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Vector space isomorphisms of  $C^*$ -algebras

by

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**Abstract.** For a vector space isomorphism of two  $C^*$ -algebras, connections existing between the properties of being a  $C^*$ -isomorphism, isometric, bipositive, or preserving an approximate identity, are indicated.

**1. Introduction.** This paper is concerned with extending to the non-unit situation some results obtained by Kadison [4], [5], in the course of characterizing the linear isometries between  $C^*$ -algebras with identity or between their real linear subspaces of self-adjoint elements. Following Kadison we call a linear isomorphism between two  $C^*$ -algebras a *quantum mechanical isomorphism* or a  $C^*$ -isomorphism if  $T(x^*) = (Tx)^*$  and  $T(a^n) = (Ta)^n$  for each self-adjoint element  $a$  and natural number  $n$ . For two  $C^*$ -algebras  $A$  and  $B$ , a linear map  $T: A \rightarrow B$  is *positive*, if  $Ta$  is positive for each positive  $a \in A$ . If  $T$  is a vector space isomorphism and both  $T$  and  $T^{-1}$  are positive, we call  $T$  *bipositive*. In this terminology some of Kadison's results may be stated in the following form (see [4], Theorem 5, its proof, Theorem 7, and [5] Corollary 5):

**THEOREM 1.1.** (Kadison) *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be  $C^*$ -algebras with identities  $e_1 \in A$  and  $e_2 \in B$  and  $T: A \rightarrow B$  a vector space isomorphism. If  $T$  is a  $C^*$ -isomorphism,  $T$  is isometric and bipositive, and  $Te_1 = e_2$ . Conversely, any two of the latter three properties together imply that  $T$  is a  $C^*$ -isomorphism.*

In Section 3 we extend this theorem to cover the case of linear isomorphisms between general  $C^*$ -algebras by replacing the identity with an approximate identity. Kadison's results are also applied to show that the natural extension of a real linear isometric isomorphism between the subspaces of self-adjoint elements of two  $C^*$ -algebras is also isometric. Our main tool is the Sherman-Takeda-Grothendieck theory (see [3], [6] and [7]) yielding the structure of a von Neumann algebra in the bidual of a  $C^*$ -algebra. For the basic theory of  $C^*$ -algebras we refer to [1].

**2. Auxiliary results.** Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra. We identify its bidual  $A''$  with the enveloping von Neumann algebra of  $A$  (cf. [1], p. 237). In this identification the weak operator topology of  $A''$  coincides with  $\sigma(A'', A')$  and the structure of  $A''$  extends that of  $A$  via the canonical embedding  $x \mapsto \hat{x}$ . We use the term 'approximate identity' in the sense of [1], p. 359.

LEMMA 2.1. *If  $(u_j)_{j \in J}$  is an approximate identity in the  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$ , the net  $(\tilde{u}_j)_{j \in J}$  converges with respect to  $\sigma(A'', A')$  to the identity  $e$  of  $A''$ .*

Proof. By [1], 1.1.10 and 2.6.4, any  $f \in A'$  is a linear combination of positive linear forms. It is therefore sufficient to show that  $\lim_j f(u_j) = \langle f, e \rangle$  for each positive linear form  $f$  on  $A$ . But if  $f \in A'$  is positive, its canonical image  $\tilde{f} \in A''$  is a positive linear form on  $A''$  (cf. [1] Corollary 12.1.3). Therefore, by Proposition 2.1.9 and Proposition 2.1.5 (v) in [1], we have

$$\lim_j f(u_j) = \|f\| = \|\tilde{f}\| = \langle \tilde{f}, e \rangle.$$

COROLLARY. *Let  $(u_j)_{j \in J}$  be an approximate identity in the  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$ . Then  $f \in A'$  is a positive linear form if and only if*

$$(1) \quad \lim_j f(u_j) = \|f\|.$$

Proof. The necessity of (1) is given in [1], Proposition 2.1.5 (v). Suppose, conversely, that (1) holds for some  $f \in A'$ . For the canonical image  $\tilde{f} \in A''$  of  $f$  the above lemma implies that  $\|\tilde{f}\| = \|f\| = \langle f, e \rangle = \langle e, \tilde{f} \rangle$ . Therefore  $\tilde{f}$ , hence  $f$ , is a positive linear form by Proposition 2.1.9 in [1].

In the next three lemmas  $A$  and  $B$  are  $C^*$ -algebras.

LEMMA 2.2. *Let  $\tilde{A}$  (resp.  $\tilde{B}$ ) be the  $C^*$ -algebra obtained by adjoining the identity  $e_1$  to  $A$  (resp.  $e_2$  to  $B$ ). If  $T: A \rightarrow B$  is a  $C^*$ -isomorphism, the natural extension  $\tilde{T}: \tilde{A} \rightarrow \tilde{B}$ , defined by  $\tilde{T}(x + \lambda e_1) = Tx + \lambda e_2$ , is isometric.*

Proof. Since  $T$  is obviously a  $C^*$ -isomorphism, the lemma is a consequence of Theorem 1.1.

LEMMA 2.3. *Let  $T: A \rightarrow B$  be a  $C^*$ -isomorphism. There is an approximate identity  $(u_j)_{j \in J}$  in  $A$  such that  $(Tu_j)_{j \in J}$  is an approximate identity for  $B$ .*

Proof. We modify slightly the construction used in the proof of Proposition 1.7.2 in [1], p. 15. Let  $J$  be the directed set consisting of all finite sets of self-adjoint elements of  $A$ , ordered by inclusion. If  $j = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\} \in J$ , set  $v_j = a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2$ . With the notation of the preceding lemma, the extension  $\tilde{T}$  of  $T$  is a  $C^*$ -isomorphism. As  $v_j$  is positive, it is self-adjoint, and so is  $Tv_j$ . Let  $A_j$  (resp.  $B_j$ ) denote the commutative  $C^*$ -subalgebra of  $\tilde{A}$  generated by  $v_j$  and the identity  $e_1$  (resp. of  $\tilde{B}$  generated by  $Tv_j$  and  $e_2$ ). Since  $A_j$  (resp.  $B_j$ ) consists of polynomials in  $v_j$  (resp.  $Tv_j$ ) and their uniform limits, it follows from the definition of a  $C^*$ -isomorphism and the fact that  $\tilde{T}$  is isometric (Lemma 2.2) that  $\tilde{T}$  defines a  $C^*$ -algebra isomorphism  $T_j: A_j \rightarrow B_j$ . In particular, if we define  $u_j = v_j(n^{-1}e_1 + v_j)^{-1} \in A$ , we have  $Tu_j = Tv_j(n^{-1}e_2 + Tv_j)^{-1}$ . As in the proof of Proposition 1.7.2 in [1] it is seen that  $\|u_j\| \leq 1$  and  $\lim_j u_j a = \lim_j a u_j = a$  for any self-adjoint  $a \in A$ . Similarly,  $\|Tu_j\| \leq 1$ , and as  $Tv_j = (Ta_1)^2 + \dots + (Ta_n)^2$

and  $T$  defines a bijection between the sets of self-adjoint elements of  $A$  and  $B$ ,  $\lim_j (Tu_j)b = \lim_j bTu_j = b$  for any self-adjoint  $b \in B$ . Since every element of  $A$  and  $B$  is a linear combination of self-adjoint elements, it follows that  $(u_j)_{j \in J}$  is an approximate identity for  $A$  and  $(Tu_j)_{j \in J}$  for  $B$ .

LEMMA 2.4. *Let  $T: A \rightarrow B$  be a linear map which preserves self-adjointness.  $T$  is bounded if its restriction to the real Banach space of the self-adjoint elements of  $A$  is bounded.*

Proof. By virtue of the principle of uniform boundedness (cf. [2], p. 66) and the fact that each  $f \in B'$  is a linear combination of two Hermitian linear forms, it suffices to show that  $\sup\{|f(Tx)| \mid x \in A, \|x\| \leq 1\}$  is finite for any continuous Hermitian linear form  $f$  on  $B$ . By hypothesis,  $f \circ T$  is also Hermitian and continuous on the space of the self-adjoint elements of  $A$ . Thus  $f \circ T$  is continuous everywhere (see the argument in [1], 1.2.6), and the assertion follows.

### 3. The main theorems.

THEOREM 3.1. *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be  $C^*$ -algebras and  $T: A \rightarrow B$  a vector space isomorphism. Consider the following four statements:*

- (i)  $T$  is a  $C^*$ -isomorphism,
- (ii)  $T$  is bipositive,
- (iii)  $T$  is isometric,
- (iv)  $T$  maps some approximate identity of  $A$  onto an approximate identity of  $B$ .

*Statement (i) implies each one of (ii) to (iv), and any two of the statements (ii) to (iv) together imply (i).*

Proof. Suppose  $T$  is a  $C^*$ -isomorphism. Lemma 2.2 shows  $T$  to be isometric. The proof of bipositivity may be given using Kadison's original argument in [4] p. 329, since it does not depend on the existence of an identity. Statement (iv) is proved in Lemma 2.3. Suppose next that  $T$  is bipositive. Since any continuous linear functional on a  $C^*$ -algebra is a linear combination of positive linear forms and each positive linear form on a  $C^*$ -algebra is bounded, the uniform boundedness principle may be used in a manner analogous to the proof of Lemma 2.4 to show that any positive linear map between  $C^*$ -algebras is bounded. In particular,  $T$  has a second transpose  $T^{**}: A'' \rightarrow B''$ . As  $T^*$  maps the positive cone of  $B'$  onto that of  $A'$ , and an element of  $A''$  (resp.  $B''$ ) is positive as an operator if and only if it is non-negative on the positive linear forms on  $A$  (resp.  $B$ ) (see [1] Corollary 12.1.3 (iii) and note that each vector  $\xi$  in the Hilbert space underlying  $A''$  defines a normal positive form  $x \mapsto (x\xi, \xi)$  on  $A''$ ), the isomorphism  $T^{**}$  is bipositive. If  $T$  is also isometric, so is  $T^{**}$ . Then Theorem 1.1 shows that  $T^{**}$ , hence  $T$ , is a  $C^*$ -isomorphism. Suppose now that  $T$  is bounded and (iv) holds. As  $T^{**}: A'' \rightarrow B''$  is

continuous with respect to  $\sigma(A'', A')$  and  $\sigma(B'', B')$ , Lemma 2.1 implies that  $T$  maps the identity of  $A''$  onto that of  $B''$ . If  $T$  is bipositive (resp. isometric), so is  $T^{**}$ , as was noted above. Thus Theorem 1.1 may be applied to show that (iv) combined with either (ii) or (iii) implies (i).

Note. As Kadison observes in [5], p. 502, his generalized Schwarz inequality may be used to show independently of the corresponding result for  $C^*$ -algebras with identity that in the above theorem (ii) and (iii) together imply (i).

For any  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$ , let  $H_A$  denote the real Banach space of the self-adjoint elements of  $A$ .

**THEOREM 3.2.** *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be  $C^*$ -algebras and  $T: A \rightarrow B$  a vector space isomorphism. If  $T$  maps  $H_A$  isometrically onto  $H_B$ , then  $T$  is isometric.*

**Proof.** By Lemma 2.4  $T$  is bounded, so we have the bounded maps  $T^*: B' \rightarrow A'$  and  $T^{**}: A'' \rightarrow B''$ . The real Banach space  $H_{A'}$  of the continuous Hermitian linear forms on  $A$  may be identified with the Banach space dual of  $H_A$  (see [1], p. 5). Similarly,  $(H_{A'})'$  identifies with  $H_{A''}$ . This follows from Corollary 12.1.3 (iii) in [1] and the fact that for any two vectors  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  in the Hilbert space underlying  $A''$  the linear form  $x \mapsto (x\xi, \eta)$  belongs to the predual of  $A''$ . The argument used in [1] 1.2.6, p. 5 may be adapted to show that this identification preserves norms. Similar statements hold for  $B$ . We have  $\|T \mid H_A\| = \|T^* \mid H_{B'}\| = \|T^{**} \mid H_{A''}\|$ , and applying this result also to  $T^{-1}$  we see that  $T^{**}$  is isometric on  $H_{A''}$ . Theorem 2 in [5] combined with Theorem 5 in [4] then shows that  $T^{**}$ , hence  $T$ , is everywhere isometric.

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## Some more Banach spaces which contain $l^1$

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**Abstract.** Let  $X^*$  be a conjugate Banach space containing a subspace isomorphic to  $l^1(\mu)$ . Sufficient conditions on the measure  $\mu$  are given which insure that  $X$  contains a subspace isomorphic to  $l^1$ .

**Introduction.** The purpose of this paper is the extension of the results of Pełczyński [11] concerning the embedding of  $l^1(\mu)$  spaces into conjugate Banach spaces. The main result is the following:

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $X$  be a Banach space. Assume that either*

(I)  *$X^*$  contains a (closed) subspace isomorphic to  $l^1(\mu)$  where  $\mu$  is a non purely atomic measure; or*

(II)  *$X^*$  contains a (closed) subspace isomorphic to  $l^1(I)$  and the dimension of  $X$  is less than the cardinality of  $I$ .*

*Then  $X$  contains a subspace isomorphic to  $l^1$ .*

It is an immediate consequence of this theorem and results of Rosenthal [13] that if  $X$  is a separable Banach space with  $X^*$  non-separable and  $X$  is either an  $\mathcal{L}_\infty$  space or a quotient space of  $C[0, 1]$ , then  $X$  contains a subspace isomorphic to  $l^1$ . (For the definition and properties of  $\mathcal{L}_p$  spaces, see [9] and [10].) It also follows from Theorem 1 and results in [11] that if  $X$  is separable and  $X^*$  satisfies either (I) or (II) of Theorem 1, then  $C[0, 1]$  is isomorphic to a quotient space of  $X$ .

The proof of Theorem 1 involves a modification of methods introduced by Pełczyński in [11] (except in (II) in the case where  $X$  is not separable). Pełczyński proved Theorem 1 under the added assumptions that the subspace of  $X^*$  isomorphic to  $l^1(\mu)$  or  $l^1(I)$  is a "seminorming" subspace of  $X^*$ , and, in case (II), that  $X$  is separable. (For the definition of seminorming, see [11], p. 232.) Delbaen [2] independently proved Theorem 1 (I) and 1 (II) in the case where  $X$  is separable (using essentially the same idea as in Proposition 2 and the remark which follows it). Johnson and Rosenthal [6] have recently given a different proof of Theorem 1 (I) using weak- $*$  basic sequences.

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