

*K* GROUP AND SIMILARITY INVARIANTS OF  
OPERATORS IN TYPE  $II_1$  FACTORS

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# OUTLINE

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## BACKGROUND

### SIMILARITY INVARIANTS

An important question in operator theory is that how we can determine the complete similarity invariants for operators. People always have interest in similarity invariants of operators. Two operators  $A$  and  $B$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  are said to be similar if there is an invertible operator  $X$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  such that

$$XA = BX,$$

where  $\mathcal{H}$  denotes a complex separable Hilbert space and  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is the set of bounded linear operators on  $\mathcal{H}$ .

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- Similarity invariant.

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- Similarity invariant.
- Complete similarity invariant.

## BACKGROUND

### OPERATORS ON FINITE DIMENSIONAL HILBERT SPACES

On finite dimensional Hilbert spaces, Jordan canonical form theorem shows that eigenvalues and generalized eigenspaces are complete similarity invariants of operators.

The complexity of infinite dimensional Hilbert spaces makes it impossible to find generally similarity invariants. The main difficulty is that it is impossible to find a representation theorem in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  as perfect as Jordan canonical form theorem.

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- In 1978, M. J. Cowen and R. G. Douglas pointed out that people can only find similarity invariants on special class of operators [1].
- A. L. Shields showed that the ratio of weights is a complete similarity invariant of injective unilateral weighted shift operators.
- J. B. Conway proved that two normal operators are similar if and only if they have the same scalar-valued spectral measure and their multiplicity functions are equal.
- For Cowen-Douglas operators of index 1, M. J. Cowen and R. G. Douglas introduced a curvature function and they showed that this function is a complete unitarily invariant of Cowen-Douglas operators of index 1.

## BACKGROUND

In the 1970's, F. Gilfeather [2] and Zejian Jiang introduced the concept of strongly irreducible operators independently.

### STRONGLY IRREDUCIBLE OPERATOR

An operator  $T$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is said to be **strongly irreducible** (short for SI) if its commutant  $\{T\}' \equiv \{B \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}) : BT = TB\}$  contains no nontrivial idempotents. (Separability Assumption of  $\mathcal{H}$ )

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### EXAMPLES

It is obvious that strong irreducibility is a similarity invariant. Cowen-Douglas operators of index 1 and unicellular operators are classical SI operators. It is easy to observe that the adjoint of a SI operator is still strongly irreducible and the spectrum of every SI operator is connected.

## BACKGROUND

### MOTIVATION

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### SOME PROGRESS

Many people did a lot of work around this subject.

In 1987, G. Gong obtained that SI operators form a nowhere dense subset of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ . He also conjectured that SI operators form a dense subset of operators with connected spectra.

To answer this conjecture, in 1990, D. A. Herrero and C. Jiang proved that every operator in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  can be written as a direct sum of finitely many SI operators by a small perturbation [3].

## BACKGROUND

In 2002, Y. Cao, J. Fang and C. Jiang proved the following theorem [4].

### THEOREM CFJ

Let  $T$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ ,  $T \sim \bigoplus_{i=1}^k A_i^{(n_i)}$ , where  $A_i$  is SI and  $A_i \approx A_j$  for  $i \neq j$ . For every positive integer  $n$ , the finite strongly irreducible decomposition of  $T^{(n)}$  is unique up to similarity if and only if the ordered  $K_0$  group of  $\{T\}'$  is isomorphic to the ordered group of integer-valued vectors i. e.

$$\{V(\{T\}'), K_0(\{T\}'), [I]\} \stackrel{\alpha}{\cong} \{\mathbb{N}^{(k)}, \mathbb{Z}^{(k)}, e\}.$$



## BACKGROUND

In 2005, C. Jiang, X. Guo and K. Ji proved the following theorem [5].

### THEOREM JGJ

Ordered  $K_0$  group is the completely similar invariant of two Cowen-Douglas operators.

In 2007, C. Jiang and K. Ji introduced the concept of the commutants of holomorphic curves  $E_f$ , and proved the following theorem [6].

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### THEOREM JJ

Completely similarity invariants of  $E_f$  are determined by the ordered  $K_0$  group of the commutant of  $E_f$ .

## BACKGROUND

### MINIMAL IDEMPOTENT

We need to mention that Theorem CFJ plays a key role in proving both Theorem JGJ and Theorem JJ. However in the proof of Theorem CFJ, minimal idempotents are necessary.

In a unital Banach algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ , an idempotent  $P$  is said to be **minimal** if every nontrivial idempotent  $Q$  in the commutant of  $P$  satisfies  $PQ = QP = P$  or  $PQ = QP = 0$ .

## BACKGROUND

### ROLE OF MINIMAL IDEMPOTENTS

For an operator  $A$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  and a minimal idempotent  $P$  in  $\{A\}' \equiv \{B \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}) : BA = AB\}$ , we observe that  $A|_{\text{ran}P}$  is strongly irreducible.

Unfortunately, the commutants of many operators contain no minimal idempotents. Therefore, many operators in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  can not be written as direct sums of SI operators. Specially, the commutants of many operators in type  $II_1$  factors contain no minimal idempotents.

## BACKGROUND

### TYPE $II_1$ FACTOR

A von Neumann algebra  $\mathcal{M}$  is said to be a **factor** if the center of  $\mathcal{M}$  is trivial, i. e. , the relation  $\mathcal{M} \cap \mathcal{M}' = \mathbb{C}$  holds. A factor is said to be of **type  $II_1$**  if there is no minimal projection in  $\mathcal{M}$  and the identity is finite

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### TYPE II<sub>1</sub> FACTOR

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### FINITE PROJECTIONS IN $\mathcal{M}$

In a type II<sub>1</sub> factor  $\mathcal{M}$ , every projection is finite. Equivalently, the identity is finite. (In a  $C^*$  algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ , a projection  $P$  is said to be **finite** if for every projection  $P_1$ , the relations  $P_1 \leq P$  and  $P_1 \sim_{M.v.} P$  must imply  $P_1 = P$ , where  $\sim_{M.v.}$  stands for Murray-von Neumann equivalence.)

## BACKGROUND

### RESEARCH METHODS

In this talk, we mainly consider characterizing similarity invariants of operators in type  $II_1$  factors by applying terms of ordered  $K_0$  group, where ordered  $K_0$  group are usually called the Elliott invariant [7,8]. This invariant plays an important role in characterizing isomorphic invariant of  $C^*$  algebras.

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In this talk, we mainly consider characterizing similarity invariants of operators in type  $II_1$  factors by applying terms of ordered  $K_0$  group, where ordered  $K_0$  group are usually called the Elliott invariant [7,8]. This invariant plays an important role in characterizing isomorphic invariant of  $C^*$  algebras.

Theorem CFJ is not a suitable trick to find similarity invariants of operators in type  $II_1$  factors. Therefore we need to find new techniques. In the following, we introduce concepts about direct integrals to find new similarity invariants of operators in type  $II_1$  factors.

Then, we introduce new representation theorem with direct integrals of strongly irreducible operators.



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The following are some notations about direct integrals.

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- let  $\mathcal{H}_1 \subset \mathcal{H}_2 \subset \cdots \subset \mathcal{H}_\infty$  a sequence of Hilbert spaces, with  $\mathcal{H}_n$  having dimension  $n$ , and  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  spanned by the union of Hilbert spaces  $\mathcal{H}_n$ , for  $1 \leq n < \infty$ .

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- Let  $(\Lambda, \mu, \{\Lambda_n\}_{n=1}^{n=\infty})$  be a partitioned measure space, where  $\Lambda$  is a separable metric space,  $\mu$  is (the completion of) a regular Borel measure on  $\Lambda$ , and  $\{\Lambda_\infty, \Lambda_1, \Lambda_2, \dots\}$  is a Borel partition of  $\Lambda$ . Assume that  $\mu$  is  $\sigma$ -finite and  $\Lambda$  is almost  $\sigma$ -compact.

# DIRECT INTEGRAL OF HILBERT SPACES

## DEFINITION (DIRECT INTEGRAL OF HILBERT SPACES)

We form the associated direct integral Hilbert space

$\mathcal{H} = \int_{\Lambda}^{\oplus} \mathcal{H}(\lambda) \mu(d\lambda)$ . This space consists of all (equivalence classes of) measurable functions  $f$  from  $\Lambda$  into  $\mathcal{H}_{\infty}$  such that:

The element in  $\mathcal{H}$  represented by the function  $\lambda \rightarrow f(\lambda)$  is denoted by  $\int_{\Lambda}^{\oplus} f(\lambda) \mu(d\lambda)$ . For  $\lambda$  in  $\Lambda$ , the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}(\lambda)$  is said to be the **fiber space** with respect to  $\mathcal{H}$ .

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- $f(\lambda) \in \mathcal{H}(\lambda) \equiv \mathcal{H}_n$  for  $\lambda \in \Lambda_n$ ;

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- $f(\lambda) \in \mathcal{H}(\lambda) \equiv \mathcal{H}_n$  for  $\lambda \in \Lambda_n$ ;
- $\int_{\Lambda} \|f(\lambda)\|^2 \mu(d\lambda) < \infty$ .

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# DIRECT INTEGRAL OF HILBERT SPACES

## INNER PRODUCT ON $\mathcal{H}$

We can verify that the map

$$u : \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \quad u(f, g) = \int_{\Lambda} \langle f(\lambda), g(\lambda) \rangle \mu(d\lambda)$$

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## EXAMPLE (DIRECT INTEGRAL OF HILBERT SPACES)

Write  $\Lambda = [0, 1]$ , the measure  $\mu$  is regular Borel supported on  $\Lambda$ . The Hilbert space  $L^2(\Lambda, \mu) \oplus L^2(\Lambda, \mu)$  can be considered as a direct integral of Hilbert spaces  $\mathbb{C}^{(2)}$  with respect to  $(\Lambda, \mu)$ .

# DIRECT INTEGRAL OF OPERATORS

## DEFINITION (DIRECT INTEGRAL OF OPERATORS)

An operator  $A$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is said to be **decomposable** if there exists a strongly  $\mu$ -measurable operator-valued function  $A(\cdot)$  defined on  $\Lambda$  such that:

We write  $A \equiv \int_{\Lambda}^{\oplus} A(\lambda)\mu(d\lambda)$  for the equivalence class corresponding to  $A(\cdot)$ . If  $A(\lambda)$  is a scalar multiple of the identity on  $\mathcal{H}(\lambda)$  for almost all  $\lambda$ , then  $A$  is said to be **diagonal**. The collection of all diagonal operators is said to be the **diagonal algebra** of  $\Lambda$ . It is an abelian von Neumann algebra.

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- $A(\lambda)$  is an operator in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}(\lambda))$  a. e. for  $\lambda$  in  $\Lambda$ ;
- $(Af)(\lambda) = A(\lambda)f(\lambda)$ , for all  $f \in \mathcal{H}$ .

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## DIRECT INTEGRAL OF OPERATORS

### EXAMPLE (DIAGONAL OPERATOR)

Let  $L^2(\Lambda, \mu)$  be as the example we mentioned just now. Let  $\chi_{\Lambda_1}$  be some characteristic function on a measurable subset  $\Lambda_1$  of  $\Lambda$ . This function induces multiplication operator  $M_{\chi_{\Lambda_1}}$ . And  $M_{\chi_{\Lambda_1}}$  is diagonal with respect to  $L^2(\Lambda, \mu)$ .

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# OPERATORS NOT SIMILAR TO SI DIRECT INTEGRALS

## DEFINITION (DIRECT INTEGRALS OF SI OPERATORS)

An operator  $A$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is said to be a **direct integral of strongly irreducible operators** if there exists a partitioned measure space  $(\Lambda, \mu, \{\Lambda_n\}_{n=1}^{n=\infty})$  for  $\mathcal{H}$  such that  $A$  is decomposable with respect to  $(\Lambda, \mu, \{\Lambda_n\}_{n=1}^{n=\infty})$  and  $A(\lambda) \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}(\lambda))$  is strongly irreducible almost everywhere on  $\Lambda$ . This kind of integrals is short for “**SI integrals**”.

By computing, we find that not every operator in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is similar to a direct integral of strongly irreducible operators. In the following, we construct two operators of this type. One is in discrete case, the other is in continue case.

# OPERATORS NOT SIMILAR TO SI DIRECT INTEGRALS

## EXAMPLE (DISCRETE CASE)

Assume that operator  $A$  has the form

$$A = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i, \quad A_i = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{i} & 1 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{2i} \end{pmatrix} \in M_2(\mathbb{C}).$$



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Every idempotent  $P$  in  $\{A\}'$  is in the form  $P = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\infty} P_i$ , where  $P_i$  is in one of the following four forms

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{2i}{3} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\frac{2i}{3} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad 0_2, \quad I_2.$$

# OPERATORS NOT SIMILAR TO SI DIRECT INTEGRALS

Since  $P \in \{A\}'$  is bounded,  $P_i$  must be  $0_2$  or  $1_2$  for all but finitely many  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . Hence, all the idempotents in  $\{A\}'$  form the only maximal abelian set of idempotents  $\mathcal{P}$ . But this set is unbounded.

# OPERATORS NOT SIMILAR TO SI DIRECT INTEGRALS

Since  $P \in \{A\}'$  is bounded,  $P_i$  must be  $0_2$  or  $I_2$  for all but finitely many  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . Hence, all the idempotents in  $\{A\}'$  form the only maximal abelian set of idempotents  $\mathcal{P}$ . But this set is unbounded.

If there exists an operator  $B$  similar to  $A$  and  $B$  can be written as a direct integral of strongly irreducible operators, then every idempotent in the commutant of  $B$  must be a projection. This is a contradiction because  $\mathcal{P}$  is unbounded.

# OPERATORS NOT SIMILAR TO SI DIRECT INTEGRALS

## EXAMPLE (CONTINUE CASE)

Let  $\mu$  be a regular Borel measure supported on interval  $[0,1]$ . Denote by  $N_\mu$  the multiplication operator on  $L^2((0,1), \mu)$  defined as follows,

$$(N_\mu f)(t) = t \cdot f(t), \quad f \in L^2(0,1), t \in (0,1).$$

Notice that the set  $\{N_\mu\}'$  contains no minimal idempotent. Let  $A$  be of the form

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} N_\mu & I \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{2}N_\mu \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} L^2(0,1) \\ L^2(0,1) \end{matrix}.$$

The reason for this operator not similar to a direct integral of strongly irreducible operators is essentially the same as the above example.

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# OPERATORS SIMILAR TO SI DIRECT INTEGRALS

According to the above discussion, we obtain a necessary and sufficient condition for operators which are similar to direct integrals of strongly irreducible operators.

## THEOREM 2.1

Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a separable Hilbert space and let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ . The operator  $A$  is similar to a direct integral of strongly irreducible operators if and only if its commutant  $\{A\}'$  contains a bounded maximal abelian set of idempotents  $\mathcal{P}$ .

# OPERATORS SIMILAR TO SI DIRECT INTEGRALS

## DEFINITION ( $n$ NORMAL OPERATOR)

Suppose that  $\mathcal{M}$  is a maximal abelian von Neumann algebra. An operator in the commutant of  $\mathcal{M}^{(n)}$  is said to be  $n$  normal.

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## EXAMPLE

In the definition, we observe that  $n$  normal operators need not to be normal. And this class of operators is abundant. Many  $n$  normal operators are similar to direct integrals of strongly irreducible operators. But in the above examples, we find that not every  $n$  normal operator behaves as we hope. However, we find that operators similar to direct integrals of strongly irreducible operators form a dense subset in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ .



# A FINER REPRESENTATION ABOUT SI INTEGRAL

## THEOREM 2.2

If an operator  $A$  can be written as a direct integral of strongly irreducible operators then  $A$  has a finer upper triangular representation

$$A = \bigoplus_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigoplus_{j=1}^{s_m} \bigoplus_{k=1}^{t_{m_j}} \int_{\Lambda_m} \begin{pmatrix} N_{\nu_m} & M_{\phi_{12,m_j,k}} & \cdots & M_{\phi_{1m_j,m_j,k}} \\ 0 & N_{\nu_m} & \cdots & M_{\phi_{2m_j,m_j,k}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & N_{\nu_m} \end{pmatrix}_{m_j \times m_j} (\lambda) \nu_m(d\lambda),$$

$$\bigoplus_{\Lambda_{\infty}} \int A(\lambda) \mu_{\infty}(d\lambda)$$

where  $0 \leq t_{m_j}, s_m \leq \infty$  are integers and every  $N_{\nu_m}$  in the main diagonal is \*-cyclic. The measures  $\nu_m$  are pairwise singular for different “ $m$ ”s.

## A FINER REPRESENTATION ABOUT SI INTEGRAL

### REMARK

$A(\lambda)$  acts on an infinite dimensional Hilbert space a. e. on  $\Lambda_\infty$ . Generally, we call

$$\int_{\Lambda_\infty} A(\lambda) \mu_\infty(d\lambda)$$

the “infinite order part” in the SI integral representation.

In section 4, we show that operators in a type II<sub>1</sub> factor contains no “infinite order parts”.

# A FINER REPRESENTATION ABOUT SI INTEGRAL

## REMARK

In the above upper triangular representation, the operator-valued matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} N_{\nu_m} & M_{\phi_{12,m_j,k}} & \cdots & M_{\phi_{1m_j,m_j,k}} \\ 0 & N_{\nu_m} & \cdots & M_{\phi_{2m_j,m_j,k}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & N_{\nu_m} \end{pmatrix}_{m_j \times m_j} \quad (\text{I})$$

is considered as a basic building block in SI integrals.

# OUTLINE

- 1 BACKGROUND
- 2 S. I. D. IN DIRECT INTEGRAL FORM
  - Direct integral
  - Operators not similar to SI direct integrals
  - A necessary and sufficient condition about SI direct integral
- 3 UNIQUENESS OF S. I. D. UP TO SIMILARITY
  - Operators without uniqueness of S. I. D. up to similarity
  - Uniqueness of S. I. D. up to similarity
- 4 OPERATORS IN TYPE  $II_1$  FACTORS

## ABOUT UNIQUENESS OF S. I. D. UP TO SIMILARITY

In the following, we introduce the definition of the uniqueness of the strongly irreducible decomposition of operators up to similarity.

### DEFINITION (UNIQUENESS OF S. I. D. UP TO SIMILARITY)

For any two bounded maximal abelian sets of idempotents  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{Q}$  in  $\{A\}'$ , if  $\{A\}'$  contains an invertible operator  $X$  such that  $X\mathcal{P}X^{-1} = \mathcal{Q}$ , then  $A$  is said to have **unique strongly irreducible decomposition** (short for **S. I. D.**) **up to similarity**.

Unlike operators in  $M_n(\mathbb{C})$ , we observe that not every operator in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  has unique S. I. D. up to similarity. This is a characteristic of countably infinite dimensional Hilbert spaces.

# ON INFINITE DIMENSIONAL HILBERT SPACE

## NONTRIVIAL EXAMPLE W. R. T. $L^2(\Lambda, \mu)$

Write  $\Lambda = [0, 1]$ , the measure  $\mu$  is regular Borel supported on  $\Lambda$ . We construct a nontrivial example with operators on  $L^2(\Lambda, \mu)$  such that its S. I. D. is not unique up to similarity.

Write  $A$  in the form

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda I & I \\ 0 & \lambda I \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $\lambda I$  is a scalar multiple of the identity on  $L^2(\Lambda, \mu)$ .

# ON INFINITE DIMENSIONAL HILBERT SPACE

## TWO BOUNDED MAXIMAL ABELIAN SETS OF IDEMPOTENTS IN $\{A\}'$

What we need to do is to find two bounded maximal abelian sets of idempotents ( $\mathcal{P}_1$  and  $\mathcal{P}_2$ ) in the commutant of  $A$  satisfying that they are not similar in the commutant of  $A$ .

let  $\{e_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  be an orthonormal basis in  $L^2(\Lambda, \mu)$ , every  $e_i$  spanning the range of the projection  $E_i$ . Let  $\mathcal{P}_1$  be generated by the set  $\{E_i \otimes I_2\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ .

Let  $\Lambda_{\alpha}$  be a Borel subset of  $\Lambda$ . Every characteristic function  $f_{\alpha}$  on  $\Lambda_{\alpha}$  induces a projection  $P_{\alpha}$  (multiplication operator) on  $L^2(\Lambda, \mu)$ . All projections as  $P_{\alpha} \otimes I_2$  form the set  $\mathcal{P}_2$ . Notice that  $\mathcal{P}_2$  may contain no minimal idempotent.

## ON INFINITE DIMENSIONAL HILBERT SPACE

### TWO BOUNDED MAXIMAL ABELIAN SETS OF IDEMPOTENTS IN $\{A\}'$

We obtain that  $\mathcal{P}_1$  and  $\mathcal{P}_2$  are two bounded maximal abelian sets of idempotents in  $\{A\}'$ . We observe that  $\mathcal{P}_1$  contains minimal idempotents while  $\mathcal{P}_2$  may contain no minimal idempotents. Therefore they may not be similar in the commutant of  $A$ .



# OUTLINE

## 1 BACKGROUND

## 2 S. I. D. IN DIRECT INTEGRAL FORM

- Direct integral
- Operators not similar to SI direct integrals
- A necessary and sufficient condition about SI direct integral

## 3 UNIQUENESS OF S. I. D. UP TO SIMILARITY

- Operators without uniqueness of S. I. D. up to similarity
- Uniqueness of S. I. D. up to similarity

## 4 OPERATORS IN TYPE $II_1$ FACTORS

# ABOUT UNIQUENESS OF S. I. D. UP TO SIMILARITY

## REMARK

By the above example, we consider only operators without “infinite order parts” in the following discussion. More precisely, corresponding to operators stated in Theorem 2.2, we consider an operator  $A$  in the form

$$A = \bigoplus_{m=1}^s \bigoplus_{j=1}^{k_m} \int_{\Lambda_m} \begin{pmatrix} N_{\nu_m} & M_{\phi_{12,m_j}} & \cdots & M_{\phi_{1m_j,m_j}} \\ 0 & N_{\nu_m} & \cdots & M_{\phi_{2m_j,m_j}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & N_{\nu_m} \end{pmatrix}^{(t_{m_j})} (\lambda) \nu_m(d\lambda), \quad (\text{II})$$

where  $s$ ,  $k_m$ ,  $m_j$  and  $t_{m_j}$  are positive integers. The measures  $\nu_m$  are pairwise singular for different “ $m$ ”s.

## ABOUT UNIQUENESS OF S. I. D. UP TO SIMILARITY

To discuss the uniqueness of S. I. D. of the operator  $A$  up to similarity, we need to introduce the concepts of “The order of S. I. D.” and “minimal idempotent function”.

### DEFINITION (THE ORDER OF S. I. D.)

Assume that  $A$  is in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , and there is an invertible operator  $X$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , such that  $XAX^{-1}$  is a direct integral of SI operators. Write  $\hat{A} \equiv XAX^{-1}$  and the corresponding measure space is  $\{\Lambda_{\hat{A}}, \mu_{\hat{A}}, \{\Lambda_{\hat{A},n}\}_{n=1}^{n=\infty}\}$ . Define  $\Omega \equiv \{n : \mu_{\hat{A}}(\Lambda_{\hat{A},n}) > 0, n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}\}$ . The supremum  $\sup\{n\}_{n \in \Omega}$  is said to be an order of strongly irreducible decomposition of  $A$ .

# ABOUT UNIQUENESS OF S. I. D. UP TO SIMILARITY

## DEFINITION (MINIMAL IDEMPOTENT FUNCTION)

Let operators  $A$  be a direct integral of strongly irreducible operators, and the order of S. I. D. of  $A$  is finite. If an idempotent  $P$  in  $\{A\}'$  satisfying

then  $P$  is said to be a **minimal idempotent function**.

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- $A(\Lambda_m)|_{\text{ran}P(\Lambda_m)}$  is unitarily equivalent to a  $n_m \times n_m$  Borel function-valued upper triangular matrix  $A_m$ . Each entry on the main diagonal is the same and  $*$ -cyclic. And  $\bigcup_{m=1}^s \sigma(A_m) = \sigma(A)$ .

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- $A_m(\lambda)$  is strongly irreducible a. e. on  $\sigma(A_m)$  for  $1 \leq m \leq s$ ,

then  $P$  is said to be a **minimal idempotent function**.

# UNIQUENESS OF S. I. D. UP TO SIMILARITY

## THEOREM 3.1

If an operator  $A$  is stated as in (II), then

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# UNIQUENESS OF S. I. D. UP TO SIMILARITY

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If an operator  $A$  is stated as in (II), then

- ① The ordered  $K_0$  group of  $\{A\}'$ ,  $(K_0(\{A\}'), V(\{A\}'), \alpha)$ , is in the form
  - $K_0(\{A\}') \cong \{f(\lambda) \in \mathbb{Z}^{(\sum_{m=1}^s k_m \chi_{\Lambda_m}(\lambda))} \mid f \text{ is bounded Borel on } \sigma(A)\}.$

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  - $\alpha(I) = t_{m_1} e_1 + \cdots + t_{m_{k_m}} e_{k_m}$  a. e. on  $\text{spt}(\nu_m)$  and  $e_i$  is a minimal idempotent function on  $\text{spt}(\nu_m)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k_m$ ,  $1 \leq m \leq s$ .

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- ② The S. I. D. of  $A$  is unique up to similarity.

## UNIQUENESS OF S. I. D. UP TO SIMILARITY

### THEOREM 3.2

Assume that  $A$  and  $B$  are both as in (II), and  $V(\{A\}')$  satisfies

If the following conditions hold

then  $A$  is similar to  $B$ .

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- $\alpha(I) = t_{m_1} e_1 + \cdots + t_{m_{k_m}} e_{k_m}$  a. e. on  $\text{spt}(\nu_m)$  and  $e_i$  is a minimal idempotent function on  $\text{spt}(\nu_m)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k_m$ ,  $1 \leq m \leq s$ .

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If the following conditions hold

- $(K_0(\{A \oplus B\}'), V(\{A \oplus B\}'), \beta) \cong (K_0(\{A\}'), V(\{A\}'), \alpha),$

then  $A$  is similar to  $B$ .



# UNIQUENESS OF S. I. D. UP TO SIMILARITY

## THEOREM 3.2

Assume that  $A$  and  $B$  are both as in (II), and  $V(\{A\}')$  satisfies

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- $\alpha(I) = t_{m_1} e_1 + \cdots + t_{m_{k_m}} e_{k_m}$  a. e. on  $\text{spt}(\nu_m)$  and  $e_i$  is a minimal idempotent function on  $\text{spt}(\nu_m)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k_m$ ,  $1 \leq m \leq s$ .

If the following conditions hold

- $(K_0(\{A \oplus B\}'), V(\{A \oplus B\}'), \beta) \cong (K_0(\{A\}'), V(\{A\}'), \alpha)$ ,
- $\beta(I) = 2t_{m_1} e_1 + \cdots + 2t_{m_{k_m}} e_{k_m}$  a. e. on  $\text{spt}(\nu_m)$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k_m$ ,  $1 \leq m \leq s$ ),

then  $A$  is similar to  $B$ .

# SINGLE GENERATOR IN TYPE $II_1$ FACTORS

## OPERATOR THEORY IN TYPE $II_1$ FACTORS

Type  $II_1$  factors has received a lot of attention since V. Jones initiated subfactor theory of type  $II_1$  factor in the 1980's.

Many people began to consider operator theory in type  $II_1$  factors since then. To consider invariant subspace problem in type  $II_1$  factors, K. Dykema and U. Haagerup introduced DT-operators [9]. They showed a DT-operator generates a type  $II_1$  factor.

In this section, we pay attention to operators in type  $II_1$  factors to find similarity invariants in type  $II_1$  factors.

# SINGLE GENERATOR OF TYPE II<sub>1</sub> FACTOR

## SINGLE GENERATOR OF IRRATIONAL ROTATION ALGEBRA

Let  $\theta$  be an irrational number in  $(0, 1)$ .

Denote by  $\mathcal{A}_\theta$  the universal von Neumann algebra generated by two unitary operators  $U$  and  $V$  satisfying the relation

$$VU = e^{2\pi i\theta} UV.$$

There is an invertible operator  $X$  in  $\mathcal{A}_\theta$  such that the operator  $XUX^{-1}$  generates  $\mathcal{A}_\theta$ . By the way,  $\mathcal{A}_\theta$  is a hyperfinite type II<sub>1</sub> factor, and  $\{XUX^{-1}\}'$  contains no minimal idempotents.

# IRREDUCIBILITY RELATIVE TO TYPE $\text{II}_1$ FACTOR

## DEFINITION (IRREDUCIBILITY RELATIVE TO TYPE $\text{II}_1$ FACTORS)

An operator  $A$  in a type  $\text{II}_1$  factor  $\mathcal{M}$  is said to be **irreducible relative to  $\mathcal{M}$** , if the relative commutant  $\{A\}' \cap \mathcal{M}$  of  $A$  contains no nontrivial projection.

## IRREDUCIBILITY RELATIVE TO TYPE $II_1$ FACTOR

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### EXAMPLE

We know that every hyperfinite type  $II_1$  factor has a single generator. And every single generator is irreducible relative to the corresponding hyperfinite type  $II_1$  factor.

# IRREDUCIBILITY RELATIVE TO TYPE $II_1$ FACTOR

## THEOREM (NORMAL OPERATORS IN $(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ )

Let  $N$  be a normal operator in a type  $II_1$  factor  $(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . If there are three spectral projections  $P_i$  of  $N$  satisfies

Then there is an invertible operator  $X$  in  $\mathcal{M}$  such that the operator  $XNX^{-1}$  is irreducible relative to  $(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ .

# IRREDUCIBILITY RELATIVE TO TYPE II<sub>1</sub> FACTOR

## THEOREM (NORMAL OPERATORS IN $(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ )

Let  $N$  be a normal operator in a type II<sub>1</sub> factor  $(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . If there are three spectral projections  $P_i$  of  $N$  satisfies

- $P_1 + P_2 + P_3 = I,$

Then there is an invertible operator  $X$  in  $\mathcal{M}$  such that the operator  $XNX^{-1}$  is irreducible relative to  $(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ .

# IRREDUCIBILITY RELATIVE TO TYPE II<sub>1</sub> FACTOR

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- $P_1 + P_2 + P_3 = I$ ,
- $P_i P_j = 0$ , for  $i \neq j$ ,

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# IRREDUCIBILITY RELATIVE TO TYPE II<sub>1</sub> FACTOR

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- $P_1 + P_2 + P_3 = I$ ,
- $P_i P_j = 0$ , for  $i \neq j$ ,
- $\tau(P_1) = \tau(P_2) = \tau(P_3)$ ,

Then there is an invertible operator  $X$  in  $\mathcal{M}$  such that the operator  $XNX^{-1}$  is irreducible relative to  $(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ .

# MULTIPLICITIES OF OPERATORS IN $\mathcal{M}$

## PROPERTY (ABOUT MULTIPLICITY)

Many operators in a type II<sub>1</sub> factor  $\mathcal{M}$  are of multiplicity  $\infty$ , such as

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \otimes I_{\infty}.$$

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## SI INTEGRAL IN $\mathcal{M}$

In order to describe the operator properties of SI integrals in  $\mathcal{M}$ , we need to introduce the following theorem.

# MULTIPLICITIES OF OPERATORS IN $\mathcal{M}$

## THEOREM

Let  $A = \int_{\Lambda}^{\oplus} A(\lambda) \mu d(\lambda)$  be a strongly irreducible direct integral, and  $A(\lambda)$  acts on infinite dimensional Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}(\lambda)$  a. e. on  $\Lambda$ . Then

$$W^*(A) \cong \bigoplus_1^{n_1} (\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}) \otimes I_{\infty}) \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n_2} (\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}) \otimes L^{\infty}(\Lambda_i, \mu_i)),$$

where  $1 \leq n_1, n_2 \leq \infty$ .

# MULTIPLICITIES OF OPERATORS IN $\mathcal{M}$

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where  $1 \leq n_1, n_2 \leq \infty$ .

## SI INTEGRAL IN $\mathcal{M}$

By the above theorem, we obtain that every operator in  $\mathcal{M}$  does not contain “the infinite order” part, following from that a type II<sub>1</sub> factor is finite.

# ABOUT SIMILARITY INVARIANT

## SI INTEGRAL FORM IN A TYPE II<sub>1</sub> FACTOR $\mathcal{M}$

For convenience, we only consider the following forms of SI integrals in a type II<sub>1</sub> factor  $\mathcal{M}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 A &= \left( \bigoplus_{m=1}^s \bigoplus_{j=1}^{k_m} \int_{\Lambda_m} \begin{pmatrix} N_{\nu_m} & M_{\phi_{12,m_j}} & \cdots & M_{\phi_{1m_j,m_j}} \\ 0 & N_{\nu_m} & \cdots & M_{\phi_{2m_j,m_j}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & N_{\nu_m} \end{pmatrix} (\lambda) \nu_m(d\lambda) \right) \otimes I_\infty, \\
 &= T \otimes I_\infty
 \end{aligned} \tag{III}$$

## ABOUT SIMILARITY INVARIANT

### THEOREM

Let operators  $A$  and  $B$  are in  $\mathcal{M}$ , and  $A = T_1 \otimes I_\infty$  and  $B = T_2 \otimes I_\infty$  are as in (III). If  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  satisfy the conditions:

Then  $A$  is similar to  $B$ .

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### THEOREM

Let operators  $A$  and  $B$  are in  $\mathcal{M}$ , and  $A = T_1 \otimes I_\infty$  and  $B = T_2 \otimes I_\infty$  are as in (III). If  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  satisfy the conditions:

- $V(\{T_1\}') \stackrel{\alpha}{\cong} \{f(\lambda) \in \mathbb{N}(\sum_{m=1}^s k_m \chi_{\Lambda_m}(\lambda)) \mid f \text{ is bounded Borel on } \sigma(A).\}$ .  
 $\alpha(l) = t_{m_1} e_1 + \cdots + t_{m_{k_m}} e_{k_m}$  a. e. on  $\text{spt}(\nu_m)$  and  $e_i$  is a minimal idempotent function on  $\text{spt}(\nu_m)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k_m$ ,  $1 \leq m \leq s$ .

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Let operators  $A$  and  $B$  are in  $\mathcal{M}$ , and  $A = T_1 \otimes I_\infty$  and  $B = T_2 \otimes I_\infty$  are as in (III). If  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  satisfy the conditions:

- $V(\{T_1\}') \stackrel{\alpha}{\cong} \{f(\lambda) \in \mathbb{N}(\sum_{m=1}^s k_m \chi_{\Lambda_m}(\lambda)) \mid f \text{ is bounded Borel on } \sigma(A).\}$ .  
 $\alpha(l) = t_{m_1} e_1 + \cdots + t_{m_{k_m}} e_{k_m}$  a. e. on  $\text{spt}(\nu_m)$  and  $e_i$  is a minimal idempotent function on  $\text{spt}(\nu_m)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k_m$ ,  $1 \leq m \leq s$ .
- $(K_0(\{T_1 \oplus T_2\}'), V(\{T_1 \oplus T_2\}'), \beta) \cong (K_0(\{T_1\}'), V(\{T_1\}'), \alpha)$  and  
 $\beta(l) = 2t_{m_1} e_1 + \cdots + 2t_{m_{k_m}} e_{k_m}$  a. e. on  $\text{spt}(\nu_m)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k_m$ ,  
 $1 \leq m \leq s$ .

Then  $A$  is similar to  $B$ .

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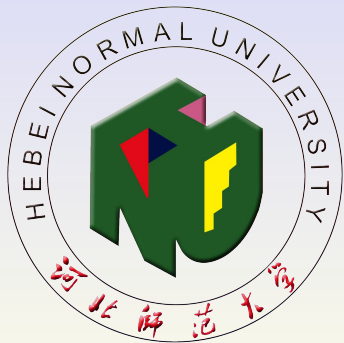
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END

Thank you !



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