

Problem If  $A$  is a self-adjoint element of a  $C^*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{B}$ , show that  $r(A) = \|A\|$ . //

Proof I will show this claim for "normal" element.

Let be  $A$  normal element in  $\mathcal{B}$ , i.e.  $A^*A = AA^*$ .

$$\forall m \in \mathbb{N}, \|A^{2^m}\|^2 = \|(A^{2^m})^*(A^{2^m})\| = \|(A^*)^{2^m} A^{2^m}\|$$

$\uparrow$   
C\*-identity

$\uparrow$   
property of adjoint

$$= \|(A^*A)^{2^m}\| = \|(A^*A)^{2^{m-1}}\|^2 = \dots = \|A^*A\|^{2^m} = \|A\|^{2 \cdot 2^m}$$

$\uparrow$   
 $A^*A = AA^*$

$\uparrow$   
C\*-identity

$$\therefore \forall m \in \mathbb{N}, \|A^{2^m}\|^{\frac{1}{2^m}} = \|A\|.$$

By Gelfand-Beurting formula,

$$r(A) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|A^n\|^{\frac{1}{n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|A^{2^m}\|^{\frac{1}{2^m}} = \|A\|.$$

So, if  $A$  is a normal element of a  $C^*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{B}$ , then  $r(A) = \|A\|$ .

In particular, self-adjoint elements is normal. //