

POSITIVE POLYNOMIALS LECTURE NOTES

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1. SCHMÜDGEN'S POSITIVSTELLENSATZ

Theorem 1.1. (Recall 3.6 of lecture 11) Let $S = \{g_1, \dots, g_s\}$ be a finite subset of $\mathbb{R}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ and $K_S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be a compact basic closed semi algebraic set. And let $f \in \mathbb{R}[X]$ s.t. $f > 0$ on K_S . Then $f \in T_S$.

To prove this we first need Representation Theorem (Stone-Krivine, Kadison-Dubois):

2. REPRESENTATION THEOREM (STONE-KRIVINE, KADISON-DUBOIS)

Let A be a commutative ring with 1. Let

$$\chi := \text{Hom}(A, \mathbb{R}) = \{\alpha \mid \alpha : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \alpha \text{ ring homomorphism}\}.$$

Notation 2.1. If $M \subseteq A$ denote

$$\chi_M = \{\alpha \in \chi \mid \alpha(M) \subseteq \mathbb{R}_+\}.$$

Notation 2.2. For $a \in A$ define a map

$$\hat{a} : \chi \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad \text{by} \\ \hat{a}(\alpha) := \alpha(a)$$

Remark 2.3. (i) Let $M \subseteq A$, with notations 2.1 and 2.2 we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_M &:= \{\alpha \in \chi \mid \alpha(M) \subseteq \mathbb{R}_+\} \\ &= \{\alpha \in \chi \mid \alpha(a) \geq 0, \forall a \in M\} \\ &= \{\alpha \in \chi \mid \hat{a}(\alpha) \geq 0, \forall a \in M\} \end{aligned}$$

So, χ_M is “the nonnegativity set” of M in χ .

Observation 2.4. $a \in M \Rightarrow \hat{a} \geq 0$ on χ_M , because if $\alpha \in \chi_M$, then $\hat{a}(\alpha) \geq 0$ (by definition).

Conversely, answer the question: for $a \in A$, if $\hat{a} > 0$ on $\chi_M \Rightarrow a \in M$?

Exkurs 2.5. One can view $\chi = \text{Hom}(A, \mathbb{R})$ as a topological subspace of $(\text{Sper } A, \text{spectral topology})$ as follows:

1. Embedding of $\text{Hom}(A, \mathbb{R})$ in $\text{Sper } A$:

Consider the map defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}(A, \mathbb{R}) &\rightarrow \text{Sper } A \\ \alpha &\mapsto P_\alpha := \alpha^{-1}(\mathbb{R}_+), \end{aligned}$$

where (recall that) $\text{Sper}(A) := \{P \mid P \text{ is an ordering of } A\}$.

Then

- (i) this map is well defined i.e. $P_\alpha \subseteq A$ is an ordering.
- (ii) this map is injective : $\alpha \neq \beta \Rightarrow P_\alpha \neq P_\beta$.
- (iii) $\text{support}(P_\alpha) = \ker \alpha$.

2. Topology on χ :

Endow χ with a topology : for $a \in A$

$$\{u(\hat{a}) = \{\alpha \in \chi \mid \hat{a}(\alpha) > 0\}; a \in A\}$$

is a sub-basis of open sets. Then

- (iv) for $a \in A$, the map $\hat{a} : \chi \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous in this topology.
- (v) in fact this topology on χ is the weakest topology on χ for which \hat{a} is continuous for all $a \in A$,
i.e. if τ is any other topology on χ which makes all these maps \hat{a} (for $a \in A$) continuous then τ has more open sets than this weakest topology (i.e. $u(\hat{a})$ lies in τ).

- (vi) this topology is also the topology induced on χ via the embedding $\alpha \mapsto P_\alpha$ giving $\text{Sper } A$ the spectral topology [just use the fact that $\hat{a}(\alpha) > 0 \Leftrightarrow a \notin -P_\alpha \Leftrightarrow a >_{P_\alpha} 0$. Spectral topology: $u(a) = \{P \mid a \notin -P\} = \{P \mid a >_P 0\}$].

Now we are back to the question (in Observation 2.4): for $a \in A$, does $\hat{a} > 0$ on $\chi_M \Rightarrow a \in M$?

Yes under additional assumptions on the subset M that we shall now study:

3. PREPRIMES, MODULES AND SEMI-ORDERINGS IN RINGS

Let A be a commutative ring with 1 and $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq A$. Concept of preordering generalizes in two directions:

- (i) Preprimes
- (ii) Modules (special case: quadratic modules)

Definitions 3.1. (1) A **preprime** is a subset T of A such that

$$T + T \subseteq T; \quad TT \subseteq T; \quad \mathbb{Q}_+ \subseteq T.$$

(2) Let T be a preprime of A . $M \subseteq A$ is a **T -module** if

$$M + M \subseteq M; \quad TM \subseteq M; \quad 1 \in M \text{ (i.e. } T \subseteq M).$$

[Note that in particular, a preprime T is a T -module.]

(3) A preprime T of A is said to be **generating** if $T - T = A$.

[Note that if T is any preprime then $T - T$ is already a subring of A because

$$(t_1 - t_2) + (t_3 - t_4) = (t_1 + t_3) - (t_2 + t_4)$$

$$(t_1 - t_2)(t_3 - t_4) = (t_1t_3 + t_2t_4) - (t_1t_4 + t_2t_3) .]$$

Proposition 3.2. Every preordering T of A is a generating preprime.

Proof. (i) For $\frac{m}{n} \in \mathbb{Q} : \frac{m}{n} = \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^2 mn = \underbrace{\frac{1}{n^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n^2}}_{(mn\text{-times})}$

so $\mathbb{Q}_+ \subset T$.

(ii) For $a \in A$, $a = \left(\frac{1+a}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{1-a}{2}\right)^2$.

So $A = T - T$.

□

Definitions 3.3. (1) A **quadratic module** is a T -module over the preprime $T = \sum A^2$.

(2) A T -module M is **proper** if $(-1) \notin M$.

(3) A semi-ordering M is a **quadratic module** such that moreover

$$M \cup (-M) = A; \quad M \cap (-M) = \mathfrak{p} \text{ is a prime ideal in } A.$$

Proposition 3.4.

(a) Suppose T is a generating preprime and M is a maximal proper T -module, then $M \cup (-M) = A$.

(b) Suppose T is a preordering and M a maximal proper T -module then $\mathfrak{p} = M \cap (-M)$ is a prime ideal.

(c) Therefore: if T is a preordering and M is a maximal proper T -module then M is a semi-ordering.

Proof. Similar to proof in the preordering case

(a) Let $a \in A$, $a \notin M \cup (-M)$.

By maximality of M , we have:

$$-1 \in (M + aT) \text{ and } -1 \in (M - aT).$$

Therefore, $-1 = s_1 + at_1$ and $-1 = s_2 - at_2$; for some $s_1, s_2 \in M$ and $t_1, t_2 \in T$.

This implies $-at_1 = 1 + s_1$ and $at_2 = 1 + s_2$.

So $-at_1t_2 = t_2 + s_1t_2$ and $at_2t_1 = t_1 + s_2t_1$.

So $0 = t_2 + t_1 + s_1t_2 + t_1s_2$.

So $-t_1 = t_2 + s_1t_2 + t_1s_2 \in M$.

Now since T is generating, so pick $t_3, t_4 \in T$ such that $a = t_3 - t_4$, then

$$-1 = s_1 + at_1 = s_1 + (t_3 - t_4)t_1 = s_1 + t_1t_3 + t_4(-t_1) \in M. \text{ This is a contradiction.}$$

(b) $\mathfrak{p} = M \cap -M$.

Clearly $\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{p} \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$, $-\mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{p}$, $0 \in \mathfrak{p}$, $T\mathfrak{p} \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$.

Since $A = T - T \Rightarrow A\mathfrak{p} \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$. Thus \mathfrak{p} is an ideal clearly.

So far we have only used that T is a generating preprime, to show that \mathfrak{p} is a prime ideal we need that T is preordering:

Suppose $ab \in \mathfrak{p}$, $a \notin \mathfrak{p}$. Without loss of generality assume $a \notin M$.

Now this implies: $-1 \in M + aT$, so $-1 = s + at$; $s \in M, t \in T$

$$\Rightarrow -b^2 = sb^2 + ab^2t \in M + \mathfrak{p} \subseteq M.$$

Now since $b^2 \in T \subseteq M$, this implies $b^2 \in M \cap -M = \mathfrak{p}$.

So we are reduced to showing: $b^2 \in \mathfrak{p} \Rightarrow b \in \mathfrak{p}$.

Suppose $b^2 \in \mathfrak{p}$, $b \notin \mathfrak{p}$. Without loss of generality $b \notin M$.

Thus $-1 = s + bt$, for some $s \in M$ and $t \in T$.

$$\text{So } 1 + 2s + s^2 = (1 + s)^2 = (-bt)^2 = b^2t^2 \in \mathfrak{p} = M \cap -M.$$

Thus $-1 = 2s + s^2 + \underbrace{(-b^2t^2)}_{(\in M)} \in M$, a contradiction since $-1 \notin M$.

(c) Clear. □

Our next aim is to show that under the additional assumption: “ M is archimedean”, then a maximal proper module M over a preordering is an ordering not just a semi-ordering. This is crucial in proof of Kadison-Dubois.