

23. Approximate Propervalues and Characters of C^* -algebra

By Isamu KASAHARA^{*)} and Hiroshi TAKAI^{**)}

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1. Introduction. Recently, Bunce [2] established a kind of reciprocity among the characters of singly generated C^* -algebras and approximate propervalues of the generators. He proved, among others, the following theorem:

Theorem 1. *If A is a hyponormal operator acting on a Hilbert space \mathfrak{H} and λ is an approximate propervalue of A , then there is a character ϕ on the C^* -algebra \mathfrak{A} generated by A (and 1) such that*

$$(1) \quad \phi(A) = \lambda.$$

In the above theorem, a *character* means a multiplicative state of \mathfrak{A} . A *state* ϕ is a positive linear functional on \mathfrak{A} with $\phi(1) = 1$, and ϕ is *multiplicative* if

$$(2) \quad \phi(AB) = \phi(A)\phi(B),$$

for every $A, B \in \mathfrak{A}$.

Bunce [2] also proved the following theorem which is originally established by Arveson:

Theorem 2. *If λ is a spectre of A with $|\lambda| = \|A\|$, then there is a character ϕ on \mathfrak{A} which satisfies (1).*

In the present note, we shall show that a kind of approximate propervalues has a closed connection with the characters of singly generated C^* -algebras. As consequences, the above mentioned theorems of Arveson and Bunce are proved under a unified method.

2. Normal approximate propervalues. In this note, we shall mean an operator A is a bounded linear operator acting on \mathfrak{H} . Following after Halmos [4], we shall call a complex number λ is an *approximate propervalue* of A provided that λ and A satisfy

$$(3) \quad \|Ax_n - \lambda x_n\| \rightarrow 0 \quad (n \rightarrow \infty)$$

for a sequence $\{x_n\}$ of unit vectors. Furthermore, if λ and A satisfy (3) and

$$(3^*) \quad \|A^*x_n - \lambda^*x_n\| \rightarrow 0 \quad (n \rightarrow \infty),$$

then λ is called a *normal approximate propervalue* of A (in [7], λ is called an *approximate reducing propervalue*). By the spectral theorem, we can see that every spectre of a normal operator is a normal approximate propervalue.

^{*)} Momodani Senior Highschool, Osaka.

^{**)} Department of Mathematics, Osaka Kyoiku University.