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SIMPLICITY OF CROSSED PRODUCTS OF C^* -ALGEBRAS

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Abstract

Write abstract

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Hilbert C^* -modules and the Multiplier Algebra

In this chapter we introduce some of the fundamental theory of Hilbert C^* -modules, which may be thought of as a generalization of Hilbert spaces. The primary source of inspiration and techniques are the excellent books on the subject: [9], [6] and [7]. After reviewing the basic definitions we will proceed to construct and prove theorems regarding the Multiplier Algebra, which plays a crucial part in the development of the theory of the general crossed product, one of the basic constructions of this thesis.

1.1 HILBERT C^* -MODULES

Given a non-unital C^* -algebra A , we can extend a lot of the theory of unital C^* -algebras to A by considering the unitalization $A^\dagger = A + 1\mathbb{C}$ with the canonical operations. This is the 'smallest' unitalization in the sense that A the inclusion map is non-degenerate and maps A to an ideal of A^\dagger such that $A^\dagger/A \cong \mathbb{C}$. We can also consider a maximal unitalization, called the *Multiplier Algebra* of A , denoted by $M(A)$. We will now construct it and some theory revolving it, in particular that of Hilbert-modules:

Definition 1.1. Let A be any C^* -algebra. An *inner-product A -module* is a complex vector space E which is also a right- A -module which is equipped with a map $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_A : E \times A \rightarrow A$ such that for $x, y, z \in E$, $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$ and $a \in A$ we have

$$\langle a, \alpha y + \beta z \rangle_A = \alpha \langle x, y \rangle_A + \beta \langle x, z \rangle_A \quad (1.1)$$

$$\langle x, y \cdot a \rangle_A = \langle x, y \rangle_A \cdot a \quad (1.2)$$

$$\langle y, x \rangle_A = \langle x, y \rangle_A^* \quad (1.3)$$

$$\langle x, x \rangle_A \geq 0 \quad (1.4)$$

$$\langle x, x \rangle_A = 0 \implies x = 0. \quad (1.5)$$

If $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ satisfy (1.1)-(1.4) but not (1.5) above, we say that E is a *semi-inner-product A -module*. If there is no confusion, we simply write $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ to mean the A -valued inner-product on E . Similarly, we will often denote $x \cdot a$ by xa .

There is of course a corresponding version of left inner-product A -modules, with the above conditions adjusted suitably. However, we will unless otherwise specified always mean a right A -module in the following.

It is easy to see that this generalizes the notion of Hilbert spaces, for if $A = \mathbb{C}$, then any Hilbert space (over \mathbb{C}) is a inner-product \mathbb{C} -module. Even when E is only a semi-inner-product A -module, we still have a lot of the nice properties of regular inner-producte, e.g.:

Proposition 1.2 (Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality). Let E be a semi-inner-product A -module. For $x, y \in E$, it holds that

$$\langle x, y \rangle^* \langle x, y \rangle \leq \|\langle x, x \rangle\|_A \langle y, y \rangle.$$

Proof.

Let $x, y \in E$ and let $a = \langle x, y \rangle \in A$ and $t > 0$. Then, since $(\langle x, y \rangle a)^* = a^* \langle y, x \rangle$, we have

$$0 \leq \langle xa - ty, xa - ty \rangle = t^2 \langle y, y \rangle + a^* \langle x, x \rangle a - 2ta^* a.$$

For $c \geq 0$ in A , it holds that $a^* ca \leq \|c\|_A a^* a$: Let $A \subseteq \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ faithfully. The regular Cauchy-Schwarz implies that $\langle a^* ca \xi, \xi \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \leq \|c\| \langle a^* a \xi, \xi \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ for all $\xi \in \mathcal{H}$. With this in mind, we then have

$$0 \leq a^* a \|\langle x, x \rangle\|_A - 2ta^* a + t^2 \langle y, y \rangle.$$

If $\langle x, x \rangle = 0$, then $0 \leq 2a^* a \leq t \langle y, y \rangle \rightarrow 0$, as $t \rightarrow 0$ so that $a^* a = 0$ as wanted. If $\langle x, x \rangle \neq 0$, then $t = \|\langle x, x \rangle\|_A$ gives the wanted inequality. \square

Recall that for $0 \leq a \leq b \in A$, it holds that $\|a\|_A \leq \|b\|_A$. This and the above implies that $\|\langle x, y \rangle\|_A^2 \leq \|\langle x, x \rangle\|_A \|\langle y, y \rangle\|_A$.

Definition 1.3. If E is an (semi-)inner-product A -module, we define a (semi-)norm on E by

$$\|x\| := \|\langle x, x \rangle\|_A^{\frac{1}{2}}, \text{ for } x \in E.$$

If E is an inner-product A -module such that this norm is complete, we say that E is a *Hilbert C^* -module over A* or just a *Hilbert A -module*.

If the above defined norm is but a semi-norm, then we may form the quotient space of E with respect to $N = \{x \in E \mid \langle x, x \rangle = 0\}$ to obtain an inner-product A -module with the obvious operations. Moreover, the usual ways of passing from pre-Hilbert spaces extend naturally to pre-Hilbert A -modules. For $x \in E$ and $a \in A$, we see that

$$\|xa\|^2 = \left\| \underbrace{a^* \langle x, x \rangle a}_{\geq 0} \right\| \leq \|a\|^2 \|x\|^2,$$

so that $\|xa\| \leq \|x\| \|a\|$, which shows that E is a normed A -module. For $a \in A$, let $R_a: x \mapsto xa \in E$. Then R_a is a linear map on E satisfying $\|R_a\| = \sup_{\|x\|=1} \|xa\| \leq \|a\|$, and the map $R: a \mapsto R_a$ is a contractive anti-homomorphism of A into the space of bounded linear maps on E (anti in the sense that $R_{ab} = R_b R_a$ for $a, b \in A$).

Example 1.4

The classic example of a Hilbert A -module is A itself with $\langle a, b \rangle = a^*b$, for $a, b \in A$. We will write A_A to specify that we consider A as a Hilbert A -module.

For a Hilbert A -module E , we let $\langle E, E \rangle = \text{Span} \{ \langle x, y \rangle \mid x, y \in E \}$. It is not hard to see that $\langle E, E \rangle$ is a closed ideal in A , and moreover, we see that:

Lemma 1.5. The set $E\langle E, E \rangle$ is dense in E .

Proof.

Let (u_i) denote an approximate unit for $\langle E, E \rangle$. Then clearly $\langle x - xu_i, x - xu_i \rangle \rightarrow 0$ for $x \in E$ (seen by expanding the expression), which implies that $xu_i \rightarrow x$ in E \square

In fact, the above proof also shows that EA is dense in E and that $x1 = x$ when $1 \in A$.

Definition 1.6. If $\langle E, E \rangle$ is dense in A we say that the Hilbert A -module is *full*.

Many classic constructions preserve Hilbert C^* -modules:

Example 1.7

If E_1, \dots, E_n are Hilbert A -modules, then $\bigoplus_{1 \leq i \leq n} E_i$ is a Hilbert A -module with the inner product $\langle (x_i), (y_i) \rangle = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} \langle x_i, y_i \rangle_{E_i}$. This is obvious.

Example 1.8

If $\{E_i\}$ is a set of Hilbert A -modules, and let $\bigoplus_i E_i$ denote the set

$$\bigoplus_i E_i := \left\{ (x_i) \in \prod_i E_i \mid \sum_i \langle x_i, x_i \rangle \text{ converges in } A \right\}.$$

Then $\bigoplus_i E_i$ is a Hilbert A -module. The details of the proof are nothing short of standard, so we refer to [6, p. 5].

Note 1.9

There are similarities and differences between Hilbert A -modules and regular Hilbert spaces. One major difference is that for closed submodules $F \subseteq E$, it does not hold that $F \oplus F^\perp = E$, where $F^\perp = \{y \in E \mid \langle x, y \rangle = 0, x \in F\}$: Let $A = C([0, 1])$ and consider A_A . Let $F \subseteq A$ be the set $F = \{f \in A_A \mid f(0) = f(1) = 0\}$. Then F is clearly a closed sub A -module of A_A . Consider the element $f \in F$ given by

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} t & t \in [0, \frac{1}{2}] \\ 1 - t & t \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1] \end{cases}$$

For all $g \in F^\perp$ it holds that $\langle f, g \rangle = fg = 0$, so $g(t) = 0$ for $t \in (0, 1)$ and by uniform continuity on all of $[0, 1]$, from which we deduce that $F^\perp = \{0\}$ showing that $A \neq F \oplus F^\perp$. The number of important results in the theory of Hilbert spaces relying on the fact that $\mathcal{H} = F^\perp \oplus F$ for closed subspaces F of \mathcal{H} is enormous, and hence we do not have the entirety of our usual toolbox available.

However, returning to the general case, we are pleased to see that it does hold for Hilbert A -modules E that for $x \in E$ we have

$$\|x\| = \sup \{ \|\langle x, y \rangle\| \mid y \in E, \|y\| \leq 1 \}. \quad (\star)$$

This is an obvious consequence of the Cauchy-Schwarz theorem for Hilbert A -modules.

Another huge difference is that adjoints don't automatically exist: Let $A = C([0, 1])$ again and F as before. Let $\iota: F \rightarrow A$ be the inclusion map. Clearly ι is a linear map from F to A , however, if it had an adjoint $\iota^*: A \rightarrow F$, then for any self-adjoint $f \in F$, we have

$$f = \langle \iota(f), 1 \rangle_A = \langle f, \iota^*(1) \rangle = f \iota^*(1),$$

so $\iota^*(1) = 1$, but $1 \notin F$. Hence ι^* is not adjointable. We shall investigate properties of the adjointable operators in more detail further on.

1.2 THE C^* -ALGEBRA OF ADJOINTABLE OPERATORS

The set of adjointable maps between Hilbert A -modules is of great importance and has many nice properties, and while not all results carry over from the theory of bounded operators on a Hilbert space, many do, as we shall see.

Definition 1.10. For Hilbert A -modules E_i with A -valued inner-products $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_i$, $i = 1, 2$, we define $\mathcal{L}_A(E_1, E_2)$ to be the set of all maps $t: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ for which there exists a map $t^*: E_2 \rightarrow E_1$ such that

$$\langle tx, y \rangle_2 = \langle x, t^*y \rangle_1,$$

for all $x \in E_1$ and $y \in E_2$, i.e., *adjointable maps*. When no confusion may occur, we will write $\mathcal{L}(E_1, E_2)$ and omit the subscript.

Proposition 1.11. if $t \in \mathcal{L}(E_1, E_2)$, then

1. t is A -linear and
2. t is a bounded map.

Proof.

Linearity is clear. To see A -linearity, note that for $x_1, x_2 \in E_i$ and $a \in A$ we have $a^* \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle_i = \langle x_1 a, x_2 \rangle_i$, and hence for $x \in E_1$, $y \in E_2$ and $a \in A$ we have $\langle t(xa), y \rangle_2 = a^* \langle x, t^*(y) \rangle_1 = \langle t(x)a, y \rangle_1$.

To see that t is bounded, we note that T has closed graph: Let $x_n \rightarrow x$ in E_1 and assume that $tx_n \rightarrow z \in E_2$. Then

$$\langle tx_n, y \rangle_2 = \langle x_n, t^*y \rangle_1 \rightarrow \langle x, t^*y \rangle_1 = \langle tx, y \rangle_2$$

so $tx = z$, and hence t is bounded, by the Closed Graph Theorem (CGT hereonforth). \square

In particular, similar to the way that the algebra $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H}) = \mathcal{L}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{C}}, \mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{C}})$ is of great importance, we examine the for a fixed Hilbert A -module E , the $*$ -subalgebra $\mathcal{L}(E) := \mathcal{L}(E, E)$ of bounded operators on E :

Proposition 1.12. The algebra $\mathcal{L}(E)$ is a closed $*$ -subalgebra of $\mathbb{B}(E)$ such that for $t \in \mathcal{L}(E)$ we have

$$\|t^*t\| = \|t\|^2,$$

hence is it a C^* -algebra.

Proof.

Since $\mathbb{B}(E)$ is a Banach algebra, we have $\|t^*t\| \leq \|t^*\| \|t\|$ for all $t \in \mathcal{L}(E)$. Moreover, by Cauchy-Schwarz, we have

$$\|t^*t\| = \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} \{\|t^*tx\|\} = \sup_{\|x\|, \|y\| \leq 1} \{\langle tx, ty \rangle\} \geq \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} \{\|\langle tx, tx \rangle\|\} = \|t\|^2,$$

so $\|t^*t\| = \|t\|^2$. Assume that $t \neq 0$, then we see that $\|t\| = \|t^*t\| \|t\|^{-1} \leq \|t^*\|$ and similarly $\|t^*\| \leq \|t^{**}\| = \|t\|$, so $\|t\| = \|t^*\|$, in particular $t \mapsto t^*$ is continuous. It is clear that $\mathcal{L}(E)$ is a $*$ -subalgebra. To see that it is closed, suppose that (t_α) is a Cauchy-net, and denote its limit by $t \in \mathbb{B}(E)$. By the above, we see that (t_α^*) is Cauchy with limit $f \in \mathbb{B}(E)$, since Then, we see that for all $x, y \in E$

$$\langle tx, y \rangle = \lim_{\alpha} \langle t_\alpha x, y \rangle = \lim_{\alpha} \langle x, t_\alpha^* y \rangle = \langle x, fy \rangle,$$

so t is adjointable, hence an element of $\mathcal{L}(E)$. □

If we for $x \in E$ denote the element $\langle x, x \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \geq 0$ by $|x|_A$, then we obtain a variant of a classic and important inequality:

Lemma 1.13. Let $t \in \mathcal{L}(E)$, then $|tx|^2 \leq \|t\|^2 |x|^2$ for all $x \in E$.

Proof.

The operator $\|t\|^2 - t^*t \geq 0$, since $\mathcal{L}(E)$ is a C^* -algebra, and thus equal to s^*s for some $s \in \mathcal{L}(E)$. Hence

$$\|t\|^2 \langle x, x \rangle - \langle t^*tx, x \rangle = \langle (\|t\|^2 - t^*t)x, x \rangle = \langle sx, sx \rangle \geq 0,$$

for all $x \in E$, as wanted. □

A quite useful result about positive operators on a Hilbert space carries over to the case of Hilbert C^* -modules, for we have:

Lemma 1.14. Let E be a Hilbert A -module and let T be a linear operator on E . Then T is a positive operator in $\mathcal{L}_A(E)$ if and only if for all $x \in E$ it holds that $\langle Tx, x \rangle \geq 0$ in A .

Proof.

If T is adjointable and positive, then $T = S^*S$ for some $S \in \mathcal{L}(E)$ and $\langle Tx, x \rangle = \langle Sx, Sx \rangle \geq 0$. For the converse, we note first that the usual polarization identity applies to Hilbert C^* -modules as well:

$$4\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{k=0}^3 i^k \langle u + i^k v, u + i^k v \rangle,$$

for all $u, v \in E$, since $\langle u, v \rangle = \langle v, u \rangle^*$. Hence, if $\langle Tx, x \rangle \geq 0$ for all $x \in E$, we see that $\langle Tx, x \rangle = \langle x, Tx \rangle$, so

$$4\langle Tx, y \rangle = \sum_{k=0}^3 i^k \underbrace{\langle T(x + i^k y), x + i^k y \rangle}_{= \langle x + i^k y, T(x + i^k y) \rangle} = 4\langle x, Ty \rangle, \text{ for } x, y \in E.$$

Thus $T = T^*$ is an adjoint of T and $T \in \mathcal{L}_A(E)$. An application of the continuous functional calculus allows us to write $T = T^+ - T^-$ for positive operators $T^+, T^- \in \mathcal{L}_A(E)$ with $T^+T^- = T^-T^+ = 0$, see e.g., [13, Theorem 11.2]. Then, for all $x \in E$ we have

$$0 \leq \langle TT^-x, x \rangle = \langle -(T^-)^2x, T^-x \rangle = -\underbrace{\langle (T^-)^3x, x \rangle}_{\geq 0} \leq 0,$$

so $\langle (T^-)^3x, x \rangle = 0$ for all x . The polarization identity shows that $(T^-)^3 = 0$ and hence $(T^-) = 0$, so $T = T^+ \geq 0$. \square

And, as in the Hilbert Space situation, we also have

Lemma 1.15. Let E be a Hilbert A -module and $T \geq 0$ in $\mathcal{L}_A(E)$. Then

$$\|T\| = \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} \{\|\langle Tx, x \rangle\|\}$$

Proof.

Write $T = S^*S$ for $S \in \mathcal{L}_A(E)$ to obtain the identity. \square

It is well-known that the only ideal of $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is the set of compact operators, $\mathbb{K}(\mathcal{H})$, which is the norm closure of the finite-rank operators. We now examine the Hilbert C^* -module analogue of these two subsets:

Definition 1.16. Let E, F be Hilbert A -modules. Given $x \in E$ and $y \in F$, we let $\Theta_{x,y}: F \rightarrow E$ be the map

$$\Theta_{x,y}(z) := x\langle y, z \rangle,$$

for $z \in F$. It is easy to see that $\Theta_{x,y} \in \mathbb{B}(F, E)$.

Proposition 1.17. Let E, F be Hilbert A -modules. Then for every $x \in E$ and $y \in F$, it holds that $\Theta_{x,y} \in \mathcal{L}(F, E)$. Moreover, if H is another Hilbert A -module, then

1. $\Theta_{x,y}\Theta_{u,v} = \Theta_{x\langle y,u\rangle_F,v} = \Theta_{x,v\langle u,v\rangle_F}$, for $u \in F$ and $v \in G$,
2. $T\Theta_{x,y} = \Theta_{Tx,y}$, for $T \in \mathcal{L}(E, G)$,
3. $\Theta_{x,y}S = \Theta_{x,S^*y}$ for $S \in \mathcal{L}(G, F)$.

Proof.

Let $x, w \in E$ and $y, u \in F$ for Hilbert A -modules E, F as above. Then, we see that

$$\langle \theta_{x,y}(u), w \rangle_E = \langle x\langle y, u \rangle_F, w \rangle_E = \langle u, y \rangle_F \langle x, w \rangle_E = \langle u, y\langle x, w \rangle_E \rangle_F,$$

so $\Theta_{x,y}^* = \Theta_{y,x} \in \mathcal{L}(E, F)$. Suppose that G is another Hilbert A -module and $v \in G$ is arbitrary, then

$$\Theta_{x,y}\Theta_{u,v}(g) = x\langle y, u\langle v, g \rangle_G \rangle_F = x\langle y, u \rangle_F \langle v, g \rangle = \Theta_{x\langle y,u \rangle_F,v}(g),$$

for $g \in G$. The other identity in (1) follows analogously. Let $T \in \mathcal{L}(E, G)$, then

$$T\Theta_{x,y}(u) = Tx\langle y, u \rangle_F = \Theta_{Tx,y}(u),$$

so (2) holds and (3) follows analogously. \square

Definition 1.18. Let E, F be Hilbert A -modules. We define the set of compact operators $F \rightarrow E$ to be the set

$$\mathbb{K}_A(F, E) := \overline{\text{Span}\{\Theta_{x,y} \mid x \in E, y \in F\}} \subseteq \mathcal{L}_A(F, E).$$

It follows that for $E = F$, the $*$ -subalgebra of $\mathcal{L}_A(E)$ obtained by taking the span of $\{\Theta_{x,y} \mid x, y \in E\}$ forms a two-sided algebraic ideal of $\mathcal{L}_A(E)$, and hence its closure is a C^* -algebra:

Definition 1.19. For a Hilbert A -module E , we define the compact operators on E to be the C^* -algebra

$$\mathbb{K}_A(E) := \overline{\text{Span}\{\Theta_{x,y} \mid x, y \in E\}} \subseteq \mathcal{L}_A(E).$$

Note 1.20

An operator $t \in \mathbb{K}_A(F, E)$ need not be a compact operator when E, F are considered as Banach spaces, i.e., a limit of finite-rank operators. This is easy to see by assuming that A is unital: The operator $\text{id}_A = \Theta_{1,1}$ is in $\mathbb{K}_A(A_A)$, but the identity operator is not a compact operator on an infinite-dimensional Banach space.

Lemma 1.21. There is an isomorphism $A \cong \mathbb{K}_A(A_A)$. If A is unital, then $\mathbb{K}_A(A_A) = \mathcal{L}_A(A_A)$.

Proof.

Fix $a \in A$ and define $L_a: A \rightarrow A$ by $L_a(b) = ab$. Then $\langle L_ax, y \rangle = x^*a^*y = \langle x, L_{a^*}y \rangle$ for all $x, y \in A$, hence L_a is adjointable with adjoint L_{a^*} . Note that $L_{ab^*}(x) = ab^*x = a\langle b, x \rangle = \Theta_{a,b}(x)$ for $a, b, x \in A$, hence if $L: a \mapsto L_a$, we have $\mathbb{K}_A(A_A) \subseteq \text{Im}(L)$. It is clear that

L is a $*$ -homomorphism of norm one, i.e., an isometric homomorphism, so its image is a C^* -algebra. To see that it has image equal to $\mathbb{K}_A(A_A)$, let (u_i) be an approximate identity of A . Then for any $a \in A$ $L_{u_i a} \rightarrow L_a$, and since $L_{u_i a} \in \mathbb{K}_A(A_A)$ for all i , we see that $L_a \in \mathbb{K}_A(A_A)$.

If $1 \in A$, then for $t \in \mathcal{L}_A(A_A)$ we see that $t(a) = t(1 \cdot a) = t(1) \cdot a = L_{t(1)}a$, so $t \in \mathcal{K}_A(A_A)$, and $\mathcal{L}_A(A_A) \cong A$. \square

Note 1.22

It does not hold in general that $A \cong \mathcal{L}_A(A_A)$.

In 1.5 we saw that for a Hilbert A -module E , the set $E\langle E, E \rangle$ was dense in E . We are going to improve this to say that every $x \in E$ is of the form $y\langle y, y \rangle$ for some unique $y \in E$. To do this, we need to examine the compact operators a bit more:

Proposition 1.23. Given a right Hilbert A -module E , then E is a full left Hilbert $\mathbb{K}_A(E)$ -module with respect to the action $T \cdot x = T(x)$ for $x \in E$ and $T \in \mathbb{K}_A(E)$ and $\mathbb{K}_A(E)$ -valued inner product $\mathbb{K}_A(E)\langle x, y \rangle = \Theta_{x, y}$ for $x, y \in E$. Moreover, the corresponding norm $\|\cdot\|_{\mathbb{K}_A(E)} = \|\mathbb{K}_A(E)\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle\|^{\frac{1}{2}}$ coincides with the norm $\|\cdot\|_A$ on E .

Proof.

It is easy to see that the first, second and third condition of 1.1 are satisfied in light of 1.17. Note that

$$\langle \mathbb{K}_A(E)\langle x, x \rangle \cdot y, y \rangle_A = \langle x\langle x, y \rangle, y \rangle_A = \langle x, y \rangle_A^* \langle x, y \rangle_A \geq 0, \quad (1.6)$$

for all $x, y \in E$, which by 1.14 implies $\mathbb{K}_A(E)\langle x, x \rangle \geq 0$ for all $x \in E$. The above calculation also shows that if $\mathbb{K}_A(E)\langle x, x \rangle = 0$ then $\langle x, y \rangle_A = 0$ for all $y \in E$ so $x = 0$.

To see the last condition, note that

$$\|\langle \mathbb{K}_A(E)\langle x, x \rangle x, x \rangle_A\| = \|\langle x, x \rangle_A^* \langle x, x \rangle_A\| = \|x\|_A^2$$

so by 1.15, $\|x\|_{\mathbb{K}_A(E)} \geq \|x\|_A$ for all $x \in E$. For the other inequality, applying Cauchy-Schwarz to 1.6, we see that

$$\langle \mathbb{K}_A(E)\langle x, x \rangle y, y \rangle_A \leq \|\langle x, x \rangle_A\| \langle y, y \rangle_A$$

so again by 1.15 we see that $\|\mathbb{K}_A(E)\langle x, x \rangle\| \leq \|\langle x, x \rangle_A\|$ for all $x \in E$. \square

When we considered $E = A_A$, we defined for $a \in A$ the operator $L_a: b \mapsto ab$, $b \in A$. Similarly, we do this in the general case:

Definition 1.24. Let E be a Hilbert A -module. We define for $x \in E$ the operators $L_x: A \rightarrow E$, $a \mapsto x \cdot a$, and $D_x: E \rightarrow A$, $y \mapsto \langle x, y \rangle_A$.

Remark 1.25

The calculation

$$\langle D_x(y), a \rangle_{A_A} = \langle \langle x, y \rangle_A^* a = \langle y, x \rangle_A a = \langle y, xa \rangle_A = \langle y, L_x(a) \rangle_{A_A},$$

for $x, y \in E$ and $a \in A$ shows that L_x and D_x are mutual adjoints, so $L_x \in \mathcal{L}_A(A_A, E)$ and $D_x \in \mathcal{L}_A(E, A_A)$.

In fact, the maps $D: x \mapsto D_x$ and $L: x \mapsto L_x$ are interesting on their own, which extends the result from the case $E = A_A$ seen in 1.21:

Lemma 1.26. Let E be a Hilbert A -module. Then D is a conjugate linear isometric isomorphism of E and $\mathbb{K}_A(E, A_A)$ and L is a linear isometric isomorphism of E and $\mathbb{K}_A(A_A, E)$.

Proof.

By the conjugate linearity of $\langle \cdot, y \rangle_A$ for all $y \in E$, it is easy to see that D is conjugate linear. By (\star) , we see that $\|D_x\| = \|x\|$ for all $x \in E$, which implies that the image of D is closed. For $a \in A$ and $x \in E$, note that $\mathbb{K}_A(E, A_A) \ni \Theta_{a,x} = D_{x \cdot a^*}$, which implies that $\mathbb{K}_A(E, A_A) = D(E)$, by continuity of D and density of $E\langle E, E \rangle$ in E : Let $x \in E$ and (e_i) be an approximate unit of $\langle E, E \rangle$. Then $D_x = \lim D_{xe_i} = \lim \Theta_{x,e_i}$.

The second statement follows since clearly $L: x \mapsto D_x^*$ is then a linear isometry and we saw in 1.17 that $\Theta_{a,x}^* = \Theta_{x,a}$, so the argument above applies to L as well. \square

Abusing notation, we will in the following use L_x to denote both the operator on E and A_A depending on the location of x . We now show a generalization of a standard trick regarding operators on direct sums of Hilbert spaces, the technique is from [2]: Recall that we may view $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathcal{K})$ as the set of matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H}) & \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{H}) \\ \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{K}) & \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{K}) \end{pmatrix}$$

by compression with the orthogonal projection onto e.g. \mathcal{H} . This also holds for the compact operators on $\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathcal{K}$, and more generally:

Lemma 1.27. Let E be a Hilbert A -module. If $L_a \in \mathbb{K}_A(A_A)$, $S \in \mathbb{K}_A(A_A, E)$, $T \in \mathbb{K}_A(E, A_A)$ and $R \in \mathbb{K}_A(E)$, then

$$Q := \begin{pmatrix} L_a & T \\ S & R \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{K}_A(A_A \oplus E),$$

and its adjoint is

$$Q^* = \begin{pmatrix} L_a^* & S^* \\ T^* & R^* \end{pmatrix}$$

Moreover, every compact operator on $A_A \oplus E$ is of this form. If $Q \in \mathbb{K}_A(A_A \oplus E)$ is self-adjoint and anti-commutes with $1 \oplus -1$ then

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & D_x \\ L_x & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

for some $x \in E$ and L_x, D_x as in Lemma 1.26.

Proof.

It is clear that Q is adjointable with adjoint

$$Q^* = \begin{pmatrix} L_a^* & S^* \\ T^* & R^* \end{pmatrix}$$

To see that it is compact, note that each of the four corner embeddings

$$L_a \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} L_a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad T \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & T \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad S \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ S & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad R \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & R \end{pmatrix}$$

are linear isometries and they map the module valued finite-rank maps to module valued finite-rank maps, e.g., we see that $\Theta_{a,x} \in \mathbb{K}_A(E, A)$ is mapped to $\Theta_{(a,0),(x,0)}$. By compressing with the orthogonal projection onto e.g., A_A , we see that we can decompose every finite rank operator in this way. Since compression by projections is continuous, this shows that every compact operator has this form.

The last statement follows readily from the isomorphism from Lemma 1.26, the anti-commutativity forces $L_a = 0$ and $R = 0$ and self-adjointness forces $D_x^* = L_x$. \square

We may finally prove the statement which we set out to show:

Proposition 1.28. Let E be a Hilbert A -module. Then for every $x \in E$ there is a unique $y \in E$ such that $x = y\langle y, y \rangle$.

Proof.

Let $x \in E$, and consider the self-adjoint operator

$$t = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & D_x \\ L_x & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

on $A_A \oplus E$, which by Lemma 1.27 is self-adjoint and anti-commutes with $1 \oplus -1$. With t being self-adjoint, the function $f(x) = x^{\frac{1}{3}}$ is continuous on the spectrum $\sigma(t)$, so it defines a compact operator $f(t)$ on $A_A \oplus E$. This operator anti-commutes with $1 \oplus -1$ by the functional calculus applied to the map $\psi: \mathbb{K}_A(A_A \oplus E) \rightarrow \mathbb{K}_A(A_A \oplus E)$, $s \mapsto (1 \oplus -1)s + s(1 \oplus -1)$, which is a $*$ -homomorphism, so there is $y \in E$ such that

$$f(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & D_y \\ L_y & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

And so $f(t)^3 = t$ implies that $L_x = L_y D_y L_y = L_{y\langle y, y \rangle}$, so $x = y\langle y, y \rangle$. \square

We impose quite an assortment of topologies on $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H}')$ for Hilbert spaces \mathcal{H} and \mathcal{H}' – this is not the case when we study Hilbert C^* -modules: Given Hilbert A -module E and F , we only consider two topologies – the norm topology and the *strict topology*:

Definition 1.29. The *strict topology* on $\mathcal{L}_A(E, F)$ is the locally convex topology on $\mathcal{L}_A(E, F)$ generated by the family of semi-norms

$$t \mapsto \|tx\|, \text{ for } x \in E \text{ and } t \mapsto \|t^*y\|, \text{ for } y \in F.$$

This topology turns out to be very important, and there is many results of the classic theory which apply in this setting as well:

Proposition 1.30. Let E be a Hilbert A -module. Then the unit ball of $\mathbb{K}_A(E, F)$, $(\mathbb{K}_A(E, F))_1$, is strictly dense in the unit ball, $(\mathcal{L}_A(E, F))_1$, of $\mathcal{L}_A(E, F)$.

Proof.

Let (e_i) be an approximate identity of the C^* -algebra $\mathbb{K}_A(E)$. Then, for all $w\langle x, y \rangle \in E\langle E, E \rangle$ we see that

$$e_i w\langle x, y \rangle = e_i \Theta_{w, x}(y) \rightarrow \Theta_{w, x}(y) = w\langle x, y \rangle,$$

and hence $e_i x \rightarrow x$ for all $x \in E$, since $E\langle E, E \rangle \subseteq E$ is dense by 1.5. Then we clearly have, for $t \in (\mathcal{L}_A(E, F))_1$ that

$$\|t(e_i x - x)\| \rightarrow 0 \text{ and } \|e_i t^* y - t^* y\| \rightarrow 0,$$

for $x \in E$ and $y \in F$, so $te_i \rightarrow t$ strictly, and by 1.17 we see that $te_i \in (\mathbb{K}_A(E, F))_1$, finishing the proof. \square

1.3 UNITALIZATIONS AND THE MULTIPLIER ALGEBRA

We are almost ready to introduce the Multiplier Algebra of a C^* -algebra A , however, we must introduce some new terminology first

Definition 1.31. An ideal I of a C^* -algebra A is an *essential ideal* if it is non-zero and satisfies $I \cap J \neq 0$ for all non-zero ideals J of A .

And there is another commonly used equivalent formulation of the definition of essential ideals:

Lemma 1.32. Let I, J be non-zero ideals of a C^* -algebra A . Then the following holds:

1. $I^2 = I$,
2. $I \cap J = IJ$,
3. I is essential if and only if $aI = 0$ implies $a = 0$ for all $a \in A$.

Proof.

1: It holds that $I^2 \subseteq I$, since I is an ideal. For the other inclusion, note that if $a \geq 0$ is an element of I , then $a = (a^{\frac{1}{2}})^2 \in I^2$, so $I_+ \subseteq I^2$ hence $I = I^2$.

2: Note that $I \cap J = (I \cap J)^2$ by (1), and $(I \cap J)(I \cap J) \subseteq IJ \subseteq I \cap J$.

3: Assume that I is essential and $aI = 0$. Then $(a)I = (a) \cap I = 0$, where (a) is the ideal generated by a in A , and hence $(a) = 0$ so $a = 0$. For the converse, let $J \neq 0$ be any ideal of A and let $0 \neq a \in J$. By assumption this implies that $aI \neq 0$, so $(a)I = (a) \cap I \neq 0$, which shows that $J \cap I \neq 0$. \square

As mentioned earlier, it is a useful tool to be able to adjoin units to a non-unital C^* -algebra A . We formalize this process in the following definition:

Definition 1.33. A *unitalization* of a C^* -algebra A is a pair (B, ι) consisting of a unital C^* -algebra B and an injective homomorphism $\iota: A \hookrightarrow B$ such that $\iota(A)$ is an essential ideal of B .

The most common way of adjoining a unit to a non-unital C^* -algebra A is to consider the vector space $A \oplus \mathbb{C}$ and endow it with a proper $*$ -algebra structure and give it a certain C^* -norm, see e.g., [13, Theorem 15.1]. This can also be done via the use of compact operators on A :

Example 1.34

Let $A^1 := A \oplus \mathbb{C}$ as a $*$ -algebra with $(x, \alpha)(y, \beta) := xy + \alpha y + \beta x + \alpha\beta$ and entrywise addition and involution. Identify A with $\mathbb{K}_A(A_A)$ inside $\mathcal{L}_A(A_A)$ via the left-multiplication operator, L , on A , and consider the algebra generated by 1 and $\mathbb{K}_A(A_A)$ in $\mathcal{L}_A(A_A)$. It is easy to see that it is a C^* -algebra and that we may extend L to an isomorphism of $*$ -algebras between $\mathbb{K}_A(A_A) + \mathbb{C}$ and A^1 , which we turn into a C^* -algebra by stealing the norm:

$$\|(a, \alpha)\| = \sup \{ \|ax + \alpha x\| \mid \|x\| \leq 1, x \in A \}, \text{ for } (a, \alpha) \in A^1.$$

The pair (A^1, ι) , where $\iota: A \rightarrow A^1, a \mapsto (1, 0)$ is a unitalization of A : It is clear that it is injective, since $\|\iota(a)\| = \|L_a\| = \|a\|$ for all $a \in A$ and $\iota(A)$ is an ideal since $\mathbb{K}_A(A_A)$ is an ideal. It remains to be shown that it is essential:

Suppose that $(x, \beta)\iota(A) = 0$ so for all $a \in A$ we have $xa + \beta a = 0$. If $\beta = 0$ then $\|(x, 0)^*(x, 0)\| = \|x\|^2 = 0$ so $x = 0$ and $(x, \beta) = (0, 0)$. Assume that $\beta \neq 0$, then $-\frac{x}{\beta}a = a$ for all $a \in A$, so $a^* = a^* \left(-\frac{x}{\beta}\right)^*$, and hence $a = a \left(-\frac{x}{\beta}\right)^*$, since $a \in A$ is arbitrary. Letting $a = -\frac{x}{\beta}$, we see that $\frac{x}{\beta}$ is self-adjoint and hence a unit of A , a contradiction. Therefore $(x, \beta) = (0, 0)$ and $\iota(A)$ is an essential ideal of A^1 .

Example 1.35

The pair $(\mathcal{L}_A(A_A), L)$, $L: a \mapsto L_a$, is a unitalization of A - to see this we need only show that $\mathbb{K}_A(A_A)$ is essential in $\mathcal{L}_A(A_A)$: Suppose that $T\mathbb{K}_A(A_A) = 0$, so $TK = 0$ for all compact K on A , then with $\Theta_{x,y}: z \mapsto x\langle y, z \rangle = xy^*z$, we see by 1.17 that $T\Theta_{x,y} = \Theta_{Tx,y} = 0$ for all $x, y \in A$, which shows that for $x, y \in A$ we have $\Theta_{Tx,y}(y) = (Tx)(y^*y) = L_{Tx}(y^*y) = 0$, implying that $L_{Tx} = 0 \iff Tx = 0$ so $T = 0$.

And, it makes sense to talk about a 'largest' unitalization, in the sense that it has a certain universal property:

Definition 1.36. A unitalization (B, ι) of a C^* -algebra A is said to be *maximal* if to every other unitalization (C, ι') , there is a $*$ -homomorphism $\varphi: C \rightarrow B$ such that diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xhookrightarrow{\iota} & B \\ & \searrow \iota' & \uparrow \exists \varphi \\ & & C \end{array} \quad (1.7)$$

commutes.

Definition 1.37. For a C^* -algebra A , we define the *multiplier algebra* of A to be $M(A) := \mathcal{L}_A(A_A)$.

It turns out that this is a maximal unitalization of A , as we shall see in a moment – but first we need a bit more work, for instance we need the notion of non-degenerate representations of a C^* -algebra on a Hilbert space to be extended to the case of Hilbert C^* -modules:

Definition 1.38. Let B be a C^* -algebra and E a Hilbert A -module. A homomorphism $\varphi: B \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_A(E)$ is *non-degenerate* if the set

$$\varphi(B)X := \text{Span} \{ \varphi(b)x \mid b \in B \text{ and } x \in E \},$$

is dense in E .

Example 1.39

In the proof of 1.30 we saw that the inclusion $\mathbb{K}_A(A_A) \subseteq \mathcal{L}_A(A_A)$ is non-degenerate for all C^* -algebras A .

Proposition 1.40. Let A and C be C^* -algebras, and let E denote a Hilbert A -module and let B be an ideal of C . If $\alpha: B \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_A(E)$ is a non-degenerate $*$ -homomorphism, then it extends uniquely to a $*$ -homomorphism $\bar{\alpha}: C \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_A(E)$. If further $\iota(B)$ is an essential ideal of C , then the extension is injective.

Proof.

The last statement is clear, since $\ker \bar{\alpha} \cap B = \ker \alpha \cap B = 0$ which implies that $\ker \bar{\alpha} = 0$, since B is essential. Let (e_j) be an approximate identity of B . Define for $c \in C$ the operator $\bar{\alpha}(c)$ on $\alpha(B)X$ by

$$\bar{\alpha}(c) \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha(b_i)(x_i) \right) := \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha(cb_i)(x_i).$$

This is well-defined and bounded, for we see that

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha(cb_i)(x_i) \right\| = \lim_j \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha(\underbrace{ce_j}_{\in B}) \alpha(b_i)(x_i) \right\| \leq \|c\| \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha(b_i)(x_i) \right\|.$$

This extends to a bounded operator on all of E , since $\alpha(B)E$ is dense which also implies uniqueness of the extension. It is easy to see that $c \mapsto \bar{\alpha}(c)$ is a homomorphism. It remains to be shown that it is adjointable: Let $c \in C$ and $x, y \in E$, then

$$\langle \bar{\alpha}(c)x, y \rangle = \lim_j \langle \underbrace{\alpha(ce_j)}_{\in \mathcal{L}_A(E)} x, y \rangle = \lim_j \langle x, \alpha(ce_j)^* y \rangle = \lim_j \langle x, \alpha(e_j^* c^*) y \rangle = \langle x, \bar{\alpha}(c^*) y \rangle,$$

this shows that $\bar{\alpha}(c^*)$ is an adjoint of $\bar{\alpha}(c)$, hence it is a $*$ -homomorphism with values in $\mathcal{L}_A(E)$ \square

Corollary 1.41. The inclusion of $\mathbb{K}_A(A_A) \subseteq \mathcal{L}_A(A_A)$ is a maximal unitalization.

Proof.

In 1.35 we saw that $\mathbb{K}_A(A_A)$ is an essential ideal of $\mathcal{L}_A(A_A)$ and nondegeneracy was seen in 1.39. By 1.40, the corollary follows. \square

In particular, if $X = A_A$ and $C = M(B)$, then the above proposition guarantees an extension from B to $M(B)$.

We shall now see that the homomorphism provided by the universal property of a maximal unitalization is unique, this is the final ingredient we shall need to show that $M(A)$ is a maximal unitalization of A :

Lemma 1.42. If $\iota: A \hookrightarrow B$ is a maximal unitalization and $j: A \hookrightarrow C$ is an essential embedding, then the homomorphism $\varphi: C \rightarrow B$ of 1.36 is unique and injective.

Proof.

Suppose that $\varphi, \psi: C \rightarrow B$ such that $\varphi \circ j = \psi \circ j = \iota$. Then, for $c \in C$, we see that

$$\varphi(c)\iota(a) - \psi(c)\iota(a) = \varphi(c)\varphi(cj(a)) - \psi(c)\psi(cj(a)) = \varphi(cj(a)) - \psi(cj(a)) = 0,$$

for all $a \in A$, so essentiality of $\iota(A)$ in B and 1.32 implies that $\varphi = \psi$. For injectivity, note that $\ker \varphi \cap j(A) = 0$, hence $\ker \varphi = 0$, since $j(A)$ is essential in C . \square

We may finally show that $(M(A), L)$ is a maximal unitalization for all C^* -algebras A :

Theorem 1.43. For any C^* -algebra A , the unitalization $(M(A), L)$ is maximal, and unique up to isomorphism

Proof.

For maximality, suppose that $j: A \hookrightarrow C$ is an essential embedding of A in a C^* -algebra C . We know that L is nondegenerate, hence by 1.40 we obtain an extension $\bar{L}: C \hookrightarrow M(A)$ such that $\bar{L} \circ j = L$. For uniqueness, suppose that (B, ι) is a maximal unitalization of A . By 1.40 and maximality of (B, ι) we obtain the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & M(A) & \leftarrow \\ & \uparrow \exists! \bar{L} & \\ A & \xrightarrow{L} & B \\ & \downarrow \exists! \beta & \\ & M(A) & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \text{id}_{M(A)} \end{array} \quad (1.8)$$

The identity operator on $M(A)$ is by 1.40 the unique operator satisfying $L = \text{id}_{M(A)} \circ L$, but $\bar{L} \circ \beta \circ L = L$, so they are inverses of each other hence isomorphisms. \square

Often we want to be able to 'touch' the Multiplier Algebra of a C^* -algebra – and we can use the concretification as $\mathcal{L}_A(A_A)$, but there is (and other as well) another common way to describe it:

Proposition 1.44. Let A, C be C^* -algebras and E be a Hilbert C^* -module. Suppose that $\alpha: A \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_C(E)$ is an injective nondegenerate homomorphism. Then α extends to an isomorphism of $M(A)$ with the idealizer $\mathcal{I}(A)$ of $\alpha(A)$ in $\mathcal{L}_C(E)$:

$$\mathcal{I}(A) = \{T \in \mathcal{L}_C(E) \mid T\alpha(A) \subseteq \alpha(A) \text{ and } \alpha(A)T \subseteq \alpha(T)\}.$$

Proof.

It is clear that $\alpha(A)$ is an ideal of the idealizer $\mathcal{I}(A)$, which is in fact essential by nondegeneracy of α : If $T\alpha(A) = 0$ then $T\alpha(A)E = 0$ hence $T = 0$.

By 1.43 it suffices to show that $(\mathcal{I}(A), \alpha)$ is a maximal unitalization of A . Let $\iota: A \hookrightarrow B$ be an essential embedding of A into a C^* -algebra B . Let $\bar{\alpha}: B \hookrightarrow \mathcal{L}_C(E)$ denote the injective extension of α from 1.40. We must show that $\bar{\alpha}(B) \subseteq \mathcal{I}(A)$: Let $b \in B$ and $a \in A$. Then, as $b\varphi(a) \in \varphi(A)$, we see that $\bar{\alpha}(b) \underbrace{\alpha(a)}_{=\bar{\alpha}(\iota(a))} = \bar{\alpha}(b\iota(a)) \in \alpha(A)$, as wanted. \square

This allows us to, given any faithful nondegenerate representation of A on a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , to think of $M(A)$ as the idealizer of A in $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$, and it immediately allows us to describe the Multiplier algebra of $\mathbb{K}_A(E)$:

Corollary 1.45. For all C^* -algebras A and Hilbert A -modules, we have $M(\mathbb{K}_A(E)) \cong \mathcal{L}_A(E)$.

Proof.

This follows from 1.44: As we have seen the inclusion $\mathbb{K}_A(E) \subseteq \mathcal{L}_A(E)$ is nondegenerate and $\mathcal{I}(\mathbb{K}_A(E)) = \mathcal{L}_A(E)$ since the compacts is an ideal. In particular $\mathcal{L}_A(E)$ has the strict topology: $T_i \rightarrow T$ strictly if and only if $T_i K \rightarrow TK$ and $KT_i \rightarrow KT$ for all $K \in \mathbb{K}_A(E)$. \square

Using this, we can calculate both the adjointable operators and the Multiplier algebras in some settings:

Example 1.46

For the Hilbert \mathbb{C} -module \mathcal{H} , we obtain the identity that $M(\mathbb{K}(\mathcal{H})) = \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$, as expected, since $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is the prototype of a 'large' abstract C^* -algebra.

A lot of the theory in functional analysis and the study of C^* -algebras is motivated by the study of abelian C^* -algebras of the form $C_0(\Omega)$ for a locally compact Hausdorff space. This construction is no exception: Unitalizations come naturally from compactifications, e.g., adjoining a unit to $C_0(\Omega)$ corresponds to the one-point compactification of Ω . It turns out that passing from $C_0(\Omega)$ to its multiplier algebra is connected to the largest compactification of Ω , namely the Stone-Ćech compactification $\beta\Omega$ of Ω , which in fact is the protoexample of the multiplier construction.

Example 1.47

If Ω is a locally compact Hausdorff space, then $M(C_0(\Omega)) \cong C_b(\Omega) = C(\beta\Omega)$.

Proof.

The unital C^* -algebra $C_b(\Omega)$ is isomorphic to $C(Y)$ for some compact Hausdorff space Y , which can be realised as $\beta\Omega$ (see [8, p. 151]). Note that since $C_0(\Omega)$ separates points in Ω cf. Urysohn's lemma, it is an essential ideal of $C_b(\Omega)$, and the inclusion $C_0(\Omega) \hookrightarrow C_b(\Omega)$ is non-degenerate. Therefore 1.40 ensures a unique injection $*$ -homomorphism $\varphi: C_b(\Omega) \rightarrow M(C_0(\Omega))$.

For surjectivity, suppose that $g \in M(C_0(\Omega))$ and let $(e_i) \subseteq C_0(\Omega)$ denote an approximate identity. Without loss of generality, assume that $g \geq 0$ in $M(C_0(\Omega))$. Then, for $x \in \Omega$, we have $\{ge_i(x)\}_i \subseteq [0, \|g\|]$ and $ge_i(x)$ is increasing, since e_i is and therefore it has a limit, which we denote by $h(x)$, which is bounded above by $\|g\|$, and it satisfies $hf = \lim ge_if = gf \in C_0(X)$ for all $f \in C_0(\Omega)$.

We claim that $t \mapsto h(t)$ is a continuous map: Suppose that $t_\alpha \rightarrow t \in \Omega$, and without loss of generality assume that $t_\alpha \in K$ for all α , for some compact neighborhood of T . Use Urysohn's lemma to pick $f \in C_0(\Omega)$ such that $f|_K = 1$. Then, since $hf \in C_0(\Omega)$ we have

$$h(t) = f(t)h(t) = (hf)(t) = \lim_{\alpha} hf(t_\alpha) = \lim_{\alpha} h(t_\alpha),$$

so h is continuous. Let $f \in C_0(\Omega)$, then $\varphi(h)f = \varphi(h)\varphi(f) = \varphi(hf) = hf = gf$, so by non-degenerancy we see that $\varphi(h) = g$ so $g \in C_b(\Omega)$. \square

In fact, one can show that when equipped with suitable orderings, then there is a correspondence between compactifications of locally compact spaces Ω and unitalizations of their associated C^* -algebras $C_0(\Omega)$.

One of the main interests in introducing the above discussed results will be clearer later on, but we will emphasize that it really is the strict topology on $M(A)$. This will be useful, since it coincides with another useful topology on bounded sets, called the $*$ -strong topology, which we will define in a moment. This will be particularly useful when we recall that $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H}) = M(\mathbb{K}(\mathcal{H}))$, so that $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ has the strict topology – this will allow us to expand and unify the representation theory of C^* -algebras and locally compact groups, which is the cornerstone of the setting which this thesis will cover.

Definition 1.48. Given a Hilbert A -module, the $*$ -strong topology on $\mathcal{L}_A(E)$ is the topology for which $T_i \rightarrow T$ if and only if $T_i x \rightarrow T x$ and $T_i^* x \rightarrow T^* x$ for all $x \in E$. It has a neighborhood basis consisting of sets of the form

$$V(T, x, \varepsilon) := \{S \in \mathcal{L}_A(E) \mid \|Sx - Tx\| + \|S^*x - T^*x\| < \varepsilon\},$$

for $T \in \mathcal{L}_A(E)$, $x \in E$ and $\varepsilon > 0$.

We will use $M_s(A)$ to mean $M(A)$ equipped with the strict topology, and we will write $\mathcal{L}_A(E)_{*-s}$ to mean we equip it with the $*$ -strong topology. for $A = \mathbb{C}$, we see that $T_i \rightarrow T \in \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ in the $*$ -strong topology if and only if $T_i \rightarrow T$ and $T_i^* \rightarrow T$ in the strong operator topology. We said that we only have interest in the strict topology and the norm topology on $\mathcal{L}_A(E)$, and this is because the $*$ -strong topology and strict topology coincides on bounded subsets:

Proposition 1.49. If E is a Hilbert A -module, if $T_i \rightarrow T \in \mathcal{L}_A(E)$ strictly, then $T_i \rightarrow T$ $*$ -strongly. Moreover, on norm bounded subsets the topologies coincide.

Proof.

Suppose that $T_i \rightarrow T$ strictly. For $x \in E$, write $x = y\langle y, y \rangle$ for some unique $y \in E$ using Proposition 1.28. Let ${}_{\mathbb{K}_A(E)}\langle x, y \rangle = \Theta_{x,y} \in \mathbb{K}_A(E)$ be the associated $\mathbb{K}_A(E)$ -valued inner-product on E from Proposition 1.23, so $x = {}_{\mathbb{K}_A(E)}\langle y, y \rangle(y)$. By definition of the strict topology on $\mathcal{L}_A(E) = M(\mathbb{K}_A(E))$, we see that

$$T_i(x) = T_i \circ {}_{\mathbb{K}_A(E)}\langle y, y \rangle(y) \rightarrow T \circ {}_{\mathbb{K}_A(E)}\langle y, y \rangle = T(x).$$

Continuity of adjunction shows that $T_i^* \rightarrow T^*$ as well, hence also $T_i^* \rightarrow T^*$ strongly, so $T_i \rightarrow T$ $*$ -strongly.

Suppose now (T_i) is bounded in norm by $K \geq 0$. For $x, y \in E$, if $T_i x \rightarrow T x$ in norm, then $T_i \Theta_{x,y} \rightarrow T \Theta_{x,y}$ in norm:

$$\|T_i \Theta_{x,y} - T \Theta_{x,y}\| \leq \sup_{\|z\| \leq 1} \|T_i x - T x\| \|\langle y, z \rangle\| \rightarrow 0,$$

and similarly $T_i^* \Theta_{x,y} \rightarrow T^* \Theta_{x,y}$. By approximating compact operators with finite linear combinations of $\Theta_{x,y}$'s, an easy $\frac{\varepsilon}{3K} > 0$ argument shows that $T_i K \rightarrow TK$ and $KT_i \rightarrow KT$ for $K \in \mathbb{K}_A(E)$ and similarly $T_i^* K \rightarrow T_i^* K$ and $KT_i^* \rightarrow KT^*$. \square

In particular, for a net of unitary operators on a Hilbert A -module, strict and $*$ -strong convergence is the same. We shall utilize this fact repeatedly later on.

Crossed Products with Topological Groups

Suppose that you are given a C^* -dynamical system (A, G, α) with G discrete. It is not hard to extend representations of G and A to the $*$ -algebra $\mathbb{C}_C(G, A)$, and thus create new C^* -algebras through completion of it, examples include the reduced- and full crossed product of A and G , $A \rtimes_{\alpha, r} G$ and $A \rtimes_{\alpha} G$.

However, when G is not discrete, we run into issues since we can not assume that a unitary representation of G is continuous in norm, which is required by classic constructions seen e.g., in [3]. We will in this chapter develop the necessary theory to define the non-discrete analogues of these techniques, i.e., for when G is a locally compact Hausdorff group.

We assume familiarity with basic theory of analysis in topological groups, basic representation theory of topological groups and Fourier analysis thereon and will not go lengths to explain results from this field, for a reference, we recommend the excellent books on the subject: [4], [1] and [5].

2.1 INTEGRAL FORMS AND REPRESENTATION THEORY

Throughout this chapter, we let G be a locally compact topological group and A a C^* -algebra, with no added assumptions unless otherwise specified. We will write $G \curvearrowright^{\alpha} A$ to specify that $\alpha: G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(A)$ is an action of G on A , i.e., a strongly continuous group homomorphism. We will always fix a base left Haar measure μ on G , whose integrand we will denote by dt , and with modular function $\Delta: G \rightarrow (0, \infty)$.

The main motivation of the theory we are about to develop is this: Given a covariant representation (π, u, \mathcal{H}) of (A, G, α) , we wish to construct a representation $\pi \rtimes u$ of $C_c(G, \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H}))$ satisfying

$$\pi \rtimes u(f) = \int \pi(f(t))u_t dt.$$

The problem at hand is, a priori u_t is not norm continuous, and so we don't know if the integrand is integrable. We will however show that u_t is strictly convergent and use this to define our integral by combining it with the previously seen fact that $M(\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})) = \mathbb{K}_A(A_A) = \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$.

For $f \in C_c(G, A)$, the map $s \mapsto \|f(s)\|$ is in $C_c(G)$, and we define the number $\|f\|_1 \in [0, \infty)$ to be

$$\|f\|_1 = \int_G \|f(t)\| dt.$$

For $A = \mathbb{C}$, it is well known that given $f \in C_c(G, A)$ and $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a neighborhood V of $e \in G$ such that $sr^{-1} \in V$ or $s^{-1}r \in V$ implies $|f(s) - f(r)| < \varepsilon$, i.e., f is left- and right uniformly continuous. The statement holds for general A , and the proof is identical, see e.g. [4, Proposition 2.6] or [12, Lemma 1.88]

Lemma 2.1. For $f \in C_c(G, A)$ and $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a neighborhood V of $e \in G$ such that either $sr^{-1} \in V$ or $s^{-1}r \in V$ implies

$$\|f(s) - f(r)\| < \varepsilon.$$

We will use \mathcal{D} to denote an arbitrary complex Banach space, and for $f \in C_c(G)$ and $x \in \mathcal{D}$, we denote by $f \otimes x$ the map $G \ni t \mapsto f(t)x \in \mathcal{D}$. It is clear that then $f \otimes x \in C_c(G, \mathcal{D})$. We introduce a 'topology' or a name for a special kind of convergence on $C_c(G, \mathcal{D})$, which will prove useful:

Definition 2.2. We say that a net $\{f_i\}_{i \in I} \subseteq C_c(G, \mathcal{D})$ converges to a function f on $C_c(G, \mathcal{D})$ in the *inductive limit topology* if $f_i \rightarrow f$ uniformly and there is a compact set $K \subseteq G$ and $i_0 \in I$ such that for $i \geq i_0$ we have $f_i|_{K^c} = 0$, i.e., $\text{supp} f_i \subseteq K$.

Lemma 2.3. Let $\mathcal{D}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{D}$ be any dense subset. Then the set

$$C_c(G) \odot \mathcal{D}_0 := \text{Span}\{f \otimes x \mid f \in C_c(G) \text{ and } x \in \mathcal{D}_0\}$$

is dense in the inductive limit topology on $C_c(G, \mathcal{D})$.

Proof.

Let $\varphi \in C_c(G, B)$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ be arbitrary. Let $K = \text{supp} \varphi$ and let W denote an arbitrary compact neighborhood of $e \in G$, and pick a symmetric neighborhood $e \in V_\varepsilon \subseteq W$ such that $sr^{-1} \in V$ implies $\|f(s) - f(r)\| < \frac{\varepsilon}{\mu(WK)}$. Since K is compact, there is a finite set $\{r_1, \dots, r_n\} \subseteq K$ such that $K \subseteq \bigcup_{1 \leq i \leq n} Vr_i$. Recall that every locally compact Hausdorff group is the disjoint union of σ -compact subspaces, hence we can pick a partition of unity $\{f_j\}_{j=0}^n$ of $K^c \cup \left(\bigcup_{1 \leq i \leq n} Vr_i\right) = G$ such that $\text{supp} f_0 \subseteq K^c$ and $\text{supp} f_i \subseteq Vr_i$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$. Define

$$g_\varepsilon := \sum_{i=1}^n f_i \otimes x_i,$$

where $x_i \in B_0$ such that $\|x_i - \varphi(r_i)\| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2\mu(WK)}$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$. Then $g_\varepsilon \in C_c(G) \odot \mathcal{B}_0$, and the partition of unity satisfies $\sum_{i=1}^n f_i(s) \leq 1$ for all $s \in G$ and is equal to 1 for $s \in K$.

add ref

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \|\varphi(s) - g_\varepsilon\| &= \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n f_i(s)(\varphi(s) - \varphi(r_i) + \varphi(r_i) - x_i) \right\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n f_i(s)(\|\varphi(s) - \varphi(r_i)\| + \|\varphi(r_i) - x_i\|) \\ &\leq \frac{\varepsilon}{\mu(WK)}. \end{aligned}$$

Since ε was arbitrary and W, K didn't depend on ε and $\text{supp} g_\varepsilon \subseteq WK$, we see that $g_\varepsilon \rightarrow f$ in the inductive limit topology as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. \square

We will also need the following result, which can be found in [10, Theorem 3.20, part (b, c)]

Lemma 2.4. If $K \subseteq B$ is compact, then the convex hull $\text{conv}(K)$ is totally bounded and hence it has compact closure.

Definition 2.5. Let $f \in C_c(G, B)$ and $\varphi \in B^*$, the continuous dual of B . Then we can define a bounded linear functional L_f on B^* by

$$L_f(\varphi) := \int_G \varphi(f(s)) ds,$$

since $|L_f(\varphi)| \leq \int_G \|\varphi\| \|f(s)\| ds = \|f\|_1 \|\varphi\|$.

Note 2.6

If $(f_i) \subseteq C_c(G, B)$ is a net which converges in the inductive limit topology to $f \in C_c(G, B)$, i.e., $f_i \rightarrow f$ uniformly on G and for some $K \subseteq G$ compact we have $\text{supp } f_i \subseteq K$ eventually (and hence also $\text{supp } f \subseteq K$), then

$$\|f_i - f\|_1 = \int_G \|f_i(s) - f(s)\| ds \leq \|f_i - f\| \mu(K) \rightarrow 0,$$

so $f_i \rightarrow f$ in the L^1 -norm, and hence by the above we see that $|L_{f_i}(\varphi) - L_f(\varphi)| \leq \|f_i - f\|_1 \|\varphi\| \rightarrow 0$ for all $\varphi \in B^*$, i.e., $L_{f_i} \rightarrow L_f$ in the weak* topology of B^{**} .

We will see that L_f is equal to $\hat{a}: \varphi \rightarrow \varphi(a)$ for some unique $a \in B$. Let $\iota: B \rightarrow B^{**}$ denote the inclusion $\iota(a) = \hat{a}$, then we have

Lemma 2.7. If $f \in C_c(G, B)$, then $L_f \in \iota(B)$.

Proof.

Let W be a compact neighborhood of $\text{supp } f$, and let $K := f(G) \cup \{0\} \subseteq B$. Then K is compact, so by 2.4 the set $C := \overline{\text{conv}}\{K\}$ is compact.

Fix $\varepsilon > 0$, and pick a neighborhood V of $e \in G$ such that $\|f(s) - f(r)\| < \varepsilon$ for $s^{-1}r \in V$. Assume without loss of generality that $\text{supp } fV \subseteq W$, since we can make V arbitrarily small. Using compactness of $\text{supp } f$, pick $s_1, \dots, s_n \in \text{supp } f$ such that $\{s_i V\}$ covers $\text{supp } f$.

Since $\{s_i V\} \subseteq W$, it has compact closure, so pick a partition of unity $\{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^n$ of $K \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n s_i V$. Define

$$g_\varepsilon(s) := \sum_{i=1}^n f(s_i) \varphi(s),$$

so $\text{supp } g \subseteq W$. If $s \in (\bigcup_{i=1}^n s_i V)^c$ then $f(s) = g_\varepsilon(s) = 0$, and otherwise we see that if $s \in s_i V$, then $s_i^{-1}s \in V$ and $\|f(s) - f(s_i)\| < \varepsilon$, and hence

$$\|f(s) - g_\varepsilon\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \varphi(s) \|f(s) - f(s_i)\| < \varepsilon.$$

Since $s \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^n \varphi(s) \leq 1$ and has compact support and $\bigcup_{i=1}^n \text{supp } \varphi_i \subseteq W$, we have $\sum_{i=1}^n \int_G \varphi_i(s) ds \leq \mu(W) < \infty$, so it is equal to some number D . For $\psi \in B^*$ we see that

$$L_{g_\varepsilon}(\psi) = \int_G \psi \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \varphi(s) f(s_i) \right) ds = \sum_{i=1}^n \int_G \varphi(s) ds \psi(f(s_i)) = \sum_{i=1}^n \int_G \varphi(s) ds \underbrace{\iota(f(s_i))(\psi)}_{\in \iota(C)}$$

so $L_{g_\varepsilon} \in D\iota(C) \subseteq \mu(W)\iota(C)$, since $0 \in C$ so we can shrink scalar $\mu(W)$ to D . For $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, we see that $g_\varepsilon \rightarrow f$ in the inductive limit topology and $L_{g_\varepsilon} \in \mu(W)\iota(C)$.

Since C is compact and convex, it is weakly compact which by definition is equivalent to $\iota(C)$ being compact in the weak*-topology of B^{**} , and since $g_\varepsilon \rightarrow f$ in the inductive limit topology, we from 2.6 we see that $L_{g_\varepsilon} \rightarrow L_f$ in the weak*-topology on B^{**} . In particular, since $\iota(C)$ is weak*-compact, it is closed and hence $\mu(W)\iota(C)$ is closed in the weak*-topology so $L_f \in \mu(W)\iota(C) \subseteq \iota(B)$. \square

And we have a lemma emphasizing important properties of this integral:

Lemma 2.8. There exists a unique linear map $I: C_c(G, B) \rightarrow B$,

$$f \mapsto \int_G f(s) ds$$

such that for all $f \in C_c(G, B)$ we have

$$\varphi \left(\int_G f(s) ds \right) = \int_G \varphi(f(s)) ds, \quad \text{for all } \varphi \in B^*, \quad (2.1)$$

$$\left\| \int_G f(s) ds \right\| \leq \|f\|_1 \quad (2.2)$$

$$\int_G g \otimes x(s) ds = x \int_G g(s) ds, \quad \text{for all } g \otimes x \in C_c(G) \odot B, \quad (2.3)$$

and if $T: B \rightarrow D$ is a bounded linear operator, then

$$T \left(\int_G f(s) ds \right) = \int_G T(f(s)) ds.$$

Proof.

Clearly letting $I(f) := \iota^{-1}(L_f)$, with L_f as in 2.7, then $f \mapsto I(f)$ is which instantly satisfies all the properties but the last. Suppose that $T: B \rightarrow D$ is a bounded linear operator between Banach spaces. Then $T \circ f \in C_c(G, D)$ for all $f \in C_c(G, B)$, and $\varphi \circ T \in B^*$ for all $\varphi \in D^*$. Hence

$$\varphi \circ T \left(\int_G f(s) ds \right) = \int_G \varphi(T \circ f(s)) ds = \varphi \left(\int_G T(f(s)) ds \right),$$

for all $\varphi \in D^*$, which separates points of D , finishing the proof. \square

In light of the above, we may give the following definition:

Definition 2.9. For $f \in C_c(G, B)$, define the integral of f $I(f) := \iota^{-1}(L_f)$, which we denote by $\int_G f(s) ds := I(f)$.

In particular, if we let A be a C^* -algebra, then we obtain the following useful result:

Proposition 2.10. For $f \in C_c(G, A)$, if $\pi: A \rightarrow \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is a representation of A , then for all $\xi, \eta \in \mathcal{H}$ the integral of 2.8 satisfies

$$\left\langle \pi \left(\int_G f(s) ds \right) \xi, \eta \right\rangle = \int_G \langle \pi(f(s)) \xi, \eta \rangle ds,$$

and

$$\left(\int_G f(s) ds \right)^* = \int_G f(s)^* ds$$

and for $a, b \in M(A)$ we have

$$a \int_G f(s) ds b = \int_G a f(s) b ds.$$

Proof.

Define the vector-state $\varphi_\pi: a \mapsto \langle \pi(a) \xi, \eta \rangle$. Then, $\varphi_\pi \in A^*$, and the first statement follows. Suppose now that π is a faithful representation, then since $\int_G \pi(f(s)) ds = \pi \left(\int_G f(s) ds \right)$, we see that the second statement holds as well when applied to $\varphi_\pi(I(f)^*)$. Finally if $a, b \in M(A)$ then

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle \pi \left(a \int_G f(s) ds b \right) \xi, \eta \right\rangle &= \langle \bar{\pi}(a) \pi \left(\int_G f(s) ds \right) \bar{\pi}(b) \xi, \eta \rangle \\ &= \langle \pi \left(\int_G f(s) ds \right) (\bar{\pi}(b) \xi), \bar{\pi}(a^*) \eta \rangle \\ &= \int_G \langle \pi(f(s)) \bar{\pi}(b) \xi, \bar{\pi}(a^*) \eta \rangle ds \\ &= \int_G \langle \pi(a f(s) b) \xi, \eta \rangle ds \\ &= \left\langle \pi \left(\int_G a f(s) b ds \right) \xi, \eta \right\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

□

As mentioned, we will need to consider maps of the form $s \mapsto \pi(f(s))U_s$ where $f \in C_c(G, A)$, $\pi A \rightarrow \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ and $U: G \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H})$ is strongly continuous. In order to use the above theorem to give sense then, we will want to change A out with $M_s(A)$, i.e., the multiplier algebra of A equipped with the strict topology, and combine it with the following lemma:

Lemma 2.11. Let E be a Hilbert A -module, and let $u: G \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(E)$ be a group homomorphism from G to the group of unitary operators on E , i.e., operators $T \in \mathcal{L}_A(E)$ such that $T^*T = TT^* = I_E$. Then u is strictly continuous if and only if u is strongly continuous.

Proof.

We saw in proposition 1.49 that on bounded sets, the strict and the $*$ -strong topology coincided. In particular, since $\mathcal{L}_A(E)$ is a C^* -algebra, the set of unitary operators is a subset of the unit circle. Thus, it suffices to show that if $s \mapsto u_s x$ is continuous for x then $s \mapsto u_s^* x$ is continuous. Let $x \in E$, then

$$\|u_s^* x - u_t^* x\|_A^2 = \underbrace{\|u_s^* x\|_A^2}_{=\|x\|_A^2} + \underbrace{\|u_t^* x\|_A^2}_{=\|x\|_A^2} - \underbrace{\langle (u_t u_s^* + u_s u_t^*) x, x \rangle}_{\xrightarrow{s \rightarrow t} 2I_E} \xrightarrow{s \rightarrow t} 0,$$

showing the wanted, since $x \in E$ was arbitrary. □

We now generalize the result of proposition 2.10 to cover the class of functions which we shall deal with later on.

Theorem 2.12. Given a C^* -algebra A , there is a unique linear map $I: C_c(G, M_s(A)) \rightarrow M(A)$, $f \mapsto \int_G f(s) ds$, such that for any non-degenerate representation $\pi: A \rightarrow \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ and all $\xi, \eta \in \mathcal{H}$ the identity

$$\langle \bar{\pi} \left(\int_G f(s) ds \right) \xi, \eta \rangle = \int_G \langle \bar{\pi}(f(s)) \xi, \eta \rangle ds, \quad (2.4)$$

and for all $f \in C_c(G, M_s(A))$

$$\|I(f) ds\| \leq \|f\|_\infty \mu(\text{supp } f). \quad (2.5)$$

Also, the identities

$$\int_G f(s)^* ds = \left(\int_G f(s) ds \right)^*, \quad (2.6)$$

and

$$\int_G a f(s) b ds = a \left(\int_G f(s) ds \right) b \quad (2.7)$$

hold for all $f \in C_c(G, M_s(A))$ and $a, b \in M(A)$. If $T: A \rightarrow M(B)$ is a non-degenerate homomorphism of C^* -algebras, then

$$\bar{T} \left(\int_G f(s) ds \right) = \int_G \bar{T}(f(s)) ds. \quad (2.8)$$

Proof.

If I exists, then letting π be a faithful representation of A we see that I must be unique by the first identity. For $f \in C_c(G, M_s(A))$ and $a \in A$, it is easy to see that if $f_a: s \mapsto f(s)a$, then $f_a \in C_c(G, A)$. This allows us to use proposition 2.10 to define the integral $\int_G f(s)ads$ for all $f \in C_c(G, M_s(A))$ and $a \in A$. Define $L_f: A \rightarrow A$ by

$$L_f(a) = \int_G f(s)ads, \quad \text{for } a \in A.$$

Then $L_f \in \mathcal{L}_A(A_A)$, for if $a, b \in A$ then proposition 2.10 implies that

$$\langle L_f a, b \rangle_{A_A} = (L_f a)^* b = \int_G (f(s)a)^* ds b = \int_G a^* f(s)^* ds = a^* \int_G f(s)^* b ds = \langle a, L_{f^*} b \rangle_{A_A}.$$

So L_{f^*} is an adjoint of L_f . Let $\int_G f(s)ds := L_f$ for all $f \in C_c(G, M_s(A))$, then $L_f \in \mathcal{L}_A(A_A) = M(A)$, and it is not hard to see that the assignment $f \mapsto L_f$ is linear.

Again, by proposition 2.10, we see that a non-degenerate representation $\pi: A \rightarrow \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ with $a \in A$ and $\xi, \eta \in \mathcal{H}$ that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \bar{\pi} \left(\int_G f(s)ds \right) \pi(a)\xi, \eta \rangle &= \langle \pi(f(s)ads) \xi, \eta \rangle = \int_G \langle \pi(f(s)a)\xi, \eta \rangle ds \\ &= \int_G \langle \bar{\pi}(f(s))\pi(a)\xi, \eta \rangle ds, \end{aligned}$$

which shows eq. (2.4), since π is non-degenerate. The analogues of proposition 2.10 follows similarly. Let $a \in A$ with $\|a\| \leq 1$, then by proposition 2.10 applied to $f_a \in C_c(G, A)$, we see that

$$\left\| \int_G f(s)ds a \right\| \leq \|f_a\|_1 = \int_G \|f(s)a\| ds \leq \int_G 1_{\text{supp } f} \|f\|_\infty ds = \mu(\text{supp } f) \|f\|_\infty,$$

Hence $\left\| \int_G f(s)ds \right\| = \sup_{\|a\| \leq 1} \left\| \int_G f(s)ds a \right\| \leq \|f\|_\infty \mu(\text{supp } f)$. Let $T: A \rightarrow M(B)$ be a non-degenerate homomorphism, with unique extension $\bar{T}: M(A) \rightarrow M(B)$, and hence for all $a \in A$ and $b \in B$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{T} \left(\int_G f(s)ds \right) T(a)b &= T \left(\int_G f(s)ads \right) b = \int_G T(f(s)a)b ds = \int_G \bar{T}(f(s))T(a)b ds \\ &= \int_G \bar{T}(f(s))ds T(a)b, \end{aligned}$$

hence $\bar{T} \left(\int_G f(s)ds \right) = \int_G \bar{T}(f(s))ds$ by non-degeneracy. \square

In the construction of the general crossed product and other C^* -algebras associated to a C^* -dynamical system (A, G, α) we will need to deal with the algebra $C_c(G, A)$ quite a lot. We will want to develop a sort of twisted-convolution incorporating the action α of G . However, in order to do this properly, we will need a form of Fubini's theorem for the above:

Lemma 2.13. For $f \in C_c(G \times G, B)$, the function

$$s \mapsto \int_G f(s, t) dt$$

is an element of $C_c(G, B)$.

Proof.

It is easy to see that if $F: G \rightarrow B$ is the map $s \mapsto \int_G f(s, t) dt$, then $\text{supp } F$ is compact. We show continuity. Suppose that $x_i \rightarrow x \in G$ and let $\varepsilon > 0$. Pick compact $K_1, K_2 \subseteq G$ covering the support of f , i.e., such that $\text{supp } f \subseteq K_1 \times K_2$. Note that $f(x_i, y) \rightarrow f(x, y)$ uniformly: If not, then we can find a net $(r_j) \subseteq G$ and $\varepsilon_0 > 0$ such that

$$\|f(x_i, r_j) - f(x, r_j)\| \geq \varepsilon_0,$$

for all i, j . This shows that $r_j \in K_2$ for all j , hence we may assume that $r_j \rightarrow r \in K_2$ (up to passing to a subnet). But then for sufficiently large i, j we would have $\|f(x_i, r_j) - f(x, r_j)\| < \varepsilon_0$. Hence we can assume that $\|F(x_i) - F(x)\| < \frac{\varepsilon}{\mu(K_2)}$. Then,

$$\left\| \int_G f(x_i, s) ds - \int_G f(x, s) ds \right\| \leq \int_{K_2} \|f(x_i, s) - f(x, s)\| ds + \int_{K_2^c} \|f(x_i, s) - f(x, s)\| ds \leq \varepsilon,$$

as $\text{supp } f \subseteq K_1 \times K_2$, so $F \in C_c(G, B)$. \square

Corollary 2.14. Replacing the integral of lemma 2.13 with $\int_G f(t, s) dt$ the statement still holds.

Theorem 2.15 (Fubini's for C^* -valued integrals). Suppose that $f \in C_c(G \times G, M_s(A))$, then

$$s \mapsto \int_G^{M_s(A)} f(s, t) dt \text{ and } s \mapsto \int_G^{M_s(A)} f(t, s) dt$$

are elements of $C_c(G, M_s(A))$ and moreover

$$\int_G^{M_s(A)} \int_G^{M_s(A)} f(s, t) ds dt = \int_G^{M_s(A)} \int_G^{M_s(A)} f(s, t) dt ds.$$

Proof.

Define for a fixed s , the map $t \mapsto f(s, t)$ is in $C_c(G, M_s(A))$, hence we can define $\int_G f(s, t) dt$ and $\int_G f(t, s) dt$ as in Theorem 2.12. Recall that $M(A) = M(\mathbb{K}_A(A_A))$, so the strict topology is induced by multiplication operators on A , so it suffices to show that $s \mapsto a(\int_G f(s, t) dt)$ and $s \mapsto (\int_G f(s, t) dt) a$ are in $C_c(G, A)$ for all $a \in A$ for the first claim. By Theorem 2.12, we have

$$a \left(\int_G f(s, t) dt \right) = \int_G a f(s, t) dt,$$

for all $a \in A$ and $s \in G$, and similarly $(\int_G f(s, t) dt) a = \int_G f(s, t) a dt$. The maps $(s, t) \mapsto af(s, t)$ and $(s, t) \mapsto f(s, t)a$ are in $C_c(G \times G, A)$, clearly, so Lemma 2.13 ensures that $s \mapsto \int_G^{M_s(A)} f(s, t) dt$ and $s \mapsto \int_G^{M_s(A)} f(t, s) dt$ are in $C_c(G, M_s(A))$.

For the last claim, we now see that the double integrals are well-defined Theorem 2.12, so by letting A be faithfully represented on $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$, we may obtain the equality using the regular Fubini's theorem for scalar valued integrals (see e.g., [11]) applied pointwise to an orthonormal basis through the inner-product. \square

2.2 CROSSED PRODUCTS

In analysis, an object of interest is the group algebra $L^1(G)$ for locally compact groups G . One can turn it into a $*$ -algebra by showing that the convolution gives rise to a well-defined multiplication, and one can use the modular function to define an involution. Analogously to this, we do the same for A valued functions:

Definition 2.16. Suppose that $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$. We let

$$C_c(G, A) := \{f: G \rightarrow A \mid f \text{ continuous and compactly supported}\}.$$

For $f, g \in C_c(G, A)$, we define the α -twisted convolution of f and g at $t \in G$ by

$$(f *_\alpha g)(t) := \int_G f(s) \alpha_s(g(s^{-1}t)) ds,$$

which is well defined since the map $(s, t) \mapsto f(s) \alpha_s(g(s^{-1}t))$ is in $C_c(G \times G, A)$ and lemma 2.13 applies. Moreover, we define an α -twisted involution of $f \in C_c(G, A)$ at $t \in G$ by

$$f^*(t) := \Delta(t^{-1}) \alpha_t(f(t^{-1})^*).$$

Straight forward calculations similar to the one classic ones show that $C_c(G, A)$ becomes a $*$ -algebra with multiplication given by the α -twisted convolution and involution given by the α -twisted involution. We denote the associated $*$ -algebra by $C_c(G, A, \alpha)$.

To $f \in C_c(G, A, \alpha)$, we associate the number $\|f\|_1 \in [0, \infty)$ by

$$\|f\|_1 := \int_G \|f(t)\| dt.$$

Straightforward calculations show that $f \mapsto \|f\|_1$ is a norm, and we denote the completion of $C_c(G, A, \alpha)$ in $\|\cdot\|_1$ by $L^1(G, A, \alpha)$.

For discrete and second-countable groups G acting on a C^* -algebra A via an action α , we may easily construct a $*$ -representation of $C_c(G, A)$ from a covariant representation (π, u) by letting $\pi \rtimes u: C_c(G, A, \alpha) \rightarrow \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be the map

$$\sum_{g \in G} a_g \delta_g \mapsto \pi(a_g) u_g,$$

however as discussed previously, this is not enough when G is locally compact, since we can't assume that u was continuous with respect to the norm on $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$. However, in the previous section we constructed the tools to construct the desired generalization:

Lemma 2.17. Suppose that $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$ with G locally compact. If (π, u) is a covariant representation of the associated C^* -dynamical system, then for all $f \in C_c(G, A)$, the map

$$s \mapsto \pi(f(s)) u_s, \text{ for } s \in G$$

is in $C_c(G, \mathbb{B}_s(\mathcal{H}))$, where $\mathbb{B}_s(\mathcal{H})$ indicates that we endow $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ with the strict topology of $\mathbb{K}(\mathcal{H})$.

Proof.

By assumption, u is strongly continuous, which is equivalent to being strictly continuous by Lemma 2.11. Since $f \in C_c(G, A)$, we see that $\pi \circ f \in C_c(G, \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H}))$, and being norm continuous implies strict continuity, so $s \mapsto \pi(f(s))u_s$ is an element of $C_c(G, \mathbb{B}_s(\mathcal{H}))$. \square

The above and 2.12 shows that given a covariant representation (π, u) of $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$, there is a well-defined linear map $\pi \rtimes u: C_c(G, A) \rightarrow \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ given by

$$\pi \rtimes u(f) = \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \pi(f(s))u_s ds,$$

And we shall see that this representation has a lot of nice properties:

Proposition 2.18. Suppose that (π, u) is a covariant representation of a dynamical system $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$, with G locally compact. Then the map $\pi \rtimes u$ is a $*$ -representation of $C_c(G, A, \alpha)$ on $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ which is norm-decreasing. We call $\pi \rtimes u$ the *integrated form of π and u* . If π is non-degenerate, then $\pi \rtimes u$ is as well.

Proof.

Let $\xi, \eta \in \mathcal{H}$ and $f \in C_c(G, A)$, then

$$|\langle \pi \rtimes u(f)\xi, \eta \rangle| \leq \int_G |\langle \pi(f(s))u_s \xi, \eta \rangle| ds \leq \int_G \|\pi(f(s))\| \|\xi\| \|\eta\| ds \leq \|f\|_1 \|\xi\| \|\eta\|$$

Since ξ, η can be any unit vector, we have $\|\pi \rtimes u(f)\| \leq \|f\|_1$ for all $f \in C_c(G, A)$.

Let $f \in C_c(G, A, \alpha)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \pi \rtimes u(f)^* &= \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} u_s^* \pi(f(s))^* ds = \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} u_{s^{-1}} \pi(f(s)^*) ds \\ &= \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \Delta(s)^{-1} u_s \pi(f(s^{-1})^*) ds \\ &= \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \Delta(s)^{-1} \pi(\alpha_s(f(s^{-1})^*)) u_s ds \\ &= \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \pi \left(\underbrace{\alpha_s(\Delta(s)^{-1} f(s^{-1})^*)}_{=f^*(s)} \right) u_s ds \\ &= \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \pi(f^*(s)) u_s ds \\ &= \pi \rtimes u(f^*) \end{aligned}$$

and if $f, g \in C_c(G, A, \alpha)$ then using left-invariance of ds , Proposition 2.10 and Theorem 2.15, we see that

$$\begin{aligned}
\pi \rtimes u(f *_{\alpha} g) &= \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \pi(f *_{\alpha} g(s)) u_s ds \\
&= \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \pi \left(\int_G^A f(t) \alpha_t g(t^{-1}s) dt \right) u_s ds \\
&= \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \pi(f(t)) \pi(\alpha_t(g(t^{-1}s))) u_{tt^{-1}s} dt ds \\
&= \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \pi(f(t)) u_t \pi(g(t^{-1}s)) u_{t^{-1}s} ds dt \\
&= \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \pi(f(t)) u_t \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \pi(g(t^{-1}s)) u_{t^{-1}s} ds dt \\
&= \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \pi(f(t)) u_t \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \pi(g(s)) u_s ds dt \\
&= \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \pi(f(t)) u_t dt \int_G^{\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})} \pi(g(s)) u_s ds \\
&= \pi \rtimes u(f) \pi \rtimes u(g),
\end{aligned}$$

as wanted. Assuming non-degeneracy of π , for $h \in \mathcal{H}$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ we can pick $a \in A$, $\|a\| = 1$ such that $\|\pi(a)h - h\| < \varepsilon$. Being a unitary representation, we may choose a neighborhood $e \in V \subseteq G$ such that $\|u_s h - h\| < \varepsilon$ for $s \in V$. Pick $0 \leq \varphi \in C_c(G)$ such that $\int_G \varphi(s) ds = 1$ and $\text{supp } \varphi \subseteq V$. Then, $f := \varphi \otimes a \in C_c(G, A)$ satisfies for $k \in \mathcal{H}$, $\|k\| = 1$, that

$$\begin{aligned}
|\langle \pi \rtimes u(f)h - h, k \rangle| &= \left| \int_G \varphi(s) \langle \pi(a)u_s h - h, k \rangle ds \right| \\
&\leq \int_G \varphi(s) (|\langle \pi(a)(u_s h - h), k \rangle| + |\langle \pi(a)h - h, k \rangle|) ds \\
&< 2\varepsilon,
\end{aligned}$$

showing that $\|\pi \rtimes u(f)h - h\| \leq 2\varepsilon$. \square

Now, given a locally compact topological group G , let $\lambda: G \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(L^2(G))$ be the left-regular representation $\langle \lambda_g \xi, \eta \rangle = \int_G \xi(g^{-1}s) \overline{\eta(s)} ds$ for $g \in G$ and $\xi, \eta \in L^2(G)$. Even though $L^2(G)$ consists of equivalence classes (unless e.g., G is discrete), we will abbreviate $\lambda_g \xi(s) := \xi(g^{-1}s)$. Given a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , we will use λ_g to denote the operator $I \otimes \lambda_g$ on $\mathcal{H} \otimes L^2(G) \cong L^2(G, \mathcal{H})$. With this, we have the following:

Lemma 2.19. Suppose that $G \overset{\alpha}{\curvearrowright} A$, and π is a representation of A on \mathcal{H} . Define $\tilde{\pi}(a): L^2(G, \mathcal{H})$ by

$$\tilde{\pi}(a)\xi(r) = \pi(\alpha_{r^{-1}}(a))\xi(r), \text{ for } a \in A, r \in G \text{ and } \xi \in L^2(G, \mathcal{H}).$$

Then $(\tilde{\pi}, \lambda)$ is a covariant representation of $G \overset{\alpha}{\curvearrowright} A$ on $L^2(G, \mathcal{H})$.

Proof.

Let $a \in A$ and $r \in G$. Then for all $\xi \in L^2(G, \mathcal{H})$ and $s \in G$:

$$\lambda_g(\tilde{\pi}(a)\lambda_{g^{-1}}\xi)(s) = \pi(\alpha_{g^{-1}r}^{-1}(a))\lambda_g^*\xi(g^{-1}s) = \pi(\alpha_{r^{-1}g}(a))\xi(gg^{-1}s) = \tilde{\pi}(\alpha_g(a))\xi(s),$$

as wanted. \square

Corollary 2.20. To every C^* -dynamical system $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$, there exists a covariant representation.

In light of the above, we may define the following important class of covariant representations of a C^* -dynamical system:

Definition 2.21. Given $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$, then for any representation π of A on \mathcal{H} , the above covariant representation is called the *induced regular representation*, and we will write $\text{Ind}_e^G(\pi) := (\tilde{\pi}, \lambda)$. Any representation of the above form is called a *regular representation*.

As we shall see, the integrated form of the above plays a crucial role in the theory regarded in this thesis, but first, we shall need the following lemma:

Lemma 2.22. Suppose that $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$, and π is a representation of A on \mathcal{H} . Then $\text{Ind}_e^G \pi$ is non-degenerate if π is non-degenerate.

Proof.

First note that the set $f \otimes \eta: r \mapsto f(r)\eta$ with $f \in C_c(G)$ and $\eta \in \mathcal{H}$ has dense linear span in $L^2(G, \mathcal{H})$, and since π is non-degenerate, the set $\{f \otimes \pi(a)\eta \mid \eta \in \mathcal{H}, f \in C_c(G) \text{ and } a \in A\}$ has dense linear span in $L^2(G, \mathcal{H})$ as well. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ and let (e_i) be an approximate identity of A . By the previous remark and the fact that $\tilde{\pi}$ is a linear contraction, it suffices to see that

$$\tilde{\pi}(e_i)(f \otimes \pi(a)\xi)(r) = f(r)\pi(\alpha_r^{-1}(e_i)a)\xi \xrightarrow{2} f(r)\pi(a)\xi,$$

for $f \in C_c(G)$, $\xi \in \mathcal{H}$ and $a \in A$ and $r \in \text{supp } f$. The argument thus boils down to showing that $\alpha_r^{-1}(e_i)a \rightarrow a$, which is an easy argument of contradiction using compactness of $\text{supp } f$ and the approximate identity property passing to subnets shows that this is true. \square

Remark 2.23

In particular, if π is a non-degenerate representation of A , then the integrated form, $\tilde{\pi} \rtimes \lambda$, of $\text{Ind}_e^G \pi$ is non-degenerate by Proposition 2.18. This is not the only property which carries over from the map $\text{Ind}_e^G \pi \mapsto \tilde{\pi} \rtimes \lambda$, but before we further comment on this, we must introduce some new maps

Definition 2.24. Suppose that $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$. Let $f \otimes a \in C_c(G, A)$ be the map $r \mapsto f(r)a$. For $s \in G$, let $\iota_G(s)$ be the linear extension of the map $\lambda_s \otimes \alpha_s: f \otimes a \mapsto \lambda_s f \otimes \alpha_s(a)$ to all of $C_c(G, A)$, i.e., $\iota_G(s)h(t) = \alpha_s(h(s^{-1}t))$ for $h \in C_c(G, A)$.

And, we have the following handy lemma:

perhaps elaborate using proper integrals

Lemma 2.25. Suppose that (π, u) is a covariant representation of a C^* -dynamical system $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$, and let $\pi \rtimes u$ denote the representation of $C_c(G, A, \alpha)$. Then, for $f \in C_c(G, A)$ and $r \in G$ it holds that

$$u_r \circ \pi \rtimes u \circ \iota_G(r)(f) = \pi \rtimes u(f)$$

Proof.

It follows from the calculation

$$\begin{aligned} \pi \rtimes u(\iota_G(r)f) &= \int_G \pi(\iota_G(r)f(s))u_s ds = \int_G \pi(\alpha_r(f(r^{-1}s)))u_r u_{r^{-1}s} ds \\ &= \int_G u_r \pi(f(r^{-1}s))u_{r^{-1}s} ds \\ &= u_r \int_G \pi(f(s))u_s ds \\ &= u_r \circ \pi \rtimes u(f). \end{aligned}$$

□

Lemma 2.26. Suppose that $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$ and π is a faithful representation of A on \mathcal{H} . Then the integrated form, $\tilde{\pi} \rtimes \lambda$, of $\text{Ind}_e^G(\pi) = (\tilde{\pi}, \lambda)$ is a faithful representation of $C_c(G, A, \alpha)$.

Proof.

Let $0 \neq f \in C_c(G, A)$, and let $r \in G$ witness this, i.e. $f(r) \neq 0$. By Lemma 2.25 we can replace f by $\iota_G(r)f$ and assume that $r = e$, so without loss of generality we assume $r = e$. Let $\xi, \eta \in \mathcal{H}$ witness faithfulness of π , i.e., such that $\langle \pi(f(e))\xi, \eta \rangle \neq 0$. Pick an open neighborhood $e \in V$ such that for $s, r \in V$ we have

$$|\langle \pi(\alpha_r^{-1}(f(s)))\xi - \pi(f(e))\xi, \eta \rangle| < \frac{|\langle \pi(f(e))\xi, \eta \rangle|}{3}.$$

Let $W \subseteq V$ be a symmetric neighborhood such that $W^2 \subseteq V$, and let $\varphi \in C_c(G)$ such that $\varphi \geq 0$ and $\text{supp } \varphi \subseteq W$ and

$$\int_G \int_G \varphi(s^{-1}r)\varphi(r)drds = 1.$$

Let $\zeta = \varphi \otimes \xi$ and $\psi = \varphi \otimes \eta$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \tilde{\pi} \rtimes \lambda(f)\zeta, \psi \rangle &= \int_G \langle \tilde{\pi}(f(s))\lambda_s \zeta, \psi \rangle ds = \int_G \int_G \langle \tilde{\pi}f(s)\lambda_s \zeta(r), \psi(r) \rangle drds \\ &= \int_G \int_G \langle \pi(\alpha_{r^{-1}}f(s))\zeta(r^{-1}s), \psi(s) \rangle drds \\ &= \int_G \int_G \varphi(r^{-1}s)\varphi(r)\langle \pi(\alpha_{r^{-1}}f(s))\xi, \eta \rangle drds \end{aligned}$$

and hence for all $r, s \in W$ we have

$$\begin{aligned}
|\tilde{\pi} \rtimes \lambda(f)\zeta, \psi\rangle - \langle \pi(f(e))\zeta, \psi\rangle &= \left| \int_G \int_G \varphi(r^{-1}s)\varphi(s)(\langle \pi(\alpha_{r^{-1}}f(s))\xi, \eta\rangle - \langle \pi(f(e))\xi, \eta\rangle) dr ds \right| \\
&\leq \int_G \int_G \varphi(r^{-1}s)\varphi(s) |\langle \pi(\alpha_{r^{-1}}(f(s)))\xi, \eta\rangle - \langle \pi(f(e))\xi, \eta\rangle| dr ds \\
&< \int_G \int_G \varphi(r^{-1}s)\varphi(s) \frac{|\langle \pi(f(e))\xi, \eta\rangle|}{3} dr ds \\
&= \frac{|\langle \pi(f(e))\xi, \eta\rangle|}{3},
\end{aligned}$$

and in particular, it follows that $\tilde{\pi} \rtimes \lambda(f) \neq 0$. \square

With the above result in hand, we can finally give meaning to a universal norm for the general convolution algebra $C_c(G, A, \alpha)$. Like in the discrete case, we define the *universal norm* of $f \in C_c(G, A, \alpha)$ to be non-negative real number

$$\begin{aligned}
\|f\|_u &:= \sup \{ \|\pi \rtimes u(f)\| \mid \pi \rtimes u \text{ is a covariant representation of } (A, G, \alpha) \} \\
&\leq \|f\|_1,
\end{aligned}$$

and it is easy to see that the assignment $C_c(G, A, \alpha) \ni f \mapsto \|f\|_u$ is a norm: It clearly satisfies $\|f + g\|_u \leq \|f\|_u + \|g\|_u$ and $\|cf\|_u = |c| \|f\|_u$ for $f, g \in C_c(G, A, \alpha)$ and $c \in \mathbb{C}$. If $\|f\|_u = 0$ then $\tilde{\pi} \rtimes \lambda(f) = 0$ for all faithful π , which implies by Lemma 2.26 that $f = 0$. Moreover, we see that $C_c(G, A, \alpha)$ is a pre C^* -algebra, since $\pi \rtimes u$ is a homomorphism for all covariant representations (π, u) , and thus $\|\pi \rtimes u(f^* * f)\| = \|\pi \rtimes u(f)^* \circ \pi \rtimes u(f)\| = \|\pi \rtimes u(f)\|^2$, so that $\|f^* * f\|_u = \|f\|_u^2$.

Note 2.27

While it indeed is not possible to take the supremum over a class, it can be shown that it is enough to take the supremum over cyclic covariant representations, which is a set. For now, we stick with the following:

Lemma 2.28. Let $G \overset{\alpha}{\curvearrowright} A$ be a C^* -dynamical system and let (π, u) be a covariant representation on \mathcal{H} . Let

$$V_\pi = \overline{\text{Span}} \{ \pi(a)\xi \mid a \in A \text{ and } \xi \in \mathcal{H} \} \subseteq \mathcal{H},$$

then V is invariant under both π and u , and if π^{V_π} and u^{V_π} denotes the corresponding subrepresentations on V^π , we have for all $f \in C_c(G, A, \alpha)$

$$\|\pi^{V_\pi} \rtimes u^{V_\pi}(f)\| = \|\pi \rtimes u(f)\|,$$

so that

$$\|f\|_u = \sup \left\{ \|\pi \rtimes u(f)\| \mid (\pi, u) \text{ is a non-degenerate covariant representation of } G \overset{\alpha}{\curvearrowright} A \right\}.$$

Proof.

This is a standard proof, and we refer to [12, p. 52] for the proof. \square

This allows us to define the general crossed product as the completion of $C_c(G, A, \alpha)$:

Definition 2.29. For a C^* -dynamical system (A, G, α) , we define the *full crossed product* (or simply the crossed product) of A and G to be norm closure of $C_c(G, A, \alpha)$ in the norm $\|\cdot\|_u$, and we will denote it by $A \rtimes_\alpha G$.

Remark 2.30

Another (equivalent) formulation of the crossed product is to consider the representation of $L^1(G, A)$ given by the direct sum of all non-degenerate covariant representations of $L^1(G, A)$. Again, one can reformulate the above to only consider cyclic covariant representations, and use the fact that every representation of a C^* -algebra is a sum of cyclic representations.

Inconvenient as it is, there is no guarantee that $A \rtimes_\alpha G$ contains a copy of A or G except under certain additional conditions on A and G . However, we can always embed A and G into the Multiplier Algebra $M(A \rtimes_\alpha G)$ of $A \rtimes_\alpha G$:

Lemma 2.31. Suppose that $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$ is a C^* -dynamical system. Define for $a \in A$ the map $\iota_A(a): A \rtimes_\alpha G \rightarrow A \rtimes_\alpha G$ to be the extension of the map defined on $C_c(G, A, \alpha)$ by

$$\iota_A(a)f(s) = af(s), \text{ for } f \in C_c(G, A, \alpha) \text{ and } s \in G.$$

Then $\iota_A: A \rightarrow M(A \rtimes_\alpha G)$, $a \mapsto \iota_A(a)$, is a faithful non-degenerate $*$ -representation, satisfying

$$\overline{\pi \rtimes u} \iota_A(a) = \pi(a),$$

for all covariant representations (π, u) of $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$.

Proof.

First, for covariant representations (π, u) of $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$, we see that

$$\pi \rtimes u(\iota_A(a)f) = \int_G \pi(a)\pi(f(s))u_s ds = \pi(a)\pi \rtimes u(f),$$

for all $f \in C_c(G, A, \alpha)$ and $a \in A$, so $\|\iota_A(a)f\| \leq \|a\| \|f\|$. Hence $\iota_A(a)$ extends to an operator, which we also denote by $\iota_A(a)$. If $a \in A$ and $f \in C_c(G, A, \alpha)$, then

$$(\iota_A(a)f)^*(s) = \Delta(s^{-1})\alpha_s(f(s^{-1})^*)\alpha_s(a^*) = f^*(s)\alpha_s(a^*), \text{ for } s \in G,$$

and hence we see that

$$\begin{aligned} (\iota_A(a)f)^* * g(s) &= \int_G f^*(r)\alpha_r(a^*)\alpha_r(g(r^{-1}s))dr = \int_G f^*(r)\alpha_r((\iota_A(a^*)g)(r^{-1}s))dr \\ &= f^* * (\iota_A(a^*)g)(s), \end{aligned}$$

so $\iota_A(a^*)$ is an adjoint on a dense sub*-algebra (of the C^* -algebra seen as a Hilbert module over itself), hence everywhere by continuity, so $\iota_A(a) \in M(A \rtimes_\alpha G)$. For injectivity, let π be any faithful, non-degenerate representation of A , and let $\tilde{\pi} \rtimes \lambda$ denote the extension of $\tilde{\pi} \rtimes \lambda$ to $M(A \rtimes_\alpha G)$. By 2.18 and the above, we see that $\tilde{\pi}(a) = \tilde{\pi} \rtimes \lambda \circ \iota_A(a)$, hence $\iota_A(a) = 0 \implies \tilde{\pi}(a) = 0 \implies a = 0$, since $\tilde{\pi}$ is faithful.

For non-degeneracy, note that 2.3 implies that the span of $\varphi \otimes ab$ is dense in $A \rtimes_\alpha G$, since the denseness in the inductive limit topology also implies that the span is dense in the L^1 -norm on $C_c(G, A)$, and clearly $\varphi \otimes ab \in \{\iota_A(a)x \mid a \in A, x \in A \rtimes_\alpha G\}$. \square

Lemma 2.32. There is an injective and strictly continuous group homomorphism

$$\iota_G : G \rightarrow \mathcal{UM}(A \rtimes_\alpha G),$$

such that for $f \in C_c(G, A, \alpha) \subseteq A \rtimes_\alpha G$ we have

$$\iota_G(s)f(t) = \alpha_s(f(s^{-1}t)),$$

for all $s, t \in G$, and if (π, u) is a covariant representation of $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$, then

$$\overline{\pi \rtimes u} \iota_G(s) = u_s,$$

for $s \in G$, where $\overline{\pi \rtimes u}$

Before we commence the proof of the above, we want to point out that the above lemmas ensures that for each covariant representation (π, u) of $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$ we obtain the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} G & \xrightarrow{\iota_G} & M(A \rtimes_\alpha G) & \xleftarrow{\iota_A} & A \\ & \searrow u & \downarrow \overline{\pi \rtimes u} & \swarrow \pi & \\ & & \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H}) & & \end{array} \quad (2.9)$$

And we shall see that they are in fact a covariant pair. But first, the proof of the above lemma:

Proof.

Let $\iota_G(s)$ be defined on $C_c(G, A, \alpha)$ as earlier. By Lemma 2.25, we see that

$$\|\iota_G(r)f\|_u = \|f\|_u,$$

for all $f \in C_c(G, A, \alpha)$, and so extends to $A \rtimes_\alpha G$. Let $s, r \in G$, then for $f \in C_c(G, A, \alpha)$, we see that

$$(\iota_G(r)f(s))^* = \Delta(s^{-1})\alpha_s((\alpha_r(f(r^{-1}s^{-1}))^*)\Delta(s^{-1})\alpha_{sr}(f(r^{-1}s^{-1}))^*),$$

which, combined with the fact that $\Delta(s^{-1})ds$ is the integrand of a right Haar measure, can be used to show that $\iota_G(r)^* = \iota_G(r^{-1})$, so that $\iota_G(r) \in M(A \rtimes_\alpha G)$. In fact, since clearly $\iota_G(rs) = \iota_G(r) \circ \iota_G(s)$ for $s, r \in G$, it is a unitary element.

Let (π, u) be any non-degenerate covariant representation of $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$. By Lemma 2.25, we see that $u_s = \pi \rtimes u \iota_G(s)$ for all $s \in G$, and if π is a faithful representation of A , then considering $\text{Ind}\pi = (\tilde{\pi}, \lambda)$, we see that $\iota_G(s) \neq \text{id}$ if $s \neq e$. For continuity, let $f \in C_c(G, A, \alpha)$. We will see that ι_G is strongly continuous, which by Lemma 2.11 is equivalent to being strictly continuous. We thus show that if $(s_i) \subseteq G$, $s_i \rightarrow e$, then $\iota_G(s_i)x \rightarrow x$ for $x \in A \rtimes_\alpha G$. We know that the set of functions $\varphi \otimes a$, $\varphi \in C_c(G)$ and $a \in A$, spans a dense subset of $C_c(G, A)$, hence it suffices to show that $\iota_G(s_i)\varphi \otimes a \xrightarrow{L^1} \varphi \otimes a$, but

$$\begin{aligned} \|\iota_G(r_i)\varphi \otimes a - \varphi \otimes a\|_1 &= \int_G \|\varphi(r_i^{-1}s)\alpha_{r_i}(a) - \varphi(r_i^{-1}s)a + \varphi(r_i^{-1}s)a - \varphi(s)a\|_A ds \\ &\leq \|\alpha_{r_i}(a) - a\| \|\varphi\|_1 + \|\lambda_{r_i}\varphi - \varphi\|_1 \|a\|, \end{aligned}$$

which goes to 0, by uniform continuity of φ and the fact that $\alpha_{r_i}(a) \rightarrow a$ for all $a \in A$ as $r_i \rightarrow e$. \square

And, we summarize the above in the following

Proposition 2.33. For a C^* -dynamical system $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$, there exists a non-degenerate faithful $*$ -homomorphism

$$\iota_A: A \rightarrow M(A \rtimes_\alpha G),$$

and an injective strictly continuous unitary representation

$$\iota_G: G \rightarrow \mathcal{UM}(A \rtimes_\alpha G),$$

such that $\iota_G(r)f(s) = \alpha_r(f(r^{-1}s))$ and $\iota_A(a)f(s) = af(s)$ for $f \in C_c(G, A, \alpha)$ and $r, s \in G$ and $a \in A$. Moreover, the pair (ι_A, ι_G) is covariant with respect to α , i.e.,

$$\iota_A(\alpha_r(a)) = \iota_G(r)\iota_A(a)\iota_G(r)^*,$$

and for non-degenerate covariant representations (π, u) we have

$$\overline{\pi \rtimes u} \circ \iota_A(a) = \pi(a) \text{ and } \overline{\pi \rtimes u} \circ \iota_G(s) = u_s.$$

Proof.

The only thing left to be shown is the covariance relation, but this follows immediately from the following calculation:

$$\iota_G(r)\iota_A(a)\iota_G(r)^*f(s) = \alpha_r(\iota_A(a)\iota_G(r)^*f(r^{-1}s)) = \alpha_r(a)\alpha_r(\alpha_{r^{-1}}f(rr^{-1}s)) = \iota_A(\alpha_r(a))f(s),$$

for $f \in C_c(G, a, \alpha)$, $a \in A$ and $s, r \in G$. \square

We now embark on our final task in our construction and picture painting of the general crossed product $A \rtimes_\alpha G$, namely we wish to properly characterize its representation theory. We are going to see that $A \rtimes_\alpha G$ is the C^* -algebra whose representation theory is in a one-to-one correspondence with the covariant representations of (A, G, α) via the map $(\pi, u) \mapsto \pi \rtimes u$. To see this, we note first that as one usually does when dealing with representations of C^* -algebras and groups, we decompose them into subrepresentations:

Corollary 2.34. Let $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$ be a C^* -dynamical system and let $a \in A$, $f, h \in C_c(G, A)$ and $\varphi \in C_c(G)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}\iota_A(a)\iota_G(\varphi) &= \varphi \otimes a, \\ \int_G \iota_A(f(s))\iota_G(s)h ds &= f * h \text{ and} \\ \int_G \iota_A(f(s))\iota_G(s)ds &= f,\end{aligned}$$

where we've identified $C_c(G, A, \alpha) \subseteq A \rtimes_\alpha G \subseteq M(A \rtimes_\alpha G)$.

Proof.

Let (π, u) be a non-degenerate covariant representation of $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$ and notice that

$$\overline{\pi \rtimes u} \left(\int_G \iota_a(f(s))\iota_G(s)ds \right) = \pi \rtimes u(f),$$

which combined with lemma 2.28 shows the last and first identity. The second inequality follows from the last and theorem 2.12. \square

swap around

Before we finalize the description of the representation theory of $A \rtimes_\alpha G$, we need to extend the map ι_G to $C^*(G)$, the full group C^* -algebra of G , since this will provide us with a useful characterization of a dense subset of $A \rtimes_\alpha G$, so without further ado:

Lemma 2.35. There exists a group homomorphism $\tilde{\iota}_G: C^*(G) \rightarrow M(A \rtimes_\alpha G)$ such that

$$\tilde{\iota}_G(z) = \int_G z(s)\iota_G(s)ds,$$

for all $z \in C_c(G)$

Proof.

For all $z \in C_c(G)$, the map $s \mapsto z(s)\iota_G(s)$ is strictly continuous, and we may define the integral by Theorem 2.12. Let $z, w \in C_c(G)$, then

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\iota}_G(z * w) &= \int_G \int_G z(r)w(r^{-1}s)dr\iota_G(s)ds \\ &= \int_G \int_G z(r)w(r^{-1}s)\iota_G(s)dsdr \\ &= \int_G \int_G z(r)w(s)\iota_G(rs)dsdr \\ &= \int_G z(r)\iota_G(r)dr \int_G w(s)\iota_G(s)ds \\ &= \tilde{\iota}_G(z)\tilde{\iota}_G(w),\end{aligned}$$

so if it is well-defined and continuous on $C^*(G)$, it will be a homomorphism. Let π be any faithful and non-degenerate representation of $A \rtimes_\alpha G$, so that its extension $\bar{\pi}$ to $M(A \rtimes_\alpha G)$

G) is faithful aswell. Consider the composition $s \mapsto \bar{\pi} \circ \iota_G(s)$, which is a unitary valued homomorphism. It is in fact strongly continuous: Suppose that $f \in C_c(G, A)$ and $\xi \in \mathcal{H}_\pi$, then for $s \in G$ we see that $\bar{\pi}(\iota_G(s))\pi(f)\xi = \pi(\iota_G(s)f)\xi$, and it follows that $s \mapsto \bar{\pi}(\iota_G(s))\xi$ is continuous for all $\xi \in \mathcal{H}$ by continuity of $s \mapsto \iota_G(s)f$ and non-degeneracy of π . Thus

$$\|\tilde{\iota}_G(z)\| \leq \|z\|, \quad (2.10)$$

for all $z \in C_c(G)$, so it extends to a unitary-valued homomorphism $C^*(G) \rightarrow M(A \rtimes_\alpha G)$, which we will also denote by ι_G \square

Remark 2.36

In particular, by the above and lemma 2.3 we see that the set of functions of the form $\iota_A(a)\iota_G(z)$ for $a \in A$ and $z \in C_c(G)$ span a dense subset of $A \rtimes_\alpha G$. This will be useful in the following:

Theorem 2.37. Let $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$ be a C^* -dynamical system and let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. If $L: A \rtimes_\alpha G \rightarrow \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is a non-degenerate $*$ -representation, then there exists a non-degenerate covariant representation (π, u) of $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$ into $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $L = \pi \rtimes u$ which can be realised by

$$u_s = \bar{L}(\iota_G(s)) \text{ and } \pi(a) = \bar{L}(\iota_A(a)),$$

for all $s \in G$ and $a \in A$. In fact, there is a bijective correspondance between covariant representations of $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$ and $*$ -representations of $A \rtimes_\alpha G$.

Proof.

We already have seen the assignment $(\pi, u) \mapsto \pi \rtimes u$. For the converse, suppose that L is a non-degenerate representation of $A \rtimes_\alpha G$. Let π, u be defined by the above. It is clear that π is a $*$ -representation of A on $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ and similarly that u is a strongly continuous unitary-valued group representation on $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$, since ι_G is strictly and hence strongly continuous. To see that (π, u) is non-degenerate, let (e_i) be an approximate unit for A . Then $\iota_A(e_i) \rightarrow 1$ strictly in $M(A \rtimes_\alpha G)$, and so $\pi = \bar{L}(\iota_A(e_i)) \rightarrow I$ strictly, so in particular $\pi(e_i)\xi \rightarrow \xi$ for all $\xi \in \mathcal{H}$ and π is non-degenerate. Now, let $s \in G$ and $a \in A$, then

$$u_s \pi(a) u_s^* = \bar{L}(\iota_G(s)) \bar{L}(\iota_A(a)) \bar{L}(\iota_G(s))^* = \bar{L}(\iota_A(\alpha_s(a))) = \pi(\alpha_s(a)),$$

so the pair is a proper non-degenerate covariant representation of $G \curvearrowright^\alpha A$. Finally, using theorem 2.12, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \pi \rtimes u(\iota_A(a)\iota_G(z)) &= \pi(a) \circ \overline{\pi \rtimes u}(\iota_G(z)) = \bar{L}(\iota_A(a)) \int_G z(s) \bar{L}(\iota_G(s)) ds \\ &= \bar{L}(\iota_A(a)) \bar{L}(\iota_G(z)) \\ &= \bar{L}(\iota_A(a)\iota_G(z)), \end{aligned}$$

for all $z \in C_c(G)$ and $a \in A$, which by the above remark ensures that $L = \pi \rtimes u$ on all of $A \rtimes_\alpha G$. \square

2.3 PROPERTIES OF CROSSED PRODUCTS

It is well-known that for abelian, discrete and second countable groups G , the crossed product coincides with the reduced crossed product.

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Appendix

INTEGRATION THEORY IN GROUPS

Integration over groups plays a vital role in the theory developed and processed throughout this thesis. Therefore, we will build some of the cornerstone results in this theory, which will be used frequently. We will by G denote an arbitrary locally compact group, and by X an arbitrary Banach space. We will fix a left-Haar measure μ on G , whose integrand we denote by dt .

For $f \in C_c(G)$ and $x \in X$, we denote by $f \otimes x$ the map $G \ni t \mapsto f(t)x \in X$. It is clear that then $f \otimes x \in C_c(G, X)$.

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