

ON A CERTAIN CLASS OF OPERATOR ALGEBRAS

BY

JAMES G. GLIMM

Introduction. In this paper we study C^* -algebras which are the uniform closure of strictly ascending sequences of full $n \times n$ ($n < \infty$) matrix algebras. We call these algebras uniformly hyperfinite. Factors of type II_1 which are the weak closure of such a sequence were first studied in [4], where it was proved that all such factors are isomorphic. The algebras we study are not all isomorphic. In §1 we classify uniformly hyperfinite algebras according to algebraic type (1.12) and obtain a characterization of these algebras. In §2 we identify the pure states and the pure state space of uniformly hyperfinite algebras. The w^* -closure of the pure states of one of these algebras is the set of all states of the algebra. This is not the first example of a C^* -algebra whose set of pure states is not closed, cf. [7]. In §3 we classify the irreducible representations of uniformly hyperfinite algebras according to unitary equivalence. In §§4 and 5 we study certain representations of uniformly hyperfinite algebras.

The author is pleased to record his gratitude to Professor R. V. Kadison for many helpful suggestions, for simplification of several proofs and for patient supervision of the research in this paper, which is the author's doctoral dissertation at Columbia University.

We assume all algebras have a unit (denoted by I). A family $\{e_{ij}: i, j = 1, \dots, n\}$ of operators on a Hilbert space $\mathfrak{H}$ (always complex) is called a family of matrix units if $e_{ij}e_{km} = 0$ for $j \neq k$, $= e_{im}$ for $j = k$, if $\sum_i e_{ii} = I$ (the identity operator on $\mathfrak{H}$), and if $e_{ij} = e_{ji}^*$. If $\mathfrak{M}$ is the C^* -algebra generated by these matrix units, we say $\{e_{ij}\}$ is a family of matrix units for $\mathfrak{M}$. If X is a subset of $\mathfrak{H}$, we denote by $[X]$ the smallest closed linear subspace of $\mathfrak{H}$ containing X . If E is a projection on $\mathfrak{H}$, we also denote by E the set $\{x: x \in \mathfrak{H}, x = Ex\}$. A state of a C^* -algebra is a positive linear functional f which satisfies $f(I) = 1$. The set of states of a C^* -algebra is convex and w^* -compact. The extreme points are called pure states. If $\mathfrak{M}$ is a self-adjoint linear subspace of a C^* -algebra $\mathfrak{A}$ and if $I \in \mathfrak{M}$, then a state of $\mathfrak{M}$ is also a positive normalized linear functional. The (pure) states of $\mathfrak{M}$ have extensions to (pure) states of $\mathfrak{A}$. If τ is a state of $\mathfrak{A}$ then there is a representation ϕ_τ of $\mathfrak{A}$ on a Hilbert space $\mathfrak{H}_\tau$ and an x in $\mathfrak{H}_\tau$ with $\tau = (\cdot, x) \circ \phi_\tau$ and $\mathfrak{H}_\tau = [\phi_\tau(\mathfrak{A})x]$. τ is pure if and only if ϕ_τ is irreducible (see [6]). If $f(x)$ is an expression depending upon x and perhaps other variables, we use the notation $f(\cdot)$ to designate the function $x \rightarrow f(x)$.

Received by the editors May 6, 1959.

1. Algebraic classification.

DEFINITION 1.1. Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be a C^* -algebra. $\mathfrak{A}$ is called *uniformly hyperfinite (UHF) of type $\{p_i\}$* if there is a sequence of factors $\{\mathfrak{M}_i: i=1, 2, \dots\}$ in $\mathfrak{A}$ with the following properties:

- (1) $\mathfrak{M}_i$ is of type I_{p_i} ,
- (2) $\mathfrak{M}_{i-1} \subset \mathfrak{M}_i$,
- (3) $p_i \rightarrow \infty$ as $i \rightarrow \infty$,
- (4) $\mathfrak{A}$ is the closure of $\bigcup_i \mathfrak{M}_i$.

In this case we shall say that $\mathfrak{A}$ is *generated by the factors $\mathfrak{M}_i$* . $\mathfrak{A}$ is called *uniformly hyperfinite* if there is a sequence $\{p_i\}$ of positive integers such that $\mathfrak{A}$ is uniformly hyperfinite of type $\{p_i\}$.

We observe that if $\{p_i\}$ is a sequence of positive integers then UHF algebras of type $\{p_i\}$ exist if and only if $p_i | p_{i+1}$ and $p_i \rightarrow \infty$ as $i \rightarrow \infty$. For example, suppose $p_i = 2^i$, let d be an infinite cardinal and let $\mathfrak{H}$ be a d -dimensional Hilbert space. Let E_1 and E_2 be orthogonal d -dimensional projections on $\mathfrak{H}$ with $E_1 + E_2 = I$ (the identity operator on $\mathfrak{H}$), let V be a partial isometry from E_1 to E_2 . Then the set of complex linear combinations of E_1, E_2, V and V^* is a factor $\mathfrak{M}_1$ of type I_2 . We can choose orthogonal d -dimensional projections F_1 and F_2 in E_1 with $F_1 + F_2 = E_1$, and we can choose a partial isometry W from F_1 to F_2 . The algebra generated by $\mathfrak{M}_1, F_1, F_2, W$ and W^* is a factor $\mathfrak{M}_2$ of type I_4 . Continuing in this way, we can construct an ascending sequence $\{\mathfrak{M}_i\}$ of factors on $\mathfrak{H}$, with $\mathfrak{M}_i$ of type I_{p_i} ($p_i = 2^i$). The closure of $\bigcup_i \mathfrak{M}_i$ (in the norm $\|\cdot\| = \sup \{ |(\cdot, x)| : x, y \text{ are in the unit sphere of } \mathfrak{H} \}$) is a UHF algebra of type $\{2^i\}$. With the next result we begin the classification of UHF algebras under $*$ -isomorphisms (see 1.12).

LEMMA 1.2. If $\mathfrak{A}$ and $\mathfrak{B}$ are both UHF algebras of type $\{p_i\}$ then $\mathfrak{A}$ and $\mathfrak{B}$ are $*$ -isomorphic.

Proof. $\mathfrak{A}$ is the closure of $\bigcup_i \mathfrak{M}_i$, $\mathfrak{B}$ is the closure of $\bigcup_i \mathfrak{N}_i$, where $\mathfrak{M}_i$ and $\mathfrak{N}_i$ are factors of type I_{p_i} . It is easy to construct a $*$ -isomorphism ϕ from $\bigcup_i \mathfrak{M}_i$ onto $\bigcup_i \mathfrak{N}_i$. For example see [4, p. 760]. For each positive integer i , $\phi|_{\mathfrak{M}_i}$ is norm preserving, so ϕ has an extension to a $*$ -isomorphism of $\mathfrak{A}$ onto $\mathfrak{B}$.

DEFINITION 1.3. Let $\{p_i\}$ be a sequence of positive integers such that $p_i | p_{i+1}$ and $p_i \rightarrow \infty$ as $i \rightarrow \infty$. We define a function $f(\{p_i\})$ whose domain is the prime numbers. Let x be a prime number, let

$$f(\{p_i\})(x) = \sup \{n: \text{there is an } i \text{ with } x^n | p_i\}.$$

We will show that UHF algebras of type $\{p_i\}$ and type $\{q_i\}$ are $*$ -isomorphic if and only if $f(\{p_i\}) = f(\{q_i\})$, that is if and only if the same prime powers are factors of the terms of the sequences $\{p_i\}$ and $\{q_i\}$.

DEFINITION 1.4. Let $\{p_i\}$ be a sequence of positive integers such that $p_i | p_{i+1}$ and $p_i \rightarrow \infty$ as $i \rightarrow \infty$. Let $\{x_j: j=1, 2, \dots\}$ be an enumeration of the prime numbers. We define

$$q_k = \prod_{j=1}^k x_j^{\min\{k, f(\{p_i\})(x_j)\}} \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

LEMMA 1.5. *If $\mathfrak{A}$ is a UHF algebra of type $\{p_i\}$, it is also UHF of type $\{q_i\}$ with $\{q_i\}$ as defined in 1.4.*

Proof. Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be generated by factors $\mathfrak{M}_i$ of type I_{p_i} . We remark that for every positive integer i , there is a positive integer j such that $p_i | q_j$ and $q_i | p_j$. Using this, it is not hard to show (see for example [5]) that $\cup_i \mathfrak{M}_i$ contains an ascending sequence $\{\mathfrak{N}_i\}$ of factors such that $\mathfrak{N}_i$ is of type I_{q_i} and $\cup_i \mathfrak{M}_i = \cup_j \mathfrak{N}_j$. Thus $\mathfrak{A}$ is UHF of type $\{q_i\}$.

We now prove a sequence of lemmas, the essence of which is the statement: if $\mathfrak{M}$ is a C^* -algebra acting on a Hilbert space $\mathfrak{H}$ and if $\{e_{ij}; i, j=1, \dots, n\}$ is a family of matrix units acting on $\mathfrak{H}$, and if this family can be approximated in the uniform topology by operators in $\mathfrak{M}$, it can be approximated in the uniform topology by matrix units in $\mathfrak{M}$ (see 1.10). In our applications of these lemmas $\mathfrak{M}$ will be a factor of type I_q , however it does not seem to simplify the proofs to assume this, since we require inequalities which are independent of q .

LEMMA 1.6. *Let $\epsilon > 0$. There is a $\gamma(\epsilon) = \gamma > 0$ such that if $\mathfrak{M}$ is a C^* -algebra acting on a Hilbert space $\mathfrak{H}$, if E is a projection on $\mathfrak{H}$ and if there is an $A \in \mathfrak{M}$ with $\|E - A\| < \gamma$ then there is a projection $F \in \mathfrak{M}$ with $\|E - F\| < \epsilon$.*

Proof. Since $\|(A + A^*)/2 - E\| \leq (\|A - E\| + \|A^* - E\|)/2$ we can assume that A is self-adjoint.

$$\begin{aligned} \|A^2 - A\| &\leq \|A^2 - AE\| + \|AE - E\| + \|E - A\| \\ &\leq \|A^2 - AE - EA + E\| + \|EA - E\| + \gamma + \gamma \\ &\leq \|A - E\|^2 + 3\gamma \leq \gamma^2 + 3\gamma. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that $\sigma(A)$, the spectrum of A , is contained in $[-\delta, \delta] \cup [1-\delta, 1+\delta]$ where δ is a positive number which can be chosen arbitrarily small by choosing γ sufficiently small. We suppose that $\delta < 1/2$. Let f be the function defined by $f([-\delta, \delta]) = 0$, $f([1-\delta, 1+\delta]) = 1$. Then $f(A) \in \mathfrak{M}$, $f(A)$ is a projection and

$$\|f(A) - E\| \leq \|f(A) - A\| + \|A - E\| \leq \delta + \gamma.$$

For a suitable choice of $\gamma < \epsilon/2$, δ can be chosen less than $\epsilon/2$, and the proof is complete.

LEMMA 1.7. *If $\epsilon > 0$ and if n is a positive integer, there is a $\delta(\epsilon, n) = \delta > 0$ with the property that if $\mathfrak{M}$ is a C^* -algebra and if $\{E_i; i=1, \dots, n\}$ is a family of projections in $\mathfrak{M}$ with $\|E_i E_j\| < \delta$ for $i \neq j$, then there is an orthogonal family $\{E'_i; i=1, \dots, n\}$ of projections in $\mathfrak{M}$, with $\|E'_i - E_i\| < \epsilon$.*

Proof. We use induction on n . If $n=1$ the proof is trivial. Suppose the lemma is true for all $n \leq r$. For any ϵ , $1/3 > \epsilon > 0$, we let $\gamma(\epsilon)$ be the positive number determined by 1.6. We suppose that $\gamma(\epsilon) < \epsilon$, and we define

$$\delta(\epsilon, r+1) = \min \{1/3, \gamma(\epsilon)/6r, \delta(\gamma(\epsilon)/6r, r)\}$$

where the right hand side is already defined by the inductive assumption.

Suppose we are given a family $\{E_i: i=1, \dots, r+1\}$ satisfying the hypothesis of 1.7. By the inductive assumption we can choose an orthogonal family $\{E'_i: i=1, \dots, r\}$ of projections in $\mathfrak{M}$ with $\|E'_i - E_i\| < \gamma(\epsilon)/6r$ for $i=1, \dots, r$. Let $F = \sum_{i=1}^r E'_i$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|E_{r+1} - (I - F)E_{r+1}(I - F)\| &= \|E_{r+1} - E_{r+1} - FE_{r+1}F + FE_{r+1} + E_{r+1}F\| \\ &\leq 3\|FE_{r+1}\| \\ &\leq 3 \sum_{i=1}^r \|E'_i E_{r+1}\| \\ &< 3 \sum_{i=1}^r (\|E_i E_{r+1}\| + \gamma(\epsilon)/6r) \\ &\leq \gamma(\epsilon). \end{aligned}$$

By our choice of $\gamma(\epsilon)$ we can choose a projection E'_{r+1} in the (commutative) C^* -algebra generated by E'_i , $i=1, \dots, r$, I , and $(I-F)E_{r+1}(I-F)$, with $\|E'_{r+1} - E_{r+1}\| < \epsilon$. Hence $\|E'_i - E_i\| < \epsilon$ for $i=1, \dots, r+1$. Also $E'_{r+1}E'_i$ is a projection for $i=1, \dots, r$, and

$$\begin{aligned} \|E'_{r+1}E'_i\| &< \|E_{r+1}E'_i\| + \epsilon \\ &\leq \|E_{r+1}E_i\| + \epsilon + \epsilon \\ &\leq 1/3 + 1/3 + 1/3 = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus $E'_{r+1}E'_i = 0$ for $i=1, \dots, r$ and $\{E'_i: i=1, \dots, r+1\}$ is an orthogonal family of projections in $\mathfrak{M}$.

LEMMA 1.8. *If $\{E_i: i=1, \dots, n\}$ and $\{F_i: i=1, \dots, n\}$ are each orthogonal families of projections in a C^* -algebra $\mathfrak{M}$, and if $\|E_i - F_i\| < 1$, then there is a partial isometry W in $\mathfrak{M}$ such that $E_i W F_i$ is a partial isometry from F_i to E_i . If $\epsilon > 0$ there is a $\delta(\epsilon, n) = \delta > 0$ such that if $\|E_i - F_i\| < \delta$ then W can be chosen so that $\|E_i - E_i W F_i\| < \epsilon$. If $\sum_i E_i = I$ then W can be chosen so that $\|I - W\| < \epsilon$.*

Proof. We have the inequalities $\|E_i - E_i F_i E_i\|, \|F_i - F_i E_i F_i\| \leq \|E_i - F_i\| < 1$. Let γ be a number such that $\|E_i - F_i\| < \gamma < 1$. Let f be the function defined by $f(x) = 0$ if $x \leq (1 - \gamma)/2$, $f(x) = 1/x$ if $x \geq 1 - \gamma$, f is linear on $[(1 - \gamma)/2, 1 - \gamma]$. If ρ is a pure state of the (commutative) C^* -algebra generated by I , E_i and $E_i F_i E_i$, then $\rho(E_i) \in \{0, 1\}$. If $\rho(E_i) = 0$ (resp. 1) then since

$0 \leq E_i F_i E_i \leq E_i$ (resp. $0 \leq E_i - E_i F_i E_i \leq \gamma$), we have $\rho(E_i F_i E_i) = 0$ (resp. $\in [1 - \gamma, 1]$). Since ρ is multiplicative,

$$(1) \quad \rho(E_i F_i E_i f(E_i F_i E_i)) = \rho(E_i F_i E_i) f(\rho(E_i F_i E_i)) = \rho(E_i),$$

and if we let $G_i = (f(E_i F_i E_i))^{1/2}$ then since (1) holds for each ρ , $E_i = E_i F_i E_i G_i^2 = G_i E_i F_i E_i G_i$. If we let $H_i = (f(F_i E_i F_i))^{1/2}$ then by a similar argument, $F_i = H_i^2 F_i E_i F_i$. Let $W_i = E_i G_i F_i$. Then $W_i W_i^* = E_i G_i F_i G_i E_i = E_i$ and

$$\begin{aligned} W_i^* W_i &= F_i G_i E_i G_i F_i \\ &= H_i^2 F_i E_i F_i E_i G_i^2 F_i \\ &= H_i^2 F_i E_i F_i = F_i. \end{aligned}$$

Let $W = \sum_i W_i$. $E_i W F_i = W_i$ is a partial isometry from F_i to E_i and W is a partial isometry from $\sum_i F_i$ to $\sum_i E_i$.

Given a positive ϵ , let δ be the minimum of $\{1/2, \epsilon/4n\}$. If $\|E_i - F_i\| < \delta$ then we choose γ in the first part of the proof to be equal to δ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \|W_i - E_i\| &\leq \|W_i - G_i\| + \|G_i - E_i\| \\ &= \|G_i F_i - G_i E_i\| + \|G_i - E_i\| \\ &\leq \|G_i\| \|F_i - E_i\| + \|G_i - E_i\|. \end{aligned}$$

If ρ is as above, then $|\rho(G_i - E_i)| \leq |\rho(G_i^2) - \rho(E_i)| < (1 - \delta)^{-1} - 1 = \delta/(1 - \delta)$ and $|\rho(G_i)| \leq |\rho(G_i^2)| < 1/(1 - \delta)$. Consequently $\|G_i - E_i\| < \delta/(1 - \delta)$ and $\|G_i\| < 1/(1 - \delta)$ and so $\|W_i - E_i\| < 2\delta/(1 - \delta) \leq 4\delta \leq \epsilon/n$. If $\sum_i E_i = I$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \|W - I\| &= \left\| \sum_i (W_i - E_i) \right\| \\ &\leq \sum_i \|W_i - E_i\| < \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

LEMMA 1.9. *Let $\epsilon > 0$. There is a $\delta(\epsilon) = \delta > 0$ with the following property: Let $\mathfrak{M}$ be a C^* -algebra acting on a Hilbert space $\mathfrak{H}$. Let E_1 and E_2 (resp. F_1 and F_2) be orthogonal projections in $\mathfrak{M}$ (resp. operating on $\mathfrak{H}$). Suppose that $\|E_i - F_i\| < \delta$, $i = 1, 2$, and suppose that there is a partial isometry V from F_1 to F_2 and an $A \in \mathfrak{M}$ such that $\|V - A\| < \delta$. Then there is a partial isometry $U \in \mathfrak{M}$ from E_1 to E_2 and $\|V - U\| < \epsilon$.*

Proof. Let $\delta = \min \{1/32, \epsilon/75\}$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \|E_2 - E_2 A A^* E_2\| &\leq \|E_2 - A A^*\| \\ &\leq \|E_2 - F_2\| + \|F_2 - A A^*\| \\ &< \delta + \|V V^* - V A^*\| + \|V A^* - A A^*\| \\ &< \delta + \delta + \delta(1 + \delta) < 4\delta < 1. \end{aligned}$$

$E_2 A A^* E_2$ is positive and lives on E_2 . By spectral theory, there is an $X \in \mathfrak{M}$ such that

$$E_2 = XE_2AA^*E_2X,$$

$$\|X - E_2\| \leq \|X^2 - E_2\| < 4\delta/(1 - 4\delta) < 8\delta.$$

Let $W = XE_2A$. Then $WW^* = E_2$ and W^*W is a projection in $\mathfrak{M}$. Also

$$\begin{aligned} \|W^*W - E_1\| &\leq \|W^*W - V^*E_2X^2E_2A\| + \|V^*E_2X^2E_2A - V^*E_2X^2E_2V\| \\ &\quad + \|V^*E_2X^2E_2V - F_1\| + \|F_1 - E_1\| \\ &\leq \|V^* - A^*\| \|X^2\| \|A\| + \|A - V\| \|X^2\| + \|E_2X^2E_2 - F_2\| + \delta \\ &< \delta(1 + 8\delta)(1 + \delta) + \delta(1 + 8\delta) + \|E_2X^2E_2 - E_2\| + \delta + \delta \\ &\leq 8\delta + \|X^2 - E_2\| < 16\delta \leq 1/2. \end{aligned}$$

By the δ chosen in the proof of 1.8, we see that there is a partial isometry $W_1 \in \mathfrak{M}$ from E_1 to W^*W and

$$\|W^*W - W_1\| < 64\delta.$$

Let $U = WW_1$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|V - U\| &\leq \|V - W\| + \|W - WW_1\| \\ &\leq \|V - E_2V\| + \|E_2V - XE_2V\| + \|XE_2V - XE_2A\| \\ &\quad + \|W^*W - W_1\| \\ &< \delta + 8\delta + \delta(1 + 8\delta) + 64\delta \leq 75\delta \leq \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

U is a partial isometry from E_1 to E_2 , and the proof is complete.

LEMMA 1.10. *For every $\epsilon > 0$ and every positive integer n there is a $\delta(\epsilon, n) = \delta > 0$ with the following property. Let $\mathfrak{M}$ be a C^* -algebra acting on a Hilbert space $\mathfrak{H}$, let $\{e_{ij} : i, j = 1, \dots, n\}$ be a family of matrix units acting on $\mathfrak{H}$. If there are $A_{ij} \in \mathfrak{M}$ with $\|e_{ij} - A_{ij}\| < \delta$ then there are matrix units $f_{ij} \in \mathfrak{M}$ with $\|e_{ij} - f_{ij}\| < \epsilon$.*

Proof. By 1.6 we suppose without loss of generality that A_{ii} is a projection. For $i \neq j$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|A_{ii}A_{jj}\| &\leq \|A_{ii}A_{jj} - e_{ii}A_{jj}\| + \|e_{ii}A_{jj} - e_{ii}e_{jj}\| \\ &\leq \|A_{ii} - e_{ii}\| + \|A_{jj} - e_{jj}\|. \end{aligned}$$

By 1.7 we can assume without loss of generality that $\{A_{ii}\}$ is an orthogonal family of projections and by 1.9 that for $i \neq j$, A_{ij} is a partial isometry from A_{jj} to A_{ii} . $\sum_i A_{ii}$ is a projection and

$$\left\| I - \sum_i A_{ii} \right\| \leq \sum_i \|e_{ii} - A_{ii}\|$$

which for $\delta < 1/n$ is less than 1. In this case $\sum_i A_{ii} = I$. Let $f_{ij} = A_{ii}^* A_{1j}$. If $\delta < \min(1/n, \epsilon/2)$ then $\{f_{ij}\}$ is a family of matrix units and

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_{ij} - e_{ij}\| &\leq \|A_{1i}^* A_{1j} - A_{1i}^* e_{1j}\| + \|A_{1i}^* e_{1j} - e_{ij}\| \\ &< 2\delta \leq \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

This proof is complete.

LEMMA 1.11. *For every positive integer n there is an $\epsilon > 0$ with the following property. Let $\mathfrak{M}$ be a factor of type I_q acting on a Hilbert space $\mathfrak{H}$, let $\{e_{ij}: i, j = 1, \dots, n\}$ be a family of matrix units acting on $\mathfrak{H}$. If in addition there are $A_{ij} \in \mathfrak{M}$ with $\|e_{ij} - A_{ij}\| < \epsilon$ then $n|q$.*

Proof. By 1.10 it is sufficient to prove 1.11 when $\{A_{ij}\}$ is a family of matrix units. Assuming this, recall that $I = \sum_i A_{ii}$. Hence if $\text{Dim}(\cdot)$ is the dimension function for $\mathfrak{M}$, $1 = \text{Dim}(\sum_i A_{ii}) = n \text{Dim}(A_{ii})$ for any i , and $\text{Dim}(A_{ii}) = 1/n$. This implies $n|q$.

We prove two theorems, which are the main results of this section. The first theorem is a classification of UHF algebras under $*$ -isomorphisms.

THEOREM 1.12. *If $\mathfrak{A}$ and $\mathfrak{B}$ are UHF algebras of type $\{p_i\}$ and $\{r_i\}$ respectively, then $\mathfrak{A}$ is $*$ -isomorphic to $\mathfrak{B}$ if and only if $f(\{p_i\}) = f(\{r_i\})$, where f is defined in 1.3.*

Proof. Suppose $f(\{p_i\}) = f(\{r_i\})$. The q_k defined in 1.4 with the sequence $\{p_i\}$ is the same as the q_k defined with the sequence $\{r_i\}$ for $k = 1, 2, \dots$. By 1.5 $\mathfrak{A}$ and $\mathfrak{B}$ are both of type $\{q_i\}$ and by 1.2 $\mathfrak{A}$ and $\mathfrak{B}$ are $*$ -isomorphic.

If $\mathfrak{A}$ and $\mathfrak{B}$ are $*$ -isomorphic, it will follow from the second statement of 1.13 that $f(\{p_i\}) = f(\{r_i\})$. A direct proof could be given, using 1.11.

In the next theorem we state a necessary and sufficient condition for a C^* -algebra to be either UHF or a factor of type I_n . This condition is analogous to one of the definitions of hyperfinite factors of type II_1 [4]. We also find a new definition for $f(\{p_i\})$.

THEOREM 1.13. *Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be a C^* -algebra. $\mathfrak{A}$ is either a UHF algebra or a factor of type I_n if and only if the following conditions are satisfied.*

(1) $\mathfrak{A}$ has a countable dense subset.

(2) If $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \mathfrak{A}$ and if $\epsilon > 0$ there is a positive integer r and a factor $\mathfrak{M} \subset \mathfrak{A}$ of type I_r and $B_1, \dots, B_n \in \mathfrak{M}$ such that $\|A_i - B_i\| < \epsilon$.

If we define for a C^* -algebra $\mathfrak{A}$ and a prime number x

$$f(\mathfrak{A}, x) = \sup\{j: \mathfrak{M} \text{ is a factor of type } I_n, \mathfrak{M} \subset \mathfrak{A}, x^j | n\}$$

then if $\mathfrak{A}$ is a UHF algebra of type $\{p_i\}$, $f(\{p_i\})(\cdot) = f(\mathfrak{A}, \cdot)$.

Proof. Suppose $\mathfrak{A}$ satisfies (1) and (2). Let $\{D_i: i = 1, 2, \dots\}$ be a countable dense subset of the sphere of radius $1/2$ about the origin of $\mathfrak{A}$. We construct by induction an ascending sequence of factors $\{\mathfrak{M}_i\}$, $\mathfrak{M}_i$ of type I_{p_i} for some positive integer p_i , $\mathfrak{M}_i \subset \mathfrak{A}$, and such that there are $B_k \in \mathfrak{M}_i$, $k = 1, \dots, i$ with $\|D_k - B_k\| \leq 2^{-i}$. The existence of $\mathfrak{M}_1$ is a direct

consequence of (2). Suppose $\mathfrak{M}_i$ has been chosen and satisfies the above conditions for $i=1, \dots, n$. We construct $\mathfrak{M}_{n+1}$.

Let $\{e_{st}\}$ be a family of matrix units for $\mathfrak{M}_n$, let $\epsilon = 2^{-n-5}p_n^{-2}$. By (2) and 1.10 we can find a factor $\mathfrak{M} \subset \mathfrak{A}$, $\mathfrak{M}$ of type $I_{p_{n+1}}$, for some positive integer p_{n+1} such that there are matrix units $f_{st} \in \{\mathfrak{M}\}$ with $\|e_{st} - f_{st}\| < \epsilon$, $s, t = 1, \dots, p_n$, and $B'_k \in \mathfrak{M}$ with $\|D_k - B'_k\| < \epsilon$, $k=1, \dots, n+1$. By 1.8 and the choice of δ in the proof of 1.8, there is a partial isometry $W \in \mathfrak{A}$ from f_{11} to e_{11} with $\|e_{11} - W\| < 4\epsilon$. Let $\mathfrak{M}_{n+1}$ be the C^* -algebra generated by $\mathfrak{M}_n$ and $Wf_{11}\mathfrak{M}f_{11}W^*$. $\mathfrak{M}_{n+1}$ is isomorphic to the tensor product of $\mathfrak{M}_n$ and $f_{11}\mathfrak{M}f_{11}$, and so is a factor of type $I_{p_{n+1}}$, and $\mathfrak{M}_n \subset \mathfrak{M}_{n+1} \subset \mathfrak{A}$. Let

$$B_k = \sum_{s,t} e_{s1} W f_{1s} B'_k f_{t1} W^* e_{1t}.$$

Then $B_k \in \mathfrak{M}_{n+1}$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \|D_k - B_k\| &\leq \|D_k - B'_k\| + \|B'_k - B_k\| \\ &\leq \epsilon + p_n^2 \max_{s,t} \|f_{ss} B'_k f_{tt} - e_{s1} W f_{1s} B'_k f_{t1} W^* e_{1t}\|. \end{aligned}$$

However

$$\begin{aligned} &\|f_{ss} B'_k f_{tt} - e_{s1} W f_{1s} B'_k f_{t1} W^* e_{1t}\| \\ &\leq \|f_{ss} B'_k f_{tt} - f_{ss} B'_k f_{t1} W^* e_{1t}\| + \|f_{ss} B'_k f_{t1} W^* e_{1t} - e_{s1} W f_{1s} B'_k f_{t1} W^* e_{1t}\| \\ &\leq \|f_{tt} - f_{t1} W^* e_{1t}\| + \|f_{ss} - e_{s1} W f_{1s}\| \\ &\leq \|f_{1t} - W^* e_{1t}\| + \|f_{s1} - e_{s1} W\| \\ &\leq \|f_{1t} - e_{1t}\| + \|e_{1t} - W^* e_{1t}\| + \|f_{s1} - e_{s1}\| + \|e_{s1} - e_{s1} W\| \\ &\leq \epsilon + 4\epsilon + \epsilon + 4\epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\|D_k - B_k\| \leq \epsilon + 10p_n^2 \epsilon \leq 2^{-n-1}$$

for $k=1, \dots, n+1$, and $\mathfrak{M}_{n+1}$ has been constructed and has the required properties. We can suppose that $\mathfrak{M}_i$ has been constructed and has the required properties for $i=1, 2, \dots$. The closure of $\bigcup_i \mathfrak{M}_i$ contains $\{D_i: i=1, 2, \dots\}$ and so coincides with $\mathfrak{A}$. If $p_i \rightarrow \infty$ as $i \rightarrow \infty$ then $\mathfrak{A}$ is UHF. If $p_i \rightarrow \infty$ as $i \rightarrow \infty$, choose a j such that $p_j = p_{j+1} = \dots$. Then $\mathfrak{M}_j$ is dense in $\mathfrak{A}$, $\mathfrak{M}_j$ equals $\mathfrak{A}$ and $\mathfrak{A}$ is a factor of type I_{p_j} . This proves the first statement of 1.13.

We prove the second statement. Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be a UHF algebra of type $\{p_i\}$, let $N = \{n: \mathfrak{M} \text{ is a factor of type } I_n, \mathfrak{M} \subset \mathfrak{A}\}$. Let x be a prime number. We must show that $f(\{p_i\})(x) = \sup \{j: \text{there is an } n \in N \text{ with } x^j | n\}$. Suppose $n \in N$. By 1.11 and 1.1 formula (4) there is an i such that $n | p_i$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned}\max\{j: x^j \mid n\} &\leq f(\{p_i\})(x), \\ \sup\{j: \text{there is an } n \in N \text{ with } x^j \mid n\} &\leq f(\{p_i\})(x).\end{aligned}$$

The converse inequality follows directly from the definition of $f(\{p_i\})$ and the fact that $p_i \in N$. This completes the proof of 1.13.

In §5 we will construct a C^* -algebra which is related to the investigations of this section.

2. Pure states and the pure state space. Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be a UHF algebra generated by factors $\mathfrak{M}_n$ of type I_{p_n} , let $\{e_{ij}^n: i, j = 1, \dots, p_n\}$ be a family of matrix units for $\mathfrak{M}_n$. If f is a linear functional on $\mathfrak{A}$, then f is uniquely determined by the numbers $a_{ij}^n = f(e_{ij}^n)$. We determine in 2.4 necessary and sufficient conditions in terms of the a_{ij}^n that f be a state (resp. pure state) of $\mathfrak{A}$. If f is a state of $\mathfrak{A}$ then f is pure if and only if for each positive integer n there is an integer r greater than n such that if g is a linear functional on $\mathfrak{M}_r$, and if $f|_{\mathfrak{M}_r} \geq g \geq 0$ then $g|_{\mathfrak{M}_n}$ is approximately a scalar multiple of $f|_{\mathfrak{M}_n}$. First we prove two lemmas dealing with a more general situation. If T is a subset of a metric space T' , if $\epsilon > 0$, we say that T is ϵ -dense in T' if for every t' in T' there is a t in T with $d(t', t) < \epsilon$.

LEMMA 2.1. *Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be a C^* -algebra, let $\{\mathfrak{M}_n: n \in N\}$ be a net (directed by inclusion, N a set of indices) of finite dimensional self-adjoint linear subspaces $\mathfrak{M}_n$ of $\mathfrak{A}$ which contain I . Assume that $\mathfrak{A}$ is the closure of the union of the $\mathfrak{M}_n$. (Such a net always exists.) Let ω be a state of $\mathfrak{A}$. ω is pure if for each n in N and each positive number ϵ there is an $r_1(n, \epsilon) = r$ in N with $r \geq n$ and such that there exists an ϵ -dense subset T of $\{a\tau: a \in [0, 1], \tau \text{ is a state of } \mathfrak{M}_r \text{ and } \omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_r} \geq a\tau\}$ with the property that if $a\tau \in T$ then either $\|\omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_n} - \tau|_{\mathfrak{M}_n}\| \leq \epsilon$ or $a < \epsilon$.*

Proof. Suppose ω is not pure. Then $\omega = 2^{-1}\tau_1 + 2^{-1}\tau_2$, where τ_1 and τ_2 are distinct states of $\mathfrak{A}$. τ_1 and ω are also distinct states of $\mathfrak{A}$, and since $\bigcup_n \mathfrak{M}_n$ is dense in $\mathfrak{A}$, $\omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_n}$ and $\tau_1|_{\mathfrak{M}_n}$ are distinct states of $\mathfrak{M}_n$ for some n in N . Let $\epsilon = \min \{1/4, \|\omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_n} - \tau_1|_{\mathfrak{M}_n}\|/5\}$, let r be in N with $r \geq n$, let T be an ϵ -dense subset of $\{a\tau: a \in [0, 1], \tau \text{ is a state of } \mathfrak{M}_r \text{ and } \omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_r} \geq a\tau\}$. Since $\omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_r} \geq 2^{-1}\tau_1|_{\mathfrak{M}_r}$, there is an $a\tau$ in T with $\|2^{-1}\tau_1|_{\mathfrak{M}_r} - a\tau\| < \epsilon$. This implies $|2^{-1} - a| < \epsilon$, $a > \epsilon$, and

$$\begin{aligned}\|\omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_n} - \tau|_{\mathfrak{M}_n}\| &\geq \|\omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_n} - \tau_1|_{\mathfrak{M}_n}\| - \|\tau_1|_{\mathfrak{M}_r} - 2a\tau\| - \|2a\tau - \tau\| \\ &> 5\epsilon - 2\epsilon - 2\epsilon = \epsilon.\end{aligned}$$

Thus for this n and ϵ , there is no r with the properties of the lemma, and the proof is complete.

LEMMA 2.2. *Let $\mathfrak{A}$, $\{\mathfrak{M}_n: n \in N\}$, and ω be as in 2.1. ω is pure only if for each n in N and each positive number ϵ there is an $r_2(n, \epsilon) = r$ in N with $r \geq n$ and such that if $q \in N$ and if $q \geq r$, and if*

$$\omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_q} = \sum_k \alpha_k \tau_k$$

where τ_k is a state of $\mathfrak{M}_q$ and $\{\alpha_k\}$ is a finite convex family, and if we let

$$K_q = \{k: \|\omega| \mathfrak{M}_n - \tau_k| \mathfrak{M}_n\| > \epsilon\}$$

then

$$\sum \{\alpha_k: k \in K_q\} < \epsilon.$$

Proof. We suppose that for some n and some positive ϵ such an r cannot be found. For each $q \geq n$ in some cofinal subset Q of N , there is a decomposition of $\omega| \mathfrak{M}_q$ as a finite convex sum of restrictions to $\mathfrak{M}_q$ of states $\{\tau_{kq}: k=1, \dots, t_q\}$ of $\mathfrak{A}$,

$$\omega| \mathfrak{M}_q = \sum_k \alpha_{kq} \tau_{kq}| \mathfrak{M}_q,$$

and if K_q is defined as in the statement of the theorem, $\sum \{\alpha_{kq}: k \in K_q\} \geq \epsilon$. The dual $\mathfrak{M}_n^*$ to the topological vector space $\mathfrak{M}_n$ is a finite dimensional topological vector space, so the weak topology and the norm topology on $\mathfrak{M}_n^*$ are the same. Consequently there is a finite subset $\{A_i: i=1, \dots, s\}$ of nonzero elements of $\mathfrak{M}_n$ such that if $f \in \mathfrak{M}_n^*$ and $|f(A_i)| \leq 1, i=1, \dots, s$ then $\|f\| \leq \epsilon$. $\omega| \mathfrak{M}_n - \tau_{kq}| \mathfrak{M}_n \in \mathfrak{M}_n^*$ and so

$$K_q = \bigcup \{K(q, i) \cap K_q: i=1, \dots, 2s\}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} K(q, 2i) &= \{k: -\omega(A_i) + \tau_{kq}(A_i) > 1\}, & i=1, \dots, s \\ K(q, 2i-1) &= \{k: \omega(A_i) - \tau_{kq}(A_i) > 1\}, & i=1, \dots, s. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum \{\alpha_{kq}: k \in K_q\} \geq \epsilon$ there is an $i(q) \in \{1, \dots, 2s\}$ such that

$$(1) \quad a_q = \sum \{\alpha_{kq}: k \in K(q, i(q))\} \geq \epsilon/2s$$

where the above equation defines a_q . Let

$$\begin{aligned} \tau'_q &= a_q^{-1} \sum \{\alpha_{kq} \tau_{kq}: k \in K(q, i(q))\}, \\ \tau''_q &= (1 - a_q)^{-1} \sum \{\alpha_{kq} \tau_{kq}: k \notin K(q, i(q)), 1 \leq k \leq t_q\}. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\omega| \mathfrak{M}_q = a_q \tau'_q| \mathfrak{M}_q + (1 - a_q) \tau''_q| \mathfrak{M}_q$$

and letting $j=i(q)/2$ if $i(q)$ is even, $(i(q)+1)/2$ if $i(q)$ is odd,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\omega| \mathfrak{M}_n - \tau'_q| \mathfrak{M}_n\| &\geq \|A_j\|^{-1} |\omega(A_j) - \tau'_q(A_j)| \\ &\geq \|A_j\|^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

The states of $\mathfrak{A}$ are w^* -compact, so we can choose a subnet $\{q_m: m \in M\}$ of Q , where M is some directed set, such that

$$(2) \quad \tau'_{q_m} \rightarrow \tau'$$

$$(3) \quad \tau''_{q_m} \rightarrow \tau''$$

$$a_{q_m} \rightarrow a$$

where τ' , τ'' are states of $\mathfrak{A}$, the convergence in (2) and (3) is in the w^* -topology, and a is a real number. If $A \in \mathfrak{M}_q$,

$$\begin{aligned} a\tau'(A) + (1-a)\tau''(A) &= \lim_m (a_{q_m}\tau'_{q_m}(A) + (1-a_{q_m})\tau''_{q_m}(A)) \\ &= \lim_m \omega(A) = \omega(A). \end{aligned}$$

Consequently $a\tau' + (1-a)\tau'' = \omega$. We show that this convex sum is not degenerate, and this will complete the proof. By the equivalence of weak and norm topologies in $\mathfrak{M}_n^*$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\omega| \mathfrak{M}_n - \tau'| \mathfrak{M}_n\| &= \left\| \omega| \mathfrak{M}_n - \left(\lim_m \tau'_{q_m} \right) | \mathfrak{M}_n \right\| \\ &= \left\| \omega| \mathfrak{M}_n - \lim_m (\tau'_{q_m} | \mathfrak{M}_n) \right\| \\ &= \lim_m \|\omega| \mathfrak{M}_n - \tau'_{q_m} | \mathfrak{M}_n\| \\ &\geq \inf \{ \|A_j\|^{-1}; j = 1, \dots, s \} > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\omega \neq \tau'$, which implies $a < 1$ and $\tau' \neq \tau''$. By (1) $a > 0$ and the proof is complete.

We observe that 2.2 is (stronger than) a converse to 2.1. Suppose that ω is pure, that $n \in N$ and that $\epsilon > 0$. We show that there is an $r_1(n, \epsilon)$ which has the properties of 2.1. In fact, let $r_1(n, \epsilon) = r_2(n, \epsilon) (= r)$. Let $T = \{a\tau: a \in [0, 1)\}$ and τ is a state of $\mathfrak{M}_r$ with $\omega| \mathfrak{M}_r \geq a\tau$. If $a\tau \in T$ then

$$\omega| \mathfrak{M}_r = a\tau + (1-a)[(1-a)^{-1}(\omega| \mathfrak{M}_r - a\tau)]$$

and by 2.2, either $\|\omega| \mathfrak{M}_n - \tau| \mathfrak{M}_n\| \leq \epsilon$ or $a < \epsilon$.

DEFINITION 2.3. Let $\mathfrak{N}$ (resp. $\mathfrak{M}$) be the algebra of complex $n \times n$ (resp. $q \times q$) matrices, with matrix units $\{e_{ij}^n\}$ (resp. $\{e_{ij}^q\}$). Suppose $n|q$. An isomorphism θ of $\mathfrak{N}$ into $\mathfrak{M}$ is called the *standard imbedding* [5] if

$$\theta(e_{ij}^n) = \sum \{e_{st}^q: (s, t) = (an + i, an + j), a = 0, \dots, (q/n) - 1\}.$$

We identify the set of $p_r \times p_r$ complex matrices with $\mathfrak{M}_r$ by means of the matrix units $\{e_{ij}^r\}$. When we speak of an ϵ -dense subset S of a subset of $\mathfrak{M}_r$, we shall mean ϵ -dense in the metric which makes the mapping ϕ of 6.1 from the normed space $\mathfrak{M}_r^*$ to the set $\mathfrak{M}_r$ an isometry. If B_1 and B_2 are positive elements of $\mathfrak{M}_r$, then the distance from B_1 to B_2 in this metric is $\text{trace } |B_1 - B_2|$ (see the proof of 3.4).

THEOREM 2.4. *Using the notation preceding 2.1, let A_n be the transpose of the matrix (a_{ij}^n) . Then f is a state if and only if $\text{trace}(A_n) = 1$ and $A_n \geq 0$ for each n . Suppose that f is a state and that the inclusion $\mathfrak{M}_n \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}_q$ is the standard imbedding relative to the matrix units $\{e_{ii}^n\}$ and $\{e_{ij}^q\}$ for each n and q with $q \geq n$. Then f is pure if for each positive integer n and each positive ϵ there is an integer $r_3(n, \epsilon) = r$ with $r \geq n$ and such that there exists an ϵ -dense subset $S(n, \epsilon) = S$ of the set $\{aB: a \in [0, 1] \text{ and } B \text{ is a positive } p_r \times p_r \text{ matrix with trace}(B) = 1 \text{ and } A_r \geq aB\}$ with the property that if $aB \in S$ then either*

$$\sup_{ij} |a_{ij}^n - \sum \{b_{is}: (s, t) = (ap_n + i, ap_n + j), a = 0, \dots, (p_r/p_s) - 1\}| \leq \epsilon$$

or $a < \epsilon$ where B is the matrix (b_{st}) . Also f is pure only if for each positive integer n and each positive ϵ there is an integer $r_4(n, \epsilon) = r$ with $r \geq n$ and such that if q is an integer, if $q \geq r$, if

$$A_q = \sum_k \alpha_k B_k$$

where $\{\alpha_k\}$ is a finite convex family and B_k is a positive matrix with trace $(B_k) = 1$, if we let

$$\begin{aligned} K(q) &= \{k: \text{there is an } i \text{ and a } j \text{ with } |a_{ij}^n - \sum \{b_{is}^k: (s, t) \\ &= (ap_n + i, ap_n + j), a = 0, \dots, (p_q/p_n) - 1\}| > \epsilon\} \end{aligned}$$

where B_k is the matrix (b_{st}^k) , then

$$\sum \{\alpha_k: k \in K(q)\} < \epsilon.$$

Proof. If $A_n \geq 0$ for each n then by 6.1, $f| \mathfrak{M}_n \geq 0$ for each n . Let D be a positive element of $\mathfrak{A}$ and choose $D_n \in \mathfrak{M}_n$ such that $D_n \rightarrow D$. Then $f(D) = f((D^*D)^{1/2}) = \lim_n f((D_n^*D_n)^{1/2}) \geq 0$ and so $f \geq 0$. Conversely if $f \geq 0$ then $f| \mathfrak{M}_n \geq 0$ for each n and by 6.1 $A_n \geq 0$ for each n . Also $f(I) = \sum_i f(e_{ii}^n) = \text{trace}(A_n)$ and the proof of the first statement of 2.4 is complete.

Suppose that f is a state and that the inclusions $\mathfrak{M}_n \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}_q$ are standard imbeddings. Suppose that for each n and ϵ we can find an $r_3(n, \epsilon)$ with the properties stated in 2.4. Let $r_1(n, \epsilon) = r_3(n, \epsilon p_n^{-2}) (=r)$, let $\phi^{-1}(S(n, \epsilon p_n^{-2})) = T$. By 6.1, T is an ϵp_n^{-2} -dense subset of $\{a\tau: a \in [0, 1], \tau \text{ is a state of } \mathfrak{M}_r \text{ and } f| \mathfrak{M}_r \geq a\tau\}$. If $D = \sum_{ij} d_{ij} e_{ij}^n \in \mathfrak{M}_n$, where d_{ij} is a complex number, then $\|D\| \leq 1$ implies $|d_{ij}| \leq 1$ for all i, j , and consequently

$$p_n^2 \sup_{ij} |f(e_{ij}^n) - \tau(e_{ij}^n)| \geq \|f| \mathfrak{M}_n - \tau| \mathfrak{M}_n\|$$

for any state τ of $\mathfrak{M}_r$. If $a\tau \in T$, then $a\phi(\tau) \in S(n, \epsilon p_n^{-2})$ and so $\sup_{ij} |f(e_{ij}^n) - \tau(e_{ij}^n)| \leq \epsilon p_n^{-2}$ or $a < \epsilon p_n^{-2}$. Thus $\|f| \mathfrak{M}_n - \tau| \mathfrak{M}_n\| \leq \epsilon$ or $a < \epsilon$ and by 2.1, f is pure.

Suppose that f is a pure state of $\mathfrak{A}$ and let n be a positive integer, let ϵ be a positive number. Let $r_4(n, \epsilon) = r_2(n, \epsilon)$. If $A_q = \sum_k \alpha_k B_k$ as in the statement of 2.4, let $\tau_k = \phi^{-1}(B_k)$. By 6.1, τ_k is a state of $\mathfrak{M}_q$ and $f|_{\mathfrak{M}_q} = \sum_k \alpha_k \tau_k$. If we define K_q as in 2.2, then $K_q \supset K(q)$. Thus $\sum \{\alpha_k: k \in K(q)\} \leq \sum \{\alpha_k: k \in K_q\} < \epsilon$ and $r_4(n, \epsilon)$ has the desired properties. This completes the proof.

LEMMA 2.5. *Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be a UHF algebra generated by factors $\mathfrak{M}_n$ of type I_{q_n} . Let ω be a pure state of $\mathfrak{A}$, let $\epsilon > 0$, let n be a positive integer. There is an integer $r \geq n$ and a pure state ω' of $\mathfrak{A}$ such that*

- (1) $\|\omega' - \omega\| < \epsilon$,
- (2) *carrier $\omega'|_{\mathfrak{M}_r} \leq \text{carrier } \omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_r}$,*
- (3) *if ρ is a state of $\mathfrak{M}_r$ and $\text{carrier } \rho \leq \text{carrier } \omega'|_{\mathfrak{M}_r}$, then $\|\rho|_{\mathfrak{M}_n} - \omega'|_{\mathfrak{M}_n}\| < \epsilon$,*
- (4) $\mathfrak{M}_r$ -dimension ($\text{carrier } \omega'|_{\mathfrak{M}_r}$) $\leq q_r/q_n$.

Proof. By 6.1 we have $\omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_n} = \sum_{i=1}^l \alpha_i \tau_i$ where the right hand member is a finite convex sum of pure states of $\mathfrak{M}_n$. Let $\epsilon' = \min \{\epsilon, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_l\}$, let $\epsilon'' = \min \{(\epsilon'/26)^2, \epsilon'/2q_n^2, 1/2\}$. We let r be the $r_2(\epsilon'', n)$ given by 2.2. Let F be the carrier of $\omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_r}$, let $B = (\phi(\omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_r}))^{1/2}$, where ϕ is defined in 6.1, let $\{A_j: j=1, \dots, q_n^2\}$ be a set of matrix units for $\mathfrak{M}_n$. We identify $\mathfrak{M}_r$ and the algebra of all linear operators on q_r -dimensional Hilbert space.

By 6.1 $\omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_r} = \text{trace}(B \cdot B)$, and so $F = \text{range } B = I - (\text{null space } B)$. We choose a maximal orthonormal family $\{y_k\}$ in F such that for each k there is a j with

$$|1/\|By_k\|^2 (A_j By_k, By_k) - \omega(A_j)| > \epsilon''.$$

Choose an orthonormal basis $\{z_h\}$ for $F - [\{y_k\}]$. By 6.1

$$\omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_r} = \sum_k \|By_k\|^2 \omega_{By_k/\|By_k\|} + \sum_h \|Bz_h\|^2 \omega_{Bz_h/\|Bz_h\|}.$$

By the choice of y_k ,

$$\|\omega_{By_k/\|By_k\|}|_{\mathfrak{M}_n} - \omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_n}\| > \epsilon''$$

and so by the choice of r ,

$$b = \sum_k \|By_k\|^2 < \epsilon''$$

where b is defined by the above equality. If $x \in [\{z_h\}]$ and $\|Bx\| = 1$, then by maximality of $\{y_k\}$,

$$|\omega_{Bx}(A_j) - \omega(A_j)| \leq \epsilon''$$

and

$$(*) \quad \|\omega_{Bx}|_{\mathfrak{M}_n} - \omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_n}\| \leq q_n^2 \epsilon'' \leq \epsilon'/2 \leq \epsilon/2,$$

where (*) follows from the fact that if A is in the unit sphere of $\mathfrak{M}_n$, then $A = \sum_j \beta_j A_j$, and $|\beta_j| \leq 1$.

Let G be the projection (not necessarily orthogonal) onto $[\{Bz_h\}]$ along $[\{By_k\}] + I - F$, let

$$\omega' = (1 - b)^{-1} \omega(G^* \cdot G).$$

ω' is a positive linear functional and

$$\begin{aligned} \omega'(I) &= (1 - b)^{-1} \omega(G^* G) \\ &= (1 - b)^{-1} \sum_h \|Bz_h\|^2 \\ &= (1 - b)^{-1} \left(1 - \sum_k \|By_k\|^2 \right) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

so ω' is a state. If θ is the representation of $\mathfrak{A}$ due to ω on a Hilbert space $\mathfrak{H}_\theta$, then $\omega = \omega_x \circ \theta$ for some x in $\mathfrak{H}$. $\omega' = (1 - b)^{-1} \omega_{\theta(G)x} \circ \theta$ is also a vector state. Since θ is irreducible, ω' is pure. Let $x_1 = \theta(G)x$, let $x_2 = \theta(I - G)x$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_2\|^2 &= \|\theta(I - G)x\|^2 \\ &= (\theta((I - G)^*(I - G))x, x) \\ &= \omega((I - G)^*(I - G)) \\ &= \sum_k \|By_k\|^2 = b \end{aligned}$$

and $\|x_1\| \leq 1 + b^{1/2}$. Hence if A is in the unit sphere of $\mathfrak{A}$,

$$\begin{aligned} |\omega'(A) - \omega(A)| &= |(1 - b)^{-1} \theta(A)x_1, x_1) - (\theta(A)x, x)| \\ &\leq |b(1 - b)^{-1} \theta(A)x_1, x_1)| + |(\theta(A)x_2, x_2)| \\ &\quad + |(\theta(A)x_1, x_2)| + |(\theta(A)x_2, x_1)| \\ &\leq b(1 - b)^{-1} \|x_1\|^2 + \|x_2\|^2 + 2\|x_1\| \|x_2\| \\ &\leq b(1 - b)^{-1} (1 + b^{1/2})^2 + b + 2b^{1/2} (1 + b^{1/2}) \\ &\leq 13b^{1/2} < 13(\epsilon'')^{1/2} \leq \epsilon/2 \end{aligned}$$

and $\|\omega' - \omega\| < \epsilon/2$ which gives us (1).

The carrier of $\omega'| \mathfrak{M}_r$ is $[\{Bz_h\}] \leq \text{range } B = \text{carrier } \omega| \mathfrak{M}_r$ and (2) is proved. Any unit vector v in $[\{Bz_h\}]$ has the form $v = Bx$ for some x in $[\{z_h\}]$. By (*) and the fact that $\|\omega' - \omega\| < \epsilon/2$ we see that (3) is true if ρ is pure. Thus (3) is true in general. Let $i \in \{1, \dots, t\}$ and let $E = \text{carrier } \tau_i$. The mapping from carrier $\omega'| \mathfrak{M}_r$ into E given by $x \rightarrow Ex$ annihilates (at least) the complement of a q_r/q_n dimensional subspace of carrier $\omega'| \mathfrak{M}_r$. If (4) does not hold we can find a unit vector v in the kernel of this map. As above $v = Bx$, with $x \in [\{z_h\}]$, and $|\omega_v(E) - \omega(E)| \geq \alpha_i \geq \epsilon'$ which contradicts (*). This completes the proof.

The following lemma will be helpful in studying irreducible representations of UHF algebras.

LEMMA 2.6. *Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be a UHF algebra generated by factors $\mathfrak{M}_n$, let ω be a pure state of $\mathfrak{A}$. There is a subsequence $\{n_i\}$ of the positive integers and a sequence $\{E_i\}$ of projections, $E_i \in \mathfrak{M}_{n_i}$, such that*

$$(a) \quad 1 - \omega(E_i) < 2^{-i},$$

(b) *if ρ is a state of $\mathfrak{M}_{n_{i+1}}$ and carrier $\rho \leq E_{i+1}$ then $\|\rho| \mathfrak{M}_{n_i} - \omega| \mathfrak{M}_{n_i}\| < 2^{-i}$ for $i=1, 2, \dots$.*

Proof. Let $E_1 = I$, $n_1 = 1$. Suppose n_j and E_j have been chosen for some positive integer j . For $n = n_j$ and for $\epsilon = 2^{-j-2}$ find an r and an ω' which satisfy 2.5. Let $n_{j+1} = r$, let $E_{j+1} = \text{carrier } \omega'| \mathfrak{M}_{n_{j+1}}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \omega(E_{j+1}) &= \omega'(E_{j+1}) - \omega(E_{j+1}) \\ &\leq \|\omega' - \omega\| < 2^{-j-1}. \end{aligned}$$

If ρ satisfies the hypotheses of (b) then

$$\begin{aligned} \|\rho| \mathfrak{M}_{n_j} - \omega| \mathfrak{M}_{n_j}\| &\leq \|\rho| \mathfrak{M}_{n_j} - \omega'| \mathfrak{M}_{n_j}\| + \|\omega' - \omega\| \\ &< 2^{-j-2} + 2^{-j-2} = 2^{-j-1} \end{aligned}$$

and the proof of 2.6 is complete.

The next result gives another set of conditions which are necessary and sufficient for a state ω of a UHF algebra $\mathfrak{A}$ to be pure. In fact if ω is a state of $\mathfrak{A}$ and if there exist factors $\mathfrak{N}_i$, $i=1, 2, \dots$, which generate $\mathfrak{A}$ so that 2.7 formula (3) holds, then ω is pure. We remark that in the terminology of the following theorem, the sequence of projections $\{\text{carrier } \omega| \mathfrak{N}_i\}$, the state ω , and the factors $\mathfrak{N}_i$ satisfy 2.6 and also the sequence $\{\text{carrier } \omega| \mathfrak{N}_i\}$ is monotone decreasing.

THEOREM 2.7. *Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be a UHF algebra generated by factors $\mathfrak{M}_n$ of type I_{q_n} , let ω be a pure state of $\mathfrak{A}$. There is an ascending sequence $\{\mathfrak{N}_i\}$ of factors which generate $\mathfrak{A}$ and for each $\epsilon > 0$ there is a pure state ω' of $\mathfrak{A}$ and a subsequence $\{n_i\}$ of the positive integers such that*

$$(1) \quad \|\omega - \omega'\| < \epsilon,$$

(2) (resp. (3)) *if ρ is a state of $\mathfrak{M}_{n_i}$ (resp. $\mathfrak{N}_i$) and carrier $\rho \leq \text{carrier } \omega'| \mathfrak{M}_{n_i}$ (resp. $\omega| \mathfrak{N}_i$) then $\|\rho| \mathfrak{M}_{n_{i-1}} - \omega'| \mathfrak{M}_{n_{i-1}}\|$ (resp. $\|\rho| \mathfrak{N}_{i-1} - \omega| \mathfrak{N}_{i-1}\|) < 2^{-i}$,*

$$(4) \quad \mathfrak{M}_{n_i}\text{-dimension carrier } \omega'| \mathfrak{M}_{n_i} \leq q_{n_i}/q_{n_{i-1}},$$

$$(5) \quad \mathfrak{N}_i\text{-dimension carrier } \omega| \mathfrak{N}_i \leq q_{n_i}/q_{n_{i-1}}.$$

Proof. We suppose $\epsilon < 1$. Let $\omega_1 = \omega$ and $n_1 = 1$. By induction, using 2.5, we can find a sequence $\{\omega_i\}$ of pure states and a subsequence $\{n_i\}$ of the positive integers such that $\|\omega_{i-1} - \omega_i\| < \epsilon/2^{i+1}$, such that if $E_{ij} = \text{carrier } \omega_i| \mathfrak{M}_{n_j}$ then $E_{ii} \leq E_{i-1,i}$ and $\mathfrak{M}_{n_i}$ -dimension $E_{ii} \leq q_{n_i}/q_{n_{i-1}}$ and such that if ρ is a state of $\mathfrak{M}_{n_i}$ and if carrier $\rho \leq E_{ii}$ then $\|\rho| \mathfrak{M}_{n_{i-1}} - \omega_i| \mathfrak{M}_{n_{i-1}}\| < \epsilon/2^{i+1}$ for

$i=2, 3, \dots$. $\{\omega_i\}$ is a Cauchy sequence (in norm) in $\mathfrak{A}^*$, the dual to the vector space $\mathfrak{A}$, and so $\{\omega_i\}$ has a limit ω' in $\mathfrak{A}^*$, ω' is a state, and $\|\omega - \omega'\| < \epsilon/2$.

If (j, k) is a pair of integers with $j \geq k \geq 1$ then $E_{jk} \leq E_{kk}$. In fact this is true for $j=k$, suppose it is true for pairs (s, t) of positive integers with $0 \leq s-t < j-k$. Then $E_{jk+1} \leq E_{k+1k+1} \leq E_{kk+1}$ and so $E_{jk} \leq E_{kk}$. Let $E_i = \text{carrier } \omega'|_{\mathfrak{M}_{n_i}}$. For any positive integer k , $\omega'(I - E_{kk}) = \lim_j \omega_j(I - E_{kk}) = 0$. Thus $E_k \leq E_{kk}$ and (4) is proved. If ρ satisfies the hypotheses of (2), then

$$\begin{aligned} \|\rho|_{\mathfrak{M}_{n_{i-1}}} - \omega'|_{\mathfrak{M}_{n_{i-1}}}\| &\leq \|\rho|_{\mathfrak{M}_{n_{i-1}}} - \omega_i|_{\mathfrak{M}_{n_{i-1}}}\| + \|\omega_i - \omega'\| \\ &< \epsilon/2^{i+1} + \epsilon/2^{i+1} < 2^{-i} \end{aligned}$$

and (2) is proved.

We show that ω' is pure. Let $\mathfrak{A}_0$ be the C^* -algebra generated by I and $\{E_i: i=1, \dots\}$. $\mathfrak{A}_0$ is commutative and ω' is a homomorphism of $\mathfrak{A}_0$ so $\omega'|_{\mathfrak{A}_0}$ is pure. If τ is any extension of $\omega'|_{\mathfrak{A}_0}$ to a state of $\mathfrak{A}$ then $\text{carrier } \tau|_{\mathfrak{M}_{n_i}} \leq E_i$ and by (2), $\tau = \omega'$. Thus $\omega'|_{\mathfrak{A}_0}$ has a unique state extension to $\mathfrak{A}$ and so ω' is pure. A proof that ω' is pure could also be based upon 3.2. By [1] there is a $*$ -automorphism θ of $\mathfrak{A}$ such that $\omega'(\theta^{-1}(A)) = \omega(A)$ for all $A \in \mathfrak{A}$. (θ is the inner automorphism from some unitary $U \in \mathfrak{A}$). Let $\mathfrak{N}_i = \theta(\mathfrak{M}_{n_i})$. Then $\{\mathfrak{N}_i\}$ satisfies (3) and (5) and the proof is complete.

THEOREM 2.8. *If $\mathfrak{A}$ is a UHF algebra, then the w^* -closure of the set of pure states of $\mathfrak{A}$ is the state space of $\mathfrak{A}$.*

Proof. Let ω be a state of $\mathfrak{A}$, let $\mathfrak{A}$ be generated by factors $\mathfrak{M}_n$. Let $A_i \in \mathfrak{A}$, $i=1, \dots, r$. We show that there is a pure state τ such that $|\tau(A_i) - \omega(A_i)| < 1$ for $i=1, \dots, r$. There is an integer n and $B_i \in \mathfrak{M}_n$ with $\|B_i - A_i\| < 1/2$, $i=1, \dots, r$. If $\mathfrak{M}_n$ is of type I_r , we choose an integer m such that $\mathfrak{M}_m$ is of type I_s with $s \geq r^2$. We assert that $\omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_n}$ has an extension to a pure state τ' of $\mathfrak{M}_m$. Let $\mathfrak{M}_m$ be represented on complex s -space. In this representation, the commutant $\mathfrak{M}_n'$ of $\mathfrak{M}_n$ is a factor of type $I_{s/r}$, and $s/r \geq r$. Thus $\mathfrak{M}_n$ has a separating vector, and all normal states (that is all states) of $\mathfrak{M}_n$ are vector states, and so they are restrictions to $\mathfrak{M}_n$ of pure states of $\mathfrak{M}_m$. This gives us the desired pure state τ' of $\mathfrak{M}_m$. Let τ be a pure extension of τ' to $\mathfrak{A}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} |\tau(A_i) - \omega(A_i)| &\leq |\tau(A_i) - \tau(B_i)| + |\tau(B_i) - \omega(B_i)| + |\omega(B_i) - \omega(A_i)| \\ &< 1/2 + 0 + 1/2 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

and the proof is complete.

Let ρ and τ be two distinct pure states of $\mathfrak{A}$ (such pure states exist). Then $\rho/2 + \tau/2$ is a state of $\mathfrak{A}$ which is not pure, so the set of pure states of $\mathfrak{A}$ is not w^* -closed.

A plausible noncommutative extension of the Stone-Weierstrass approximation theorem states: If $\mathfrak{A}$ and $\mathfrak{B}$ are C^* -algebras with $\mathfrak{A} \subseteq \mathfrak{B}$ and if $\mathfrak{A}$

separates the pure states of $\mathfrak{B}$, then $\mathfrak{A} = \mathfrak{B}$. In course lectures (1957–1958), R. Kadison conjectured that the correct result should assume: $\mathfrak{A}$ separates the w^* -closure of the pure states of $\mathfrak{B}$ (i.e. the pure state space of $\mathfrak{B}$). It is automatic that the pure states are w^* -closed in the commutative (classical) case. It is known that if $\mathfrak{A}$ separates the states of $\mathfrak{B}$, then $\mathfrak{A} = \mathfrak{B}$. Thus 2.8 establishes the emended conjecture for UHF algebras. We shall show elsewhere that this emended conjecture is valid for those C^* -algebras which have a faithful irreducible representation.

3. Irreducible representations. In this section we determine the distinct classes of unitarily equivalent irreducible representations of a UHF algebra $\mathfrak{A}$. Since each irreducible representation of $\mathfrak{A}$ is unitarily equivalent to the representation due to some pure state of $\mathfrak{A}$ and since we have already determined the set of pure states of $\mathfrak{A}$, we have still to determine which pure states of $\mathfrak{A}$ give rise to unitarily equivalent representations (3.4). In 3.5 we prove that all irreducible representations of UHF algebras are on separable Hilbert space.

LEMMA 3.1. *If $\mathfrak{A}$ is a UHF algebra generated by factors $\mathfrak{M}_n$, then the unitary group of $\mathfrak{A}$ is the uniform closure of the unitary group of $\cup \mathfrak{M}_n$.*

Proof. An element U of $\mathfrak{A}$ is unitary if and only if $UU^* = U^*U = I$. Multiplication and $*$ are continuous, so the closure of the unitary group of $\cup \mathfrak{M}_n$ is in the unitary group of $\mathfrak{A}$. Let U be a unitary operator in $\mathfrak{A}$, let $A_n \in \mathfrak{M}_n$ be such that $A_n \rightarrow U$. For sufficiently large n , A_n is invertible, and $(A_n^* A_n)^{-1/2} \rightarrow (U^* U)^{-1/2} = I$. Thus $A_n (A_n^* A_n)^{-1/2} \rightarrow U$. Since $A_n (A_n^* A_n)^{-1/2}$ is unitary, the proof is complete.

We determine (3.2 and 3.3) the topology on the pure states of a UHF algebra $\mathfrak{A}$ which is induced by the norm in the dual to the Banach space $\mathfrak{A}$. This topology is closely related to the Hilbert spaces upon which $\mathfrak{A}$ is irreducibly represented (cf. also the remark following 3.4).

Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be a C^* -algebra, let $\{\rho_\beta: \beta \in B\}$ be a family of pure states of $\mathfrak{A}$ which contains exactly one representative from each unitary equivalence class of pure states of $\mathfrak{A}$. Let ϕ be the representation of $\mathfrak{A}$ on the Hilbert space $\mathfrak{H}$ which is the direct sum of the representations ϕ_β on Hilbert spaces $\mathfrak{H}_\beta$ due to $\rho_\beta, \beta \in B$. We identify $\mathfrak{A}$ and $\phi(\mathfrak{A})$. (ϕ is faithful.)

LEMMA 3.2. *Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be a C^* -algebra acting on the Hilbert space $\mathfrak{H}$ as above. Let $x, y \in \mathfrak{H}$ be such that $\omega_x|_{\mathfrak{A}}$ and $\omega_y|_{\mathfrak{A}}$ are pure states of $\mathfrak{A}$. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - |(x, y)|^2 &\leq \|\omega_x|_{\mathfrak{A}} - \omega_y|_{\mathfrak{A}}\| \\ &\leq \inf \{ 2 \|\alpha x - y\| : \alpha \text{ is a complex number, } |\alpha| = 1 \} \\ &\leq 2^{3/2} (1 - |(x, y)|^2)^{1/2}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. By [1] $[x] \in \mathfrak{A}^-$, the strong closure of $\mathfrak{A}$, and

$$\begin{aligned}
1 - |(x, y)|^2 &= 1 - ((y, x)x, y) \\
&= 1 - ([x]y, y) \\
&\leq \|\omega_x| \mathfrak{A} - \omega_y| \mathfrak{A}^-\| \\
&= \|\omega_x| \mathfrak{A} - \omega_y| \mathfrak{A}\|
\end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from [3].

Let A be in the unit sphere of $\mathfrak{A}$, let α be a complex number of modulus 1. Then (for any vectors x, y in the unit sphere of $\mathfrak{S}$)

$$\begin{aligned}
|(Ax, x) - (Ay, y)| &\leq |(A\alpha x, \alpha x) - (A\alpha x, y)| + |(A\alpha x, y) - (Ay, y)| \\
&\leq 2\|\alpha x - y\|.
\end{aligned}$$

For some complex α of modulus 1, $(\alpha x, y) \geq 0$ and

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\alpha x - y\|^2 &= (\alpha x, \alpha x) - (\alpha x, y) - (y, \alpha x) + (y, y) \\
&= 2(1 - |(x, y)|) \leq 2(1 - |(x, y)|^2)
\end{aligned}$$

and the proof is complete.

LEMMA 3.3. *Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be a UHF algebra acting as preceding 3.2 on the Hilbert space $\mathfrak{S}$, let $\mathfrak{A}$ be generated by factors $\mathfrak{M}_n$, let $\omega = \omega_x| \mathfrak{A}$ be a pure state of $\mathfrak{A}$ for some x in $\mathfrak{S}$. If $\{E_i\}$ is the sequence of projections determined by 2.6 for the pure state ω then $\text{strong } \lim E_i = [x]$ and $|(x, y)|^2 = \lim \omega_y(E_i)$ for any y in $\mathfrak{S}$.*

Proof. Let $\{n_i\}$ be the subsequence of the positive integers determined by 2.6. We assert that there is a sequence $\{\epsilon(i)\}$ of positive numbers such that $\epsilon(i) \rightarrow 0$ and $E_i + \epsilon(i)I > E_s$ if $s > i$. If $s > i$,

$$\begin{aligned}
\|E_i E_s E_i - E_s\| &\leq \|E_i E_s E_i - E_i E_s\| + \|E_i E_s - E_s\| \\
&\leq 2\|E_i E_s - E_s\|
\end{aligned}$$

and if z is a unit vector in E_s ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\|E_i z - z\|^2 &= (E_i z, E_i z) + (z, z) - (E_i z, z) - (z, E_i z) \\
(1) \quad &= 1 - (E_i z, z) \\
&< 1 - \omega(E_i) + 2^{-s+1} < 2^{-i+1}
\end{aligned}$$

since $\|\omega_x| \mathfrak{M}_{n_{s-1}} - \omega| \mathfrak{M}_{n_{s-1}}\| < 2^{-s+1}$ and $1 - \omega(E_i) < 2^{-i}$. Thus $\|E_i E_s E_i - E_s\| < 2^{-(i+s)/2}$. Let $\epsilon(i) = 2^{-(i+s)/2}$. Since $I \geq E_s$, $E_i \geq E_i E_s E_i$, and

$$E_i + \epsilon(i)I \geq E_i E_s E_i + \epsilon(i)I \geq E_i E_s E_i + E_s - E_i E_s E_i = E_s,$$

which proves the assertion.

For the time being we do not assume $\mathfrak{S}$ and the action of $\mathfrak{A}$ on $\mathfrak{S}$ is as preceding 3.2, we do not assume that ω is a vector state. Let

$$F = [\{z: z \in \mathfrak{S}, \omega_z| \mathfrak{A} = \omega\}],$$

we assert that $\text{strong lim } E_i = F$. Let $\{i(j)\}$ be a subsequence of the positive integers. We show that there is a subsequence $\{i(j(k))\}$ of $\{i(j)\}$ such that $E_{i(j(k))} + 2\epsilon(i(j(k)))I > E_{i(j(k+1))} + 2\epsilon(i(j(k+1)))I$. Let $j(1) = 1$, and suppose $j(k)$ has been chosen for some positive integer k . Choose $j(k+1)$ so that $\epsilon(i(j(k))) \geq 2\epsilon(i(j(k+1)))$. Then $\{i(j(k))\}$ has the above property. Thus by monotone convergence every subsequence of $\{E_i\}$ has a strongly convergent subsequence. Let E be the limit of a strongly convergent subsequence $\{E_{i(j)}\}$. We show $E = F$ which will prove our assertion. $E^2 = \text{strong lim } E_{i(j)}^2 = E$ and $E^* = \text{weak lim } E_{i(j)}^* = E$ so E is a projection. Suppose that $z \in \mathfrak{H}$ is such that $\omega_z|_{\mathfrak{A}} = \omega$. As in (1), $\|E_i z - z\|^2 = 1 - (E_i z, z) < 2^{-i}$ so $z \in E$. Suppose that y is a unit vector in E . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|\omega_y|_{\mathfrak{M}_{n_{i-1}}} - \omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_{n_{i-1}}}\| &\leq \|\omega_y - \omega_{E_i y}\| + \|\omega_{E_i y} - 1/\|E_i y\|^2 \omega_{E_i y}\| \\ &\quad + \|1/\|E_i y\|^2 \omega_{E_i y}|_{\mathfrak{M}_{n_{i-1}}} - \omega|_{\mathfrak{M}_{n_{i-1}}}\| \\ &\leq 2\|E_i y - y\| + 1 - \|E_i y\|^2 + 2^{-i+1} \end{aligned}$$

where the first term in the last inequality is due to the second paragraph of the proof of 3.2, and the last term is due to carrier $1/\|E_i y\|^2 \omega_{E_i y}|_{\mathfrak{M}_{n_i}} \leq E_i$. Thus $\omega_y|_{\mathfrak{A}} = \omega$, $y \in F$, and $\text{strong lim } E_i = F$. If $\mathfrak{A}$ and $\mathfrak{H}$ are as preceding Lemma 3.2 then $[F] = [x]$ by Lemma 3.2 and the first statement of Lemma 3.3 is proved.

If $y \in \mathfrak{H}$, then $\lim (E_i y, y) = ([x]y, y) = |(x, y)|^2$ and the proof of 3.3 is complete.

THEOREM 3.4. *Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be a UHF algebra generated by factors $\mathfrak{M}_n$, let ρ and τ be pure states of $\mathfrak{A}$, let $\{E_i\}$ be a sequence of projections chosen by 2.6 for the pure state τ . Suppose that $0 \leq r < 1/2$ and that for each positive integer n we are given a subset $\mathfrak{U}_n$ of the unitary group of $\mathfrak{M}_n$ such that if W is a unitary operator in $\mathfrak{M}_n$ there is a V in $\mathfrak{U}_n$ with $\|V - W\| \leq r$. The following statements are equivalent.*

(1) *The representations ϕ_ρ and ϕ_τ due to ρ and τ respectively are unitarily equivalent.*

(2) *There is a unitary U in $\mathfrak{A}$ with $\rho(U^* \cdot U) = \tau$.*

(3) *There is a positive integer k such that*

$$\limsup \left\{ \sup \left\{ \rho(V^* E_i V) : V \in \mathfrak{U}_k \right\} : i = 1, \dots \right\} > 0.$$

(4) *There is a positive integer k such that*

$$\lim_i \left(\inf \left\{ \text{trace } |\phi((\rho(V^* \cdot V) - \tau)|_{M_i})| : V \in \mathfrak{U}_k \right\} \right) < 1,$$

where ϕ is defined by 6.1.

Proof. We assert that if f and g are positive linear functionals on $\mathfrak{M}_n$ then $\|f - g\| = \text{trace } |\phi(f - g)|$. Let f_0 (resp. g_0) be the linear functional on $\mathfrak{M}_n$ such that $\phi(f_0)$ (resp. $-\phi(g_0)$) is the positive (resp. negative) part of the self-adjoint operator $\phi(f - g)$. Then $f_0, g_0 \geq 0$ and $f_0 - g_0 = f - g$. Carrier f_0 (resp. g_0)

$= \text{range } \phi(f_0)$ (resp. $\phi(g_0)$), in fact by 6.1 this is true for f_0 a pure state, thus it is true for $f_0 \geq 0$. Thus carrier $f_0 \perp$ carrier g_0 and

$$\begin{aligned} \|f - g\| &= \|f_0 - g_0\| = \|f_0\| + \|g_0\| = f_0(I) + g_0(I) \\ &= \text{trace } \phi(f_0) + \text{trace } \phi(g_0) = \text{trace } \phi(f_0 + g_0) \\ &= \text{trace } |\phi(f_0 - g_0)| = \text{trace } |\phi(f - g)| \end{aligned}$$

as asserted.

The implications (1) $\Leftrightarrow$ (2) follow from [1]. Suppose (2) is satisfied. Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be acting on $\mathfrak{H}$ as preceding 3.2. There are $x, y \in \mathfrak{H}$ with $\omega_x|_{\mathfrak{A}} = \tau$, $\omega_y|_{\mathfrak{A}} = \rho$, and a unitary $U \in \mathfrak{A}$ with $\omega_{Uy}|_{\mathfrak{A}} = \tau$. By 3.2 $\gamma Uy = x$ where γ is some complex number of modulus 1. There is a positive integer k and a unitary $W \in \mathfrak{M}_k$ with $\|W - U\| < (1 - 2r)/4$, there is a $V \in \mathfrak{U}_k$ with $\|V - W\| \leq r$. For any positive integer i ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{trace } |\phi((\rho(V^* \cdot V) - \tau)|_{\mathfrak{M}_i})| &= \|(\rho(V^* \cdot V) - \tau)|_{\mathfrak{M}_i}\| \\ &\leq \|\omega_{Vy}|_{\mathfrak{A}} - \tau\| \leq 2\|\gamma Vy - x\| \\ &\leq 2\|V - U\| \leq 2\|V - W\| + 2\|W - U\| \\ &< 2r - (1 - 2r)/2 = 1/2 + r < 1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus trace $|\phi((\rho(V^* \cdot V) - \tau)|_{\mathfrak{M}_i})|$ is monotone increasing (as i increases), the limit in (4) exists and is less than 1, and (4) is satisfied.

Suppose (4) holds. Let $\{n_i\}$ be the subsequence of the positive integers determined by 2.6. in conjunction with $\{E_i\}$. Then for some positive integer k and some number δ , with $0 \leq \delta < 1$, we can choose $V(i) \in \mathfrak{U}_k$ such that trace $|\phi((\rho(V(i)^* \cdot V(i)) - \tau)|_{\mathfrak{M}_{n_i}})| < \delta$, and

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(V(i)^* E_i V(i)) &\geq \tau(E_i) - \|(\rho(V(i)^* \cdot V(i)) - \tau)|_{\mathfrak{M}_{n_i}}\| \\ &\geq 1 + 2^{-i} - \delta. \end{aligned}$$

For large i , $\rho(V(i)^* E_i V(i)) > 0$ and (3) is satisfied. If (3) is true there is an integer k , a cofinal subset J of the positive integers and an $\epsilon > 0$ such that for each $j \in J$ there is a $V(j) \in \mathfrak{U}_k$ with $\rho(V(j)^* E_j V(j)) > \epsilon$. Since the unitary group of $\mathfrak{M}_k$ is compact, we can choose a unitary $V \in \mathfrak{M}_k$ which is a limit point of $\{V(j) : j \in J\}$. We have $\rho(V^* E_j V) \geq \epsilon/2$ for all j in some cofinal subset of J and by 3.3, $|(x, Vy)|^2 \geq \epsilon/2$. Recall that $\mathfrak{H} = \sum \oplus \{\mathfrak{H}_\beta : \beta \in B\}$, so $Vy = \sum \{z_\beta : \beta \in B\}$, with $z_\beta \in \mathfrak{H}_\beta$, and $\omega_{Vy}|_{\mathfrak{A}} = \sum \omega_{z_\beta}$. However $\omega_{Vy}|_{\mathfrak{A}}$ is pure since $\omega_y|_{\mathfrak{A}}$ is pure and so there is a unique $\beta_0 \in B$ with $z_{\beta_0} \neq 0$. By the same argument $x \in \mathfrak{H}_{\beta_1}$ for some $\beta_1 \in B$. Since $(x, Vy) \neq 0$, we have $\beta_0 = \beta_1$. Recalling that $A \rightarrow A\mathfrak{H}_{\beta_1}$ is an irreducible representation of $\mathfrak{A}$, the representation due to $\omega_x|_{\mathfrak{A}}$ is unitarily equivalent to the representation due to $\omega_{Vy}|_{\mathfrak{A}}$ which is unitarily equivalent to the representation due to $\omega_y|_{\mathfrak{A}}$. This completes the proof of 3.4.

We remark that if f and g are positive linear functionals on a UHF algebra $\mathfrak{A}$ which is generated by factors $\mathfrak{M}_n$ then by the first paragraph of the proof of 3.4,

$$\|f - g\| = \lim \|(f - g)|\mathfrak{M}_n\| = \lim \text{trace } |\phi((f - g)|\mathfrak{M}_n)|.$$

THEOREM 3.5. *Each irreducible representation of a UHF algebra is on separable Hilbert space.*

Proof. Let ϕ be an irreducible representation of a UHF algebra $\mathfrak{A}$ on a Hilbert space $\mathfrak{H}$, let $\mathfrak{A}$ be generated by factors $\mathfrak{M}_n$. If x is a nonzero vector in $\mathfrak{H}$, then $\bigcup_n [\phi(\mathfrak{M}_n)x]$ is separable and is dense in $\mathfrak{H}$.

4. Representations of type II_1 .

THEOREM 4.1. *Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be a UHF algebra and let ϕ be a representation of $\mathfrak{A}$ such that $\phi(\mathfrak{A})^-$, the weak closure of $\phi(\mathfrak{A})$, is a finite von Neumann algebra. Then $\phi(\mathfrak{A})^-$ is a factor (and is hyperfinite).*

Proof. Let $\mathfrak{Z}$ be the center of $\phi(\mathfrak{A})^-$. Suppose E and F are two orthogonal nonzero projections in $\mathfrak{Z}$. There are finite normal traces θ and ψ of $\phi(\mathfrak{A})^-$ such that $\theta(E) \neq 0$ and $\psi(F) \neq 0$. Let $\theta'(A) = \theta(EA)$ and $\psi'(A) = \psi(FA)$ for $A \in \phi(\mathfrak{A})^-$. Then θ' and ψ' are normal finite traces of $\phi(\mathfrak{A})^-$. However $\lambda\theta'| \bigcup \phi(\mathfrak{M}_n) = \psi'| \bigcup \psi(\mathfrak{M}_n)$ for some $\lambda > 0$ where $\mathfrak{A}$ is generated by factors $\mathfrak{M}_n$. θ' and ψ' are ultra-weakly continuous, so $\lambda\theta' = \psi'$. Thus $0 \neq \lambda\theta'(E) = \psi'(E) = 0$, a contradiction, and there do not exist two orthogonal nonzero projections in $\mathfrak{Z}$, which implies that $\phi(\mathfrak{A})^-$ is a factor.

5. An example. We construct a C^* -algebra $\mathfrak{A}_0$ which satisfies:

- (1) $\mathfrak{A}_0$ is not a UHF algebra.
- (2) The center of $\mathfrak{A}_0$ consists of scalar multiples of the identity.
- (3) There is a strictly ascending sequence $\{\mathfrak{N}_i; i = 1, 2, \dots\}$ of finite dimensional von Neumann algebras in $\mathfrak{A}_0$ and $\bigcup_i \mathfrak{N}_i$ is dense in $\mathfrak{A}_0$.

This example is related to one of the definitions of hyperfinite factors of type II_1 [4]. We will show that $\mathfrak{A}_0$ is not a UHF algebra by showing that $\mathfrak{A}_0$ does not satisfy the conclusion of the following theorem.

THEOREM 5.1. *If $\mathfrak{A}$ is a UHF algebra, then $\mathfrak{A}$ is simple.*

Proof. Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be generated by factors $\mathfrak{M}_i$. Let $\mathfrak{I}$ be a proper two sided ideal in $\mathfrak{A}$. $\mathfrak{I}$ is contained in a maximal two sided proper ideal $\mathfrak{R}$ which is necessarily closed. The natural mapping $\phi: \mathfrak{A} \rightarrow \mathfrak{A}/\mathfrak{R}$ is a $*$ -homomorphism. Since $\mathfrak{R}$ is proper and $\mathfrak{M}_i$ is simple, $\phi| \mathfrak{M}_i$ is a $*$ -isomorphism and hence is isometric. Thus ϕ is isometric and so $\mathfrak{R} = \{0\}$, $\mathfrak{I} = \{0\}$ and the proof is complete.

Let $\mathfrak{A}$ be a UHF algebra generated by factors $\mathfrak{M}_i$, $\mathfrak{M}_i \neq \mathfrak{M}_{i+1}$. Let ρ be a state of $\mathfrak{A}$ such that $\rho| \mathfrak{M}_i$ is pure for $i = 1, 2, \dots$. Such states exist, and by 2.1 are pure. Let ϕ be the representation of $\mathfrak{A}$ due to ρ on a Hilbert space $\mathfrak{H}$. We identify $\mathfrak{A}$ and $\phi(\mathfrak{A})$. Let x be a unit vector of $\mathfrak{H}$ such that $\rho = \omega_x| \mathfrak{A}$. Let

$$\mathfrak{A}_0 = \{A: A \in \mathfrak{A}, [x]A = A[x]\}.$$

$\mathfrak{A}_0$ is a C^* -algebra, we assert that $\mathfrak{A}_0$ satisfies (1), (2), and (3). $\mathfrak{A}_0$ is not a UHF algebra since

$$\mathfrak{I} = \{A: A \in \mathfrak{A}_0, Ax = 0\}$$

is a proper two sided ideal in $\mathfrak{A}_0$, and by [2] $\mathfrak{I} \neq \{0\}$. To show that $\mathfrak{A}_0$ satisfies (2), we prove the stronger statement that $\mathfrak{A}_0$ has a faithful irreducible representation. In fact the mapping $\Pi: A \rightarrow A(I - [x])$ is a representation of $\mathfrak{A}_0$ on the Hilbert space $I - [x]$ and by [2], $\Pi(\mathfrak{A}_0)$ acts irreducibly on $I - [x]$. If A is in the kernel of Π , then $[x]A = A[x] = A$, so A is a completely continuous operator. Let $\mathfrak{C}$ be the set of all completely continuous operators on $\mathfrak{S}$. Then $\mathfrak{C} \cap \mathfrak{A}$ is a proper two sided ideal in $\mathfrak{A}$ and by 5.1, $\mathfrak{C} \cap \mathfrak{A} = \{0\}$. Thus $\mathfrak{C} \cap \mathfrak{A}_0 = \{0\}$, Π is faithful and $\mathfrak{A}_0$ satisfies (2). Let $E_i = \text{carrier } \rho| \mathfrak{M}_i$. E_i is a minimal projection in $\mathfrak{M}_i$ since $\rho| \mathfrak{M}_i$ is by assumption a pure state of $\mathfrak{M}_i$. Let

$$\mathfrak{N}_i = E_i \mathfrak{M}_i E_i \oplus (I - E_i) \mathfrak{M}_i (I - E_i).$$

$\{\mathfrak{N}_i: i=1, 2, \dots\}$ is a strictly ascending sequence of finite dimensional von Neumann algebras in $\mathfrak{A}_0$. We show that $\bigcup_i \mathfrak{N}_i$ is dense in $\mathfrak{A}_0$. Let $A = A^*$ in $\mathfrak{A}_0$, let $A_i = A_i^*$ in $\mathfrak{M}_i$ be such that $A_i \rightarrow A$. Let $z_i = (I - [x])A_i x$. Since x is a unit vector in E_i and since $E_i A_i (I - E_i) A_i E_i$ is a scalar multiple of E_i , $\|E_i A_i (I - E_i) A_i E_i\| = (E_i A_i (I - E_i) A_i E_i x, x)$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \|z_i\| &\geq \|(I - E_i)z_i\| = \|(I - E_i)A_i E_i x\| = (E_i A_i (I - E_i) A_i E_i x, x)^{1/2} \\ &= \|E_i A_i (I - E_i) A_i E_i\|^{1/2} = \|(I - E_i)A_i E_i\| = \|E_i A_i (I - E_i)\|. \end{aligned}$$

Since $z_i \rightarrow 0$,

$$E_i A_i E_i + (I - E_i) A_i (I - E_i) \rightarrow A$$

and $\bigcup_i \mathfrak{N}_i$ is dense in $\mathfrak{A}_0$. We have proved that $\mathfrak{A}_0$ satisfies (1), (2) and (3).

6. Appendix. For completeness we include the proof of certain known results about linear functionals on factors of type I_n .

LEMMA 6.1. *Let $\mathfrak{M}$ be a factor of type I_n , let $\{e_{ij}: i, j=1, \dots, n\}$ be a family of matrix units for $\mathfrak{M}$. Let ϕ be the mapping from $\mathfrak{M}^*$, the dual of the vector space $\mathfrak{M}$, to $\mathfrak{M}$ defined by*

$$\phi(f) = \sum_{ij} f(e_{ji})e_{ij}$$

for $f \in \mathfrak{M}^$. Then ϕ is a linear and an order isomorphism, and if $\mathfrak{M}$ is identified with the algebra of all operators on n -dimensional Hilbert space $\mathfrak{S}$ and if x is a unit vector in $\mathfrak{S}$, then $\phi(\omega_x) = [x]$. The mapping ϕ does not depend upon the choice of matrix units $\{e_{ij}\}$ in $\mathfrak{M}$. If $f \in \mathfrak{M}^*$ and $f \geq 0$ then $f = \text{trace}(\phi(f)^{1/2} \cdot \phi(f)^{1/2})$*

Proof. It is well known that ϕ is a linear isomorphism. Let $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ be an orthonormal basis for $\mathfrak{S}$ such that $e_{ij}e_j = e_i$, $i, j=1, \dots, n$, let $x = \sum_i \gamma_i e_i$ be a unit vector in $\mathfrak{S}$. We show that $\phi(\omega_x) = [x]$. In fact

$$([x]e_i, e_j) = ((e_i, x)x, e_j) = \tilde{\gamma}_i \gamma_j$$

and

$$(\phi(\omega_x)e_i, e_j) = \omega_x(e_{ij}) = \gamma_j \tilde{\gamma}_i.$$

By linearity we conclude that ϕ is an order isomorphism and that ϕ does not depend on the choice of the matrix units $\{e_{ij}\}$. If $f \in \mathfrak{M}^*$ and $f \geq 0$ then $\phi(f) \geq 0$ and we may assume by what we have proved that e_i is an eigenvector of $\phi(f)$, for $i = 1, \dots, n$. That is, $\phi(f) = \sum_i \alpha_i e_{ii}$ with $\alpha_i \geq 0$ and hence

$$\begin{aligned} f &= \sum_i \alpha_i \omega_{e_i} \\ &= \text{trace} \left(\sum_i \alpha_i e_{ii} \right) \\ &= \text{trace}(\phi(f)^{1/2} \cdot \phi(f)^{1/2}). \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 6.1.

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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY,
NEW YORK, NEW YORK