

# Klyachko's Theorem in Semi-finite von Neumann Algebras

By

Tetsuo HARADA\*

## Abstract

Let  $\mathfrak{A}$  be a von Neumann algebra and  $\overline{\mathfrak{A}}$  be the set of all  $\tau$ -measurable operators. For positive elements  $A$  and  $B$  in  $\overline{\mathfrak{A}}$  we prove that

$$\int_K \mu_s(A+B) ds \leq \int_I \mu_s(A) ds + \int_J \mu_s(B) ds,$$

where  $\mu(\cdot)$  denotes the generalized  $s$ -number and  $I, J$ , and  $K$  are on an analogue of the Klyachko list.

## §1. Introduction

Recently, Klyachko [11] has shown that the possible eigenvalues  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  of Hermitian  $n \times n$  matrices  $A, B$ , and  $C = A + B$  are characterized by a certain list of inequalities together with the trace equality  $\sum \gamma_i = \sum \alpha_i + \sum \beta_i$ . If we set  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ ,  $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n)$ , and  $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n)$  in decreasing order, then this list of inequalities is of the form

$$(1) \quad \sum_{k \in K} \gamma_k \leq \sum_{i \in I} \alpha_i + \sum_{j \in J} \beta_j$$

for certain subsets  $I, J, K$  of the same cardinality  $r$ , which are on the Klyachko list, with  $r < n$  (i.e. This list includes  $3n - 3$  inequalities:  $\alpha_1 \geq \alpha_2 \geq \dots \geq \alpha_n$ ,  $\beta_1 \geq \beta_2 \geq \dots \geq \beta_n$ ,  $\gamma_1 \geq \gamma_2 \geq \dots \geq \gamma_n$ ). We set  $\lambda(I) = (i_r - r, \dots, i_2 - 2, i_1 - 1)$

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\*9-16-201 Hakozaki 1-chome, Higashi-ku, Fukuoka 812-0053, Japan.

e-mail: tharada@math.kyushu-u.ac.jp

for  $I = \{i_1, \dots, i_r\}$ . Then  $(I, J, K)$  is on the Klyachko list exactly when the Littlewood-Richardson coefficient  $C_{\lambda(I) \lambda(J)}^{\lambda(K)}$  is positive (cf. [6], [7], [8]). From the solution of the saturation conjecture by Knutson-Tao [12], one can show that this list is exactly what was conjectured by Horn [10].

There is a long history to find necessary conditions. Arrange the eigenvalues of a Hermitian matrix  $X$  in decreasing order:  $\lambda(X) = (\lambda_1(X), \dots, \lambda_n(X))$ . For example, in 1912 H. Weyl found

$$\lambda_{i+j-1}(A+B) \leq \lambda_i(A) + \lambda_j(B) \quad \text{whenever } i+j-1 \leq n.$$

Some other inequalities were found in 1949 by Ky Fan:

$$\sum_{k=1}^r \lambda_k(A+B) \leq \sum_{k=1}^r \lambda_k(A) + \sum_{k=1}^r \lambda_k(B) \quad \text{for any } r < n.$$

It is easy to check  $(\{i\}, \{j\}, \{i+j-1\})$  and  $(\{1, \dots, r\}, \{1, \dots, r\}, \{1, \dots, r\})$  are on the Klyachko list.

There are some generalizations for the above inequality (1). Friedland [4] proved the inequality (1) for positive compact operators. Bercovici-Li [2] proved the inequality (1) for self-adjoint operators in  $II_1$  factors. Their methods are simple and useful, but we think that the same method cannot apply for the continuous infinite case, since they used discrete and finite properties respectively. In this paper, we will prove the inequality (1) by another method for any positive  $\tau$ -measurable operators. Of course, this result includes the infinite case (in particular, the continuous infinite case). And also, when  $\mathfrak{A}$  is a finite von Neumann algebra, we can prove the inequality (1) not only for positive operators but also for bounded self-adjoint operators. More precisely, Theorem 3.1 shows

$$\int_{J_0} \mu_s(A+B) ds \leq \int_{J_1} \mu_s(A) ds + \int_{J_2} \mu_s(B) ds$$

for positive operators  $A, B$ . Let  $C, D$  be bounded self-adjoint operators in  $\mathfrak{A}$ , there exists a positive number  $x$  such that  $C + xI \geq 0, D + xI \geq 0$ . Therefore, we get

$$\int_{J_0} \mu_s(C+D+2xI) ds \leq \int_{J_1} \mu_s(C+xI) ds + \int_{J_2} \mu_s(D+xI) ds.$$

Since  $\mu_s(C+xI) = \lambda_s(C) + x$  and  $m(J_0) = m(J_1) = m(J_2) < \infty$  (see Definition 2.4), the above inequality implies

$$\int_{J_0} \lambda_s(C+D) ds \leq \int_{J_1} \lambda_s(C) ds + \int_{J_2} \lambda_s(D) ds.$$

§2. Notation

In this section, we will collect some definitions and basic facts. Throughout the paper, let  $\mathfrak{A}$  be a von Neumann algebra on a Hilbert space  $\mathfrak{H}$  with a faithful normal semi-finite trace  $\tau$ . Let  $\overline{\mathfrak{A}}$  denote the set of all  $\tau$ -measurable operators.

**Definition 2.1** ( $\tau$ -measurable operators). A densely-defined closed operator  $A$  affiliated with  $\mathfrak{A}$  is said to be  $\tau$ -measurable if for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a projection  $E$  in  $\mathfrak{A}$  such that  $E(\mathfrak{H}) \subset \mathcal{D}(A)$  and  $\tau(1 - E) \leq \varepsilon$ . (Here,  $\mathcal{D}(A)$  denotes the domain of  $A$ .)

Let  $A$  be a closed densely-defined operator affiliated with  $\mathfrak{A}$ . Let  $|A| = \int_0^\infty \lambda de_\lambda(|A|)$  be the spectral decomposition. Then it is easy to check that  $A$  is  $\tau$ -measurable if and only if  $\tau(1 - e_\lambda(|A|)) < \infty$  for  $\lambda$  large enough (cf. [3], [14]).

**Definition 2.2** (The generalized  $s$ -number, The spectral scale). For a self-adjoint element  $A \in \overline{\mathfrak{A}}$ , the distribution function  $d_s(A)$  is defined by

$$d_s(A) = \tau(e_{(s,\infty)}(A)),$$

where  $e_{(s,\infty)}(A)$  is the spectral projection of  $A$  corresponding to the interval  $(s, \infty)$ .

The generalized  $s$ -number is defined by

$$\mu_t(A) = \inf\{s : d_s(|A|) \leq t\} \quad (0 < t < \infty)$$

while the spectral scale is defined by

$$\lambda_t(A) = \inf\{s : d_s(A) \leq t\} \quad (0 < t < \infty).$$

The above definitions correspond to the decreasing rearrangement of the eigenvalues of  $|A|$ , and  $A$  respectively. (When  $e_{[0,\infty)}(A) = \infty$ ,  $\lambda_t(A)$  does not necessarily correspond to the decreasing rearrangement of the eigenvalues of  $A$ . Therefore, we use the spectral scale only for elements in a finite von-Neumann algebra.) Of course, for positive operators, both definitions are the same.

If  $A$  is a  $\tau$ -measurable operator, then we have  $d_s(|A|) < \infty$  for  $s$  large enough and  $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} d_s(|A|) = 0$  as noted before. Moreover,  $\mu_t(A)$ ,  $\lambda_t(A)$  are non-increasing and right continuous on  $(0, \infty)$ . See [3], [15] for detailed properties of the above functions.

**Definition 2.3** (Continuous flag).

Let  $\{e_s\}_{s \in [0,\infty)}$  be a net of projections in  $\mathfrak{A}$  satisfying the following conditions.

- (i)  $\tau(e_s) \leq s$
- (ii) If  $s \leq t$ , then,  $e_s \leq e_t$

Then, we call  $\{e_s\}_{s \in [0, \infty)}$  a continuous flag on  $\mathfrak{A}$ .

**Definition 2.4** (Admissibility).

Let  $J$  be a measurable set in  $[0, \tau(1))$ . (Here,  $m$  denotes Lebesgue measure.) For a continuous flag  $\{e_s\}$ ,  $\Omega_J(\{e_s\}, \tau)$  is the set of projections in  $\mathfrak{A}$  defined by

$$\Omega_J(\{e_s\}, \tau) = \{p \in \mathfrak{A}_{proj}; \tau(p) = m(J), \tau(1-p) = m(J^c), \tau(p \wedge e_s) \geq m\{J \cap [0, s]\} \text{ (for all } s \in [0, \tau(1))\}\}.$$

Let  $J_0, J_1, J_2$  be Lebesgue measurable sets in  $[0, \tau(1))$  such that  $m(J_0) = m(J_1) = m(J_2)$  and  $m(J_0^c) = m(J_1^c) = m(J_2^c)$ . A triple  $(J_0, J_1, J_2)$  is called admissible for continuous flags  $(\{e_s\}, \{f_s\}, \{g_s\})$ , if the following condition holds:

$$\Omega_{J_0}(\{e_s\}, \tau) \cap (\Omega_{J_1^c}(\{f_s\}, \tau))^\perp \cap (\Omega_{J_2^c}(\{g_s\}, \tau))^\perp \neq \emptyset,$$

where  $(\Omega_{J_i^c}(\{f_s\}, \tau))^\perp = \{1-p; p \in \Omega_{J_i^c}(\{f_s\}, \tau)\}$ . Of course, when  $\tau(1) < \infty$ , the above requirements for the complement of sets are automatically met.

**Definition 2.5.** For  $A \in \overline{\mathfrak{A}}$  we set

$$SG(A) = \inf_{\xi \in \mathfrak{H} \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|A\xi\|}{\|\xi\|}.$$

**Proposition 2.1.** Let  $A, B$  be operators in  $\overline{\mathfrak{A}}$ .

1.  $\|A\xi\| \geq SG(A) \cdot \|\xi\|$  for  $\xi \in \mathfrak{H}$ .
2.  $SG(AB) \geq SG(A) \cdot SG(B)$ .
3.  $SG(A) = \|A^{-1}\|^{-1}$ , if  $A$  is invertible.

*Proof.* 1. follows immediately from the definition of  $SG(\cdot)$ .  
 2., 3. From the definition, we have

$$\begin{aligned} SG(AB) &= \inf_{\xi \in \mathfrak{H} \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|AB\xi\|}{\|\xi\|} \\ &\geq \inf_{\xi \in \mathfrak{H} \setminus \{0\}} \frac{SG(A) \cdot \|B\xi\|}{\|\xi\|} \\ &= SG(A) \cdot SG(B), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{SG}(A) &= \inf_{\xi \in \mathfrak{H} \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|A\xi\|}{\|A^{-1}(A\xi)\|} \\
 &= \inf_{\xi \in \mathfrak{H} \setminus \{0\}} \left( \frac{\|A^{-1}(A\xi)\|}{\|A\xi\|} \right)^{-1} \\
 &= \left( \sup_{\xi \in \mathfrak{H} \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|A^{-1}\xi\|}{\|\xi\|} \right)^{-1} \quad (\text{by } A(\mathfrak{H}) = \mathfrak{H}).
 \end{aligned}$$

□

**Definition 2.6.** Let  $A$  be an operator in  $\overline{\mathfrak{A}}$  and  $E$  be a projection in  $\mathfrak{A}$ . Then the restriction of  $\mathcal{SG}(A)$  for a projection  $E$  (denote it  $\mathcal{SG}(A)_E$ ) is

$$\mathcal{SG}(A)_E = \inf_{\xi \in E(\mathfrak{H}) \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|A\xi\|}{\|\xi\|}.$$

For this restriction  $\mathcal{SG}(\cdot)_E$ , an analogue of Proposition 2.1 is valid.

**Proposition 2.2.** Let  $A, B$  be operators in  $\overline{\mathfrak{A}}$  and  $E, F$  be projections in  $\mathfrak{A}$ .

1.  $\|A\xi\| \geq \mathcal{SG}(A)_E \cdot \|\xi\|$  for  $\xi \in E(\mathfrak{H})$ .
2.  $\mathcal{SG}(AB)_E \geq \mathcal{SG}(A)_E \cdot \mathcal{SG}(B)_E$ .
3. If  $E(\mathfrak{H})$  is an invariant subspace of  $A$  and  $AE$  is invertible as an element in  $B(E(\mathfrak{H}))$ . then  $\mathcal{SG}(A)_E = \|(EAE)^{-1}\|_E^{-1}$ . Here,  $\|\cdot\|_E$  is the usual operator norm in  $B(E(\mathfrak{H}))$ .
4.  $\mathcal{SG}(E)_E = 1$ , if  $E \neq 0$ .
5.  $\mathcal{SG}(A)_E \geq \mathcal{SG}(A)_F$ , if  $E \leq F$ .

*Proof.* 1., 2. are trivial (as in the proof of Proposition 2.1).

3. We compute

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{SG}(A)_E &= \inf_{\xi \in E(\mathfrak{H}) \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|A\xi\|}{\|\xi\|} \\
 &= \inf_{\xi \in E(\mathfrak{H}) \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|EAE\xi\|}{\|\xi\|} \\
 &= \inf_{\xi \in E(\mathfrak{H}) \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|EAE\xi\|}{\|(EAE)^{-1}EAE\xi\|} \\
 &= \left( \sup_{\xi \in E(\mathfrak{H}) \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|(EAE)^{-1}EAE\xi\|}{\|EAE\xi\|} \right)^{-1} \\
 &= \left( \sup_{\xi \in E(\mathfrak{H}) \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|(EAE)^{-1}\xi\|}{\|\xi\|} \right)^{-1} \\
 &= \|(EAE)^{-1}\|_E^{-1}.
 \end{aligned}$$

4.  $\mathcal{SG}(E)_E = \inf_{\xi \in E(\mathfrak{H}) \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|E\xi\|}{\|\xi\|} = 1.$

5.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{SG}(A)_E &= \inf_{\xi \in E(\mathfrak{H}) \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|A\xi\|}{\|\xi\|} \\
 &\geq \inf_{\xi \in F(\mathfrak{H}) \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|A\xi\|}{\|\xi\|} \\
 &= \mathcal{SG}(A)_F.
 \end{aligned}$$

□

### §3. Main Theorem

**Proposition 3.1.** For  $A \in \overline{\mathfrak{A}}$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu_t(A) &= \inf\{\|AE\|; E \text{ is a projection in } \mathfrak{A} \text{ with } \tau(1-E) \leq t\} \\
 &= \sup\{\mathcal{SG}(A)_E; E \text{ is a projection in } \mathfrak{A} \text{ with } \tau(E) \geq t\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* The first equality is shown in [3]. We show the second equality. Let us denote the supremum in this proposition by  $\alpha$ . If  $\alpha = 0$ , then we have  $\mu_t(A) \geq \alpha$ . So we can assume  $\alpha > 0$ . Then, for a sufficiently small  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a projection  $E$  with  $\tau(E) \geq t$  such that

$$0 < \alpha - \varepsilon < \mathcal{SG}(A)_E.$$

If  $\xi \in E(\mathfrak{H}) \cap e_{[0, \alpha - \varepsilon]}(|A|)(\mathfrak{H})$ ,  $\|\xi\| = 1$ , then we have

$$(A^*A\xi|\xi) = \|A\xi\|^2 \geq \mathcal{SG}(A)_E^2 > (\alpha - \varepsilon)^2,$$

$$(A^*A\xi|\xi) = \| |A| e_{[0, \alpha - \varepsilon]}(|A|)\xi \|^2 \leq (\alpha - \varepsilon)^2.$$

Therefore  $E \wedge e_{[0, \alpha - \varepsilon]}(|A|) = 0$ , and we compute

$$\begin{aligned} E &= E - E \wedge e_{[0, \alpha - \varepsilon]}(|A|) \\ &\sim E \vee e_{[0, \alpha - \varepsilon]}(|A|) - e_{[0, \alpha - \varepsilon]}(|A|) \\ &\leq 1 - e_{[0, \alpha - \varepsilon]}(|A|) \\ &= e_{(\alpha - \varepsilon, \infty)}(|A|). \end{aligned}$$

We thus get

$$\tau(e_{(\alpha - \varepsilon, \infty)}(|A|)) \geq \tau(E) \geq t, \quad \alpha - \varepsilon \leq \mu_t(A).$$

On the other hand, set  $E = e_{[\mu_t(A), \infty)}(|A|)$ . If  $\mu_t(A) = 0$ , then we have  $\mu_t(A) \leq \alpha$ . So we can assume  $\mu_t(A) > 0$ . As  $\tau(E) \geq t$  and  $\mathcal{SG}(A)_E \geq \mathcal{SG}(|A|)_E$  (Let  $A = u|A|$  be the polar decomposition. Since  $E(\mathfrak{H}) \subset \overline{|A|(\mathfrak{H})}$ , we have  $\mathcal{SG}(u)_E = 1$ .), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &\geq \mathcal{SG}(|A|)_E \\ &= \|(E|A|E)^{-1}\|_E^{-1} \\ &= \left\| \int_{[\mu_t(A), \infty)} \lambda^{-1} de_\lambda(|A|) \right\|_E^{-1} \\ &\geq \mu_t(A). \end{aligned}$$

□

**Proposition 3.2.** *Let  $A$  be a positive operator in  $\overline{\mathfrak{A}}$ . Let  $J$  be a measurable set in  $[0, \tau(1))$ , and  $p$  be a projection in  $\mathfrak{A}$ .*

1. *If  $\tau(p \wedge e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)) \geq m\{J \cap [0, s]\}$ , then  $\mu_{m\{J \cap [0, s]\}}(pAp) \geq \mu_s(A)$ .*
2. *If  $\tau(\mathcal{R}(pe_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A))) \leq m\{J \cap [0, s]\}$ , then  $\mu_{m\{J \cap [0, s]\}}(pAp) \leq \mu_s(A)$ . Here,  $\mathcal{R}(pe_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A))$  denotes the range projection of  $pe_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)$ .*

*Proof.* 1. If  $\mu_s(A) = 0$ , then it is trivial. So we can assume  $\mu_s(A) > 0$ .

From Proposition 2.2, we compute

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu_{m\{J\cap[0,s]\}}(pAp) &\geq \mathcal{SG}(pAp)_{p\wedge e_{(\mu_s(A),\infty)}(A)} \\
 &\geq \mathcal{SG}(p)_{p\wedge e_{(\mu_s(A),\infty)}(A)} \cdot \mathcal{SG}(A)_{p\wedge e_{(\mu_s(A),\infty)}(A)} \\
 &\geq \mathcal{SG}(A)_{e_{(\mu_s(A),\infty)}(A)} \\
 &= \left\| \int_{(\mu_s(A),\infty)} \lambda^{-1} de_\lambda(A) \right\|_{e_{(\mu_s(A),\infty)}(A)}^{-1} \\
 &\geq \mu_s(A).
 \end{aligned}$$

2. Consider the set of  $\tau$ -measurable operators  $\overline{p\mathfrak{A}p}$ . Since  $pAp$  is in  $\overline{\mathfrak{A}}$ ,

$$\mu_t(pAp) = \inf\{\|pApE\|; E \text{ is a projection in } p\mathfrak{A}p \text{ with } \tau(p - E) \leq t\}.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu_{m\{J\cap[0,s]\}}(pAp) &\leq \|pAp(p - \mathcal{R}(pe_{(\mu_s(A),\infty)}(A)))\| \\
 &= \|pAp(p \wedge e_{[0,\mu_s(A)]}(A))\| \\
 &= \|pA(p \wedge e_{[0,\mu_s(A)]}(A))\| \\
 &\leq \|A(p \wedge e_{[0,\mu_s(A)]}(A))\| \\
 &= \|Ae_{[0,\mu_s(A)]}(A)(p \wedge e_{[0,\mu_s(A)]}(A))\| \\
 &\leq \|Ae_{[0,\mu_s(A)]}(A)\| \\
 &\leq \mu_s(A).
 \end{aligned}$$

□

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $A$  be a positive operator in  $\overline{\mathfrak{A}}$  and  $J$  be a Lebesgue measurable set in  $[0, \tau(1))$ . Let  $p$  be a projection in  $\mathfrak{A}$  with  $m(J) = \tau(p)$ . Then,*

$$\int_J \mu_{m\{J\cap[0,s]\}}(pAp) \, ds = \int_0^{\tau(p)} \mu_s(pAp) \, ds = \tau(pAp).$$

*Proof.* It suffices to prove that  $\mu_{m\{J\cap[0,s]\}}(pAp)$  and  $\mu_s(pAp)$  have the same distribution function. At first we claim that

$$m\{s \in J; \mu_{m\{J\cap[0,s]\}}(pAp) > t\} = m\{J \cap [0, \alpha]\} \quad (t > 0)$$

with  $\alpha = \sup\{s \in J; \mu_{m\{J\cap[0,s]\}}(pAp) > t\}$ .



Let  $u$  be an element in  $J$  such that  $\mu_{m\{J \cap [0, u]\}}(pAp) > t$ , then

$$m\{s \in J; \mu_{m\{J \cap [0, s]\}}(pAp) > t\} \geq m\{J \cap [0, u]\}.$$

(since  $\mu_t$  is decreasing for  $s \leq u$ ,  $\mu_{m\{J \cap [0, s]\}}(pAp) > t$ )

From the definition of  $\alpha$  there exists  $\{\alpha_j\}$  in  $\{s \in J; \mu_{m\{J \cap [0, s]\}}(pAp) > t\}$  such that  $\alpha_j \nearrow \alpha$ .

Therefore, we have  $m\{s \in J; \mu_{m\{J \cap [0, s]\}}(pAp) > t\} \geq m\{J \cap [0, \alpha_j]\}$  (for all  $j$ ). Taking the  $\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty}$  of the both sides, we get

$$m\{s \in J; \mu_{m\{J \cap [0, s]\}}(pAp) > t\} \geq m\{J \cap [0, \alpha]\}.$$

Conversely, from the definition of  $\alpha$ , we obviously have

$$m\{s \in J; \mu_{m\{J \cap [0, s]\}}(pAp) > t\} \leq m\{J \cap [0, \alpha]\}.$$

Finally, we will prove that  $m\{J \cap [0, \alpha]\} = m\{s; \mu_s(pAp) > t\}$ . Clearly,

$$m\{J \cap [0, \alpha_j]\} \leq m\{s; \mu_s(pAp) > t\}.$$

$$\text{(since } \mu_{m\{J \cap [0, \alpha_j]\}}(pAp) > t)$$

So we get

$$m\{J \cap [0, \alpha]\} \leq m\{s; \mu_s(pAp) > t\}.$$

On the other hand, we set

$$\beta = \sup\{s; \mu_s(pAp) > t\}.$$

Since  $\mu_s$  is decreasing,  $m\{s; \mu_s(pAp) > t\} = \beta$

If  $\beta = \infty$ , then  $\alpha = \tau(p) = m(J) = \infty$ . Therefore, we get the conclusion. So we can assume  $\beta < \infty$ . When we set

$$f(x) = m\{J \cap [0, x]\} \quad (x \in [0, \tau(1)]),$$

$f$  is a measurable function on  $[0, \tau(1)]$ . Futhermore,  $f$  is a continuous function on  $[0, \tau(1)]$ .

Indeed, if  $x_j \rightarrow x$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} m\{J \cap [0, x_j]\} &= \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{\tau(1)} \chi_{J \cap [0, x_j]} dm \\ &= \int_0^{\tau(1)} \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \chi_{J \cap [0, x_j]} dm \\ &\text{(by the dominated convergence theorem)} \\ &= m\{J \cap [0, x]\}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $f(0) = 0$ ,  $f(\tau(1)) = m(J) = \tau(p)$ ,  $f$  attains any value in  $[0, \tau(p)]$ . Therefore, for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $x$  such that

$$m\{J \cap [0, x]\} = \beta - \varepsilon.$$

When we set  $y = \sup\{J \cap [0, x]\}$ ,

$$\{J \cap [0, x]\} = \{J \cap [0, y]\}.$$

From the definition of  $y$ , there exists  $\{y_j\}$  in  $\{J \cap [0, x]\}$  such that  $y_j \nearrow y$ . We get

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} m\{J \cap [0, y_j]\} = m\{J \cap [0, x]\} = \beta - \varepsilon.$$

As  $m\{J \cap [0, y_j]\} \leq \beta - \varepsilon$ , we have  $\mu_{m\{J \cap [0, y_j]\}}(pAp) > t$ . Therefore we get

$$m\{J \cap [0, \alpha]\} \geq \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} m\{J \cap [0, y_j]\} = \beta - \varepsilon \quad (\text{from the definition of } \alpha, y_j \leq \alpha)$$

The proof is complete since  $\varepsilon$  is arbitrary. □

**Proposition 3.4.** *Let  $A$  be a positive operator in  $\overline{\mathfrak{A}}$ . Let  $J$  be a measurable set, and  $p$  be a projection in  $\mathfrak{A}$ .*

1. *If  $p \in \Omega_J(\{e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)\}, \tau)$ , then  $\tau(pAp) \geq \int_J \mu_s(A) ds$ .*
2. *If  $p \in (\Omega_{J^c}(\{e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)\}, \tau))^\perp$ , then  $\tau(pAp) \leq \int_J \mu_s(A) ds$ .*

*Proof.* 1. Propositions 3.2 and 3.3 show the result.

2. From the Definition of  $(\Omega_{J^c}(\{e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)\}, \tau))^\perp$ ,

$$\tau((1 - p) \wedge e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)) \geq m\{J^c \cap [0, s]\} \quad (\text{for all } s \in [0, \tau(1))).$$

By subtracting the both sides from  $s$ , we have

$$s - \tau((1 - p) \wedge e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)) \leq s - m\{J^c \cap [0, s]\} \quad (\text{for all } s \in [0, \tau(1))).$$

We note

$$\begin{aligned} & s - \tau((1 - p) \wedge e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)) \\ & \geq \tau(e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)) - \tau((1 - p) \wedge e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)) \\ & = \tau(e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A) - (1 - p) \wedge e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)) \\ & = \tau((1 - p) \vee e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A) - (1 - p)) \\ & = \tau(\mathcal{R}(pe_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A))), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & s - m\{J^c \cap [0, s]\} \\ &= m\{[0, s]\} - m\{J^c \cap [0, s]\} \\ &= m\{J \cap [0, s]\}. \end{aligned}$$

Using Propositions 3.2 and 3.3, we get

$$\tau(pAp) \leq \int_J \mu_s(A) ds.$$

□

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be positive operators in  $\overline{\mathfrak{A}}$ . Let  $J_0, J_1$  and  $J_2$  be measurable sets with  $m(J_0) = m(J_1) = m(J_2)$  and  $m(J_0^c) = m(J_1^c) = m(J_2^c)$ . If a triple  $(J_0, J_1, J_2)$  is admissible for  $(\{e_{(\mu_s(A+B), \infty)}(A+B)\}, \{e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)\}, \{e_{(\mu_s(B), \infty)}(B)\})$ , then*

$$\int_{J_0} \mu_s(A+B) ds \leq \int_{J_1} \mu_s(A) ds + \int_{J_2} \mu_s(B) ds.$$

*Proof.* If  $p \in \Omega_{J_0}(\{e_{(\mu_s(A+B), \infty)}(A+B)\}, \tau) \cap (\Omega_{J_1^c}(\{e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)\}, \tau))^\perp \cap (\Omega_{J_2^c}(\{e_{(\mu_s(B), \infty)}(B)\}, \tau))^\perp$ , then

$$\tau(p(A+B)p) \geq \int_{J_0} \mu_s(A+B) ds \text{ (by Proposition 3.4).}$$

On the other hand, since  $p \in (\Omega_{J_1^c}(\{e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)\}, \tau))^\perp$ , Proposition 3.4 shows

$$\tau(pAp) \leq \int_{J_1} \mu_s(A) ds.$$

Similarly, for an operator  $B$  we get

$$\tau(pAp) \leq \int_{J_2} \mu_s(B) ds.$$

Therefore, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{J_0} \mu_s(A+B) ds &\leq \tau(p(A+B)) \\ &= \tau(pA) + \tau(pB) \\ &\leq \int_{J_1} \mu_s(A) ds + \int_{J_2} \mu_s(B) ds. \end{aligned}$$

□

**Lemma 3.1.** For  $J = [0, r]$  we have

$$\Omega_{J^c}(\{e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)\}, \tau)^\perp = \{p \in \mathfrak{A}_{proj.}; \tau(p) = r\}.$$

*Proof.* Let  $p$  be a projection with  $\tau(p) = r$ . It is enough to prove that

$$\tau((1 - p) \wedge e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)) \geq m\{[0, s] \cap [0, r]^c\}.$$

If  $s \leq r$ , it is trivial. When  $r < s < \infty$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \tau(\mathcal{R}(e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)p)) &= \tau(\mathcal{R}(pe_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A))) \\ &\leq \tau(p) \\ &= r \\ &= m\{[0, s] \cap [0, r]\}. \end{aligned}$$

By subtracting the both sides from  $s$ , we get the conclusion. □

From Theorem 3.4 and Lemma 3.1 we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\Omega_{[0, r]}(\{e_{(\mu_s(A+B), \infty)}(A+B)\}, \tau) \cap (\Omega_{[0, r]^c}(\{e_{(\mu_s(A), \infty)}(A)\}, \tau))^\perp \\ &\cap (\Omega_{[0, r]^c}(\{e_{(\mu_s(B), \infty)}(B)\}, \tau))^\perp = \Omega_{[0, r]}(\{e_{(\mu_s(A+B), \infty)}(A+B)\}, \tau). \end{aligned}$$

When  $\mathfrak{A}$  has no minimal projection,  $\Omega_{[0, r]}(\{e_{(\mu_s(A+B), \infty)}(A+B)\}, \tau)$  is not an empty set, because  $e_{(\mu_r(A+B), \infty)}(A+B)$  is included. Since we can always embed  $\mathfrak{A}$  into  $\mathfrak{A} \otimes L^\infty_{([0, 1]; dt)}$ , we get the inequality

$$\int_0^r \mu_s(A+B) ds \leq \int_0^r \mu_s(A) ds + \int_0^r \mu_s(B) ds \quad (\text{for all } r \in [0, \tau(1)]).$$

This inequality was found by Ky Fan when  $\mathfrak{A} = M_n(\mathbb{C})$ . For a general von Neumann algebra with a faithful semifinite normal trace several proofs are known (cf. [3], [9]).

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