

# Subnormality and moment problems

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**Abstract.** In this note, in Section 1, we give a necessary and sufficient condition on a commuting multioperator to admit a commuting normal extension having the support in a prescribed set. In Section 2, we give a necessary and sufficient condition for an operator-valued sequence to be an operator valued moment sequence.

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**Key words:** commuting subnormals, commuting normal extension, the support of a measure, positive operator-valued measure, self-adjoint operator.

## 1 Introduction and preliminaries

The connection between the moment problem and subnormality was the subject of many papers [2, 5]. In this note, in Section 1, we refine some result from [5]. In Section 2, we give a necessary and sufficient condition on an operator-valued sequence to be a moment sequence. The condition obtained in operators is the same with the Choquet's condition in scalar case.

**Definition.** Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a complex separable Hilbert space and  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  the set of bounded, linear operators on  $\mathcal{H}$ . An operator  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is called *subnormal* if and only if, there exists a normal operator  $N$  on some Hilbert space  $\mathcal{K} \supset \mathcal{H}$ , such that:

$$N(\mathcal{H}) \subseteq \mathcal{H} \quad \text{and} \quad N|_{\mathcal{H}} = T.$$

For  $n$  commuting subnormals  $(T_1, \dots, T_n) \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  (with  $T_i T_j = T_j T_i, \forall 1 \leq i, j \leq n$ ), the operator tuple  $(T_1, \dots, T_n)$  is said to *have commuting normal extension* if and only if there exist commuting normals  $(N_1, \dots, N_n)$  all defined on some  $\mathcal{K} \supset \mathcal{H}$  such that:

$$N_i|_{\mathcal{H}} = T_i, \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq n \quad \text{and} \quad N_i(\mathcal{H}) \subseteq \mathcal{H}.$$

Let

$$\mathcal{P} = \left\{ \sum_{\alpha \in H \text{ finite } \subset \mathbf{R}_+^n} a_\alpha x^\alpha, \quad a_\alpha \in \mathbf{R}, \quad x^\alpha = x_1^{\alpha_1} x_2^{\alpha_2} \dots x_n^{\alpha_n} \right\}$$

be the *real vector space of polynomials in  $n$ -real variables with real coefficients*.

For  $g \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $g = \sum_{\alpha \in H} a_\alpha x^\alpha$ ,  $a_\alpha \in \mathbf{R}$  we associate the complex polynom:

$$\tilde{g}(z, w) = \sum_{\alpha \in H \subset \mathbf{R}_+^n} a_\alpha (zw)^\alpha, \quad \text{with } (z, w) \in \mathbf{C}^n \times \mathbf{C}^n.$$

It is clear, that for all  $z \in \mathbf{C}^n$  we have:

$$\tilde{g}(z, \bar{z}) = \sum_{\alpha \in H} a_\alpha |z|^{2\alpha} \quad \text{so that } \tilde{g}(z, \bar{z}) \in \mathbf{R}.$$

Now, let  $g = (g_1, \dots, g_n)$ ,  $g_i \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $\forall 1 \leq i \leq n$  and the sets

$$W_g = \{x \in \mathbf{R}^n, \sum_{\alpha \in H} a_\alpha^i x^{2\alpha} \geq 0, 1 \leq i \leq n, \text{ when } g_i(x) = \sum_{\alpha \in H} a_\alpha^i x^\alpha\}$$

and

$$\tilde{W}_g = \{x \in \mathbf{C}^n, g_i(z, \bar{z}) \geq 0, \forall 1 \leq i \leq n\}$$

and we consider also  $\|T_i\| \leq 1, \forall 1 \leq i \leq n$ .

## 2 Existence of normal extension with prescribed support

With the above notation we have the following theorem.

**Theorem.** *The commuting multioperator  $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$  admits commuting normal extension  $N = (N_1, N_2, \dots, N_n) \in (\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{K}))^n$  with the joint spectrum supported on  $\tilde{W}_g \cap \mathbf{D}^n$  if and only if there exists a positive operator-valued measure  $\rho$  with the support on  $(\mathbf{D}^n \cap \mathbf{R}_+^n) \cap \tilde{W}_g = [0, 1]^n \cap W_g$  such that*

$$T^{*J} T^J = \int_{[0,1]^n \cap W_g} t^{2J} d\rho(t)$$

for any multiindices  $J = (j_1, \dots, j_n) \in \mathbf{Z}_+^n$ .

*Proof.* Let  $N = (N_1, \dots, N_n)$  the commuting normal extension of the multioperator  $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ ,  $N_i : \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$ ,  $\mathcal{K} \supset \mathcal{H}$  and  $N_i|_{\mathcal{H}} = T_i, \forall 1 \leq i \leq n$  and its spectral joint measure  $E$  with the support lies on  $\mathbf{D}^n \cap \tilde{W}_g$ .

We define a spectral measure  $F$  on  $\mathbf{R}^n$  by:

$$F(S) = E(r_1 e^{i\theta_1}, r_2 e^{i\theta_2}, \dots, r_n e^{i\theta_n}),$$

with  $(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n) \in S$  and  $(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n) \in [0, 2\pi)^n$ .

If  $\tau : \mathbf{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n$ ,  $\tau(z_1, \dots, z_n) = (|z_1|, \dots, |z_n|)$  then  $F(S) = E(\tau^{-1}(S))$ .

In this case,  $\text{supp } F \subset [0, 1]^n \cap W_g$  and according to the theorem of changing the variable in an operator-valued integral, we have the equalities:

$$N^{*J} N^J = \int_{\mathbf{D}^n \cap \tilde{W}_g} |z|^{2J} dE(z) = \int_{[0,1]^n \cap W_g} r^{2J} dF(r), \quad \text{for any } J \in \mathbf{Z}_+^n.$$

Let  $P$  be the projection operator from  $\mathcal{K}$  on  $\mathcal{H} \subset \mathcal{K}$ . We have for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ :

$$\langle T^{*J}T^J x, x \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \langle PN^{*J}N^J x, x \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \int_{[0,1]^n \cap W_g} r^{2J} d(PF(r)x, x).$$

Let  $\rho$  be the positive operator-valued measure on  $\mathcal{H}$  defined by  $\rho(S) = PF(S)$ . By a standard polarization argument we have:

$$T^{*J}T^J = \int_{[0,1]^n \cap W_g} r^{2J} d\rho(r).$$

Conversely, we suppose there exists a positive operator valued measure  $\rho : \text{Bor}([0,1]^n \cap W_g) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{H})$  with the support on  $[0,1]^n \cap W_g$ , such that

$$T^{*J}T^J = \int_{W_g \cap [0,1]^n} r^{2J} d\rho(r), \quad \forall J \in \mathbf{Z}_+^n.$$

Using Ito's criteria for subnormality, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{I,J} \langle T^{I+J} x_I, T^{I+J} x_J \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} &= \sum_{I,J} \langle T^{*I+J}, T^{I+J} x_I, x_J \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \\ &= \int_{[0,1]^n \cap W_g} d \left( \sum_{I,J} \rho(t) t^I x_I, t^J x_J \right) = \\ &= \int_{[0,1]^n \cap W_g} d \left( \left\langle \sum_I \rho^{1/2}(t) t^I x_I, \sum_J \rho^{1/2}(t) t^J x_J \right\rangle \right) \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$  admits commuting normal extension.

In this case it exists  $\mathcal{K} \supset \mathcal{H}$  and normals  $N_i : \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$ ,  $N_i \mathcal{H} \subseteq \mathcal{H}$  and  $N_i|_{\mathcal{H}} = T_i$ , with

$$N_i^{*J} N_i^J = \int_{D^n} t^{2J} dE(t), \quad \forall J \in \mathbf{Z}_+^n.$$

Following the same steps as in the direct implication proof and constructing

$$\tilde{F}(S) = E \circ \tau^{-1}(S),$$

we have also

$$T^{*J}T^J = \int_{[0,1]^n} t^{2J} d\rho_1(t),$$

with  $\rho_1(t) = P\tilde{F}$ .

From both representations with respect to spectral measures,

$$T^{*J}T^J = \int_{[0,1]^n} t^{2J} d\rho_1(t) \quad \text{and} \quad T^{*J}T^J = \int_{[0,1]^n \cap W_g} t^{2J} d\rho(t)$$

and from the uniqueness of the integral representation of a self-adjoint operator with respect to a spectral measure, we have  $\rho_1 = \rho$  and  $\text{supp } E \subset D^n \cap \tilde{W}\tilde{g}$ .

So, the proof is complete.

### 3 Operator-valued moment sequence

G. Choquet [1] has given a solution of the 1-dimensional moment problem on  $\mathbf{R}$  (or on a compact sets in  $\mathbf{R}$ ) using the notation of adapted spaces.

This result is famous:

**Theorem.** *Let  $\{a_n\}_n$  be a sequence of real numbers. Then, there exists a positive Radon measure on  $\mathbf{R}$  (or on compacts sets  $K \subset \mathbf{R}$ ) such that:*

$$a_n = \int_{\mathbf{R}} t^n d\mu(t), \quad \forall n \in \mathbf{N}$$

if and only if the sequence  $\{a_0, \dots, a_n\}$  satisfies the conditions

$$\sum_{i,j=0}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j a_{i+j} \geq 0,$$

for any finite family of reals  $\{\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_n\} \subset \mathbf{R}$ .

Using this result, we state the following theorem:

**Theorem.** *Let  $\{A_\alpha\}_\alpha$  be a sequence of bounded self adjoint operators on a complex Hilbert space with  $A_0 = Id$ . There exists an operator-valued measure  $E : \text{Bor}(K) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{H})$  such that  $A_\alpha = \int_K t^\alpha dE(t)$ ,  $\forall \alpha \in \mathbf{N}$  with  $K$  compact  $\subset \mathbf{R}$  if and only if we*

have  $\sum_{i,j=0}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j A_{i+j} \geq 0$ , for any finite reals  $\{\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_n\}$ .

*Proof.* If  $\sum_{i,j=0}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j A_{i+j} \geq 0$  for any  $\{\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_n\} \in \mathbf{R}$ , then for any  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , we have

$$\sum_{i,j=0}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j \langle A_{i+j}, x, x \rangle \geq 0.$$

If we denote with  $a_i^x = \langle A_i, x, x \rangle$  from Choquet theorem, for all  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , there exists a positive scalar Radon measure

$$\mu_x : \text{Bor}(K) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}_+$$

such as:

$$\langle A_i, x, x \rangle = a_i^x = \int_K t^i d\mu_x(t).$$

Let  $\langle \rho(A)x, x \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \mu_x(A)$  for any  $A \in \text{Bor}(K)$ . By a standard polarization results:

$$\langle \rho(A)x, y \rangle = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=0}^3 i^k \mu_{x+i^k y}(A) = \langle x, \rho(A)y \rangle \Rightarrow \rho(A) \in \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{H}).$$

Owing to of Riesz representation theorem ( $C^*(\Omega) \simeq M(\Omega)$ ) and the uniqueness of the representation measure,  $\rho(S_1 \cap S_2) = \rho(S_1)\rho(S_2)$  and  $\rho(K) = Id = A_0$ , and thus  $\rho : \text{Bor}(K) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{H})$  is a spectral measure and we have the representation

$$A_n = \int_K t^n d\rho(t), \quad \forall n \in \mathbf{N}.$$

The converse is straightforward.

## References

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