

## GROUPS OF ISOMETRIES ON OPERATOR ALGEBRAS II

STEEN PEDERSEN

**ABSTRACT.** We show that, to each  $C_0$ -group  $\rho$  of isometries on a  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$ , there corresponds a  $C_0$ -group  $\alpha$  of automorphisms on  $A$ , and a unitary cocycle  $u$  satisfying,  $\rho(t)a = u(t)\alpha(t)a$ ,  $t \in \mathbf{R}$ ,  $a \in A$ . It is shown, that the generator of  $\rho$  is of the form,  $a \rightarrow i(Ha - aK)$ , where  $H$  and  $K$  are (unbounded) self-adjoint operators.

**Introduction.** We study the polar decomposition of a  $C_0$ -group  $\rho$  of isometries on a  $C^*$ -algebra. It is used to obtain information about the infinitesimal generator of  $\rho$ , and the implementability of  $\rho$ . The case, where the algebra contains a unit, is considered in [9].

It is known [5], [7], that a linear isometry, mapping a  $C^*$ -algebra onto itself, can be decomposed into a Jordan-automorphism, followed by multiplication by a unitary. The unitary may be chosen in the multiplier algebra of  $A$ . This decomposition is called the *polar decomposition*.

We prove in §1 that, if  $\rho$  is a  $C_0$ -group of isometries on a factor  $\mathcal{M}$ , and  $\rho(t)a = u(t)\alpha(t)a$ ,  $a$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ , is the polar decomposition of each  $\rho(t)$ , then  $\alpha$  is a  $C_0^*$ -group of automorphisms on  $\mathcal{M}$ , and  $u$  is a  $\sigma$ -weakly continuous unitary  $\alpha$ -cocycle ( $u(s+t) = u(s)\alpha(t)u(t)$ ) in  $\mathcal{M}$ . The corresponding result for a  $C_0$ -group of isometries on a  $C^*$ -algebra is proved in §2. In §3, we give necessary and sufficient conditions for  $u$  to be a representation of the additive group of real numbers. We prove, in §4, that it is possible to choose a representation of  $A$  such that  $\rho(t)a = U(t)aV(t)$ , for a pair of unitary  $C_0$ -groups  $U$  and  $V$ . We study the infinitesimal generator of a group of this form, see also [9, §4]. In the final section, we consider the case where  $A$  is a  $C^*$ -algebra of compact operators.

**Notation.** Let  $X$  be a Banach space. A group on  $X$  is a homomor-

---

Research supported by the Danish Natural Science Research Council  
Received by the editors on March 12, 1986, and in revised form on September 15, 1986.