

Some Spectrum Properties in C^* - Algebras

*N. SAGER¹, H. AVCI¹

Ondokuz Mayıs University, Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, 55129 Samsun, Turkey
*nilay.sager@omu.edu.tr

(Received: 24.11.2014; Accepted: 10.03.2015)

Abstract

In this study, we show that a $*$ - homomorphism $\varphi : A \rightarrow B$ between unital commutative C^* - algebras A and B with $A^{-1} = \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$ satisfies the property to preserve spectrum and adjoint mapping $\varphi^* : \Delta(B) \rightarrow \Delta(A)$ is surjective, that is, φ^* maps maximal ideal space of B to maximal ideal space of A .

Keywords: C^* - algebra, Gelfand transform, maximal ideal, spectrum, complex homomorphism

C^* - Cebirlerinde Bazı Spektrum Özellikleri

Özet

Bu çalışmada, birimli değişmeli A ve B C^* - cebirleri arasında tanımlı $A^{-1} = \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$ şartını sağlayan bir φ $*$ - homomorfizminin spektrumu koruma özelliğini sağladığı ve $\varphi^* : \Delta(B) \rightarrow \Delta(A)$ adjoint dönüşümünün örten olduğu yani B cebirinin maksimal idealler uzayını A cebirinin maksimal idealler uzayına dönüştürdüğü gösterildi.

Anahtar Kelimeler: C^* - cebiri, Gelfand dönüşümü, maksimal ideal, spektrum, kompleks homomorfizm

1. Introduction

There are many studies on invertible elements of C^* - algebras and the property to preserve spectrum of a homomorphism between C^* - algebras. The related studies can be found in references as [1-3]. In this paper, the relation between the property preserve spectrum of a homomorphism from one C^* - algebra to another, invertible elements of these C^* - algebras and the mapping of their maximal ideals is examined.

In this section, basic definitions and properties related to C^* - algebras will be given.

Let A be a complex algebra. An involution on A is a mapping $*$: $x \rightarrow x^*$ from A into A satisfying the following conditions.

- i. $(x + y)^* = x^* + y^*$,
- ii. $(\lambda x)^* = \bar{\lambda}x^*$,
- iii. $(xy)^* = y^*x^*$,
- iv. $(x^*)^* = x$

for all $x, y \in A$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$. Then A is called a $*$ - algebra or an algebra with involution.

If $*$ - algebra A is a Banach algebra and involution on it is isometric; that is, $\|x^*\| = \|x\|$ for all $x \in A$, then A is called a Banach $*$ - algebra.

If $*$ - algebra A is a Banach algebra and its norm satisfies the equation $\|x^*x\| = \|x\|^2$ for all $x \in A$, then A is said to be a C^* - algebra. [4]

Let A and B be C^* - algebras, $\varphi : A \rightarrow B$ be a mapping. If φ satisfies the following conditions for all $x, y \in A$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$, then this mapping is called a $*$ - homomorphism.

- i. $\varphi(x + y) = \varphi(x) + \varphi(y)$,
- ii. $\varphi(\lambda x) = \lambda\varphi(x)$,
- iii. $\varphi(xy) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y)$,
- iv. $\varphi(x^*) = \varphi(x)^*$.

It is said to be a $*$ - isomorphism if a $*$ - homomorphism φ is a bijection. [5]

If A is a unital Banach algebra, then the set $\{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : (x - \lambda 1_A) \notin A^{-1}\}$ is called spectrum of x in A , denoted by $\sigma_A(x)$, where A^{-1} denotes the set of invertible elements of A . $\sigma_A(x)$ is a nonempty compact subset of \mathbb{C} for every x in A . The resolvent set of x is defined by $\rho_A(x) = \mathbb{C} \setminus \sigma_A(x)$.

The spectral radius of x is characterized by $r_A(x) = \sup\{|\lambda| : \lambda \in \sigma_A(x)\}$. If A is a unital commutative Banach algebra, then for every x in A , the limit

$$r_A(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x^n\|^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

exists and $r_A(x) \leq \|x\|$. Also for every $x, y \in A$, $r_A(x + y) \leq r_A(x) + r_A(y)$ and $r_A(xy) \leq r_A(x)r_A(y)$.

When A is a commutative complex algebra with unit, every proper ideal of A is contained in a maximal ideal of A and every maximal ideal of A is closed. The set of all maximal ideals in A is denoted by $M(A)$.

Let A is a complex algebra and ϕ is a linear functional on A . If $\phi(xy) = \phi(x)\phi(y)$ for all $x, y \in A$, then ϕ is called a complex homomorphism on A . The set of nonzero complex homomorphisms on A is denoted by $\Delta(A)$.

For $x \in A$, $\hat{x} : \Delta(A) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, Gelfand transform of x , is defined by $\hat{x}(h) = h(x)$ for every h in $\Delta(A)$. The set $\hat{A} = \{\hat{a} : a \in A\}$ is called the set of Gelfand transforms on A . [6]

The ε -open neighbourhood $U_\varepsilon(h_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)$ at any $h_0 \in \Delta(A)$ with respect to the Gelfand topology is given

$$\{h \in \Delta(A) : |\hat{a}_i(h_0) - \hat{a}_i(h)| < \varepsilon\}$$

where $\varepsilon > 0$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and a_1, \dots, a_n are arbitrary elements of A . [7]

The following is true when A is a unital commutative Banach algebra.

- i. Every maximal ideal of A is the kernel of some $h \in \Delta(A)$.
- ii. If $h \in \Delta(A)$, then the kernel of h is a maximal ideal of A .
- iii. An element $x \in A$ is invertible in A if and only if $h(x) \neq 0$ for every $h \in \Delta(A)$.
- iv. $\lambda \in \sigma(x)$ if and only if $h(x) = \lambda$ for some $h \in \Delta(A)$. [6]

2. Spectrum Properties in C*- Algebras

In this section, it will be obtained that under what conditions equality $\sigma_A(x) = \sigma_B(\varphi(x))$ for any $x \in A$, the property to preserve spectrum of $\varphi : A \rightarrow B$, will be satisfied when A and B are

unital commutative C*- algebras and φ is a * - homomorphism from A to B .

Proposition 2.1. Let A and B be unital commutative C*- algebras, φ be a * - homomorphism from A to B and $\varphi(1_A) = 1_B$. Then for every $x \in A$, $\sigma_B(\varphi(x)) \subset \sigma_A(x)$. [5]

Theorem 2.2. Let A and B be unital commutative C*- algebras, $\varphi : A \rightarrow B$ be a * - homomorphism with $\varphi(1_A) = 1_B$. Then $\varphi(x) \in B^{-1}$ for any $x \in A^{-1}$.

Proof. $0 \notin \sigma_A(x)$ for an arbitrary $x \in A^{-1}$. $0 \notin \sigma_B(\varphi(x))$ follows from Proposition 2.1 and this proves $\varphi(x) \in B^{-1}$.

Corollary 2.3. $A^{-1} \subset \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$.

Theorem 2.4. Let A and B be unital commutative C*- algebras, $\varphi : A \rightarrow B$ be a * - homomorphism with $\varphi(1_A) = 1_B$. In this case, $A^{-1} = \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$ if and only if $0 \notin \sigma_A(x)$ whenever $0 \notin \sigma_B(\varphi(x))$ for any $x \in A$.

Proof. Let $A^{-1} = \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$. Suppose that $0 \notin \sigma_B(\varphi(x))$ for an arbitrary $x \in A$. In this case, $\varphi(x) \in B^{-1}$ and hence $x \in A^{-1}$ so that $0 \notin \sigma_A(x)$ for every $x \in A$. Conversely, assume that $0 \notin \sigma_A(x)$ whenever $0 \notin \sigma_B(\varphi(x))$ for any $x \in A$. Since $0 \notin \sigma_B(\varphi(a))$ for any $a \in \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$, $a \in A^{-1}$ by hypothesis and hence $\varphi^{-1}(B^{-1}) \subset A^{-1}$. According to Corollary 2.3, $A^{-1} = \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$.

Corollary 2.5. Let A and B be unital commutative C*- algebras, $\varphi : A \rightarrow B$ be a * - homomorphism with $\varphi(1_A) = 1_B$. Then $\sigma_A(x) = \sigma_B(\varphi(x))$ for every $x \in A$ if and only if $A^{-1} = \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$.

Proof. First, suppose that $\sigma_A(x) = \sigma_B(\varphi(x))$ for every $x \in A$. In that case, one says $0 \notin \sigma_B(\varphi(a))$ for any $a \in \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$. Hence $\sigma_A(a) = \sigma_B(\varphi(a))$ implies $0 \notin \sigma_A(a)$, that is, $a \in A^{-1}$. Then $\varphi^{-1}(B^{-1}) \subset A^{-1}$. Again, using Corollary 2.3, it follows that $A^{-1} = \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$. Conversely, let $A^{-1} = \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$. Given any $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} - \sigma_B(\varphi(x))$, $\varphi(x - \lambda 1_A) \in B^{-1}$ for

any $x \in A$, that is, $x - \lambda 1_A \in \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$ for any $x \in A$ and hence it is clear that $\lambda \notin \sigma_A(x)$, since $x - \lambda 1_A \in A^{-1}$ by hypothesis. Thus, we have seen that $\sigma_A(x) \subset \sigma_B(\varphi(x))$ for every $x \in A$ and we obtain $\sigma_A(x) = \sigma_B(\varphi(x))$ for every $x \in A$ by Proposition 2.1.

Corollary 2.6. If $A^{-1} = \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$, then $r_A(x) = r_B(\varphi(x))$ for every $x \in A$.

3. Mapping of Maximal Ideals in C^* - Algebras

Let φ be a $*$ - homomorphism between unital commutative C^* - algebras A and B and also A^* and B^* be algebraic duals of A and B , respectively. Surjectivity of $\varphi^* : \Delta(B) \rightarrow \Delta(A)$ which is obtained from $\varphi^* : B^* \rightarrow A^*$ means that φ^* maps $M(B)$ to $M(A)$. In this section, it will be obtained that under what conditions this property will be satisfied.

Theorem 3.1. Let A and B be unital commutative C^* - algebras, $\varphi : A \rightarrow B$ be a $*$ - homomorphism. Then φ^*f is also a $*$ - homomorphism for every $f \in \Delta(B)$.

Proof. For every $f \in \Delta(B)$ and $x, y \in A$,

$$\begin{aligned} (\varphi^*f)(xy) &= f(\varphi(xy)) \\ &= f(\varphi(x))f(\varphi(y)) \\ &= (\varphi^*f)(x)(\varphi^*f)(y) \end{aligned}$$

and hence $\varphi^*f \in \Delta(A)$. Also, since

$$\begin{aligned} (\varphi^*f)(x^*) &= f(\varphi(x^*)) \\ &= \overline{f(\varphi(x))^*} \\ &= \overline{f(\varphi(x))} \\ &= (\varphi^*f)(x) \end{aligned}$$

for every $f \in \Delta(B)$ and $x \in A$, it is clear that φ^*f is a $*$ - homomorphism.

Corollary 3.2. Let A and B be unital commutative C^* - algebras, $\varphi : A \rightarrow B$ be a $*$ - homomorphism. Then $\varphi^*\Delta(B) \subset \Delta(A)$.

Theorem 3.3. Let A and B be unital commutative C^* - algebras, $\varphi : A \rightarrow B$ be a $*$ - homomorphism with $\varphi(1_A) = 1_B$.

In that case, $A^{-1} = \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$ if and only if $\varphi^*\Delta(B) = \Delta(A)$.

Proof. Let $A^{-1} = \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$. Then for every $g \in \Delta(A)$, there exists $I \in M(A)$ such that $\text{Ker}g = I$. If we denote by J_0 the smallest ideal of B containing $\varphi(I)$, then $J_0 = B$ or $J_0 \neq B$. If $J_0 \neq B$, then there exists $J \in M(B)$ such that $J_0 \subset J$ and also $f \in \Delta(B)$ such that $\text{Ker}f = J$. Since $I \in M(A)$ and $A/I \cong \mathbb{C}$, there exists $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ and $t \in I$ such that $a = \lambda.1 + t$ for any $a \in A$. Therefore,

$$(\varphi^*f)(a) = (\varphi^*f)(\lambda.1 + t) = \lambda + f(\varphi(t)).$$

Again for $t \in I$, $\varphi(t) \in \text{Ker}f$ and hence $(\varphi^*f)(a) = \lambda$. Thus, we can write $a = (\varphi^*f)(a).1 + t$.

Using the fact that $t \in I = \text{Ker}g$, $g(a) = (\varphi^*f)(a)$. Then it is easily seen that $g = \varphi^*f \in \varphi^*\Delta(B)$ and obtained that $\Delta(A) \subset \varphi^*\Delta(B)$.

If J_0 were all of B , then there would be $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \in B$ and $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in I$ such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n b_i \cdot \varphi(a_i) = 1.$$

Since $b_i \cdot \|a_i\| \in B$ and $\frac{a_i}{\|a_i\|} \in I$, we can assume that $\|a_i\| = 1$ for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Let

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|b_i\| = M$$

and a neighbourhood U at $g \in \Delta(A)$ with respect to the Gelfand topology for $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ be

$$\left\{ h \in \Delta(A) : |\hat{a}_i(h) - \hat{a}_i(g)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{M \cdot n}, 1 \leq i \leq n \right\}.$$

Then, since $a_i \in I = \text{Ker}g$ for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$U = \left\{ h \in \Delta(A) : |\hat{a}_i(h)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{M \cdot n}, 1 \leq i \leq n \right\}$$

As A is regular, there is a $m \in A$ such that

$$\hat{m}(h) = \begin{cases} 1 & , h = g \\ 0 & , h \in \Delta(A) - U \\ \leq 1 & , \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

Thus for any $k \in \Delta(A)$,

$$\begin{aligned} |(a_i \cdot m)^\wedge(k)| &= |\hat{a}_i(k) \cdot \hat{m}(k)| \\ &= |\hat{a}_i(k)| \cdot |\hat{m}(k)| \end{aligned}$$

$$< \frac{\varepsilon}{M.n}$$

and hence

$$\sup\{|(a_i.m)^\wedge(k)| : k \in \Delta(A)\} < \frac{\varepsilon}{M.n}.$$

Also

$$\begin{aligned} r(a_i m) &= \sup\{|k(a_i.m)| : k \in \Delta(A)\} \\ &= \sup\{|(a_i.m)^\wedge(k)| : k \in \Delta(A)\} \end{aligned}$$

implies

$$r(a_i m) < \frac{\varepsilon}{M.n}.$$

On the other hand, if we remember

$$\sum_{i=1}^n b_i \cdot \varphi(a_i) = 1,$$

then it is clear that

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(m) &= \varphi(m) \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n b_i \cdot \varphi(a_i) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n b_i \cdot \varphi(a_i) \cdot \varphi(m) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n b_i \cdot \varphi(a_i m). \end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} r(\varphi(m)) &= r\left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i \cdot \varphi(a_i m)\right) \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n r(b_i) r(\varphi(a_i m)) \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n \|b_i\| \cdot r(\varphi(a_i m)) \\ &\leq M \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\varepsilon}{M.n} \\ &= \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

and hence $r(\varphi(m)) < \varepsilon < 1$. Moreover, since

$$\begin{aligned} r(m) &= \sup\{|k(m)| : k \in \Delta(A)\} \\ &= \sup\{|\widehat{m}(k)| : k \in \Delta(A)\} \\ &= 1, \end{aligned}$$

$r(\varphi(m)) = 1$ by hypothesis, which is a contradiction. This contradiction shows that $J_0 \neq B$. Consequently, $\varphi^* \Delta(B) = \Delta(A)$ by Corollary 3.2.

Conversely, let $\varphi^* \Delta(B) = \Delta(A)$. For any point $x \in \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$ and $h \in \Delta(A)$, $\varphi(x) \in B^{-1}$ and there exists $u \in \Delta(B)$ such that $\varphi^* u = h$. Thus $u(\varphi(x)) \neq 0$, so that $\varphi^* u(x) = h(x) \neq 0$ and hence $x \in A^{-1}$. Thus it is obtained that $\varphi^{-1}(B^{-1}) \subset A^{-1}$ and $\varphi^{-1}(B^{-1}) = A^{-1}$ by Corollary 2.3.

Corollary 3.4. $A^{-1} = \varphi^{-1}(B^{-1})$ if and only if $\varphi^* M(B) = M(A)$.

4. References

1. Russo, B. (1966). Linear mappings of operator algebras. Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society, 17, 1019-1022.
2. Bresar, M. and Spenko, S. (2012). Determining elements in Banach algebras through spectral properties. Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications, 393(1), 144 - 150.
3. Kovacz, I. (2005). Invertibility – preserving maps of C^* - algebras with real rank zero. Abstract and Applied Analysis, 2005(6), 685-689.
4. Kaniuth, E. (2009). A Course in Commutative Banach Algebras. Springer - Verlag, New York, 353s.
5. Dixmier, J. (1977). C^* - Algebras. Elsevier North - Holland Publishing Company, New York, 492s.
6. Rudin, W. (1991). Functional Analysis, Second Edition. McGraw - Hill, New York, 424s.
7. Larsen, R. (1973). Banach Algebras: An Introduction. Marcel Dekker, New York, 345s.