

# POSITIVE HAHN-BANACH SEPARATIONS IN OPERATOR ALGEBRAS

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ABSTRACT.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- definition and properties of  $f_\varepsilon(t) := (1 + \varepsilon t)^{-1}t$
- commutant Radon-Nikodym, relation between  $\{\omega' \in M_*^+ : \omega' \leq \omega\}$  and  $\{h \in \pi(M)^{'+} : h \leq 1\}$ , order preserving linear map
- Mazur lemma

**Definition 1.1** (Hereditary subsets). Let  $E$  be a partially ordered real vector space. We say a subset  $F$  of the positive cone  $E^+$  is *hereditary* if  $0 \leq x \leq y$  in  $E$  and  $y \in F$  imply  $x \in F$ , or equivalently  $F = (F - E^+)^+$ , where  $F - E^+$  is the set of all positive elements of  $E$  bounded above by an element of  $F$ . A  $*$ -subalgebra  $B$  of a  $*$ -algebra  $A$  is called *hereditary* if the positive cone  $B^+$  is a hereditary subset of  $A^+$ . We define the *positive polar* of  $F$  as the positive part of the real polar

$$F^{r+} := \{x^* \in (E^*)^+ : \sup_{x \in F} x^*(x) \leq 1\}.$$

An example that is a non-hereditary closed convex subset of a  $C^*$ -algebra is  $\mathbb{C}1$  in any unital  $C^*$ -algebra.

**Definition 1.2** (Lower dominated sequences). Let  $E$  be a partially ordered real vector space. A sequence  $x_n \in E$  is called *lower dominated* if there is  $x \in E$  such that  $x \leq x_n$  for all  $n$ . If  $E$  is the self-adjoint part of the predual of a von Neumann algebra where the Jordan decomposition holds, then we can change the definition such that  $x \in -E^+$ .

## 2. POSITIVE HAHN-BANACH SEPARATION THEOREMS

Now we start with the positive Hahn-Banach separation for von Neumann algebras, and will close this section with the same theorem for  $C^*$ -algebras.

**Theorem 2.1** (Positive Hahn-Banach separation for von Neumann algebras). *Let  $M$  be a von Neumann algebra.*

- (1) *If  $F$  is a  $\sigma$ -weakly closed convex hereditary subset of  $M^+$ , then  $F = F^{r+r+}$ . In particular, if  $x \in M^+ \setminus F$ , then there is  $\omega \in M_*^+$  such that  $\omega(x) > 1$  and  $\omega \leq 1$  on  $F$ .*
- (2) *If  $F_*$  is a norm closed convex hereditary subset of  $M_*^+$ , then  $F_* = F_*^{r+r+}$ . In particular, if  $\omega \in M_*^+ \setminus F_*$ , then there is  $x \in M^+$  such that  $\omega(x) > 1$  and  $x \leq 1$  on  $F_*$ .*

*Proof.* (1) Since the positive polar is represented as the real polar

$$F^{r+} = F^r \cap M_*^+ = F^r \cap (-M^+)^r = (F \cup -M^+)^r = (F - M^+)^r,$$

the positive bipolar can be written as  $F^{r+r+} = (F - M^+)^{r+r+} = (\overline{F - M^+})^+$  by the usual real bipolar theorem, where the closure is for the  $\sigma$ -weak topology. Because  $F = (F - M^+)^+ \subset (\overline{F - M^+})^+$ , it suffices to prove the opposite inclusion  $(\overline{F - M^+})^+ \subset F$ .

Let  $x \in (\overline{F - M^+})^+$ . Take a net  $x_i \in F - M^+$  such that  $x_i \rightarrow x$   $\sigma$ -strongly, and take a net  $y_i \in F$  such that  $x_i \leq y_i$  for each  $i$ . Suppose we may assume that the net  $x_i$  is bounded. For sufficiently small  $\varepsilon$  so that the bounded net  $x_i$  has the spectra in  $[-(2\varepsilon)^{-1}, \infty)$ , we have  $f_\varepsilon(x_i) \rightarrow f_\varepsilon(x)$   $\sigma$ -strongly, and hence  $\sigma$ -weakly. On the other hand, by the hereditariness and the  $\sigma$ -weak compactness of  $F$ , we may assume that the bounded net  $f_\varepsilon(y_i) \in F$  converges  $\sigma$ -weakly to a point of  $F$  by taking a subnet. Then, we have  $f_\varepsilon(x) \in F - M^+$  by

$$0 \leq f_\varepsilon(x) = \lim_i f_\varepsilon(x_i) \leq \lim_i f_\varepsilon(y_i) \in F,$$

thus we have  $x \in F$  since  $f_\varepsilon(x) \uparrow x$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ . What remains is to prove the existence of a bounded net  $x_i \in F - M^+$  such that  $x_i \rightarrow x$   $\sigma$ -strongly.

Define a convex set

$$G := \left\{ x \in \overline{F - M^+} : \begin{array}{l} \text{there is a sequence } x_m \in F - M^+ \\ \text{such that } -2x \leq x_m \uparrow x \text{ } \sigma\text{-weakly} \end{array} \right\} \subset M^{sa},$$

where  $x_m$  denotes a sequence. In fact, it has no critical issue on allowing  $x_m$  to be uncountably indexed. Since we clearly have  $F - M^+ \subset G$  and every non-decreasing net with supremum is bounded and  $\sigma$ -strongly convergent, it suffices to show that  $G$ , or equivalently its intersection with the closed unit ball by the Krein-Smĭlian theorem, is  $\sigma$ -strongly closed. Let  $x_i \in G$  be a net such that  $\sup_i \|x_i\| \leq 1$  and  $x_i \rightarrow x$   $\sigma$ -strongly. For each  $i$ , take a sequence  $x_{im} \in F - M^+$  such that  $-2x_i \leq x_{im} \uparrow x_i$   $\sigma$ -strongly as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , and also take  $y_{im} \in F$  such that  $x_{im} \leq y_{im}$ . Since  $\|x_{im}\| \leq 2\|x_i\| \leq 2$  is bounded, it implies that there is a bounded net  $x_j$  in  $F - M^+$  such that  $x_j \rightarrow x$   $\sigma$ -strongly, and we can choose arbitrarily small  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that  $\sigma(x_j) \subset [-(2\varepsilon)^{-1}, \infty)$  for all  $j$ . Since  $f_\varepsilon(x_j)$  converges to  $f_\varepsilon(x)$   $\sigma$ -strongly and  $f_\varepsilon(y_j)$  is a bounded net for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  so that we may assume that the net  $f_\varepsilon(y_j)$  is  $\sigma$ -weakly convergent by taking a subnet, we have  $f_\varepsilon(x) \in F - M^+$  by

$$f_\varepsilon(x) = \lim_j f_\varepsilon(x_j) \leq \lim_j f_\varepsilon(y_j) \in F,$$

where the limits are in the  $\sigma$ -weak sense. By taking  $\varepsilon$  as any decreasingly convergent sequence to zero, we have  $x \in G$ , hence the closedness of  $G$ .

(2) It is enough to prove  $(\overline{F_* - M_*^+})^+ \subset F_*$ , where the closure is for the weak topology or equivalently in norm by the convexity of  $F_* - M_*^+$ , so we begin our proof by fixing  $\omega \in (\overline{F_* - M_*^+})^+$ . For a sequence  $\omega_n \in F_* - M_*^+$  such that  $\omega_n \rightarrow \omega$  in norm of  $M_*$ , we can take  $\varphi_n \in F_*$  such that  $\omega_n \leq \varphi_n$  for all  $n$ . By modifying  $\omega_n$  into  $\omega_n - (\omega_n - \omega)_+ \in F_* - M_*^+$  and taking a rapidly convergent subsequence, we may assume  $\omega_n \leq \omega$  and  $\|\omega - \omega_n\| \leq 2^{-n}$  for all  $n$ . If we consider the Gelfand-Naimark-Segal representation  $\pi : M \rightarrow B(H)$  associated to a positive normal linear functional

$$\tilde{\omega} := \sum_n (\omega - \omega_n) + \omega + \sum_n 2^{-n} \left( \frac{[\omega_n]}{1 + \|\omega_n\|} + \frac{\varphi_n}{1 + \|\varphi_n\|} \right)$$

on  $M$  with the canonical cyclic vector  $\Omega$ , we can construct commutant Radon-Nikodym derivatives  $h, h_n, k_n \in \pi(M)'$  of  $\omega, \omega_n, \varphi_n$  with respect to  $\tilde{\omega}$  respectively. Since  $-1 \leq h_n \leq h$  is bounded,  $h_n \rightarrow h$  in the weak operator topology of  $\pi(M)'$ . By the Mazur

lemma, we can take a net  $h_i$  by convex combinations of  $h_n$  such that  $h_i \rightarrow h$  strongly in  $\pi(M)'$ , and the corresponding linear functionals  $\omega_i$  and  $\varphi_i$  satisfy  $\omega_i \leq \varphi_i$  with  $\varphi_i \in F_*$  by the convexity of  $F_*$  so that  $\omega_i \in F_* - M_*^+$ . The net  $h_i$  can be taken to be a sequence in fact because  $\pi(M)'$  is  $\sigma$ -finite by the existence of the separating vector  $\Omega$ , but it is not necessary in here. For each  $i$  and  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ , define

$$h_\varepsilon := f_\varepsilon(h), \quad h_{i,\varepsilon} := f_\varepsilon(h_i), \quad k_{i,\varepsilon} := f_\varepsilon(k_i)$$

in  $\pi(M)'$ , where the functional calculi are well-defined because  $-1 \leq h_i$  and  $0 \leq h, k_i$  for all  $i$ , and define  $k_\varepsilon$  as the  $\sigma$ -weak limit of the bounded net  $k_{i,\varepsilon}$ , which may be assumed to be  $\sigma$ -weakly convergent. Define  $\omega_\varepsilon, \omega_{i,\varepsilon}, \varphi_{i,\varepsilon}, \varphi_\varepsilon$  as the corresponding normal linear functionals on  $M$  to  $h_\varepsilon, h_{i,\varepsilon}, k_{i,\varepsilon}, k_\varepsilon$ . Note that  $\varphi_i \in F_*$ . The hereditariness of  $F_*$  and  $0 \leq \varphi_{i,\varepsilon} \leq \varphi_i$  imply  $\varphi_{i,\varepsilon} \in F_*$ , and the weak closedness of  $F_*$  and the weak convergence  $\varphi_{i,\varepsilon} \rightarrow \varphi_\varepsilon$  in  $M_*$  imply  $\varphi_\varepsilon \in F_*$ . From  $\omega_i \leq \varphi_i$ , we can deduce  $0 \leq \omega_\varepsilon \leq \varphi_\varepsilon$  by considering the operator monotonicity  $f_\varepsilon$  and taking the weak limit on  $i$ . Thus again, the hereditariness of  $F_*$  implies  $\omega_\varepsilon \in F_*$ , and the weak closedness of  $F_*$  and the weak convergence  $\omega_\varepsilon \rightarrow \omega$  in  $M_*$  imply  $\omega \in F_*$ .  $\square$

Now we prepare some lemmas for the positive Hahn-Banach separation theorem for  $C^*$ -algebras.

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra, and let  $F^*$  be a weakly\* closed convex hereditary subset of  $A^{*+}$ . If  $\omega \in A^{*sa}$  is approximated weakly\* by a lower dominated sequence of  $F^* - A^{*+}$ , then it is approximated in norm by a sequence of  $F^* - A^{*+}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\omega_n \in F^* - A^{*+}$ ,  $\varphi_n \in F^*$ ,  $\tilde{\omega}_0 \in A^{*+}$  be such that  $\omega_n \rightarrow \omega$  weakly\* in  $A^*$  and  $-\tilde{\omega}_0 \leq \omega_n \leq \varphi_n$  for all  $n$ . Consider the Gelfand-Naimark-Segal representation  $\pi : A \rightarrow B(H)$  of

$$\tilde{\omega} := \tilde{\omega}_0 + [\omega] + \sum_n 2^{-n} \left( \frac{[\omega_n]}{1 + \|\omega_n\|} + \frac{\varphi_n}{1 + \|\varphi_n\|} \right)$$

with the canonical cyclic vector  $\Omega \in H$ . Define the commutant Radon-Nikodym derivatives  $h, h_n, k_n \in \pi(A)'$  of  $\omega, \omega_n, \varphi_n$  with respect to  $\tilde{\omega}$ .

Consider the range  $0 < \varepsilon \leq \frac{1}{2}$  for  $\varepsilon$ . Since  $-1 \leq h_n, h$  and  $0 \leq k_n$ , the functional calculus  $h_{n,\varepsilon} := f_\varepsilon(h_n)$  and  $k_{n,\varepsilon} := f_\varepsilon(k_n)$  are well-defined in  $\pi(A)'$ . The bounded sequences  $h_{n,\varepsilon}$  and  $k_{n,\varepsilon}$  have weakly convergent subnets in  $\pi(A)'$ , and denote their limits by  $h_\varepsilon$  and  $k_\varepsilon$  respectively. Be cautious that  $h'_\varepsilon := f_\varepsilon(h)$  may not be equal to  $h_\varepsilon$ . By the operator concavity of the function  $f_\varepsilon$  and the  $\sigma$ -finiteness of  $\pi(A)'$ , the Mazur lemma retakes sequences  $\omega_n \in F^* - A^{*+}$  and  $\varphi_n \in F^*$  such that  $\omega_n \leq \varphi_n$  for all  $n$  and  $h_{n,\varepsilon} \rightarrow h_\varepsilon$  and  $k_{n,\varepsilon} \rightarrow k_\varepsilon$  strongly. We may assume

$$\|(h_{n,\varepsilon} - h_\varepsilon)\Omega\| < n^{-1}, \quad \|(h_{n,\varepsilon} - h_\varepsilon)h\Omega\| < n^{-1}$$

for all  $n$  uniformly on  $\varepsilon$ , which will be used later. Note also that we have the identity

$$(1 + \varepsilon h)(h'_\varepsilon - h_{n,\varepsilon})(1 + \varepsilon h) = (h - h_n) + \varepsilon(h - h_n)(1 + \varepsilon h_n)^{-1}(h - h_n).$$

Denote by  $\omega_{n,\varepsilon}, \omega_\varepsilon, \omega'_\varepsilon, \varphi_{n,\varepsilon}, \varphi_\varepsilon$  the linear functionals in  $A^{*sa}$  corresponded to operators in the commutant  $h_{n,\varepsilon}, h_\varepsilon, h'_\varepsilon, k_{n,\varepsilon}, k_\varepsilon \in \pi(A)'$ . It follows clearly that  $\omega_{n,\varepsilon} \rightarrow \omega_\varepsilon$  and  $\varphi_{n,\varepsilon} \rightarrow \varphi_\varepsilon$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $\omega'_\varepsilon \uparrow \omega$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , weakly in  $A^*$ . If we prove  $\omega'_\varepsilon - \omega_\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  weakly in  $A^*$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , then since  $\omega_{n,\varepsilon} \leq \varphi_{n,\varepsilon} \in F^*$  implies  $\omega_\varepsilon \leq \varphi_\varepsilon \in F^*$ , we obtain the weak convergence  $\omega_\varepsilon \rightarrow \omega$  in  $A$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  with  $\omega_\varepsilon \in F^* - A^{*+}$ . A desired sequence

by applying the Mazur lemma on  $\omega_\varepsilon$  after taking  $\varepsilon$  to be a decreasing sequence that converges to zero.

Thus, what remains is to prove  $\omega'_\varepsilon - \omega_\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  weakly in  $A^*$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ . Fix  $x \in A^{**}$  with  $\|x\| \leq 1$ . The one-parameter family  $(h'_\varepsilon - h_\varepsilon)\pi(x)\Omega$  of vectors is uniformly bounded on  $0 < \varepsilon \leq \frac{1}{2}$  by the uniform boundedness principle because for each  $\eta \in H$ , fixing any  $n$ , say  $n = 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & | \langle (h'_\varepsilon - h_\varepsilon)\pi(x)\Omega, \eta \rangle | \\ & \leq | \langle (h'_\varepsilon - h_{1,\varepsilon})\pi(x)\Omega, \eta \rangle | + | \langle (h_{1,\varepsilon} - h_\varepsilon)\pi(x)\Omega, \eta \rangle | \\ & \leq | \langle (1 + \varepsilon h)^{-1}(h - h_1)(1 + \varepsilon h)^{-1}\pi(x)\Omega, \eta \rangle | \\ & \quad + \varepsilon | \langle (1 + \varepsilon h)^{-1}(h - h_1)(1 + \varepsilon h_1)^{-1}(h - h_1)(1 + \varepsilon h)^{-1}\pi(x)\Omega, \eta \rangle | \\ & \quad + \| (h_{1,\varepsilon} - h_\varepsilon)\Omega \| \| \pi(x^*)\eta \| \\ & \leq 4\|h - h_1\| \| \Omega \| \| \eta \| + 4\|h - h_1\|^2 \| \Omega \| \| \eta \| + \| \eta \|, \end{aligned}$$

which is uniformly bounded on  $\varepsilon$ . We further have  $(h'_\varepsilon - h_\varepsilon)\pi(x)\Omega \rightarrow 0$  weakly in  $H$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , which can be shown as follows. By the boundedness of  $(h'_\varepsilon - h_\varepsilon)\pi(x)\Omega$ , it is enough to choose  $\pi(b)\Omega$  with  $b \in A$  satisfying  $\|b\| \leq 1$  for the test vector. As  $\| (h'_\varepsilon - h_\varepsilon)\pi(b)\Omega \|$  is uniformly bounded on  $\varepsilon$  because  $b \in A^{**}$ , we can also prove  $\| (h'_\varepsilon - h_\varepsilon)h\pi(b)\Omega \|$  is uniformly bounded in the same manner but using  $\| (h_{1,\varepsilon} - h_\varepsilon)h\Omega \| < 1$  instead of  $\| (h_{1,\varepsilon} - h_\varepsilon)\Omega \| < 1$ . Choose their common bound  $C > 0$ . For an arbitrarily fixed  $\delta > 0$ , take  $a \in A$  such that  $\| (\pi(x) - \pi(a))\Omega \| < \delta C^{-1}$  and  $\|a\| \leq 1$  by the Kaplansky density, and fix  $n$  such that  $|(\omega - \omega_n)(b^*a)| < \delta$  and  $n > \frac{9}{4}\|\Omega\|\delta^{-1}$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} & | \langle (h'_\varepsilon - h_\varepsilon)\pi(x)\Omega, \pi(b)\Omega \rangle | \\ & < | \langle (h'_\varepsilon - h_\varepsilon)\pi(a)\Omega, \pi(b)\Omega \rangle | + \delta \\ & < | \langle (h'_\varepsilon - h_\varepsilon)(1 + \varepsilon h)\pi(a)\Omega, (1 + \varepsilon h)\pi(b)\Omega \rangle | + O(\varepsilon) + \delta \\ & < | \langle (h'_\varepsilon - h_{n,\varepsilon})(1 + \varepsilon h)\pi(a)\Omega, (1 + \varepsilon h)\pi(b)\Omega \rangle | + \delta + O(\varepsilon) + \delta \\ & \leq |(\omega - \omega_n)(b^*a)| + \varepsilon | \langle (1 + \varepsilon h_n)^{-1}(h - h_n)\pi(a_\varepsilon)\Omega, (h - h_n)\pi(b)\Omega \rangle | + \delta + O(\varepsilon) + \delta \\ & < \delta + \varepsilon(1 - \varepsilon)^{-1} \| (h - h_n) \|^2 \| \Omega \|^2 + \delta + O(\varepsilon) + \delta, \end{aligned}$$

where  $O(\varepsilon)$  can be computed as  $C(2\varepsilon + \varepsilon^2)\|\Omega\|$ , so we have

$$\limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} | \langle (h'_\varepsilon - h_\varepsilon)\pi(x)\Omega, (1 + \varepsilon h)\pi(b)\Omega \rangle | \leq 3\delta.$$

Since  $\delta > 0$  was taken arbitrarily, we finally have  $(h'_\varepsilon - h_\varepsilon)\pi(x)\Omega \rightarrow 0$  weakly in  $H$ , which implies  $\omega'_\varepsilon - \omega_\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  weakly in  $A^*$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ .  $\square$

The following lemma is a modification of the Krein-Šmulian theorem, and it can be proved in a similar way to the proof of the original theorem.

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra, and  $C_n^*$  be a non-decreasing sequence of weakly\*-closed convex subsets of  $A^{sa}$ , whose union  $C_\infty^*$  contains  $A^{*+}$ . If a norm closed convex subset  $G^*$  of  $A^{sa}$  has the property that  $G^* \cap C_n^*$  is weakly\* closed for each  $n$ , then  $G^* \cap C_\infty^*$  is relatively weakly\* closed in  $C_\infty^*$ .*

*Proof.* Fix an element  $\omega_0$  of  $C_\infty^* \setminus G^*$ . It is enough to construct an element  $a$  of  $A^{sa}$  separating a norm open ball centered at  $\omega_0$  from  $G^*$ . Since  $G^*$  is norm closed, there exists  $r > 0$  such that  $G^* \cap B(\omega_0, r) = \emptyset$ . By replacing  $G^*$  to  $r^{-1}(G^* - \omega_0)$  and  $C_n^*$  to

$r^{-1}(C_n^* - \omega_0)$ , we may assume  $G^* \cap B(0, 1) = \emptyset$ , and the claim follows if we prove there is  $a \in A^{sa}$  separating  $B(0, 1)$  and  $G^*$ . The condition  $A^{*+} \subset C_\infty^*$  becomes  $A^{*+} - \omega_0 \subset C_\infty^*$ . Letting the index  $n$  start from one, we may also replace  $C_n^*$  to  $n(C_n^* \cap B(0, 1))$  since its union is still  $C_\infty^*$ . Note that  $C_n^*$  is bounded for each  $n$ , and we can easily see that  $G^* \cap C_1^* = \emptyset$  and  $n^{-1}C_n^* \subset (n+1)^{-1}C_{n+1}^*$ .

Note that for any Banach space  $X$ , if  $F$  is a bounded subset of  $X$ , then by endowing with the discrete topology on  $F$ , we have a natural bounded linear operator  $\ell^1(F) \rightarrow X$  by completeness of  $X$ , with its dual  $X^* \rightarrow \ell^\infty(F)$ . We will construct a bounded subset  $F$  of  $A^{sa}$  such that the subset  $G^* \cap C_\infty^*$  of  $A^{*sa}$  induces a subset of the smaller subspace  $c_0(F)$  of  $\ell^\infty(F)$  via the restriction map  $A^{*sa} \rightarrow \ell^\infty(F)$ , and also such that it satisfies  $G^* \cap C_\infty^* \cap F^\circ = \emptyset$ , where  $F^\circ := \{\omega \in A^{*sa} : \sup_{a \in F} |\omega(a)| \leq 1\}$  denotes the absolute polar of  $F$ . If such a set  $F \subset X$  exists, then the image of  $G^* \cap C_\infty^*$  in  $c_0(F)$  is a convex set disjoint to the closed unit ball of  $c_0(F)$  by the condition  $G^* \cap C_\infty^* \cap F^\circ = \emptyset$ . Therefore, there exists a separating linear functional  $l \in \ell^1(F)$  by the Hahn-Banach separation, and it induces a linear functional separating  $G^*$  and the unit ball of  $A^{*sa}$ . Then, we are done.

Let  $F_0 := \{0\} \subset A^{sa}$ . As an induction hypothesis on  $n$ , suppose for each  $0 \leq k \leq n-1$  we already have a finite subset  $F_k$  of  $(C_k^*)^\circ$  such that

$$G^* \cap C_n^* \cap \left( \bigcup_{k=0}^{n-1} F_k \right)^\circ = \emptyset.$$

If every finite subset  $F_n$  of  $(C_n^*)^\circ$  satisfies

$$G^* \cap C_{n+1}^* \cap \left( \bigcup_{k=0}^{n-1} F_k \right)^\circ \cap F_n^\circ \neq \emptyset,$$

then since they are weakly\* compact, the finite intersection property leads a contradiction because the intersection of all absolute polars  $F_n^\circ$  of finite subsets  $F_n$  of  $(C_n^*)^\circ$  is  $C_n^*$ , which is the polar of all union of finite subsets  $F_n$  of  $(C_n^*)^\circ$  by the bipolar theorem. Thus, we can take a finite subset  $F_n$  of  $(C_n^*)^\circ$  such that

$$G^* \cap C_{n+1}^* \cap \left( \bigcup_{k=0}^n F_k \right)^\circ = \emptyset.$$

Let  $F := \bigcup_{k=0}^\infty F_k$ . Then, we have  $G^* \cap C_\infty^* \cap F^\circ = \emptyset$ , and every element of  $C_\infty^*$  is restricted to  $F$  to define an element of  $c_0(F)$  because for each  $\omega \in C_n^*$  and  $k \geq 0$  we have

$$\omega(F_{n+k}) \subset \omega((C_{n+k}^*)^\circ) \subset \frac{n}{n+k} \omega((C_n^*)^\circ) \subset \left[ -\frac{n}{n+k}, \frac{n}{n+k} \right].$$

Finally, for any  $\omega \in A^{*sa}$ , if we enumerate  $F$  as a sequence  $f_m$ , then

$$|\omega(f_m)| \leq |(\omega_+ - \omega_0)(f_m)| + |(\omega_- - \omega_0)(f_m)| \rightarrow 0,$$

so the uniform boundedness principle concludes that  $F$  is bounded. Therefore, the set  $F$  satisfies the properties we desired.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.4** (Positive Hahn-Banach separation for  $C^*$ -algebras). *Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra.*

- (1) *If  $F$  is a norm closed convex hereditary subset of  $A^+$ , then  $F = F^{r+r+}$ . In particular, if  $a \in A^+ \setminus F$ , then there is  $\omega \in A^{*+}$  such that  $\omega(a) > 1$  and  $\omega \leq 1$  on  $F$ .*

- (2) If  $F^*$  is a weakly\* closed convex hereditary subset of  $A^{*+}$ , then  $F^* = (F^*)^{r+r+}$ . In particular, if  $\omega \in A^{*+} \setminus F^*$ , then there is  $a \in A^+$  such that  $\omega(a) > 1$  and  $a \leq 1$  on  $F^*$ .

*Proof.* (1) We directly prove the separation without invoking the arguments of positive bipolars. Denote by  $F^{**}$  the  $\sigma$ -weak closure of  $F$  in the universal von Neumann algebra  $A^{**}$ . We first show that  $F^{**}$  is hereditary subset of  $A^{**+}$ . Suppose  $0 \leq x \leq y$  in  $A^{**}$  and  $y \in F^{**}$ . Then, there is  $z \in A^{**}$  such that  $x^{\frac{1}{2}} = zy^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . Take bounded nets  $b_i$  in  $F$  and  $c_i$  in  $A$  such that  $b_i \rightarrow y$  and  $c_i \rightarrow z$   $\sigma$ -strongly\* in  $A^{**}$  using the Kaplansky density. We may assume the indices of these two nets are same. Since both the multiplication and the involution of a von Neumann algebra on bounded parts are continuous in the  $\sigma$ -strong\* topology, and since the square root on a positive bounded interval is a strongly continuous function, we have the  $\sigma$ -strong\* limit

$$x = y^{\frac{1}{2}} z^* z y^{\frac{1}{2}} = \lim_i b_i^{\frac{1}{2}} c_i^* c_i b_i^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

so we obtain  $x \in F^{**}$  from  $b_i^{\frac{1}{2}} c_i^* c_i b_i^{\frac{1}{2}} \in F$ . Thus,  $F^{**}$  is hereditary in  $A^{**+}$ .

Let  $a \in A^+ \setminus F$ . Observe that we have  $a \in A^{**+} \setminus F^{**}$  because if  $a \in F^{**}$ , then we have a net  $a_i$  in  $F$  such that  $a_i \rightarrow a$   $\sigma$ -weakly in  $A^{**}$ , meaning that  $a_i \rightarrow a$  weakly in  $A$  and by the weak closedness of  $F$  in  $A$  we get a contradiction  $a \in F^{**} \cap A = F$ . By Theorem 2.1, there is  $\omega \in A^{*+}$  such that  $\omega(a) > 1$  and  $\omega \leq 1$  on  $F \subset F^{**}$ , so it completes the proof.

(2) As same as above, our goal is to prove  $(F^* - A^{*+})^+ \subset F^*$ , so take  $\omega \in (\overline{F^* - A^{*+}})^+$ , where the closure is for the weak\* topology. We first prove it when  $A$  is separable, which makes the weak\* topology on any bounded part of  $A^{*sa}$  metrizable. Consider the following convex set

$$G^* := \left\{ \omega \in \overline{F^* - A^{*+}} : \begin{array}{l} \text{there is a lower dominated sequence } \omega_n \in F^* - A^{*+} \\ \text{such that } \omega_n \rightarrow \omega \text{ weakly* in } A^* \end{array} \right\}.$$

We can easily see that  $F^* - A^{*+} \subset G^*$ , and we claim  $G^*$  is the weak\* closure. If the claim is true, then we have  $G^* = \overline{F^* - A^{*+}}$ , and it follows that  $\omega \in F^*$  by Lemma 2.2 and Theorem 2.1 (2), so we are done. To prove  $G^*$  is weakly\* closed, we can take a sequence  $\omega_n \in G^*$  such that  $\omega_n \rightarrow \omega$  weakly\* in  $A^*$  by the Krein-Šmulian theorem, and we will prove  $\omega \in G^*$ . Because  $\omega$  belongs to the relative weak\* closure of  $G^* \cap C_\infty^*$  in  $C_\infty^*$ , where

$$C_n^* := \{ \omega' \in A^{*sa} : -\sum_{k \leq n} \omega_{k-} - \omega_- \leq \omega' \}, \quad C_\infty^* := \bigcup_n C_n^*,$$

so if we prove that  $G^*$  is norm closed and  $G^* \cap C_n^*$  is weakly\* closed for each  $n$ , then we obtain  $\omega \in G^*$  by Lemma 2.3, and it completes the proof. Since the limit of a norm convergent sequence in  $G^*$  can be approximated by a lower dominated sequence in  $G^*$  as in the proof of Theorem 2.1 (2), and since every sequence in  $C_n^*$  is lower dominated, now it suffices to show  $\omega \in G^*$  when it is the weak\* limit of a lower dominated sequence  $\omega_n \in G^*$ . Take  $\tilde{\omega} \in A^{*+}$  such that  $-\tilde{\omega} \leq \omega_n$  for all  $n$ . Since  $\omega_n$  is weakly\* approximated by a lower dominated sequence in  $F^* - A^{*+}$  by definition of  $G^*$ , applying Lemma 2.2 for each  $n$ , we can find a sequence  $\omega_{nm} \in F^* - A^{*+}$  such that  $\omega_{nm} \rightarrow \omega_n$  in norm of  $A^*$  as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ . After modifying  $\omega_{nm}$  into  $\omega_{nm} - (\omega_{nm} - \omega_n)_+ \in F^* - A^{*+}$  to assume  $\omega_{nm} \leq \omega_n$ , if we take a subsequence to have  $\|\omega_n - \omega_{nm}\| < 2^{-(n+m)}$ , then  $\tilde{\omega}_n := \sum_m (\omega_n - \omega_{nm})$

satisfies  $-\tilde{\omega}_n \leq \omega_{nm} - \omega_n$  for all  $n$  and  $m$ , and  $\|\tilde{\omega}_n\| \leq 2^{-n}$ . Then, for the diagonal sequence  $\omega_{nn} \in F^* - A^{*+}$ , we have  $\omega_{nn} \rightarrow \omega$  weakly\* by

$$|(\omega_{nn} - \omega)(a)| \leq |(\omega_{nn} - \omega_n)(a)| + |(\omega_n - \omega)(a)| \leq 2^{-2n}\|a\| + |(\omega_n - \omega)(a)| \rightarrow 0$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for each  $a \in A$ , and it is lower dominated by  $-\tilde{\omega} - \sum_n \tilde{\omega}_n$ , therefore we get the claim  $\omega \in G^*$ .

Now we consider a general  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$ . For a separable  $C^*$ -subalgebra  $B$  of  $A$ , we define a set

$$F_B^* := \{\omega \in B^{*+} : \text{there is } \varphi \in F^* \text{ such that } \omega \leq \varphi \text{ on } B^+\}.$$

It is clearly a convex hereditary subset of  $B^{*+}$ , and to prove the weak\* closedness via the Krein-Šmulian theorem, take a sequence  $\omega_{B,n} \in F_B^*$  such that  $\omega_{B,n} \rightarrow \omega_B$  weakly\* in  $B^*$ . Let  $\varphi_n \in F^*$  be a sequence such that  $\omega_{B,n}(b) \leq \varphi_n(b)$  on  $b \in B^+$ , and let  $\omega_n \in A^{*+}$  be the extension of  $\omega_{B,n}$  for each  $n$ . Consider the Gelfand-Naimark-Segal representation  $\pi : A \rightarrow B(H)$  associated to the positive linear functional

$$\tilde{\omega} := \sum_n 2^{-n} \left( \frac{\omega_n}{1 + \|\omega_n\|} + \frac{\varphi_n}{1 + \|\varphi_n\|} \right),$$

with the canonical cyclic vector  $\Omega$ . Let  $p \in B(H)$  be the orthogonal projection onto the closed linear subspace  $\overline{\pi(B)\Omega} \subset H$ . Then,  $\omega_n(b) \leq \varphi_n(b)$  on  $b \in B^+$  implies  $ph_n p \leq pk_n p$ , so it follows that  $ph_{n,\varepsilon} p \leq pk_{n,\varepsilon} p$ . Taking weakly convergent subnets of  $h_{n,\varepsilon}$  and  $k_{n,\varepsilon}$ , we may define the limits  $h_\varepsilon$  and  $k_\varepsilon$ , and  $ph_\varepsilon p \leq pk_\varepsilon p$  implies that the corresponding functionals have the relations  $\omega_\varepsilon(b) \leq \varphi_\varepsilon(b)$  for all  $b \in B^+$ . We clearly have  $\varphi_\varepsilon \in F^*$ , so  $\omega_{B,\varepsilon} = \omega_\varepsilon|_B \in F_B^*(?)$ . Since  $\omega_{B,\varepsilon} \uparrow \omega_B$  weakly in  $B^*$ , we only need to prove the convex set  $F_B^*$  is norm closed. Take a sequence  $\omega_{B,n} \in F_B^*$  again, but at this time such that  $\omega_{B,n} \rightarrow \omega_B$  in norm of  $B^*$ , together with  $\varphi_n \in F^*$  such that  $\omega_{B,n}(b) \leq \varphi_n(b)$  on  $b \in B^+$ ....

Let  $\omega \in (\overline{F^* - A^{*+}})^+$ , where the closure is taken in the weak\* topology. Our goal is to show  $\omega \in F^*$ . Take a net  $\omega_i \in F^* - A^{*+}$  and  $\varphi_i \in F^*$  such that  $\omega_i \rightarrow \omega$  weakly\* in  $A^*$  and  $\omega_i \leq \varphi_i$  for each  $i$ . We have  $\varphi_i|_B \in F_B^*$  and  $\omega_i|_B \in F_B^* - B^{*+}$ , with the weak\* convergence  $\omega_i|_B \rightarrow \omega_B$  in  $B^*$ , thus we have  $\omega|_B \in (\overline{F_B^* - B^{*+}})^+ = F_B^*$  because  $B$  is separable. If we consider the non-decreasing net of all separable  $C^*$ -subalgebras  $B_j$  of  $A$ , then the restriction  $\omega|_{B_j}$  of  $\omega$  on  $B_j$  belongs to the set  $F_{B_j}^*$ , so there is a net  $\varphi_j \in F^*$  such that  $\omega(b) \leq \varphi_j(b)$  on  $b \in B_j^+$  for each  $j$ , and by the Hahn-Banach extension, we obtain a net  $\omega_j \in F^* - A^{*+}$  such that  $\omega_j(b) = \omega(b)$  on  $b \in B_j^+$  for all  $j$ .

Let  $A_0^{**}$  be the set of all elements of  $A^{**}$  whose left or right support projection is  $\sigma$ -finite. It is known that  $A_0^{**}$  is an algebraic ideal of  $A^{**}$ . Let  $x \in A_0^{**+}$ .

$$(\omega_j - \omega)(x^2) \rightarrow 0.$$

Thus,  $\omega$  belongs to the  $\sigma(A^*, A_0^{**})$ -closure of  $F^* - A^{*+}$ .

Suppose  $\omega$  does not belong to the weak closure of  $F^* - A^{*+}$ . Then, there is  $x \in A^{**+}$  such that  $\omega(x^2) > 1$  and  $x^2 \leq 1$  on  $F^* - A^{*+}$  by Theorem 2.1 (2). Let  $\{p_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a maximal orthogonal family of  $\sigma$ -finite projections of the von Neumann algebra  $A^{**}$ .

Consider the bounded linear maps

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma : c_0(I) &\rightarrow A : (\lambda_i)_{i \in I} \mapsto \sum_i \lambda_i x p_i x, \\ \Gamma^* : A^* &\rightarrow \ell^1(I) : \omega' \mapsto (\omega'(x p_i x))_{i \in I}, \\ \Gamma^{**} : \ell^\infty(I) &\rightarrow A^{**} : (\lambda_i)_{i \in I} \mapsto \sum_i \lambda_i x p_i x,\end{aligned}$$

$\Gamma$  is a topological embedding so that  $\Gamma^*$  is surjective?

$\Gamma^*(F^*)$  weakly\* closed convex hereditary?

$\Gamma^*(F^* - A^{*+}) = \Gamma^*(F^*) - \ell^1(I)^+$ ?

We can check  $\Gamma^*(\omega_j) \rightarrow \Gamma^*(\omega)$  weakly\* so that  $\Gamma^*(\omega) \in \Gamma^*(F^*)$ . We can take a net  $\omega_k \in F^* - A^{*+}$  such that  $\Gamma^*(\omega_k) \rightarrow \Gamma^*(\omega)$  weakly, and it follows a contradiction

$$1 \geq \omega_k(x^2) = \langle 1, \Gamma^*(\omega_k) \rangle \rightarrow \langle 1, \Gamma^*(\omega) \rangle = \omega(x^2) > 1.$$

Therefore,  $\omega$  is a positive functional contained in the weak closure of  $F^* - A^{*+}$ , so  $\omega \in F^*$  by Theorem 2.1 (2).

—

If we prove the closability of positive quadratic forms...

If we prove  $F_B^*$  is weakly\* closed, then there is a net  $\varphi_{j,\varepsilon} \in F^*$  such that  $\omega(b) \leq \varphi_j(b)$  for  $b \in B_j^+$ , and hence  $\omega(y) \leq \varphi_j(y)$  for  $y \in B_j^{**+}$ . Assuming  $k_{j,\varepsilon} \rightarrow k_\varepsilon$  weakly in  $\pi(A)'$ , we have  $\varphi_{j,\varepsilon}(x) \rightarrow \varphi_\varepsilon(x)$  for  $x \in \mathfrak{M}$ .

If  $\varphi_{j,\varepsilon}(x) \rightarrow \varphi_\varepsilon(x)$  for  $x \in \mathfrak{M}$  implies  $\varphi_{j,\varepsilon}(x) \rightarrow \varphi_\varepsilon(x)$  for all  $x \in A^{**}$ , then  $\varphi_\varepsilon \in F^*$ .

If  $\mathfrak{M} \cap B_j^{**}$  is  $\sigma$ -weakly dense in  $B_j^{**}$ , then  $\omega_\varepsilon(y) \leq \varphi_{j,\varepsilon}(y)$  for  $y \in B_j^{**+}$ . Then, we have  $\omega_\varepsilon(x) \leq \varphi_\varepsilon(x)$  for all  $x \in A^{**+}$ . Then,  $\varphi_\varepsilon \in F^*$  implies  $\omega_\varepsilon \in F^*$ . Then,  $\omega \in F^*$ .

—

If  $\tilde{\omega}_i$  is a positive norm preserving extension of  $\omega_i$ , then  $\tilde{\omega}_i \leq \varphi_i$ ? no.

$\omega_n \rightarrow \omega$  in norm and  $\omega_n \leq \omega$ . Let

Considering  $k_{i,\varepsilon} \rightarrow k_\varepsilon$  so that  $\varphi_\varepsilon \in F^*$ . We need weak\* convergence  $\varphi_{i,\varepsilon} \rightarrow \varphi_\varepsilon$ .

$$\tilde{\omega}_{i,\varepsilon} \leq \varphi_{i,\varepsilon}$$

$$\tilde{\omega}_\varepsilon \leq \varphi_\varepsilon$$

$$\varphi_i = \omega_i^\sim + (\varphi_i - \omega_i)^\sim \text{ on } B$$

$$\|\omega_i^\sim + (\varphi_i - \omega_i)^\sim\| \leq \|\omega_i^\sim\| + \|(\varphi_i - \omega_i)^\sim\| = \|\omega_i\| + \|\varphi_i|_B - \omega_i\| \leq \|\varphi_i|_B\|$$

Here we let  $\psi$  be a faithful semi-finite normal weight on  $A^{**}$ , and let  $\pi : A^{**} \rightarrow B(H)$  be the Gelfand-Naimark-Segal representation associated to  $\psi$ , together with the left  $A^{**}$ -linear map  $\Lambda : \mathfrak{N}_\psi \rightarrow H$  of dense range such that  $\psi(x^*x) = \|\Lambda(x)\|^2$  for all  $x \in \mathfrak{N}_\psi$ . Note that because the weight  $\psi$  is faithful and semi-finite,  $\Lambda$  is injective and  $\sigma$ -weakly densely defined, meaning that  $\mathfrak{M}_\psi$  is a hereditary  $\sigma$ -weakly dense \*-subalgebra of  $A^{**}$ . Construct the commutant Radon-Nikodym derivatives  $h, k_j$  of  $\omega, \varphi_j$  with respect to  $\psi$ . Here  $k_j$  is a positive self-adjoint operator defined by the Friedrichs extension such that  $\text{ran } \Lambda \subset \text{dom } k_j$  for all  $j$ . Taking a subnet, we may assume that there is  $k_\varepsilon \in \pi(A)'^+$  satisfying  $f_\varepsilon(k_j) \rightarrow k_\varepsilon$   $\sigma$ -weakly. Because of the operator concavity of  $f_\varepsilon$  (more detail), we can take a net  $\varphi_l \in F^*$  such that  $f_\varepsilon(k_l) \rightarrow k_\varepsilon$   $\sigma$ -strongly, where  $k_l$  are again the commutant Radon-Nikodym derivatives of  $\varphi_l$  defined by the Friedrichs extension.



Since  $f_\varepsilon$  is a strongly continuous function, we have  $(f_\varepsilon(k_l) - k_\varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$   $\sigma$ -strongly, so if we define  $\varphi_{l,\varepsilon} \in F^* - A^{*+}$  and  $\varphi_\varepsilon \in A^{*+}$  such that

$$\varphi_{l,\varepsilon}(x^*x) := \langle (f_\varepsilon(k_l) - (f_\varepsilon(k_l) - k_\varepsilon)_+) \Lambda(x), \Lambda(x) \rangle, \quad \varphi_\varepsilon(x^*x) := \langle k_\varepsilon \Lambda(x), \Lambda(x) \rangle$$

for each  $x \in \mathfrak{N}_\psi$ , then we have  $\varphi_{l,\varepsilon} \rightarrow \varphi_\varepsilon$  pointwisely on  $\mathfrak{M}_\psi$  and  $\varphi_{l,\varepsilon} \leq \varphi_\varepsilon$  for all  $l$ .

How to dominate  $\varphi_{l,\varepsilon}$  from below?

By Lemma 2.2, we have  $\varphi_{l,\varepsilon} \rightarrow \varphi_\varepsilon$  weakly in  $A^*$ , so Theorem 2.1 (2) implies that  $\varphi_\varepsilon \in (\overline{F^* - A^{*+}})^+ = F^*$ . If we define  $\omega_\varepsilon \in A^{*+}$  and  $\varphi_{j,\varepsilon} \in F^*$  by

$$\omega_\varepsilon(x^*x) := \langle f_\varepsilon(h) \Lambda(x), \Lambda(x) \rangle, \quad \varphi_{j,\varepsilon}(x^*x) := \langle f_\varepsilon(k_j) \Lambda(x), \Lambda(x) \rangle$$

for each  $x \in \mathfrak{N}_\psi$ , then since  $\omega \leq \varphi_j$  on  $B_j^+$  implies  $\omega_\varepsilon \leq \varphi_{j,\varepsilon}$  on  $B_j^+$ , the weak\* limit  $\omega_\varepsilon \leq \lim_j \varphi_{j,\varepsilon} = \varphi_\varepsilon$  deduces  $\omega_\varepsilon \in F^* - A^{*+}$ . Since  $\omega_\varepsilon \rightarrow \omega$  pointwisely on  $\mathfrak{M}_\psi$  and  $0 \leq \omega_\varepsilon \leq \omega$  for all  $0 < \varepsilon$ , we have  $\omega \in F^*$  by Lemma 2.2 and Theorem 2.1 (2).  $\square$

### 3. APPLICATIONS TO WEIGHT THEORY

**Corollary 3.1.** *Let  $M$  be a von Neumann algebra. Then, there is a one-to-one correspondence*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{subadditive normal} \\ \text{weights of } M \end{array} \right\} & \longleftrightarrow & \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{hereditary closed} \\ \text{convex subsets of } M_*^+ \end{array} \right\} \\ \varphi & \mapsto & \{ \omega \in M_*^+ : \omega \leq \varphi \} \end{array}$$