

**Exercise 1.** Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra,  $H_1, H_2$  Hilbert spaces,  $\phi_1 : A \rightarrow BL(H_1, H_1)$  and  $\phi_2 : A \rightarrow BL(H_2, H_2)$  cyclic representations. Suppose that  $\langle \phi_1(a)\psi_1, \psi_1 \rangle_1 = \langle \phi_2(a)\psi_2, \psi_2 \rangle_2$  for all  $a \in A$ , where  $\psi_1, \psi_2$  are the cyclic vectors in  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  respectively. Show that there exists a unitary operator (i.e., an invertible linear isometry)  $W : H \rightarrow K$  such that  $\phi(a) = W^*\psi(a)W$  for all  $a \in A$ .

## 5 Spectral decomposition of normal operators

**Proposition 5.1** (Spectral Theorem for Normal Elements). *Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra and  $a \in A$  normal. Then, there exists an isometric embedding of unital  $C^*$ -algebras  $\phi : C(\sigma_A(a), \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow A$  such that  $\phi(\text{id}) = a$ .*

*Proof.* **Exercise.** □

Of course, an important application of this is the case when  $A$  is the algebra of bounded operators on some Hilbert space and  $a$  is a normal operator.

In the context of this proposition we also use the notation  $f(a) := \phi(f)$  for  $f \in C(\sigma_A(a), \mathbb{C})$ . We use the same notation if  $f$  is defined on a larger subset of the complex plane.

**Corollary 5.2** (Continuous Spectral Mapping Theorem). *Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra,  $a \in A$  normal and  $f : T \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  continuous such that  $\sigma_A(a) \subseteq T$ . Then,  $\sigma_A(f(a)) = f(\sigma_A(a))$ .*

*Proof.* **Exercise.** □

**Corollary 5.3.** *Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra and  $a \in A$  normal. Furthermore, let  $f : \sigma_A(a) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  and  $g : f(\sigma_A(a)) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  continuous. Then  $(g \circ f)(a) = g(f(a))$ .*

*Proof.* **Exercise.** □

**Definition 5.4.** Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra. If  $u \in A$  is invertible and satisfies  $u^* = u^{-1}$  we call  $u$  *unitary*. If  $p \in A$  is self-adjoint and satisfies  $p^2 = p$  we call it a *projector*. If  $a \in A$  is positive and invertible we call it *positive definite*.

**Exercise.** Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra.

1. Let  $u \in A$  be unitary. What can you say about  $\sigma_A(u)$ ?
2. Let  $p \in A$  be a projector. Show that  $\sigma_A(p) \subseteq \{0, 1\}$ .
3. Let  $a \in A$  be normal and  $\sigma_A(a) \subset \mathbb{R}$ . Show that  $a$  is self-adjoint.
4. Let  $a \in A$  be invertible. Show that there is a unitary element  $u \in A$  and a positive definite element  $n \in A$  such that  $a = un$ .

**Proposition 5.5.** *Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra and  $a \in A$  normal. Suppose the spectrum of  $a$  is the disjoint union of two non-empty subsets  $\sigma_A(a) = s_1 \cup s_2$ . Then, there exist  $a_1, a_2 \in A$  normal, such that  $\sigma_A(a_1) = s_1$  and  $\sigma_A(a_2) = s_2$  and  $a = a_1 + a_2$ . Moreover,  $a_1 a_2 = a_2 a_1 = 0$  and  $a$  commutes both with  $a_1$  and  $a_2$ .*

*Proof.* **Exercise.** □

**Proposition 5.6.** *Let  $H$  be a Hilbert space and  $k \in A := BL(H, H)$  compact. Show that  $\sigma_A(k)$  is discrete and bounded and has at most one accumulation point, namely 0. If 0 is accumulation point of  $\sigma_A(k)$  then  $0 \in \sigma_A(k)$ .*

*Proof.* **Exercise.** Use results of Part I of the course to prove this. □

**Proposition 5.7.** *Let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra and  $k \in A$  normal. Assume moreover that  $\sigma_A(k)$  is discrete and has at most one accumulation point, namely 0. Then, there exists a projector  $p_\lambda \in A$  for each  $\lambda \in \sigma_A(k)$  such that  $p_\lambda p_{\lambda'} = 0$  if  $\lambda \neq \lambda'$  and*

$$k = \sum_{\lambda \in \sigma_A(k)} \lambda p_\lambda \quad \text{and} \quad e = \sum_{\lambda \in \sigma_A(k)} p_\lambda.$$

*Proof.* **Exercise.** (Explain also in which sense the sums converge!) □