

Exercise 3.1.4

(iii) \Leftrightarrow (iii) It suffices to show $\text{tr}(p) = \text{rank}(p)$ for $p \in \mathcal{P}(M_n(\mathbb{C}))$, where rank denotes the usual rank of matrices. Since p is a projection, we have $p(p - I_n) = 0$. This implies that the minimal polynomial of p is $X(X-1)$. Hence, it follows that p can be diagonalised into $\text{diag}(1, \dots, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$. Thus we conclude $\text{tr}(p) = (\text{multiplicity of the eigenvalue } 1) = \text{rank}(p)$.

(i) \Rightarrow (iii) Suppose $p \sim g$. Then, by definition, there exists $v \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ such that

$$p = v^* v \quad \text{and} \quad g = v v^*.$$

This implies $\text{tr}(p) = \text{tr}(g)$.

(iii) \Rightarrow (i) Since we suppose $p, g \in \mathcal{P}(M_n(\mathbb{C}))$, both p and g are Hermitian matrices. Hence, under the assumption (iii), there exist unitary matrices A and B such that

$$A^{-1} p A = B^{-1} g B = \text{diag}(1, \dots, 1, 0, \dots, 0).$$

Let us denote $\text{diag}(1, \dots, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$ as M .

Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & (\gamma B A^* p)^* (\gamma B A^* p) \\ &= p^* A B^* \gamma^* \gamma B A^* p \\ &= p^* A B^{-1} \gamma B A^{-1} p \quad \left(\because \gamma \in P(M_n(\mathbb{C})) \right. \\ &\quad \left. A \text{ and } B \text{ are unitary} \right) \\ &= p^* A M A^{-1} p \\ &= p^* p^2 \\ &= p \quad (\because p \in P(M_n(\mathbb{C}))) . \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & (\gamma B A^* p) (\gamma B A^* p)^* \\ &= \gamma B A^* p p^* A B^* \gamma^* \\ &= \gamma B A^{-1} p A B^{-1} \gamma^* \quad \left(\because p \in P(M_n(\mathbb{C})) \right. \\ &\quad \left. A \text{ and } B \text{ are unitary} \right) \\ &= \gamma B M B^{-1} \gamma^* \\ &= \gamma^2 \gamma^* \\ &= \gamma \quad (\because \gamma \in P(M_n(\mathbb{C}))). \end{aligned}$$

Hence we conclude $p \sim \gamma$.

□

We show $D(\mathbb{C}) \cong \mathbb{Z}_+$.

Consider $A \in M_m(\mathbb{C})$ and $B \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ with $m \leq n$ and $\text{tr}(A) = \text{tr}(B)$. If $m = n$, then $[A]_D = [B]_D$.

If $m < n$, then we have $A \sim_{\text{h-m}} A \oplus 0 \sim_{\text{h-m}} B$.

[\because] The first equivalence follows from Prop 3.1.1 (i).
The second is clear in view of the definition of \oplus and trace.

Hence, in $D(\mathbb{C})$, we identify matrices with the same trace regardless of the sizes of the matrices, that is,

$$[A]_D = \{B \in P_{\infty}(\mathbb{C}) \mid \text{tr}(B) = \text{tr}(A)\}.$$

We define a map $\varphi : D(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_+$ by

$$\varphi([A]_D) = \text{tr}(A).$$

This is obviously well-defined and bijective.

We have to verify that φ is a semigroup homomorphism.

We have

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi([A]_D + [B]_D) &= \text{tr}([A \oplus B]_D) && (\because \text{by the definition} \\ &&& \text{of } \varphi \text{ and "}" + ") \\ &= \text{tr}(A) + \text{tr}(B) && (\because \text{by the definition} \\ &&& \text{of "}" \oplus \text{ and trace}) \\ &= \varphi([A]_D) + \varphi([B]_D),\end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof. □