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## Matrix Ordered Operator Algebras

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#### Abstract

We study the question when a sequence of cones  $C_n \in M_n(\mathcal{A})$  for a given \*-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  can be realized as cones of positive operators in a faithful \*-representation of  $\mathcal{A}$  in a Hilbert space. A characterization of operator algebras which are completely boundedly isomorphic to  $C^*$ -algebras is presented.

KEYWORDS: \*-algebra, operator algebra,  $C^*$ -algebra, completely bounded homomorphism, Kadison problem.

#### 1 Introduction

Effros and Choi [2] gave an abstract characterization of the self-adjoint subspaces S in  $C^*$ -algebras with hierarchy of cones of positive elements in  $M_n(S)$ . In s.1 of the present paper we are concerned with the same question for \*-subalgebras of  $C^*$ -algebras. More precisely, let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an associative \*algebra with unit. We present a characterization of the collections of cones  $C_n \subseteq M_n(\mathcal{A})$  such that there exist faithful \*-representation  $\pi$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  on Hilbert space H such that  $C_n$  coincides with the cone of positive operators contained in  $\pi^{(n)}(M_n(\mathcal{A}))$ . Here  $\pi^{(n)}$  is a n-fold amplification of  $\pi$ . Note that we do not assume that  $\mathcal{A}$  has any faithful \*-representation it follows from the requirements imposed on the cones. In terms close to Effros and Choi we give an abstract characterizations of matrix ordered (not necessary closed) operator \*-algebras up to complete order \*-isomorphism.

Based on this characterization we study the question when an operator algebra is similar to a  $C^*$ -algebra.

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Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a unital (closed) operator algebra in B(H). In [7] C. Le Merdy presented necessary and sufficient conditions for  $\mathcal{B}$  to be self-adjoint. These conditions involve all completely isometric representations of  $\mathcal{B}$  on Hilbert space. Our characterization is different in following respect. If S is a bounded invertible operator in B(H) and  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $C^*$ -algebra then the operator algebra  $S^{-1}\mathcal{A}S$  is not necessarily self-adjoint but only isomorphic to a  $C^*$ -algebra via completely bounded isomorphism with completely bounded inverse.

By Haagerup's theorem every completely bounded isomorphism  $\pi$  from a  $C^*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  to a operator algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  has the form  $\pi(a) = S^{-1}\rho(a)S$ ,  $a \in \mathcal{A}$ , for some \*-homomorphism  $\rho : \mathcal{A} \to B(H)$  and invertible  $S \in B(H)$ . Thus the question whether an operator algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  is c.b. isomorphic to a  $C^*$ -algebra via isomorphism which has c.b. inverse is equivalent to the one if there is bounded invertible operators S s.t.  $S\mathcal{B}S^{-1}$  is a  $C^*$ -algebra. For instance in case  $\mathcal{B}$  is an image under bounded homomorphism of a  $C^*$ -algebra it is a famous open problem raised by R. Kadison whether the answer to the above question is affirmative.

We will present a criterion for an operator algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  to be completely boundedly isomorphic to a  $C^*$ -algebra in terms of the existence of a collection of cones  $C_n \in M_n(\mathcal{B})$  satisfying certain axioms (see def. 3). The axioms are derived from the properties of cones of positive elements of a  $C^*$ -algebra preserved under completely bounded isomorphisms.

The main results are contained in s.2. We define a \*-admissible sequence of cones in an operator algebra and present a criterion Theorem 4 for an operator algebra to be c.b. isomorphic to a  $C^*$ -algebra.

The last section we consider the operator algebras and a collection of cones associated with Kadison similarity problem.

#### 2 Operator realizations of matrix-ordered \*algebras.

The aim of this section is to give necessary and sufficient conditions on a sequences of cones  $C_n \subseteq M_n(\mathcal{A})_{sa}$  for unital \*-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $C_n$  coincides with cone  $M_n(\mathcal{A}) \cap M_n(B(H))^+$  for some realization of  $\mathcal{A}$  as a \*-subalgebra of B(H), where  $M_n(B(H))^+$  denotes the set of positive operators acting on  $H^n = H \oplus \ldots \oplus H$ .

In [10] it was proved that a \*-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  with unit e is a \*-subalgebra of

B(H) if and only if there is an algebraically admissible cone on  $\mathcal{A}$  such that e is an Archimedean order unit. Applying this result to some inductive limit of  $M_{2^n}(\mathcal{A})$  we obtain the desired characterization in Theorem 2.

First we give necessary definitions and fix notations. Let  $\mathcal{A}_{sa}$  denote the set of self-adjoint elements in  $\mathcal{A}$ . A subset  $C \subset \mathcal{A}_{sa}$  containing unit e of  $\mathcal{A}$  is algebraically admissible cone, see [11], provided that

- (i) C is a cone in  $\mathcal{A}_{sa}$ , i.e.  $\lambda x + \beta y \in C$  for all  $x, y \in C$  and  $\lambda \ge 0, \beta \ge 0$ ,  $\lambda, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ ;
- (ii)  $C \cap (-C) = \{0\};$
- (iii)  $xCx^* \subseteq C$  for every  $x \in \mathcal{A}$ ;

We call  $e \in \mathcal{A}_{sa}$  an order unit if for every  $x \in \mathcal{A}_{sa}$  there exists r > 0 such that  $re + x \in C$ . An order unit e is Archimedean if  $re + x \in C$  for all r > 0 implies that  $x \in C$ 

In what follows we will use the following modification of Theorem 1 of [10].

**Theorem 1.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a \*-algebra with unit e and  $C \subseteq \mathcal{A}_{sa}$  be a cone containing e. If  $xCx^* \subseteq C$  for every  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and e is an Archimedean order unit then there is a unital \*-representation  $\pi : \mathcal{A} \to B(H)$  such that  $\pi(C) = \pi(\mathcal{A}_{sa}) \cap B(H)^+$ . Moreover

- 1.  $\|\pi(x)\| = \inf\{r > 0 : r^2 \pm x^* x \in C\}.$
- 2. ker  $\pi = \{x : x^*x \in C \cap (-C)\}.$
- 3. If  $C \cap (-C) = \{0\}$  then ker  $\pi = \{0\}$  and  $||\pi(a)|| = \inf\{r > 0 : r \pm a \in C\}$ for all  $a = a^* \in \mathcal{A}$ . Moreover,  $\pi(C) = \pi(\mathcal{A}) \cap B(H)^+$

*Proof.* Following the same lines as in [10] one obtain that the function  $\|\cdot\|$ :  $\mathcal{A}_{sa} \to \mathbb{R}_+$  defined as

$$||a|| = \inf\{r > 0 : re \pm a \in C\}$$

is a seminorm on  $\mathbb{R}$ -space  $\mathcal{A}_{sa}$  and  $|x| = \sqrt{\|x^*x\|}$  for  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  defines a pre-C\*-norm on  $\mathcal{A}$ . If N denote a null-space of  $|\cdot|$  then the completion  $\mathcal{B} = \overline{\mathcal{A}/N}$  with respect to this norm is a C\*-algebra and canonical epimorphism  $\pi : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}/N$  extends to a unital \*-homomorphism  $\pi : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{B}$ . We can assume without loss of generality that  $\mathcal{B}$  is a concrete  $C^*$ -algebra in some B(H). Thus  $\pi : \mathcal{A} \to B(H)$  can be regarded as a unital \*-representation. Clearly,

$$\|\pi(x)\| = |x|$$
 for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$ .

From this follows 1.

To show 2 take  $x \in \ker \pi$  then  $||\pi(x)|| = 0$  and  $re \pm x^*x \in C$  for all r > 0. Since e is an Archimedean unit we have  $x^*x \in C \cap (-C)$ . Conversely  $x^*x \in C \cap (-C)$  then  $re \pm x^*x \in C$  for all r > 0 hence  $||\pi(x)|| = 0$  and 2 holds.

We need to prove that  $\pi(C) = \pi(\mathcal{A}_{sa}) \cap B(H)^+$ . Let  $x \in \mathcal{A}_{sa}$  and  $\pi(x) \geq 0$ . Then there exists constant  $\lambda > 0$  such that  $\|\lambda I_H - \pi(x)\| \leq \lambda$ , hence  $|\lambda e - x| \leq \lambda$ . Since  $\|a\| \leq |a|$  for all self-adjoint  $a \in \mathcal{A}$ , see Lemma 3.3 of [10], we have  $\|\lambda e - x\| \leq \lambda$ . Thus given  $\varepsilon > 0$  we have  $(\lambda + \varepsilon)e \pm (\lambda e - x) \in C$ . Hence  $\varepsilon e + x \in C$ . Since e is Archimedean we have  $x \in C$ .

Conversely, let  $x \in C$ . To show that  $\pi(x) \ge 0$  it is sufficient to find  $\lambda > 0$ such that  $\|\lambda I_H - \pi(x)\| \le \lambda$ . Since  $\|\lambda I_H - \pi(x)\| = |\lambda e - x|$  we will prove that  $|\lambda e - x| \le \lambda$  for some  $\lambda > 0$ . From the definition of norm  $|\cdot|$  we have the following equivalences:

$$|\lambda e - x| \le \lambda \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad (\lambda + \varepsilon)^2 e - (\lambda e - x)^2 \in C \text{ for all } \varepsilon > 0 \tag{1}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \quad \varepsilon_1 e + x(2\lambda e - x) \ge 0, \text{ for all } \varepsilon_1 > 0. \tag{2}$$

By condition (iii) of algebraically admissible cone we have that  $xyx \in C$ and  $yxy \in C$  for every  $x, y \in C$ . If xy = yx then  $xy(x + y) \in C$ . Since e is order unit we can choose r > 0 such that  $re - x \in C$ . Put y = re - x to obtain  $rx(r - x) \in C$ . Hence (2) is satisfied with  $\lambda = \frac{r}{2}$ . Thus  $\|\lambda e - \pi(x)\| \leq \lambda$  and  $\pi(x) \geq 0$ , which proves  $\pi(C) = \pi(\mathcal{A}_{sa}) \cap B(H)^+$ .

In particular, for  $a = a^*$  we have

$$\|\pi(a)\| = \inf\{r > 0 : rI_H \pm \pi(a) \in \pi(C)\}.$$
(3)

We now in a position to prove 3. Suppose that  $C \cap (-C) = 0$ . Then ker  $\pi$  is a \*-ideal and ker  $\pi \neq 0$  implies that there exists a self-adjoint  $0 \neq a \in \ker \pi$ , i.e. |a| = 0. Inequality  $||a|| \leq |a|$  implies  $re \pm a \in C$  for all r > 0. Since e is Archimedean,  $\pm a \in C$ , i.e.  $a \in C \cap (-C)$  and, consequently, a = 0.

Since ker  $\pi = 0$  the inclusion  $rI_H \pm \pi(a) \in \pi(C)$  is equivalent to  $re \pm a \in C$ , and by (3),  $\|\pi(a)\| = \inf\{r > 0 : re \pm a \in C\}$ . Moreover if  $\pi(a) = \pi(a)^*$  then  $a = a^*$ . Thus we have  $\pi(C) = \pi(A) \cap B(H)^+$ . We say that a \*-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  with unit *e* is a *matrix ordered* if the following conditions hold:

- (a) for each  $n \ge 1$  we are given a cone  $C_n$  in  $M_n(\mathcal{A})_{sa}$  and  $e \in C_1$ ,
- (b)  $C_n \cap (-C_n) = \{0\}$  for all n,
- (c) for all n and m and all  $A \in M_{n \times m}(\mathcal{A})$ , we have that  $A^*C_nA \subseteq C_m$ ,

We call  $e \in \mathcal{A}_{sa}$  a matrix order unit provided that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and every  $x \in M_n(\mathcal{A})_{sa}$  there exists r > 0 such that  $re_n + x \in C_n$ , where  $e_n = e \otimes I_n$ . A matrix order unit is called Archimedean matrix order unit provided that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  inclusion  $re_n + x \in C_n$  for all r > 0 implies that  $x \in C_n$ .

Let  $\pi : \mathcal{A} \to B(H)$  be a \*-representation. Define  $\pi^{(n)} : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \to M_n(B(H))$  by  $\pi^{(n)}((a_{ij})) = (\pi(a_{ij})).$ 

**Theorem 2.** If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a matrix-ordered \*-algebra with a unit e which is Archimedean matrix order unit then there exists a Hilbert space H and a faithful unital \*-representation  $\tau : \mathcal{A} \to B(H)$ , such that  $\tau^{(n)}(C_n) = M_n(\tau(\mathcal{A}))^+$ for all n. Conversely, every unital \*-subalgebra  $\mathcal{D}$  of B(H) is matrix-ordered by cones  $M_n(\mathcal{D})^+$  and unit of this algebra is an Archimedean order unit.

*Proof.* Consider an inductive system of \*-algebras and a unital injective \*homomorphisms:

$$\phi_n: M_{2^n}(\mathcal{A}) \to M_{2^{n+1}}(\mathcal{A}), \quad \phi_n(a) = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} \text{ for all } a \in \mathcal{A}, n \ge 0.$$

Let  $\mathcal{B} = \varinjlim M_{2^n}(\mathcal{A})$  be an inductive limit of this system. By (c) in the definition of the matrix ordered algebra we have  $\phi_n(C_{2^n}) \subseteq C_{2^{n+1}}$ . We will identify  $M_{2^n}(\mathcal{A})$  with a subalgebra of  $\mathcal{B}$  via canonical inclusions. Let  $C = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} C_{2^n} \subseteq \mathcal{B}_{sa}$  and  $e_{\infty}$  be the unit of  $\mathcal{B}$ .

Let us prove that C is an algebraically admissible cone. Clearly, C satisfies conditions (i) and (ii) of definition of algebraically admissible cone. To prove (iii) suppose that  $x \in \mathcal{B}$  and  $a \in C$ , then for sufficiently large n we have  $a \in C_{2^n}$  and  $x \in M_{2^n}(\mathcal{A})$ . Therefore, by  $(c), x^*ax \in C$ . Since e is an Archimedean order unit of  $\mathcal{A}$  we obviously have that  $e_{\infty}$  is also an Archimedean order unit. Thus \*-algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  satisfies assumptions of Theorem 1 and there is a faithful \*-representation  $\pi : \mathcal{B} \to B(H)$  such that  $\pi(C) = \pi(\mathcal{B}) \cap B(H)^+$ . Let  $\xi_n : M_{2^n}(\mathcal{A}) \to \mathcal{B}$  be canonical injections,  $n \ge 0$ . Then  $\tau = \pi \circ \xi_0 : \mathcal{A} \to B(H)$  is a injective \*-homomorphism.

We claim that  $\tau^{(2^n)}$  is unitary equivalent to  $\pi \circ \xi_n$ . By replacing  $\pi$  with  $\pi^{\alpha}$ , where  $\alpha$  is an infinite cardinal, we can assume that  $\pi^{\alpha}$  is unitary equivalent to  $\pi$ . Then  $\pi \circ \xi_n : M_{2^n}(\mathcal{A}) \to B(H)$  is a \*-homomorphism. Thus there exist unique Hilbert space  $K_n$ , \*-homomorphism  $\rho_n : \mathcal{A} \to B(K_n)$  and unitary  $U_n : K_n \otimes \mathbb{C}^{2^n} \to H$  such that

$$\pi \circ \xi_n = U_n(\rho_n \otimes id_{M_{2^n}})U_n^*.$$

For  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  we have

$$\pi \circ \xi_0(a) = \pi \circ \xi_n(a \otimes E_{2^n}) = U_n(\rho_n(a) \otimes E_{2^n})U_n^*,$$

where  $E_{2^n}$  is the identity matrix in  $M_{2^n}(\mathbb{C})$ . Thus  $\tau(a) = U_0\rho_0(a)U_0^* = U_n(\rho_n(a) \otimes E_{2^n})U_n^*$ . Let ~ stands for the unitary equivalence of representations. Since  $\pi \circ \xi_n \sim \rho_n \otimes id_{M_{2^n}}$  and  $\pi^{\alpha} \sim \pi$  we have that  $\rho_n^{\alpha} \otimes id \sim \pi^{\alpha} \circ \xi_n \sim \rho_n \otimes id_{M_{2^n}}$ . Hence  $\rho_n^{\alpha} \sim \rho_n$ . Thus  $\rho_n \otimes E_{2^n} \sim \rho^{2^n \alpha} \sim \rho_n$ . Consequently  $\rho_0 \sim \rho_n$  and  $\pi \circ \xi_n \sim \rho_0 \otimes id_{M_{2^n}} \sim \tau \otimes id_{M_{2^n}}$ . Therefore  $\tau^{(2^n)} = \tau \otimes id_{M_{2^n}}$  is unitary equivalent to  $\pi \circ \xi_n$ .

What is left to show is that  $\tau^{(n)}(C_n) = M_n(\tau(\mathcal{A}))^+$ . Note that  $\pi \circ \xi_n(M_{2^n}(\mathcal{A})) \cap B(H)^+ = \pi(C_{2^n})$ . Indeed, the inclusion  $\pi \circ \xi(C_{2^n}) \subseteq M_{2^n}(\mathcal{A}) \cap B(H)^+$  is obvious. To show the converse take  $x \in M_{2^n}(\mathcal{A})$  such that  $\pi(x) \ge 0$ . Then  $x \in C \cap M_{2^n}(\mathcal{A})$ . Using (c) one can easily show that  $C \cap M_{2^n}(\mathcal{A}) = C_{2^n}$ . Hence  $\pi \circ \xi_n(M_{2^n}(\mathcal{A})) \cap B(H)^+ = \pi(C_{2^n})$ . Since  $\tau^{(2^n)}$  is unitary equivalent to  $\pi \circ \xi_n$  we have that  $\tau^{(2^n)}(C_{2^n}) = M_{2^n}(\tau(\mathcal{A})) \cap B(H^{2^n})^+$ .

Let now show that  $\tau^{(n)}(C_n) = M_n(\tau(\mathcal{A}))^+$ . For  $X \in M_n(\mathcal{A})$  denote

$$\widetilde{X} = \begin{pmatrix} X & 0_{n \times (2^n - n)} \\ 0_{(2^n - n) \times n} & 0_{(2^n - n) \times (2^n - n)} \end{pmatrix} \in M_{2^n}(\mathcal{A}).$$

Then, clearly,  $\tau^{(n)}(X) \ge 0$  if and only if  $\tau^{(2^n)}(\widetilde{X}) \ge 0$ . Thus  $\tau^{(n)}(X) \ge 0$  is equivalent to  $\widetilde{X} \in C_{2^n}$  which in turn is equivalent to  $X \in C_n$  by (c).  $\Box$ 

#### 3 Operator Algebras c.b. isomorphic to $C^*$ algebras.

The algebra  $M_n(B(H))$  of  $n \times n$  matrices with entries in B(H) has a norm  $\|\cdot\|_n$  via the identification of  $M_n(B(H))$  with  $B(H^n)$ , where  $H^n$  is the direct

sum of *n* copies of a Hilbert space *H*. If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a subalgebra of B(H) then  $M_n(\mathcal{A})$  inherits a norm  $\|\cdot\|_n$  via natural inclusion into  $M_n(B(H))$ . The sequence of norms  $\{\|\cdot\|_n\}_{n\geq 1}$  is called matrix norms on the operator algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ . In the sequel all operator algebras will be assumed to be norm closed.

Operator algebras  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are called completely boundedly isomorphic if there is a completely bounded isomorphism  $\tau : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{B}$  with completely bounded inverse. The aim of this section is to give necessary and sufficient conditions for an operator algebra to be completely boundedly isomorphic to a  $C^*$ -algebra. To do this we introduce a concept of \*-admissible cones which reflect the properties of the cones of positive elements of a  $C^*$ -algebra preserved under completely bounded isomorphism.

**Definition 3.** Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be an operator algebra with unit e. A sequence  $C_n \subseteq M_n(\mathcal{B})$  of closed (in the norm  $\|\cdot\|_n$ ) cones will be called \*-admissible if it satisfies the following conditions:

- 1.  $e \in C_1;$
- 2. (i)  $M_n(\mathcal{B}) = (C_n C_n) + i(C_n C_n), \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N},$ (ii)  $C_n \cap (-C_n) = \{0\}, \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N},$ (iii)  $(C_n - C_n) \cap i(C_n - C_n) = \{0\}, \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N};$
- 3. (i) for all  $c_1, c_2 \in C_n$  and  $c \in C_n$ , we have that  $(c_1-c_2)c(c_1-c_2) \in C_n$ , (ii) for all n, m and  $B \in M_{n \times m}$  we have that  $B^*C_n B \subseteq C_m$ ;
- 4. for every net  $c_j \in C_{n_j} C_{n_j}$  the condition  $\sup_j ||c_j||_{n_j} < \infty$  implies that there exists r > 0 such that  $re_{n_j} + c_j \in C_{n_j}$  for all j,
- 5. there exists a constant K > 0 such that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $a, b \in C_n C_n$ we have  $||a||_n \leq K \cdot ||a + ib||_n$ .

**Theorem 4.** If an operator algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  has a \*-admissible sequence of cones then there is a completely bounded homomorphism  $\tau$  from  $\mathcal{B}$  onto a C\*-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ . In addition if one of the following condition holds

- (1) for every two nets  $c_{\alpha}$ ,  $d_{\alpha} \in C_{n_{\alpha}}$  such that  $\lim_{\alpha} ||c_{\alpha} + d_{\alpha}|| = 0$  we have  $\lim_{\alpha} ||c_{\alpha}|| = 0$
- (2)  $||(x iy)(x + iy)|| \ge \alpha ||x iy|| ||x + iy||$  for all  $x, y \in C_n C_n$

then the inverse  $\tau^{-1} : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{B}$  is also completely bounded.

Conversely, if such homomorphism  $\tau$  exists then  $\mathcal{B}$  possesses a \*-admissible sequence of cones and conditions (1) and (2) are satisfied.

The proof will be divided into 3 lemmas.

Let  $\{C_n\}_{n\geq 1}$  be a \*-admissible sequence of cones of  $\mathcal{B}$ . Let  $\mathcal{B}_{2^n} = M_{2^n}(\mathcal{B})$ ,  $\phi_n : \mathcal{B}_{2^n} \to \mathcal{B}_{2^{n+1}}$  be unital homomorphisms given by  $\phi_n(x) = \begin{pmatrix} x & 0 \\ 0 & x \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $x \in \mathcal{B}_{2^n}$ . Denote by  $\mathcal{B}_{\infty} = \varinjlim \mathcal{B}_{2^n}$  the inductive limit of the system  $(\mathcal{B}_{2^n}, \phi_n)$ . As all inclusions  $\phi_n$  are unital  $\mathcal{B}_{\infty}$  has a unit, denoted by  $e_{\infty}$ . Since  $\mathcal{B}_{\infty}$  can be considered as a subalgebra of a  $C^*$ -algebra of the corresponding inductive limit of  $M_{2^n}(\mathcal{B}(H))$  we can define the closure of  $\mathcal{B}_{\infty}, \overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$ , in this  $C^*$ -algebra.

Now we will define an involution on  $\mathcal{B}_{\infty}$ . Let  $\xi_n : M_{2^n}(\mathcal{B}) \to \mathcal{B}_{\infty}$  be canonical morphisms. By  $(3ii), \phi_n(C_{2^n}) \subseteq C_{2^{n+1}}$ . Hence  $C = \bigcup_n \xi_n(C_{2^n})$  is a well defined cone in  $\mathcal{B}_{\infty}$ . Denote by  $\overline{C}$  its completion. By (2i) and (2iii) for every  $x \in \mathcal{B}_{2^n}$  we have  $x = x_1 + ix_2$  for unique  $x_1, x_2 \in C_{2^n} - C_{2^n}$ . By (3ii)we have  $\begin{pmatrix} x_i & 0 \\ 0 & x_i \end{pmatrix} \in C_{2^{n+1}} - C_{2^{n+1}}, i = 1, 2$ . Thus for every  $x \in \mathcal{B}_{\infty}$  we have unique decomposition  $x = x_1 + ix_2, x_1 \in C - C, x_2 \in C - C$ . Hence the mapping  $x \mapsto x^{\sharp} = x_1 - ix_2$  is a well defined involution on  $\mathcal{B}_{\infty}$ .

**Lemma 5.** Involution on  $\mathcal{B}_{\infty}$  is compatible with the one on  $\mathcal{B}$ , i.e. for all  $A = (a_{ij})_{i,j} \in M_{2^n}(\mathcal{B})$ 

$$A^{\sharp} = (a_{ji}^{\sharp})_{i,j}.$$

*Proof.* Assignment  $A^{\circ} = (a_{ji}^{\sharp})_{i,j}$ , clearly, defines an involution on  $M_{2^n}(\mathcal{B})$ . We need to prove that  $A^{\sharp} = A^{\circ}$ .

Let  $A = (a_{ij})_{i,j} \in M_{2^n}(\mathcal{B})$  be self-adjoint  $A^\circ = A$ . Then  $A = \sum_i a_{ii} \otimes E_{ii} + \sum_{i < j} (a_{ij} \otimes E_{ij} + a_{ij}^{\sharp} \otimes E_{ji})$  and  $a_{ii}^{\sharp} = a_{ii}$ , for all *i*. By (3*ii*) we have  $\sum_i a_{ii} \otimes E_{ii} \in C_{2^n} - C_{2^n}$ . Since  $a_{ij} = a'_{ij} + ia''_{ij}$  for some  $a'_{ij}, a''_{ij} \in C_{2^n} - C_{2^n}$ 

we have

$$\begin{aligned} a_{ij} \otimes E_{ij} + a_{ij}^{\sharp} \otimes E_{ji} &= (a_{ij}' + ia_{ij}'') \otimes E_{ij} + (a_{ij}' - ia_{ij}'') \otimes E_{ji} \\ &= (a_{ij}' \otimes E_{ij} + a_{ij}' \otimes E_{ji}) + (ia_{ij}'' \otimes E_{ij} - ia_{ij}'' \otimes E_{ji}) \\ &= (E_{ii} + E_{ji})(a_{ij}' \otimes E_{ii} + a_{ij}' \otimes E_{jj})(E_{ii} + E_{ij}) \\ &- (a_{ij}' \otimes E_{ii} + a_{ij}' \otimes E_{jj}) \\ &+ (E_{ii} - iE_{ji})(a_{ij}'' \otimes E_{ii} + a_{ij}'' \otimes E_{jj})(E_{ii} + iE_{ij}) \\ &- (a_{ij}'' \otimes E_{ii} + a_{ij}'' \otimes E_{jj}) \in C_{2^n} - C_{2^n}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $A \in C_{2^n} - C_{2^n}$  and  $A^{\sharp} = A$ . Since for every  $x \in M_{2^n}(\mathcal{B})$  there exist unique  $x_1 = x_1^{\circ}$  and  $x_2 = x_2^{\circ}$  in  $M_{2^n}(\mathcal{B})$ , such that  $x = x_1 + ix_2$ , and unique  $x_1' = x_1'^{\sharp}$  and  $x_2' = x_2'^{\sharp}$ , such that  $x = x_1' + ix_2'$ , we have that  $x_1 = x_1^{\sharp} = x_1'$ ,  $x_2 = x_2^{\sharp} = x_2'$  and involutions  $\sharp$  and  $\circ$  coincide.  $\Box$ 

**Lemma 6.** Involution  $x \to x^{\sharp}$  is continuous on  $\mathcal{B}_{\infty}$  and extends to the involution on  $\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$ . With respect to this involution  $\overline{C} \subseteq (\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty})_{sa}$  and  $x^{\sharp}\overline{C}x \subseteq \overline{C}$  for every  $x \in \overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$ .

*Proof.* Consider a convergent net  $\{x_i\} \subseteq \mathcal{B}_{\infty}$  with the limit  $x \in \mathcal{B}_{\infty}$ . Decompose  $x_i = x'_i + ix''_i$ . By (5) the nets  $\{x'_i\}$  and  $\{x''_i\}$  are also convergent. Thus x = a + ib, where  $a = \lim x'_i \in \overline{C}$ ,  $b = \lim x''_i \in \overline{C}$ . Therefore the involution defined on  $\mathcal{B}_{\infty}$  can be extended by continuity to  $\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$ .

Under this involution  $\overline{C} \subseteq (\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty})_{sa} = \{x \in \overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty} : x = x^{\sharp}\}.$ 

Let us show that for every  $x \in \overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$  and  $c \in \overline{C}$  we have that  $x^{\sharp}cx \in \overline{C}$ . Take firstly  $c \in C_{2^n}$  and  $x \in \mathcal{B}_{2^n}$ . Then  $x = x_1 + ix_2$  for some  $x_1, x_2 \in C_{2^n} - C_{2^n}$ and

$$(x_1 + ix_2)^{\sharp} c(x_1 + ix_2) = (x_1 - ix_2)c(x_1 + ix_2)$$
  
=  $\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -x_1 & -ix_2 \\ ix_2 & x_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c & 0 \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -x_1 & -ix_2 \\ ix_2 & x_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ 

By (3i), Lemma 5 and (3ii)  $x^{\sharp}cx \in C_{2^n}$ .

We let now  $c \in \overline{C}$  and  $x \in \overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$ . Suppose that  $c_i \to c$  and  $x_i \to x$ , where  $c_i \in C, x_i \in \mathcal{B}_{\infty}$ . We can assume that  $c_i, x_i \in B_{2^{n_i}}$ . Then  $x_i^{\sharp} c_i x_i \in C_{2^{n_i}}$  for all *i* and since it is convergent we have  $x^{\sharp} cx \in \overline{C}$ .

**Lemma 7.** The unit of  $\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$  is an Archimedean order unit and  $(\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty})_{sa} = \overline{C} - \overline{C}$ .

Proof. Firstly let show that  $e_{\infty}$  is an order unit. Clearly,  $(\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty})_{sa} = \overline{C-C}$ . For every  $a \in \overline{C-C}$  there is a net  $a_i \in C_{2^{n_i}} - C_{2^{n_i}}$  convergent to a. Since  $\sup_i ||a_i|| < \infty$  there exists  $r_1 > 0$  such that  $r_1 e_{n_i} - a_i \in C_{2^{n_i}}$ , i.e.  $r_1 e_{\infty} - a_i \in C$ . Passing to the limit we get  $r_1 e_{\infty} - a \in \overline{C}$ . Replacing a by -a we can find  $r_2 > 0$  such that  $r_2 e_{\infty} + a \in \overline{C}$ . If  $r = \max(r_1, r_2)$  then  $re_{\infty} \pm a \in \overline{C}$ . This proves that  $e_{\infty}$  is an order unit and that for all  $a \in \overline{C-C}$  we have  $a = re_{\infty} - c$  for some  $c \in \overline{C}$ . Thus  $\overline{C-C} \in \overline{C} - \overline{C}$ . The converse inclusion,

Let show now that  $e_{\infty}$  is Archimedean unit. Take  $x \in (\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty})_{sa}$  such that for every r > 0 we have  $r + x \in \overline{C}$ . Consider a net  $\{x_i\}_i \subseteq (\mathcal{B}_{\infty})_{sa}$  converging to x. Then  $\lim_i (r + x_i) = \lim_i c_{i,r}$  for some  $c_{i,r} \in C$  and  $\lim_i (c_{i,r} - x_i) = r$ . Taking  $r := \frac{1}{n}$  we have for every s there exists  $N_s$  such that for all  $i \ge N_s$  we have that  $\|c_{i,\frac{1}{s}} - x_i\| < \frac{1}{s}$ , therefore  $\lim_s c_{N_s,\frac{1}{s}} = x$  and  $x \in \overline{C}$ .  $\Box$ 

Lemma 8.  $\mathcal{B}_{\infty} \cap \overline{C} = C$ .

clearly, holds. Thus  $\overline{C-C} = \overline{C} - \overline{C}$ .

Proof. Denote by  $\mathcal{D} = \varinjlim M_{2^n}(B(H))$  the  $C^*$ -algebra inductive limit corresponding to inductive system  $\phi_n$  and denote  $\phi_{n,m} = \phi_{m-1} \circ \ldots \circ \phi_n$ :  $M_{2^n}(B(H)) \to M_{2^m}(B(H))$ . For n < m we identify  $M_{2^{m-n}}(M_{2^n}(B(H)))$  with  $M_{2^m}(B(H))$  by omitting superfluous parentheses in a block matrix  $B = [B_{ij}]_{ij}$  with  $B_{ij} \in M_{2^n}(B(H))$ .

Denote by  $P_{n,m}$  the operator  $diag(I, 0, ..., 0) \in M_{2^{m-n}}(M_{2^n}(B(H)))$  and by  $V_{n,m} = \sum_{k=1}^{2^{m-n}} E_{k,k-1}$ . Here *I* is the identity matrix in  $M_{2^n}(B(H))$  and  $E_{k,k-1}$  is  $2^n \times 2^n$  block matrix with identity operator at (k, k-1)-entry and all other entries being zero. Define an operator  $\psi_{n,m}([B_{ij}]) = diag(B_{11}, ..., B_{11})$ . It is easy to see that

$$\psi_{n,m}([B_{ij}]) = \sum_{k=0}^{2^{m-n}-1} (V_{n,m}^k P_{n,m}) B(V_{n,m}^k P_{n,m})^*.$$

Hence by (3ii)

$$\psi_{n,m}(C_{2^m}) \subseteq \phi(C_{2^n}) \subseteq C_{2^m}.$$
(4)

Clearly,  $\psi_{n,m}$  is linear contraction and

$$\psi_{n,m+k} \circ \phi_{m,m+k} = \phi_{m,m+k} \circ \psi_{n,m}$$

Hence there is a well defined contraction  $\psi_n = \lim_m \psi_{n,m} : \mathcal{D} \to \mathcal{D}$  such that

$$\psi_n|_{M_{2^n}(B(H))} = id_{M_{2^n}(B(H))},$$

where  $M_{2^n}(B(H))$  is considered as a subalgebra in  $\mathcal{D}$ . Clearly,  $\psi_n(\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}) \subseteq \overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$ and  $\psi_n|_{\mathcal{B}_{2^n}} = id$ . Consider C and  $C_{2^n}$  as subalgebras in  $\mathcal{B}_{\infty}$ , by (4) we have  $\psi_n : C \to C_{2^n}$ .

To prove that  $\mathcal{B}_{\infty} \cap \overline{C} = C$  take  $c \in \mathcal{B}_{\infty} \cap \overline{C}$ . Then there is a net  $c_j$  in C such that  $||c_j - c|| \to 0$ . Since  $c \in \mathcal{B}_{\infty}$ ,  $c \in \mathcal{B}_{2^n}$  for some n and, consequently,  $\psi_n(c) = c$ . Thus

$$\|\psi_n(c_j) - c\| = \|\psi_n(c_j - c)\| \le \|c_j - c\|$$

Hence  $\psi_n(c_j) \to c$ . But  $\psi_n(c_j) \in C_{2^n}$  and the letter is closed. Thus  $c \in C$ . The converse inclusion is obvious.

**Remark 9.** Note that for every  $x \in \mathcal{D}$ 

$$\lim_{n} \psi_n(x) = x. \tag{5}$$

Indeed, for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is  $x \in \mathcal{B}_{2^n}$  such that  $||x - x_n|| < \varepsilon$ . Since  $\psi_n$  is a contraction and  $\psi_n(x_n) = x_n$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\psi_n(x) - x\| &\leq \|\psi_n(x) - x_n\| + \|x_n - x\| \\ &= \|\psi_n(x - x_n)\| + \|x_n - x\| \leq 2\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $x_n \in \mathcal{B}_{2^n}$  also belong to  $\mathcal{B}_{2^m}$  for all  $m \ge n$  we have that  $\|\psi_m(x) - x\| \le 2\varepsilon$ . Thus  $\lim \psi_n(x) = x$ .

**Proof of the Theorem 4.** By Lemma 6 and 7 the cone  $\overline{C}$  and the unit  $e_{\infty}$  satisfies all assumptions of Theorem 1. Thus there is a homomorphism  $\tau : \overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty} \to B(\widetilde{H})$  such that  $\tau(a^{\sharp}) = \tau(a)^*$  for all  $a \in \overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$ . Since the image of  $\tau$  is a \*-subalgebra of  $B(\widetilde{H})$  we have that  $\tau$  is bounded by [3, (23.11), p. 81]. The arguments at the end of the proof of Theorem 2 show that the restriction of  $\tau$  to  $\mathcal{B}_{2^n}$  is unitary equivalent to the  $2^n$ -amplification of  $\tau|_{\mathcal{B}}$ . Thus  $\tau|_{\mathcal{B}}$  is completely bounded.

Let prove that ker $(\tau) = \{0\}$ . By Theorem 2.3 it is sufficient to show that  $\overline{C} \cap (-\overline{C}) = 0$ . If  $c, d \in \overline{C}$  such that c + d = 0 then c = d = 0. Indeed, for every  $n \ge 1$ ,  $\psi_n(c) + \psi_n(d) = 0$ . By Lemma 8 we have

$$\psi_n(\overline{C}) \subseteq \overline{C} \cap \mathcal{B}_{2^n} = C_{2^n}.$$

Therefore  $\psi_n(c)$ ,  $\psi_n(d) \in C_{2^n}$ . Hence  $\psi_n(c) = -\psi_n(d) \in C_{2^n} \cap (-C_{2^n})$  and, consequently,  $\psi_n(c) = \psi_n(d) = 0$ . Since  $\|\psi_n(c) - c\| \to 0$  and  $\|\psi_n(d) - d\| \to 0$ by Remark 9 we have that c = d = 0. If  $x \in \overline{C} \cap (-\overline{C})$  then x + (-x) = 0,  $x, -x \in \overline{C}$  and x = 0. Thus  $\tau$  is injective.

We will show that image of  $\tau$  is closed if one of the conditions (1) of the statement holds.

Assume firstly that operator algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  satisfies first condition. Since  $\tau(\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}) = \tau(\overline{C}) - \tau(\overline{C}) + i(\tau(\overline{C}) - \tau(\overline{C}))$  and  $\tau(\overline{C})$  is exactly the set of positive operators in the image of  $\tau$  it is suffices to prove that  $\tau(\overline{C})$  is closed. By Theorem 1.3 for self-adjoint (under involution  $\sharp$ ) elements  $x \in \overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$  we have

$$\|\tau(x)\|_{B(\widetilde{H})} = \inf\{r > 0 : re_{\infty} \pm x \in \overline{C}\}.$$

If  $\tau(c_{\alpha}) \in \tau(C)$  is a Cauchy net in  $B(\widetilde{H})$  then for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\varepsilon \pm (c_{\alpha} - c_{\beta}) \in \overline{C}$ for all  $\alpha \geq \gamma$  and  $\beta \geq \gamma$  and some  $\gamma$ . Since  $\overline{C} \cap \mathcal{B}_{\infty} = C$ ,  $\varepsilon \pm (c_{\alpha} - c_{\beta}) \in C$ . Let us denote  $c_{\alpha\beta} = \varepsilon + (c_{\alpha} - c_{\beta})$  and  $d_{\alpha\beta} = \varepsilon - (c_{\alpha} - c_{\beta})$ . The set of pairs  $(\alpha, \beta)$  is directed if  $(\alpha, \beta) \geq (\alpha_1, \beta_1)$  iff  $\alpha \geq \alpha_1$  and  $\beta \geq \beta_1$ . Since  $c_{\alpha\beta} + d_{\alpha\beta} = 2\varepsilon$  this net converges to zero in the topology of norm of  $\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$ . Thus by  $(*), \|c_{\alpha\beta}\|_{\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}} \to 0$ . This implies that  $c_{\alpha}$  is a Cauchy net in  $\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$ . Let  $c = \lim c_{\alpha}$ . Clearly,  $c \in \overline{C}$ . Since  $\tau$  is continuous  $\|\tau(c_{\alpha}) - \tau(c)\|_{\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}} \to 0$ . Hence the closure  $\overline{\tau(C)}$  is contained in  $\tau(\overline{C})$ . Since  $\tau$  is continuous we have  $\tau(\overline{C}) \subseteq \overline{\tau(C)}$ . Hence  $\overline{\tau(\overline{C})} \subseteq \tau(\overline{C})$  and  $\tau(\overline{C})$  is closed.

Let now  $\mathcal{B}$  satisfies condition (2) of the Theorem. Then for every  $x \in \overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$ we have  $||x^{\sharp}x|| \geq \alpha ||x|| ||x^{\sharp}||$ . By [3, theorem 34.3]  $\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$  admits an equivalent  $C^*$ -norm  $|\cdot|$ . Since  $\tau$  is a faithful \*-representation of the  $C^*$ -algebra  $(\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}, |\cdot|)$  it is isometric. Therefore  $\tau(\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty})$  is closed.

Let us show that  $(\tau|_{\mathcal{B}})^{-1} : \tau(\mathcal{B}) \to \mathcal{B}$  is completely bounded. The image  $\mathcal{A} = \tau(\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty})$  is a  $C^*$ -algebra in  $B(\widetilde{H})$  isomorphic to  $\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$ . By Johnson's theorem two Banach algebra norms on a semi-simple algebra are equivalent, hence,  $\tau^{-1} : \mathcal{A} \to \overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty}$  is bounded homomorphism, say  $\|\tau^{-1}\| = R$ . Let us show that  $\|(\tau|_{\mathcal{B}})^{-1}\|_{cb} = R$ . Since

$$\tau|_{\mathcal{B}_{2^n}} = U_n(\rho \otimes id_{M_{2^n}})U_n^*,$$

where representation  $\rho : \mathcal{B} \to B(K)$  is unitary equivalent to  $\tau|_{\mathcal{B}}$  and  $U_n : K \otimes \mathbb{C}^{2^n} \to \widetilde{H}$  is unitary operator.

We have for any  $B = [b_{ij}] \in M_{2^n}(\mathcal{B})$ 

$$\begin{aligned} \|\sum b_{ij} \otimes E_{ij}\| &\leq R \|U_n(\sum \rho(b_{ij}) \otimes E_{ij})U_n^*\| \\ &= R \|\sum \rho(b_{ij}) \otimes E_{ij}\|. \end{aligned}$$

This is equivalent to

$$\|\sum \rho^{-1}(b_{ij}) \otimes e_{ij}\| \le R \|\sum b_{ij} \otimes E_{ij}\|,$$

hence  $||(\rho^{-1})_{2^n}(B)|| \leq R||B||$ . This proves that  $||(\tau|_{\mathcal{B}})^{-1}||_{cb} = R$ .  $\Box$ 

# 4 Operator Algebra associated with Kadison's similarity problem.

In 1955 R. Kadison raised the following problem. Is any bounded homomorphism  $\pi$  of a  $C^*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  into B(H) similar to a \*-representation? The similarity above means that there exists invertible operator  $T \in B(H)$  such that  $x \to T^{-1}\pi(x)T$  is a \*-representation of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

The following criterium due to Haagerup (see [4]) is widely used in reformulations of Kadison's problem: non-degenerate homomorphism  $\pi$  is similar to a \*-representation iff  $\pi$  is completely bounded. Moreover the similarity S can be chosen such that  $||S^{-1}|| ||S|| = ||\pi||_{cb}$ .

The affirmative answer to the Kadison's problem is obtain in many important cases. In particular, for nuclear  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\pi$  is automatically completely bounded with  $\|\pi\|_{cb} \leq \|\pi\|^2$  (see [1]).

About recent state of the problem we refer the reader to [8, 5].

We can associate an operator algebra  $\pi(B)$  for every bounded homomorphism  $\pi$  of a  $C^*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ . That fact that  $\pi(B)$  is closed can be seen by restricting  $\pi$  to a nuclear  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(x^*x)$ . This restriction is similar to \*-homomorphism for every  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  which gives the estimate  $||x|| \leq ||\pi||^3 ||\pi(x)||$  (for details see [9, p. 4]). Denote  $C_n = \pi^{(n)}(M_n(\mathcal{A})^+)$ .

Let J be involution in B(H), i.e. self-adjoint operator such that  $J^2 = I$ . Clearly, J is also a unitary operator. A representation  $\pi : \mathcal{A} \to B(H)$  of a \*-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is called J-symmetric if  $\pi(a^*) = J\pi(a)^*J$ . Such representations are natural analogs of \*-representations for Krein space with indefinite metric  $[x, y] = \langle Jx, y \rangle$ . We will need the following observation due to V. Shulman [12] (see also [6, lemma 9.3, p.131]). If  $\pi$  is arbitrary representations of  $\mathcal{A}$  in B(H) then the representation  $\rho : \mathcal{A} \to B(H \oplus H)$ ,  $a \mapsto \pi(a) \oplus \pi(a^*)^*$  is J-symmetric with  $J(x \oplus y) = y \oplus x$  and representation  $\pi$  is a restriction  $\rho|_{K \oplus \{0\}}$ . Moreover, if  $\rho$ is similar to \*-representation then so is  $\pi$ . Clearly the converse is also true, thus  $\pi$  and  $\rho$  are simultaneously similar to \*-representations or not. In sequel for an operator algebra  $\mathcal{D} \in B(H)$  the algebra  $\underline{\lim M_{2^n}(\mathcal{D})}$  will denote the closure of the algebraic direct limit of  $M_{2^n}(\mathcal{D})$  in the C\*-algebra direct limit of inductive system  $M_{2^n}(B(H))$  with standard inclusions  $x \to \begin{pmatrix} x & 0 \\ 0 & x \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Theorem 10.** If  $\pi : \mathcal{A} \to B(H)$  is bounded unital J-symmetric isomorphism of a C<sup>\*</sup>-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ . Denote  $\mathcal{B} = \pi(\mathcal{A})$ . Then  $\pi^{-1}$  is completely bounded homomorphism. Its extension  $\widetilde{\pi^{-1}}$  to the homomorphism between the inductive limits  $\overline{\mathcal{B}_{\infty}} = \overline{\lim M_{2^n}(\mathcal{B})}$  and  $\overline{\mathcal{A}_{\infty}} = \overline{\lim M_{2^n}(\mathcal{A})}$  is injective.

Proof. Let us show that  $\{C_n\}_{n\geq 1}$  is a \*-admissible sequence of cones. It is routine to verify that conditions (1)-(3) in the definition of \*-admissible cones is satisfied for  $\{C_n\}$ . To see that condition (4) is also satisfied take  $B_j \in C_{n_j} - C_{n_j}$  such that  $||B_j|| \leq r$  for some constant r > 0. Take  $D_j \in$  $M_{n_j}(A)_{sa}$  such that  $B_j = \pi^{(n_j)}(D_j)$ . Since  $\pi^{(n)} : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \to M_n(\mathcal{B})$  is algebraic isomorphism it preserve spectra  $\sigma_{M_n(\mathcal{A})}(x) = \sigma_{M_n(\mathcal{B})}(\pi^{(n)}(x))$ . Since  $||B_j|| \leq r$ we have the following estimate for the spectral radius  $\operatorname{spr}(B_j) \leq r$  and, consequently,  $\operatorname{spr}(D_j) \leq r$ . Since  $D_j$  is self-adjoint  $re_{n_j} + D_j \in M_{n_j}(\mathcal{A})^+$ . Applying  $\pi^{(n_j)}$  we get  $re_{n_j} + B_j \in C_{n_j}$ .

Since  $\pi$  is J-symmetric  $\|\pi^{(n)}(a)\| = \|(J \otimes E_n)\pi^{(n)}(a)^*(J \otimes E_n)\| = \|\pi^{(n)}(a^*)\|$ for every  $a \in M_n(\mathcal{A})$  and

$$\|\pi^{(n)}(h_1)\| \le 1/2(\|\pi^{(n)}(h_1) + i\pi^{(n)}(h_2)\| + \|\pi^{(n)}(h_1) - i\pi^{(n)}(h_2)\|)$$
  
=  $1/2\|\pi^{(n)}(h_1) - i\pi^{(n)}(h_2)\|$ 

for all  $h_1, h_2 \in C_n - C_n$ . Thus condition (5) is satisfied and  $\{C_n\}$  is \*admissible. By Theorem 4 there is an injective bounded homomorphism  $\tau : \overline{\mathcal{B}_{\infty}} \to B(\widetilde{H})$  such that its restriction to  $\mathcal{B}$  is completely bounded,  $\tau(b^{\sharp}) = \tau(b)^*$  and  $\tau_n(C_n) = \tau_n(M_n(\mathcal{B}))^+$ .

Denote  $\rho = \tau \circ \pi : \mathcal{A} \to B(H)$ . Since  $\rho$  is positive homomorphism then it is a \*-representation. Moreover, ker  $\rho = \{0\}$  because both  $\pi$  and  $\tau$  are injective. Therefore  $\rho^{-1}$  is \*-isomorphism. Since  $\tau : \mathcal{B} \to B(\widetilde{H})$  extends to an injective homomorphism of inductive limit  $\overline{\mathcal{B}_{\infty}}$  and  $\rho^{-1}$  is completely isometric we have that  $\pi^{-1} = \rho^{-1} \circ \tau$  extends to injective homomorphism of  $\overline{\mathcal{B}_{\infty}}$ . It is also clear that  $\pi^{-1}$  is completely bounded as a superposition of two c.b. maps.

**Remark 11.** The fact that  $\pi^{-1}$  is c.b. also follows from [9, Theorem 2.6]

**Remark 12.** Note that condition 1 in Theorem 4 for cones  $C_n$  from the proof of theorem 10 is obviously equivalent to  $\pi$  being completely bounded.

**Remark 13.** It can be easily proved that for every free ultrafilter  $\omega$  on  $\mathbb{N}$  the natural extension of  $\widetilde{\pi^{-1}}$  to the ultrapowers:  $\widetilde{\pi^{-1}}_{\omega} : (\overline{\mathcal{B}}_{\infty})_{\omega} \to (\overline{\mathcal{A}}_{\infty})_{\omega}$  will necessarily be non-injective for non completely bounded homomorphism  $\pi$ .

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