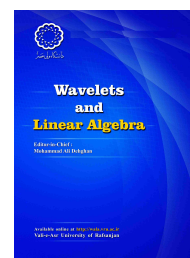


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## $C^*$ -Extreme Points and $C^*$ -Faces of the Epigraph of $C^*$ -Affine Maps in $*$ -Rings

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### ARTICLE INFO

*Article history:*

Received 17 July 2018

Accepted 30 December 2018

Available online 12 January 2019

Communicated by Abbas Salemi

*Keywords:*

$C^*$ -affine map,

$C^*$ -convexity,

$C^*$ -extreme point,

$C^*$ -face.

*2000 MSC:*

52A01, 16W10, 46L89.

### ABSTRACT

In this paper, we define the notion of  $C^*$ -affine maps in the unital  $*$ -rings and we investigate the  $C^*$ -extreme points of the graph and epigraph of such maps. We show that for a  $C^*$ -convex map  $f$  defined on a unital  $*$ -ring  $\mathcal{R}$  satisfying the positive square root axiom with an additional condition, the graph of  $f$  is a  $C^*$ -face of the epigraph of  $f$ . Moreover, we prove some results about the  $C^*$ -faces of  $C^*$ -convex sets in  $*$ -rings.

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### 1. Introduction

One of the form of non-commutative convexity is  $C^*$ -convexity. Formal study of  $C^*$ -convexity was initiated by Loebel and Paulsen in [9]. Farenick and Morenz proved that each irreducible ele-

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ment of the  $C^*$ -algebra  $M_n$  of complex  $n \times n$  matrices, is a  $C^*$ -extreme point, the relative extreme point, of the  $C^*$ -convex set that it generates [6]. Also they studied the  $C^*$ -extreme points of the  $C^*$ -convex space  $S_H(A)$  of unital completely positive linear maps from a  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$  to the algebra  $B(H)$  of continuous linear operators on a complex Hilbert space  $H$  [5]. Moreover, in [13] Morenz discovered a right analog of linear extreme points, called structural elements to prove a generalised Krein Milman theorem for  $C^*$ -convex subsets of  $M_n$ . The author and G. H. Esslamzadeh generalised the notion of  $C^*$ -convexity and the relative extreme points,  $C^*$ -extreme points, to  $*$ -rings [4], see also [14]. Magajna proved that each weak\* compact  $C^*$ -convex set in a hyper finite factor (in particular in  $B(H)$ ) is the weak\* closure of the  $C^*$ -convex hull of its  $C^*$ -extreme points [12], see also [10] and [11]. It is known that a real-valued function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is convex if and only if the epigraph of  $f$  is a convex set in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . M. Kian extended this result for operator convex functions and  $C^*$ -convex sets in [8].

Throughout this paper  $\mathcal{R}$  is a unital  $*$ -ring, that is, a ring with an involution which has an identity element. An element  $x$  in  $\mathcal{R}$  is called positive, written  $x \geq 0$ , if  $x = y_1^*y_1 + y_2^*y_2 + \dots + y_n^*y_n$  for some  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$  in  $\mathcal{R}$ . The self-adjoint elements of  $\mathcal{R}$  may be ordered by writing  $x \leq y$  in case  $y - x \geq 0$ . The involution of  $\mathcal{R}$  is called proper if  $x^*x = 0$  implies that  $x = 0$  for every  $x \in \mathcal{R}$ . Also, it is said that  $\mathcal{R}$  satisfies the positive square root axiom if for every positive element  $x \in \mathcal{R}$ , there exists  $y \in \{x\}''$  such that  $y \geq 0$ , and  $x = y^2$ , where  $\{x\}''$  denotes the double commutant of  $\{x\}$  in  $\mathcal{R}$ . To study the  $*$ -rings and Baer  $*$ -rings, the reference [1] is essential.

**Definition 1.1.** A subset  $K$  of a unital  $*$ -ring  $\mathcal{R}$  is called  $C^*$ -convex, if

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i \in K,$$

whenever  $x_i \in K, a_i \in \mathcal{R}$  for all  $i$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* a_i = 1_{\mathcal{R}}$ .

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $K$  be a  $C^*$ -convex subset of  $\mathcal{R}$ . An element  $x \in K$  is called a  $C^*$ -extreme point of  $K$  if the condition

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i, \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* a_i = 1_{\mathcal{R}}, x_i \in K, a_i \text{ is invertible in } \mathcal{R}, n \in \mathbb{N} \quad (1)$$

implies that all  $x_i$  are unitarily equivalent to  $x$  in  $\mathcal{R}$ , that is, there exist unitaries  $u_i \in \mathcal{R}$  such that  $x_i = u_i^* x u_i$  for all  $i$ .

The set of all  $C^*$ -extreme points of  $K$  is denoted by  $C^*\text{-ext}(K)$ .

In addition, if condition (1) holds, then we say that  $x$  is a proper  $C^*$ -convex combination of  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ .

In [4] we defined the notion of  $C^*$ -convex maps as the following:

**Definition 1.3.** Let  $K$  be a  $C^*$ -convex subset of  $\mathcal{R}$ . We say that a map  $f : K \rightarrow K$  is  $C^*$ -convex if

$$f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i\right) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* f(x_i) a_i$$

where  $n \in \mathbb{N}, x_i \in K, a_i \in \mathcal{R}$ , and  $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* a_i = 1_{\mathcal{R}}$ . If  $-f$  is  $C^*$ -convex, we say that  $f$  is  $C^*$ -concave.

In this paper we focus on the equality in the above definition and we call such maps the  $C^*$ -affine maps.

**Definition 1.4.** Let  $K$  be a  $C^*$ -convex subset of  $\mathcal{R}$ . We say that a map  $f : K \rightarrow K$  is  $C^*$ -affine if

$$f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* f(x_i) a_i,$$

where  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $x_i \in K$ ,  $a_i \in \mathcal{R}$ , and  $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* a_i = 1_{\mathcal{R}}$ .

Note that if  $\mathcal{R}$  is a  $*$ -algebra, then every  $C^*$ -affine map is affine in the classical sense.

**Example 1.5.** The following maps are  $C^*$ -affine on  $\mathcal{R}$ .

- (1)  $f(x) = nx$  where  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- (2)  $f(x) = x^*$ .
- (3)  $f(x) = \alpha x$  where  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathcal{R}$  is a  $*$ -algebra.
- (4)  $f(x) = \alpha x + b$  where  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $b \in Z(\mathcal{R})$  (the center of  $\mathcal{R}$ ) and  $\mathcal{R}$  is a  $*$ -algebra.

*Remark 1.6.* The composition of two  $C^*$ -affine maps, is also a  $C^*$ -affine map.

**Definition 1.7.** The graph and epigraph of a map  $f : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$  that we will denote by  $graph(f)$  and  $epi(f)$  respectively, are defined as:

$$graph(f) = \{(x, y) : x \in \mathcal{R}, y = f(x)\} \subseteq \mathcal{R} \oplus \mathcal{R},$$

$$epi(f) = \{(x, y) : x \in \mathcal{R}, f(x) \leq y\} \subseteq \mathcal{R} \oplus \mathcal{R}.$$

## 2. $C^*$ -extreme points of the graph and epigraph of $C^*$ -affine maps

In this section the relation between the  $C^*$ -extreme points of the graph and epigraph of a  $C^*$ -affine map and the  $C^*$ -extreme points of its domain and image are investigated.

It is shown in [3] and [4] that for every  $C^*$ -affine map  $f$  on a  $C^*$ -convex subset  $K$  of the unital  $*$ -ring  $\mathcal{R}$ ,  $graph(f)$  and  $epi(f)$  are  $C^*$ -convex subsets of  $\mathcal{R} \oplus \mathcal{R}$  in the sense that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (a_i, a_i)^*(x_i, f(x_i))(a_i, a_i) \in graph(f),$$

and

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (a_i, a_i)^*(x_i, y_i)(a_i, a_i) \in epi(f),$$

for every  $(x_i, f(x_i)) \in graph(f)$  and  $(x_i, y_i) \in epi(f)$  and  $a_i \in \mathcal{R}$  where  $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* a_i = 1_{\mathcal{R}}$ . Also, the author has proved the following theorem in [3].

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $f$  be a  $C^*$ -affine map on a  $C^*$ -convex subset  $K$  of the unital  $*$ -ring  $\mathcal{R}$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent,

- 1)  $x \in C^* - ext(K)$ ,
- 2)  $(x, f(x)) \in C^* - ext(graph(f))$ .

The image of a  $C^*$ -convex set under a  $C^*$ -affine map is a  $C^*$ -convex set. Also, injective  $C^*$ -affine maps preserve  $C^*$ -extreme points ([3], Theorem 2.3). Indeed, the equivalence of the following assertions for every injective  $C^*$ -affine map  $f$  on a  $C^*$ -convex set  $K$  has been shown in [3].

- 1)  $x \in C^* - ext(K)$ ,
- 2)  $f(x) \in C^* - ext(f(K))$ ,
- 3)  $(x, f(x)) \in C^* - ext(graph(f))$ .

If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a unital  $*$ -algebra, then every  $C^*$ -convex set  $K$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  is a convex set and every  $C^*$ -extreme point of  $K$  is an extreme point in the usual sense. So we conclude that if we replace the  $C^*$ -convexity and the concept of  $C^*$ -extreme point by convexity and the concept of extreme point in the above corollaries, respectively, we obtain the similar conclusions in the classical convexity immediately ([4], corollaries 2.5 , 2.6).

The author has proved the following theorem ([2], Theorem 2.3) as a result about the  $C^*$ -extreme points of the epigraph of  $C^*$ -affine maps on  $C^*$ -convex sets.

**Theorem 2.2.** For every  $C^*$ -affine map  $f$  on a  $C^*$ -convex set  $K$  in the unital  $*$ -ring  $\mathcal{R}$  with the following two conditions:

- 1)  $(2.1_{\mathcal{R}})^{-1/2}$  exists in  $\mathcal{R}$ ,
- 2)  $x_1^*x_1 + x_2^*x_2 + \dots + x_n^*x_n = 0$  implies that  $x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_n = 0$  for every  $x_i \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have

$$C^* - ext(epi(f)) = graph(f|_{C^* - ext(K)}) = \{(x, f(x)) \mid x \in C^* - ext(K)\}.$$

### 3. $C^*$ -faces

P. B. Morenz extended the notion of face from linear convexity to  $C^*$ -face of  $C^*$ -convex subsets of a  $C^*$ -algebra in [13]. The author and G. H. Esslamzadeh generalised this notion to  $*$ -rings [4]. In this section we investigate some properties of  $C^*$ -faces and specially we show that the graph of a  $C^*$ -affine map is a  $C^*$ -face of its epigraph provided that it satisfies some conditions.

**Definition 3.1.** A nonempty subset  $F$  of a  $C^*$ -convex set  $K \subseteq \mathcal{R}$  is called a  $C^*$ -face of  $K$ , if the condition  $x \in F$  and  $x = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^*x_i a_i$  as a proper  $C^*$ -convex combination of elements  $x_i \in K$ , implies that  $x_i \in F$  for all  $i$ .

**Example 3.2.** (1) Let  $K$  be a  $C^*$ -convex subset of  $\mathcal{R}$ . Then  $K$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K$ . Thus the set of  $C^*$ -faces of every  $C^*$ -convex set is nonempty.

(2) The set  $C^* - ext(K)$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K$ .

**Theorem 3.3** ([4], Theorem 3.7). Suppose that  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are  $C^*$ -faces of  $C^*$ -convex subsets  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  in  $\mathcal{R}$  respectively. Then,

- 1)  $F_1 \cap F_2$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K_1 \cap K_2$  provided that  $F_1 \cap F_2 \neq \emptyset$ .
- 2) If  $K_1 \subseteq K_2$ , then  $F_2 \cap K_1$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K_1$  provided that it is nonempty.
- 3) If  $F \subset F_1$  and  $F$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $C^* - Co(F_1)$ , then  $F$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K_1$ .
- 4) If  $K_1 \subseteq K_2$ , then  $K_1 \cap C^* - ext(K_2) \subseteq C^* - ext(K_1)$ .

**Theorem 3.4.** Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a unital  $*$ -ring satisfying the positive square root axiom and  $x_1^*x_1 + x_2^*x_2 + \dots + x_n^*x_n = 0$  implies that  $x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_n = 0$  for every  $x_i \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $f$  be a  $C^*$ -convex map on  $\mathcal{R}$ . Then  $graph(f)$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $epi(f)$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $(x, f(x)) \in \text{graph}(f)$  and

$$(x, f(x)) = \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i, a_i)^*(x_i, y_i)(a_i, a_i)$$

is a proper  $C^*$ -convex combination of elements  $(x_i, y_i) \in \text{epi}(f)$ . We show that  $(x_i, y_i) \in \text{graph}(f)$  for each  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). Since

$$(x, f(x)) = \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i, \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* y_i a_i \right),$$

so,

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i, \quad f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* y_i a_i. \quad (3.1)$$

Since  $f$  is a  $C^*$ -convex map, so we have

$$f(x) = f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i\right) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* f(x_i) a_i. \quad (3.2)$$

We conclude from (3.1) and (3.2) that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* y_i a_i \leq \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* f(x_i) a_i$$

and hence

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* (y_i - f(x_i)) a_i \leq 0. \quad (3.3)$$

On the other hand,  $(x_i, y_i) \in \text{epi}(f)$ , so  $y_i \geq f(x_i)$ , and hence  $y_i - f(x_i) \geq 0$ . Thus

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* (y_i - f(x_i)) a_i \geq 0. \quad (3.4)$$

Using the fact that every positive element in  $\mathcal{R}$  has a positive square root, and the assumption  $x_1^* x_1 + x_2^* x_2 + \cdots + x_n^* x_n = 0$  implies that  $x_1 = x_2 = \cdots = x_n = 0$  for every  $x_i \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we conclude from (3.3) and (3.4) that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* (y_i - f(x_i)) a_i = 0.$$

and hence for each  $i$ ,

$$a_i^* (y_i - f(x_i)) a_i = 0.$$

The invertibility of  $a_i$  for each  $i$ , implies that  $y_i - f(x_i) = 0$ . Therefore,  $y_i = f(x_i)$  and the proof is complete.  $\square$

Note that with the same assumptions, the above theorem holds for  $C^*$ -affine maps immediately.

**Proposition 3.5.**  *$F$  is a  $C^*$ -face of a  $C^*$ -convex set  $K$  in the unital  $*$ -ring  $\mathcal{R}$  if and only if  $F^*$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $C^*$ -convex set  $K^*$*

*Proof.* First note that if  $K$  is a  $C^*$ -convex subset of  $\mathcal{R}$ , then  $K^*$  is also a  $C^*$ -convex subset of  $\mathcal{R}$ . Suppose that  $F$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K$ . So  $F^*$  is a nonempty subset of  $K^*$ . Let  $y \in F^*$  and  $y = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* y_i a_i$  be a proper  $C^*$ -convex combination of elements  $y_i \in K^*$ . Then there exist  $x(= y^*)$  in  $F$  and  $x_i \in K$  such that  $y = x^*$  and  $y_i = x_i^*$ . So

$$x^* = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i^* a_i = \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i \right)^*,$$

and hence  $x = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i$  is a proper  $C^*$ -convex combination of elements  $x_i \in K$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). Thus,  $x_i \in F$  and hence  $y_i = x_i^* \in F^*$  for each  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). Therefore,  $F^*$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K^*$ . The converse is immediate by replacing  $F^*$  and  $K^*$  instead of  $F$  and  $K$  respectively.  $\square$

The following theorem deals with the  $C^*$ -faces of invertible  $C^*$ -affine maps.

**Theorem 3.6.** *Suppose that  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are  $C^*$ -convex subsets of the unital  $*$ -ring  $\mathcal{R}$  and  $g : K_1 \rightarrow K_2$  is a bijective  $C^*$ -affine map. Then*

- 1)  $g^{-1} : K_2 \rightarrow K_1$  is a  $C^*$ -affine map.
- 2)  $F$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K_1$  if and only if  $g(F)$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K_2$ .
- 3)  $F$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K_2$  if and only if  $g^{-1}(F)$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K_1$ .

*Proof.* 1) Let  $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* y_i a_i$  be a  $C^*$ -convex combination of elements  $y_i \in K_2$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). Then there exist  $x_i \in K_1$  such that  $g(x_i) = y_i$  for each  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). So,

$$\begin{aligned} g^{-1}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* y_i a_i\right) &= g^{-1}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* g(x_i) a_i\right) = g^{-1}\left(g\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i\right)\right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* g^{-1}(g(x_i)) a_i = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* g^{-1}(y_i) a_i. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $g^{-1}$  is a  $C^*$ -affine map.

2) Let  $F$  be a  $C^*$ -face of  $K_1$ ,  $y \in g(F)$  and  $y = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* y_i a_i$  a proper  $C^*$ -convex combination of elements  $y_i \in K_2$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). So there exist  $x \in F$  and  $x_i$  in  $K_1$  such that  $y = g(x)$  and  $y_i = g(x_i)$  for each  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). Thus,

$$g(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* g(x_i) a_i = g\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i\right).$$

Injectivity of  $g$  implies that

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i.$$

Since  $F$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K_1$ ,  $x_i \in F$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). So  $y_i = g(x_i) \in g(F)$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) and  $g(F)$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K_2$ .

Conversely, let  $g(F)$  be a  $C^*$ -face of  $K_2$ ,  $x \in F$ , and  $x = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i$  a proper  $C^*$ -convex combination of elements  $x_i \in K_1$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). Then

$$g(x) = g\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* g(x_i) a_i,$$

where  $g(x) \in g(F)$  and  $g(x_i) \in K_2$  for each  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). Thus,  $g(x_i) \in g(F)$  and since  $g$  is injective,  $x_i \in F$  for each  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). Therefore,  $F$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K_1$ .

3) Since  $g^{-1}$  is a bijective  $C^*$ -affine map, so part 3) comes from part 2). □

**Theorem 3.7.** *Suppose that  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are  $C^*$ -faces of  $C^*$ -convex subsets  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  of  $\mathcal{R}$  respectively. Then,*

1)  $K_1 \times K_2$  is a  $C^*$ -convex subset of  $\mathcal{R} \times \mathcal{R}$  with the pointwise operations. 2)  $F_1 \times F_2$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K_1 \times K_2$ .

*Proof.* 1) Suppose that  $(x_i, y_i) \in K_1 \times K_2$  and  $(a_i, b_i) \in \mathcal{R}$  for each  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (a_i, b_i)^* (a_i, b_i) = (1_{\mathcal{R}}, 1_{\mathcal{R}}).$$

Since  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are  $C^*$ -convex subsets of  $\mathcal{R}$  and

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* a_i = \sum_{i=1}^n b_i^* b_i = 1_{\mathcal{R}},$$

we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (a_i, b_i)^* (x_i, y_i) (a_i, b_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i^* x_i a_i, b_i^* y_i b_i) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i, \sum_{i=1}^n b_i^* y_i b_i\right) \in K_1 \times K_2.$$

2) Let  $(x, y) \in F_1 \times F_2$  and

$$(x, y) = \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i, b_i)^* (x_i, y_i) (a_i, b_i) \tag{3.5}$$

be a proper  $C^*$ -convex combination of elements  $(x_i, y_i) \in K_1 \times K_2$ . We show that  $(x_i, y_i) \in F_1 \times F_2$  for all  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). The relation (3.3) implies that  $x = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i$  and  $y = \sum_{i=1}^n b_i^* y_i b_i$ . Also,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (a_i, b_i)^* (a_i, b_i) = 1_{\mathcal{R} \times \mathcal{R}} = (1_{\mathcal{R}}, 1_{\mathcal{R}})$$

implies that  $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* a_i = \sum_{i=1}^n b_i^* b_i = 1_{\mathcal{R}}$ . Moreover, since  $(a_i, b_i)$  is invertible in  $\mathcal{R} \times \mathcal{R}$ , we have  $a_i$  and  $b_i$  are invertible in  $\mathcal{R}$ . Thus,  $x = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^* x_i a_i$  and  $y = \sum_{i=1}^n b_i^* y_i b_i$  are proper  $C^*$ -convex combinations of elements  $x_i \in K_1$  and  $y_i \in K_2$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) respectively. Since  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are  $C^*$ -faces in  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  respectively, we conclude that  $x_i \in F_1$  and  $y_i \in F_2$  for each  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). Therefore,  $(x_i, y_i) \in F_1 \times F_2$  for each  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) and hence  $F_1 \times F_2$  is a  $C^*$ -face of  $K_1 \times K_2$  in  $\mathcal{R} \times \mathcal{R}$ . □

**Acknowledgement.** The author would like to thank Dr. I. Nikoufar for careful reading of the manuscript and useful comments.

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