

The semigroup of  $*$ -automorphisms  $(x \rightarrow u_t x u_t^*)$  on  $M_2(\mathbb{C})$  is identity preserving and of Schwarz type but the spectrum of its generator is  $\{0, \lambda, \lambda^*\}$  hence is not additively cyclic.

It turns out that, in order to obtain a non commutative analogue of the Perron-Frobenius theorems, one has to consider semigroups which are irreducible. Recall that a semigroup  $S$  of positive operators on an ordered Banach space  $(E, E_+)$  is called irreducible if no closed face of  $E_+$ , different from  $\{0\}$  and  $E_+$ , is invariant under  $S$ . Here a face  $F$  in  $E$  is a subcone of  $E_+$  such that the conditions  $0 \leq x \leq y$ ,  $x \in E$ ,  $y \in F$  imply  $x \in F$  (compare Definitions 3.1 in B-III and C-III).

In the context of  $W^*$ -algebras  $M$  we call a semigroup  $S$  of positive maps on  $M$  weak\*-irreducible, if no  $\sigma(M, M_*)$ -closed face of  $M_+$  is  $S$ -invariant. Since the norm closed faces of  $M_*$  and the  $\sigma(M, M_*)$ -closed faces of  $M$  are related by formation of polars with respect to the dual system  $\langle M, M_* \rangle$  (see [Pedersen (1979), Theorem 3.6.11 and Theorem 3.10.7.]) a semigroup  $S$  is (norm) irreducible on  $M_*$  if and only if its adjoint semigroup is weak\*-irreducible.

Theorem 1.10. Let  $T$  be an irreducible, identity preserving semigroup of Schwarz type with generator  $A$  on the predual of a  $W^*$ -algebra and suppose  $P_\sigma(A) \cap i\mathbb{R} \neq \emptyset$ .

(a) The fixed space of  $T$  is one dimensional and spanned by a faithful normal state.

(b)  $P_\sigma(A) \cap i\mathbb{R}$  is an additive subgroup of  $i\mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\sigma(A) = \sigma(A) + (P_\sigma(A) \cap i\mathbb{R})$$

and every eigenvalue in  $i\mathbb{R}$  is simple.

(a)\* The fixed space of the adjoint weak\*-semigroup  $T'$  is one-dimensional.

(b)\*  $P_\sigma(A') \cap i\mathbb{R} = P_\sigma(A) \cap i\mathbb{R}$  for the generator  $A'$  of the adjoint semigroup, and every  $\gamma \in P_\sigma(A') \cap i\mathbb{R}$  is simple.

Proof. Since  $P_\sigma(A) \cap i\mathbb{R} \neq \emptyset$  there exists  $\psi \in \text{Fix}(T)_+$  of norm one (Corollary 1.5). If  $F := \{x \in M_+ : \psi(x) = 0\}$  then  $F$  is a  $\sigma(M, M_*)$ -closed,  $T'$ -invariant face in  $M$ , hence  $F = \{0\}$ . Therefore every  $0 \neq \psi \in \text{Fix}(T)_+$  is faithful. Let  $\psi_1, \psi_2 \in \text{Fix}(T)_+$  be states such that