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ALGEBRAIC EQUIVALENCE OF LOCALLY NORMAL REPRESENTATIONS

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It will be shown that (i) the absolute value of every locally normal linear functional is again locally normal; (ii) two locally normal representations π_1 and π_2 of \mathcal{A} generate isomorphic von Neumann algebras $\mathcal{M}(\pi_1)$ and $\mathcal{M}(\pi_2)$ if and only if there exists an automorphism σ of \mathcal{A} such that $\pi_1 \circ \sigma$ and π_2 are quasi-equivalent, provided that either $\mathcal{M}(\pi_1)$ or $\mathcal{M}(\pi_2)$ is σ -finite.

This paper is motivated by a recent work [6] of R. Haag, R. V. Kadison and D. Kastler. As they mentioned, the recent progress in mathematical physics has made a precise analysis of representations of a C^* -algebra furnished with a net of von Neumann algebras a growing necessity.

In the first half of this paper, we shall show that the space of all locally normal linear functionals of a C^* -algebra with a net of von Neumann algebras is a closed invariant subspace of the conjugate space in the sense of [14], which will imply that the absolute value of a locally normal linear functional is locally normal too.

The last half of this paper will be devoted to extending a result of Powers [11] for UHF algebra to a C^* -algebra \mathcal{A} with a proper sequential type I_∞ funnel. Namely it will be shown that two locally normal representations π_1 and π_2 of the C^* -algebra \mathcal{A} generate isomorphic von Neumann algebras if and only if they are connected by an automorphism of \mathcal{A} . This is proven under the assumption that one of the generated von Neumann algebras is σ -finite.

2. The locally normal conjugate space of a C^* -algebra with a net of von Neumann algebras. Let \mathcal{A} be a C^* -algebra. Suppose a system $\mathfrak{F} = (\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$ of C^* -subalgebras of \mathcal{A} indexed by a directed set $\{\alpha\}$ is given such that:

(i) \mathcal{A}_α is a von Neumann subalgebra of \mathcal{A}_β if $\alpha \leq \beta$;

(ii) $\bigcup_\alpha \mathcal{A}_\alpha$ is dense in \mathcal{A} with respect to the norm topology.

The system $\mathfrak{F} = \{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}$ is called a *net* (in \mathcal{A}) of von Neumann algebras and each \mathcal{A}_α is called *local subalgebra* of \mathcal{A}

DEFINITION 1. A continuous linear functional φ (resp. representation π) of \mathcal{A} is said to be *locally normal* if φ (resp. π) is σ -weakly continuous on each local subalgebra \mathcal{A}_α .

PROPOSITION 2. Let V be the set of all locally normal linear functionals on a C^* -algebra \mathcal{A} with a net $\mathfrak{F} = \{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}$ of von Neumann algebras. Then V is a closed, invariant subspace of \mathcal{A}^* . Namely, if $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}^*$ is locally normal, then $a\varphi$ and φa , $a \in \mathcal{A}$, are both locally normal, where $a\varphi$ and φa defined by $a\varphi(x) = \varphi(xa)$ and $\varphi a(x) = \varphi(ax)$, $x \in \mathcal{A}$.

Therefore, there exists a unique central projection z_0 of the universal enveloping von Neumann algebra $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ of \mathcal{A} , the second conjugate space of \mathcal{A} as a Banach space, such that

$$z_0 \mathcal{A}^* = V.$$

Proof. Let $\{\varphi_n\}$ be a sequence in V converging to $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}^*$ with respect to the norm topology. For each α , we have

$$\|\varphi|_{\mathcal{A}_\alpha} - \varphi_n|_{\mathcal{A}_\alpha}\| \leq \|\varphi - \varphi_n\| \rightarrow 0$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$; hence $\{\varphi_n|_{\mathcal{A}_\alpha}\}$ converges to $\varphi|_{\mathcal{A}_\alpha}$. Since the predual \mathcal{A}_{α^*} of each \mathcal{A}_α is complete, $\varphi|_{\mathcal{A}_\alpha}$ belongs to \mathcal{A}_{α^*} , so that φ is locally normal. Hence V is closed.

Take an arbitrary element $\varphi \in V$. Let a be an element of \mathcal{A}_α . For each β , there exists an index γ such that $\alpha \leq \gamma$, $\beta \leq \gamma$. Since $\varphi|_{\mathcal{A}_\gamma}$ is normal and a is in \mathcal{A}_γ , $a\varphi|_{\mathcal{A}_\gamma}$ is normal, so that

$$a\varphi|_{\mathcal{A}_\beta} = (a\varphi|_{\mathcal{A}_\gamma})|_{\mathcal{A}_\beta}$$

is normal. Hence $a\varphi$ belongs to V . Therefore, if a belongs to $\bigcup \mathcal{A}_\alpha$, then $a\varphi$ is locally normal. If a is an arbitrary element of \mathcal{A} , then there exists a sequence $\{a_n\}$ in $\bigcup \mathcal{A}_\alpha$ such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|a - a_n\| = 0;$$

hence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|a\varphi - a_n\varphi\| \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|a - a_n\| \|\varphi\| = 0.$$

Therefore $a\varphi$ belongs to V since V is closed. By symmetry, φa is also in V . Hence V is invariant.

The last half of our assertion follows from the fact that V is invariant as a subspace of $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_*$ by [14]. This completes that proof.

As an immediate consequence of the above result, we get

COROLLARY 3. In the same situation as Proposition 1, if $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}^*$ is locally normal, then the absolute value $|\varphi|$ of φ , in the sense of the polar decomposition, is locally normal too. In particular, if $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}^*$ is locally normal and self-adjoint, then the positive part φ^+

and the negative part φ^- of φ are both locally normal.

This generalizes a result [6; Proposition 6] of Haag, Kadison and Kastler.

PROPOSITION 4. *In the same situation as before, V is weak* sequentially complete. That is, if φ is a weak* limit of a sequence $\{\varphi_n\}$ of locally normal linear functionals, then φ is locally normal too.*

This follows directly from the weak sequential completeness of the predual $\mathcal{A}_{\alpha*}$ of each \mathcal{A}_α , see for example [12].

3. Algebraic equivalence of locally normal representations. First of all, we recall the definition of algebraic equivalence of two representations given by Powers [11]:

DEFINITION 5. Let (π_1, \mathcal{H}_1) and (π_2, \mathcal{H}_2) be two representations of a C^* -algebra \mathcal{A} . If the von Neumann algebras $\mathcal{M}(\pi_1)$ and $\mathcal{M}(\pi_2)$ generated by $\pi_1(\mathcal{A})$ and $\pi_2(\mathcal{A})$ respectively are isomorphic, then π_1 and π_2 are said to be *algebraically equivalent*.

The following is a slight modification of a definition given by Haag, Kadison and Kastler [6].

DEFINITION 6. A sequential type I_∞ funnel $\{\mathcal{A}_n\}$ of a C^* -algebra \mathcal{A} is said to be *proper* if each relative commutant $\mathcal{A}'_n \cap \mathcal{A}_{n+1}$ of \mathcal{A}_n in \mathcal{A}_{n+1} is of type I_∞ .

The following lemma is a modification of Glimm and Kadison's result [3].

LEMMA 7. *Let \mathcal{M} be a von Neumann algebra generated by an increasing sequence $\{\mathcal{A}_n\}$ of C^* -algebras, each of which contains the identity 1 of \mathcal{M} . Let $\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{A}_n)$ denote the group of all unitary operators of \mathcal{A}_n . Then the union $\bigcup_{n=1}^\infty \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{A}_n)$ is strongly dense in the group $\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{M})$ of unitary operators of \mathcal{M} .*

Proof. Take an arbitrary unitary operator $u \in \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{M})$. There exists a self-adjoint operator $h \in \mathcal{M}$ such that $u = \exp(2\pi i h)$ and $\|h\| \leq 1$. Since $\bigcup_{n=1}^\infty \mathcal{A}_n$ is a strongly dense *-subalgebra of \mathcal{M} , there exists, by Kaplansky's density theorem [2: Th. 3, p. 43], a net $\{h_j\}_{j \in J}$ of self-adjoint elements in $\bigcup_{n=1}^\infty \mathcal{A}_n$ such that $\{h_j\}_{j \in J}$ converges strongly to h and $\|h_j\| \leq 1$. Put $u_j = \exp(2\pi i h_j)$, $j \in J$. Since each h_j

belongs to some \mathcal{A}_n , u_j belongs to $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{A})$. By the strong continuity of the functional calculus on the bounded set of self-adjoint elements (see [10]), the net $\{u_j\}$ converges strongly to u . This completes the proof.

LEMMA 8. *Let \mathcal{M} be a σ -finite (countably decomposable) von Neumann algebra. Suppose \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} are type I_{∞} subfactors of \mathcal{M} with properly infinite relative commutants $\mathcal{A}' \cap \mathcal{M}$ and $\mathcal{B}' \cap \mathcal{M}$. Then there exists a unitary operator u in \mathcal{M} such that $u\mathcal{B}u^{-1} = \mathcal{A}$.*

Proof. Let $\{u_{i,j}; i, j = 1, 2, \dots\}$ and $\{v_{i,j}; i, j = 1, 2, \dots\}$ be matrix units of \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} respectively. Put $e = u_{1,1}$ and $f = v_{1,1}$. Then e and f are minimal projections in \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} respectively. Since $\mathcal{A}' \cap \mathcal{M}$ is properly infinite, $\mathcal{A}' \cap \mathcal{M}$ contains an infinite sequence $\{p_n\}$ of equivalent orthogonal projections with $\sum p_n = 1$. For each index n , let u_n be a partial isometry in $\mathcal{A}' \cap \mathcal{M}$ such that $u_n^*u_n = p_1$ and $u_n u_n^* = p_n$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}(u_n e)^*(u_n e) &= e u_n^* u_n e = e p_1; \\ (u_n e)(u_n e)^* &= u_n e u_n^* = e p_n.\end{aligned}$$

Hence $\{e p_n\}$ is an infinite sequence of equivalent orthogonal projections with $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e p_n = e$, which means that e is a properly infinite projection in \mathcal{M} . Similarly f is a properly infinite projection in \mathcal{M} . Since e and f both have central support 1, they are equivalent in \mathcal{M} , that is, there exists a partial isometry $w \in \mathcal{M}$ with $w^*w = e$ and $ww^* = f$ because of the σ -finiteness of \mathcal{M} . Put

$$u = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} v_{i,1} w u_{1,i}.$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}u^*u &= \sum_{i,j=1}^{\infty} u_{i,1} w^* v_{1,i} v_{j,1} w u_{1,j} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} u_{i,1} w^* w u_{1,i} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} u_{i,1} u_{1,1} u_{1,i} = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} u_{i,i} \\ &= 1;\end{aligned}$$

similarly

$$uu^* = 1.$$

Hence u is a unitary operator in \mathcal{M} . By a straightforward calculation, we have

$$u u_{i,j} u^* = v_{i,j}, \quad i, j = 1, 2, \dots;$$

hence we have

$$u\mathcal{A}u^* = \mathcal{B} .$$

This completes the proof.

LEMMA 9. Let \mathcal{M} be a σ -finite von Neumann algebra generated by a C^* -algebra \mathcal{A} with a proper sequential type I_∞ funnel $\{\mathcal{A}_n\}$, where we assume each \mathcal{A}_n to be a von Neumann subalgebra of \mathcal{M} . Suppose \mathcal{B} is a type I_∞ factor contained in \mathcal{M} with properly infinite relative commutant $\mathcal{B}' \cap \mathcal{M}$. For any σ -strong* neighborhood¹⁾ U of the identity 1 in \mathcal{M} , there exists n and a unitary operator u in U such that

$$u\mathcal{B}u^{-1} \subset \mathcal{A}_n .$$

Proof. By Lemma 8, there exists a unitary operator $v \in \mathcal{M}$ such that $v\mathcal{B}v^{-1} = \mathcal{A}$. Since v^{-1} is in \mathcal{M} , it follows from Lemma 7 that there exists a unitary operator $w \in \mathcal{A}_n$ such that $w \in Uv^{-1}$. Put $u = vw$. Then u belongs to U and

$$u\mathcal{B}u^{-1} = vw\mathcal{B}v^{-1}w^{-1} = w\mathcal{A}w^{-1} \subset \mathcal{A}_n .$$

This completes the proof.

LEMMA 10. Suppose \mathcal{M}, \mathcal{A} and $\{\mathcal{A}_n\}$ are as in Lemma 9. Suppose \mathcal{B} and \mathcal{B}_1 are both type I_∞ subfactors of \mathcal{M} such that $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{B}_1$ and the relative commutant $\mathcal{B}'_1 \cap \mathcal{M}$ is properly infinite. Suppose u is a unitary operator in \mathcal{M} such that

$$u\mathcal{B}u^{-1} \subset \mathcal{A}_{n_0} .$$

For any σ -strong* neighborhood U of 1 in \mathcal{M} , there exist a unitary operator u_1 and index $n_1 > n_0$ such that

- (i) $u_1\mathcal{B}u_1^{-1} \subset \mathcal{A}_{n_1}$;
- (ii) $u_1xu_1^{-1} = uxu^{-1}$ for every $x \in \mathcal{B}$;
- (iii) $u_1u^{-1} \in U$.

Proof. Put $\mathcal{C} = u\mathcal{B}u^{-1}$ and $\mathcal{C}_1 = u_1\mathcal{B}_1u_1^{-1}$. Then \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{C}_1 are both type I_∞ subfactors of \mathcal{M} with properly infinite relative commutant in \mathcal{M} . Put $\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{M}$. Since \mathcal{C} is a type I subfactor of \mathcal{M} , \mathcal{M} is decomposed into the tensor product:

¹⁾ The σ -strong* topology in a von Neumann algebra \mathcal{M} is defined as the locally convex topology induced by the family of seminorms: $x \in \mathcal{M} \rightarrow p_\omega(x) = \omega(x^*x + xx^*)^{1/2}$, where ω runs over all normal states of \mathcal{M} . The σ -strong* topology agree with the strong operator topology on the unitary group of \mathcal{M} , but their uniform structures are different.

$$\mathcal{M} \cong \mathcal{C} \otimes (\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{M}) .$$

If $\mathcal{A}_n \supset \mathcal{C}$, then \mathcal{A}_n is also decomposed with respect to this tensor product:

$$\mathcal{A}_n \cong \mathcal{C} \otimes (\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{A}_n) .$$

Since $\bigcup \mathcal{A}_n$ generates \mathcal{M} , $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{A}_n)$ generates $\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{N}$. Let \mathcal{D} be the uniform closure of $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{A}_n)$. Then \mathcal{D} has a sequential type I funnel $\{\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{A}_n\}$. Since

$$\mathcal{C} = u\mathcal{B}u^{-1} \subset \mathcal{A}_{n_0}$$

by assumption, $\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{A}_n$ is properly infinite for $n > n_0$ because

$$\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{A}_n \supset \mathcal{A}_n \cap \mathcal{A}'_{n_0} .$$

Moreover, we have, for $n > n_0$,

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{A}_n)' \cap (\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{A}_{n+1}) &\supset \mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{A}'_n \cap \mathcal{A}_{n+1} \\ &\supset \mathcal{A}'_{n_0} \cap \mathcal{A}'_n \cap \mathcal{A}_{n+1} = \mathcal{A}'_n \cap \mathcal{A}_{n+1} , \end{aligned}$$

hence $(\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{A}_n)' \cap (\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{A}_{n+1})$ is properly infinite. Hence the type I_{∞} funnel $\{\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{A}_n\}_{n > n_0}$ of \mathcal{D} is proper. Put $\mathcal{D}_1 = \mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{C}_1$. Then \mathcal{D}_1 is a type I_{∞} subfactor of \mathcal{N} . Since

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}_1 \cap \mathcal{N} &= (\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{C}_1)' \cap (\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{M}) \\ &\cong \mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{M} = u(\mathcal{B}' \cap \mathcal{M})u^{-1} , \end{aligned}$$

\mathcal{D}_1 has a properly infinite relative commutant $\mathcal{D}'_1 \cap \mathcal{N}$. By Lemma 9, there exists a unitary operator $v \in U \cap \mathcal{N}$ and an index n_1 such that $v\mathcal{D}_1v^{-1} \subset (\mathcal{A}_{n_1} \cap \mathcal{C}') \subset \mathcal{A}_{n_1}$. Put $u_1 = vu$. Then u_1 is in \mathcal{M} and u_1u^{-1} is in U . For each $x \in \mathcal{B}$, uxu^{-1} is in \mathcal{C} ; hence it commutes with v , so that

$$u_1xu^{-1} = v(uxu^{-1})v^{-1} = uxu^{-1} .$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} u_1(\mathcal{B}' \cap \mathcal{B}_1)u^{-1} &= vu(\mathcal{B}' \cap \mathcal{B}_1)u^{-1}v \\ &= v(\mathcal{C}' \cap \mathcal{C}_1)v^{-1} \\ &= v\mathcal{D}v^{-1} \subset \mathcal{A}_{n_1} \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} u_1\mathcal{B}_1u^{-1} &= u_1(\mathcal{B} \cup (\mathcal{B}' \cap \mathcal{B}_1))'u^{-1} \\ &= (u_1\mathcal{B}u^{-1} \cup u_1(\mathcal{B}' \cap \mathcal{B}_1)u^{-1})' \\ &= (\mathcal{C} \cup v\mathcal{D}v^{-1})' \subset (\mathcal{A}_{n_0} \cup \mathcal{A}_{n_1})' = \mathcal{A}_{n_1} . \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.

LEMMA 11. Suppose \mathcal{M} , \mathcal{A} and $\{\mathcal{A}_n\}$ are as in Lemma 9. Suppose \mathcal{B} is another C^* -subalgebra of \mathcal{M} with a proper sequential type I_∞ funnel $\{\mathcal{B}_n\}$, which is σ -weakly dense in \mathcal{M} . Then there exists a unitary operator $u \in \mathcal{M}$ such that

$$u \left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{A}_n \right) u^{-1} = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{B}_n ;$$

hence

$$u \mathcal{A} u^{-1} = \mathcal{B} .$$

Proof. By the σ -finiteness of \mathcal{M} , there exists a faithful normal state φ of \mathcal{M} . Define a distance function d on \mathcal{M} by:

$$d(x, y) = \{\varphi((x - y)^*(x - y)) + \varphi((x - y)(x - y)^*)\}^{1/2}, \quad x, y \in \mathcal{M} .$$

Then the topology induced by the metric d coincides with the σ -strong* topology on the bounded part of \mathcal{M} . Furthermore, the group \mathcal{U} of all unitary operators of \mathcal{M} is complete with respect to this metric d .

By induction, we construct increasing sequences $\{\mathcal{C}_i\}$, $\{\mathcal{D}_i\}$ of type I_∞ subfactors of \mathcal{M} , a sequence $\{u_i: i = 1, 2, \dots\}$ of unitary operators in \mathcal{M} and increasing sequences $\{n_i\}$ and $\{m_i\}$ of integers with the properties:

$$(i) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_{n_i+1} &\subset \mathcal{C}_{i+1} \subset \mathcal{A}_{n_i+1} ; \\ \mathcal{B}_{m_i+1} &\subset \mathcal{D}_i \subset \mathcal{B}_{m_i+1} \end{aligned}$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$;

$$(ii) \quad \begin{aligned} u_{2i-1} \mathcal{B}_{m_i+1} u_{2i-1}^{-1} &= \mathcal{C}_i , \\ u u_{2i}^{-1} \mathcal{A}_{n_i+1} u_{2i} &= \mathcal{D}_i \end{aligned}$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$;

$$(iii) \quad \begin{aligned} u_{2i}^{-1} x u_{2i} &= u_{2i-1}^{-1} x u_{2i-1} \quad \text{for } x \in \mathcal{C}_i , \\ u_{2i+1} x u_{2i+1}^{-1} &= u_{2i} x u_{2i}^{-1} \quad \text{for } x \in \mathcal{D}_i \end{aligned}$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$;

$$(iv) \quad d(u_i, u_{i+1}) < 1/2^i$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2k$.

For $k = 1$, we choose $m_1 = 0$, $n_1 = 1$ and $\mathcal{C}_1 = \mathcal{A}_1$. Then by Lemma 8, there exists a unitary operator u_1 such that

$$u_1 \mathcal{B}_1 u_1^{-1} = u_1 \mathcal{B}_{m_1+1} u_1^{-1} = \mathcal{C}_1 = \mathcal{A}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{A}_{n_1} .$$

Consider the triplet $(\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{A}_2, u_1^{-1})$ as $(\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}_1, u)$ in Lemma 10. Then

we can find a unitary operator $v \in \mathcal{M}$ and index m_2 such that

$$\begin{aligned} v\mathcal{A}_{n_1+1}v^{-1} &= v\mathcal{A}_2v^{-1} \subset \mathcal{B}_{m_2}; \\ vxv^{-1} &= u_1^{-1}xu_1 \text{ for every } x \in \mathcal{C}_1; \\ d(u_1^{-1}, v) &< \frac{1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Put $u_2 = v$ and $\mathcal{D}_1 = v\mathcal{A}_2v^{-1}$.

Suppose $\{n_1, \dots, n_k\}$, $\{m_1, \dots, m_k\}$, $\{\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k\}$, $\{\mathcal{D}_1, \dots, \mathcal{D}_k\}$ and $\{u_1, \dots, u_{2k}\}$ have been chosen so that condition (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) are satisfied. Applying Lemma 10 to $\{\mathcal{D}_k, \mathcal{B}_{m_{k+1}}, u_{2k}\}$, we can find an index n_{k+1} and a unitary operator u_{2k+1} such that

$$\begin{aligned} u_{2k+1}\mathcal{B}_{m_{k+1}}u_{2k+1}^{-1} &\subset \mathcal{A}_{n_{k+1}}; \\ u_{2k+1}xu_{2k+1}^{-1} &= u_{2k}xu_{2k}^{-1} \text{ for } x \in \mathcal{D}_k; \\ d(u_{2k}, u_{2k+1}) &< 1/2^{2k+1}. \end{aligned}$$

Put $\mathcal{C}_{k+1} = u_{2k+1}\mathcal{B}_{m_{k+1}}u_{2k+1}^{-1}$. Since

$$u_{2k}\mathcal{D}_k u_{2k}^{-1} = \mathcal{A}_{n_{k+1}},$$

\mathcal{C}_{k+1} contains $\mathcal{A}_{n_{k+1}}$. Now again applying Lemma 10 to the triplet $\{\mathcal{C}_{k+1}, \mathcal{A}_{n_{k+1}+1}, u_{2k+1}^{-1}\}$, we can choose an index m_{k+1} and a unitary operator $u_{2(k+1)}$ in \mathcal{M} such that

$$\begin{aligned} u_{2(k+1)}^{-1}\mathcal{A}_{n_{k+1}+1}u_{2(k+1)} &\subset \mathcal{B}_{m_{k+1}}; \\ u_{2(k+1)}^{-1}xu_{2(k+1)} &= u_{2k+1}^{-1}xu_{2k+1} \text{ for } x \in \mathcal{C}_{k+1}; \\ d(u_{2k+1}, u_{2(k+1)}) &< 1/2^{2(k+1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Put $\mathcal{D}_{k+1} = u_{2(k+1)}^{-1}\mathcal{A}_{n_{k+1}+1}u_{2(k+1)}$.

Hence the existence of sequences $\{m_i\}$, $\{n_i\}$, $\{\mathcal{C}_i\}$, $\{\mathcal{D}_i\}$ and $\{u_i\}$ has been established. From condition (i) it follows that

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{A}_i = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{C}_i \text{ and } \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{B}_i = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}_i.$$

From condition (iv), $\{u_k\}$ is a Cauchy sequence of unitary operators with respect to the metric d . Hence u_k converges σ -strongly* to a unitary operator u of \mathcal{M} . By condition (iii), for every $x \in \mathcal{B}_{m_{i+1}}$, we have

$$u_k v u_k^{-1} = u_{2i-1} x u_{2i-1}^{-1}$$

for each $k \geq 2i$. Hence we have

$$u \mathcal{B}_{m_{i+1}} u^{-1} = \mathcal{C}_i.$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} u\left(\overset{\infty}{\bigcup}_{k=1} \mathcal{B}_k\right)u^{-1} &= u\left(\overset{\infty}{\bigcup}_{j=1} \mathcal{B}_{m_j+1}\right)u^{-1} \\ &= \overset{\infty}{\bigcup}_{i=1} \mathcal{C}_i = \overset{\infty}{\bigcup}_{i=1} \mathcal{A}_i . \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.

As an immediate consequence of Lemma 11, we have the following extension of a corresponding result of Powers for UHF-algebras in [11].

THEOREM 12. *Suppose \mathcal{A} is a C^* -algebra with a proper sequential type I_∞ funnel $\{\mathcal{A}_n\}$. Suppose $\{\pi_1, \mathcal{H}_1\}$ and $\{\pi_2, \mathcal{H}_2\}$ are two locally normal representations of \mathcal{A} . Suppose either the von Neumann algebra $\mathcal{M}(\pi_1)$ generated by $\pi_1(\mathcal{A})$ or the one $\mathcal{M}(\pi_2)$ generated by $\pi_2(\mathcal{A})$ is σ -finite. Then the representations π_1 and π_2 are algebraically equivalent if and only if there exists an automorphism σ of \mathcal{A} such that the representations π_1 and $\pi_2 \circ \sigma$ are quasi-equivalent. If this is the case, then σ may be chosen such that $\sigma(\overset{\infty}{\bigcup}_{n=1} \mathcal{A}_n) = \overset{\infty}{\bigcup}_{n=1} \mathcal{A}_n$.*

Proof. If there exists an automorphism σ of \mathcal{A} such that π_1 and $\pi_2 \circ \sigma$ are quasi-equivalent, then there exists an isomorphism ρ of $\mathcal{M}(\pi_1)$ onto the von Neumann algebra $\mathcal{M}(\pi_2 \circ \sigma)$ generated by $\pi_2 \circ \sigma(\mathcal{A})$ such that $\rho \circ \pi_1 = \pi_2 \circ \sigma$. But it is clear that $\mathcal{M}(\pi_2 \circ \sigma) = \mathcal{M}(\pi_2)$. Hence ρ implements the algebraic equivalence of π_1 and π_2 .

Suppose $\mathcal{M}(\pi_1)$ is σ -finite. Since \mathcal{A} is simple (see [6: Proposition 10]), π_1 is an isomorphism of \mathcal{A} into $\mathcal{M}(\pi_1)$. Hence we may identify \mathcal{A} with the subalgebra $\pi_1(\mathcal{A})$ of $\mathcal{M}(\pi_1)$ which generates $\mathcal{M}(\pi_1)$. Suppose ρ is an isomorphism of $\mathcal{M}(\pi_2)$ onto $\mathcal{M}(\pi_1)$. Put $\mathcal{B} = \rho \circ \pi_2(\mathcal{A})$ and $\mathcal{B}_n = \rho \circ \pi_2(\mathcal{A}_n)$. Then $\mathcal{M}(\pi_1), \mathcal{A}, \{\mathcal{A}_n\}$ and $\mathcal{B}, \{\mathcal{B}_n\}$ satisfy all the assumptions of Lemma 11. Hence there exists a unitary operator u in $\mathcal{M}(\pi_1)$ such that

$$u\mathcal{A}u^{-1} = \mathcal{B}, u\left(\overset{\infty}{\bigcup}_{n=1} \mathcal{A}_n\right)u^{-1} = \overset{\infty}{\bigcup}_{n=1} \mathcal{B}_n .$$

Define a map σ of \mathcal{A} into \mathcal{A} by

$$\sigma(x) = u^{-1}\rho \circ \pi_2(x)u , \quad x \in \mathcal{A} .$$

Then we have, for $x \in \mathcal{A}$,

$$\pi_1 \circ \sigma(x) = \sigma(x) = u(\rho \circ \pi_2(x))u^{-1} ;$$

hence $\pi_1 \circ \sigma$ is unitary equivalent to $\rho \circ \pi_2$ and $\rho \circ \pi_2$ is quasi-equivalent to π_2 by definition, so that $\pi_1 \circ \sigma$ and π_2 are quasi-equivalent. This completes the proof.

COROLLARY 13. *If \mathcal{A} is a C^* -algebra with a proper sequential type I_∞ funnel, then the group of automorphisms of \mathcal{A} acts transitively on the set of all locally normal pure states.*

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Richard Hindman Bouldin, <i>The perturbation of the singular spectrum</i>	569
Hugh D. Brunk and Søren Glud Johansen, <i>A generalized Radon-Nikodym derivative</i>	585
Henry Werner Davis, F. J. Murray and J. K. Weber, <i>Families of L_p-spaces with inductive and projective topologies</i>	619
Esmond Ernest Devun, <i>Special semigroups on the two-cell</i>	639
Murray Eisenberg and James Howard Hedlund, <i>Expansive automorphisms of Banach spaces</i>	647
Frances F. Gulick, <i>Actions of functions in Banach algebras</i>	657
Douglas Harris, <i>Regular-closed spaces and proximities</i>	675
Norman Lloyd Johnson, <i>Derivable semi-translation planes</i>	687
Donald E. Knuth, <i>Permutations, matrices, and generalized Young tableaux</i>	709
Herbert Frederick Kreimer, Jr., <i>On the Galois theory of separable algebras</i>	729
You-Feng Lin and David Alon Rose, <i>Ascoli's theorem for spaces of multifunctions</i>	741
David London, <i>Rearrangement inequalities involving convex functions</i>	749
Louis Pigno, <i>A multiplier theorem</i>	755
Helga Schirmer, <i>Coincidences and fixed points of multifunctions into trees</i>	759
Richard A. Scoville, <i>Some measure algebras on the integers</i>	769
Ralph Edwin Showalter, <i>Local regularity of solutions of Sobolev-Galpern partial differential equations</i>	781
Allan John Sieradski, <i>Twisted self-homotopy equivalences</i>	789
John H. Smith, <i>On S-units almost generated by S-units of subfields</i>	803
Masamichi Takesaki, <i>Algebraic equivalence of locally normal representations</i>	807
Joseph Earl Valentine, <i>An analogue of Ptolemy's theorem and its converse in hyperbolic geometry</i>	817
David Lawrence Winter, <i>Solvability of certain p-solvable linear groups of finite order</i>	827