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## EXTREME EXTENSIONS OF POSITIVE OPERATORS

BY

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The results we present here are taken from the author's papers [2] and [3], the first one being a joint work with D. Plachky and W. Thomsen (Münster).

Throughout we adhere to the terminology of Schaefer's monograph [6]. We use the following notation.  $X$  stands for an ordered real vector space,  $M$  for its vector subspace and  $Y$  for an order complete real vector lattice. Given  $T \in L_+(M, Y)$  (i.e. a positive linear operator from  $M$  into  $Y$ ), we put  $E(T) = \{S \in L_+(X, Y) : S|_M = T\}$ . We shall be concerned with the extreme points of  $E(T)$ .

**THEOREM 1** ([3], Theorem 1). If  $M$  is a majorizing (i.e. cofinal) subspace of  $X$ , then  $\text{extr } E(T) \neq \emptyset$ .

This is an improvement of a classical result of L. V. Kantorovič ([7], Theorem X.3.1, or [2], Theorem 1) who proved that  $E(T) \neq \emptyset$ .

**THEOREM 2** ([2], Theorem 3). Suppose  $X$  is a vector lattice and  $S \in E(T)$ . Then  $S \in \text{extr } E(T)$  if and only if  $\inf \{S(|x - z|) : z \in M\} = 0$  for each  $x \in X$ .

We shall give a number of applications of Theorems 1 and 2.

In the first two corollaries  $X$  is assumed to be a vector lattice and  $M$  its vector sublattice. We denote by  $H(M, Y)$  the set of all lattice homomorphisms of  $M$  into  $Y$ .

**COROLLARY 1** ([3], Theorem 2). Suppose  $T \in H(M, Y)$ .

(a)  $\text{extr } E(T) \subset H(X, Y)$ .

(b) If  $\inf \{|y - T(z)| : z \in M\} = 0$  for each  $y \in Y$ , then  $E(T) \cap H(X, Y) \subset \text{extr } E(T)$ .

**COROLLARY 2** ([3], Corollary 2). If  $M$  is majorizing, then any lattice homomorphism  $T: M \rightarrow Y$  extends to a lattice homomorphism  $S: X \rightarrow Y$ .

As another application we shall give a characterization of the extreme points of certain sets of operators between vector lattices of measurable functions. Let  $(\Omega_i, \Sigma_i, \mu_i)$ , where  $i = 1, 2$ , be positive finite measure spaces. Denote by  $L_0(\mu_i)$  the (order complete) vector lattice of  $(\mu_i$ -equivalence classes of) real-valued measurable functions on  $\Omega_i$  and by  $s(\mu_i)$  its vector sublattice consisting of all simple functions. The following corollary generalizes Propositions I.4.3 and 4 in [6] on stochastic matrices. It is also akin to some results of Phelps ([4], Theorem 2.2) and Iwanik ([1], Lemma 2 and Proposition 2).

**COROLLARY 3** ([3], Theorem 3). Let  $X$  be a vector sublattice of  $L_0(\mu_1)$  containing  $s(\mu_1)$  and let  $Y$  be an order complete vector sublattice of  $L_0(\mu_2)$ . Suppose that given  $x \in X$ , there exist  $x_n \in s(\mu_1)$ ,  $v \in X_+$  and  $\epsilon_n \in \mathbb{R}_+$  with  $|x - x_n| \leq \epsilon_n v$  and  $\epsilon_n \downarrow 0$ . Then for each  $S \in L_+(X, Y)$  with  $S1_{\Omega_1} = 1_{\Omega_2}$  the following three conditions are equivalent:

(i)  $S \in \text{extr} \{T \in L_+(X, Y) : T1_{\Omega_1} = 1_{\Omega_2}\}$ .

(ii)  $S$  takes characteristic functions into characteristic functions.

(iii)  $S \in H(X, Y)$ .

It can be proved that the assumptions of Corollary 3 are satisfied for  $X = L_{p_1}(\mu_1)$ ,  $Y = L_{p_2}(\mu_2)$ , where  $0 \leq p_1, p_2 \leq \infty$ .

Finally, we shall apply Theorem 2 to additive set functions. Let  $\mathcal{R}$  and  $\mathcal{S}$  be rings of sets with  $\mathcal{R} \subset \mathcal{S}$ . We say that  $\mu : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow Y$  is a content provided it is additive and  $\mu(C) \geq 0$  for all  $C \in \mathcal{R}$ . Given a content  $\mu : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow Y$ , we denote by  $E(\mu)$  the set of all contents on  $\mathcal{S}$  extending  $\mu$ . The following is a generalization of a theorem due to Plachky ([5], Theorem 1).

COROLLARY 4 ([2], Theorem 4). Suppose  $\nu \in E(\mu)$ . Then  $\nu \in \text{extr } E(\mu)$  if and only if  $\inf \{\nu(A \Delta C) : C \in \mathcal{R}\} = 0$  for each  $A \in \mathcal{S}$ .

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