

NORM-DECREASING ISOMORPHISMS OF THE TRACE-CLASS ALGEBRAS OF H^* ALGEBRAS

E. O. OSHOBI

ABSTRACT. Let A_1 and A_2 be H^* algebras and let $\tau(A_1)$, $\tau(A_2)$ be their trace classes. We show that an algebra isomorphism T of $\tau(A_1)$ onto $\tau(A_2)$ preserves the trace if any of the following conditions is satisfied:

- (i) $A_1 = A_2 = A$, a simple H^* algebra
- (ii) T is an isometry on the minimal idempotents of A_1
- (iii) T is norm-decreasing and $A_1 = A_2 = A$ is the direct sum of a finite number of simple H^* algebras. We also show that if T does preserve the trace, and it is norm-decreasing; then, the induced isomorphism T^m of the multiplier algebra $(\tau(A_1))^m$ onto $(\tau(A_2))^m$ is an isometry.

1. Introduction. Wendel in [10] and [11], Rigelhof in [6] and Wood in [12] and [13] have all shown that norm-decreasing isomorphism of some group algebra onto another of the same kind implies an isometry. We shall attempt to show, in this paper, that a norm-decreasing algebra isomorphism T of the trace-class algebra $\tau(A_1)$ onto another $\tau(A_2)$ which preserves the trace, induces an isometric algebra isomorphism T^m of the multiplier algebra $(\tau(A_1))^m$ onto $(\tau(A_2))^m$. The major contribution in this paper, is our investigation of when an algebra isomorphism T preserves the trace and lemma 3.1 is the basis of this investigation. The theory of the trace-class algebra itself was developed in [7] and [8]. [7] was a generalisation of Schatten's work on the trace-class algebra of operators on a Hilbert space in [9].

This work forms a part of the author's Ph.D. thesis. I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Dr. G. V. Wood of the University College of Swansea, my research supervisor for interesting me in this work and for his help and general advice.

2. Preliminaries. The trace-class for A , (denoted by $\tau(A)$) is defined to be the set $\{xy : x, y \in A\}$ (see [7]). It is dense in A by lemma 2.7 of [1]. A projection in A is a non-zero member e of A such that $e^2 = e = e^* \neq 0$ (e is a non-zero self-adjoint idempotent). We refer to a mutually orthogonal maximal family $(e_\alpha)_{\alpha \in \Gamma}$ as a projection base.

Received by the editors on December 27, 1974.

AMS 1970 subject classifications: Primary 46K15, 46K99, 46L20; Secondary 47B10, 47C10.

Key words and phrases: Trace-class, H^* algebra, norm-decreasing algebra isomorphism, multipliers, trace, projection base.

When each e_α is irreducible (in the sense of 27B of [4]) (e_α) is called an irreducible projection base.

Let (e_α) be a projection base. The trace, tr , on $\tau(A)$ is defined by $\text{tr}(a) = \sum_\alpha (ae_\alpha, e_\alpha) \forall a \in \tau(A)$. In fact,

$$(1) \quad \text{tr}(a) = \text{tr}(xy) = (y, x^*) = (x, y^*) = \text{tr}(yx)$$

where $a = xy \quad x, y \in A$.

In particular, $\text{tr}(e_\beta) = \sum_\alpha (e_\beta e_\alpha, e_\alpha) = (e_\beta, e_\beta) = \|e_\beta\|^2 \forall \beta \in \Gamma$ (see p. 97-98 of [7]).

From 27E of [4], if (e_α) is irreducible in a simple H^* algebra A , there exists an orthogonal basis $(e_{\alpha\beta})_{\alpha,\beta \in \Gamma}$ satisfying the following properties:

$$\begin{aligned} e_{\alpha\alpha} &= e_\alpha; & (e_{\alpha\beta}, e_{\alpha\beta}) &= (e_\alpha, e_\alpha) \forall \alpha \in \Gamma \\ (e_{\alpha\beta}, e_{k\beta}) &= e & (\text{unless } \alpha = k, \beta = s). \end{aligned}$$

$$e_{\alpha\beta} e_{k\beta} = \begin{cases} e_{\alpha\beta} & \text{when } \beta = k \\ 0 & \text{when } \beta \neq k \end{cases}$$

and $e_{\alpha\beta} = e_{\beta\alpha}^*$.

Also, every $y \in A$ can be written as

$$(2) \quad y \sim \sum_{\alpha,\beta} C_{\alpha\beta} e_{\alpha\beta}.$$

By the corollary to theorem 1 of [8], $\tau(A)$ is a Banach* algebra with respect to a $\tau(\cdot)$ norm. For each $a \in A$, there exists a sequence (λ_n) of positive numbers and (e_n) as above such that $a^*a = \sum \lambda_n e_n$ (see corollary 1 of [7]). $[a]$ is defined by

$$[a] = \sum \mu_n e_n \text{ where } \mu_n = \lambda_n^{1/2} \geq 0.$$

For each $a \in A$, there exists a unique $[a]$ in A such that $[a]^2 = a^*a$ (see lemma 2 of [7]). The $\tau(\cdot)$ norm with respect to which $\tau(A)$ is complete is defined by

$$\tau(a) = \text{tr}[a] = \sum_\alpha ([a] e_\alpha, e_\alpha).$$

It is easy to see that

$$(3) \quad \begin{aligned} \tau(a^*a) &= \text{tr}(a^*a) = \|a\|^2 \forall a \in A \text{ and in particular} \\ \tau(e_\alpha) &= \text{tr}(e_\alpha) = \|e_\alpha\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

A^m is the Banach algebra of all multipliers of A and g is a left multiplier if it is a bounded linear operator of A such that

$$g(xy) = (gx)y, \quad x, y \in A$$

(see p. 14 of [3]).

3. **Preservation of the trace for a simple A .** Throughout this section, A is a simple H^* algebra.

LEMMA 3.1. *Every minimal idempotent in A has trace equal $\tau(e_k) = \|e_k\|^2$ for any $k \in \Gamma$, where $(e_\alpha)_{\alpha \in \Gamma}$ is an irreducible projection base.*

PROOF. Let f be a minimal idempotent in A . Then $\sum_{\alpha, \beta} (\sum_p C_{\alpha p} C_{p\beta}) e_{\alpha\beta} = (\sum_{\alpha, p} C_{\alpha p} e_{\alpha p}) (\sum_{q, \beta} C_{q\beta} e_{q\beta}) = f^2 = f = \sum_{\alpha, \beta} C_{\alpha\beta} e_{\alpha\beta}$.

Since $e_{\alpha\beta}$ are mutually orthogonal, we have

$$(4) \quad \sum_p C_{\alpha p} C_{p\beta} = C_{\alpha\beta} \quad \forall p, \alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$$

Also,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\alpha, \beta} (C_{\alpha r} C_{r\beta}) e_{\alpha\beta} &= \left(\sum_{\alpha, p} C_{\alpha p} e_{\alpha p} \right) e_{rr} \left(\sum_{q, \beta} C_{q\beta} e_{q\beta} \right) \\ &= f e_{rr} f = \lambda f \\ &= \lambda \sum_{\alpha, \beta} C_{\alpha\beta} e_{\alpha\beta}, \lambda \text{ a complex number.} \end{aligned}$$

Hence $C_{\alpha r} C_{r\beta} = \lambda C_{\alpha\beta} \quad \forall \alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$. When $\beta = r$, we have $C_{\alpha r} C_{rr} = \lambda C_{\alpha r}$. Therefore $\lambda = C_{rr}$ if $C_{\alpha r} \neq 0$. Hence $C_{\alpha r} C_{r\beta} = C_{rr} C_{\alpha\beta}$, and when $\alpha = \beta$,

$$(5) \quad C_{\alpha r} C_{r\alpha} = C_{rr} C_{\alpha\alpha}$$

(4) and (5) now give $\sum_{\alpha, r} C_{\alpha r} C_{r\alpha} = \sum C_{\alpha\alpha} = (\sum C_{\alpha\alpha})^2$. Hence

$$(6) \quad \sum C_{\alpha\alpha} = 1.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}(f) &= \sum_{\alpha} (f e_{\alpha}, e_{\alpha}) \\ &= \sum_{\alpha} \left(\left[\sum_{r, s} C_{rs} e_{rs} \right] e_{\alpha}, e_{\alpha} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \|e_k\|^2 \sum C_{\alpha\alpha} \\
 &= \tau(e_k) \sum C_{\alpha\alpha} = \tau(e_k) \text{ by (6)}
 \end{aligned}$$

and the proof is complete.

LEMMA 3.2. *Let A be a simple H^* algebra and $(f_\gamma)_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$ be a maximal family of mutually orthogonal minimal idempotents. Then the trace on $\tau(A)$ is characterised as the unique linear functional L that satisfies*

- (i) $L(xy) = L(yx)$, $x, y \in A$ and
- (ii) $L(f_\gamma) = \tau(e_k)$, $(\gamma \in \Gamma^1)$.

PROOF. Suppose $L(x) = \text{tr}(x)$. Then $L(x)$ satisfies (i) by the trace property and (ii) by lemma 3.1. We shall now show that L and tr take the same value at an arbitrary point $x \in \tau(A)$ if L satisfies (i) and (ii). Af_γ is a minimal closed left ideal in A and, in fact, $\tau(A)f_\gamma = Af_\gamma$. $x \in \tau(A)f_\gamma$ implies $x = xf_\gamma = xf_\gamma f_\gamma$. Therefore, using (i) and (ii), $L(x) = L(xf_\gamma f_\gamma) = L(f_\gamma x f_\gamma) = \lambda L(f_\gamma) = \lambda \tau(e_k)$, and using lemma 3.1, $\text{tr}(x) = \text{tr}(xf_\gamma f_\gamma) = \text{tr}(f_\gamma x f_\gamma) = \lambda \text{tr}(f_\gamma) = \lambda \text{tr}(e_k)$. Since $\sum \tau(A)f_\gamma = \tau(A)$, L and tr take the same value at an arbitrary point $x \in \tau(A)$ and the proof is complete.

REMARK 3.3. 3.2 holds if $(f_\gamma)_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$ is replaced by $(e_\alpha)_{\alpha \in \Gamma}$ and $\tau(e_k)$ by $\tau(e_\alpha)$ (which is not a constant for all α). e_α can however be expressed as a finite sum of elements of an irreducible projection base (e_{α_n}) and $\tau(e_\alpha) = \tau(e_{\alpha_1}) + \dots + \tau(e_{\alpha_n})$.

THEOREM 3.4. *Let A be a simple H^* algebra. An algebra automorphism T of $\tau(A)$ preserves the trace.*

PROOF. Since T is algebraic, it maps a minimal idempotent, f , to a minimal one Tf . Hence $\text{tr}(f) = \tau(e_k) = \text{tr}(Tf)$ by 3.1. Define $L(x) = \text{tr}(Tx)$; then $L(xy) = L(yx)$ and $L(f) = \text{tr}(Tf) = \tau(e_k)$. Using 3.2, we have $L(x) = \text{tr}(x) = \text{tr}(Tx)$ and the proof is complete.

REMARK 3.5. An algebra isomorphism T of the group algebra $L_2(G)$ onto another $L_2(G^1)$ for compact groups G, G^1 preserves the trace because the minimal two-sided ideals in $L_2(G)$ are finite dimensional simple H^* algebras, T preserves dimension, and $\tau(e) = n$ (the dimension of a minimal ideal). We shall now indicate that for arbitrary simple H^* algebras A_1 and A_2 , an isomorphism T of $\tau(A_1)$ onto $\tau(A_2)$ does not preserve the trace.

By redefining the inner product in a simple H^* algebra, we shall indicate that the norm of a minimal idempotent can either be increased from 1 to a $c > 1$ or decreased from $c > 1$ to 1. The only non-

trivial part is to show that the norm defined by the new inner-product, in each case, satisfies the multiplicative property.

Let A_1 be a simple H^* algebra and f a minimal idempotent in A_1 such that $\|f\| = 1$. We define a new inner product $[,]$ in A_1 by

$$[x, y] = (1/\alpha^2 x, y), \text{ where } e < \alpha \leq 1.$$

Let A_2 be the algebra formed with this inner-product. Then $\|f\|_2 > 1$, $\text{tr}_2(f) \cong \text{tr}_1(f)$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \|xy\|_2^2 &\leq 1/\alpha^2 \|xy\|_1^2 \leq 1/\alpha^2 \|x\|_1^2 \|y\|_1^2 \\ &\leq (1/\alpha^2 \|x\|_1^2) (1/\alpha^2 \|y\|_1^2) \\ &= \|x\|_2^2 \|y\|_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

Conversely, let A_1 and f be as above but such that $\|f\|_1 = \beta > 1$. Suppose a new inner-product $[,]$ is defined by $[x, y] = ((1/\beta^2) x, y)$. Then $\|f\|_2 = (1/\beta) \|f\|_1 = 1$ and $\text{tr}_2(f) < \text{tr}_1(f)$. To show that $\|xy\|_2 \leq \|x\|_2 \|y\|_2$, it suffices to prove that

$$(7) \quad \|xy\|_1 \leq (1/\beta) \|x\|_1 \|y\|_1$$

For then,

$$\begin{aligned} \|xy\|_2^2 &= 1/\beta^2 \|xy\|_1^2 \leq 1/\beta^2 \|x\|_1^2 1/\beta^2 \|y\|_1^2 \\ &= \|x\|_2^2 \|y\|_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

Let $x, y \in A_1$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|xy\|_1^2 &= \left\| \left(\sum_{\alpha, \beta} \lambda_{\alpha\beta} e_{\alpha\beta} \right) \left(\sum_{i, j} c_{ij} e_{ij} \right) \right\|_1^2 \\ &= \left\| \sum_{\alpha, \beta, j} \lambda_{\alpha\beta} c_{\beta j} e_{\alpha j} \right\|_1^2 \\ &= \sum_{\alpha, j} \left| \sum_{\beta} \lambda_{\alpha\beta} c_{\beta j} \right|^2 \|e_k\|_1^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\|e_k\|_1^2} \left(\sum_{\alpha, \beta} |\lambda_{\alpha\beta}|^2 \|e_k\|_1^2 \right) \left(\sum_{\beta, j} |c_{\beta j}|^2 \|e_k\|_1^2 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\beta^2} \|x\|_1^2 \|y\|_1^2. \end{aligned}$$

(note: $\|e_k\|_1 = \beta$ since e_k irreducible implies e_k minimal by lemmas 27B and 27D of [4]). (7) now follows. Therefore, given two simple H^* algebras A_1 and A_2 , an isomorphism T of $\tau(A_1)$ onto $\tau(A_2)$ does not in general preserve the trace. But the following result holds.

THEOREM 3.7. *Let A_i ($i = 1, 2$) be a simple H^* algebra. An algebra isomorphism T of $\tau(A_1)$ onto $\tau(A_2)$ is such that $\text{tr}(Tx) = k \text{tr}(x) \quad \forall x \in \tau(A_1)$ where k is a constant greater than zero.*

PROOF. Let f be a minimal idempotent in $\tau(A_1)$. Tf is also minimal in $\tau(A_2)$. Suppose $\text{tr}(f) = d_1$ and $\text{tr}(Tf) = d_2$. Define $L(x) = \text{tr}(Tx)/k$ where $k = d_2/d_1$. Then $L(xy) = L(yx)$ and $L(f) = \text{tr}((Tf)/k) = d_1 = \text{tr}(f)$. Using 3.2, we have $L(x) = \text{tr}(x) = \text{tr}(Tx)/k \quad \forall x \in \tau(A_1)$, i.e., $\text{tr}(Tx) = k \text{tr}(x)$.

REMARK 3.8. In 3.7, the trace is preserved if $k_1 = 1$; and this is the case when T is a $*$ isomorphism and $\|T\| = 1$:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 = \|T\| &= \sup_{x \neq e} \frac{\tau(Tx)}{\tau(x)} \\ &= \sup_{x \neq e} \frac{\text{tr}[Tx]}{\text{tr}[x]} \\ &= \sup_{x \neq e} \frac{\text{tr}(Tx * Tx)^{1/2}}{\text{tr}(x * x)^{1/2}} \\ &= \sup_{x \neq e} \frac{\sum \mu_n \text{tr}(Te_n)}{\sum \mu_n \text{tr}(e_n)} \\ &= \frac{\tau(Te_k)}{\tau(e_k)} = \frac{\text{tr}(Tf)}{\text{tr}(f)} = k_1. \end{aligned}$$

It is clear from above that if T is just a $*$ isomorphism, then $\tau(Tx) = \|T\|\tau(x)$ and $\text{tr}(Tx) = \|T\|^2 \text{tr}(x)$.

THEOREM 3.9. *Let A_i ($i = 1, 2$) be a simple H^* algebra. An isometric algebra isomorphism T of $\tau(A_1)$ onto $\tau(A_2)$ preserves the trace.*

PROOF. Let e_1 be a minimal self adjoint idempotent in $\tau(A_1)$. Te_1 is minimal but not necessarily self adjoint and $\tau(Te_1) = \tau(e_1)$ by hypothesis. If e_2 is a minimal self adjoint idempotent in $\tau(A_2)$, then $\text{tr}(Te_1) = \tau(e_2)$ by 3.1. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}\tau(e_1) &= \text{tr}(f) \leq \tau(f) \text{ (by corollary 2 of [7])} \\ &= \tau(Tf) = \tau(e_2) = \text{tr}(Te_1) \\ &= \tau(Te_1) = \tau(e_1).\end{aligned}$$

Hence $\text{tr}(Tf) = \text{tr}(e_2) = \tau(e_2) = \tau(e_1) = \text{tr}(f)$. Since the trace is preserved on minimal idempotents, we conclude the proof as in 3.4.

4. Preservation of the trace for an arbitrary proper semi simple H^* algebra A . We shall assume that A is proper in the sense of [1].

THEOREM 4.1. *Let $(e_\alpha)_{\alpha \in \Gamma}$ be an irreducible projection base for A . Then the trace on $\tau(A)$ is characterised as the unique linear functional L on $\tau(A)$ that satisfies*

- (i) $L(xy) = L(yx)$, $x, y \in A$ and
- (ii) $L(e_\alpha) = \tau(e_\alpha)$, $\alpha \in \Gamma$.

PROOF. As in 3.2, we note however that in this case $\tau(e_\alpha)$ is not a constant for all α .

REMARK 4.2. 4.1 is also true if (ii) is replaced by (1)

$$L(f_\alpha) = \text{tr}(f_\alpha) \quad \alpha \in \Gamma$$

or (2)

$$L(e_\alpha) = \tau(e_\alpha), \quad \text{where}$$

$(e_\alpha)_{\alpha \in \Gamma}$ is just a projection base.

THEOREM 4.3. *An algebra isomorphism T of $\tau(A_1)$ onto $\tau(A_2)$ preserves the trace if T is an isometry on minimal idempotents.*

PROOF. Since T is algebraic, it maps minimal ideals onto minimal ideals and so preserves the trace on minimal idempotents by 3.9. Using the proof of 4.1 instead of 3.2, the result follows.

THEOREM 4.4. *Let A be an arbitrary H^* algebra which is the direct sum of a finite number of simple H^* algebras A_n . A norm-decreasing automorphism T of $\tau(A)$ preserves the trace.*

PROOF. In view of 4.3, it suffices to show that the trace is preserved on minimal idempotents. Since T is norm-decreasing and A is the direct sum of a finite number of simple H^* algebras A_n , then T either maps $\tau(A_i)$ onto itself ($i = 1, \dots, n$) and so preserves the trace by 3.4 or T maps each minimal idempotent to a minimal idempotent of equal norm (since there are only a finite number of possible values). The trace is also preserved by 3.9.

We shall now indicate that, in general, if T is a norm-decreasing

isomorphism of $\tau(A_1)$ onto $\tau(A_2)$, then there is a constant k such that $\text{tr}(Tr) = k \text{tr}(x)$.

THEOREM 4.5. *If T is an algebra isomorphism of $\tau(A_1)$ onto $\tau(A_2)$, then for each minimal two-sided ideal N of $\tau(A_1)$ there exists k_N ($0 < k_N \leq \|T\|^2$) such that $\text{tr}(Tr) = k_N \text{tr}(x) \forall x \in N$.*

PROOF. Since T maps minimal ideals onto minimal ideals, the proof follows from 3.7 and 3.8.

In fact, 4.7 is the best possible as the following example will show:

EXAMPLE 4.6. Let $A = \cdots \oplus \mathbb{C}_{-n} \oplus \mathbb{C}_{-(n-1)} \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{C}_{-1} \oplus \mathbb{C}_0 \oplus \mathbb{C}_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{C}_n \oplus \cdots$, where each \mathbb{C}_n ($-\infty \leq n \leq \infty$) is a complex number field. Let the norm of the idempotent e_n in each \mathbb{C}_n (which is the unit element) be defined as follows:

$$\text{For } n < 0, \quad \tau(e_n) = 3 + \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\text{For } n = 0 \quad \tau(e_0) = 2$$

$$\text{For } n > 0, \quad \tau(e_n) = 1 + \frac{1}{n}.$$

Let T be an algebraic shift automorphism on $\tau(A)$ which is norm-decreasing. Then we have $Te_n = e_{n+1} \forall n$ ($-\infty \leq n \leq \infty$). Therefore, for $n < 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}(Te_n) &= \frac{(3 + (1/(n + 1)))}{(3 + (1/n))} \text{tr}(e_n) \\ &= k_n \text{tr}(e_n), \quad 0 < k_n \leq 1. \end{aligned}$$

For $n > 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}(Te_n) &= \frac{(1 + (1/(n + 1)))}{(1 + (1/n))} \text{tr}(e_n) \\ &= k_n \text{tr}(e_n), \quad 0 < k_n \leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

and $\text{tr}(Te_1) = \text{tr}(e_0) = \text{tr}(Te_0) = \text{tr}(e_1) = 2$. Hence $\text{tr}(Te_n) = k_n \text{tr}(e_n) \quad 0 < k_n \leq 1, -\infty \leq n \leq \infty$.

REMARK 4.7. In 4.5, C_n could be replaced by any simple H^* algebra A_n and (e_n) by an irreducible projection base (e_{α_n}) . If (f_{α_n}) is a maximal family of mutually orthogonal minimal idempotents in A such that $f_{\alpha_n} \in A_n$ for each n , then $Tf_{\alpha_n} = f_{\alpha_{n-1}}$. Since $e_{\alpha_n} \in A_n$ for each n and $\text{tr}(f_{\alpha_n}) = \tau(e_{\alpha_n})$, we have $\text{tr}(Tf_{\alpha_n}) = \text{tr}(f_{\alpha_{n+1}}) = \tau(e_{\alpha_{n+1}})$ and $\text{tr}(Tf_{\alpha_n}) = k_n \text{tr}(f_{\alpha_n})$ as above.

5. **The main theorem.** It is well known that if T is an algebra isomorphism of $\tau(A_1)$ onto $\tau(A_2)$, the induced algebra isomorphism T^m of $(\tau(A_1))^m$ onto $(\tau(A_2))^m$ is given by $T^m g = TgT^{-1}$, $g \in (\tau(A_1))^m$. We shall need the following lemma first.

LEMMA 5.1. $A^m \equiv (\tau(A))^m$.

PROOF. $A^m \subset (\tau(A))^m$. If g is a multiplier on A , the restriction to $\tau(A)$ is a multiplier and maps $\tau(A)$ into $\tau(A)$ (since $g(xy) = (gx)y$). Since multipliers are continuous anyway, we have the above assertion. $(\tau(A))^m \subset A^m$. Since the norm in A satisfies $\|x\| = \sup_{\|y\| \leq 1} \tau(xy)$ (see corollary 4 of [7]), we have that if g is a multiplier on $\tau(A)$, it is continuous with respect to the A norm. For

$$\begin{aligned} \|g(xy)\| &= \sup_{\|z\| \leq 1} \tau(g(xy)z) \\ &= \sup_{\|z\| \leq 1} \tau(g(xyz)) \\ &\leq \|g\| \sup_{\|z\| \leq 1} \tau(xyz) \\ &= \|g\| \|xy\|. \end{aligned}$$

Thus it will extend to a multiplier on A .

THEOREM 5.2. A norm decreasing algebra isomorphism T of $\tau(A_1)$ onto $\tau(A_2)$ which preserves the trace, induces an algebra isomorphism T^m of $(\tau(A_1))^m$ onto $(\tau(A_2))^m$ which is an isometry.

PROOF. We only need to show that T norm-decreasing implies T^m is an isometry.

$$\begin{aligned} \|(T^m)^{-1}g\| &= \|f_{(T^m)^{-1}g}\| && \text{(by theorem 2 of [8])} \\ &= \sup_{\tau(x) \leq 1} |f_{(T^m)^{-1}g}(x)| && (x \in \tau(A_1)) \end{aligned}$$

(where $f_{(T^m)^{-1}g}$ denotes the linear functional identified with the multiplier $(T^m)^{-1}g \in (\tau(A_1))^m$)

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sup |\operatorname{tr}((T^m)^{-1}gx)| && \text{(by definition)} \\ &= \sup_{\tau(x) \leq 1} |\operatorname{tr}(T^{-1}gTx)| && \text{(since } (T^m)^{-1}g = T^{-1}gT) \\ &= \sup_{\tau(x) \leq 1} |\operatorname{tr} g(Tx)| && \text{(since } T \text{ preserves the trace)} \\ &\leq \|g\| \sup_{\tau(x) \leq 1} \tau(Tx) && \text{(by corollary 2 and lemma 5 of ([7])} \\ &\leq \|g\| && \text{(since } T \text{ is norm-decreasing).} \end{aligned}$$

Since $(\tau(A))^m$ is a B^* algebra (see cor. 3.3 of [2]) then by theorem 2.1.1 of [5], T^m is an isometry. The proof is complete.

REMARK 5.3. It is not clear yet whether the assumption of trace preservation can be dropped in 5.2, and no counter example is known.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. W. Ambrose, *Structure Theorems for a special class of Banach Algebras*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **57** (1947), 364-386.
2. C. N. Kellogg, *Centralizers and H^* algebras*, Pacific J. Math. **17** (1966), 121-129.
3. R. Larsen, *An Introduction to the theory of multipliers*, New York (1971).
4. L. H. Loomis, *An introduction to Abstract harmonic Analysis*, New York (1953).
5. E. O. Oshobi, Ph.D. Thesis, University College of Swansea Wales (1973).
6. R. Rigelhof, *Norm decreasing homomorphism of group algebras*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **136** (1969), 361-372.
7. P. P. Saworotnow and J. C. Friedell, *Trace-class for an arbitrary H^* algebra*, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. **26** (1970), 95-100.
8. P. P. Saworotnew, *Trace-class and centralizers of an H^* algebra*, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. **26** (1970), 101-104.
9. R. Schatten, *Norm Ideals of completely continuous operators*, Ergebnisse der mathematik und ihrer Grenzgebiete Heft. **27**, Springer-Verlag, Berlin (1960).
10. J. G. Wendel, *On Isometric isomorphism of group algebras*, Pacific J. Math. **1** (1951), 305-311.
11. ———, *Left Centralizers and isomorphism of group algebras*, Pacific J. Math. **2** (1952), 251-261.
12. G. V. Wood, *A note on isomorphism of group algebras*, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. **25** (1970), 771-775.
13. G. U. Wood, *Isomorphism of L^p group algebras*, J. Lond., Math. Soc. (2) **4** (1972), 425-428.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF IFE, ILE-IFE, NIGERIA