

# Differences of Idempotents in $C^*$ -algebras and the Quantum Hall Effect. II. Unbounded Idempotents

A. M. Bikhentaev<sup>1\*</sup> and Mahmoud Khadour<sup>1\*\*</sup>

(Submitted by E. A. Turilova)

<sup>1</sup>Lobachevskii Institute of Mathematics and Mechanics, Kazan Federal University, Kazan, 420008 Russia

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**Abstract**—Let a von Neumann algebra  $\mathcal{M}$  of operators act on a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ ,  $I$  be the unit of  $\mathcal{M}$ ,  $\tau$  be a faithful semifinite normal trace on  $\mathcal{M}$ . Let  $S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  be the  $*$ -algebra of all  $\tau$ -measurable operators and  $L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  be the Banach space of all  $\tau$ -integrable operators,  $P, Q \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  be idempotents. If  $P - Q \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  then  $\tau(P - Q) \in \mathbb{R}$ . In particular, if  $A = A^3 \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , then  $\tau(A) \in \mathbb{R}$ . If  $P - Q \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $PQ \in \mathcal{M}$ , then for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have  $(P - Q)^{2n+1} \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $\tau((P - Q)^{2n+1}) = \tau(P - Q) \in \mathbb{R}$ . If  $A \in L_2(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $U \in \mathcal{M}$  is an isometry, then  $\|UA - A\|_2^2 \leq 2\|(I - U)AA^*\|_1$ .

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $P$  and  $Q$  be idempotents on a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ . If  $X = P - Q$  is a trace-class operator, then the traces of all odd powers of  $X$  coincide:

$$\operatorname{tr}(P - Q) = \operatorname{tr}((P - Q)^{2n+1}) = \dim \ker(X - I) - \dim \ker(X + I) \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad (1)$$

where  $I$  is the identity operator on  $\mathcal{H}$ . If  $X$  is a compact operator, then the right-hand side of (1) yields a natural “regularization” for the trace and shows that it is always an integer [1, 2]. In [3, Theorem 3] we established a  $C^*$  analogue of this statement: let  $\varphi$  be a trace on a unital  $C^*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ , let  $\mathfrak{M}_\varphi$  be the definition ideal of the trace  $\varphi$  and consider tripotents  $P, Q \in \mathcal{A}$ . If  $P - Q \in \mathfrak{M}_\varphi$ , then  $\varphi(P - Q) \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Pairs of idempotents play an important role in the quantum Hall effect [4]. For idempotents  $P, Q$ , and  $R$  with the trace-class operators  $P - Q$  and  $Q - R$ , from the equality  $\operatorname{tr}(P - Q) = \operatorname{tr}(P - R) + \operatorname{tr}(R - Q)$  and (1), we obtain

$$\operatorname{tr}((P - Q)^3) = \operatorname{tr}((P - R)^3) + \operatorname{tr}((R - Q)^3). \quad (2)$$

The physical meaning of the additivity in Eq. (2) comes from the interpretation of  $\operatorname{tr}((P - Q)^3)$  as *the Hall conductance*. The additivity (cubic) Eq. (2) can be considered as a variant of the Ohm’s law for the additivity of conductivity [5]. In [6, Theorem 1] we established a  $C^*$  analogue of the quantum Hall effect and proved the reality of trace of differences of wide class of symmetries from a unital  $C^*$ -algebra (see Corollaries 2 and 3 in [6]).

We generalize these results to unbounded idempotents, tripotents, and symmetries, affiliated to a von Neumann algebra (examples of such operators see in [7]). Let a von Neumann algebra  $\mathcal{M}$  of operators act on a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ , let  $\tau$  be a faithful normal semifinite trace on  $\mathcal{M}$ . Let  $S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  be the  $*$ -algebra of all  $\tau$ -measurable operators,  $S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{\operatorname{id}} = \{A \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau) : A = A^2\}$ , and let  $L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  be

\*E-mail: [Airat.Bikhentaev@kpfu.ru](mailto:Airat.Bikhentaev@kpfu.ru)

\*\*E-mail: [mahmoud.khadour.991@gmail.com](mailto:mahmoud.khadour.991@gmail.com)

the Banach space of all  $\tau$ -integrable operators. This paper continues the investigations of properties of  $\tau$ -measurable operators, started in [7] and is an English translation of the Russian-language paper [8]. We obtain the following results: If  $P, Q \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{\text{id}}$  and  $P - Q \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , then  $\tau(P - Q) \in \mathbb{R}$  (Theorem 1). If  $A = A^3 \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , then  $\tau(A) \in \mathbb{R}$  (Corollary 1). Let  $A, B \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  be tripotents. If  $A - B \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $A + B \in \mathcal{M}$ , then  $\tau(A - B) \in \mathbb{R}$  (Corollary 2). Let  $U, V \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  be symmetries ( $U^2 = I$ ). If  $U - V \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , then  $\tau(U - V) \in \mathbb{R}$  (Corollary 4). Let  $P, Q \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{\text{id}}$  with  $P - Q \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $PQ \in \mathcal{M}$ . Then, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have  $(P - Q)^{2n+1} \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $\tau((P - Q)^{2n+1}) = \tau(P - Q) \in \mathbb{R}$  (Theorem 2). If  $P, Q, R \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{\text{id}}$  with  $P - Q, Q - R \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and operators  $PQ, QR, PR$  lie in  $\mathcal{M}$ , then  $\tau((P - R)^{2n+1}) = \tau((P - Q)^{2n+1}) + \tau((Q - R)^{2n+1})$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  (Corollary 6). If  $A = A^2 \in L_2(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $\text{Re}(A) \geq sA^*A - (s - 1)AA^*$  for some  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $A$  is a projection (Corollary 9). If  $A \in L_2(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $U \in \mathcal{M}$  is a isometry, then  $\|UA - A\|_2^2 \leq 2\|(I - U)AA^*\|_1$  (Theorem 5).

## 2. NOTATION AND DEFINITIONS

Let a von Neumann algebra  $\mathcal{M}$  of operators act on a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ ,  $I$  be the unit of  $\mathcal{M}$ , let  $\mathcal{M}^{\text{pr}}$  be the lattice of projections ( $P = P^2 = P^*$ ) in  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $P^\perp = I - P$  for  $P \in \mathcal{M}^{\text{pr}}$ , let  $\mathcal{M}^+$  be the cone of all positive operators in  $\mathcal{M}$ . An operator  $U \in \mathcal{M}$  is called an *isometry*, if  $U^*U = I$ ; *unitary*, if  $U^*U = UU^* = I$ .

A mapping  $\varphi : \mathcal{M}^+ \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$  is called a *trace*, if  $\varphi(X + Y) = \varphi(X) + \varphi(Y)$ ,  $\varphi(\lambda X) = \lambda\varphi(X)$  for all  $X, Y \in \mathcal{M}^+$ ,  $\lambda \geq 0$  (moreover,  $0 \cdot (+\infty) \equiv 0$ );  $\varphi(Z^*Z) = \varphi(ZZ^*)$  for all  $Z \in \mathcal{M}$ . A trace  $\varphi$  is called (see [9, Chap. V, § 2])

- *faithful*, if  $\varphi(X) > 0$  for all  $X \in \mathcal{M}^+$ ,  $X \neq 0$ ;
- *normal*, if  $X_i \uparrow X$  ( $X_i, X \in \mathcal{M}^+$ )  $\Rightarrow \varphi(X) = \sup \varphi(X_i)$ ;
- *semifinite*, if  $\varphi(X) = \sup\{\varphi(Y) : Y \in \mathcal{M}^+, Y \leq X, \varphi(Y) < +\infty\}$  for every  $X \in \mathcal{M}^+$ .

An operator on  $\mathcal{H}$  (not necessarily bounded or densely defined) is said to be *affiliated to the von Neumann algebra*  $\mathcal{M}$  if it commutes with any unitary operator from the commutant  $\mathcal{M}'$  of the algebra  $\mathcal{M}$ . Let  $\tau$  be a faithful normal semifinite trace on  $\mathcal{M}$ . A closed operator  $X$ , affiliated to  $\mathcal{M}$  and possessing a domain  $\mathfrak{D}(X)$  everywhere dense in  $\mathcal{H}$  is said to be  $\tau$ -*measurable* if, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a projection  $P \in \mathcal{M}^{\text{pr}}$  such that  $P\mathcal{H} \subset \mathfrak{D}(X)$  and  $\tau(P^\perp) < \varepsilon$ . The set  $S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  of all  $\tau$ -measurable operators is a  $*$ -algebra under passage to the adjoint operator, multiplication by a scalar, and operations of strong addition and multiplication resulting from the closure of the ordinary operations [10, Chap. IX].

Let  $\mathcal{L}^+$  and  $\mathcal{L}^{\text{h}}$  denote the positive and Hermitian parts of a family  $\mathcal{L} \subset S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , respectively. We denote by  $\leq$  the partial order in  $S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{\text{h}}$  generated by its proper cone  $S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^+$ . If  $X \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $X = U|X|$  is the polar decomposition of  $X$ , then  $U \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $|X| = \sqrt{X^*X} \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^+$ .

An operator  $A \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  is called an *idempotent*, if  $A^2 = A$ ; a *tripotent*, if  $A^3 = A$ ; a *symmetry*, if  $A^2 = I$ . Denote by  $[A, B] = AB - BA$  the commutator of operators  $A, B \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ .

The generalized singular value function  $\mu(\cdot; X) : t \rightarrow \mu(t; X)$  of the operator  $X$  is defined by setting

$$\mu(t; X) = \inf\{\|XP\| : P \in \mathcal{M}^{\text{pr}} \text{ and } \tau(P^\perp) \leq t\}, \quad t > 0.$$

It is a non-increasing right-continuous function, and if  $A \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{\text{id}}$ , then  $\mu(t; A) \in \{0\} \cup [1, +\infty)$  for all  $t > 0$  [11, Theorem 3.3].

Let  $m$  be the linear Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Noncommutative Lebesgue  $L_p$ -space ( $0 < p < \infty$ ), associated with  $(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , may be defined as

$$L_p(\mathcal{M}, \tau) = \{X \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau) : \mu(\cdot; X) \in L_p(\mathbb{R}^+, m)\}$$

with the  $F$ -norm (norm for  $1 \leq p < \infty$ )  $\|X\|_p = \|\mu(\cdot; X)\|_p$ ,  $X \in L_p(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . The extension of  $\tau$  to the unique linear functional on the whole space  $L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  we denote by the same letter  $\tau$ . A linear subspace  $\mathcal{E} \subset S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  is called an *ideal space* on  $(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , if

1.  $X \in \mathcal{E} \Rightarrow X^* \in \mathcal{E}$ ;

2.  $X \in \mathcal{E}, Y \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $|Y| \leq |X| \Rightarrow Y \in \mathcal{E}$ .

Such are, for example, the algebra  $\mathcal{M}$ , the collection of all elementary operators  $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $L_p(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  for  $0 < p < \infty$ . For every ideal space  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  we have  $\mathcal{M}\mathcal{E}\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{E}$  [12, Lemma 5]. An ideal space  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , equipped with an  $F$ -norm  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{E}}$ , is called an  $F$ -normed ideal space on  $(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , if

1.  $\|X\|_{\mathcal{E}} = \|X^*\|_{\mathcal{E}}$  for all  $X \in \mathcal{E}$ ;
2.  $X, Y \in \mathcal{E}$  and  $|Y| \leq |X| \Rightarrow \|Y\|_{\mathcal{E}} \leq \|X\|_{\mathcal{E}}$  (see [13, 14]).

If  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , the  $*$ -algebra of all bounded linear operators on  $\mathcal{H}$ , and  $\tau = \text{tr}$  is the canonical trace, then  $S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  coincides with  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , the space  $L_p(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  coincides with the Shatten–von Neumann  $*$ -ideal  $\mathfrak{S}_p(\mathcal{H})$  of compact operators in  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and

$$\mu(t; X) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} s_n(X) \chi_{[n-1, n)}(t), \quad t > 0,$$

where  $\{s_n(X)\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is the sequence of  $s$ -numbers of the operator  $X$ ;  $\chi_A$  is the indicator function of the set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

If  $\mathcal{M}$  is Abelian (i.e., commutative), then  $\mathcal{M} \simeq L^{\infty}(\Omega, \Sigma, \nu)$  and  $\tau(f) = \int_{\Omega} f d\nu$ , where  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \nu)$  is a localized measure space, the  $*$ -algebra  $S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  coincides with the algebra of all complex measurable functions  $f$  on  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \nu)$ , bounded everywhere but for a set of finite measure. The function  $\mu(t; f)$  coincides with the nonincreasing rearrangement of the function  $|f|$ ; see properties of such rearrangements in [15].

### 3. DIFFERENCES OF UNBOUNDED IDEMPOTENTS AND A TRACE

**Lemma 1** ([10], Chap. IX, Theorem 2.13). *If  $A \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $B \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , then  $AB, BA \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ .*

**Lemma 2** [16]. *If  $A, B \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $AB, BA \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , then  $\tau(AB) = \tau(BA)$ .*

**Lemma 3** ([17], Theorem 2.23). *For every  $P = P^2 \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  there exists the unique representation  $P = \tilde{P} + Z$ , where  $\tilde{P} \in \mathcal{M}^{pr}$  and a nilpotent  $Z$  belongs to  $S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  with  $Z^2 = 0$ , moreover,  $Z\tilde{P} = 0, \tilde{P}Z = Z$ .*

**Theorem 1.** *If  $P, Q \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{id}$  and  $P - Q \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , then  $\tau(P - Q) \in \mathbb{R}$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $P = \tilde{P} + Z, Q = \tilde{Q} + T$  be representations of Lemma 3 for  $P, Q \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{id}$ . By Lemma 1, we have

$$\tilde{P} - \tilde{Q}\tilde{P} = (P - Q)\tilde{P} - \tilde{Q}(P - Q)\tilde{P} \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau).$$

It can be analogously be verified that  $\tilde{Q} - \tilde{P}\tilde{Q} \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . Therefore,

$$\tilde{P} - \tilde{Q} = \tilde{P} - \tilde{Q}\tilde{P} - (\tilde{Q} - \tilde{P}\tilde{Q})^* \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$$

and  $Z - T = P - Q - (\tilde{P} - \tilde{Q}) \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . According Lemma 1 operators

$$T\tilde{P} = (T - Z)\tilde{P}, \quad Z\tilde{Q} = (Z - T)\tilde{Q}, \quad Z - \tilde{P}T = \tilde{P}(Z - T), \quad \tilde{Q}Z - T = \tilde{Q}(Z - T)$$

lie in  $L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , hence,  $\tilde{Q}Z - \tilde{P}T = Z - \tilde{P}T + (\tilde{Q}Z - T) - (Z - T) \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . Therefore,

$$\tilde{P}T - T = \tilde{Q}Z - T - (\tilde{Q}Z - \tilde{P}T) \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau).$$

By Lemmas 1 and 2, we have  $0 = \tau([Z - T, \tilde{Q}]) = \tau(Z\tilde{Q} - \tilde{Q}Z + T)$ . Since the operators

$$(\tilde{P} - \tilde{Q})T = \tilde{P}T - T, \quad T(\tilde{P} - \tilde{Q}) = T\tilde{P}$$

lie in  $L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , by Lemma 2, with  $A = \tilde{P} - \tilde{Q}, B = T$  we obtain

$$\tau(\tilde{P}T - T) = \tau(T\tilde{P}). \quad (3)$$

Since  $0 = \tau([Z - T, \tilde{P}]) = \tau(-T\tilde{P} - Z + \tilde{P}T)$ , from (3) we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \tau(-T + \tilde{P}T - T\tilde{P}) = \tau(Z - T + (-Z + \tilde{P}T - T\tilde{P})) \\ &= \tau(Z - T) + \tau(-Z + \tilde{P}T - T\tilde{P}) = \tau(Z - T). \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\tau(P - Q) = \tau(\tilde{P} - \tilde{Q}) + \tau(Z - T) = \tau(\tilde{P} - \tilde{Q}) \in \mathbb{R}$ , since the operator  $\tilde{P} - \tilde{Q}$  is selfadjoint.  $\square$

**Corollary 1.** *If  $A = A^3 \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , then  $\tau(A) \in \mathbb{R}$ .*

**Proof.** Every tripotent ( $A = A^3$ ) from an arbitrary algebra is the difference of two idempotents from this algebra [18, Proposition 1].  $\square$

Note that Corollary 1 simultaneously reinforces both Corollary 2.31 from [17] (here we get rid of superfluous condition  $A - A^2 \in \mathcal{M}$ ) and Corollary 3.13 from [7] (here we get rid of superfluous condition  $A^2 \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ ).

**Corollary 2.** *Assume that  $A, B \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  are tripotents. If  $A - B \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $A + B \in \mathcal{M}$ , then  $\tau(A - B) \in \mathbb{R}$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $A = P_1 - Q_1, B = P_2 - Q_2$  be the representations from [18, Proposition 1], i.e.  $P_k, Q_k \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{\text{id}}$  and  $P_k Q_k = Q_k P_k = 0$  for  $k = 1, 2$ . It seems clear that the operators  $A^2 = P_1 + Q_1$  and  $B^2 = P_2 + Q_2$  lie in  $S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{\text{id}}$ . Since the operator  $A - B = P_1 - Q_1 - P_2 + Q_2$  lies in  $L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , by Lemma 1, the operator

$$A^2 - B^2 = \frac{1}{2}((A + B)(A - B) + (A - B)(A + B)) = P_1 + Q_1 - P_2 - Q_2$$

also lies in  $L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . Then, the operators

$$P_1 - P_2 = \frac{1}{2}(A - B + A^2 - B^2), \quad Q_2 - Q_1 = \frac{1}{2}(A - B - (A^2 - B^2))$$

belong to  $L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $\tau(P_1 - P_2), \tau(Q_2 - Q_1) \in \mathbb{R}$  according to Theorem 1. Thus,

$$\tau(A - B) = \tau(P_1 - Q_1 - P_2 + Q_2) = \tau(P_1 - P_2) + \tau(Q_2 - Q_1) \in \mathbb{R}$$

and the assertion is proved.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.** *Let  $P \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{\text{id}}$  and  $P = \tilde{P} + Z$  be representation of Lemma 3. We have the equivalence*

$$P \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau) \iff \tilde{P}, Z \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau),$$

and in this case  $\tau(P) = \tau(\tilde{P}) = \tau(\sqrt{|P|}|P^*|\sqrt{|P|}) = \tau(P^*) \in \mathbb{R}^+$ .

**Proof.** If  $P \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , then  $P\tilde{P} = \tilde{P} \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , by Lemma 1, and the operator  $Z = P - \tilde{P}$  lies in  $L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . From Theorem 1 for  $Q = 0$ , we obtain  $\tau(P) = \tau(\tilde{P})$ ; hence,  $\tau(Z) = \tau(P - \tilde{P}) = 0$ . We have  $P = |P^*||P|$  [7, Theorem 3.3] and  $\tau(P) = \tau(\sqrt{|P|}|P^*|\sqrt{|P|})$  [7, Corollary 3.4]. In particular,  $\tau(P^*) = \overline{\tau(P)} = \tau(\tilde{P}) = \tau(P) \in \mathbb{R}^+$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 4.** *Let  $U, V \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  be symmetries. If  $U - V \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , then  $\tau(U - V) \in \mathbb{R}$ .*

**Proof.** The formula  $U = 2P - I$  ( $P \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{\text{id}}$ ) establishes a bijection between  $S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{\text{id}}$  and the set of all symmetries from  $S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 5.** *Let  $\tau(I) < +\infty$  and  $P, Q \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{\text{id}}$ . If  $P + Q \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , then  $\tau(P + Q) = \tau(\tilde{P}) + \tau\left(\left(\tilde{Q}^\perp\right)^\perp\right) = \tau(\tilde{P}) + \tau(\tilde{Q}) \in \mathbb{R}^+$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $P + Q - I = P - Q^\perp \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , by Theorem 1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tau(P + Q) &= \tau(P + Q - I) + \tau(I) = \tau(P - Q^\perp) + \tau(I) \\ &= \tau\left(\tilde{P} - \left(\tilde{Q}^\perp\right)^\perp\right) + \tau(I) = \tau(\tilde{P}) + \tau\left(I - \left(\tilde{Q}^\perp\right)^\perp\right) = \tau(\tilde{P}) + \tau\left(\left(\tilde{Q}^\perp\right)^\perp\right) \in \mathbb{R}^+. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,  $\tilde{P} + \tilde{Q} \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , so,  $Z + T = P + Q - (\tilde{P} + \tilde{Q}) \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . Then, the operators

$$T\tilde{P} = (Z + T)\tilde{P}, \quad Z\tilde{Q} = (Z + T)\tilde{Q}, \quad Z + \tilde{P}T = \tilde{P}(Z + T), \quad T + \tilde{Q}Z = \tilde{Q}(Z + T)$$

lie in  $L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . Therefore,

$$\tilde{Q}Z + \tilde{P}T = (Z + \tilde{P}T) + (\tilde{Q}Z + T) - (Z + T) \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$$

and  $\tilde{P}T - T = (\tilde{Q}Z + \tilde{P}T) - (\tilde{Q}Z + T) \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . Since  $(\tilde{P} - \tilde{Q})T = \tilde{P}T - T \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $T(\tilde{P} - \tilde{Q}) = T\tilde{P} \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , equation (3) holds true via Lemma 2 with  $A = \tilde{P} - \tilde{Q}$ ,  $B = T$ . Hence,

$$\tau(Z + \tilde{P}T) = \tau(\tilde{P}(Z + T)) = \tau((Z + T)\tilde{P}) = \tau(T\tilde{P}) = \tau(\tilde{P}T - T)$$

according to Lemma 2 with  $A = \tilde{P}$ ,  $B = Z + T$  and  $\tau(Z + \tilde{P}T - (\tilde{P}T - T)) = \tau(Z + T) = 0$ . Thus,  $\tau(P + Q) = \tau(\tilde{P}) + \tau(\tilde{Q})$  and  $\tau\left(\left(\tilde{Q}^\perp\right)^\perp\right) = \tau(\tilde{Q})$ .  $\square$

**Example 1.** Let  $\tau(I) < +\infty$  and an idempotent  $P \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{\text{id}}$  be represented as the sum  $P = \tilde{P} + Z$  by Lemma 3. Since  $\tilde{P} \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , we have  $P \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau) \Leftrightarrow Z \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . Examples of such unbounded idempotents are [7, Example 3.2] and [17, Example 2.4]. Let  $Z \notin L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $Q = P^\perp$ . Then,  $P + Q = I \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , but  $\{P, Q\} \cap L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau) = \emptyset$  (cf. with item (ii) of Lemma 3 from [19]).

**Theorem 2.** Let  $P, Q \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{\text{id}}$  with  $P - Q \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $PQ \in \mathcal{M}$ . Then, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have  $(P - Q)^{2n+1} \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $\tau((P - Q)^{2n+1}) = \tau(P - Q) \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Proof.** We may easily verify by induction that

$$(P - Q)^{2n+1} = P - Q + \lambda_1(PQP - QPQ) + \cdots + \lambda_n(\underbrace{PQP \cdots QP}_{2n+1} - \underbrace{QPQ \cdots PQ}_{2n+1})$$

with some  $\lambda_k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , see step 1 of the proof of Theorem 1 from [6]. By Lemma 1, the operators  $PQP - QPQ = PQ(P - Q) + (P - Q)PQ$  and  $PQ - QPQ = (P - Q)PQ$  lie in  $L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . Since  $\tau([P - Q, PQ]) = 0$ , see Lemma 2, we have

$$\tau(PQP - QPQ) = \tau(PQP - QPQ + [P - Q, PQ]) = \tau(PQ - OPQ). \quad (4)$$

For operators  $A = PQ$ ,  $B = P - QP$  we have  $AB = 0 \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $BA = PQ - OPQ \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . Therefore,  $0 = \tau(0) = \tau(AB) = \tau(BA)$  via Lemma 2. Thus, from (4) we obtain  $\tau(PQP - QPQ) = 0$ . Now, we apply the mathematical induction. Consider a number  $n \geq 2$  and an operator

$$X := \underbrace{PQP \cdots QP}_{2n-1} - \underbrace{QPQ \cdots PQ}_{2n-1} \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$$

with  $\tau(X) = 0$ . Then, the operators

$$\underbrace{PQP \cdots QP}_{2n+1} - \underbrace{PQP \cdots PQ}_{2n} = PQ \cdot X, \quad Y := \underbrace{PQP \cdots QP}_{2n+1} - \underbrace{QPQ \cdots PQ}_{2n+1} = PQ \cdot X + X \cdot PQ$$

lie in  $L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  according to Lemma 1. For the operators

$$A_1 := PQ, \quad B_1 := \underbrace{PQP \cdots QP}_{2n-1} - \underbrace{QPQ \cdots QP}_{2n}$$

we have  $A_1B_1 = 0 \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and

$$B_1A_1 = \underbrace{PQP \cdots PQ}_{2n} - \underbrace{QPQ \cdots PQ}_{2n+1} = X \cdot PQ \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau).$$

Therefore,  $\tau(B_1A_1) = \tau(A_1B_1) = \tau(0) = 0$  by Lemma 2. Thus,

$$\tau(Y) = \tau(Y + B_1A_1) = \tau(\underbrace{PQP \cdots QP}_{2n+1} - \underbrace{PQP \cdots PQ}_{2n}).$$

Since  $(PQ)^n \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $P - Q \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , the operator

$$Z := [(PQ)^n, P - Q] = \underbrace{PQP \cdots QP}_{2n+1} - 2 \underbrace{PQP \cdots PQ}_{2n} + \underbrace{QPQ \cdots PQ}_{2n+1}$$

belongs to  $L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . Hence,  $\tau(Z) = 0$  via Lemma 2 with  $A_2 = (PQ)^n$  and  $B_2 = P - Q$ . Since  $0 = \tau(Z) = \tau(Y - B_1A_1)$  and  $\tau(B_1A_1) = 0$ , we have  $\tau(Y) = 0$ . Now  $\tau((P - O)^{2n+1}) = \tau(P - O) \in \mathbb{R}$  by Theorem 1.  $\square$

**Corollary 6.** *If  $P, Q, R \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{id}$  with  $P - Q, Q - R \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and operators  $PQ, QR, PR \in \mathcal{M}$ , then  $\tau((P - R)^{2n+1}) = \tau((P - Q)^{2n+1}) + \tau((Q - R)^{2n+1})$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

**Corollary 7.** *Let  $U, V, W \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  be symmetries with  $U - V, V - W \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and operators  $UV + U + V, UW + U + W, VW + V + W \in \mathcal{M}$ . Then,*

$$\tau((U - W)^{2n+1}) = \tau((U - V)^{2n+1}) + \tau((V - W)^{2n+1})$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $U = 2P - I, V = 2Q - I$  and  $W = 2R - I$  with  $P, Q, R \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{id}$ . Then,  $U - W = 2(P - R)$  and, according to Corollary 6 for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tau((U - W)^{2n+1}) &= 2^{2n+1} \tau((P - R)^{2n+1}) = 2^{2n+1} (\tau((P - Q)^{2n+1}) + \tau((Q - R)^{2n+1})) \\ &= \tau((U - V)^{2n+1}) + \tau((V - W)^{2n+1}). \end{aligned}$$

$\square$

**Theorem 3.** *Let an operator  $P \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^{id}$ . Then,*

(i)  $|P| = |P|P = P^*|P|$ ;

(ii) if  $P^* = \tilde{P} + Z$  is the representation of Lemma 3, then  $|P| \geq \tilde{P}$  and  $|P| \geq |Z^*|$ .

**Proof.** (i) Let  $P = U|P|$  be the polar decomposition of the operator  $P$ . Then,  $P^* = U^*|P^*|$  is the polar decomposition of the operator  $P^*$  and  $U^*U|P| = |P|$ . Since  $P = |P^*||P|$  [7, Theorem 3.3], left multiplying both parts of the equality  $U|P| = |P^*||P|$  by the operator  $U^*$ , allows us to conclude that  $|P| = P^*|P|$ . Passing to adjoint operators, we obtain  $|P| = (P^*|P|)^* = |P|P$ .

(ii) We have  $0 = Z\tilde{P} = (Z\tilde{P})^* = \tilde{P}Z^*$  and  $|P| = \sqrt{(\tilde{P} + Z)(\tilde{P} + Z)^*} = \sqrt{\tilde{P} + ZZ^*}$ . Since  $\tilde{P}, ZZ^* \in S(\mathcal{M}, \tau)^+$ , by the operator monotonicity of the function  $f(t) = \sqrt{t}$  ( $t \geq 0$ ) [20, Chap. 1, Proposition 4.4], we obtain

$$\sqrt{\tilde{P} + ZZ^*} \geq \sqrt{\tilde{P}} = \tilde{P} \quad \text{and} \quad \sqrt{\tilde{P} + ZZ^*} \geq \sqrt{ZZ^*} = |Z^*|.$$

$\square$

**Corollary 8.** *Let  $\langle \mathcal{E}, \|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{E}} \rangle$  be an  $F$ -normed ideal space on  $(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $P = P^2 \in \mathcal{E}, P = \tilde{P} + Z$  be the representation of Lemma 3. Then,  $\tilde{P}, Z \in \mathcal{E}$  and*

$$\|\tilde{P}\|_{\mathcal{E}} + \|Z\|_{\mathcal{E}} \geq \|P\|_{\mathcal{E}} = \|P^*\|_{\mathcal{E}} \geq \max\{\|\tilde{P}\|_{\mathcal{E}}, \|Z\|_{\mathcal{E}}\}.$$

**Proof.** Let  $P^* = \tilde{P} + Z$  be the representation of Lemma 3. By item (ii) of Theorem 3, we have  $\tilde{P}, Z \in \mathcal{E}$ . By properties of the  $F$ -norm  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{E}}$ , we obtain  $\|P^*\|_{\mathcal{E}} = \|P\|_{\mathcal{E}} = \| |P| \|_{\mathcal{E}} \geq \|\tilde{P}\|_{\mathcal{E}}$  and  $\|P^*\|_{\mathcal{E}} = \|P\|_{\mathcal{E}} = \| |P| \|_{\mathcal{E}} \geq \|Z^*\|_{\mathcal{E}} = \|Z\|_{\mathcal{E}}$ . The rest is clear.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.** *Let an operator  $A \in L_2(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $A^2 + A^{2*} \geq tA^*A - (t - 2)AA^*$  for some  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then,  $A = A^*$ .*

**Proof.** We have  $\tau(A^*A - AA^*) = \|A\|_2^2 - \|A^*\|_2^2 = 0$  and

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \leq \|A - A^*\|_2^2 &= \tau((A^* - A)(A - A^*)) = \tau(A^*A - A^{*2} - A^2 + AA^*) \\ &\leq (1 - t)\tau(A^*A - AA^*) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $A = A^*$  by faithfulness of the norm  $\|\cdot\|_2$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 9.** *If an operator  $A = A^2 \in L_2(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $Re(A) \geq sA^*A - (s - 1)AA^*$  for some  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $A \in \mathcal{M}^{pr}$ .*

**Theorem 5.** *Let an operator  $A \in L_2(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  and  $U \in \mathcal{M}$  be an isometry. Then,  $\|UA - A\|_2^2 \leq 2\|(I - U)AA^*\|_1$ . In particular, if  $A = A^*$ , then  $\|UA - A\|_2^2 \leq 2\|UA^2 - A^2\|_1$ .*

**Proof.** We have

$$\begin{aligned} \|UA - A\|_2^2 &= \tau((UA - A)^*(UA - A)) = \tau(A^*A - A^*U^*A - A^*UA + A^*A) \\ &= \tau(A^*(I - U^*)A + A^*(I - U)A) = 2\tau(\operatorname{Re}(A^*(I - U)A)) = 2\tau(A^*(I - \operatorname{Re}(U))A) \\ &\leq 2|\tau(A^*(I - \operatorname{Re}(U))A) - i\tau(A^*(\operatorname{Im}(U))A)| \\ &= 2|\tau(A^*(I - U)A)| = 2|\tau((I - U)AA^*)| \leq 2\tau(|(I - U)AA^*|) = 2\|(I - U)AA^*\|_1, \end{aligned}$$

according to Lemma 2 with the operators  $A^*$  and  $(I - U)A$  and the inequality  $|\tau(X)| \leq \tau(|X|)$  for all  $X \in L_1(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$ , see [21, p. 1463].  $\square$

For the algebra  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , endowed with the trace  $\tau = \operatorname{tr}$ , an operator  $A \geq 0$  and a unitary  $U$  Theorem 5 was established in [22, Lemma 1].

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## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors of this work declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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