

the closed linear span of all eigenvalues of A pertaining to the eigenvalues in $i\mathbb{R}$. Moreover, the dual group of K can be identified with the subgroup of $i\mathbb{R}$ generated by $P_\sigma(A) \cap i\mathbb{R}$. We call Q the semigroup projection associated with T . On the other hand, T is always strongly ergodic with projection P onto $\text{Fix}(T)$. Obviously, the relation

$$0 \leq P \leq Q \leq \text{Id}$$

holds, where the order relation is defined by the inclusion of the range spaces.

There are two extreme cases: First $Q = \text{Id}$ and $\text{rank}(P) = 1$. This corresponds to the Halmos-von Neumann Theorem in commutative ergodic theory and is discussed, at least for irreducible semigroups, in [Olesen-Pedersen-Takesaki (1980)]. Second, $\text{Id} > Q = P$, in particular $\text{rank}(P) = 1$. This latter case will be investigated in detail for $M = B(H)$, the W^* -algebra of all bounded linear operators on a Hilbert space H . But we first need some preparations.

Theorem 3.5. Let T be an identity preserving semigroup of Schwarz type on the predual of a W^* -algebra M and suppose there exists a faithful family of T -invariant states on M . Let N be the $\sigma(M, M_\star)$ -closed linear span of all eigenvectors of A' pertaining to the eigenvalues in $i\mathbb{R}$. If Q is the semigroup projection associated with T the following holds:

(a) The adjoint of Q is a faithful normal conditional expectation from M onto the W^* -subalgebra N .

(b) The restriction of T' to N can be embedded into a $\sigma(M, M_\star)$ -continuous, one-parameter group of $*$ -automorphisms.

(c) If, in addition, T is irreducible and if ϕ is the normal state generating the fixed space of T , then $\phi|_N$ is a faithful normal trace.

Proof. Consider $H := P_\sigma(A) \cap i\mathbb{R}$ which is not empty by assumptions. From Proposition 3.1 it follows that T is relatively compact in the weak operator topology. Let K be the semigroup kernel of $T^- \subseteq L_w(M_\star)$ and Q the unit of K . Recall that $Q\psi_\eta = \psi_\eta$ for all $\psi_\eta \in M_\star$ such that $A\psi_\eta = \eta\psi_\eta$ ($\eta \in H$). Let U be the family of all