

Massive C^* -algebras, Winter 2021, I. Farah, Lecture 9

A few facts on ultrapowers that follow from what was covered in class (\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V} are nonprincipal ultrafilters on \mathbb{N}).

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2. The set $\{\text{Th}(A) \mid A \text{ is a separable } C^*\text{-algebra}\}$ is a weak*-closed subset of the space of characters on the algebra of all sentences over \emptyset . (Hint: Łoś + Löwenheim–Skolem.)

$$\text{Th}(A_{\mathcal{U}}) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{U}} \emptyset$$
$$\lim_{\mathcal{U}} \text{Th}(A_{\mathcal{U}}) = \text{Th}(\bigcap_{\mathcal{U}} A_{\mathcal{U}})$$

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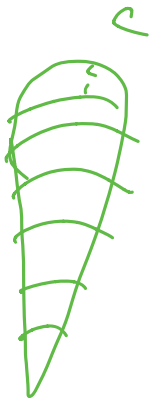
1. If A is a separable C^* -algebra, $A \prec C$, C is countably saturated, and $\chi(C) = \aleph_1$, then $C \cong A_{\mathcal{U}}$

$$\begin{aligned} M &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ \varphi &\rightarrow \varphi^A \end{aligned}$$

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4. If $\chi(C) = \aleph_1$ and C is countably saturated, then C is the union of an increasing chain of separable elementary submodels C_α such that $C \cong (C_\alpha)_{\mathcal{U}}$ for all α . (Notably, in some cases it is possible to choose C_α 's so that they are nonisomorphic. This follows from the fact that there is no universal separable C^* -algebra (Junge–Pisier).)



Automorphisms of the Calkin algebra $\mathcal{Q}(H)$

$$\pi : \mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}(H) \quad \mathcal{B}(H)/\mathcal{K}(H)$$

If $a \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ we'll write \dot{a} for $\pi(a)$ (this slide only).

$$a a^* = a^* a$$

Thm (Brown–Douglas–Fillmore, 1970's) If a and b are normal operators in $\mathcal{B}(H)$, the following are equivalent.

1. There is $\Phi \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{Q}(H))$, $\Phi(\dot{a}) = \dot{b}$.
2. There is a unitary \dot{u} in $\mathcal{Q}(H)$, $\dot{u}\dot{a}\dot{u}^* = \dot{b}$.
3. $\text{sp}(\dot{a}) = \text{sp}(\dot{b})$.

$$C^*(\dot{a}_i) \cong \underline{\underline{C(\text{sp}(\dot{a}))}}$$

Fredholm operators (see the references given in §C.6)

An operator a is *Fredholm* if \dot{a} is invertible in $\mathcal{Q}(H)$.

Athiasou's
Thm

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Prop ≈C.6.5 If a is Fredholm and $\pi(a) = \pi(b)$, then b is Fredholm and

$$\dim \ker(a) - \dim \ker(a^*) = \dim \ker(b) - \dim \ker(b^*)$$

The Fredholm index of a Fredholm operator a is

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Fact. $\text{index}(a^*) = -\text{index}(a)$, $\text{index}(ab) = \text{index}(ba)$.

Thus $\underline{\text{GL}(\mathcal{Q}(H))} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \cdot \dot{a} \rightarrow \underline{\text{index}(a)}$ is a group homomorphism, and $\underline{\text{index}(uau^*)} = \text{index}(\dot{a})$ for all $\underline{u} \in \underline{\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{Q}(H))}$ and Fredholm a .

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$$n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Fact

$s^*s = 1_{\mathcal{B}(H)}$, but $\underline{ss^*} \neq 1_{\mathcal{B}(H)}$, but $\underline{\dot{s}\dot{s}^*} = \underline{\dot{s}^*\dot{s}} = 1_{\mathcal{Q}(H)}$.

$$\text{index}(S) = 0 - 1 = \underline{\underline{-1}}$$

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Fact

The unilateral shift is essentially normal, but not normal.

A model-theoretic approach to the BDF question?

Question (Brown–Douglas–Fillmore) Is there $\Phi \in \text{Aut}(Q(H))$ such that $\Phi(s) = s^*$? (I.e., is there a K -theory reversing automorphism of $Q(H)$?)

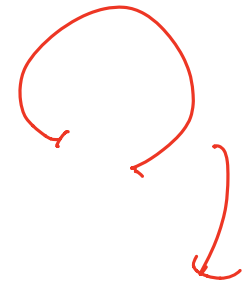
$$\boxed{u s u^* \neq s^*}$$

$$\text{SP}(s) = \mathbb{T}$$

$$\text{SP}(s^*) = \mathbb{T}$$

$$K_0(Q(H)) = 0$$

$$K_1(Q(H)) = \mathbb{Z}$$



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Does $Q(H)$ have outer automorphisms?

Question

1. Is $\text{type}_{Q(H)}(\dot{s}/\emptyset) = \text{type}_{Q(H)}(\dot{s}^*/\emptyset)$?
2. If a is Fredholm, can one recover $\text{index}(a)$ from $\text{type}_{Q(H)}(\dot{a})$?

sing.?

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*-1
-1/2*

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Remark

1. A negative answer to (1) would imply that $\Phi(\dot{s}) \neq \Phi(\dot{s}^*)$ for all $\Phi \in \text{Aut}(Q(H))$
2. Since $Q(H)$ is not countably saturated, and even not countably homogeneous (F.–Hirshberg), a positive answer to (2) would be inconclusive.

A short intermission

If a is Fredholm, one *can* recover $|\text{index}(a)|$ from $\text{type}_{\mathcal{Q}}(H)(\dot{a})$.

Exercise. For every $u \in \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{Q}(H))$ either $u = \exp(ia)$ for some $0 \leq a \leq 2\pi$, or there is $m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that u has an n -th root iff $n|m$ for all $n \geq 2$.

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For every *supernatural number* x (i.e., a formal product $x = \prod_{p \text{ prime}} p^{k(p)}$, $0 \leq k(p) \leq \infty$) there exists $u \in \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{Q}(H))_u$ such that u has an n -th root if and only if $n|x$, for all $n \geq 2$.

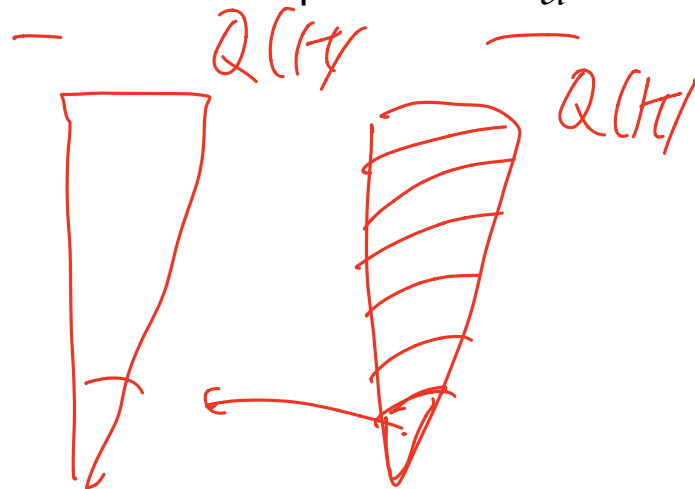
A deep and beautiful theorem of W.H. Woodin suggests that if there is an outer automorphism of $\mathcal{Q}(H)$ in some model of ZFC then there is an outer automorphism of $\mathcal{Q}(H)$ in every model of ZFC that satisfies CH. (Similarly for a K-theory reversing automorphism of $\mathcal{Q}(H)$.)

Σ_1^2

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Thm (Phillips–Weaver, 2008) *CH implies that $\mathcal{Q}(H)$ has 2^{\aleph_1} outer automorphisms.*

The proof resembles the construction of 2^{\aleph_1} automorphisms of $A_{\mathcal{U}}$ using CH, with two differences:



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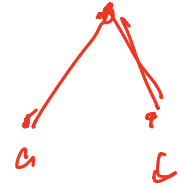
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I'll present an (arguably) simpler proof of the Phillips–Weaver Theorem

A warm-up: σ -directed posets



upwards

Lemma 8.5.6 *If a directed poset \mathbb{P} is partitioned into finitely many pieces, then at least one of them is cofinal.*

pf: $\mathbb{P} = \bigcup_{j \in \mathbb{N}} X_j$, Fix $a_j \in \mathbb{P}$
 $\forall x \in X_j$ $a_j \not\leq x$ $\forall j \in \mathbb{N}$

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Def A partial ordering is σ -directed if every countable subset is bounded above. (Caveat: This is strictly weaker than 'every countable subset has a supremum'.)

\aleph_1 -directed

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Lemma 9.5.2 *If a σ -directed poset is partitioned into countably many pieces, then at least one of them is cofinal.*

Stratifying $\mathcal{Q}(H)$; the poset $\text{Part}_{\mathbb{N}}$ (§9.7)

$\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{N}, \mathbb{N}^*$

Let $\text{Part}_{\mathbb{N}}$ denote the set of all partitions E of a cofinal subset of \mathbb{N} into finite intervals:

$$E = \langle \underline{E_j} : j \in \mathbb{N} \rangle$$

where $\underline{E_j} = [n(j), n(j+1))$ and $n(0) < n(1) < n(2) < \dots$ are in \mathbb{N} .



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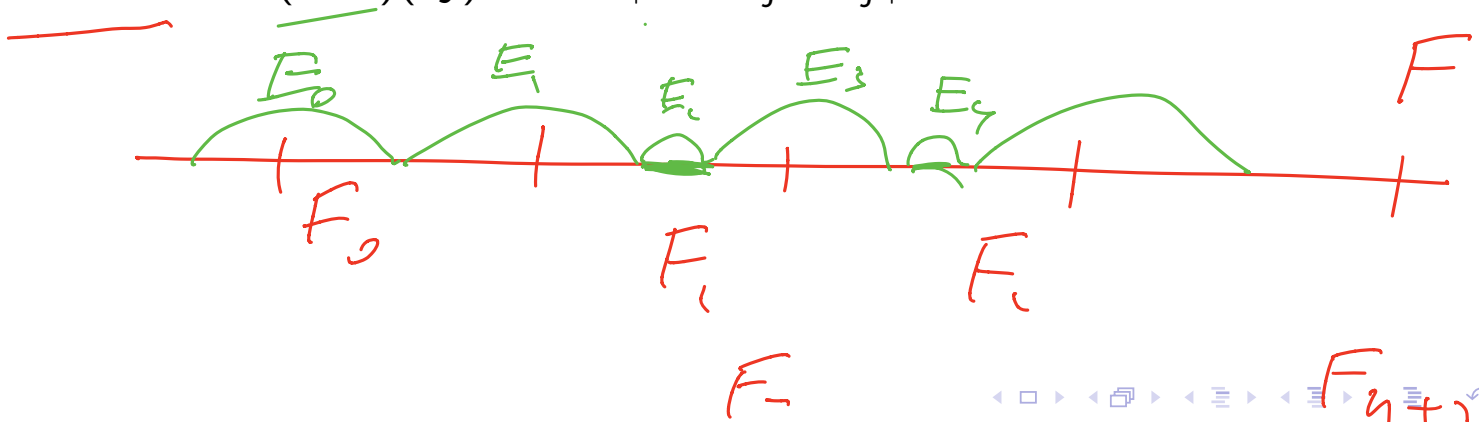
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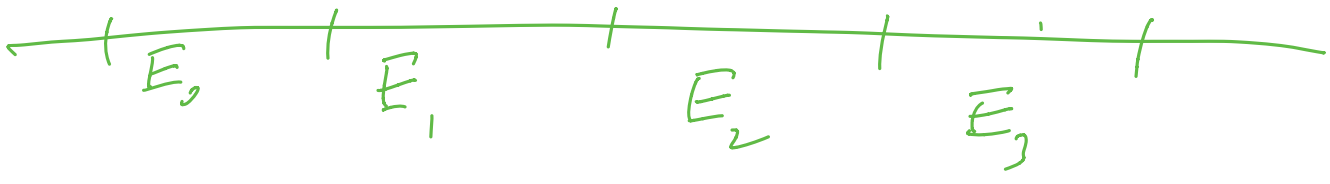
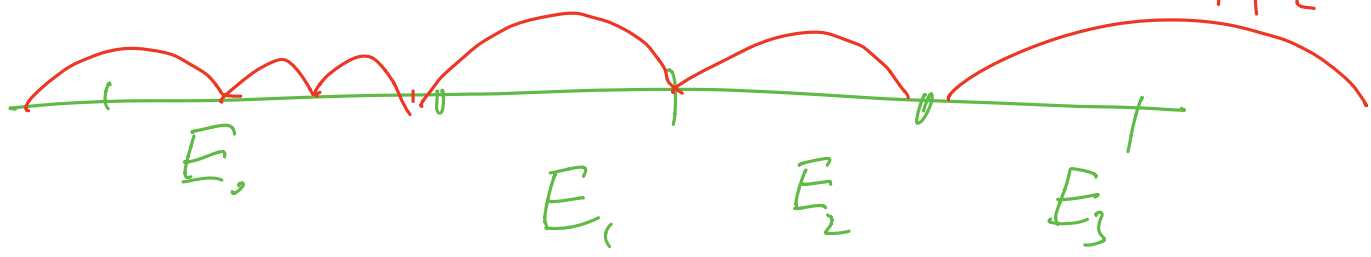
Def 9.7.2 On $\text{Part}_{\mathbb{N}}$ define

$E \leq^* F$ if $(\forall^\infty m)(\exists n) E_n \subseteq F_m$, and

$E \ll^* F$ if $(\forall^\infty n)(\exists m) E_n \subseteq F_m$.

$E \ll^* F$ if $(\forall^\infty i)(\exists j) E_i \cup E_{i+1} \subseteq F_j \cup F_{j+1}$.





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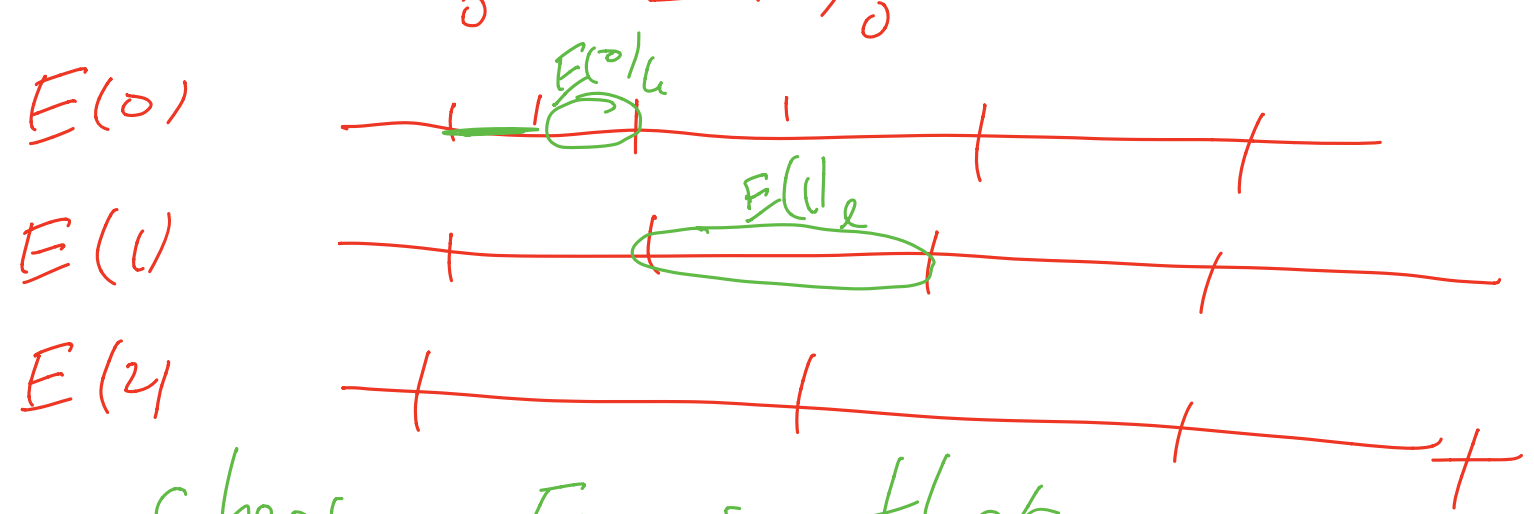
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Lemma ($\approx 9.7.1$) The poset $(\text{Part}_{\mathbb{N}}, \leq^*)$ is σ -directed.

PG Fix $E(n)$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$

Let $F_0 = E(0)$



Choose F_i so that

$$F_i \geq E(0)_k, F_i \geq E(1)_l$$

for some k, l

If F_0, \dots, F_n have been chosen

$$(\max F_j + 1 = \min_{j \in I} F_j,$$

$$\forall l \leq j \leq k \quad F_j \geq E(l)_k)$$

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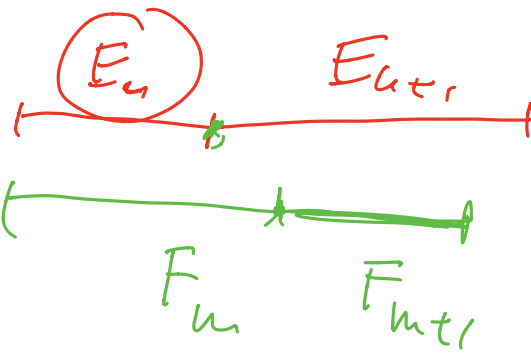
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The orders \leq^* and \lll^* agree on $\text{Part}_{\mathbb{N}}$.

PG Suppose $E \leq^* F$.

$\exists w \geq w$

Fix n, V in $E_n \subseteq F_n$



$\forall U$
 $U \cap E_n$
 \supseteq
 $U \cap F_n$
 $\exists i E_n \cup E_{n+1}$
 $\subseteq F_i \cup F_{i+1}$

If $E_n \cup E_{n+1} \not\subseteq F_n \cup F_{n+1}$

then $F_{n+1} \not\subseteq F_n$

actually, $E_{n+1} \supseteq F_{n+1}$

so $E_n \not\subseteq F_{n+1}, \forall n$

so $E \not\subseteq^* F \Rightarrow E \ll^* F$

Assume $E \ll^* F$, i.e.,

$(\forall^\infty i)(\exists j) E_i \cup E_{i+1} \subseteq F_j \cup F_{j+1}$

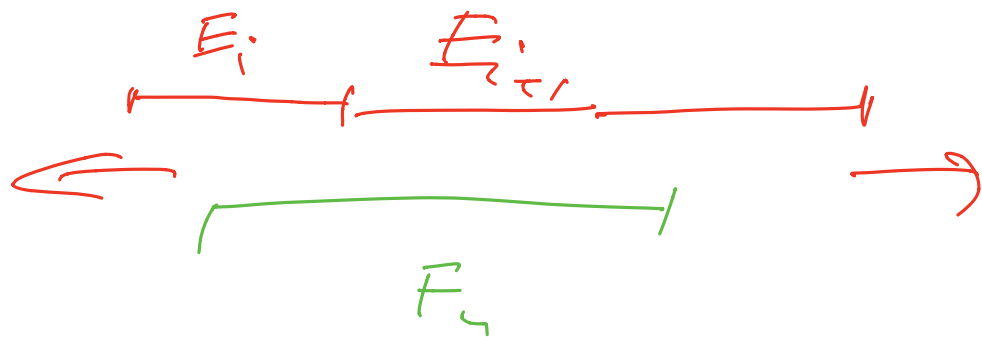
Fix i large enough



$$\overbrace{\hspace{10em}}^{F_n}$$

$$\overbrace{\hspace{10em}}^{F_n}$$

Fix F_n , with $F_n \supseteq \text{Min } E_j$
 Assume $E_n \not\subseteq F_n, \forall n$



Fix with $i, E_i \cap F_n \neq \emptyset$

Then $E_i \not\subseteq F_n$

$E_{i+1} \not\subseteq F_n$

$E_i \cup E_{i+1} \not\subseteq F_n \cup F_{n+1}$

$\not\subseteq \bar{F}_{n+1} \cup \bar{F}_n$

s. $E_i \cup E_{i+1} \not\subseteq F_i \cup \bar{E}_{i+1}$
 $\forall i$

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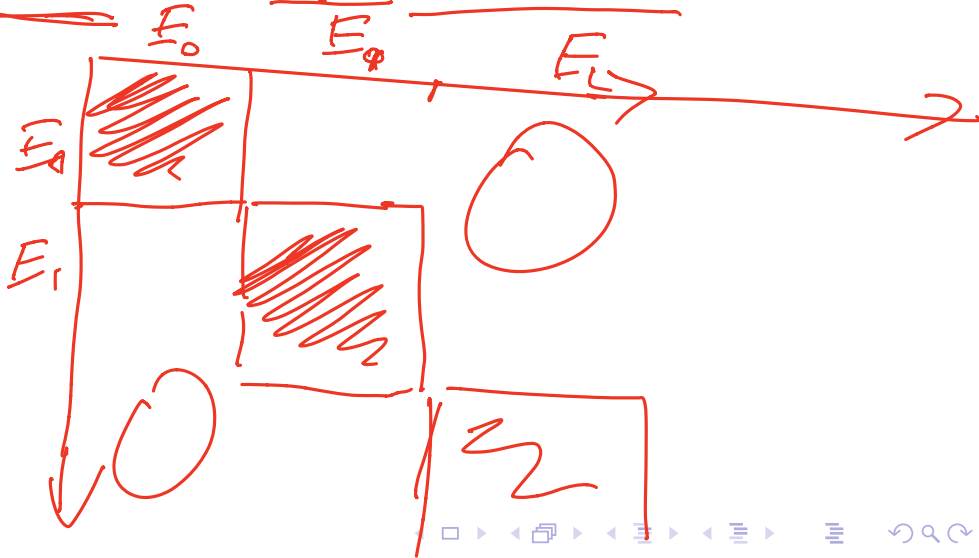
Def 9.7.5 Consider H with an orthonormal basis (ξ_n) . For $E \in \text{Part}_{\mathbb{N}}$ and $X \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ let

$$p_X^E := \text{proj}_{\overline{\text{span}\{\xi_j : j \in \bigcup_{n \in X} E_n\}}},$$

and let

$$\mathcal{D}[E] := \{a \in \mathcal{B}(H) : (\forall m)(\forall n)((a\xi_m | \xi_n) \neq 0 \text{ implies } (\exists j)\{m, n\} \subseteq E_j)\},$$

$$\mathcal{A}[E] := \{\sum_n \lambda_n p_{\{n\}}^E \mid (\lambda_n) \in \ell_\infty\} \quad (= W^*\{p_X^E : X \subseteq \mathbb{N}\}).$$



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$$p_X^E := \text{proj}_{\overline{\text{span}\{\xi_j : j \in \bigcup_{n \in X} E_n\}}},$$

and let

$$\mathcal{D}[E] := \{a \in \mathcal{B}(H) : (\forall m)(\forall n)((a\xi_m | \xi_n) \neq 0 \text{ implies } (\exists j)\{m, n\} \subseteq E_j)\},$$

$$\mathcal{A}[E] := \{\sum_n \lambda_n p_{\{n\}}^E \mid (\lambda_n) \in \ell_\infty\} \quad (= W^*\{p_X^E : X \subseteq \mathbb{N}\}).$$

Lemma $\mathcal{D}[E]$ is a von Neumann (i.e., ~~WOT~~-closed, self-adjoint) subalgebra of $\mathcal{B}(H)$, and $\mathcal{A}[E]$ is its centre.

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Proof: $\mathcal{D}[E] \cong \prod_n M_{k(n)}(\mathbb{C})$, with $k(n) := |E_n|$, and

$$\mathcal{A}[E] = \prod_n \mathbb{C}1_{k(n)}.$$

Handwritten notes:
 E_j
 k_j
 E_j

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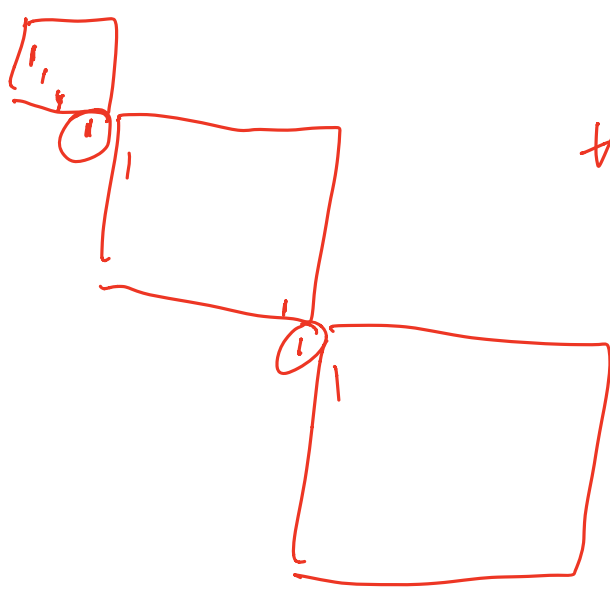
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Fact

The unilateral shift s is not in $\mathcal{D}[E]/(\mathcal{K}(H) \cap \mathcal{D}[E])$ for any $E \in \text{Part}_{\mathbb{N}}$.



Fix E

$$\forall \epsilon \left(\left\| P_{\{u\}}^X \circ P_{\{u\}}^X \right\| = 1 \right)$$

\Rightarrow if $a \in D(E)$

then

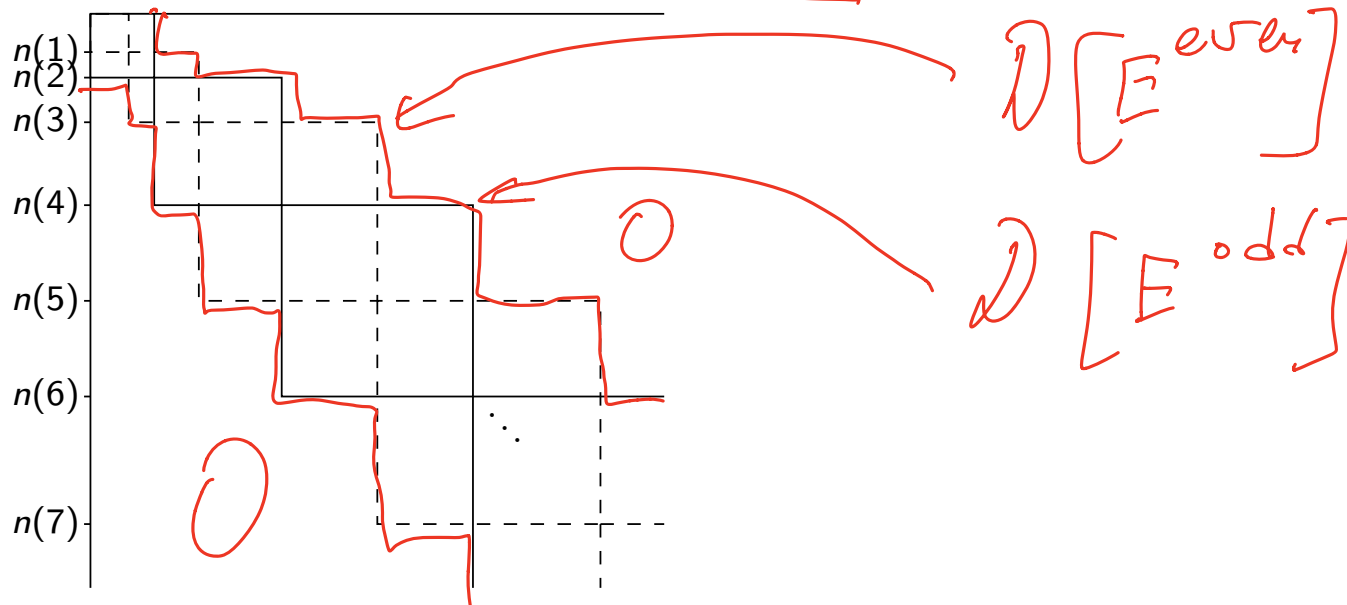
$$\|a - s\| = 1$$

$$\left(P_{\{u\}}^X \circ P_{\{u\}}^X \right) a = 0 \quad \forall \epsilon$$

For $E \in \text{Part}_{\mathbb{N}}$ define two coarser partitions, E^{even} and E^{odd} , by
 (with $E_{-1} := \emptyset$)

$$E_n^{\text{even}} := E_{2n} \cup E_{2n+1},$$

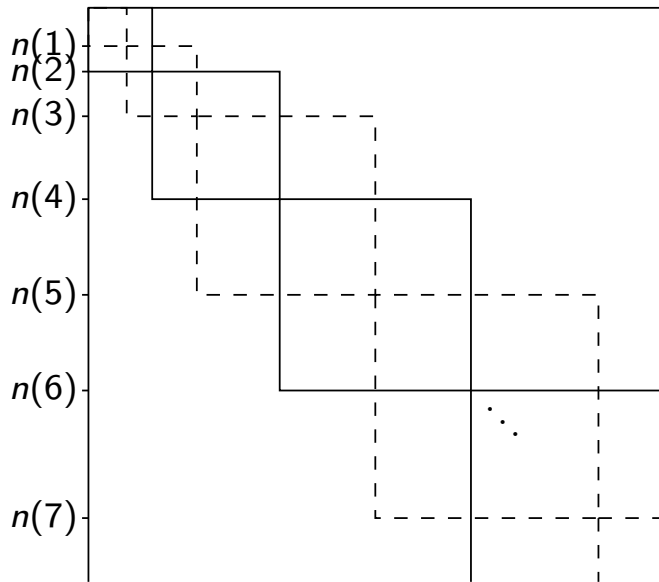
$$E_n^{\text{odd}} := E_{2n-1} \cup E_{2n}.$$



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Lemma 9.7.6 Let H be a Hilbert space with an orthonormal basis ξ_n , for $n \in \mathbb{N}$. For a sequence a_n , for $n \in \mathbb{N}$ in $\mathcal{B}(H)$ there are $E \in \text{Part}_{\mathbb{N}}$, $a_n^0 \in \mathcal{D}[E^{\text{even}}]$ and $a_n^1 \in \mathcal{D}[E^{\text{odd}}]$ such that $a_n = a_n^0 + a_n^1$ is compact for each n .

Fix $a \in \mathcal{B}(H)$.

We'll find $u(0) < u(1) < \dots$

Fix $u(0) = 1, u(1) = 2$

$(E_j = [u(j), u(j+1)])$

$Q P_{\{0\}}^E$ is c.p.t.

$P_{\{0\}}^E a$ is c.p.t.

Find $u(2)$ so that

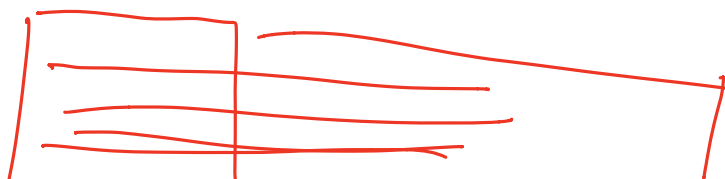
$(V_k = \text{Proj}_{\overline{\text{span}}\{E_j; 1 \leq j \leq k\}})$

(V_k) is a c.p.t. net
for $\mathcal{K}(H)$.

Find $u(2)$ so that

$$\|V_{u(2)} Q P_{\{0\}}^E - a P_{\{0\}}^E\| < 2^{-2}$$

$$\|V_{u(2)} P_{\{0\}}^E a - P_{\{0\}}^E a\| < 2^{-2}$$



(next
time)

