

****This document was last updated on April 11, 2008. A more recent version may be available as part of <http://math.berkeley.edu/~theo/f/CstarAlgebras.pdf>.****

1 April 11, 2008

****I arrived late.**** When G is compact, \hat{G} is discrete, (if G is not abelian, \hat{G} are the equivalence classes of irreps of G) and given the right set-up ****an action of G on Banach space B ?****, we can average and define an “isotypic subspace”: $B_m = \{\xi : \alpha_x(\xi) = \langle x, m \rangle \xi\}$.

Another view: Let $e_m(x) = \overline{\langle x, m \rangle}$. Then $e_m \in L^1(G)$, and $(e_m \star e_n)(x) = \int_G e_m(y) e_n(x - y) dy = \int_G \overline{\langle y, m \rangle} \overline{\langle x - y, n \rangle} dy = \overline{\langle x, n \rangle} \int \overline{\langle y, m - n \rangle} dy$. Based on experience with these things over, e.g. the torus, we can show that this integral is $\int \overline{\langle y, m - n \rangle} dy = \delta_{m,n}$. So e_m is an idempotent in $L^1(G)$ and $e_m \star e_n = 0$ if $m \neq n$. So set $\xi_m = \alpha_{e_m}(\xi)$; then α_{e_m} is a projection of B onto B_m .

Prop: If $\xi_m = 0$ for all m , then $\xi = 0$.

Proof:

$\alpha_{e_m}(\xi) = 0$. The finite linear combinations of the e_m s form a subalgebra under pointwise multiplication — $e_m e_n = e_{m+n}$ — and under complex conjugation. There are lots of characters of a compact group: we even have the machinery to show this ****and sketched the proof verbally, but I didn’t catch it****. This algebra separates points, hence is dense in $C(G)$ with ∞ -norm, so dense in $L^1(G)$. Thus $\alpha_f(\xi) = 0$ for any $f \in L^1(G)$. But let f_λ be an approximate identity for $L^1(G)$, so $0 = \alpha_{f_\lambda}(\xi) \rightarrow \xi$. \square

Question from the audience: So this is saying that if all the Fourier coefficients of a function are zero, then it’s zero? **Answer:** Precisely. And more generally.

Cor: If $a \in A_\theta = C^*(\mathbb{Z}^d, c_\theta)$, and if $a_n = 0$ for all n , then $a = 0$.

If G compact Abelian, α and action on C^* -algebra A , we can define A_m for each $m \in \hat{G}$. We pick $a \in A_m$ and $b \in A_n$; then $\alpha_x(ab) = \alpha_x(a)\alpha_x(b) = \langle x, m \rangle a \langle x, n \rangle b = \langle x, m + n \rangle ab$. So $ab \in A_{m+n}$. And $a^* \in A_{-m}$. So then $\bigoplus A_m$ is a dense subalgebra fibered over \hat{G} . ****I would call this “graded”.**** We can even do this in the nonabelian case. These are often called “Fell bundles”.

So, back in our torus case, let U_m be a unitary generator for A_θ (corresponds to δ_m).

$$\begin{aligned} (U_m)_n &= \int \overline{\langle x, m \rangle} \alpha_x(U_m) dx \\ &= \int \overline{\langle x, b \rangle} \langle x, m \rangle U_m dx \\ &= \int \langle x, m - n \rangle dx U_m \\ &= \begin{cases} 0, & m \neq n \\ 1, & m = n \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

So $(A_\theta)_m = \text{span}(U_m)$. We can try to ask at a convergence level whether $a \sim \sum a_m U_m$. This doesn't have a good answer, even in the continuous case: Which collections of Fourier coefficients come from continuous functions?

For G acting on a C^* -algebra A , the fiber over 0 is a C^* -subalgebra. $A_0 = \{a : \alpha_x(a) = a \forall x\} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} A^G$. If $P = \alpha_{e_0}$, then $P(a) = \int_G \alpha_x(a) dx$.

Prop: P is a *conditional expectation* from A onto A^G :

- (a) If $a > 0$, then $P(a) > 0$.
- (b) If $a \in A$ and $b \in A^G$, then $P(ba) = bP(a)$ and $P(ab) = P(a)b$.
- (c) $P(\alpha_x(a)) = P(a) \forall x \in G$.

For A_θ , $P(a) = \int_{T^d} \alpha_x(a) dx = a_0 U_0 = a_0 \mathbb{1}$. So we can view P as a linear functional $\tau : a \mapsto a_0 \in \mathbb{C}$. It's positive, from what we've seen, and $P(\mathbb{1}) = P(U_0) = 1$, so it's a state, but also *tracial*: $\tau ab = \tau(ba)$. It's enough to check this on generators:

$$\tau(U_m U_n) = \int \langle m, x \rangle U_m \langle n, x \rangle U_n dx = \begin{cases} 0, & m \neq -n \\ U_m U_{-m} = c_\theta(m, -m), & m = -n \end{cases}$$

Cor: A_θ contains no proper α -invariant ideal.

Proof:

If I is an ideal, $a \in I$, $a \neq 0$, then $a^*a \in I$ and $a^*a \neq 0$. So $P(a^*a) = \int \alpha_x(a^*a) dx > 0$, but it is in $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{1}$, so $1 \in I$, so $I \in A_\theta$. \square

Cor: The rep of A_θ on $L^2(\mathbb{Z}^d)$ is faithful.

Next time.

Cor: τ is the only α -invariant tracial state.

Proof:

If τ_0 is another one, then $\tau_0(a) = \tau_0(\alpha_x(a)) = \int_G \tau_0(\alpha_x(a)) dx = \tau_0 \left(\int \alpha_x(a) dx \right) = \tau_0(a_0) = \tau_0(\tau(a)\mathbb{1}) = \tau(a)$. \square