The Characterization of the Spectrum of a Class of Relations

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Abstract. Hereditary, directed subsets of a group and a semigroup and some of their properties are discussed. A class of relations in terms of the range projections of a partial representation of a discrete group is introduced. It is shown that the spectrum of these relations is homeomorphic to the set of all characters of the diagonal subalgebra of the Toeplitz algebra.

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1. Introduction

In ([3]), the concept of a hereditary, directed subset of a semigroup \( P \) is introduced. Also, by a partial representation \( u \) of a group \( G \) on a Hilbert space \( H \), we mean a map \( u : G \rightarrow B(H) \) with the following properties:

(i) \( u_e = 1 \)
150 M. FAGHIH AHMADI AND S. HAGHKHAH

(ii) \( u_{t^{-1}} = u_t^* \)

(iii) \( u_s u_t u_{t^{-1}} = u_{st} u_{t^{-1}}, \ s, t \in G. \)

Let \( u_t u_t^* \) satisfy the special relations \( \mathcal{R} \) which will be defined later. The spectrum of the relations \( \mathcal{R} \) is defined in ([1]).

On the other hand, Nica, in ([3]), has introduced the spectrum of the diagonal subalgebra of the Toeplitz algebra, denoted by \( sp(\mathcal{D}) \). In this article, we want to make a homeomorphism between \( sp(\mathcal{D}) \) and the spectrum of the relations \( \mathcal{R} \). For this purpose, first, we bring some terminologies.

A partially ordered group is a pair \((G, P)\) where \( G \) is a discrete group, and \( P \) is a subsemigroup of \( G \). We denote \( P^{-1} = \{x^{-1} : x \in P\} \) and always assume that \( P \cap P^{-1} = \{e\} \).

For \( x, y \in G \), define
\[
x \leq y \iff x^{-1} y \in P.
\]
The relation "\( \leq \)" which is called the left invariant order relation induced by \( P \), is a partial order relation. Obviously,
\[
P = \{x \in G : e \leq x\}, \quad P^{-1} = \{x \in G : x \leq e\}.
\]
Also, \( x \in PP^{-1} \) if and only if \( x \) has an upper bound in \( P \).

The ordered group \((G, P)\) is called quasi-lattice ordered group if for any \( n \geq 1 \), any \( x_1, \cdots, x_n \) in \( G \) which have common upper bounds in \( P \), also have a least common upper bounded in \( P \).
upper bound of $x$ and $y$ is denoted by $x \vee y$. If $x, y \in G$ have no common upper bound in $P$, then, by convention, we write $x \vee y = \infty$.

**Definition 1.1.** A subset $w$ of $G$ is hereditary if $xP^{-1} \subseteq w$ for every $x \in w$. It is called directed, if every $x, y \in w$ have an upper bound in $w \cap P$.

We remark that every directed subset of $G$ is contained in $PP^{-1}$, because every two elements in it have an upper bound in $P$.

**Lemma 1.2.** Suppose $w \subseteq G$ is hereditary. Then $w$ is directed if and only if for every $x, y \in w, x \vee y$ exists and is in $w$.

**Proof.** First, suppose that $w$ is directed and take $x, y \in w$. Then there exists an element $z$ in $w \cap P$ such that $x \leq z$ and $y \leq z$. The quasi-lattice condition implies that the least upper bound of $x$ and $y, x \vee y$, exists and is in $P$. It remains to prove $x \vee y \in w$. Clearly, $x \vee y \leq z$, and so $z^{-1}(x \vee y) \in P^{-1}$, which implies that $x \vee y \in zP^{-1}$. But since $w$ is hereditary and $z \in w, zP^{-1} \subseteq w$, and so $x \vee y \in w$.

The converse is clear by taking $z = x \vee y$. □

2. Main Result

Recall that a subset $w$ of $P$ is called **hereditary** if

$$s, t \in P, s \leq t, t \in w \implies s \in w.$$
Also, it is called directed if any two elements of \( w \) have a common upper bound in \( w \). Let \( \Omega \) denote the set of all nonempty, hereditary directed subsets of \( P \). Consider \( w \in \Omega \), and take \( t \in w \). Obviously, \( e \leq t \) and so \( e \in w \), because \( w \) is hereditary. Furthermore, identifying every subset of \( P \) with its characteristic function and considering the product topology on \( \{0,1\}^P \), we observe that \( \Omega \) is a compact, Hausdorff space ([3]).

Let \((G,P)\) be a quasi-lattice ordered group. Consider the compact, Hausdorff space \( X = \Pi_{t\in G}\{0,1\} \) which can be identified with \( P(G) \), the collection of all subset of \( G \), or with \( \{0,1\}^G \). The subset \( X_G := \{w \in X : e \in w\} \) is a compact, Hausdorff space with the relative topology inherited from \( \{0,1\}^G \). For each \( t \in G \), let \( X_t = \{w \in X_G : t \in w\} \), and denote the characteristic function on \( X_t \) by \( \chi_t \).

Define a partial homeomorphism \( \theta_t : X_{t^{-1}} \to X_t \) by \( \theta_t(w) = tw \). Then \((\{X_t\}_{t\in G}, \{\theta_t\}_{t\in G})\) is a partial action, in the sense of [2] and [4].

**Theorem 2.1.** ([1]) The set of hereditary, directed subsets of \( G \) containing \( e \), which is denoted by \( H \), is invariant under the partial action \( \theta \) on \( X_G \); i.e., \( \theta_z(H \cap X_{z^{-1}}) \subseteq H \) for every \( z \in G \).

A corollary to this theorem runs as follows:

**Corollary 2.2.** Suppose \( w \in X_{t^{-1}} \) is hereditary and directed, then so is \( tw \).

**Proof.** Clearly, \( w \in H \). Since \( t^{-1} \in w \), we have \( w \in X_{t^{-1}} \). Thus,
w ∈ \( H \cap X_{t-1} \), and so the above theorem implies that

\[
 tw = \theta_t(w) \in \theta_t(H \cap X_{t-1}) \subseteq H. \quad \Box
\]

Suppose that the range projections \( u_t u_t^{-1} = u_t u_t^* \) of a partial representation \( u \), [1], satisfy the relations \( \mathcal{R} \) given by

(i) \( u_t^* u_t = 1 \), for any \( t \in P \);

(ii) \( u_t u_t^* u_s u_s^* = u_{t \vee s} u_{t \vee s}^* \), for any \( t, s \in G \).

Define the spectrum of the relations \( \mathcal{R} \) by

\[
 \Omega_{\mathcal{R}} = \{ w \in X_G : f(t^{-1}w) = 0, \text{ for all } f \in \mathcal{R}, t \in w \}.
\]

It is shown that \( \Omega_{\mathcal{R}} \) is a compact, Hausdorff space ([1, Proposition 4.1]).

Suppose that \( \mathcal{D} \) is the diagonal subalgebra of the Toeplitz algebra \( \tau(G, P) \) as introduced in [3]. Indeed, \( \mathcal{D} \) consists of all linear operators \( T \) on \( \ell^2(P) \) whose matrices relative to the canonical basis of \( \ell^2(P) \) are diagonal. By the spectrum of \( \mathcal{D} \), denoted by \( sp(\mathcal{D}) \), we mean the set of all characters of \( \mathcal{D} \). Nica has shown that there is a homeomorphism between \( sp(\mathcal{D}) \) and \( \Omega \). It is worthy of attention to remark that from his homeomorphism, we can obtain the form of each set in \( \Omega \); in fact, if \( T_t(t \in P) \), are the generators of the Toeplitz algebra then every nonempty, hereditary directed subset of \( P \) is of the form

\[
 A_{\gamma} = \{ t \in P : \gamma(T_t T_t^*) = 1 \}
\]

where \( \gamma \in sp(\mathcal{D}) \).
In the remaining, our aim is to identify $\Omega_R$ with $sp(D)$.

**Theorem 2.3.** The spaces $\Omega$ and $\Omega_R$ are homeomorphic.

**Proof.** By Theorem 6.4 of [1], $\Omega_R$ is the set of hereditary, directed subsets of $G$ which contain the identity element. Take $w \in \Omega_R$. Clearly, $w \cap P$ is a nonempty directed subset of $P$. Suppose $s, t \in P$, $s \leq t$, and $t \in w \cap P$. Then $s \in tP^{-1}$, and so $s \in w \cap P$, because $w$ is a hereditary subset of $G$. Consequently, $w \cap P \in \Omega$ for every $w \in \Omega$. Now, define $\psi : \Omega_R \rightarrow \Omega$ by $\psi(w) = w \cap P$. First, we show that $\psi$ is continuous.

Suppose that $\{w_i\}_i$ is a net in $\Omega_R$ and $w_i \rightarrow w$ is $\Omega_R$ as $i \rightarrow \infty$. Identifying each $w$ in $X_G$ with $\chi_w$, the characteristic function of $w$, we have $x_{w_i} \rightarrow x_w$ pointwise as $i \rightarrow \infty$, and $\chi_{w_i} \chi_P \rightarrow \chi_w \chi_P$ pointwise as $i \rightarrow \infty$; that is, $\chi_{w_i \cap P} \rightarrow \chi_{w \cap P}$ pointwise as $i \rightarrow \infty$; equivalently, $w_i \cap P \rightarrow w \cap P$ as $i \rightarrow \infty$. Since $\Omega_R$ and $\Omega$ are compact Hausdorff spaces, to show that $\psi$ is a homeomorphism, it remains to prove that it is a bijection. So let $w_1, w_2 \in \Omega_R, w_1 \cap P = w_2 \cap P$, but $w_1 \neq w_2$.

Assume that $x \in w_1 - w_2$. Since $w_1$ is a directed subset of $G$, there exists $z \in w_1 \cap P = w_2 \cap P$ so that $x \leq z$, and so $p = x^{-1}z \in P$. Therefore, $zP^{-1} \subseteq w_2$, because $w_2$ is hereditary. This, in turn, implies that $x = zP^{-1} \in w_2$, which is a contradiction. Hence, $\psi$ is one-to-one.

Finally, for every $w' \in \Omega$, consider $w = w'P^{-1}$. Then it can be easily seen that $w \cap P = w'$ and $w \in \Omega_R$. $\Box$
Corollary 2.4. There is a homeomorphism between the spaces $sp(D)$ and $\Omega_R$.

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