted. □

0.3 Products of nonnegative elements are nonnegative