

THE SLICE MAP PROBLEM
 FOR σ -WEAKLY CLOSED SUBSPACES
 OF VON NEUMANN ALGEBRAS¹

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ABSTRACT. A σ -weakly closed subspace \mathfrak{S} of $B(\mathfrak{K})$ is said to have *Property S_σ* if for any σ -weakly closed subspace \mathfrak{T} of a von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{M} , $\{x \in \mathfrak{S} \otimes \mathfrak{M} : R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{T} \text{ for all } \varphi \in B(\mathfrak{K})_*\} = \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$, where R_φ is the right slice map associated with φ . It is shown that semidiscrete von Neumann algebras have Property S_σ , and various stability properties of the class of σ -weakly closed subspaces with Property S_σ are established. It is also shown that if $(\mathfrak{M}, G, \alpha)$ is a W^* -dynamical system such that \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ and G is compact abelian, then all of the spectral subspaces associated with α have Property S_σ . Some applications of these results to the study of tensor products of spectral subspaces and tensor products of reflexive algebras are given. In particular, it is shown that if \mathfrak{L}_1 is a commutative subspace lattice with totally atomic core, and \mathfrak{L}_2 is an arbitrary subspace lattice, then $\text{alg } \mathfrak{L}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{L}_2 = \text{alg } \mathfrak{L}_1 \overline{\otimes} \text{alg } \mathfrak{L}_2$.

Introduction. Slice maps, introduced by Tomiyama, have proved to be a powerful tool in studying tensor products of C^* -algebras and von Neumann algebras (see, e.g., [23, 24, 26–28]). In this paper we use slice maps to study tensor products of σ -weakly closed subspaces of von Neumann algebras, particularly tensor products of spectral subspaces, and tensor products of reflexive algebras.

If \mathfrak{M} and \mathfrak{N} are von Neumann algebras, then for each φ in \mathfrak{M}_* , the predual of \mathfrak{M} , there is a unique σ -weakly continuous linear map R_φ from $\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$ to \mathfrak{N} such that

$$R_\varphi(a \otimes b) = \langle a, \varphi \rangle b \quad (a \in \mathfrak{M}, b \in \mathfrak{N}),$$

called the right slice map associated with φ . Similarly, for each $\psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$, there is a left slice map L_ψ from $\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$ to \mathfrak{M} . If $\mathfrak{S} \subset \mathfrak{M}$ and $\mathfrak{T} \subset \mathfrak{N}$ are σ -weakly closed subspaces, and $\mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$ denotes the σ -weak closure of the algebraic tensor product of \mathfrak{S} and \mathfrak{T} , it is clear that if $x \in \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$ then $R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_*$. If

$$\{x \in \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N} : R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{T} \text{ for all } \varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_*\} = \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$$

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for all pairs $(\mathfrak{S}, \mathfrak{U})$, then we say \mathfrak{S} has Property S_σ . (This is analogous to Wassermann's Property S for C^* -algebras [26–28].) If every σ -weakly closed subspace of $B(\mathcal{H})$ has Property S_σ , then for any σ -weakly closed subspaces $\mathfrak{S} \subset B(\mathcal{H})$ and $\mathfrak{T} \subset B(\mathcal{H})$,

$$(*) \quad \left\{ x \in B(\mathcal{H}) \overline{\otimes} B(\mathcal{H}) : R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{T} \text{ for all } \varphi \in B(\mathcal{H})_* \text{ and} \right. \\ \left. L_\psi(x) \in \mathfrak{S} \text{ for all } \psi \in B(\mathcal{H})_* \right\} = \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}.$$

Tomiyama has shown that $(*)$ is valid if \mathfrak{S} and \mathfrak{T} are von Neumann algebras [23, Theorem 2.1]. Tomiyama's result is equivalent to Tomita's commutation theorem for tensor products of von Neumann algebras, and so $(*)$ can be looked upon as an analogue of Tomita's theorem for σ -weakly closed subspaces. We show below that $(*)$ is valid if either \mathcal{H} or \mathcal{K} is finite-dimensional, but the validity of $(*)$ in general remains an open problem.

In §1 we show that every semidiscrete von Neumann algebra has Property S_σ . This is analogous to Wassermann's (and T. Huruya's) result that every nuclear C^* -algebra has Property S [28, Proposition 10]. We also show that $\mathfrak{R}(\mathbf{F}_2)$ (the regular group von Neumann algebra of the free group on two generators), a nonsemidiscrete von Neumann algebra, has Property S_σ . This can be compared with the result of De Cannière and Haagerup that the nonnuclear C^* -algebra $C_r^*(\mathbf{F}_2)$ (the reduced C^* -algebra of the free group on two generators) has Property S [12, Corollary to Theorem 2]. It remains an open question whether or not all von Neumann algebras have Property S_σ .

In §2 we use slice maps to study tensor products of spectral subspaces. We show that if $(\mathfrak{M}, G, \alpha)$ is a W^* -dynamical system such that \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ and G is compact (abelian), then for any subset E of the dual group Γ of G the spectral subspace $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E)$ has Property S_σ . As an application of this result, we show that if $(\mathfrak{M}, G_1, \alpha)$ and $(\mathfrak{N}, G_2, \beta)$ are W^* -dynamical systems, if \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ , and if G_1 is compact, then

$$(\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N})^{\alpha \otimes \beta}(E_1 \times E_2) = \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E_1) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2)$$

for any subsets $E_1 \subset \Gamma_1$ and $E_2 \subset \Gamma_2$. We also prove that this equation is valid for arbitrary locally compact abelian groups G_1 and G_2 , provided that either \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ and E_1 is open, or both E_1 and E_2 are open.

In [15], the author established a connection between certain commutative subspace lattices and W^* -dynamical systems. In §3, using results from [15] and from §2, we show that if \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ , and if $\mathfrak{L}_1 \subset \mathfrak{M}$ is a commutative subspace lattice (CSL) whose core \mathfrak{L}_1'' is totally atomic, then for any subspace lattice $\mathfrak{L}_2 \subset \mathfrak{N}$, we have

$$(**) \quad \text{alg}(\mathfrak{L}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{L}_2) \cap (\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}) = [(\text{alg } \mathfrak{L}_1) \cap \mathfrak{M}] \overline{\otimes} [(\text{alg } \mathfrak{L}_2) \cap \mathfrak{N}],$$

where $\mathfrak{L}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{L}_2$ is the subspace lattice generated by \mathfrak{L}_1 and \mathfrak{L}_2 . We also show that $(**)$ holds if \mathfrak{L}_1 is a chain, \mathfrak{L}_2 is a finite width CSL, and \mathfrak{M} and $\mathfrak{L}_1' \cap \mathfrak{M}$ have Property

S_σ . This generalizes a result of Gilfeather, Hopenwasser and Larson, who proved that

$$(***) \quad \text{alg}(\mathfrak{L}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{L}_2) = (\text{alg } \mathfrak{L}_1) \overline{\otimes} (\text{alg } \mathfrak{L}_2)$$

if \mathfrak{L}_1 and \mathfrak{L}_2 are chains [10]. It should also be noted that if \mathfrak{L}_1 and \mathfrak{L}_2 are the projection lattices of von Neumann algebras \mathfrak{M} and \mathfrak{N} , then (***) becomes $(\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N})' = \mathfrak{M}' \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}'$, which is just the statement of Tomita's commutation theorem.

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1. Property S_σ . If \mathcal{H} is a Hilbert space, let $B(\mathcal{H})$ denote the algebra of bounded operators on \mathcal{H} . If \mathcal{H}_1 and \mathcal{H}_2 are Hilbert spaces, let $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2$ be the Hilbert space tensor product of \mathcal{H}_1 and \mathcal{H}_2 , and if $\mathfrak{S}_i \subset B(\mathcal{H}_i)$ are σ -weakly closed (linear) subspaces, $i = 1, 2$, let $\mathfrak{S}_1 \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{S}_2$ denote the σ -weakly closed linear span (in $B(\mathcal{H})$) of $\{s_1 \otimes s_2: s_i \in \mathfrak{S}_i\}$. In particular, if $\mathfrak{M} \subset B(\mathcal{H}_1)$ and $\mathfrak{N} \subset B(\mathcal{H}_2)$ are von Neumann algebras, then $\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$ is the usual von Neumann algebra tensor product of \mathfrak{M} and \mathfrak{N} (see, e.g., [21, Chapter 4]). If $\varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_*$, then there is a unique σ -weakly continuous linear map $R_\varphi: \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N} \rightarrow \mathfrak{N}$ such that

$$\langle x, \varphi \otimes \psi \rangle = \langle R_\varphi(x), \psi \rangle \quad (x \in \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}, \psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*).$$

Similarly, for each $\psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$, there is a unique σ -weakly continuous linear map $L_\psi: \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}$ such that

$$\langle x, \varphi \otimes \psi \rangle = \langle L_\psi(x), \varphi \rangle \quad (x \in \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}, \varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_*).$$

The maps R_φ and L_ψ are called right and left slice maps, and also satisfy (see, e.g. [23]):

- (1.1) $\|R_\varphi\| = \|\varphi\|, \quad \|L_\psi\| = \|\psi\|,$
- (1.2) $R_\varphi(a \otimes b) = \langle a, \varphi \rangle b, \quad L_\psi(a \otimes b) = a \langle b, \psi \rangle \quad (a \in \mathfrak{M}, b \in \mathfrak{N}),$
- (1.3) $R_\varphi((1 \otimes c)x(1 \otimes d)) = cR_\varphi(x)d \quad (c, d \in \mathfrak{N}, x \in \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}),$
- (1.4) $L_\psi((a \otimes 1)x(b \otimes 1)) = aL_\psi(x)b \quad (a, b \in \mathfrak{M}, x \in \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}),$
- (1.5) $R_\varphi(x) = 0 \quad \text{for all } \varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_* \text{ implies } x = 0,$
- (1.6) $L_\psi(x) = 0 \quad \text{for all } \psi \in \mathfrak{N}_* \text{ implies } x = 0.$

DEFINITION 1.1. If $\mathfrak{S} \subset \mathfrak{M}$ and $\mathfrak{T} \subset \mathfrak{N}$ are σ -weakly closed subspaces, let $F(\mathfrak{S}, \mathfrak{T}) = \{x \in \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}: R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{T} \text{ and } L_\psi(x) \in \mathfrak{S} \text{ for every } \varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_* \text{ and } \psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*\}$.

REMARK 1.2. The definition of $F(\mathfrak{S}, \mathfrak{T})$ appears to depend on \mathfrak{M} and \mathfrak{N} as well as \mathfrak{S} and \mathfrak{T} . However, this is not the case. For suppose $\mathfrak{M} \subset B(\mathcal{H}_1)$ and $\mathfrak{N} \subset B(\mathcal{H}_2)$. Let $\varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_*$, and let ρ be any σ -weakly continuous extension of φ to $B(\mathcal{H}_1)$. Then we can define $R_\rho: B(\mathcal{H}_1) \overline{\otimes} B(\mathcal{H}_2) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H}_2)$, and it is clear from (1.2) that $R_\varphi = R_\rho$ on $\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$. Hence if $x \in \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$, then $R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_*$ if and

only if $R_\rho(x) \in \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\rho \in B(\mathcal{H}_1)_*$. Moreover,

$$(1.7) \quad \left\{ x \in B(\mathcal{H}_1) \overline{\otimes} B(\mathcal{H}_2) : R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{N} \text{ and } L_\psi(x) \in \mathfrak{M} \right. \\ \left. \text{for all } \varphi \in B(\mathcal{H}_1)_* \text{ and } \psi \in B(\mathcal{H}_2)_* \right\} = \mathfrak{N} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{M}$$

[23, Theorem 2.1]. Thus, we also have

$$(1.8) \quad F(\mathfrak{S}, \mathfrak{T}) = \left\{ x \in B(\mathcal{H}_1) \overline{\otimes} B(\mathcal{H}_2) : R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{T} \text{ and } L_\psi(x) \in \mathfrak{S} \right. \\ \left. \text{for all } \varphi \in B(\mathcal{H}_1)_* \text{ and } \psi \in B(\mathcal{H}_2)_* \right\}.$$

It follows easily from (1.2) that we always have

$$(1.9) \quad \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T} \subset F(\mathfrak{S}, \mathfrak{T}).$$

A natural question is: for which σ -weakly closed subspaces $\mathfrak{S} \subset \mathfrak{M}$ and $\mathfrak{T} \subset \mathfrak{N}$ do we have

$$(1.10) \quad \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T} = F(\mathfrak{S}, \mathfrak{T})?$$

This question is of interest because a number of problems involving tensor products of σ -weakly closed subspaces can be reformulated in terms of (1.10). For example, if $\mathfrak{S}_1, \mathfrak{S}_2 \subset \mathfrak{M}$ and $\mathfrak{T}_1, \mathfrak{T}_2 \subset \mathfrak{N}$ are σ -weakly closed subspaces, it is easily checked that

$$(\mathfrak{S}_1 \cap \mathfrak{S}_2) \overline{\otimes} (\mathfrak{T}_1 \cap \mathfrak{T}_2) \subseteq (\mathfrak{S}_1 \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}_1) \cap (\mathfrak{S}_2 \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}_2) \subseteq F(\mathfrak{S}_1 \cap \mathfrak{S}_2, \mathfrak{T}_1 \cap \mathfrak{T}_2).$$

Hence if (1.10) is always valid, then the intersection of tensor products of subspaces is always the tensor product of the intersections. If $1 \in \mathfrak{S}$ and $1 \in \mathfrak{T}$ (where we use 1 to denote the identity of both \mathfrak{M} and \mathfrak{N}), then it follows from (1.3)–(1.6) that

$$(1.11) \quad (\mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T})' \cap (\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}) = F(\mathfrak{S}' \cap \mathfrak{M}, \mathfrak{T}' \cap \mathfrak{N}),$$

and we always have

$$(\mathfrak{S}' \cap \mathfrak{M}) \overline{\otimes} (\mathfrak{T}' \cap \mathfrak{N}) \subseteq (\mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T})' \cap (\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}),$$

so if (1.10) is always valid, then

$$(1.12) \quad (\mathfrak{S}' \cap \mathfrak{M}) \overline{\otimes} (\mathfrak{T}' \cap \mathfrak{N}) = (\mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T})' \cap (\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}),$$

whenever $1 \in \mathfrak{S}$ and $1 \in \mathfrak{T}$. Thus (1.7) follows from Tomita's commutation theorem and the double commutant theorem, and, conversely, Tomita's theorem follows from (1.7). (Note that (1.11) and (1.12) can both fail if $1 \notin \mathfrak{S}$. For example, let \mathfrak{S} be the one-dimensional subspace generated by a nilpotent operator s of index 2 in $B(\mathcal{H}_1)$ ($\dim \mathcal{H}_1 \geq 2$), and let $\mathfrak{T} = B(\mathcal{H}_2)$ ($\dim \mathcal{H}_2 \geq 2$). Then $F(\mathfrak{S}', \mathfrak{T}') = \mathfrak{S}' \overline{\otimes} \mathbf{C}1$, while $\mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} B(\mathcal{H}_2) \subset (\mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T})'$.) We will see other examples of the use of (1.10) in §§2 and 3 below.

DEFINITION 1.3. A von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{M} is said to have *Property F_σ* if (1.10) holds whenever \mathfrak{S} is a σ -weakly closed subspace of \mathfrak{M} and \mathfrak{T} is a σ -weakly closed subspace of a von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{N} .

The only von Neumann algebras known to have Property F_σ are the finite-dimensional ones (Corollary 1.8 below). Note that by Remark 1.2, if $B(\mathcal{H})$ has Property F_σ for every Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , then all von Neumann algebras have Property F_σ . However, deciding whether $B(\mathcal{H})$ has Property F_σ appears to be a very difficult

problem. It is equivalent to (1.10) always being valid, and Tomita’s theorem, a deep result, is a special case of (1.10). Moreover, the proofs of Tomita’s theorem all use selfadjointness in an essential fashion, and so appear to be of no use in studying the general validity of (1.10). We will consider the following, more tractable question: for which σ-weakly closed subspaces \mathfrak{S} of $B(\mathfrak{H})$ do we have

$$(1.13) \quad \{x \in \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N} : R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{T} \text{ for all } \varphi \in B(\mathfrak{H})_*\} = \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$$

for all pairs $(\mathfrak{T}, \mathfrak{N})$, where \mathfrak{T} is a σ-weakly closed subspace of a von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{N} ?

DEFINITION 1.4. A σ-weakly closed subspace \mathfrak{S} of $B(\mathfrak{H})$ is said to have *Property S_σ* if (1.13) holds whenever \mathfrak{T} is a σ-weakly closed subspace of a von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{N} .

REMARK 1.5. We will show below (Theorem 1.9) that $B(\mathfrak{H})$ has Property S_σ for any Hilbert space \mathfrak{H} . Hence if $\mathfrak{S} \subset B(\mathfrak{H}_1)$ and $\mathfrak{T} \subset B(\mathfrak{H}_2)$ are σ-weakly closed subspaces, $F(\mathfrak{S}, \mathfrak{T}) \subseteq \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} B(\mathfrak{H}_2) \cap B(\mathfrak{H}_1) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$. It follows that if \mathfrak{S} has Property S_σ , then $F(\mathfrak{S}, \mathfrak{T}) = \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$ whenever \mathfrak{T} is a σ-weakly closed subspace of a von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{N} .

REMARK 1.6. Property S_σ is modeled upon Wassermann’s Property S for C^* -algebras [26]. We recall the definition of Property S for the convenience of the reader. If A and B are C^* -algebras, let $A \otimes B$ denote the minimal (spatial) C^* -tensor product of A and B . If $\varphi \in A^*$, the right slice map R_φ is the unique bounded linear map from $A \otimes B$ to B satisfying

$$\langle R_\varphi(x), \psi \rangle = \langle x, \varphi \otimes \psi \rangle \quad (x \in A \otimes B, \psi \in B^*).$$

The left slice maps $L_\psi, \psi \in B^*$, are similarly defined. These maps satisfy the exact analogues of (1.1)–(1.6) (where we require A to be unital in (1.3) and B to be unital in (1.4), and we replace \mathfrak{N}_* by A^* and \mathfrak{N}_* by B^* in (1.5) and (1.6)). A C^* -algebra A is said to have Property S if whenever D is a C^* -subalgebra of a C^* -algebra B , we have

$$\{x \in A \otimes B : R_\varphi(x) \in D \text{ for all } \varphi \in A^*\} = A \otimes D,$$

where $A \otimes D$ is canonically embedded in $A \otimes B$. Perhaps surprisingly, not all C^* -algebras have Property S [27, 28]. In fact, if \mathfrak{H} is infinite-dimensional, then $B(\mathfrak{H})$ does not have Property S [27, Corollary 2.6]. There is a difference between Property S and Property S_σ : D is required to be a $*$ -subalgebra of B , not just a norm closed subspace. If we required \mathfrak{T} to be a $*$ -subalgebra in (1.13), then all von Neumann algebras would satisfy Property S_σ , by (1.7). However, it should be noted that nuclear C^* -algebras and $C_r^*(\mathbb{F}_2)$ satisfy the exact analogue of Property S_σ : if $D \subset B$ is a norm closed subspace of a C^* -algebra B , and A is nuclear or $A = C_r^*(\mathbb{F}_2)$, then

$$\{x \in A \otimes B : R_\varphi(x) \in D \text{ for all } \varphi \in A^*\} = A \otimes D,$$

where $A \otimes D$ is the norm closed linear span of the elementary tensors $\{a \otimes d : a \in A, d \in D\}$ in $A \otimes B$. (This follows easily from the proof of [28, Proposition 10] and [12, Corollary to Theorem 2].) It would be interesting to know whether Property S always implies the exact analogue of Property S_σ .

Our first result is simple, but crucial to what follows.

PROPOSITION 1.7. *Let \mathfrak{S} be a finite-dimensional subspace of $B(\mathfrak{H})$. Then \mathfrak{S} has Property S_σ .*

PROOF. Let s_1, \dots, s_n be a basis for \mathfrak{S} , and let \mathfrak{N} be a von Neumann algebra. Since every finite-dimensional subspace of $B(\mathfrak{H})$ is σ -weakly closed, we can choose $\varphi_i \in B(\mathfrak{H})_*$ such that $\langle s_i, \varphi_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$, $1 \leq i, j \leq n$. If x is in the algebraic tensor product of \mathfrak{S} and \mathfrak{N} , it follows from (1.2) that

$$(1.14) \quad x = \sum_{i=1}^n s_i \otimes R_{\varphi_i}(x).$$

But the maps R_{φ_i} are σ -weakly continuous, so (1.14) is valid for all $x \in \overline{\mathfrak{S} \otimes \mathfrak{N}}$. Hence (1.13) holds for all σ -weakly closed subspaces $\mathfrak{T} \subset \mathfrak{N}$, and \mathfrak{S} has Property S_σ .

COROLLARY 1.8. *Let \mathfrak{M} be a finite-dimensional von Neumann algebra. Then \mathfrak{M} has Property F_σ .*

PROOF. This is an immediate consequence of Proposition 1.7 and Remark 1.5.

Recall that a von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{M} is semidiscrete [9] if the identity map on \mathfrak{M} can be approximated in the topology of simple weak* convergence by normal morphisms of finite rank. (A morphism from a C^* -algebra A with unit to a C^* -algebra B with unit is a completely positive identity preserving linear map. We refer the reader to [9] for a detailed treatment of morphisms.) As noted in [9, p. 13], if \mathfrak{M} is semidiscrete, then the identity map on \mathfrak{M}_* can be approximated in the topology of simple norm convergence by morphisms of \mathfrak{M}_* with finite rank, where a morphism of \mathfrak{M}_* is a completely positive map from \mathfrak{M}_* to itself which takes normal states to normal states. Using this fact, we can prove the following result.

THEOREM 1.9. *Let \mathfrak{M} be a semidiscrete von Neumann algebra. Then \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ .*

PROOF. Let \mathfrak{T} be a σ -weakly closed subspace of a von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{N} , let $x \in \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$, and suppose $R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_*$. We want to show $x \in \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$. Since the algebraic tensor product $\mathfrak{M}_* \otimes \mathfrak{N}_*$ is norm dense in $(\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N})_*$, it suffices to show: if $\varepsilon > 0$, $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n \in \mathfrak{M}_*$ and $\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n \in \mathfrak{N}_*$, then there is a $y \in \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$ such that $\|y\| \leq \|x\|$, and $\sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x - y, \varphi_i \otimes \psi_i \rangle| < \varepsilon$. So let $\varepsilon > 0$, and choose $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n \in \mathfrak{M}_*$, $\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n \in \mathfrak{N}_*$. Let $K = n\|x\|\sup\{\|\psi_1\|, \dots, \|\psi_n\|\} + 1$. Since \mathfrak{M} is semidiscrete, we can choose a finite rank morphism Φ of \mathfrak{M}_* such that $\|\Phi(\varphi_i) - \varphi_i\| < \varepsilon/K$, $i = 1, \dots, n$. Then the adjoint Φ^* of Φ is a finite rank normal morphism of \mathfrak{M} . Hence there is a unique normal morphism $\Psi: \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$ such that $\Psi(a \otimes b) = \Phi^*(a) \otimes b$ ($a \in \mathfrak{M}$, $b \in \mathfrak{N}$) [9, Lemma 2.5(ii)]. Let $y = \Psi(x)$. Then $\|y\| \leq \|x\|$, and $\langle R_\varphi(y), \psi \rangle = \langle y, \varphi \otimes \psi \rangle = \langle x, \Phi(\varphi) \otimes \psi \rangle = \langle R_{\Phi(\varphi)}(x), \psi \rangle$

for all $\varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_*$ and $\psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$. Thus $R_\varphi(y) \in \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_*$. But $y \in \Phi^*(\mathfrak{M}) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$, and $\Phi^*(\mathfrak{M})$ is finite-dimensional, so $y \in \Phi^*(\mathfrak{M}) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T} \subseteq \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$, by Proposition 1.7 and Remark 1.2. Finally,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x - y, \varphi_i \otimes \psi_i \rangle| &= \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, \varphi_i \otimes \psi_i - \Phi(\varphi_i) \otimes \psi_i \rangle| \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n \|x\| \|\varphi_i - \Phi(\varphi_i)\| \|\psi_i\| < \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

as required.

Note that type I von Neumann algebras are semidiscrete [9, Proposition 3.5], and so have Property S_σ . It is a deep result of Connes [6] (for factors) and Choi and Effros [4] (the general case), that a separably acting von Neumann algebra is semidiscrete if and only if it is injective (as an object in the category of C^* -algebras with unit) if and only if it is approximately finite-dimensional (i.e. generated by an increasing sequence of finite-dimensional $*$ -algebras). Moreover, \mathfrak{M} is injective if and only if there is a projection of norm one from $B(\mathfrak{K})$ onto \mathfrak{M} [9, Theorem 5.3]. We refer the reader to [7] for an expository treatment of these and related results.

PROPOSITION 1.10. *Let $\mathfrak{S} \subset B(\mathfrak{K})$ be a σ -weakly closed subspace having Property S_σ , and suppose e and f are projections in $B(\mathfrak{K})$ such that $e\mathfrak{S}f \subset \mathfrak{S}$. Then $e\mathfrak{S}f$ also has Property S_σ .*

PROOF. Since $e\mathfrak{S}f \subset \mathfrak{S}$, $e\mathfrak{S}f \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N} \subset \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$ for any von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{N} . Hence if \mathfrak{T} is a σ -weakly closed subspace of \mathfrak{N} , $x \in e\mathfrak{S}f \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$, and $R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\varphi \in B(\mathfrak{K})_*$, then $x \in \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$. But $x = (e \otimes 1)x(f \otimes 1)$, so

$$x \in (e \otimes 1)(\mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T})(f \otimes 1) = e\mathfrak{S}f \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}.$$

Hence $e\mathfrak{S}f$ has Property S_σ .

PROPOSITION 1.11. *Let $\mathfrak{S} \subset B(\mathfrak{K})$ be a σ -weakly closed subspace, and let $\{e_i\}_{i \in I}$ be a mutually orthogonal family of projections in $B(\mathfrak{K})$ such that $\sum_{i \in I} e_i = 1$ and $\mathfrak{S}e_i \subset \mathfrak{S}$ for all $i \in I$. If each $\mathfrak{S}e_i$ has Property S_σ , then \mathfrak{S} has Property S_σ .*

PROOF. Let \mathfrak{T} be a σ -weakly closed subspace of a von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{N} , let $x \in \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$, and suppose $R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\varphi \in B(\mathfrak{K})_*$. Then for each i , $x(e_i \otimes 1) \in \mathfrak{S}e_i \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$, and $R_\varphi(x(e_i \otimes 1)) = R_{e_i\varphi}(x) \in \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_*$ (where $\langle a, e_i\varphi \rangle = \langle ae_i, \varphi \rangle$, $a \in \mathfrak{M}$, $\varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_*$). Hence $x(e_i \otimes 1) \in \mathfrak{S}e_i \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T} \subset \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$ for all $i \in I$. But $\sum_{i \in I} e_i \otimes 1 = 1 \otimes 1$, so $x \in \mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$, as required.

It is easy to see that if \mathfrak{M} and \mathfrak{N} are $*$ -isomorphic von Neumann algebras, then \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ if and only if \mathfrak{N} has Property S_σ . Combining this fact with Propositions 1.10 and 1.11, we obtain

PROPOSITION 1.12. *If $\{\mathfrak{M}_i\}_{i \in I}$ is any family of von Neumann algebras, then the direct sum $\bigoplus \mathfrak{M}_i$ has Property S_σ if and only if each \mathfrak{M}_i has Property S_σ .*

Proposition 1.12 is the analogue (with “is semidiscrete” replaced by “has Property S_σ ”) of [9, Proposition 3.1]. The next two results follow from Proposition 1.12 in exactly the same way [9, Corollaries 3.2 and 3.3] follow from [9, Proposition 3.1], and so the proofs are omitted.

COROLLARY 1.13. *If \mathfrak{M} and \mathfrak{N} are von Neumann algebras, and $\Phi: \mathfrak{M} \rightarrow \mathfrak{N}$ is a normal surjective homomorphism, then \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ if and only if \mathfrak{N} and $\ker \Phi$ have Property S_σ .*

COROLLARY 1.14. *If \mathfrak{M} is a von Neumann algebra, and $\{\pi_i\}_{i \in I}$ is a separating family of normal representations of \mathfrak{M} , then \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ if and only if each of the algebras $\pi_i(\mathfrak{M})$ has Property S_σ .*

PROPOSITION 1.15. *If $\mathfrak{S}_1 \subset B(\mathfrak{H}_1)$ and $\mathfrak{S}_2 \subset B(\mathfrak{H}_2)$ are nonzero σ -weakly closed subspaces, then $\mathfrak{S}_1 \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{S}_2$ has Property S_σ if and only if \mathfrak{S}_1 and \mathfrak{S}_2 have Property S_σ .*

PROOF. The proof of the “if” direction can be obtained by an obvious modification of the proof of [26, Lemma 14]. So assume $\mathfrak{S}_1 \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{S}_2$ has Property S_σ . Since $\mathfrak{S}_2 \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{S}_1$ is the image of $\mathfrak{S}_1 \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{S}_2$ under the natural $*$ -isomorphism between $B(\mathfrak{H}_1) \overline{\otimes} B(\mathfrak{H}_2)$ and $B(\mathfrak{H}_2) \overline{\otimes} B(\mathfrak{H}_1)$, $\mathfrak{S}_2 \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{S}_1$ also has Property S_σ . Hence it suffices to show that \mathfrak{S}_2 has Property S_σ . Let \mathfrak{T} be a σ -weakly closed subspace of a von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{N} , let $x \in \mathfrak{S}_2 \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$, and suppose $R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\varphi \in B(\mathfrak{H}_2)_*$. Choose $s \neq 0$ in \mathfrak{S}_1 and let $y = s \otimes x$. Then $R_{\psi \otimes \varphi}(y) = \langle s, \psi \rangle R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\psi \in B(\mathfrak{H}_1)_*$ and $\varphi \in B(\mathfrak{H}_2)_*$. Since the algebraic tensor product $B(\mathfrak{H}_1)_* \otimes B(\mathfrak{H}_2)_*$ is norm dense in $B(\mathfrak{H}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{H}_2)_*$, it follows from (1.1) that

$$R_\rho(y) \in \mathfrak{T} \quad \text{for all } \rho \in B(\mathfrak{H}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{H}_2)_*.$$

Hence $y \in \mathfrak{S}_1 \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{S}_2 \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$. Choose $\psi \in B(\mathfrak{H}_1)_*$ so that $\langle s, \psi \rangle = 1$, and let R_ψ be the slice map from $B(\mathfrak{H}_1) \overline{\otimes} B(\mathfrak{H}_2) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$ to $B(\mathfrak{H}_2) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$ associated with ψ . Then $x = R_\psi(y) \in \mathfrak{S}_2 \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$ as required, and so \mathfrak{S}_2 has Property S_σ .

PROPOSITION 1.16. *Let \mathfrak{M} be a von Neumann algebra having Property S_σ . Then M' has Property S_σ .*

PROOF. Suppose first that $\mathfrak{M} \subset B(\mathfrak{H})$ is in standard form, so there is a conjugate linear isometry $j: \mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathfrak{H}$ such that $x \rightarrow jxj$ maps \mathfrak{M} onto \mathfrak{M}' . Let \mathfrak{T} be a σ -weakly closed subspace of a von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{N} , and suppose $x \in \mathfrak{M}' \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$, and $R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\varphi \in B(\mathfrak{H})_*$. For $\varphi \in B(\mathfrak{H})_*$, define $\varphi' \in B(\mathfrak{H})_*$ by $\langle a, \varphi' \rangle = \langle jaj, \varphi \rangle$, $a \in B(\mathfrak{H})$. Let $y = (j \otimes 1)x(j \otimes 1)$, where $j \otimes 1$ has the obvious meaning. Then $y \in \mathfrak{M} \otimes \mathfrak{N}$, and $R_\varphi(y) = R_{\varphi'}(x) \in \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\varphi \in B(\mathfrak{H})_*$. Hence $y \in \mathfrak{M} \otimes \mathfrak{T}$. But then $x = (j \otimes 1)y(j \otimes 1)$ is in $\mathfrak{M}' \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$, as required, so \mathfrak{M}' has Property S_σ if \mathfrak{M} is in standard form. The proof of the general case is the exact analogue of the proof of the general case of [9, Proposition 3.7] (with “is semidiscrete” replaced by “has Property S_σ ” and [9, Propositions 3.4 and 3.6] replaced by Propositions 1.15 and 1.10), and so is omitted.

By results of Effros and Lance [9], the stability properties of the class of von Neumann algebras having Property S_σ described in the preceding propositions and corollaries are also shared by the class of semidiscrete von Neumann algebras.

However, the former class is strictly larger than the latter class. In particular, $\mathfrak{R}(\mathbf{F}_2)$ (the regular group von Neumann algebra of the free group on two generators) is not semidiscrete [9, Theorem 5.11], but has Property S_σ . The proof that $\mathfrak{R}(\mathbf{F}_2)$ has Property S_σ is based on work of De Cannière and Haagerup [8]. We first state a definition and a lemma from [8].

Let A and B be C^* -algebras, and let M_n be the algebra of complex $n \times n$ matrices ($n = 1, 2, \dots$). If Φ is a linear map from A to B , let Φ_n denote the linear map from $A \otimes M_n$ to $B \otimes M_n$ defined on elementary tensors by $\Phi_n(a \otimes b) = \Phi(a) \otimes b$ ($a \in A, b \in M_n$). The map Φ is said to be *completely bounded* if $\sup_n \|\Phi_n\| < \infty$. We write $\|\Phi\|_{CB} = \sup_n \|\Phi_n\|$ in this case.

LEMMA 1.17 (J. DE CANNIÈRE AND U. HAAGERUP [8]). *Let $\Phi: \mathfrak{M}_1 \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}_2$ be a σ -weakly continuous linear map between two von Neumann algebras \mathfrak{M}_1 and \mathfrak{M}_2 . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) Φ is completely bounded.
- (ii) For any Hilbert space \mathcal{K} , there is a (unique) σ -weakly continuous linear map $\Phi \otimes 1$ from $\mathfrak{M}_1 \overline{\otimes} B(\mathcal{K})$ to $\mathfrak{M}_2 \overline{\otimes} B(\mathcal{K})$ satisfying

$$(\Phi \otimes 1)(a \otimes b) = \Phi(a) \otimes b \quad (a \in \mathfrak{M}_1, b \in B(\mathcal{K})).$$

- (iii) For any von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{N} , there is a (unique) σ -weakly continuous linear map $\Phi \otimes 1$ from $\mathfrak{M}_1 \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$ to $\mathfrak{M}_2 \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$ satisfying

$$(\Phi \otimes 1)(a \otimes b) = \Phi(a) \otimes b \quad (a \in \mathfrak{M}_1, b \in \mathfrak{N}).$$

Moreover, if Φ is completely bounded, then the maps $\Phi \otimes 1$ obtained in (ii) and (iii) above are bounded in norm by $\|\Phi\|_{CB}$.

THEOREM 1.18. *The group von Neumann algebra $\mathfrak{R}(\mathbf{F}_2)$ of the free group on two generators has Property S_σ .*

PROOF. Let $\mathfrak{M} = \mathfrak{R}(\mathbf{F}_2)$. It is shown in [8] that the identity map on \mathfrak{M}_* is the limit in the topology of simple norm convergence of a sequence $\{\Phi_i\}$ of finite rank linear maps from \mathfrak{M}_* to \mathfrak{M}_* satisfying $\|\Phi_i^*\|_{CB} \leq 1$, where Φ_i^* is the adjoint of Φ_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots$). Note that for each i , Φ_i^* is a finite rank σ -weakly continuous linear map from \mathfrak{M} to \mathfrak{M} . Moreover, by Lemma 1.17, if \mathfrak{N} is any von Neumann algebra there is, for each i , a unique σ -weakly continuous linear map $\Psi_i: \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$ such that $\Psi_i(a \otimes b) = \Phi_i^*(a) \otimes b$ ($a \in \mathfrak{M}, b \in \mathfrak{N}$) and $\|\Psi_i\| \leq 1$. Using these facts, the proof of Theorem 1.9 can be easily modified to show that $\mathfrak{R}(\mathbf{F}_2)$ has Property S_σ .

Our last result in this section will prove useful in §2.

PROPOSITION 1.19. *Let $\mathfrak{S} \subset B(\mathcal{H})$ be a σ -weakly closed subspace having Property S_σ , let $\mathfrak{S}_1 \subset \mathfrak{S}$ be a σ -weakly closed subspace, and suppose there is a σ -weakly continuous linear map Φ from \mathfrak{S} onto \mathfrak{S}_1 such that $\Phi^2 = \Phi$ and such that if \mathcal{K} is any Hilbert space, there is a (unique) σ -weakly continuous linear map $\Phi \otimes 1$ from $\mathfrak{S} \overline{\otimes} B(\mathcal{K})$ to $\mathfrak{S}_1 \overline{\otimes} B(\mathcal{K})$ satisfying*

$$(\Phi \otimes 1)(a \otimes b) = \Phi(a) \otimes b \quad (a \in \mathfrak{S}, b \in B(\mathcal{K})).$$

Then \mathfrak{S}_1 has Property S_σ .

PROOF. Let \mathfrak{F} be a σ -weakly closed subspace of a von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{N} . Since $\Phi \otimes 1: \mathfrak{S} \otimes \mathfrak{N} \rightarrow \mathfrak{S}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{N}$ is σ -weakly continuous, $\Phi(\mathfrak{S}) = \mathfrak{S}_1$, and $(\Phi \otimes 1)^2 = \Phi \otimes 1$, $(\Phi \otimes 1)(\mathfrak{S} \otimes \mathfrak{F}) = \mathfrak{S}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{F}$. Moreover, if $x \in \mathfrak{S}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{N}$, then $(\Phi \otimes 1)(x) = x$. Hence

$$(1.15) \quad (\mathfrak{S} \otimes \mathfrak{F}) \cap (\mathfrak{S}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{N}) = \mathfrak{S}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{F}.$$

Now let $x \in \mathfrak{S}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{N}$, and suppose $R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{F}$ for all $\varphi \in B(\mathfrak{H})_*$. Since \mathfrak{S} has Property S_σ , $x \in \mathfrak{S} \otimes \mathfrak{F}$. Thus, by (1.15), $x \in \mathfrak{S}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{F}$, and so \mathfrak{S}_1 has Property S_σ .

2. Applications to W^* -dynamical systems. A W^* -dynamical system $(\mathfrak{M}, G, \alpha)$ consists of a von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{M} , a locally compact group G , and a homomorphism α of G into the group of $*$ -automorphisms of \mathfrak{M} such that all of the maps $g \rightarrow \langle \alpha_g(x), \varphi \rangle$ are continuous ($x \in \mathfrak{M}$, $\varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_*$). In the rest of this paper we will always assume that G is abelian, for then there is a well-developed theory of spectral subspaces, which allows one to do harmonic analysis of the dynamical systems. (We refer the reader to [1, 3, 5, 17 or 18] for detailed treatments of spectral subspace theory.)

If $(\mathfrak{M}, G, \alpha)$ is a W^* -dynamical system, and $f \in L^1(G)$, we can define an operator $\alpha(f)$ on \mathfrak{M} by

$$\langle \alpha(f)(x), \varphi \rangle = \int_G f(g) \langle \alpha_g(x), \varphi \rangle dg \quad (x \in \mathfrak{M}, \varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_*)$$

(where dg is Haar measure). It can be checked that $\alpha(f)$ is a σ -weakly continuous bounded linear operator on \mathfrak{M} , that the action $(f, x) \rightarrow \alpha(f)x$ makes \mathfrak{M} into an $L^1(G)$ -module, and that $\|\alpha(f)(x)\| \leq \|f\|_1 \|x\|$. If E is a subset of the dual group Γ of G , the spectral subspace $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E)$ is the σ -weakly closed linear span of $\{x \in \mathfrak{M}: \text{sp}_\alpha(x) \subset E\}$, where

$$\text{sp}_\alpha(x) = \{\gamma \in \Gamma: \hat{f}(\gamma) = 0 \text{ for all } f \in L^1(G) \text{ with } \alpha(f)x = 0\}.$$

Here $\hat{f}(\gamma) = \int_G f(g)(g, \gamma) dg$, where $g, \gamma \rightarrow (g, \gamma)$ is the dual pairing of G and Γ . If E is closed, then $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E) = \{x \in \mathfrak{M}: \text{sp}_\alpha(x) \subset E\}$. If $\gamma \in \Gamma$, then $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(\gamma) \equiv \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(\{\gamma\}) = \{x \in \mathfrak{M}: \alpha_g(x) = (g, \gamma)x \text{ for all } g \in G\}$. In particular, $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(0) = \{x \in \mathfrak{M}: \alpha_g(x) = x \text{ for all } g \in G\}$ is the fixed-point algebra of \mathfrak{M} under α .

Now suppose $(\mathfrak{M}, G_1, \alpha)$ and $(\mathfrak{N}, G_2, \beta)$ are W^* -dynamical systems. If $g_i \in G_i$, $i = 1, 2$, let $\alpha_{g_1} \otimes \beta_{g_2}$ be the unique $*$ -automorphism of $\mathfrak{M} \otimes \mathfrak{N}$ such that

$$(\alpha_{g_1} \otimes \beta_{g_2})(a \otimes b) = \alpha_{g_1}(a) \otimes \beta_{g_2}(b) \quad (a \in \mathfrak{M}, b \in \mathfrak{N})$$

[21, Corollary IV. 5.3]. It can be checked that $(\mathfrak{M} \otimes \mathfrak{N}, G_1 \times G_2, \alpha \otimes \beta)$ is again a W^* -dynamical system. Let Γ_i denote the dual group of G_i , $i = 1, 2$. We can ask: if $E_i \subset \Gamma_i$, $i = 1, 2$, when do we have

$$(2.1) \quad \mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}(E_1 \times E_2) = \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E_1) \otimes \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2),$$

where $\mathfrak{R} = \mathfrak{M} \otimes \mathfrak{N}$? Tomiyama proved [23, p. 14] that (2.1) holds if $E_i = \{0\}$, $i = 1, 2$, i.e., that the fixed-point algebra of the tensor product action is the tensor product of the fixed-point algebras. (This last statement makes sense, and is valid, for arbitrary locally compact groups.) The author proved that if G_1 and G_2 are

compact, then (2.1) holds for arbitrary E_1 and E_2 [15, Theorem 4.3]. It was also noted in [15] that we always have

$$(2.2) \quad \mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E_1) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2) \subset \mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}(E_1 \times E_2).$$

Combining (2.2) with the next proposition allows us to use slice maps techniques in studying when (2.1) is valid.

PROPOSITION 2.1. *Let $(\mathfrak{N}, G_1, \alpha)$ and $(\mathfrak{N}, G_2, \beta)$ be W^* -dynamical systems, and let $\mathfrak{R} = \mathfrak{N} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$. Then if $E_i \subset \Gamma_i, i = 1, 2$,*

$$(2.3) \quad \mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}(E_1 \times E_2) \subset F(\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E_1), \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2)).$$

We have equality in (2.3) if the E_i are closed.

PROOF. Since $F(\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E_1), \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2))$ is a σ -weakly closed subspace of \mathfrak{R} , to prove (2.3), it suffices to show that if $\text{sp}_{\alpha \otimes \beta}(x) \subset E_1 \times E_2$, then $x \in F(\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E_1), \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2))$. Moreover, by [5, 2.1.3(g) and 2.1.4], we may assume $\text{sp}_{\alpha \otimes \beta}(x)$ is compact. We will show that if $\text{sp}_{\alpha \otimes \beta}(x)$ is a compact subset of $E_1 \times E_2$, then $\text{sp}_\alpha(L_\psi(x)) \subset E_1$ for all $\psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$. The proof that $\text{sp}_\beta(R_\varphi(x)) \subset E_2, \varphi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$, is similar. Let $\gamma \in \Gamma_1, \gamma \notin E_1$. We will show that there is an $f_1 \in L^1(G_1)$ such that $\hat{f}_1(\gamma) = 1$ and $\alpha(f_1)(L_\psi(x)) = 0$ for all $\psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$. This implies that $\gamma \notin \text{sp}_\alpha(L_\psi(x)), \psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$, as desired. Let $K = \text{sp}_{\alpha \otimes \beta}(x)$. Since K is compact, the projection of K on Γ_1 is closed, and so we can choose an open neighborhood U of γ such that $(\overline{U} \times \Gamma_2) \cap K = \emptyset$. By the regularity of $L^1(G_1)$ [19, 2.6.2], we can choose $f_1 \in L^1(G_1)$ such that $\hat{f}_1(\gamma) = 1$ and $\text{supp } \hat{f}_1 \subset U$. If $f_2 \in L^1(G_2)$ is arbitrary, we can define $f_1 \otimes f_2 \in L^1(G_1 \times G_2)$ by $(f_1 \otimes f_2)(g_1, g_2) = f_1(g_1)f_2(g_2) (g_i \in G_i)$. Then $(f_1 \otimes f_2)^\wedge$ vanishes on a neighborhood of K , and so by a Tauberian Theorem [19, 7.2.5(a)],

$$(\alpha \otimes \beta)(f_1 \otimes f_2)(x) = 0, \quad f_2 \in L^1(G_2).$$

It is easily checked that

$$(\alpha \otimes \beta)(f_1 \otimes f_2)(a \otimes b) = \alpha(f_1)(a) \otimes \beta(f_2)(b) \quad (a \in \mathfrak{N}, b \in \mathfrak{N}).$$

Hence, if $\varphi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$ and $\psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle (\alpha \otimes \beta)(f_1 \otimes f_2)(x), \varphi \otimes \psi \rangle = \langle x, \varphi \circ \alpha(f_1) \otimes \psi \circ \beta(f_2) \rangle \\ &= \left\langle \alpha(f_1)(L_{\psi \circ \beta(f_2)}(x)), \varphi \right\rangle, \end{aligned}$$

so

$$(2.4) \quad \alpha(f_1)(L_{\psi \circ \beta(f_2)}(x)) = 0 \quad (f_2 \in L^1(G_2), \psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*).$$

But $\{\psi \circ \beta(f): f \in L^1(G_2), \psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*\}$ is norm dense in \mathfrak{N}_* [5, 2.1.3(j)], and so it follows from (2.4) and (1.1) that $\alpha(f_1)(L_\psi(x)) = 0$ for all $\psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$, as desired.

Next suppose E_1 and E_2 are closed. Then

$$\mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}(E_1 \times E_2) = \{x \in \mathfrak{R} : (\alpha \otimes \beta)(f)(x) = 0 \text{ for all } f \in I_0(E_1 \times E_2)\}$$

[1, p. 225], where $I_0(E_1 \times E_2) = \{f \in L^1(G_1 \times G_2) : \hat{f} \text{ vanishes on a neighborhood of } E_1 \times E_2\}$. Let J be the norm closed subspace of $L^1(G_1 \times G_2)$ generated by $\{f_1 \otimes f_2 : \text{either } f_1 \in I_0(E_1) \text{ or } f_2 \in I_0(E_2)\}$. Then since $I_0(E_i)$ is an ideal, $i = 1, 2$, and the

norm closed linear span of $\{f_1 \otimes f_2: f_i \in L^1(G_i)\}$ is $L^1(G_1 \times G_2)$ [11, Corollary 4, p. 61], J is an ideal. Moreover, it follows easily from the regularity of $L^1(G_1)$ and $L^1(G_2)$ that $Z(J) \equiv \{\gamma \in \Gamma: \hat{f}(\gamma) = 0 \text{ for all } f \in J\} = E_1 \times E_2$, and hence $I_0(E_1 \times E_2) \subset J$ [19, 7.2.5(a)]. So to prove equality holds in (2.3), it suffices to show: if $x \in F(\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E_1), \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2))$, then

$$(2.5) \quad (\alpha \otimes \beta)(f_1 \otimes f_2)(x) = 0,$$

if either $f_1 \in I_0(E_1)$ or $f_2 \in I_0(E_2)$. So assume $f_1 \in I_0(E_1)$ and $f_2 \in L^1(G_2)$, and $x \in F(\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E_1), \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2))$. Then if $\psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$, $L_{\psi \circ \beta(f_2)}(x) \in \mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E_1)$, so $\alpha(f_1)(L_{\psi \circ \beta(f_2)}(x)) = 0$. But for $\psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$,

$$L_\psi((\alpha \otimes \beta)(f_1 \otimes f_2)(x)) = \alpha(f_1)(L_{\psi \circ \beta(f_2)}(x)),$$

so (2.5) holds by (1.6). A similar argument shows that (2.5) holds if $f_1 \in L^1(G_1)$ and $f_2 \in I_0(E_2)$. This completes the proof.

If G is compact, the spectral subspace structure of a W^* -dynamical system $(\mathfrak{M}, G, \alpha)$ is particularly simple: there are σ -weakly continuous projections from \mathfrak{M} onto the spectral eigenspaces $\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(\gamma)$ of \mathfrak{M} , and \mathfrak{M} is the σ -weakly closed linear span of its spectral eigenspaces. In fact, if we set $e_\gamma(g) = \overline{(g, \gamma)}$ ($g \in G, \gamma \in \Gamma$), and $p_\gamma = \alpha(e_\gamma)$, then $p_\gamma(\mathfrak{M}) = \mathfrak{N}^\alpha(\gamma)$, $p_\gamma^2 = p_\gamma$, and $p_\gamma p_\lambda = 0$ if $\gamma \neq \lambda$. Moreover, if E is any subset of Γ , then

$$(2.6) \quad \mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E) = \bigvee_{\gamma \in E} \mathfrak{N}^\alpha(\gamma),$$

where \bigvee denotes the σ -weakly closed linear span.

THEOREM 2.2. *Let $(\mathfrak{M}, G, \alpha)$ be a W^* -dynamical system, and suppose that G is compact and \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ . Then $\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E)$ has Property S_σ for any $E \subset \Gamma$.*

PROOF. Let $\gamma \in \Gamma$. We will first show $\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(\gamma)$ has Property S_σ . Let $\Phi = p_\gamma$. Then Φ is a σ -weakly continuous linear map from \mathfrak{M} onto $\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(\gamma)$ such that $\Phi^2 = \Phi$. Moreover, if \mathcal{K} is any Hilbert space, we can define a W^* -dynamical system $(\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} B(\mathcal{K}), G, \beta)$ by setting

$$(2.7) \quad \beta_g = \alpha_g \otimes 1, \quad g \in G,$$

where 1 is the identity automorphism of $B(\mathcal{K})$. Then a calculation shows that $\beta(e_\gamma)$ is a σ -weakly continuous linear map from $\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} B(\mathcal{K})$ to $\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(\gamma) \overline{\otimes} B(\mathcal{K})$ satisfying

$$(2.8) \quad \beta(e_\gamma)(a \otimes b) = \Phi(a) \otimes b \quad (a \in \mathfrak{M}, b \in B(\mathcal{K})).$$

Hence $\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(\gamma)$ has Property S_σ by Proposition 1.19.

Next let $E \subset \Gamma$, let \mathfrak{T} be a σ -weakly closed subspace of a von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{N} , and suppose $x \in \mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$ and $R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\varphi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$. Define a W^* -dynamical system $(\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}, G, \beta)$ by means of (2.7) (where 1 is the identity automorphism of \mathfrak{N}). For $\gamma \in \Gamma$, set $x_\gamma = \beta(e_\gamma)(x)$. Then it follows from (2.8) that $x_\gamma \in \mathfrak{N}^\alpha(\gamma) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$, and $R_\varphi(x_\gamma) = R_{\varphi \circ p_\gamma}(x) \in \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\varphi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$. But $\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(\gamma)$ has Property S_σ , so $x_\gamma \in \mathfrak{N}^\alpha(\gamma) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}, \gamma \in \Gamma$. If $\gamma \notin E$, then $p_\gamma(\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E)) = 0$, so $x_\gamma = 0$, while if $\gamma \in E$, then $\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(\gamma) \subseteq \mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E)$. Hence $x_\gamma \in \mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\gamma \in \Gamma$. By

[5, 2.1.4], x is in the σ -weak closure of $\{\beta(f)(x) : f \in L^1(G), \|f\|_1 \leq 1 \text{ and } \hat{f} \text{ has compact support}\}$. But if \hat{f} has compact support, it has finite support, and so $\beta(f)(x) = \beta(\sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \hat{f}(\gamma)e_\gamma)(x) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \hat{f}(\gamma)x_\gamma \in \mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$. Hence $x \in \mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$, and so $M^\alpha(E)$ has Property S_σ .

REMARK 2.3. Suppose $(\mathfrak{N}, G, \alpha)$ is a W^* -dynamical system, and suppose G is compact. Let E be a subset of Γ . It follows from a straightforward modification of the proof of Theorem 2.2 that $\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E)$ has Property S_σ if and only if $\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(\gamma)$ has Property S_σ for all γ in E . In particular, if $\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(\gamma)$ has Property S_σ for all γ in Γ , then $\mathfrak{N} = \mathfrak{N}^\alpha(\Gamma)$ has Property S_σ .

PROPOSITION 2.4. *Let $(\mathfrak{N}, G, \alpha)$ be a W^* -dynamical system, and suppose that G is compact or discrete. Then the crossed product $\mathfrak{R}(\mathfrak{N}, G, \alpha)$ has Property S_σ if and only if \mathfrak{N} has Property S_σ .*

PROOF. Let $\hat{\alpha}$ be the dual action of $\Gamma = \hat{G}$ on $\mathfrak{R}(\mathfrak{N}, G, \alpha)$ [20], let $\mathfrak{N}_0 = \mathfrak{R}(\mathfrak{N}, G, \alpha)$, and $\mathfrak{U} = \mathfrak{R}(\mathfrak{N}_0, \Gamma, \hat{\alpha})$. Then by Takesaki's duality theorem [20, Theorem 4.5],

$$(2.9) \quad \mathfrak{U} \cong \mathfrak{N} \overline{\otimes} B(L^2(G)).$$

Since Property S_σ is preserved by $*$ -isomorphisms, it follows from Proposition 1.15 and Theorem 1.9 that \mathfrak{N} has Property S_σ if and only if \mathfrak{U} does.

Now suppose G is discrete. Let $\{\pi_\alpha, \lambda\}$ be the covariant representation of $(\mathfrak{N}, G, \alpha)$ given by (3.1) in [20]. Then for each $g \in G$, $(\mathfrak{N}_0)^\alpha(g) = \pi_\alpha(\mathfrak{N})\lambda(g)$ [16, Corollary 4.3.2]. Moreover, it is easily verified that if \mathfrak{S} is a σ -weakly closed subspace of $B(\mathcal{H})$ for some Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , and a is an invertible operator in $B(\mathcal{H})$, then \mathfrak{S} has Property S_σ if and only if $\mathfrak{S}a$ has Property S_σ . Hence $\pi_\alpha(\mathfrak{N})$ has Property S_σ if and only if $(\mathfrak{N}_0)^\alpha(g)$ has Property S_σ for all $g \in G$. Combining this fact with Remark 2.3, we see that $\pi_\alpha(\mathfrak{N})$ has Property S_σ if and only if \mathfrak{N}_0 has Property S_σ . But π_α is a faithful normal representation, so \mathfrak{N} has Property S_σ if and only if $\pi_\alpha(\mathfrak{N})$ does. This completes the proof in the discrete case.

Next suppose G is compact. Then Γ is discrete, and so by what we have just shown, \mathfrak{N}_0 has Property S_σ if and only if \mathfrak{U} does. But, as noted above, \mathfrak{U} has Property S_σ if and only if \mathfrak{N} does, and so \mathfrak{N}_0 has Property S_σ if and only if \mathfrak{N} has Property S_σ .

THEOREM 2.5. *Let $(\mathfrak{N}, G_1, \alpha)$ and $(\mathfrak{U}, G_2, \beta)$ be W^* -dynamical systems, and suppose G_1 is compact, and \mathfrak{N} has Property S_σ . Then (2.1) holds for all $E_1 \subset \Gamma_1$ and $E_2 \subset \Gamma_2$.*

PROOF. It follows from Theorem 2.2 and Remark 1.5 that $F(\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E_1), \mathfrak{U}^\beta(E_2)) = \mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E_1) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{U}^\beta(E_2)$. Combining this fact with (2.2) and Proposition 2.1, we get (2.1).

Note that the proof of Theorem 2.5 shows that (2.1) holds whenever $\mathfrak{N}^\alpha(E_1)$ has Property S_σ . Thus it would be of great interest to know whether Theorem 2.2 remains valid if we delete the hypothesis that G be compact. If G is not compact, the projections onto the spectral eigenspaces are no longer available, and the method of proof of Theorem 2.2 does not generalize. However, there is a partial substitute for these projections. Let $(\mathfrak{N}, G, \alpha)$ be a W^* -dynamical system. Suppose $E \subset \Gamma$ is

open, and $K \subset E$ is compact. Then we can choose an open set V with compact closure such that $K \subset V \subset \bar{V} \subset E$, and an $f \in L^1(G)$ such that $\hat{f} = 1$ on \bar{V} and $\text{supp } \hat{f} \subset E$. Then $\alpha(f)$ is a σ -weakly continuous linear map from \mathfrak{M} into $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E)$ [5, 2.1.3(g)]. Moreover, if $x \in \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(K)$, then $\hat{f} = 1$ on a neighborhood of $\text{sp}_\alpha(x)$, and so $\alpha(f)(x) = x$ [5, 2.1.3(k)]. If (i) $\alpha(f)$ is the identity on $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E)$ or (ii) the range of $\alpha(f)$ is $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(K)$, then we can use Proposition 1.19 to show that (i) $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E)$ or (ii) $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(K)$ has Property S_σ . However, it is not hard to show (using [5, 2.1.3(h)] and the regularity of $L^1(G)$) that (i) occurs only if $\hat{f} = 1$ on $E \cap \text{sp } \alpha$ (where $\text{sp } \alpha = \{\gamma \in \Gamma: \hat{f}(\gamma) = 0 \text{ whenever } \alpha(f) = 0\}$), while (ii) occurs only if $K \cap \text{sp } \alpha = \{\gamma: \hat{f}(\gamma) \neq 0\} \cap \text{sp } \alpha$. In the first case $E \cap \text{sp } \alpha = \{\gamma: \hat{f}(\gamma) = 1\} \cap \text{sp } \alpha$ is closed, while in the second case $K \cap \text{sp } \alpha$ is relatively open in $\text{sp } \alpha$. (These two special cases are treated in Corollary 2.7 below.) In particular, if $E \cap \text{sp } \alpha$ is not closed, we cannot apply Proposition 1.19 to $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E)$. However, we can prove a weaker version of Theorem 2.2, which is strong enough to imply that (2.1) holds when \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ and E_1 is open.

THEOREM 2.6. *Let $(\mathfrak{M}, G, \alpha)$ be a W^* -dynamical system, and suppose \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ , $E \subset \Gamma$ is open, and $K \subset E$ is compact. If \mathfrak{T} is any σ -weakly closed subspace of a von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{N} , then*

$$(2.10) \quad F(\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(K), \mathfrak{T}) \subset \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E) \bar{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}.$$

PROOF. Let $\mathfrak{R} = \mathfrak{M} \bar{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$, and define a W^* -dynamical system (\mathfrak{R}, G, β) by setting $\beta_g = \alpha_g \otimes 1$, where 1 is the identity automorphism of \mathfrak{N} . Then

$$L_\psi(\beta(f)(x)) = \alpha(f)(L_\psi(x)) \quad (x \in \mathfrak{R}, f \in L^1(G), \psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*).$$

Hence if F is a closed subset of Γ , and $x \in \mathfrak{R}$, then $x \in \mathfrak{R}^\beta(F)$ if and only if $\beta(f)(x) = 0$ for all $f \in I_0(F)$ [1, p. 225] if and only if $\alpha(f)(L_\psi(x)) = 0$ for all $f \in I_0(F)$ and all $\psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$ if and only if $L_\psi(x) \in \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(F)$ for all $\psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$. Thus

$$(2.11) \quad \mathfrak{R}^\beta(F) = F(\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(F), \mathfrak{N})$$

for any closed subset F of Γ . Choose $f \in L^1(G)$ such that $\hat{f} = 1$ on a neighborhood of K , and $\text{supp } \hat{f} \subset E$. Then, since $\beta(f)(a \otimes b) = \alpha(f)(a) \otimes b$ ($a \in \mathfrak{M}, b \in \mathfrak{N}$), $\beta(f)(\mathfrak{M} \bar{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}) \subseteq \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E) \bar{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$. But $F(\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(K), \mathfrak{T}) \subset F(\mathfrak{M}, \mathfrak{T}) = \mathfrak{M} \bar{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$, and $\beta(f)(x) = x$ for $x \in \mathfrak{R}^\beta(K) = F(\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(K), \mathfrak{N})$, so (2.10) holds.

COROLLARY 2.7. *Let $(\mathfrak{M}, G, \alpha)$ be a W^* -dynamical system, and suppose \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ . Let $E \subset \Gamma$ be such that $\text{sp } \alpha \cap E$ is relatively open and closed in $\text{sp } \alpha$. Then $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E)$ has Property S_σ .*

PROOF. Let \mathfrak{T} be a σ -weakly closed subspace of a von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{N} , let $\mathfrak{R} = \mathfrak{M} \bar{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$, and define β as in the proof of Theorem 2.6. Let $F = \text{sp } \alpha \cap E$. Then F is closed, there is an open subset V of Γ such that $\text{sp } \alpha \cap V = F$, and $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E) = \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(F) = \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(V)$. Let $x \in F(\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E), \mathfrak{T})$, let $f \in L^1(G)$ be such that $\text{supp } \hat{f}$ is compact, and set $K = \text{sp}_\beta(\beta(f)(x))$. Then $K \subset \text{supp } \hat{f} \cap \text{sp}_\beta(x)$ [5, 2.1.3(g)]. Hence K is compact, and $K \subset F \subset V$ by (2.11). Moreover, $R_\varphi(\beta(f)(x)) = R_{\varphi \circ \alpha(f)}(x) \in \mathfrak{T}$ for all $\varphi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$, and $\beta(f)(x) \in \mathfrak{R}^\beta(K) = F(\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(K), \mathfrak{N})$, so $\beta(f)(x) \in F(\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(K), \mathfrak{T})$. Hence by Theorem 2.6, $\beta(f)(x) \in \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(V) \bar{\otimes} \mathfrak{T} = \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E) \bar{\otimes} \mathfrak{T}$.

Since x is in the σ -weak closure of $\{\beta(f)(x): f \in L^1(G), \|f\|_1 \leq 1 \text{ and } \text{supp } \hat{f} \text{ is compact}\}$ [5, 2.1.4], we conclude that $x \in \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$, and hence $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E)$ has Property S_σ .

THEOREM 2.8. *Let $(\mathfrak{M}, G_1, \alpha)$ and $(\mathfrak{N}, G_2, \beta)$ be W^* -dynamical systems and suppose that \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ . If $E_1 \subset \Gamma_1$ is open, and $E_2 \subset \Gamma_2$ is arbitrary, then (2.1) holds.*

PROOF. Let $\mathfrak{R} = \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$. By (2.2), it suffices to show that $\mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}(E_1 \times E_2) \subset \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E_1) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2)$. Since $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E_1) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2)$ is a σ -weakly closed subspace, it suffices to show that if $\text{sp}_{\alpha \otimes \beta}(x) \subset E_1 \times E_2$, then $x \in \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E_1) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2)$, and by [5, 2.1.3(g) and 2.1.4], we may assume $\text{sp}_{\alpha \otimes \beta}(x)$ is compact. Let $K = \text{sp}_{\alpha \otimes \beta}(x)$, and let K_1 be the projection of K on Γ_1 . Then $K_1 \subset E_1$ is compact, and $K \subset K_1 \times E_2$. Hence, by Proposition 2.1 and Theorem 2.6,

$$x \in \mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}(K_1 \times E_2) \subset F(\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(K_1), \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2)) \subset \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E_1) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2),$$

as required.

If both E_1 and E_2 are open, we can show that (2.1) holds without the requirement that \mathfrak{M} have Property S_σ . Although the proof of this fact does not use slice maps, we include it here for completeness.

THEOREM 2.9. *Let $(\mathfrak{M}, G_1, \alpha)$ and $(\mathfrak{N}, G_2, \beta)$ be W^* -dynamical systems. Then (2.1) holds whenever both E_1 and E_2 are open sets.*

PROOF. Let $\mathfrak{R} = \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$, let $G = G_1 \times G_2$, and $\Gamma = \Gamma_1 \times \Gamma_2$. By (2.2), it suffices to show that $\mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}(E_1 \times E_2) \subset \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E_1) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2)$. Since $E_1 \times E_2$ is open, $\mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}(E_1 \times E_2)$ is the σ -weak closure of $\{(\alpha \otimes \beta)(f)(x): x \in \mathfrak{R}, f \in L^1(G), \text{ and } \text{supp } \hat{f} \subset E_1 \times E_2\}$ [17, 2.3.3(ii)]. Note that $\{f \in L^1(G): \text{supp } \hat{f} \subset E_1 \times E_2\} = I_0(\Gamma \setminus (E_1 \times E_2))$. Let J be the closed subspace of $L^1(G)$ generated by $\{f_1 \otimes f_2: f_i \in I_0(\Gamma_i \setminus E_i), i = 1, 2\}$. By arguments similar to those in the second part of the proof of Proposition 2.1, J is a closed ideal, and $Z(J) = \Gamma \setminus (E_1 \times E_2)$. Hence $I_0(\Gamma \setminus (E_1 \times E_2)) \subset J$. Thus, it suffices to show that if $f_i \in I_0(\Gamma_i \setminus E_i), i = 1, 2$, then

$$(2.12) \quad (\alpha \otimes \beta)(f_1 \otimes f_2)(a \otimes b) \in \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E_1) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2) \quad (a \in \mathfrak{M}, b \in \mathfrak{N}).$$

But $I_0(\Gamma_i \setminus E_i) = \{f \in L^1(G_i): \text{supp } \hat{f} \subset E_i\}, i = 1, 2$, and

$$(\alpha \otimes \beta)(f_1 \otimes f_2)(a \otimes b) = \alpha(f_1)(a) \otimes \beta(f_2)(b) \quad (a \in \mathfrak{M}, b \in \mathfrak{N}),$$

so (2.12) follows from [17, 2.3.3(ii)].

3. Applications to subspace lattices and reflexive algebras. In this section, we will always assume that Hilbert spaces are separable. A subspace lattice \mathfrak{L} in $B(\mathfrak{H})$ is a collection of (selfadjoint) projections on \mathfrak{H} closed under the lattice operations \wedge (intersection) and \vee (closed linear span) (where we identify projections with their ranges), which contains 0 and 1, and which is closed in the strong operator topology. If the elements of \mathfrak{L} pairwise commute, \mathfrak{L} is a commutative subspace lattice (or CSL). If \mathfrak{L} is a subspace lattice, $\text{alg } \mathfrak{L} = \{x \in B(\mathfrak{H}): xp = pxp \text{ for all } p \in \mathfrak{L}\}$ is a σ -weakly closed subalgebra of $B(\mathfrak{H})$. If S is any subset of $B(\mathfrak{H})$, then $\text{lat } S$, the set of projections on \mathfrak{H} left invariant by the elements of S , is a subspace lattice. A subspace

lattice \mathfrak{L} [resp. $S \subset B(\mathfrak{H})$] is reflexive if $\text{lat alg } \mathfrak{L} = \mathfrak{L}$ [resp. $\text{alg lat } S = S$]. Commutative subspace lattices were first studied systematically by Arveson [2], who developed powerful techniques for studying these lattices and their associated reflexive algebras. We refer the reader to [2] for a detailed treatment of CSL's.

If $\mathfrak{M} \subset B(\mathfrak{H})$ is a von Neumann algebra, and $\mathfrak{L} \subset \mathfrak{M}$ is a subspace lattice, we write $\mathfrak{M}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}$ for $(\text{alg } \mathfrak{L}) \cap \mathfrak{M}$. If $\mathfrak{L}_1 \subset \mathfrak{M}$ and $\mathfrak{L}_2 \subset \mathfrak{N}$ are subspace lattices, we can ask: when do we have

$$(3.1) \quad \mathfrak{R}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L} = (\mathfrak{M}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}_1) \overline{\otimes} (\mathfrak{N}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}_2),$$

where $\mathfrak{R} = \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$, and $\mathfrak{L} = \mathfrak{L}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{L}_2$ is the subspace lattice generated by $\{p_1 \otimes p_2 : p_i \in \mathfrak{L}_i\}$? If $\mathfrak{M} = B(\mathfrak{H}_1)$ and $\mathfrak{N} = B(\mathfrak{H}_2)$, (3.1) becomes, simply,

$$(3.2) \quad \text{alg } \mathfrak{L} = (\text{alg } \mathfrak{L}_1) \overline{\otimes} (\text{alg } \mathfrak{L}_2).$$

Note that if (3.2) is always valid, then the tensor product of reflexive algebras is always reflexive. Moreover, if $\mathfrak{L}_1 \subset \mathfrak{M}$ and $\mathfrak{L}_2 \subset \mathfrak{N}$ are the projection lattices of von Neumann subalgebras \mathfrak{M}_1 and \mathfrak{N}_1 , then (3.1) becomes

$$(\mathfrak{M}_1 \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}_1)' \cap (\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}) = (\mathfrak{M}'_1 \cap \mathfrak{M}) \overline{\otimes} (\mathfrak{N}'_1 \cap \mathfrak{N}).$$

It follows from (1.11), (1.8) and (1.7) that this relative commutant version of Tomita's theorem is always valid (see also [24, p. 167]). Gilfeather, Hopenwasser and Larson showed in [10, Theorem 2.6] that (3.2) holds if \mathfrak{L}_1 and \mathfrak{L}_2 are chains (totally ordered CSL's). Hopenwasser, Laurie and Moore have shown that, more generally, (3.2) is valid for completely distributive CSL's [14], and K. Harrison has proved (3.2) in the case when \mathfrak{L}_1 is a chain and \mathfrak{L}_2 is a finite width CSL [13]. The author has shown [15] that (3.1) holds if \mathfrak{L}_1 and \mathfrak{L}_2 are CSL's with totally atomic cores. (The core of \mathfrak{L} is the von Neumann algebra \mathfrak{L}'' generated by \mathfrak{L} .)

If $\mathfrak{L}_1 \subset \mathfrak{M}$ and $\mathfrak{L}_2 \subset \mathfrak{N}$ are subspace lattices, and $x \in \mathfrak{R}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}$, then if $e \in \mathfrak{L}_2$ and $\varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_*$,

$$eR_\varphi(x)e = R_\varphi((1 \otimes e)x(1 \otimes e)) = R_\varphi(x(1 \otimes e)) = R_\varphi(x)e,$$

so $R_\varphi(x) \in \mathfrak{N}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}_2$. Similarly, $L_\psi(x) \in \mathfrak{M}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}_1$ for all $\psi \in \mathfrak{N}_*$. Hence $\mathfrak{R}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L} \subset F(\mathfrak{M}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}_1, \mathfrak{N}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}_2)$. Another use of (1.3) and (1.4) proves the reverse inclusion, and we conclude:

$$(3.3) \quad \mathfrak{R}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L} = F(\mathfrak{M}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}_1, \mathfrak{N}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}_2).$$

Hence if (1.10) is always valid, then (3.1) is always valid. It also follows from (3.3) (and Remark 1.5) that if $\mathfrak{M}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}_1$ has Property S_σ , then (3.1) holds for any subspace lattice $\mathfrak{L}_2 \subset \mathfrak{N}$. In particular, an application of Proposition 1.7 yields the following result.

PROPOSITION 3.1. *Let $\mathfrak{L}_1 \subset \mathfrak{M}$ and $\mathfrak{L}_2 \subset \mathfrak{N}$ be subspace lattices, and suppose that \mathfrak{M} is finite-dimensional. Then (3.1) holds.*

For certain CSL's, there is a connection between (3.1) and (2.1), established in [15]. For the convenience of the reader, we will state the appropriate definitions and results from [15]. If G is a locally compact abelian group, a positive semigroup

$\Sigma \subset \Gamma$ is a subsemigroup of Γ also satisfying $\Sigma \cap (-\Sigma) = \{0\}$ and $\Sigma = \overline{\text{int } \Sigma}$. A CSL $\mathfrak{L} \subset \mathfrak{M}$ is (G, Σ) -analytic if there is a strongly continuous unitary representation u of G on the Hilbert space \mathcal{H} of \mathfrak{M} such that $u_g \in \mathfrak{M}$ for all $g \in G$ and \mathfrak{L} is the subspace lattice generated by $\{e(\gamma + \Sigma) : \gamma \in \Gamma\}$, where $e(\cdot)$ is the projection-valued measure on Γ associated with u by Stone's Theorem. If $\alpha = \text{adu}$ (i.e. $\alpha_g(x) = u_g x u_g^*$, $x \in \mathfrak{M}$, $g \in G$), then $\mathfrak{M}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L} = \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(\Sigma)$. (The algebras $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(\Sigma)$, Σ a positive semigroup, are called algebras of analytic operators, and were first studied by Loeb1 and Muhly [16]. Note that if $G = \mathbf{R}$, and $\Sigma = [0, \infty)$, then $x \in \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(\Sigma)$ if and only if all of the maps $g \rightarrow \langle \alpha_g(x), \varphi \rangle$ ($\varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_*$) are in $H^\infty(\mathbf{R})$.) If $\mathfrak{L}_1 \subset \mathfrak{M}$, $\mathfrak{L}_2 \subset \mathfrak{N}$, and \mathfrak{L}_i is (G_i, Σ_i) -analytic, $i = 1, 2$, $\mathfrak{L} = \mathfrak{L}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{L}_2$ is $(G_1 \times G_2, \Sigma_1 \times \Sigma_2)$ -analytic, and $\mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}(\Sigma_1 \times \Sigma_2) = \mathfrak{R}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}$, where $\mathfrak{R} = \mathfrak{M} \otimes \mathfrak{N}$. Hence, in the case of analytic CSL's, (3.1) is a special case of (2.1), and the results of §2 can be applied.

THEOREM 3.2. *Let $\mathfrak{L}_1 \subset \mathfrak{M}$ and $\mathfrak{L}_2 \subset \mathfrak{N}$ be subspace lattices, and suppose \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ and \mathfrak{L}_1 is a CSL with totally atomic core. Then (3.1) holds.*

PROOF. By [15, Theorem 4.4], \mathfrak{L}_1 is (G, Σ) -analytic for some compact group G , and so there is a W^* -dynamical system $(\mathfrak{M}, G, \alpha)$ such that $\mathfrak{M}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}_1 = \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(\Sigma)$. Since G is compact, and \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ , it follows from Theorem 2.2 that $\mathfrak{M}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}_1$ has Property S_σ , and so (3.1) follows immediately from (3.3).

Another important class of analytic CSL's is the class of finite width CSL's. (A CSL has finite width if it is generated by a finite number of commuting chains.) In fact, if $\mathfrak{L} \subset \mathfrak{M}$ is a CSL generated by n commuting chains, then \mathfrak{L} is $(\mathbf{R}^n, [0, \infty)^n)$ -analytic, and, conversely, if $(\mathfrak{M}, \mathbf{R}^n, \alpha)$ is an inner W^* -dynamical system, then there is a CSL $\mathfrak{L} \subset \mathfrak{M}$ generated by n commuting chains such that $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha([0, \infty)^n) = \mathfrak{M}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}$ [15, Theorem 2.6]. (The case $n = 1$ was proved by Loeb1 and Muhly [16, Theorem 4.2.3].) In particular, since (3.2) holds for chains and every one-parameter dynamical system on $B(\mathcal{H})$ is inner, (2.1) holds if $\mathfrak{M} = B(\mathcal{H}_1)$, $\mathfrak{N} = B(\mathcal{H}_2)$, $G_1 = G_2 = \mathbf{R}$, and $E_1 = E_2 = [0, \infty)$. We will next give a direct proof of a more general result, using a theorem of Zsidó.

Recall that if G is a locally compact abelian group, a set $E \subset \Gamma$ is polyhedral if there exist closed subsets E_1, \dots, E_n of Γ such that $E_i \cap (-E_i)$ and $E_i \cup (-E_i)$, $1 \leq i \leq n$, are subgroups of Γ , and E belongs to the translation-invariant ring of subsets of Γ generated by $\{E_1, \dots, E_n\}$. Note that $[0, \infty)^n$ is polyhedral in \mathbf{R}^n for all n .

THEOREM 3.3. *Let $(\mathfrak{M}, \mathbf{R}, \alpha)$ and (\mathfrak{N}, G, β) be W^* -dynamical systems, and suppose \mathfrak{M} and $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(0)$ have Property S_σ . Let $E_1 = [0, \infty)$. Then (2.1) holds for any polyhedral set E_2 .*

PROOF. Let $\mathfrak{R} = \mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}$. Since E_2 is polyhedral in Γ_2 , $\{0\} \times E_2$ is polyhedral in $\Gamma = \Gamma_1 \times \Gamma_2$. Hence by [29, Theorem 3.7 and Lemma 3.8],

$$\mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}(E_1 \times E_2) = \mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}(\{0\} \times E_2) \cup ((0, \infty) \times E_2)$$

is the σ -weakly closed linear span of $\mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}(\{0\} \times E_2)$ and $\mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}((0, \infty) \times E_2)$. Since $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(0)$ has Property S_σ , $\mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}(\{0\} \times E_2) = \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(0) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2) \subset \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E_1) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2)$. Since $(0, \infty)$ is open, and \mathfrak{M} has Property S_σ , it follows from Theorem 2.8

that $\mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}((0, \infty) \times E_2) = \mathfrak{M}^\alpha((0, \infty)) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2) \subset \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E_1) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2)$. Hence $\mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}(E_1 \times E_2) \subset \mathfrak{M}^\alpha(E_1) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}^\beta(E_2)$. But the reverse inclusion always holds, and so we get (2.1).

COROLLARY 3.4. *Let $(\mathfrak{M}, \mathbf{R}, \alpha)$ and $(\mathfrak{N}, \mathbf{R}^n, \beta)$ be W^* -dynamical systems and suppose \mathfrak{M} and $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(0)$ have Property S_σ . Then*

$$(\mathfrak{M} \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N})^{\alpha \otimes \beta}([0, \infty) \times [0, \infty)^n) = \mathfrak{M}^\alpha([0, \infty)) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{N}^\beta([0, \infty)^n).$$

COROLLARY 3.5. *Let $\mathfrak{L}_1 \subset \mathfrak{M}$ be a chain, and $\mathfrak{L}_2 \subset \mathfrak{N}$ be a finite width CSL. Suppose that \mathfrak{M} and $\mathfrak{L}'_1 \cap \mathfrak{M}$ have Property S_σ . Then (3.1) holds.*

PROOF. Suppose \mathfrak{L}_2 is generated by n commuting chains. Then by [15, Theorems 2.6 and 4.1 and Proposition 2.4] we can choose inner W^* -dynamical systems $(\mathfrak{M}, \mathbf{R}, \alpha)$ and $(\mathfrak{N}, \mathbf{R}^n, \beta)$ such that $\mathfrak{M}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}_1 = \mathfrak{M}^\alpha([0, \infty))$, $\mathfrak{N}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L}_2 = \mathfrak{N}^\beta([0, \infty)^n)$, $\mathfrak{R}\text{-alg } \mathfrak{L} = \mathfrak{R}^{\alpha \otimes \beta}([0, \infty) \times [0, \infty)^n)$, and $\mathfrak{M}^\alpha(0) = \mathfrak{L}'_1 \cap \mathfrak{M}$. Now apply Corollary 3.4.

If $\mathfrak{M} = B(\mathfrak{K})$ in Corollary 3.5, then both \mathfrak{M} and $\mathfrak{L}'_1 \cap \mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{L}'_1)'$ are type I, and hence have Property S_σ . Thus Corollary 3.5 generalizes Harrison's result that (3.2) holds when \mathfrak{L}_1 is a chain and \mathfrak{L}_2 is a finite width CSL [13].

We conclude this section with an application of some of the above results to synthetic CSL's. Recall from [2] that an operator algebra $A \subset B(\mathfrak{K})$ is prereflexive if $A \cap A^* = (\text{lat } A)'$, and that if \mathfrak{L} is a CSL, and \mathcal{C} is the class of all σ -weakly closed prereflexive algebras \mathcal{A} satisfying $\text{lat } \mathcal{A} = \mathfrak{L}$, then \mathcal{C} has a smallest element (denoted $\mathcal{A}_{\min}(\mathfrak{L})$) and a largest element, $\text{alg } \mathfrak{L}$ [2, 2.1.8]. If $\mathcal{A}_{\min}(\mathfrak{L}) = \text{alg } \mathfrak{L}$, then \mathfrak{L} is said to be synthetic. The name synthetic comes from an analogy with S -sets (sets of spectral synthesis) in harmonic analysis, which is discussed in detail in [2, §2.2]. Theorem 2.2.11 in [2] and Proposition 2.1 in [10] suggest that the proper analogue of the tensor product $\mathfrak{L}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{L}_2$ of synthetic CSL's \mathfrak{L}_1 and \mathfrak{L}_2 is the product $E_1 \times E_2$ of S -sets E_1 and E_2 . If E_1 and E_2 are S -sets, and if either $A(E_1)$ or $A(E_2)$ [25, §4.1] has the approximation property [11], then $E_1 \times E_2$ is an S -set. (Combine [25, Theorem 1.51] with [11, Proposition 3] and [22, Theorem 4].) This suggests that the tensor product of synthetic CSL's is synthetic. We will show that this is true in the special case when one of the CSL's has totally atomic core.

If \mathfrak{L}_1 and \mathfrak{L}_2 are CSL's, then by Arveson's spectral theorem for CSL's [2, 1.3.1], for each $i, i = 1, 2$, there is a compact metric space X_i , a finite Borel measure m_i on X_i , and a closed partial order \leq_i on X_i , such that \mathfrak{L}_i is unitarily equivalent to $\mathfrak{L}(X_i, \leq_i, m_i) = \{P_E : E \text{ is an increasing Borel subset of } X_i\}$, where P_E is the operator on $L^2(X_i, m_i)$ corresponding to multiplication by the characteristic function of E . Since the property of being synthetic is preserved under unitary equivalence, in what follows we may assume $\mathfrak{L}_i = \mathfrak{L}(X_i, \leq_i, m_i)$. In this case, $\mathfrak{L}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{L}_2 = \mathfrak{L}(X, \leq, m)$, where $X = X_1 \times X_2$, $m = m_1 \times m_2$ is the product measure, and \leq is the product partial order (i.e. $(x_1, x_2) \leq (y_1, y_2)$ if and only if $x_i \leq_i y_i$ for $i = 1, 2$) [10, Proposition 2.1]. Moreover, for $i = 1, 2$, $\mathcal{A}_{\min}(\mathfrak{L}_i)$ is the σ -weak closure of the set of pseudo-integral operators on $L^2(X_i, m_i)$ corresponding to the measures in $A(G_i, m_i)$, where G_i is the graph of \leq_i [2, §§1.5 and 1.6]. It is easily checked that if s_i is a

pseudo-integral operator corresponding to a measure in $A(G_i, m_i)$, $i = 1, 2$, then $s_1 \otimes s_2$ is a pseudo-integral operator corresponding to a measure in $A(G, m)$, where G is the graph of \leq , and so $s_1 \otimes s_2 \in \mathfrak{A}_{\min}(\mathfrak{L}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{L}_2)$. Hence

$$(3.4) \quad \mathfrak{A}_{\min}(\mathfrak{L}_1) \overline{\otimes} \mathfrak{A}_{\min}(\mathfrak{L}_2) \subseteq \mathfrak{A}_{\min}(\mathfrak{L}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{L}_2).$$

THEOREM 3.6. *Let \mathfrak{L}_1 and \mathfrak{L}_2 be synthetic CSL's and suppose \mathfrak{L}_1'' is totally atomic. Then $\mathfrak{L}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{L}_2$ is synthetic.*

PROOF. Since \mathfrak{L}_1 has totally atomic core, and $B(\mathfrak{K})$ has Property S_σ , it follows from Theorem 3.2 that $\text{alg}(\mathfrak{L}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{L}_2) = (\text{alg } \mathfrak{L}_1) \overline{\otimes} (\text{alg } \mathfrak{L}_2)$. Since \mathfrak{L}_i is synthetic, $\text{alg } \mathfrak{L}_i = \mathfrak{A}_{\min}(\mathfrak{L}_i)$, $i = 1, 2$, and so $\text{alg}(\mathfrak{L}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{L}_2) \subseteq \mathfrak{A}_{\min}(\mathfrak{L}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{L}_2)$, by (3.4). But the reverse inclusion always holds, so $\mathfrak{L}_1 \otimes \mathfrak{L}_2$ is synthetic.

REMARK 3.7. It should be noted that if \mathfrak{L}_1 is any CSL with totally atomic core, then \mathfrak{L}_1 is synthetic, and so satisfies the hypotheses of Theorem 3.6. One way of seeing this is the following: If \mathfrak{L} is a CSL with totally atomic core, then it follows from [15, Theorems 4.4 and 3.3] that there is a countable discrete metric space X , a partial order \leq on X , and a σ -finite Borel measure m on X such that \mathfrak{L} is unitarily equivalent to $\mathfrak{L}(X, \leq, m)$. Since $X \times X$ is discrete, the graph of \leq is automatically synthetic relative to m [2, 2.2.9(ii)]. Hence $\mathfrak{L}(X, \leq, m)$ is a synthetic lattice [2, 2.2.11], and so \mathfrak{L} is synthetic. Alternately, one could note that \mathfrak{L} is a completely distributive CSL, and hence is synthetic by [14, Corollary 9].

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