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ON THE DICHOTOMY PROBLEM FOR TENSOR ALGEBRAS

BY

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ABSTRACT. Let I, J be discrete spaces and $E \subset I \times J$. Then either E is a V-Sidon set (in the sense of [**2**, §11]), or the restriction algebra $A(E)$ is analytic. The proof is based on probabilistic methods, involving Slépian's lemma.

1. Introduction and definitions. A subset E of $I \times J$ is called a V-Sidon set provided the restriction of $l^\infty(I) \hat{\otimes} l^\infty(J)$ coincides with $l^\infty(E)$. It is known then that E is obtained as the finite union of "sections" $F \subset I \times J$, meaning that either $\pi_1 | _F$ or $\pi_2 | _F$ is one-to-one (π_1, π_2 respective coordinate projections). Our purpose is to show that the algebra $A(E)$, obtained by restricting $l^\infty(I) \hat{\otimes} l^\infty(J)$ to E, is either $l^\infty(E)$ or analytic. Recall that an algebra is analytic provided that only analytic functions operate on it (see [**2**] for more details). In view of Malliavin's characterization of analytic algebras, it amounts to showing the following (see [**2**, p. 102]).

THEOREM. *If $E \subset I \times J$ is not a V-Sidon set, then for some $c > 0$*

$$\sup_{\substack{\|\phi\|_{A(E)} \leqslant 1 \\ \phi \text{ real}}} \left\| e^{it\phi} \right\|_{A(E)} > e^{ct}, \qquad t > 0.$$

In fact, c will be an absolute constant.

2. A condition for analyticity. In this section, a criterion is explained which permits us to minorize $\|e^{it\phi}\|_{A(E)}$. Let f_z stand for the translate of f by z.

LEMMA 1. *Let G be a compact Abelian group and E be a subset of the dual group Γ of G. Denote by C_E the space of continuous functions with Fourier transform supported by E. Fix a positive integer and assume the existence of a function f in C_E and a sequence of points $x_1, \dots, x_l$ in G satisfying*

$$f(0) = \|f\|_\infty = 1, \tag{1}$$

$$\sum_{S \subset \{1, \dots, l\}} \left| f_{\sum_{k \in S} x_k} \right| \leqslant B \text{ pointwise on } G. \tag{2}$$

($\sum_S x_k$ refers to the group operation in G.) Then (c = numerical)

$$\sup_{\substack{\|\phi\|_{A(E)} \leqslant 1 \\ \phi \text{ real}}} \left\| e^{it\phi} \right\|_{A(E)} \geqslant e^{ct} \quad \text{if } B < t < l. \tag{3}$$

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PROOF. Define $\sigma(t)$ to be the left member of (3). From the simple estimation, valid in any Banach algebra A,

$$\Big\| \prod_k (1 + u_k) \Big\|_A \leqslant e^{\Sigma \|u_k\|^2} \sup_S \| e^{\Sigma_S u_k} \|, \qquad \|u_k\| < 1/2;$$

applied to the elements

$$u_k = \frac{it}{4l} \varepsilon_k \big[(1 - i\varepsilon_k') \hat{\delta}_{x_k} |_E + (1 + i\varepsilon_k') \hat{\delta}_{-x_k} |_E \big] \qquad (i^2 = -1),$$

it follows that

$$\Big\| \prod_{1 \leqslant k \leqslant l} \Big[1 + \frac{it}{4l} \varepsilon_k \big[(1 - i\varepsilon_k') \hat{\delta}_{x_k} |_E + (1 + i\varepsilon_k') \hat{\delta}_{-x_k} |_E \big] \Big] \Big\|_{A(E)} \tag{4}$$
$$\leqslant 2 e^{t^2/l} \sigma(t).$$

Here $\varepsilon \in \{1, -1\}^l$, $\varepsilon' \in \{1, -1\}^l$ will be used in an averaging argument. Let $\{ d_S \mid S \subset \{1, \ldots, l\} \}$ be elements of the unit disc. From the $C_E - A(E)$ norm duality and (2), the following minoration for the left member of (4) is valid (w_S refers to the usual Walsh system):

$$\frac{1}{B} \int \Big| \Big\langle \prod_{1 \leqslant k \leqslant l} \Big[1 + \frac{it}{4l} \varepsilon_k (\cdots) \Big], \sum_S d_S w_S(\varepsilon) f_{\Sigma_S x_k} \Big\rangle \Big| \, d\varepsilon$$
$$\geqslant \frac{1}{B} \Big| \sum_{S \subset \{1, \ldots, l\}} d_S \Big(\frac{it}{4l} \Big)^{|S|} \Big\langle \mathop{*}_{k \in S} \big[(1 - i\varepsilon_k') \delta_{x_k} + (1 + i\varepsilon_k') \delta_{-x_k} \big], f_{\Sigma_S x_k} \Big\rangle \Big|.$$

For an appropriate choice of the $d_S = d_S(\varepsilon')$, the identity

$$\int \Big\{ \mathop{*}_{k \in S} \big[(1 - i\varepsilon_k') \delta_{x_k} + (1 + i\varepsilon_k') \delta_{-x_k} \big] \Big\} \Big(\prod_{k \in S} \frac{1 + i\varepsilon_k'}{2} \Big) \, d\varepsilon' = \delta_{\Sigma_S x_k}$$

and integration in ε' lead to the minoration

$$\sum_{S \subset \{1, \ldots, l\}} B^{-1} \Big(\frac{t}{2\sqrt{2}\, l} \Big)^{|S|} \big| \langle f_{\Sigma_S x_k}, \delta_{\Sigma_S x_k} \rangle \big| = \Big(1 + \frac{t}{2\sqrt{2}\, l} \Big)^l \frac{1}{B}$$

as a consequence of (1). Hence $\sigma(t) \geqslant (1/B) e^{-t^2/l} \cdot e^{c_1 t}$, and the result easily follows. □

REMARK. To satisfy (1), (2) is possible only if C_E contains l_k^∞-subspaces of arbitrary large dimension k (in the Banach space sense). Hence, a natural question is the "cotype-dichotomy" problem (explained in [**4**]). This conjecture was recently solved in the affirmative (see [**1**]), and implies that if E is not a Sidon set, then

$$\sup_{\substack{\|\phi\|_{A(E)} \leqslant 1 \\ \phi \text{ real}}} \| e^{it\phi} \| > ct, \quad \forall t > 0.$$

3. Verification of the condition in the tensor algebra case. It remains to prove that if $E \subset I \times J$ is not a V-Sidon set, then (1), (2) of Lemma 1 can be realized. In this case, let G be a Cantor-group $\{1, -1\}^{\mathbf{N}} \times \{1, -1\}^{\mathbf{N}}$ and identify I (resp. J) with the

Rademacher sequence $\alpha_i(x)$ (resp. $\beta_j(y)$) on the first (resp. second) factor ($i, j = 1, l, \ldots$). The following well-known (and easy) combinatorial lemma is applied to E (see [**2**, 11.8.1]).

LEMMA 2. *If $E \subset I \times J$ is not a V-Sidon set, then for arbitrary K there are finite subsets $I_1 \subset I$ and $J_1 \subset J$ (say $|I_1| \geqslant |J_1|$), and for each $i \in I_1$ a subset $A_i \subset J_1$, $|A_i| = K$, satisfying $\bigcup_{i \in I_1}(\{i\} \times A_i) \subset E$.*

With those notations, let

$$f = \sum_{i \in I_1} \sum_{j \in A_1} \alpha_i \otimes \beta_j.$$

Thus $f(0) = K|I_1| = \|f\|_\infty$. The realization of (1), (2) above will be clear from

LEMMA 3. *Let $2^l < K^{1/4}$. Then, as for an absolute constant C,*

$$\int_G \Big\| \sum_{S \subset \{1, \ldots, l\}} |f_{\Sigma_S z_k}| \Big\|_\infty dz_1 \cdots dz_l \leqslant CK|I_1|. \tag{5}$$

(*G^l is the l-fold product $G \times \cdots \times G$ with normalized measure.*)

PROOF. Write $z \in G \equiv \{1, -1\}^{\mathbf{N}} \times \{1, -1\}^{\mathbf{N}}$ as $z = (u, v)$. Thus

$$f_z = \sum_i \sum_{j \in A_i} \alpha_i(u)\beta_j(v)\alpha_i \otimes \beta_j.$$

For fixed $(x, y) \in G$, there are 1-bounded scalars $\{c_S \,|\, S \subset \{1, \ldots, l\}\}$ satisfying

$$\sum_S |f_{\Sigma_S z_k}(x, y)| = \Big| \sum_{i \in I_1} \alpha_i(x) \sum_{S \subset \{1, \ldots, l\}} c_S \alpha_i\Big(\sum_S u_k\Big) \sum_{j \in A_i} \beta_j\Big(\sum_S v_k\Big)\beta_j(y) \Big|$$

$$\leqslant |I_1|^{1/2} \left\{ \sum_{i \in I_1} \Big| \sum_S c_S \alpha_i\Big(\sum_S u_k\Big)\Big\{ \sum_{j \in A_i} \beta_j\Big(\sum_S v_k\Big)\beta_j(y)\Big\} \Big|^2 \right\}^{1/2}.$$

The second factor may be estimated by expanding the inner square as

(6)

$$\left\{ \sum_{i \in I_1} \sum_S \Big| \sum_{j \in A_i} \beta_j\Big(\sum_S v_k\Big) \cdot \beta_j(y) \Big|^2 \right\}^{1/2}$$

$$+ \left\{ \sum_{S \neq S'} \Big| \sum_{i \in I_1} \alpha_i\Big(\sum_{S \triangle S'} u_k\Big)\Big\{ \sum_{j \in A_i} \beta_j\Big(\sum_S v_k\Big)\beta_j(y)\Big\}\Big\{ \sum_{j \in A_i} \beta_j\Big(\sum_{S'} v_k\Big)\beta_j(y)\Big\} \Big| \right\}^{1/2}$$

It remains to take the supremum over y. The first and second terms will be treated separately.

First term in (6). Fix $i \in I_1$. Linearize the square function by considering scalars $\{a_S \mid S \subset \{1, \dots, l\}\}$, $\Sigma |a_S|^2 = 1$ so that

$$\left(\sum_S \left| \sum_{j \in A_i} \beta_j\Big(\sum_{k \in S} v_k\Big)\beta_j(y)\right|^2\right)^{1/2} = \left|\sum_{j \in A_i} \beta_j(y) \sum_S a_S \beta_j\Big(\sum_{k \in S} v_k\Big)\right|$$
$$\leqslant |A_i|^{1/2}\left\{\sum_{j \in A_i}\left|\sum_S a_S \beta_j\Big(\sum_{k \in S} v_k\Big)\right|^2\right\}^{1/2}$$

by the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality.

For fixed $j \in A_i$, expand the square. Reversing the order of summation yields the estimation

$$(7)\qquad \begin{aligned} &|A_i|^{1/2}\left\{|A_i| + \sum_{S \neq S'} |a_S||a_{S'}|\left|\sum_{j \in A_i} \beta_j\Big(\sum_{k \in S \Delta S'} v_k\Big)\right|\right\}^{1/2} \\ &\leqslant |A_i|^{1/2}\left\{|A_i| + \left(\sum_{S \neq S'}\left|\sum_{j \in A_i} \beta_j\Big(\sum_{k \in S \Delta S'} v_k\Big)\right|^2\right)^{1/2}\right\}^{1/2}. \end{aligned}$$

This estimation is uniform on G and depends only on $z_1, \dots, z_l$. Since for $S \neq S'$, $(v_1, \dots, v_l) \mapsto \sum_{k \in S \Delta S'} v_k$ gives the Haar measure on $\{1, -1\}^{\mathbf{N}}$ as the image measure, the integration w.r.t. $z_1, \dots, z_l$ appearing in (5) yields the estimation for (7)

$$|A_i|^{1/2}\left(|A_i| + 2^l\left\|\sum_{j \in A_i} \beta_j\right\|_2\right)^{1/2} \leqslant K^{1/2}(K + 2^l K^{1/2})^{1/2} < 2K,$$

by hypothesis on l and $|A_i| = K$.

Second term in (6). Let $\{g_i(\omega) \mid i \in I_1\}$ denote a sequence of independent Gaussian variables on some probability space Ω, and let $X_i(y) = \sum_{j \in A_i} \beta_j(y)$ be defined on $\{1, -1\}^{\mathbf{N}}$. The expressions

$$\int \sup_y \left|\sum_{i \in I_1} \alpha_i\Big(\sum_{S \Delta S'} u_k\Big) X_i\Big(y \sum_S v_k\Big) X_i\Big(y \sum_{S'} v_k\Big)\right| du_1 \cdots du_l$$

are dominated by

$$(8)\qquad \int \sup_{y, y' \in \{1, -1\}^{\mathbf{N}}} \left|\sum_{i \in I_1} g_i(\omega) X_i(y) X_i(y')\right| d\omega.$$

It follows from the inequality

$$\left(\sum_{i \in I_1} |X_i(y)X_i(y') - X_i(y_1)X_i(y_1')|^2\right)^{1/2}$$
$$\leqslant K\left\{\sum_{I_1} |X_i(y) - X_i(y_1)|^2 + \sum_{I_1} |X_i(y') - X_i(y_1')|^2\right\}^{1/2}$$

and Slépian's comparison lemma for Gaussian processes [3] that (8) may be estimated by

$$CK\int \sup_{y\in\{1,-1\}^{\mathbf{N}}}\left|\sum_{I_1} g_i(\omega)X_i(y)\right| d\omega. \tag{9}$$

Since

$$\left|\sum_{I_1} g_i(\omega)X_i(y)\right| \leqslant \sum_{j\in J_1}\left|\sum_{i\mid j\in A_i} g_i(\omega)\right|,$$

(9) is less than

$$CK\left\{\sum_{j\in J_1}|\{i\mid j\in A_i\}|^{1/2}\right\} \leqslant CK|J_1|^{1/2}\left(\sum_{i\in I_1}|A_i|\right)^{1/2} \leqslant CK^{3/2}|I_1|.$$

Therefore, (6) contributes to $C2^lK^{3/4}|I_1|^{1/2}$. Collecting estimations, one concludes

$$\int_{G^l}\left\|\sum_S |f_{\Sigma_{k\in S}z_k}|\right\|_\infty dz_1\cdots dz_l \leqslant C|i_1|^{1/2}\left(K|I_1|^{1/2}+2^lK^{3/4}|I_1|^{1/2}\right) < CK|i_1|$$

since l was chosen small enough. Hence (5) is proved.

4. Further remarks. (1) The result stated in the abstract can be generalized as follows: Let k be a positive integer, $I_1,\ldots,I_k$ discrete spaces and $E\subset(I_1\times\cdots\times I_k)$. Then either E is a V-Sidon set, or the restriction algebra

$$[l^\infty(I_1)\hat{\otimes}\cdots\hat{\otimes}l^\infty(I_k)]/E^\perp$$

is analytic. The argument presented above can indeed be adapted to the case of several factors. This adaptation, however, requires some additional work. (Notice that the role of the factors I and J in the previous computation is different.)

(2) Let F be a finite subset of the dual Γ of a compact abelian group G. According to [5], call the arithmetical diameter $d(F)$ of F the smallest number d for which there exists a subset P of the unit ball of $PM(F)$, $|P| = d$, such that

$$\|f\|_\infty \leqslant 2\sup_{\mu\in P}|\langle f,\mu\rangle| \quad \text{if } f\in C_F.$$

The method presented in this note permits us to show that for $E\subset\Gamma$ the restriction algebra $A(E)$ is analytic as soon as

$$\overline{\lim_k}\ \sup_{\substack{F\subset E\\|F|=k}}\frac{(\log|F|)^2}{\log d(F)}=\infty,$$

improving on the sufficient condition obtained in [5]. Details will appear elsewhere.

(3) The verification "at random" of the dichotomy conjecture for Sidon sets [6] is possible by using the criterion presented in §2 of this note.

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