

# PART II Banach Algebras

November 4, 2025

Definition: A is a **Banach algebra** if A is a Banach space with the operation of multiplication such that:

$$1) (xy)z = x(yz); \quad x, y, z \in A$$

$$2) (x+y)z = xz + yz$$

$$x(y+z) = xy + xz$$

$$3) (\alpha x)y = x(\alpha y); \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{C}$$

$$4) \exists e \in A. xe = ex = x \quad \forall x \in A.$$

$$5) \|xy\| \leq \|x\| \cdot \|y\| \quad \forall x, y \in A.$$

Examples: 1) X Banach space  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{B}(X)$  is a Banach algebra with unity  $e=I$  and norm  $\|T\| = \sup_{\|x\|=1} \|Tx\|$

2) Calkin algebra:  $\mathcal{B}(X)/S_\infty(X)$ ,  $e = I + S_\infty(X)$

$$\|T\|_{\mathcal{B}(X)/S_\infty(X)} = \inf_{k \in S_\infty(X)} \|T - k\| = \text{dist}(T, S_\infty(X))$$

3) K-compact Hausdorff space,  $C(K)$  is a Banach algebra,

$$e=1, \|f\|_{C(K)} = \max_{\substack{x \in K \\ f: K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}}} |f(x)|$$

4)  $W(\pi)$  - Wiener algebra on  $\pi := \{z \mid |z|=1\}$ .

$$\left\{ f = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} c_k z^k \mid c_k \in \mathbb{C}, \sum |c_k| < \infty \right\}$$

$$\|f\|_{W(\pi)} = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} |c_k|, \quad e=1, \quad \begin{matrix} \text{multiplication is the usual} \\ \text{multiplication of functions} \end{matrix}$$

$$\|f \cdot g\|_{W(\pi)} \leq \|f\|_{W(\pi)} \cdot \|g\|_{W(\pi)}$$

$\uparrow$  exercise

5)  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $\|f\| = \underset{\mathbb{R}}{\text{esssup}} |f|$

6)  $H^\infty(D)$  - set of bounded analytic functions on  $D := \{|z| < 1\}$

$$\|f\|_{H^\infty(D)} = \sup_{|z| < 1} |f(z)|$$

Remark: 1) & 2) are noncommutative Banach algebras, others are commutative.

Remark: If  $A$  is a Banach space with multiplication and properties 1), 2), 3), 5), then we can always add the identity to convert  $A$  to a Banach algebra as follows:

$$\mathcal{A} = A \times \mathbb{C}, \quad (x, \alpha) + (y, \beta) = (x + y, \alpha + \beta)$$

$$f(x, \alpha) = (fx, f\alpha)$$

$$(x, \alpha) \cdot (y, \beta) = (xy + \alpha y + \beta x, \alpha \beta)$$

$$((x + \epsilon e)ly + \beta e) = xy + \alpha y + \beta x + \alpha \beta e \quad e = (0, 1)$$

$$\|(x, \alpha)\| = \|x\| + |\alpha| \quad \leftarrow ! \text{ corrected on Nov. 5th}$$

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is a Banach algebra with identity and  $(A, 0) \subset \mathcal{A}$ .

Example:  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$ , multiplication  $F * g = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(y)g(x-y)dy$

$\|F\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R})} = \int_{\mathbb{R}} |f|dx$  - this is a Banach algebra without identity, and the above construction is equivalent to consideration of  $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{C}\delta_0 + L^1(\mathbb{R})$

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} \text{measure } \delta_0(S) = \begin{cases} 1; & 0 \in S \\ 0; & 0 \notin S \end{cases} \\ \delta_0 * f = f * \delta_0 = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(y) \delta_0(x-y) dy = f(x) \\ \langle f, \delta_0 \rangle = f(0) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x) \delta_0(dx). \quad f \in C_c(\mathbb{R}) \end{array} \right)$$

measures  $\rightarrow$  no  $dy$

Definition: A Banach algebra,  $x \in A$ . We say  $x \in A$  is invertible if  $\exists x^{-1} \in A$ .  $xx^{-1} = x^{-1}x = e$ .

If  $x$  is invertible, then  $x^{-1}$  is unique.

Definition:  $G(A) := \{x \in A \mid x \text{ is invertible}\}.$

↑ we use  $G$ , because  $G(A)$  is a group

Definition:  $x \in A$ .  $\delta(x) := \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \mid \lambda e - x \text{ is not invertible}\}.$

Example: If  $A$  is the set of  $n \times n$  matrices with complex coefficients, then for  $T \in A$ ,  $\delta(T)$  is the set of eigenvalues (the usual spectrum of the matrix).

Example:  $A = C(K)$ ,  $\sigma(f) = ?$

$\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ :  $\lambda - f$  is not invertible in  $C(K)$ .

Since  $g \in G(C(K)) \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{g} \in C(K)$ , we have  $\lambda - f \in G(C(K)) \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{\lambda - f} \in C(K)$   
 $\Leftrightarrow \lambda \notin f(K)$

$\Rightarrow \sigma(f) = f(K)$  ← compact non-empty subset of  $\mathbb{C}$

## Basic properties

Proposition 1: Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra. Then  $\|e\| \geq 1$ .

Proof:  $\|e\| = \|e \cdot e\| \leq \|e\| \cdot \|e\| \Rightarrow \cancel{\|e\|=0} \text{ or } \|e\| \geq 1$

Definition: A Banach algebra is called **unital** if  $\|e\|=1$ .

Proposition 2: If  $A$  is an arbitrary Banach algebra, then the algebra  $A \times \mathbb{C}$  is unital.

Proof:  $\|(0,1)\| = \|0\| + \|1\| = 1$

↑  
! Note: This was wrong previously and corrected on November 5th.

⚠ From now on, all Banach algebras are unital.

Proposition 3: If  $\frac{x_n}{y_n} \xrightarrow{y}$  in A, then  $x_n \cdot y_n \xrightarrow{} xy$ .

Proof:  $\|x_n \cdot y_n - xy\| \leq \underbrace{\|x_n - x\|}_{\xrightarrow{n} 0} \underbrace{\|y_n\|}_{bdd} + \|x\| \underbrace{\|y_n - y\|}_{\xrightarrow{0}} \xrightarrow{} 0$  □

Proposition 4: Let  $a \in A$ ,  $\|a\| \leq 1$ , then  $e-a \in G(A)$ .

Proof: Define  $(e-a)^{-1} = e+a+a^2+\dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^k$  this series converges because  $A$  is a Banach space and  $\sum \|a^k\| \leq \sum \|a\|^k < \infty$

Let us check that  $(e-a)^{-1}(e-a) = e$

$$\Leftrightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \underbrace{\left( \sum_{k=0}^n a^k \right)}_{e-a^{n+1}} (e-a) = e$$

$$e-a^{n+1} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} e, \text{ since } \|a^{n+1}\| \leq \|a\|^{n+1} \xrightarrow{} 0$$

Similarly,  $(e-a)(e-a)^{-1} = e$ .

Proposition 5:  $G(A)$  is open in A.

Proof: Let  $a \in G(A)$ ,  $b \in A$ , then  $a-b = a(\underbrace{e-a^{-1}b}_{\in G(A)})$  if  $\|a^{-1}b\| < 1$   
 $\|a^{-1}b\| < 1$  holds for all  $b$ :  $\|b\| \leq \frac{1}{\|a^{-1}\|}$   
 $\Rightarrow B(a, \frac{1}{\|a^{-1}\|}) \subset G(A) \Rightarrow G(A)$  is open.

Proposition 6: Let  $x \in G(A)$ ,  $x_n \xrightarrow{} x$  in A. Then  $x_n \in G(A)$  for  $n$  large enough, and  $x_n^{-1} \xrightarrow{} x^{-1}$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Proof: Write  $x_n = x + z_n$ , we have  $x_n \in G(A)$  for  $n$  large enough by Proposition 5.

$$(x+z_n)^{-1} - x^{-1} = (x(e+x^{-1}z_n))^{-1} - x^{-1} = \underbrace{(e+x^{-1}z_n)^{-1}}_{y_n} \cdot x^{-1} - x^{-1} \xrightarrow{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{Prop. 3}}} ex^{-1} - x^{-1} = 0$$

$$x_n \xrightarrow{} e, \text{ see Prop. 4: } \|y_n - e\| \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \|x^{-1} \cdot z_n\|^k \xrightarrow{} 0 \quad \|z_n\| \xrightarrow{} 0 \quad \boxed{\quad}$$

Theorem: Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra,  $a \in A$ . Then  $\sigma(a)$  is a nonempty compact subset of  $\mathbb{C}$ .

Proof:  $\sigma(a) = \mathbb{C} \setminus S(a)$ ,  $S(a) := \{\lambda \mid \lambda e - a \text{ is invertible}\}$   
resolvent set

$S(a)$  is open by Prop. 5  $\Rightarrow \sigma(a)$  is closed.

Let's check that  $\sigma(a)$  is bounded:  $\sigma(a) \subset \{\lambda \mid |\lambda| \leq \|a\|\}$   
 $\Leftrightarrow S(a) \supset \{\lambda \mid |\lambda| \geq \|a\|\}$ .

Take  $\lambda: |\lambda| \geq \|a\|$ , then  $\lambda e - a = \lambda e \underbrace{(e - \frac{a}{\lambda})}_{\text{invertible by Prop. 4}}$

It remains to check that  $\sigma(a) \neq \emptyset$ .

Assume that  $\sigma(a) = \emptyset$  and consider the function

$$f_\phi(\lambda) = \phi((\lambda e - a)^{-1}) \text{ for some } \phi \in A^*; \lambda \in \mathbb{C}$$

Let's check that  $f_\phi$  is analytic. Take  $\lambda_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ , consider

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \lambda_0} \frac{f_\phi(\lambda) - f_\phi(\lambda_0)}{\lambda - \lambda_0} = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \lambda_0} \phi \left( \frac{(\lambda e - a)^{-1} - (\lambda_0 e - a)^{-1}}{\lambda - \lambda_0} \right)$$

$$[x^{-1} - y^{-1} = x^{-1}(y - x)y^{-1}] = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \lambda_0} \phi \left( \frac{(\lambda e - a)^{-1} ((\lambda e - a) - (\lambda_0 e - a)) (\lambda_0 e - a)^{-1}}{\lambda - \lambda_0} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \lambda_0} \phi \left( \underbrace{(\lambda e - a)^{-1}}_{\hookrightarrow (\lambda_0 e - a)^{-1} \text{ Prop. 6}} (\lambda_0 e - a)^{-1} \right)$$

$$\underbrace{\phi \text{ continuous, continuity of multiplication}}_{\Rightarrow} = -\phi((\lambda_0 e - a)^{-2})$$

$\Rightarrow f_\phi$  is analytic ( $f_\phi \in \text{Hol}(\mathbb{C})$ )

Take  $\lambda: |\lambda| \geq 2\|a\|$ ,  $|f_\phi(\lambda)| = \|\phi\| \cdot \|((\lambda e - a)^{-1})\| = \|\phi\| \underbrace{\|(\lambda)^{-1}\|}_{\text{uniformly bounded for}} \underbrace{\|(e - \frac{a}{\lambda})^{-1}\|}_{\lambda: |\lambda| \geq 2\|a\|}$

$f_\phi$  is bdd on  $\mathbb{C}$  by the max. principle

$\Rightarrow F_\phi = c_\phi \in \mathbb{C}$ , but  $c_\phi = 0$  by  $(*)$

$\Rightarrow \phi(\lambda e - a) = 0 \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{C}, \forall \phi \in A^* \Rightarrow \lambda e - a = 0 \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \Rightarrow \text{contradiction}$



Definition: Let  $A_1, A_2$  be Banach algebras.

November 5, 2025

We say that  $A_1$  is isomorphic to  $A_2$  ( $A_1 \cong A_2$ ) if there exists a map  $j: A_1 \rightarrow A_2$ :  
 $j(\alpha a + \beta b) = \alpha j(a) + \beta j(b)$  (\*)  
 $j(ab) = j(a) \cdot j(b)$  (\*\*)  
 $\|j(a)\|_{A_2} = \|a\|_{A_1}$   
 $j$  is bijective

Theorem [Banach-Mazur]: Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra s.t.  $G(A) = A \setminus \{0\}$ . Then  $A \cong \mathbb{C}$ .

Proof: For every  $a \in A$  we have  $\sigma(a) \neq \emptyset$ . So there is a  $\lambda(a) \in \mathbb{C}$ :  
 $\lambda(a)e - a$  is not invertible  $\Leftrightarrow \lambda(a)e - a = 0 \Leftrightarrow a = \lambda(a)e$ .  
In particular, such  $\lambda(a)$  is unique.

Define  $j: A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ,  $a \mapsto \lambda(a)$ . We have:

$$\begin{aligned} a+b &= \lambda(a+b)e \\ a+b &= \lambda(a)e + \lambda(b)e \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \lambda(a+b) &= \lambda(a) + \lambda(b) \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Similarly,  $\lambda(\alpha a) = \alpha \lambda(a)$ ,  $\lambda(ab) = \lambda(a) \cdot \lambda(b) \Rightarrow (*)$ ,  $(**)$  ✓

$$\|j(a)\|_{\mathbb{C}} = \|a\|_A \Leftrightarrow |\lambda(a)| = \|a\|_A \Leftrightarrow \|\lambda(a)e\|_A = \|a\|_A \quad \checkmark$$

$$j(a) = j(b) \Leftrightarrow \lambda(a)e = \lambda(b)e \Leftrightarrow a = b \quad \left. \begin{aligned} \end{aligned} \right\} j \text{ is a bijection}$$

$$j(e) = 1 \Rightarrow j(A) \supset j(\mathbb{C} \cdot e) = \mathbb{C}$$

Definition: Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra, then  $r(a) := \sup \{|\lambda|, \lambda \in \sigma(a)\}$  is called the spectral radius of  $a$ .

Theorem: Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra. Then

$$r(a) = \inf_{n \geq 1} \|a^n\|^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|a^n\|^{1/n}.$$

In particular, the limit above exists.



Proof: Step 1:  $r(a) \leq \|a\|$ , because

$$\lambda e - a = \lambda(e - \underbrace{\frac{a}{\lambda}}_b) \quad \|b\| < 1 \text{ for } \lambda: |\lambda| \geq \|a\|$$

invertible element in  $A$  (Prop. 4)

$$\Rightarrow \lambda e - a \in G(A) \Rightarrow \lambda \in \sigma(a) \Rightarrow \sigma(a) \subset \mathbb{B}[0, \|a\|]. \quad \checkmark$$

Step 2:  $r(a) \leq \|a^n\|^{1/n}$  for every  $n \geq 2$ .

Take  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , and consider

$$\lambda^n e - a^n = (\lambda e - a) \cdot p_\lambda(a), \quad p_\lambda \text{ is a polynomial}$$

If  $\lambda \in \sigma(a)$ , then  $\lambda^n e - a^n = z_1 \cdot z_2$ , where  $z_1, z_2 \in A$ ,  $z_1 \notin G(A)$ ,  $z_1 z_2 = z_2 z_1$ . If  $z = \lambda^n e - a^n$  is invertible,  $\exists z^{-1} \in A$ .

$$z^{-1} z_1 z_2 = z_1 (z_2 z^{-1}) = e \\ (\underbrace{z^{-1} z_2}_1 z_1) z_2 \Rightarrow z_1 \in G(A) \dots \text{contradiction}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^n \in \sigma(a^n) \stackrel{\text{Step 1}}{\Rightarrow} |\lambda^n| \leq \|a^n\| \Rightarrow |\lambda| \leq \|a^n\|^{1/n}. \quad \checkmark$$

Step 3:  $\inf_{n \geq 1} \|a^n\|^{1/n} \leq \liminf \|a^n\|^{1/n} \leq \overline{\lim} \|a^n\|^{1/n} \leq r(a) \leq \inf \|a^n\|^{1/n}$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  This implies the claim.

Notation note:  $\overline{\lim} = \limsup$ ,  $\underline{\lim} = \liminf$ .

All that remains is  $\overline{\lim} \|a^n\|^{1/n} \leq r(a)$ . Take  $\phi \in A^*$ ,  $\|\phi\| \leq 1$ ,  $f_\phi(\lambda) := \phi((\lambda e - a)^{-1})$  for  $\lambda \in \sigma(a)$  (this is an analytic function on  $\sigma(a)$ )

$$\sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} : \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\substack{|\lambda|=r(a)+\varepsilon \\ |\lambda|=2\|a\|}} \lambda^k f_\phi(\lambda) d\lambda = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|\lambda|=2\|a\|} \lambda^k f_\phi(\lambda) d\lambda =$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|\lambda|=2\|a\|} \lambda^k \phi \left( \lambda \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a^n}{\lambda^n} \right) d\lambda = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|\lambda|=2\|a\|} \lambda^{k+1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\phi(a^n)}{\lambda^n} d\lambda$$

$$= \phi(a^{k+2}) \quad (\text{Cauchy formula from complex analysis})$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi(a^{k+2}) \leq \left| \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\substack{|\lambda|=r(a)+\varepsilon \\ |\lambda|=2\|a\|}} \lambda^k f_\phi(\lambda) d\lambda \right|$$

$$\leq \max_{|\lambda|=r(a)+\varepsilon} (|\lambda^k| \cdot |\Phi(\lambda)|) \frac{1}{2\pi} (2\pi(r(a)+\varepsilon))$$

$$= (r(a) + \varepsilon)^{k+1} \underbrace{\|\Phi\|}_{\leq 1} \cdot \underbrace{\sup_{|\lambda|=r(a)+\varepsilon} \|(\lambda e - a)^{-1}\|}_{\text{constant depending only on } \varepsilon, \text{ because } |\lambda|=r(a)+\varepsilon \text{ is a compact set and } \lambda \mapsto \|(\lambda e - a)^{-1}\| \text{ is continuous}}$$

$$\sup_{\|\Phi\| \leq 1} |\Phi(a^{k+2})| = \|a^{k+2}\|$$

$$C_\varepsilon \cdot \underbrace{(r(a) + \varepsilon)^k}_{\text{constant depending only on } \varepsilon}$$

constant depending only on  $\varepsilon$ , because  $|\lambda|=r(a)+\varepsilon$  is a compact set and  $\lambda \mapsto \|(\lambda e - a)^{-1}\|$  is continuous

$$\Rightarrow \limsup \|a^k\|^{1/k} \leq r(a) + \varepsilon \quad \text{for every } \varepsilon > 0.$$



November 11, 2025

Example:  $V: f \mapsto \int_0^x f(s) ds$ ,  $V \in \mathcal{B}(L^2[0,1])$ .

Let's prove that  $r(V) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \sigma(\{V\}) = \{0\}$ .

Proof 1:  $r(V) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|V^n\|^{1/n}$ , so we need a formula for  $V^n$ .

By induction:  $(V^n f)(x) \stackrel{(*)}{=} \int_0^x f(s) \frac{(x-s)^{n-1}}{(n-1)!} ds$ .

$n=1$ : ✓

Assume (\*) for some  $n$  and compute

$$\begin{aligned} (V^{n+1} f)(x) &= \int_0^x \left( \int_0^t f(s) \frac{(t-s)^{n-1}}{(n-1)!} ds \right) dt \\ &= \int_0^x \left( f(s) \underbrace{\int_s^t \frac{(t-s)^{n-1}}{(n-1)!} dt}_{\frac{(t-s)^n}{n!} \Big|_s^x = \frac{(x-s)^n}{n!}} \right) ds \\ &= \int_0^x f(s) \frac{(x-s)^n}{n!} ds. \end{aligned}$$

$$\|V^n f\| \leq \max_{x \in (0,1)} \max_{s \in (0,x)} \frac{(x-s)^{n-1}}{(n-1)!} \left( \int_0^1 \left[ \int_0^x |f(s)| ds \right]^2 dx \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \left( \int_0^1 \underbrace{\sqrt{x}}_{\leq 1} \underbrace{\int_0^x |f|^2 ds dx}_{\leq \|f\|^2} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\leq \frac{\|f\|_{L^2[0,1]}}{(n-1)!}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|V^n\| \leq \frac{1}{(n-1)!}, \quad \lim \|V^n\|^{1/n} \leq \lim \left( \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \right)^{1/n} \quad \text{Stirling formula}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \lim \frac{1}{\left( \frac{1}{2\pi(n-1)} \left( \frac{n-1}{e} \right)^{n-1} \right)^{1/n} (1+o(1))^{1/n}} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{\frac{n-1}{n}}}{(2\pi)^{1/(n-1)}} \cdot \frac{1}{(n-1)^{1/(n-1)}} \xrightarrow[e]{} 0 \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

□

$$\text{Proof 2: } Vf = \int_0^1 K(x,y) f(y) dy, \quad K(x,y) = \chi_{B_r}(x-y)$$

$$\int_0^1 \int_0^1 |K(x,y)|^2 dx dy < \int_0^1 \int_0^1 dx dy = 1 < \infty$$

$$\Rightarrow V \in S_\infty(L^2[0,1]) \Rightarrow \sigma(V) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lambda \text{ is an eigenvalue} \\ \text{of } V \end{array} \right\} \cup \{0\}$$

$$Vf = \lambda f \Leftrightarrow \underbrace{\int_0^x f(s) ds}_{\in C[0,1]} = \lambda f(x) \quad \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \text{theorem about the spectrum} \\ \text{of compact operators} \end{matrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_0^x f(s) ds \in C^1[0,1] \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow f \in C^\infty[0,1].$$

Differentiating (\*\*), we get  $\lambda f' = f$  on  $[0,1]$ .

Substituting 0 into (\*\*), we get  $\lambda f(0) = 0$ .

$$\text{So, if } \lambda \neq 0, \text{ then } \begin{cases} \lambda f' = f \\ f(0) = 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} f = C \cdot e^{\lambda x} \\ 0 = C \cdot e^0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow f = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  any  $\lambda \neq 0$  is not an eigenvalue  $\Rightarrow \sigma(V) \cap (\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}) = \emptyset$

Since  $\sigma(V) \neq \emptyset$ , we get  $\sigma(V) = \{0\}$ .

# Commutative Banach algebras

Definition: Let  $A$  be a commutative Banach algebra and  $J \subset A$ .  $J$  is called a **proper ideal** in  $A$  if  $J$  is a linear subspace such that  $a \cdot J \subset J \quad \forall a \in A$ , and  $J \neq \{0\}$ ,  $J \neq A$ .

Definition:  $J$  is a **maximal ideal** if  $J$  is a proper ideal and there is no proper ideal  $J'$  such that  $J' \supsetneq J$ .

Proposition: Every proper ideal is contained in some maximal ideal. Take some proper ideal  $J$ ,  $J \neq A$ , and consider all proper ideals  $J'$ :  $J \subsetneq J'$ . This set is partially ordered by inclusion, and for every chain  $\{J'_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$  of ideals ordered by inclusion, the set  $\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} J'_\alpha = J'$  is again a proper ideal.

• **linearity:**  $p \cdot x + q \cdot y \in J$  for every  $p, q \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $x, y \in J'$ , because  $\exists d_{x,y}$ ,  $x \in J_{d_x}$ ,  $y \in J_{d_y} \Rightarrow x, y \in J_{d_x}$  or  $x, y \in J_{d_y}$ , then  $px + qy$  are in the same  $J_{d_x}$  or  $J_{d_y}$  ✓

• **ideal property**  $aJ' = \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} aJ'_\alpha \subset \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} J'_\alpha \quad \forall a \in A$ .

• **properness:**  $J' \neq A$  (If  $J' = A$ , then  $e \in J'$ , then  $e \in J'_\alpha \Rightarrow eA \subseteq J_\alpha \subseteq A$ )

By Zorn's lemma, the set of all proper  $J'$ :  $J \subsetneq J'$  has a maximal element. □

Proposition: If  $M$  is a maximal ideal in  $A$ , then  $M$  is closed.

Proof: Let's prove that  $\overline{M}$  is a proper ideal.

•  $\overline{M}$  is linear ✓

•  $\overline{MA} \subseteq \overline{M}$ : true by continuity of multiplication ✓

•  $\overline{M} \neq A$  (If  $\overline{M} = A$ , then  $e \in \overline{M} \Rightarrow \exists x \in M \text{ . dist}(x, e) < 1 \Rightarrow x \in G(A)$   
 $\Rightarrow c = x \cdot x^{-1} \in xA \subset M \Rightarrow M = A$ , contradiction.) □

Example:  $A = C(K)$ ,  $M_{x_0} = \{f \in A, f(x_0) = 0\}$ .

Then  $M_{x_0}$  is a maximal ideal for every  $x_0 \in K$ .

$\cdot M_{x_0}$  is linear ✓

$\cdot M_{x_0} \cdot A \subseteq M_{x_0}$  ✓

$\cdot M_{x_0} \neq A$ , because  $1 \notin M_{x_0}$  ✓

$\cdot M_{x_0}$  is maximal: If  $\exists J$ -proper:  $J \supsetneq M_{x_0}$  then  $\exists f \in J, f(x_0) \neq 0$ .

But then  $\forall g \in A$  we have  $g = c \cdot f + h$  for  $c \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $h \in M$ ,  
where  $c$  is such that  $(g - cf)(x_0) = 0$ , i.e.  $c := \frac{g(x_0)}{f(x_0)}$ .

So  $A \subset \mathbb{C} \cdot f + M \subset J$ , contradiction.

Observation:  $M_{x_0} = \text{Ker } \Phi_{x_0}$ ,  $\Phi_{x_0}: f \mapsto f(x_0)$

$\Phi_{x_0}$  is a multiplicative functional:  $\Phi_{x_0}(fg) = \Phi_{x_0}(f) \cdot \Phi_{x_0}(g)$

Definition: Let  $\Phi \in A^*$ . We say  $\Phi$  is a multiplicative functional if  
 $\Phi(fg) = \Phi(f) \cdot \Phi(g)$   $\forall f, g \in A$ , and  $\Phi \neq 0$ .

Theorem: Let  $A$  be a commutative Banach algebra. TFAE

1)  $M$  is a maximal ideal in  $A$ .

2)  $M = \text{Ker } \Phi$  for some multiplicative functional  $\Phi \in A^*$ .

Proof: 2)  $\Rightarrow$  1) obvious: i)  $\text{Ker } \Phi$  is linear

ii)  $x \in \text{Ker } \Phi, a \in A, \Phi(xa) = \Phi(x)\Phi(a) = 0 \Rightarrow xa \in \text{Ker } \Phi$

iii)  $\text{Ker } \Phi \neq A$  because  $\Phi \neq 0$

iv)  $\text{Ker } \Phi$  is maximal, because  $\text{Ker } \Phi + Ca = A \quad \forall a: \Phi(a) \neq 0$   
(see \*\*\*)

1)  $\Rightarrow$  2) Note that  $A/M$  is a Banach algebra in which every non-zero element is invertible. If  $[a] \in A/M$ , then  $a \cdot A$  is an ideal in  $A$  containing  $M$ , but not equal to  $M \Rightarrow aA + M = A$   
 $aA + M \ni e \Rightarrow ab + M = e$  for some  $b \in A \Rightarrow [a][b] = [e]$ .

By Banach-Mazur theorem, there is an isomorphism  $j$  of Banach algebras  $A/M$  and  $\mathbb{C}$ . Let  $\Phi(x) := j([x])$ .

- i)  $\phi$  is linear, because  $j$  is linear.
- ii)  $\phi$  is multiplicative, because  $j$  is multiplicative.
- iii)  $\text{Ker } \phi = \{x \mid j([x]) = 0\} \Leftrightarrow [x] = 0 \Leftrightarrow x \in M.$

November 12, 2025 

Notation:  $M(A)$  - set of all maximal ideals in  $A$   
 $A_{\text{mult}}^*$  - set of multiplicative functionals on  $A$

Last time:  $\gamma: \Phi \mapsto \text{Ker } \phi$  maps  $A_{\text{mult}}^*$  onto  $M(A)$ .

Proposition:  $\gamma$  is a bijection.

Proof: We need to check that  $\gamma(\phi_1) = \gamma(\phi_2) \Rightarrow \phi_1 = \phi_2$ .

For this, note that  $\phi(e) = 1 \quad \forall \phi \in A_{\text{mult}}^*$ , because  $\begin{cases} \phi(e) = \phi(e) \cdot \phi(e) \\ \phi(e) \neq 0 \end{cases}$   
for every  $\phi \in A_{\text{mult}}^*$ . So, if  $\gamma(\phi_1) = \gamma(\phi_2)$ , we have  
 $0 = \phi_1(y - \phi_1(y)e) \Rightarrow \phi_2(y - \phi_1(y)e) = 0 \quad \forall y \in A$   
 $\Rightarrow \phi_2(y) = \phi_1(y) \phi_2(e) = \phi_1(y), \text{ so } \phi_1 = \phi_2$ .

Theorem: Let  $A$  be a commutative Banach algebra, and  $a \in A$ .  
TFAE:

- 1)  $a \in A \setminus G(A)$
- 2)  $a \in M$  for some  $M \in M(A)$
- 3)  $\exists \phi \in A_{\text{mult}}^*: \phi(a) = 0$

Proof: 1)  $\Rightarrow$  2):  $J = aA$  - a proper ideal in  $A$  ( $e \notin J$ )  
 $\Rightarrow \exists M \in M(A). M \subset J$

2)  $\Rightarrow$  3): Take  $\phi: \text{Ker } \phi = M \Rightarrow \phi(a) = 0$ .

3)  $\Rightarrow$  1): If  $\exists b \in A. ab = e \Rightarrow \phi(a) \cdot \phi(b) = \phi(e) = 1$ , but  $\phi(a) = 0$ . 

Corollary:  $\sigma(a) = \{\phi(a) \mid \phi \in A_{\text{mult}}^*\}$

Proof:  $\sigma(a) = \{\lambda \mid a - \lambda e \in A \setminus G(A)\} = \{\lambda \mid \exists \phi \in A_{\text{mult}}^*, \phi(a - \lambda e) = 0\}$   
 $= \{\lambda \mid \lambda \in \phi(a) \text{ for some } \phi \in A_{\text{mult}}^*\}.$

□

Remark:  $\forall \phi \in A_{\text{mult}}^*$ ,  $\|\phi\| = 1$ , because  $\phi(e) = 1$  and  $|\phi(a^k)|$  is uniformly bounded for every  $a \in B_A(0,1)$ .

## Applications

Theorem [Wiener]: Let  $f = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} c_k z^k$ , and  $\sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} |c_k| < \infty$ . Assume that  $f(z) \neq 0$  for every  $z \in \Pi = \{|z|=1\}$ . Then  $\frac{1}{f} = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} b_k z^k$  where  $\sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} |b_k| < \infty$ .

Proof: 1.  $W^1(\Pi) = \{\sum c_k z^k \mid \sum |c_k| < \infty\}$  is a Banach algebra:

Indeed,  $W(\Pi)$  is a Banach space with respect to the norm  $\|\sum c_k z^k\| = \sum |c_k|$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| (\sum c_k z^k)(\sum b_k z^k) \right\| &= \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \left| \left( \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} c_k b_{n-k} \right) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} |c_k| |b_{n-k}| \\ &= \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} |c_k| \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} |b_j| \\ &= \left\| \sum c_k z^k \right\| \cdot \left\| \sum b_k z^k \right\| \end{aligned}$$

2. Identification of  $(W^1(\Pi))_{\text{mult}}^*$ :

Let  $\phi \in (W^1(\Pi))_{\text{mult}}^*$ ,  $\lambda = \phi(z)$ , then  $\phi(\frac{1}{z}) \cdot \phi(z) = 1$ ,  $\phi(\frac{1}{z}) = \frac{1}{\lambda}$   
 $|\lambda| \leq \|\phi\| \cdot \|z\| = 1$ ,  $|\frac{1}{\lambda}| \leq \|\phi\| \cdot \|\frac{1}{z}\| = 1$

$$|\lambda| \leq \|\phi\| \cdot \|z\| = 1, |\frac{1}{\lambda}| \leq \|\phi\| \cdot |\frac{1}{z}| = 1 \Rightarrow |\lambda| = 1$$

$\phi\left(\sum_{-N}^N c_n z^n\right) = \sum_{-N}^N c_n \lambda^n$ , and hence  $\phi(f) = f(\lambda)$   $\forall f \in W^1(\Pi)$ , because  $\left\{\sum_{-N}^N c_n z^n\right\}$  is dense in  $W^1(\Pi)$  and  $\phi$  is continuous.

### 3. Application of invertibility criterion:

$f \in W^1(\mathbb{T})$  is invertible  $\Leftrightarrow \exists \phi \in W^1(\mathbb{T})_{\text{mult}}^* . \phi(f) = 0 \Leftrightarrow f(z) = 0 \forall z \in \mathbb{T}$

This is the case in our case.  $\rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow f_g = 1, g \in W^1(\mathbb{T}) \Rightarrow g = \frac{1}{f}, g = \sum b_k z^k, |b_k| < \infty.$  □

Bezout equation: Let  $\{f_k\}_{k=1}^N \subset A(\bar{\mathbb{D}})$ . We are interested if there exists  $\{g_k\}_{k=1}^N \subset A(\bar{\mathbb{D}}) : \sum_1^N f_k g_k = 1$ .

Necessary condition:  $\exists z_0 \in \bar{\mathbb{D}} . f_k(z_0) = 0$  for every  $1 \leq k \leq N$ .

Theorem: Necessary condition is also sufficient.

Proof: 1.  $A(\mathbb{D})$  is a Banach algebra with respect to the norm

$$\|f\| = \max_{z \in \mathbb{D}} |f(z)| \quad \checkmark$$

2. Identification of  $A(\bar{\mathbb{D}})_{\text{mult}}^*$ :

$\phi \in A(\bar{\mathbb{D}})_{\text{mult}}^* \Leftrightarrow \phi(f) = f(\lambda) \text{ for some } \lambda \in \bar{\mathbb{D}}$  [exercise]

3.  $J = \left\{ \sum_1^N f_k g_k \mid g_k \in A(\bar{\mathbb{D}}) \right\}$  is a proper ideal in  $A(\bar{\mathbb{D}})$

$\Leftrightarrow J \subset M, M \in \mathcal{M}(A(\bar{\mathbb{D}})) \Leftrightarrow \sum_1^N (f_k g_k)(z_0) = 0 \quad \forall g_k \in A(\bar{\mathbb{D}})$   
for some  $z_0 \in \bar{\mathbb{D}}$

$\Leftrightarrow f_k(z_0) = 0 \quad \forall 1 \leq k \leq N$

At the same time:  $J$  is proper  $\Leftrightarrow e \notin J$ .

November 18, 2025 □

## Stone-Weierstrass Theorem

Definition:  $C_K(K)$  - the real Banach space of continuous functions on a compact Hausdorff space  $K$ .

Definition:  $A \subset C_{\mathbb{R}}(K)$  is a (real) Stone-Weierstrass algebra, if it is an algebra, and

(1)  $A$  does not vanish at any point  $x \in K$ , that is  $\forall x \in K. \exists f \in A. f(x) \neq 0$ .

(2)  $A$  separates points in  $K$ , that is,  $\forall x, y \in K. \exists f \in A. f(x) \neq f(y)$ .

Theorem [Stone-Weierstrass]: Let  $A \subset C_{\mathbb{R}}(K)$  be an algebra. Then  $A$  is dense in  $C_{\mathbb{R}}(K) \Leftrightarrow A$  is a Stone-Weierstrass algebra.

Example:  $K = [0, 1]$ ,  $A = \mathcal{P}$  ... the set of polynomials. Indeed,  $\mathcal{P}$  is an algebra, and

$\left. \begin{array}{l} \cdot 1 \in \mathcal{P} \Rightarrow (1) \text{ is satisfied} \\ \cdot x \in \mathcal{P} \Rightarrow (2) \text{ is satisfied} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow$  polynomials are dense in  $[0, 1]$   
 (Classical Weierstrass theorem)

Example:  $K = [0, 1]$ ,  $A = \text{span}\{\sin(2\pi kx), \cos(2\pi kx) \mid k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

$A$  is not dense in  $C[0, 1]$ , because 0 and 1 are not separated.

On the other hand,  $A$  is dense in  $C[0, a]$  for every  $0 < a < 1$ .

For the proof we need some lemmas:

Lemma: Let  $a > 0$ . Then  $\exists \{p_k\} \in \mathcal{P}$  such that  $\|p_k - |x|\|_{C[-a, a]} \rightarrow 0$ .

Proof: By scaling, we can assume that  $a = 1$ . Then we need to approximate  $|x| = \sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{1-y}$ ,  $y = 1-x^2$  by polynomials.

Thus, it suffices to approximate  $y \mapsto \sqrt{1-y}$  by polynomials uniformly on  $[0, 1]$ .

Taylor:  $\sqrt{1-y} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k y^k$  for  $c_k = (-1)^k \binom{1/2}{k} = (-1)^k \frac{1/2(1/2-1)\dots(1/2-k+1)}{k!}$ .

Observation:  $c_0 = 1$ ,  $c_k < 0$  for  $k \geq 1$ . (e.g.  $c_1 = -\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $c_2 = \frac{3(-1)}{2} < 0$   
 $c_3 = -1 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{3(-1)(-3-1)}{3!} < 0$ )

In particular, we have  $\sum_1^{\infty} |c_k| = \sup_{0 \leq y \leq 1} \left( - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k y^k \right) = \sup_{0 \leq y \leq 1} (c_0 - \sqrt{1-y}) = 1$ .

So  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |c_k| < \infty \Rightarrow p_k = \sum_{j=0}^k c_j y^j$  are such that

$$\|p_k - \sqrt{1-y}\|_{C[0,1]} \leq \sum_{j=k+1}^{\infty} |c_j| \cdot \underbrace{\|y^j\|_{C[0,1]}}_1 \longrightarrow 0.$$
□

Lemma: If A is a SW algebra, then  $\forall x, y \in K. \exists h \in A. h(x)=1, h(y)=0$ .

Proof: We know that  $\exists f, g \in A. F(x) \neq 0, g(x) \neq g(y)$ .

1) If  $f(y)=0$ , then  $h := \frac{f}{f(x)}$ .

2) If  $f(y) \neq 0$ , and  $f(y) \neq f(x)$ , then  $h := \frac{f^2 - f(y)f}{f^2(x) - f(x)f(y)}$

$h = \frac{f - f(y)}{f(x) - f(y)}$  is not okay  $\frac{f}{f(x) - f(y)} \in A, \frac{f(y)}{f(x) - f(y)}$  might not be in A,  
if A does not contain 1

3) If  $f(y) \neq 0$ , and  $f(y) = f(x)$ , then  $\begin{pmatrix} f(x) \\ f(y) \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} g(x) \\ g(y) \end{pmatrix}$  are not collinear in  $\mathbb{R}^2 \Rightarrow \exists \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$\alpha \begin{pmatrix} f(x) \\ f(y) \end{pmatrix} + \beta \begin{pmatrix} g(x) \\ g(y) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow h := \alpha f + \beta g$$
□

Lemma: Let A be a SW algebra in  $C_R(K)$ . Then  $\forall f, g \in A$  we have  $\min(f, g) \in \bar{A}$ ,  $\max(f, g) \in \bar{A}$ .

Proof:  $\min(f, g) = \frac{f+g}{2} - \frac{|f-g|}{2}, \max(f, g) = \frac{f+g}{2} + \frac{|f-g|}{2}$

So we only need to show that  $|h| \in \bar{A}$  for every  $h \in A$ .

Let's approximate  $|x|$  by polynomials  $p_k \in \mathcal{P}$  on  $[-a, a]$  for  $a = \|h\|_{C_R(K)}$ . Then  $p_k \circ h \in A, p_k(h) \rightarrow |h|$  on K.  $\Rightarrow |h| \in \bar{A}$ .

Lemma: Let  $x \in K, \varepsilon > 0, f \in C_R(K)$ . Then  $\exists g_x \in \bar{A}$  s.t.  $g_x(x) = f(x)$  and  $g_x(z) \geq f(z) - \varepsilon$  for every  $z \in K$ .

Proof: For every  $y \in K$  define  $g_{x,y}$  to be a function in A :  $\begin{array}{l} g_{x,y}(x) = f(x) \\ g_{x,y}(y) = f(y) \end{array}$   
Such a function is a linear combination of functions

taking values 0 and 1 at points  $x, y$ .

Let  $U = \{z \in K \mid g_{x,y}(z) > f(z) - \varepsilon\}, y \in K$ .

For each  $x \in K$  we have  $K = \bigcup_{y \in K} U_y$ , because  $y \in U_y$ .

Each  $U_y$  is open, because  $g_{x,y} - f$  is continuous, and  $U_y$  is the preimage of  $(-\varepsilon, +\infty)$  - an open set.

$\Rightarrow$  By compactness,  $\exists \{y_k\}_{k=1}^N. K = \bigcup_{k=1}^N U_{y_k}$ .

Now  $g_x := \max_{1 \leq k \leq N} g_{x,y_k} \in \bar{A}$  works.

Remark: A SW-algebra  $\Rightarrow \bar{A}$  SW-algebra

Proof of SW theorem: Assume that  $A$  is a SW-algebra, and take  $f \in C_R(K), \varepsilon > 0$ . For every  $x \in K$  construct  $g_x : g_x(x) = f(x)$ ,

$g_x(z) \geq f(z) - \varepsilon \quad \forall z \in K$ . Consider  $V_x = \{z \in K \mid g_x(z) < f(z) + \varepsilon\} \ni x$ .

Thus,  $V_x$  is open  $\forall x \in K$ , and  $K = \bigcup_{x \in K} V_x \Rightarrow \exists \{x_k\}_{k=1}^M. K = \bigcup_{k=1}^M V_{x_k}$ .

$$g = \min_{1 \leq k \leq M} g_{x_k} \in \bar{A} \quad \text{and} \quad f(z) - \varepsilon \leq g \leq f(z) + \varepsilon$$

$\Rightarrow \|g - f\|_{C_R(K)} < \varepsilon \Rightarrow A$  is dense in  $C_R(K)$ . This proves sufficiency.

Necessity: If  $A$  vanishes at some  $x_0 \in K$ , then 1 cannot be approximated uniformly by elements of  $A$ . If  $A$  does not separate points  $x, y$ , then the function  $f : f \in C_R(K), f(x) = 1, f(y) = 0$  cannot be approximated. Such a function exists by Uryson's lemma ( $K_1, K_2 \subset K$ -compact,  $K_1 \cap K_2 = \emptyset \Rightarrow \exists f \in C_R(K). f|_{K_1} = 1, f|_{K_2} = 0$ ).  $\square$

Example: Let  $K = \Pi = \{z \mid |z| = 1\}$ ,  $C(\Pi)$  the complex Banach space of continuous functions. Consider  $A = \mathcal{P} = \text{span} \{z^k \mid z \in \mathbb{Z}_r\}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_r = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ .  $A$  is an algebra,  $A$  does not vanish ( $1 \in A$ ),  $A$  separates points ( $z \in A$  (but we have a complex algebra)).

Observation:  $\int_{\Pi} \bar{z} \overline{p(z)} dm(z) = 0 \quad \forall p \in A$ .

Lobesgue measure on  $\Pi$ , normalised by  $m(\Pi) = 1$

Indeed, this follows from the fact that

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \bar{z} \cdot \bar{z}^k = 0 \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$$

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^{-i(k+1)t} dt = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left. \frac{e^{-i(k+1)t}}{-i(k+1)} \right|_0^{2\pi} = 0$$

Conclusion:  $\bar{z} \perp A$  in  $L^2(m)$ . So,  $A$  cannot be dense, because otherwise  $\bar{z} \perp C(\pi)$  in  $L^2(m) \Rightarrow \bar{z} \perp L^2(m)$ . Contradiction. So,  $A$  is not dense and SW-theorem (real version) does not work in the complex space.

Definition:  $A$  is a complex Stone-Weierstrass algebra if

- 1)  $A$  does not vanish.
- 2)  $A$  separates points
- 3)  $A$  is closed under conjugation  $f \mapsto \bar{f}$ .

In the example above, 3) does not hold.

Theorem [SW, complex]: An algebra  $A$  closed under conjugation is dense in  $C(K) \Leftrightarrow A$  is a SW complex algebra.

Proof:  $A$  is SW complex algebra  $\Rightarrow \text{Re } f, \text{Im } f \in A \quad \forall f \in A \Rightarrow$   
 $\Rightarrow \text{Re } A$  is a real SW-algebra  $\Rightarrow \text{Re } A$  is dense in  $C_R(K) \Rightarrow$   
 $\Rightarrow \text{Re } A + i \text{Re } A$  is dense in  $C(K) = C_R(K) + i C_R(K)$  and it is contained in  $A$ . The other direction is trivial. □

# $C^*$ -algebras: Gelfand-Naimark theorem

November 19, 2025

Definition: A Banach algebra  $A$  is called an algebra with involution, if there is an operation  $*$  s.t.

$$1) (\alpha x + \beta y)^* = \bar{\alpha}x^* + \bar{\beta}y^* \quad \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C} \quad \forall x, y \in A$$

$$2) (xy)^* = y^*x^* \quad \forall x, y \in A$$

$$3) (x)^{**} = x \quad \forall x \in A$$

If moreover,

$$4) \|x^*\| = \|x\| \quad \forall x \in A$$

$$5) \|x^*x\| = \|x^*\| \cdot \|x\| \quad \forall x \in A$$

then  $A$  is called a  $C^*$ -algebra.

Example: Let  $K$  be a Hausdorff compact. Then  $C(K)$  is a  $C^*$ -algebra,  $f^* := \overline{f}$ .

Proposition: Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ , where  $H$  is a Hilbert space. Then

$$\|T\| \stackrel{(*)}{=} \sup_{\substack{\|x\| \leq 1 \\ \|y\| \leq 1}} |\langle Tx, y \rangle|.$$

Proof: We will use the fact that  $\forall h \in H. \|h\| = \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} |\langle h, x \rangle|$ .  
(indeed,  $|\langle h, x \rangle| \leq \|h\| \cdot \|x\| \leq \|h\|$  by CS inequality, and taking  $x = \frac{h}{\|h\|}$ , we get  $\langle h, x \rangle = \|h\|$ ).

$$\|T\| = \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} \|Tx\| = \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} \sup_{\|y\| \leq 1} |\langle Tx, y \rangle| = \sup_{\substack{\|x\| \leq 1 \\ \|y\| \leq 1}} |\langle Tx, y \rangle| \quad \square$$

Definition: Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ , then  $T^* \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  is the operator such that  $\langle Tx, y \rangle = \langle x, T^*y \rangle \quad \forall x, y \in H$ .

Proposition:  $T^* \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  exists for every  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ , moreover,  $\|T^*\| = \|T\|$ .

Proof: We will use Riesz theorem, which says that  $\forall \varphi \in H^*$

$\exists! h \in H$  such that  $\phi(x) = \langle x, h \rangle \quad \forall x \in H$ . Having this theorem, define:  $\phi_y(x) := \langle Tx, y \rangle$ ,  $x \in H$ , where  $y \in H$  is fixed.

$$\phi_y \in H^*: \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} |\phi_y(x)| = \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} |\langle Tx, y \rangle| \leq \|T\| \cdot \|y\|.$$

$\Rightarrow \exists! h \in H$ .  $\phi_y(x) = \langle x, h \rangle$ . Let's define  $T^*y := h$ .

$$\text{Since } \phi_{\alpha y_1 + \beta y_2} = \bar{\alpha} \phi_{y_1} + \bar{\beta} \phi_{y_2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x, T^*(\alpha y_1 + \beta y_2) \rangle &= \bar{\alpha} \underbrace{\langle x, T^* y_1 \rangle}_{\langle x, \alpha T^* y_1 \rangle} + \bar{\beta} \underbrace{\langle x, T^* y_2 \rangle}_{\langle x, \beta T^* y_2 \rangle} = \langle x, \alpha T^* y_1 + \beta T^* y_2 \rangle \quad \forall x \in H \\ &\quad \langle x, \alpha T^* y_1 \rangle \quad \langle x, \beta T^* y_2 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow T^*(\alpha y_1 + \beta y_2) = \alpha T^* y_1 + \beta T^* y_2.$$

We have used the fact that  $\langle h, z_1 \rangle = \langle h, z_2 \rangle \quad \forall h \Rightarrow z_1 = z_2$ .

(Proof:  $h: z_1 - z_2 \quad \langle z_1 - z_2, z_1 - z_2 \rangle = 0$ )

To compute the norm of  $T^*$ , we note that

$$\|T^*\| = \sup_{\substack{\|x\| \leq 1 \\ \|y\| \leq 1}} |\langle T^* y, x \rangle| = \sup_{\substack{\|x\| \leq 1 \\ \|y\| \leq 1}} |\langle y, Tx \rangle| = \sup_{\substack{\|x\| \leq 1 \\ \|y\| \leq 1}} |\overline{\langle Tx, y \rangle}| = \|T\|$$

$$\Rightarrow \|T^*\| = \|T\|, \text{ in particular, } T^* \in \mathcal{B}(H).$$



Proposition:  $\|T^*T\| = \|T^*\| \cdot \|T\| \quad \forall T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Proof: } \|T^*T\| &= \sup_{\substack{\|x\| \leq 1 \\ \|y\| \leq 1}} |\langle T^*Tx, y \rangle| = \sup_{\substack{\|x\| \leq 1 \\ \|y\| \leq 1}} \|\langle Tx, Ty \rangle\| \\ &\geq \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} \|\langle Tx, Tx \rangle\| \\ &= \|T\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|T\|^2 \leq \|T^*T\| \leq \|T^*\| \cdot \|T\| = \|T\|^2 \Rightarrow \|T\|^2 = \|T^*\| \cdot \|T\|$$

$$\text{In particular, } \|T^*T\| = \|T^*\| \cdot \|T\|.$$



Example:  $\mathcal{B}(H)$  is a  $C^*$ -algebra. We only need to check that  $(\alpha T_1 + \beta T_2)^* = \bar{\alpha} T_1^* + \bar{\beta} T_2^*$ ,  $(T_1 T_2)^* = T_2^* T_1^*$ ,  $(T^*)^* = T$ .

This follows directly from the definition

e.g.  $\langle Tx, y \rangle = \langle x, T^*y \rangle = \overline{\langle T^*y, x \rangle} = \overline{\langle y, (T^*)^*x \rangle} = \langle (T^*)^*x, y \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow T^{**}$  and  $T$  have the same bilinear forms  $\Rightarrow$   
 $\Rightarrow \|T^{**} - T\| = 0$  by (\*) for  $T^{**} - T$  in place of  $T$ .

Definition:  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  is called **normal** if  $T^*T = TT^*$ .

Example:  $A = \overline{\text{span}\{T^k(T^*)^j \mid k, j \geq 0\}}$  is a commutative  $C^*$ -algebra for every normal operator  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ .

The only nontrivial thing here is that  $S \in A \Rightarrow S^* \in A$ . This follows from the fact that  $S_n \rightarrow S$  in  $\mathcal{B}(H) \Rightarrow S_n^* \rightarrow S^*$  in  $\mathcal{B}(H)$  ( $\|S_n^* - S^*\| = \|S_n - S\|$ ).

November 20, 2025

Goal:  $A$  is a commutative  $C^*$ -algebra  $\Rightarrow A \cong C(K)$  for some Hausdorff compact  $K$ .

In fact, we will see that  $K = A_{\text{mult}}^*$  with some topology, that we will now define.

Definition: Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $X^*$  the dual space to  $X$ . Then  $\sigma(X^*, X)$ , the **weak\*-topology**, is defined on  $X^*$  as follows: For  $\phi \in X^*$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $F \subset X$  a finite subset, we define.

$$V_{F, \varepsilon}(\phi) := \left\{ \tau \in X^* \mid |\phi(x) - \tau(x)| < \varepsilon \quad \forall x \in F \right\} \quad \begin{matrix} (\text{neighbourhood of } \phi) \\ (\text{corresponding to } F, \varepsilon) \end{matrix}$$

Open subsets in  $\sigma(X^*, X)$  are precisely those subsets  $S$  that have the following property:  $\forall \phi \in S \exists F, \varepsilon. V_{F, \varepsilon}(\phi) \subset S$ .

Remarks: (1) If  $X$  is separable, then this topology is metrizable on each bounded subset of  $X$ , and closed subsets could be defined as follows:  $S$  is closed  $\Leftrightarrow \forall \phi_n \in S. \phi_n(x) \rightarrow \phi(x) \quad \forall x \in X$  we have  $\phi \in S$ .

(2) In the general situation  $\sigma(X^*, X)$  is Hausdorff.

Indeed, take  $\phi_1, \phi_2 \in X^*$ ,  $\phi_1 \neq \phi_2 \Rightarrow \exists x \in X. \phi_1(x) \neq \phi_2(x) \Leftrightarrow$   
 $\Rightarrow V_{F_1, \varepsilon}(\phi_1) \cap V_{F_2, \varepsilon}(\phi_2) = \emptyset$  for  $F_1 = \{x\} = F_2$ ,  $\varepsilon = \frac{|\phi_1(x) - \phi_2(x)|}{2}$

(3) The importance of this topology is explained by the following theorem.

→ Proof: Functional Analysis

in norm (in the initial topology)

Theorem [Banach-Alaoglu]: Any bounded closed subset of  $X^*$  is compact in the  $\sigma(X^*, X)$ -topology for every Banach space  $X$ .

Lemma: Let  $A$  be a commutative Banach algebra.

Then  $A^*_{\text{mult}}$  with the induced topology from  $\sigma(X^*, X)$  is Hausdorff compact.

Proof: Since  $A^*_{\text{mult}} \subset \mathcal{B}_{X^*}[0, 1]$ , by B-A theorem, we only need to check that  $A^*_{\text{mult}}$  is closed. Assume that  $\phi_n \in A^*_{\text{mult}}$ ,  $\phi_n \rightarrow \phi$  in  $X^* \Rightarrow \phi \in X^*$  and  $\phi(xy) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi_n(xy) = \phi(x) \cdot \phi(y)$   $\forall x, y \in X$ . □

Definition: Let  $A$  be a commutative Banach algebra, and for every  $x \in A$  define  $\hat{x}: \phi \rightarrow \phi(x)$ ,  $\phi \in A^*_{\text{mult}}$ . The mapping  $x \mapsto \hat{x}$  is called the Gelfand transform.

Lemma: For every  $x \in A$  we have  $\hat{x} \in C(A^*_{\text{mult}})$ .

Proof: Take  $x \in A$ ,  $U \subset \mathbb{C}$ -open subset. We need to show that  $\hat{x}^{-1}(U)$  is open in  $\sigma(X^*, X)$ . It is enough to prove that  $\hat{x}^{-1}(B(z_0, \varepsilon))$  is open  $\forall z_0 \in U \cap \hat{x}(A^*_{\text{mult}}) \forall \varepsilon > 0$ .

Let  $z_0 \in \hat{x}(A^*_{\text{mult}})$ , i.e.,  $\exists \tau. z_0 = \hat{x}(\tau) = \psi(x)$ .

Then  $\hat{x}^{-1}(B(z_0, \varepsilon)) = \{\phi \in A^*_{\text{mult}} \mid |\hat{x}(\phi) - z_0| < \varepsilon\} = V_{F_1, \varepsilon}(\tau) \cap A^*_{\text{mult}}$ ,  
where  $F = \{x\}$ . □

open in induced topology

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

Proof: At first assume  $x^* = x$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \|x^{2^n}\| &= \|x^{2^n-1} \cdot x^{2^{n-1}}\| = \|(x^{2^{n-1}})^* x^{2^{n-1}}\| = \|x^{2^{n-1}}\|^2 = [\text{iterate}] = \|x\|^{2^n} \\ \Rightarrow r(x) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x^n\|^{\frac{1}{n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x^{2^n}\|^{\frac{1}{2^n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x\| = \|x\|. \end{aligned}$$

Now the general case:  $x^*x = xx^*$ . Consider  $y = x^*x$ , and note that  $\|y\| = r(y)$ , because  $y^* = y$ . We have  $\|x\|^2 = \|y\|$ , and

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

$\square$

Lemma: Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra,  $x, y \in A$ ,  $xy = yx$ . Then  $e^x \cdot e^y = e^{x+y}$ , where  $e^z = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^n}{n!}$ ,  $z \in A$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Proof: } e^x \cdot e^y &= \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k!} \right) \left( \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{y^j}{j!} \right) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{\left( \sum_{k+j=n} x^k \cdot y^j \frac{1}{k!} \cdot \frac{1}{j!} \cdot (k+j)! \right)}_{xy=yx \rightarrow (x+y)^n} \frac{1}{n!} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(x+y)^n}{n!} = e^{x+y} \end{aligned}$$

$\square$

Theorem [Gelfand-Naimark]: Let  $A$  be a commutative  $C^*$ -algebra. Then the Gelfand transform is the isomorphism of  $C^*$ -algebras  $A$  and  $C(A^*_{\text{mult}})$ , i.e.

$$1) \widehat{\alpha x + \beta y} = \alpha \widehat{x} + \beta \widehat{y}$$

$$2) \widehat{xy} = \widehat{x} \widehat{y}$$

$$3) \widehat{x^*} = \widehat{x}$$

$$4) \|\widehat{x}\|_{C(A^*_{\text{mult}})} = \|x\|$$

5)  $x \mapsto \widehat{x}$  is a bijection between  $A$  and  $A^*_{\text{mult}}$ .

Proof: 1)  $\widehat{\alpha x + \beta y}(\phi) = \phi(\alpha x + \beta y) - \alpha \phi(x) + \beta \phi(y) = \alpha \widehat{x} + \beta \widehat{y}$

$$2) \widehat{xy}(\phi) = \phi(xy) = \phi(x)\phi(y) = \widehat{x}\widehat{y}$$

3) Take  $x \in A$ , and observe that  $x = \operatorname{Re}x + i\operatorname{Im}x$ .

$$\operatorname{Re}x = \frac{x+x^*}{2}, \quad \operatorname{Re}x = (\operatorname{Re}x)^*$$

$$\operatorname{Im}x = \frac{x-x^*}{2}, \quad \operatorname{Im}x = (\operatorname{Im}x)^*$$

$$\text{Moreover, } (\operatorname{Re}x + i\operatorname{Im}x)^* = \widehat{\operatorname{Re}x} - i\widehat{\operatorname{Im}x}$$

$\Rightarrow$  it suffices to prove that  $\widehat{x} = \overline{\widehat{x}}$  for every  $x = x^*$ .

$$\widehat{x} = \overline{\widehat{x}} \Leftrightarrow \phi(x) = \overline{\phi(x)} \Leftrightarrow |e^{i\phi(x)}| = 1 \Leftrightarrow |\phi(e^{ix})| = 1$$

$$1 = |e_a| = |\phi(e_a)| = |\phi(e^{ix}) \cdot \phi(e^{-ix})| \leq \|e^{-ix}\| \cdot \|e^{ix}\| = \|(e^{ix})^* e^{ix}\| = \|e^{2ix}\| = 1$$

identity      lemma,  $ix - ix = 0$        $e^0 = e_a$        $C^*-property \& (e^{ix})^* = e^{-ix}$

$\Rightarrow$  all inequalities are in fact equalities,  $|\phi(e^{ix})| \cdot |\phi(e^{-ix})| = 1$ .

$$4) \|x\| = r(A) = \sup \{|\lambda|, \lambda \in \sigma(x)\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{description of } \sigma(x) \text{ in commutative Banach algebra} \\ &= \sup \{|\lambda|, \lambda \in \{\phi(x), \phi \in A_{\text{mult}}^*\}\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sup \{|\phi(x)|, \phi \in A_{\text{mult}}^*\} \\ &= \sup_{\phi \in A_{\text{mult}}^*} |\widehat{x}(\phi)| = \|\widehat{x}\|_{C(A_{\text{mult}}^*)} \end{aligned}$$

5)  $\widehat{A}$  is a closed subalgebra in  $C(A_{\text{mult}}^*)$  because it is an isometric image of a closed algebra ( $= A$ ).

It remains to check that  $\widehat{A}$  does not vanish and separates points (S-W-theorem then implies  $A = \text{clos } A = C(A_{\text{mult}}^*)$ ).

i)  $\widehat{A}$  does not vanish  $\Leftrightarrow \forall \phi \in A_{\text{mult}}^* \exists x \in A. \widehat{x}(\phi) \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow \phi \neq 0$ . This holds, because  $\phi(e_\lambda) = 1$ .

ii)  $A$  separates points  $\Leftrightarrow \forall \phi \neq \psi. \exists x \in A. \widehat{x}(\phi) \neq \widehat{x}(\psi) \Leftrightarrow \phi \neq \psi$ . □

## Application: functional calculus for $C^*$ -algebras

Definition: Let  $A$  be a commutative  $C^*$ -algebra,  $x \in A$ ,  $\sigma(x)$  the spectrum of  $x$ ,  $f \in C(\sigma(x))$ . Then we define:

$$f(x) := (f(\hat{x}))^\vee,$$

where " $\vee$ " is the inverse Gelfand transform.

Remark:  $f(x)$  is defined correctly, in other words,  $\text{Ran } \hat{x} \subset \text{Dom } f$ .  
Indeed,  $\text{Ran } \hat{x} = \{\hat{x}(\phi), \phi \in A^*_{\text{mult}}\} = \{\phi(x), \phi \in A^*_{\text{mult}}\} = \sigma(x)$ .

Remark: If  $f$  is a polynomial,  $f = c_0 + c_1 z + \dots + c_n z^n$ , then  $f(x) = c_0 + c_1 x + \dots + c_n x^n$  for every  $x \in A$ .

Indeed, it suffices to check this for  $f_n = z^n$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ :  
 $f_n(x) = (z^n(\hat{x}))^\vee = (\hat{x}^n)^\vee = x^n$ .

December 2, 2025

Remark: For  $f(z) = \bar{z}$  we have  $f(x) = x^*$  because  $\bar{z}(\bar{z}(\cdot))^\vee = (\overline{\bar{z}(\cdot)})^\vee = (\hat{x}^*)^\vee = x^*$ .

Remark: If  $f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{L}(\sigma(x))$ , then  $(f_1 \cdot f_2)(x) = \underbrace{f_1(x)}_{\hat{x}} \cdot \underbrace{f_2(x)}_{\hat{x}}$ .

Theorem [Functional calculus theorem]: Assume that  $A$  is a commutative  $C^*$ -algebra generated by some element  $x \in A$  (polynomials of  $x, x^*$  are dense in  $A$ ). Then  $A \cong \mathcal{L}(\sigma(x))$  as  $C^*$ -algebras. Moreover, the isomorphism between  $\mathcal{L}(\sigma(x))$  and  $A$  is given by the map  $f \mapsto f(x)$ , where  $f(x) = (f(\hat{x}(\cdot)))^\vee$ . In particular, we have:

$$(1) \|f(x)\| = \max_{z \in \sigma(x)} |f(z)| \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{L}(\sigma(x))$$

$$(2) \sigma_A(f(x)) = f(\sigma(x)) \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{L}(\sigma(x))$$

$\mathcal{L}$  spectral mapping theorem

Lemma 1: Let  $K_1, K_2$  be Hausdorff compacta, and let  $h: K_1 \rightarrow K_2$  be a continuous bijection. Then  $h$  is a homeomorphism.

Proof: We need to check  $h^{-1}: K_2 \rightarrow K_1$  is continuous  $\Leftrightarrow$   
 $(h^{-1})^{-1}(U)$  is open in  $K_2$  for every  $U$ -open in  $K_1 \Leftrightarrow$   
 $(h^{-1})^{-1}(C)$  is closed in  $K_2$  for every  $C$ -closed in  $K_1 \Leftrightarrow$   
 $h(C)$  is compact for every  $C$ -compact in  $K_1$ .

Take some open cover  $\{V_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$  of  $h(C)$ , and consider  $\{h^{-1}(V_\alpha)\}_{\alpha \in I}$  -  
open cover of  $C$ , so  $\exists d_1, \dots, d_N$  s.t.  $\{h^{-1}(V_{d_k})\}_{k=1}^N$  subcover of  $C$   
 $\Rightarrow \{V_{d_k}\}_{k=1}^N$  is a subcover of  $h(C)$ . □

Lemma 2: Assume that  $K_1, K_2, h: K_1 \rightarrow K_2$  are as in the previous lemma.  
Then  $\mathcal{C}(K_1) \cong \mathcal{C}(K_2)$  as  $C^*$ -algebras, and the isomorphism is  
given by  $\ell(\cdot) \mapsto \varphi(h^{-1}(\cdot))$ .

Proof: Exercise  $(\|\varphi\|_{\mathcal{C}(K_1)} = \|\varphi(h^{-1})\|_{\mathcal{C}(K_2)}, \text{etc.})$

Proof of the theorem: We know that  $A \cong \mathcal{C}(A_{\text{mult}}^*)$  by GN theorem. To prove  $A \cong \mathcal{C}(\sigma(x))$ , we will check that  
 $\hat{x}: \Phi \mapsto \hat{x}(\Phi) = \Phi(x)$  is a homeo from  $A_{\text{mult}}^*$  onto  $\sigma(x)$  and  
then apply the last lemma.

1)  $\hat{x}(A_{\text{mult}}^*) = \sigma(x) \Leftrightarrow$  description of the spectrum in a commutative B.A.

$$\{\hat{x}(\Phi), \Phi \in A_{\text{mult}}^*\} = \{\Phi(x) \mid \Phi \in A_{\text{mult}}^*\} \leftarrow \text{surjectivity}$$

2) Let  $\hat{x}(\Phi_1) = \hat{x}(\Phi_2)$  for some  $\Phi_1, \Phi_2 \in A_{\text{mult}}^* \Leftrightarrow$

$$\Leftrightarrow \Phi_1(x) = \Phi_2(x) \Rightarrow \Phi_1(x) = \Phi_2(x) \Rightarrow \Phi_1(p(x, x^*)) = \Phi_2(p(x, x^*))$$

$$\Phi_1(x^*) = \Phi_2(x^*) \quad \text{for any polynomial } p(z, \bar{z})$$

$\Rightarrow \Phi_1 = \Phi_2$  by continuity

$$\begin{cases} \Phi_k(x^*) = \overline{\Phi_k(x)} \\ \|\hat{x}^*(\Phi_k)\| = \frac{\|\Phi_k\|}{\|\hat{x}(\Phi_k)\|} \end{cases} \quad (\text{part of GN theorem, because } \ell^* = \overline{\ell} \text{ in } \mathcal{C}(K))$$

3) We also know that  $\hat{a} \in \mathcal{C}(A_{\text{mult}}^*)$  for every  $a \in A$  (again GN).

In particular, for  $a = x$  we get continuity of the map  $\hat{x}: \mathfrak{p} \mapsto p(x)$ . By Lemma 1, we conclude that  $\hat{x}$  is a homeomorphism and by Lemma 2, that  $A \cong \mathcal{C}(\sigma(x))$ . Moreover:

$$A \cong \mathcal{C}(A_{\text{mult}}^*), \quad \mathcal{C}(A_{\text{mult}}^*) \cong \mathcal{C}(\sigma(x)), \quad A \cong \mathcal{C}(\sigma(x))$$

$$a \mapsto \hat{a} \quad \downarrow \text{iso} \quad \ell(\hat{x}(\cdot)) \longleftrightarrow p \quad (\ell(x(\cdot)))^* \longleftrightarrow p$$

$$\ell(x) \quad \uparrow \text{definition}$$

Finally: (1)  $\|\ell(x)\|_A = \|\ell\|_{\mathcal{C}(\sigma(x))} = \max_{z \in \sigma(x)} |\ell(z)|$

(2)  $\sigma_A(\ell(x)) = \sigma_{\mathcal{C}(\sigma(x))}(\ell) = \ell(\sigma(x))$   
 $\uparrow \text{know from before}$

□

## Spectral Theorem



Theorem [spectral theorem]: Let  $H$  be a separable Hilbert space,  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ :  $T^*T = TT^*$ . Then  $T$  is unitary equivalent to the direct sum of multiplicative operators: there are Borel measures  $\mu_k$ ,  $\text{supp } \mu_k \subseteq \sigma(T)$  and a unitary operator  $U$  such that  $U^{-1}TU = \bigoplus M_{k,z}$ , where  $M_{k,z}: f \mapsto zf$  on  $L^2(\mu_k)$ .

Particular examples:

1)  $A = A^*$  ( $\langle Ax, y \rangle = \langle x, Ay \rangle \quad \forall x, y \in H$ ) Physics: symmetry

2)  $\|Ax\| = \|x\|$   
 $A: H \rightarrow H$  is bijection  $\begin{cases} A \text{ is unitary} \\ \text{or } A^*A = AA^* = I \end{cases}$  conservation laws

Definition: Let  $\{H_k\}_{k=1}^N$ ,  $N \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$  be a sequence of Hilbert spaces. Then  $\bigoplus_{k=1}^N H_k$  is the Hilbert space  $\left\{ \{h_k\}_{k=1}^N : \sum_{k=1}^N \|h_k\|^2 < \infty, h_k \in H_k \right\}$  with the inner product  $\langle \{h_k\}, \{g_k\} \rangle_{\bigoplus_{k=1}^N H_k} = \sum_{k=1}^N \langle h_k, g_k \rangle_{H_k}$ .

Example:  $\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}) = \bigoplus_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbb{C}$  ( $\{a_k\} \subset \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\sqrt{\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} |a_k|^2} = \|\{a_k\}\|$ )

Definition: Let  $T_k : H_k \rightarrow H_k$  be a bounded linear operator for every  $k$ . Assume that  $\|T_k\| \leq C \quad \forall k = 1, \dots, N$ . Then  $T = \bigoplus_{k=1}^N T_k$  is an operator on  $H = \bigoplus_{k=1}^N H_k$  defined by  $T(\{h_k\}) = \{T_k h_k\} \in H$ .

Remark:  $\|T\| = \sup_{1 \leq k \leq N} \|T_k\|$ , because

$$\|\tilde{T}(\{h_k\})\|_H^2 = \sum_1^N \|T_k h_k\|^2 \leq C^2 \sum_1^N \|h_k\|^2 = C^2 \|h\|^2 \Rightarrow \|T\| \leq C$$

$\|T\| \geq C - \varepsilon$  for every  $\varepsilon$ , because  $\|T\| \geq \|T_k\| \quad \forall k$ .

(consider  $h$  of the form  $\{0, 0, \dots, 0, g, 0, \dots, 0\}$

$\tilde{T}$  k-th position, arbitrary  $g \in H_k$   
with  $\|g\|=1$

Definition: An operator  $U$  is unitary if  $U^* U = U U^* = I$ .

Proposition: Let  $U \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ . TFAE:

- 1)  $U$  is unitary
- 2)  $U$  is a bijection from  $H$  onto  $H$  and  $\|U(x)\| = \|x\|$  for every  $x \in H$ .

Proof: Exercise.  $\begin{aligned} \langle Ux, Ux \rangle &= \langle x, x \rangle \\ \langle U^* Ux, x \rangle & \end{aligned}$  ← hint

Definition: Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ . Then  $E \subset H$  is a reducing subspace of  $T$  if  $TE \subset E$  and  $T^* E \subset E$ .

Proposition:  $E$  is reducing for  $T \Leftrightarrow TE \subset E, TE^\perp \subset E^\perp$ , where  $E^\perp = \{h \in H \mid \langle h, g \rangle = 0 \quad \forall g \in E\}$ .

Proof:  $TE^\perp \subset E^\perp \Leftrightarrow TE^\perp \perp E \Leftrightarrow E^\perp \perp T^*E \Leftrightarrow T^*E \subset E$ . □

$$\langle Tg^\perp, h \rangle = 0 \Leftrightarrow \langle g^\perp, T^*h \rangle = 0$$

December 3, 2025

Proposition: Let  $H$  be a separable Hilbert space and  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  be normal. Then there exist subspaces  $\{H_k\} \subset H$ :

- 1)  $\bigoplus H_k = H$
- 2)  $H_k$  are reducing for  $T$
- 3)  $T = \bigoplus T_k$ ,  $T_k \in \mathcal{B}(H_k)$  normal
- 4)  $\exists h_k \in H_k$ .  $\text{clos}\{p(T, T^*)h_k \mid p = p(z, \bar{z}) \text{ is a polynomial}\} = H_k$

Proof: Take a sequence  $\{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  dense in  $H$  ( $H$  separable).

$h_1 := g_1$   $H_1 := \text{clos}\{p(T, T^*) \mid p \in \mathcal{P}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}$ ... polynomials in  $z, \bar{z}$   
 $h_2 := P_{H_1^\perp} g_{k_2}$ , where  $k_2$  is the minimal integer  $k$  such that  
orthogonal projection  $P_{H_1^\perp} g_k \neq 0$  ( $\Leftrightarrow g_k \notin H_1$ )

$H_2 := \text{clos}\{p(T, T^*)h_2 \mid p \in \mathcal{P}\}$ .

$h_3 := P_{(\text{Span}(H_1, H_2))^\perp} g_{k_3}$ , where  $k_3$  is the minimal integer  $k$  such that  
 $P_{(\text{Span}(H_1, H_2))^\perp} g_k \neq 0$  ( $\Leftrightarrow g_k \notin \text{Span}(H_1, H_2)$ )

⋮

We get a sequence of vectors  $\{h_n\}_{n=1}^N$  and subspaces  $\{H_n\}_{n=1}^N$   
where  $1 \leq N \leq +\infty$  (if there is no integer  $k_{n+1}$ , the procedure stops).

Claim:  $H_j \perp H_n$  if  $j \neq n$ .

Let  $j > n$ . We need to check that

$$\langle p(T, T^*)h_j, q(T, T^*)h_n \rangle = 0 \quad \forall p, q \in \mathcal{P}$$

$$\langle h_j, \underbrace{(p \cdot q)(T, T^*)h_n}_{\text{span}(H_1, \dots, H_{j-1})^\perp} \rangle = 0$$

$\hat{H}_n$  True, because  $H_n$  is among  $H_1, \dots, H_{j-1}$ .

Claim:  $\bigoplus H_k = H$

If this is not the case,  $\exists h \in H \setminus \{0\}$ .  $h \perp \bigoplus H_k \Rightarrow h \perp H_k \forall k$

$\Rightarrow h \perp g_k$  for every  $k \geq 1 \Rightarrow h \perp$  (dense subset in  $H$ )  $\Rightarrow h = 0$   $\blacksquare$

Claim:  $H_k$  is reducing for  $T$  - this is just by construction  $T_p(T, T^*) = \tilde{p}(T, T^*)$ ,  $T^*p(T, T^*) = \tilde{p}^*(T, T^*)$ , where  $\tilde{p} = z \cdot p$ ,  $\tilde{p}^* = \bar{z} \cdot p$ .

Claim:  $T = \bigoplus T_k$ ,  $T_k$  are normal

$$T_k = T|_{H_k}, \quad 0 = TT^* - T^*T = \bigoplus (T_k T_k^* - T_k^* T_k) \Leftrightarrow T_k T_k^* - T_k^* T_k = 0 \quad \forall k$$

Claim:  $\text{clos} \{ p(T, T^*) h_k, p \in \mathcal{D} \} = H_k$

By construction (definition of  $H_k$ ).  $\blacksquare$

Theorem [Riesz-Markov]: Let  $K$  be a compact Hausdorff space.

Then  $C(K)^* = \mathcal{M}(K)$  (set of Borel measures), i.e. for every linear continuous functional  $\phi: C(K) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  there exists a unique Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $K$  (complex-valued) such that

$$\phi(f) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_K f d\mu, \quad f \in C(K) \text{ and } \|\phi\| = |\mu|(K) = \sup_{\substack{u_n \in K \\ k_1, k_n \in \mathcal{D}}} \sum_{j=1}^n |\mu(k_j)|.$$

Conversely, every functional  $\phi$  of the form (\*) belongs to  $C(K)^*$ . Moreover, if  $\forall f \in C(K), f \geq 0 \Rightarrow \phi(f) \geq 0$ , then the representing measure is a non-negative measure.

December 9, 2025

Proof of Spectral Theorem: By previous consideration, we know that  $T = \bigoplus T_k$  and  $H = \bigoplus H_k$  where  $T_k \in \mathcal{J}(H_k)$  are such that  $\exists h_k \in H_k$ .  $\text{Span} \{ T^k T^{*j} h_k \mid k, j \geq 0 \}$  is dense in  $H_k$ . Let us show that  $T_k \cong M_z$  on some  $L^2(\mu_k)$ . For every  $k$ . Define  $\Phi(f) := (f(T_k) h_k, h_k)$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{C}(\sigma(T_k))$ , where  $\sigma(T_k)$  is the spectrum of  $T_k$  in the  $C^*$ -algebra generated by  $T_k$  (in fact,  $\sigma(T_k) = \widehat{\sigma}(T_k)$  but we do not know this yet).

$\Phi(d_1 f_1 + d_2 f_2) = d_1 \Phi(f_1) + d_2 \Phi(f_2) \quad \forall d_1, d_2 \in \mathbb{C}, \forall f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{C}(\sigma(T_k))$ , because the functional calculus  $f \mapsto f(T_k)$  is linear.

$$|\Phi(f)| = |(f(T_k) h_k, h_k)| \leq \|f(T_k)\| \cdot \|h_k\|^2 \leq \|f\|_{\mathcal{C}(\sigma(T_k))} \cdot \|h_k\|^2$$

↑ property of functional calculus

$\Rightarrow \|\Phi\|_{\mathcal{C}(\sigma(T_k))^*} < \infty \Rightarrow$  by Riesz-Markov theorem  $\exists \mu_k \in \mathcal{M}(\sigma(T_k))$  such that  $\Phi(f) = \int f d\mu_k$ .

Let us show that the measure  $\mu_k$  is nonnegative. We need to check that  $\forall \varphi \in C(\tilde{\sigma}(T_k))$ ,  $\varphi \geq 0 \Rightarrow \Phi(\varphi) \geq 0$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(\varphi) &= (\varphi(T_k)h_k, h_k) = ((\sqrt{\varphi} \cdot \sqrt{\varphi})(T_k)h_k, h_k) = (\sqrt{\varphi}(T_k)^* \sqrt{\varphi}(T_k)h_k, h_k) \\ &= \|\sqrt{\varphi}(T_k)h_k\|^2 \geq 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu_k \geq 0$$

Define  $V_k : \varphi(T_k)h_k \mapsto \varphi$  on a dense subset of  $H_k$  formed by  $\{\varphi(T_k)h_k \mid \varphi \in C(\tilde{\sigma}(T_k))\} = \mathring{H}_k$  (this subset is dense because of (\*)) and consider it as an operator from  $\mathring{H}_k$  to  $L^2(\mu_k)$ .

We need to prove  $V_k$  is defined correctly and isometric on  $\mathring{H}_k$ :

$$\|V_k \varphi(T_k)h_k\|_{L^2(\mu_k)}^2 = \int_{\tilde{\sigma}(T_k)} |\varphi|^2 d\mu_k$$

$$\|\varphi(T_k)h_k\|_{L^2(\mu_k)}^2 = (\varphi(T_k)h_k, \varphi(T_k)h_k) = (\|\varphi\|^2(T_k)h_k, h_k) = \Phi(|\varphi|^2) = \int_{\tilde{\sigma}(T_k)} |\varphi|^2 d\mu_k$$

In particular,  $\|V_k \varphi_1(T_k)h_k - V_k \varphi_2(T_k)h_k\|^2 = \int |\varphi_1 - \varphi_2|^2 d\mu_k$ , so if  $\varphi_1(T_k)h_k = \varphi_2(T_k)h_k$ , then  $V_k \varphi_1(T_k)h_k = V_k \varphi_2(T_k)h_k$  ( $\Rightarrow$  correctness of definition).

$V_k$  is a bijection from  $H_k$  to  $L^2(\mu_k)$  after extension to the whole set  $H_k$  by continuity:

1)  $V_k$  is an injection, because it is an isometry

2)  $V_k$  is a surjection, because the range of  $V_k$  is closed ( $V_k$  is an isometry) and dense in  $L^2(\mu_k)$  (range contains  $C(\tilde{\sigma}(T_k))$ -a dense subset in  $L^2(\mu_k)$ ).

$\Rightarrow V_k$  is a unitary operator. Let's check that  $V_k T_k V_k^{-1} = M_z$ :

Take  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in C(\tilde{\sigma}(T_k))$  and consider

$$\begin{aligned}(T_k \varphi_1(T_k)h_k, \varphi_2(T_k)h_k) &= ((\bar{\varphi}_2 \cdot z \cdot \varphi_1)(T_k)h_k, h_k) = \Phi(\bar{\varphi}_2 z \varphi_1) = \int \bar{\varphi}_2 \cdot z \cdot \varphi_1 d\mu_k = \\ &= (z \varphi_1, \varphi_2)_{L^2(\mu_k)} = (M_z \varphi_1, \varphi_2)_{L^2(\mu_k)} = (M_z V_k(\varphi_1(T_k)h_k), V_k(\varphi_2(T_k)h_k)) = \\ &= (V_k^* M_z V_k \varphi_1(T_k)h_k, \varphi_2(T_k)h_k).\end{aligned}$$

$T_k = V_k^* M_z V_k \Leftrightarrow V_k T_k V_k^{-1} = M_z$  because  $V_k^* = V_k^{-1}$  for unitary operators.

It remains to check that  $\text{supp } \mu_k \subset \sigma(T)$ . We will prove more:

$\overline{\cup \text{supp } \mu_k} = \sigma(T)$ . For this we need a separate lemma:

Lemma: Let  $M_z : f \mapsto zf$  be the multiplication operator on  $L^2(\mu)$  for some compactly supported Borel measure  $\mu$ . Then  $\sigma(M_z) = \tilde{\sigma}(M_z) = \text{supp } \mu$ .

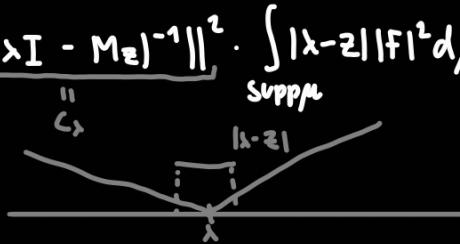
Proof:  $\sigma(M_z) \supset \tilde{\sigma}(M_z) \Rightarrow \sigma(M_z) \subset \tilde{\sigma}(M_z)$  (just because  $\mathcal{B}(H) \supset C^*\text{-algebra}$  generated by  $M_z$ ). If  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \text{supp}\mu \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\lambda-z} \in \ell(\text{supp}\mu) \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\lambda-z} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_k(z, \bar{z})$  in  $\ell(\text{supp}\mu)$

$(\lambda I - M_z)(M_{\frac{1}{\lambda-z}}) = I \Rightarrow$  for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \text{supp}\mu$ :  $\lambda I - M_z$  is invertible, and, moreover,  $(\lambda I - M_z)^{-1} = M_{\frac{1}{\lambda-z}} \in C^*\text{-algebra}$  generated by  $M_z$ , because  $\|M_{\frac{1}{\lambda-z}} - p_k(M_z, M_z^*)\| \leq \|\frac{1}{\lambda-z} - p_k(z, \bar{z})\|_{\ell(\text{supp}\mu)} \rightarrow 0$  by (\*\*).

$$\mathbb{C} \setminus \text{supp}\mu \subset \tilde{\sigma}(M_z) \Leftrightarrow \tilde{\sigma}(M_z) \subset \text{supp}\mu \Rightarrow \sigma(M_z) \subset \tilde{\sigma}(M_z) \subset \text{supp}\mu$$

It remains to check that  $\text{supp}\mu \subset \sigma(M_z)$ . Take  $\lambda \in \text{supp}\mu$  and assume that  $\exists (\lambda I - M_z)^{-1} \in \mathcal{B}(L^2(\mu))$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{L^2(\mu)}^2 &= \|(\lambda I - M_z)^{-1}(\lambda I - M_z)f\|^2 \leq \|(\lambda I - M_z)^{-1}\|^2 \cdot \int_{\text{supp}\mu} |\lambda - z| |f(z)|^2 d\mu \\ &\Rightarrow \int_{\text{supp}\mu} |\lambda - z| |f(z)|^2 d\mu \geq \frac{1}{c_\lambda} \|f\|_{L^2(\mu)}^2 \end{aligned}$$



$$\text{Take } f_\varepsilon := \frac{\chi_{B(x, \varepsilon)}}{\sqrt{\mu(B(x, \varepsilon))}}, \quad \|f_\varepsilon\|_{L^2(\mu)} = 1$$

$$\int_{|\lambda - z| \leq \varepsilon} |\lambda - z| |f_\varepsilon(z)|^2 d\mu \leq \varepsilon \int_{B(x, \varepsilon)} |f_\varepsilon(z)|^2 d\mu = \varepsilon \Rightarrow \varepsilon \geq \frac{1}{c_\lambda} \quad \times$$

□

The end of the proof of the spectral theorem:

We have shown that  $T \cong \bigoplus M_z$  on  $\bigoplus L^2(\mu_k)$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} \text{supp}\mu_k &= \tilde{\sigma}(T_k) = \tilde{\sigma}(M_z) \stackrel{\text{Lemma}}{=} \sigma(M_z) = \sigma(T_k) \subset \sigma(\bigoplus T_k) \subset \sigma(T) \\ \Rightarrow \text{supp}\mu_k &\subset \sigma(T) \Rightarrow \bigcup_k \text{supp}\mu_k \subset \sigma(T) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \overline{\bigcup_k \text{supp}\mu_k} \subset \sigma(T) \quad (\sigma(T) \text{ closed})$$

But for every  $\lambda \notin \overline{\bigcup_k \text{supp}\mu_k}$  we have  $\text{dist}(\lambda, \text{supp}\mu_k) > \varepsilon \quad \forall k$ .

$$\Rightarrow \|(\lambda I - M_z)^{-1}\| \leq \frac{1}{\text{dist}(\lambda, \text{supp}\mu_k)} \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|\bigoplus (\lambda I - M_z)^{-1}\| \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \quad \text{and} \quad \left( \bigoplus (\lambda I - M_z)^{-1} \right) \left( \bigoplus (\lambda I - M_z) \right) = \bigoplus I_k = I$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda \in \sigma(T) \Rightarrow \sigma(T) = \overline{\bigcup_k \text{supp}\mu_k}$$

□

## Simplest consequences of the spectral theorem

Proposition: Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ :  $T^*T = TT^*$ . Then

- $T$  is unitary  $\Leftrightarrow \sigma(T) \subset \{|z|=1\}$ .
- $T$  is self-adjoint  $\Leftrightarrow \sigma(T) \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

Proof:  $T \cong \bigoplus M_z$   $T$  is unitary  $\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} T^*T = I \\ TT^* = I \end{cases}$

$$\Leftrightarrow \bigoplus M_z^* M_z = \bigoplus I_k \Leftrightarrow M_z M_z^* = M_z^* M_z \text{ For every block}$$

$$\bigoplus M_z M_z^* = \bigoplus I_k$$

$\Leftrightarrow M_z: f \mapsto zf$  is unitary on  $L^2(\mu_n)$

$$M_{|z|^2} = I \text{ on } L^2(\mu_n) \Leftrightarrow |z|^2 f = f \quad \forall f \in L^2(\mu_n) \Leftrightarrow |z| = 1 \text{ on } \overline{\text{supp } \mu_n}$$

Since  $\sigma(T) = \overline{\bigcup \text{supp } \mu_n} \Leftrightarrow \sigma(T) \subset \{|z|=1\}$ .

$T$  is self adjoint  $\Leftrightarrow T - T^* = 0 \Leftrightarrow \bigoplus M_z - M_z^* = 0 \Leftrightarrow$

$$\Leftrightarrow M_{z-\bar{z}} = 0 \text{ on } L^2(\mu) \Leftrightarrow (z-\bar{z})f = 0 \quad \forall f \in L^2(\mu)$$

$\Leftrightarrow z - \bar{z} = 0 \text{ on } \overline{\text{supp } \mu_n} \Leftrightarrow \text{supp } \mu_n \subset \mathbb{R} \quad \forall k$ .

So,  $T = T^* \Leftrightarrow \overline{\bigcup \text{supp } \mu_n} \subset \mathbb{R} \Leftrightarrow \sigma(T) \subset \mathbb{R}$ . □

Proposition: Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ :  $T^*T = TT^*$ , and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \sigma(T)$ . Then

$$\|(\lambda I - T)^{-1}\| \leq \frac{1}{\text{dist}(\lambda, \sigma(T))}.$$

Proof:  $\lambda \notin \sigma(T) \Leftrightarrow \lambda \notin \overline{\bigcup \text{supp } \mu_n}$ ,  $(\lambda I - T)^{-1} = \bigoplus (\lambda I - M_z)^{-1}$

$$\|(\lambda I - T)^{-1}\| = \sup \|(\lambda I - M_z)^{-1}\|_{L^2(\mu_n)} = \sup_k \|\varphi_\lambda(M_z)\|_{\mathcal{B}(L^2(\mu_n))}, \quad \varphi_\lambda = \frac{1}{z-\lambda}$$

By functional calculus theorem:

$$\|\varphi_\lambda(M_z)\|_{\mathcal{B}(L^2(\mu_n))} = \|\varphi_\lambda\|_{C(\overline{\text{supp } \mu_n})}.$$

$$\Rightarrow \|(\lambda I - T)^{-1}\| = \sup_k \sup_{\xi \in \text{supp } \mu_k} \frac{1}{|\lambda - \xi|} = \sup_{\lambda \in \sigma(T)} \frac{1}{|\lambda - \xi|} = \frac{1}{\text{dist}(\lambda, \sigma(T))}. \quad \square$$

Proposition: If  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ ,  $TT^* = T^*T$ , then  $\exists$  a nontrivial invariant subspace of  $T$ .

Proof: It suffices to note that either  $T$  has a reducing subspace or  $T \cong M_Z$  on  $L^2(\mu)$ ,  $\exists V: H \rightarrow L^2(\mu)$  unitary

$$\Rightarrow \dim(L^2(\mu)) = +\infty \Rightarrow \#\text{supp } \mu = +\infty$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists \text{ subset } E: \mu(E) > 0, \mu(E \setminus E) > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow L^2(\mu) = \underbrace{L^2(\chi_E \mu)}_{\text{invariant under } M_Z} \oplus \underbrace{L^2(\chi_{E^c} \mu)}$$

□