CENTRAL SEQUENCES ASSOCIATED WITH A STATE

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ABSTRACT. Central sequences associated with a state are defined and used to derive a characterization of the factor state in question. This characterization is used to study the factor state extension problem. One of the affirmative results obtained in this paper is as follows. Let \mathcal{C}_1 be a finite dimensional sub- C^* -algebra of \mathcal{C} . Then every factor state on the relative commutant of \mathcal{C}_1 in \mathcal{C} extends to a factor state on \mathcal{C} .

In this note a factor state on a C^* -algebra is characterized in terms of central sequences associated with it. The general concept of central sequences has been used in many cases to characterize different properties (see [1], [3], [4], and [5] for example). This characterization is then used to study factorial extensions of factor states from a sub- C^* -algebra to the C^* -algebra containing it.

- 1. A characterization of factor states. All C^* -algebras considered in this note are unital and separable. (In the general case, one may consider φ -central nets.) Let φ be a state on \mathscr{C} . For y in \mathscr{C} , let $\varphi \cdot y$ denote the element in \mathscr{C}^* (the dual of \mathscr{C}) defined by $\varphi \cdot y(x) = \varphi(yx)$ for all $x \in \mathscr{C}$, and $\mathscr{C}^+ = \{x \in \mathscr{C} | x > 0\}$.
- 1.1 DEFINITION. A sequence of elements $\{x_i \in \mathcal{C} | i = 1, 2, \dots\}$ is said to be a φ -central sequence in \mathcal{C} , if

$$\lim_{i \to \infty} (\varphi \cdot y(x_i x) - \varphi \cdot y(x x_i)) = 0 \quad \text{for all } x, y \in \mathcal{C}.$$
 (1)

A φ -central sequence $\{x_i\}$ is called *convergent* if $\varphi \cdot y(x_i x)$ converges for all $x, y \in \mathcal{C}$, and is called *positive* if $0 \le x_i$ for all i. A positive φ -central sequence $\{x_i\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is k-bounded, if, for all i, $\sup_{\varphi(y^*y)\le 1} \varphi(y^*x_i y) \le k$. Two φ -central sequences $\{x_i\}$ and $\{z_i\}$ in \mathcal{C} are said to be *equivalent*, if $\lim_{i\to\infty} (\varphi \cdot y(x_i) - \varphi \cdot y(z_i)) = 0$ for all y in \mathcal{C} . A φ -central sequence $\{x_i\}$ is *trivial*, if there exists a sequence of complex numbers $\{\lambda_i\}$ which is equivalent to $\{x_i\}$.

In the following we tie the existence of a nontrivial φ -central sequence to the fact that φ is not a factor state. Let π_{φ} , \mathcal{K}_{φ} be the GNS representation and its representation space induced by φ , and $\varphi(y^*x) = \langle \pi_{\varphi}(x)f_{\varphi}, \pi_{\varphi}(y)f_{\varphi} \rangle$ for all x, y in \mathscr{C} . Let $\mathscr{R} = \pi_{\varphi}(\mathscr{C})''$ and $\mathscr{Z}(\mathscr{R})$ be the center of \mathscr{R} . This notation is used for the rest of the paper.

1.2 PROPOSITION. Every $A \in \mathfrak{T}^+(\mathfrak{R})$ with ||A|| < 1 gives rise to a positive 1-bounded convergent φ -central sequence $\{x_i\}$ in \mathfrak{R} such that $\langle A\pi_{\varphi}(z)f_{\varphi}, \pi_{\varphi}(y)f_{\varphi} \rangle = \lim_{i \to \infty} \varphi(y^*x_iz)$ for all z, y in \mathfrak{R} .

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PROOF. Since A is in $\mathfrak{Z}^+(\mathfrak{R})$, by Kaplansky's density theorem there exists a sequence of positive elements $\{x_i\}$ in \mathfrak{C} with $\|\pi_{\varphi}(x_i)\| \leq \|A\|$ such that $\{\pi_{\varphi}(x_i)\}$ converges to A in the ultraweak operator topology, and $\{x_i\}$ is 1-bounded. In particular, $\lim_{i\to\infty} \langle (\pi_{\varphi}(x_i) - A)\pi_{\varphi}(x)f_{\varphi}, \pi_{\varphi}(y)f_{\varphi} \rangle = 0$ for all x, y in \mathfrak{C} . That is

$$\lim_{i \to \infty} \varphi(yx_i z) = \left\langle A\pi_{\varphi}(z)f_{\varphi}, \pi_{\varphi}(y^*)f_{\varphi} \right\rangle \quad \text{for all } z, y \in \mathcal{Q}. \tag{2}$$

Replacing y by yx and z by 1 in (2), we derive

$$\begin{split} \lim_{i \to \infty} \varphi(yxx_i) &= \left\langle Af_{\varphi}, \, \pi_{\varphi}(x^*)\pi_{\varphi}(y^*)f_{\varphi} \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle A\pi_{\varphi}(x)f_{\varphi}, \, \pi_{\varphi}(y^*)fy \right\rangle \\ &= \lim_{i \to \infty} \varphi(yx_ix). \end{split}$$

Hence $\lim_{i\to\infty} \varphi \cdot y(x_i x)$ exists, and

$$\lim_{i \to \infty} \left[\varphi \cdot y(x_i x) - \varphi \cdot y(x x_i) \right] = 0 \quad \text{for all } x, y \in \mathcal{Q}. \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

The φ -central sequence in Proposition 1.2 is called a φ -central sequence determined by A. In the remainder of this section we are going to establish a one-to-one correspondence between $\mathfrak{T}^+(\mathfrak{R})$ and the collection of all equivalence classes of positive bounded convergent central sequences in \mathfrak{C} .

1.3. Proposition. Given a positive k-bounded convergent φ -central sequence $\{x_i\}$, there exists an element A in $\mathfrak{T}^+(\mathfrak{R})$ which determines the equivalence class of $\{x_i\}$. Furthermore $||A|| \leq k$.

PROOF. Let $\{x_i\}$ be a positive convergent k-bounded φ -central sequence in $\mathscr Q$ with $k < \infty$. Denote $\lim_{i \to \infty} \varphi \cdot y(x_i x) = \psi(y, x)$. It is easily seen that

- (i) ψ is bilinear on $\mathfrak{A} \times \mathfrak{A}$.
- (ii) $\psi(y^*, y) = \lim_{i \to \infty} \varphi(y^*x_iy) > 0$ and $\psi(y^*, y) = \lim_{i \to \infty} \varphi(y^*x_iy) \le k\varphi(y^*y)$.

Define a positive semidefinite sesquilinear functional on $H_{\omega} \times H_{\omega}$ by

$$\phi(\pi_m(x)f_m, \pi_m(y)f_m) = \psi(y^*, x) \quad \text{for } x, y \in \mathcal{C}.$$

It is also bicontinuous. In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \phi \big(\pi_{\varphi}(x) f_{\varphi}, \, \pi_{\varphi}(y) f_{\varphi} \big) \right| &= \lim_{i \to \infty} \left| \varphi(y^* x_i x) \right| \leq \lim_{i \to \infty} \varphi(y^* x_i y)^{1/2} \varphi(x x_i x)^{1/2} \\ &\leq \lim_{i \to \infty} k \varphi(y^* y)^{1/2} \varphi(x^* x)^{1/2} = k \| \pi_{\varphi}(x) f_{\varphi} \| \| \pi_{\varphi}(y) f_{\varphi} \|. \end{aligned}$$

By Riesz's representation theorem [9, p. 90], there exists an operator A in $B(\mathcal{K}_{\varphi})$ such that

$$\langle A\pi_{\varphi}(x)f_{\varphi}, \pi_{\varphi}(y)f_{\varphi} \rangle = \psi(y^*, x) = \lim_{i \to \infty} \varphi(y^*x_i x)$$

$$= \lim_{i \to \infty} \langle \pi_{\varphi}(x_i)\pi_{\varphi}(x)f_{\varphi}, \pi_{\varphi}(y)f_{\varphi} \rangle.$$

Hence $\pi_{\varphi}(x_i)$ converges to A in weak operator topology, and $A \in R$. It is also clear that A is positive and $||A|| \le k$.

Since $\psi(y, x) = \lim_{i \to \infty} \varphi \cdot y(x_i x) = \lim_{i \to \infty} \varphi \cdot y(x x_i) = \lim_{i \to \infty} \varphi(y x x_i) = \psi(y x, 1), (x, y \in \mathcal{C})$, we have

$$\psi(y^*, xz) = \psi(y^*xz, 1) = \psi(y^*x, z) = \psi((x^*y)^*, z),$$

which is the same as

$$\left\langle A\pi_{\varphi}(x)\pi_{\varphi}(z)f_{\varphi}, \, \pi_{\varphi}(y)f_{\varphi} \right\rangle = \left\langle A\pi_{\varphi}(z)f_{\varphi}, \, \pi_{\varphi}(x)^{*}\pi_{\varphi}(y)f_{\varphi} \right\rangle$$

$$= \left\langle \pi_{\varphi}(x)A\pi_{\varphi}(z)f_{\varphi}, \, \pi_{\varphi}(y)f_{\varphi} \right\rangle$$

for all x, y, z in \mathcal{C} . Hence $A\pi_{m}(x) = \pi_{m}(x)A$, $(x \in \mathcal{C})$, and $A \in \mathfrak{T}^{+}(\mathfrak{R})$. Q.E.D.

The above proof is analogous to the proof of the theorem that pure states are those states inducing an irreducible representation in GNS construction [7].

1.4. Theorem. φ is a factor state if and only if all bounded positive convergent φ -central sequences are equivalent to trivial sequences.

PROOF. It follows evidently from 1.2 and 1.3. Q.E.D.

2. Extension of factor states. The usefulness of the above characterization of factor states can be illustrated in the study of the possibility for factorial extensions of a factor state from a sub- C^* -algebra to the C^* -algebra containing it.

Let $\mathfrak B$ be a sub- C^* -algebra of a C^* -algebra $\mathfrak C$ and φ be a state on $\mathfrak B$. The state space of $\mathfrak C$ is denoted by $S(\mathfrak C)$ and $\mathcal K_{\varphi} = \{\psi \in S(\mathfrak C) | \psi|_{\mathfrak B} = \varphi\}$. $\mathcal K_{\varphi}$ is a weak* compact convex subset of $\mathfrak C^*$, and it is always nonempty [2, 2.10.1]. By the Krein-Milman Theorem we can assume the existence of an extreme point, ψ_0 , in $\mathcal K_{\varpi}$.

2.1. DEFINITION. Let $\{x_i\}$ be a φ -central sequence in \mathcal{C} and $\{y_i\}$ be a φ -central sequence in \mathcal{C} . $\{y_i\}$ is called a restriction of $\{x_i\}$ in \mathcal{C} if

$$\lim_{i \to \infty} \left[\varphi \cdot y(x_i) - \varphi \cdot y(y_i) \right] = 0 \quad \text{for all } y \text{ in } \mathfrak{B}.$$

2.2. PROPOSITION. Suppose φ is a factor state. ψ_0 , an extreme point in \mathcal{K}_{φ} , is a factor state if every bounded positive ψ_0 -central sequence in \mathcal{R} has a restriction in \mathcal{B} which is bounded positive and convergent.

PROOF. Let $\{\pi_{\psi_0}, \mathcal{H}_{\psi_0}\}$ be the GNS representation induced by ψ_0 and f_{ψ_0} be the cyclic vector of $\pi_{\psi_0}(\mathcal{C})$. Without loss of generality we may let $\{x_i\}$ be a 1-bounded positive convergent ψ_0 -central sequence in \mathcal{C} , with $\lim_{i\to\infty}\psi_0(x_i)=\lambda>0$, and A be the element in $\mathcal{Z}^+(\pi_{\psi_0}(\mathcal{C})'')$ determining $\{x_i\}$ by Propositions 1.2 and 1.3. By the assumption, there exists a bounded positive convergent φ -central sequence $\{z_i|z_i\in\mathfrak{B}\}$ that is a restriction of $\{x_i\}$ in \mathfrak{B} . Since φ is a factor state on \mathfrak{B} , it follows from Theorem 1.4 that $\{z_i\}$ is equivalent to a trivial sequence $\{\lambda_i\}$ with $\lim_{i\to\infty}\varphi(z_i)=\lim_{i\to\infty}\lambda_i=\lambda\leqslant 1$.

Consider a positive linear functional on $\mathscr Q$ defined by $\psi_A(x) = \langle A\pi_{\psi_0}(x)f_{\psi_0}, f_{\psi_0} \rangle$ for x in $\mathscr Q$. It is clear that $\psi_A \leq \psi_0$. For z in $\mathscr Q$ we have

$$\psi_{A}(z) = \lim_{i \to \infty} \psi_{0}(x_{i}z) = \lim_{i \to \infty} \psi_{0}(zx_{i}) = \lim_{i \to \infty} \psi_{0}(zz_{i})$$
$$= \lim_{i \to \infty} \psi_{0}(z\lambda_{i}) = \lambda \psi_{0}(z) = \lambda \varphi(z).$$

Hence ψ_A/λ is a state which extends φ . If $\lambda = 1$, it follows from $\psi_0 - \psi_A > 0$ and $(\psi_0 - \psi_A)(I) = 0$ that $||\psi_0 - \psi_A|| = 0$. Hence $\psi_0 = \psi_A$, and A = I. If $\lambda < 1$, then

$$\psi_0 = \lambda \left(\frac{1}{\lambda}\psi_A\right) + (1-\lambda)\left(\frac{1}{1-\lambda}\{\psi_0 - \psi_A\}\right).$$

Thus $\psi_0 = \psi_A/\lambda$ because ψ_0 is extremal in \mathcal{K}_{φ} . This implies that $\lim_{i \to \infty} \psi_0(xx_i) = \lambda \psi_0(x)$ for all x in \mathcal{C} , namely, $\{x_i\}$ is equivalent to a trivial sequence $\{\lambda_i | \lambda_i = \lambda\}$ in \mathcal{C} . Therefore, by Theorem 1.4, ψ_0 is a factor state. Q.E.D.

In what follows, let M_n be the $n \times n$ full matrix algebra (over the complex field). Suppose that M_n is a sub- C^* -algebra of C^* -algebra \mathcal{C} , and let $\mathcal{C} = M_n^c$, the commutant of M_n in \mathcal{C} (i.e., $\mathcal{C} = \{x \in \mathcal{C} | xy = yx \text{ for all } y \text{ in } M_n\}$).

2.3. Theorem. Every factor state φ of \mathfrak{B} extends to a factor state on \mathfrak{A} .

PROOF. Let ψ_0 be an extreme point in \mathcal{K}_{φ} , $\{x_i\}$ be a bounded positive convergent ψ_0 -central sequence, and A be the element in $\mathcal{Z}(\pi_{\psi_0}(\mathcal{C})'')$ determining $\{x_i\}$. We denote the matrix units of M_n by $\{e_{rs}|r,s=1,\ldots,n\}$.

For any x, y in \mathfrak{B} and r with $1 \le r \le n$ we have

$$\lim_{i \to \infty} \psi_0 \cdot y(e_{r_1} x_i e_{1r} x) = \lim_{i \to \infty} \psi_0 \cdot y(x e_{r_1} x_i e_{1r}). \tag{3}$$

Letting $\hat{x}_i = \sum_{r=1}^n e_{r1} x_i e_{1r}$, i = 1, 2, ..., we derive from (3) that, for any x, y in \mathfrak{B} ,

$$\lim_{i \to \infty} \psi_0 \cdot y(x\hat{x}_i) = \lim_{i \to \infty} \psi_0 \cdot y(\hat{x}_i x). \tag{4}$$

On the other hand, since A determines $\{x_i\}$, by Proposition 1.2 we have, for x, y in \mathfrak{B} and r = 1, 2, ..., n,

$$\lim_{i \to \infty} \psi_0 \cdot y(e_{r_1} x_i e_{1r} x) = \left\langle A \pi_{\psi_0}(e_{1r} x) f_{\psi_0}, \pi_{\psi_0}(e_{1r} y^*) f_{\psi_0} \right\rangle$$

$$= \left\langle A \pi_{\psi_0}(e_{r_1} e_{1r} x) f_{\psi_0}, \pi_{\psi_0}(y^*) f_{\psi_0} \right\rangle$$

$$= \left\langle A \pi_{\psi_0}(e_{r_1} x) f_{\psi_0}, \pi_{\psi_0}(y^*) f_{\psi_0} \right\rangle. \tag{5}$$

It follows from (5) that, for x, y in \mathfrak{B} , we have

$$\lim_{i \to \infty} \psi_0 \cdot y(\hat{x}_i x) = \left\langle A \pi_{\psi_0}(x) f_{\psi_0}, \pi_{\psi_0}(y^*) f_{\psi_0} \right\rangle = \lim_{i \to \infty} \psi_0 \cdot y(x_i x). \tag{6}$$

It is easy to see that \hat{x}_i 's are in $M_n^c = \mathfrak{B}$. It follows from (4), (6) and $\|\pi_{\psi_0}(\hat{x}_i)\| \le \|\pi_{\psi_0}(x_i)\|$ that $\{\hat{x}_i\}$ is a bounded positive convergent ψ_0 -central sequence in \mathfrak{B} which is a restriction of $\{x_i\}$. By Proposition 2.2 ψ_0 is a factor state. Q.E.D.

2.4. REMARK. Let \mathcal{C}_1 be a finite dimensional sub- C^* -algebra of \mathcal{C} , namely, $\mathcal{C}_1 = \sum_{j=1}^k \bigoplus M_{n_j}$. Denote the commutant of \mathcal{C}_1 in \mathcal{C} by \mathfrak{B} . The proof of Theorem 2.3 can be slightly generalized to show that every factor state on \mathfrak{B} extends to a factor state on \mathcal{C} . In fact, redefining \hat{x}_i in the proof of Theorem 2.3 by

$$\hat{x}_i = \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{r=1}^{n_j} e_{r1}^j e_{1r}^j,$$

where $\{e_{rh}^j\}_{r,h=1}^{n_j}$ are the matrix units of M_{n_j} , and replacing the e_{r1} in conditions (3) and (5) of the proof of Theorem 2.3 by e_{r1}^j for $r=1,2,\ldots,n_j$ and $j=1,\ldots,k$, we can prove the above assertion by the same argument as in Theorem 2.3.

2.5. Remark. Let P be a projection mapping of $\mathscr C$ onto $\mathscr B$ of norm one. Due to [8, §3], P is always completely positive. Suppose that φ is a factor state on $\mathscr B$, and ψ_0 is an extreme point in $\mathscr K_{\varphi}$ such that $\psi_0 = \varphi \circ P$. For any bounded positive convergent ψ_0 -central sequence $\{x_n\}$ in $\mathscr C$, we have

$$\lim_{n\to\infty} |\psi_0(yx_nx) - \psi_0(yxx_n)| = 0 \quad \text{for } x, y \text{ in } \mathcal{C}.$$

In particular, if x, y are in \mathfrak{B} we have

$$\begin{cases} \lim_{n \to \infty} |\varphi(yP(x_n)x) - \varphi(yxP(x_n))| = 0, \\ \lim_{n \to \infty} |\varphi \circ P(yx_n) - \varphi \circ P(yP(x_n))| = 0. \end{cases}$$
 (7)

It follows from (7) that $\{P(x_n)\}$ is a bounded positive convergent ψ_0 -central sequence in $\mathfrak B$ which is a restriction of $\{x_n\}$ in $\mathfrak B$. By Proposition 2.2 ψ_0 is a factor state. If one considers $\mathbb S_{\varphi} = \{\varphi \circ P | P = \text{projection mapping of } A \text{ onto } \mathfrak B \text{ of norm one}\}$, it would be interesting to determine if the extreme points in $\mathbb S_{\varphi}$, when they exist, are factor states on $\mathfrak C$.

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