

A CHARACTERIZATION OF THE PROJECTION LATTICE OF A VON-NEUMANN ALGEBRA

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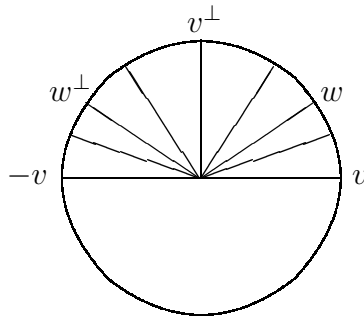
ABSTRACT. Let \mathcal{L} be a non-empty family of projections on a separable Hilbert space. It is proved that \mathcal{L} is the projection lattice of a von-Neumann algebra provided \mathcal{L} is closed in the strong operator topology, and R belongs to \mathcal{L} if R is a spectral projection of either a real linear combination of elements of \mathcal{L} , or of $i(PQ - QP)$, where P and Q are in \mathcal{L} with $PQ + QP = P + Q - \frac{PvQ}{2}$.

1. INTRODUCTION

Throughout, let H denote a separable complex Hilbert space; $B(H)$ denotes the $*$ -algebra of bounded linear operators on H . Recall that $\mathcal{N} \subset B(H)$ is called a von-Neumann algebra if \mathcal{N} is a $*$ -closed unital subalgebra of $B(H)$, which is closed in the Strong Operator Topology (the SOT). An operator P in $B(H)$ is called a *projection* if P is self-adjoint and $P^2 = P$. Of course then P is the orthogonal projection onto its range.

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Proof of Lemma ??. We thus obtain 16 points on \mathbb{T} , by bisecting the lines between v and w , v and w^\perp , etc.



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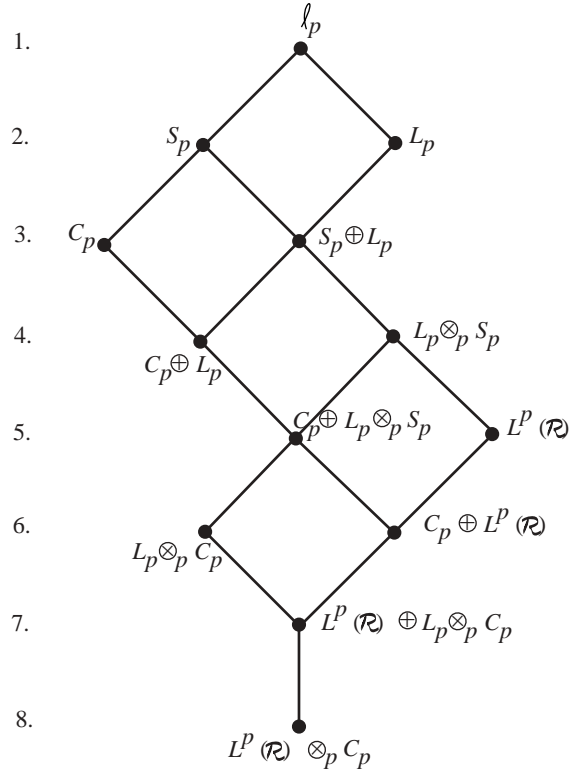


FIGURE 1

Continuing to take bisections, we obtain the claim. Rigorously, let e_1, e_2 be the Gram-Schmidt orthonormalization of v and w ; i.e.,

□

We now use Lemma ?? to prove the following

Claim. *For all real θ ,*

$$(1) \quad e_1 + e^{i\theta} e_2 \in X .$$

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