

DERIVATIONS OF JORDAN C*-ALGEBRAS

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0. Introduction.

The classical results of Kadison [13, 14] reveal a close connection between the geometric structure (group of isometries, state space) of a C*-algebra and its Jordan algebraic (quantum mechanical) structure. This feature is also typical of the more general class of Jordan C*-algebras (JB*-algebras) introduced by Kaplansky [30]. By complexification, JB*-algebras correspond exactly to the JB-algebras investigated by Alfsen, Shultz and Størmer [1]. JB-algebras are of interest in functional analysis, spectral theory and algebra (formally real Jordan algebras). A promising application of JB-algebras is to be found in complex analysis, based on the 1–1 correspondence between JB*-algebras and bounded symmetric domains in complex Banach spaces with tube realization [18,7].

Derivations of JB-algebras, which have been thoroughly studied in special cases (for C*-algebras and for finite dimensional JB-algebras), are of particular importance to the holomorphic automorphism group G of a bounded symmetric domain Δ of tube type and to its Lie algebra $\mathfrak{g} = \text{aut}(\Delta)$ consisting of all complete holomorphic vector fields on Δ . More precisely, \mathfrak{g} has a Cartan decomposition $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} \oplus \mathfrak{p}$ into the subalgebra \mathfrak{k} of all infinitesimal isometries and the subspace \mathfrak{p} of all vector fields $(\alpha - \{z\alpha^*z\})\partial/\partial z$, where $\{z\alpha^*z\}$ denotes the triple product of the JB*-algebra Z associated with Δ [16, 17]. Further, the self-adjoint part X of Z induces a decomposition $\mathfrak{k} = \mathfrak{m} \oplus \text{aut}(X)$, where \mathfrak{m} consists of all Jordan multiplications by elements of X and $\text{aut}(X)$ is the Lie algebra of all derivations of X . The summands \mathfrak{p} and \mathfrak{m} of \mathfrak{g} are well-known; \mathfrak{p} and Z are isomorphic as real Banach spaces and \mathfrak{m} is related to derivations of self-dual Hilbert cones [8,3]. However, for JB-algebras X in general, little seems to be known about the structure of $\text{aut}(X)$. Therefore the purpose of this paper is to study derivations of JB-algebras and to indicate their applications to complex analysis.

Our first objective is to describe derivations of Jordan operator algebras (JC-algebras) in terms of derivations of C*-algebras which are well-understood. The restriction to JC-algebras is justified by the structure theory

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developed in [1], as indicated in section 1. The principal result of section 2 shows that for reversible JC-algebras X each derivation of X can be extended to a $*$ -derivation of the C^* -algebra generated by X , and is therefore implemented by a Hilbert space operator. This is a generalization of a theorem of Sinclair [24] on Jordan derivations of C^* -algebras. For infinite dimensional spin factors the above extension property is not valid.

Our second problem is to clarify the relationship between $\text{aut}(X)$ and its ideal $\text{int}(X)$ of inner derivations. This problem is of relevance to complex analysis since $\text{int}(X)$ determines the subalgebra $[\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{p}]$ of \mathfrak{k} generated by Lie products of vector fields in \mathfrak{p} . If $\dim(X) < \infty$, then it is well-known that $\text{aut}(X) = \text{int}(X)$ and therefore $\mathfrak{k} = [\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{p}]$. In section 3 we characterize those JBW-algebras (i.e. JB-algebras with predual) X satisfying $\text{aut}(X) = \text{int}(X)$. It is shown in particular that purely exceptional JBW-algebras and reversible JW-algebras have only inner derivations. If X is a JB-algebra, then $\text{int}(X)$ need not be uniformly dense in $\text{aut}(X)$, but it is shown in section 4 that $\text{aut}(X)$ is the strong operator closure of $\text{int}(X)$. Consequently each infinitesimal isometry of a bounded symmetric domain of tube type can be approximated pointwise by vector fields in $[\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{p}]$.

1. Preliminaries.

1.1. DEFINITION. A JB-algebra is a real Banach Jordan algebra X with unit e and product $x \circ y$ such that $\|x \circ y\| \leq \|x\| \|y\|$ and $\|x\|^2 \leq \|x^2 + y^2\|$ whenever $x, y \in X$. A derivation of X is a linear map $D: X \rightarrow X$ satisfying $D(x \circ y) = Dx \circ y + x \circ Dy$ for all $x, y \in X$. Let $\text{aut}(X)$ denote the Lie algebra of all derivations of X .

The set $\mathcal{C}(S, X)$ of all continuous maps from a compact space S to a JB-algebra X is a JB-algebra with pointwise algebraic operations and supremum norm. Each $x \in X$ generates a JB-subalgebra isomorphic to $\mathcal{C}(T, \mathbb{R})$, where T is a compact space. Therefore the proof for C^* -algebras [21; Lemma 4.1.3] can be modified to show that all derivations of a JB-algebra X are bounded. If $\text{aut}(X)$ is equipped with the operator norm, there is an isomorphism of Lie algebras

$$(1.2) \quad \text{aut } \mathcal{C}(S, X) \approx \mathcal{C}(S, \text{aut } X)$$

(clear, if $\dim(X) < \infty$; in the general case, (1.2) follows from [29; Cor. 1.10]).

1.3. DEFINITION. Let H be a complex Hilbert space and let $\mathcal{H}(H)$ denote the JB-algebra of all bounded hermitian operators on H with the product $x \circ y = (xy + yx)/2$. A uniformly (weakly) closed unital subalgebra of $\mathcal{H}(H)$ is called

a JC-algebra (JW-algebra) on H , respectively. The exceptional Jordan algebra of all self-adjoint 3×3 -matrices with octonion entries is denoted by $\mathcal{H}_3(\mathbb{O})$.

By the deep results of Alfsen, Shultz and Størmer [1, 23], the study of JB-derivations can frequently be reduced to the case of JC-algebras: The second dual X'' of a JB-algebra X is a JB-algebra with the Arens product and for each $D \in \text{aut}(X)$ the second transpose D'' is a derivation of X'' . Further, each JB-algebra X with predual has a decomposition

$$(1.4) \quad X = X_{\text{sp}} \oplus X_{\text{ex}} ,$$

such that X_{sp} can be realized as a JW-algebra and $X_{\text{ex}} \approx \mathcal{C}(S, \mathcal{H}_3(\mathbb{O}))$, where S is a compact space [23; Th. 3.9]. Since the center of X vanishes under $\text{aut}(X)$, it follows from (1.2) and (1.4) that

$$(1.5) \quad \text{aut}(X) \approx \text{aut}(X_{\text{sp}}) \oplus \mathcal{C}(S, \text{aut} \mathcal{H}_3(\mathbb{O})) .$$

Finally, $\text{aut} \mathcal{H}_3(\mathbb{O})$ is a well-known classical Lie algebra (a real form of F_4 [11, p. 411]).

2. Extension of derivations of JC-algebras.

The most important examples of JC-algebras are provided by C*-algebras. Henceforth, derivations of associative *-algebras commuting with the involution are called *-derivations. C*-algebras Z have the fundamental property, that each *-derivation D of Z is implemented by a Hilbert space operator w lying in the weak closure of Z [21; Cor. 4.1.7]:

$$(2.1) \quad Dz = [w, z] := wz - zw \quad \text{for all } z \in Z .$$

Sinclair [24] has shown that each Jordan derivation of the self-adjoint part X of Z is actually induced by a *-derivation of Z . In this section this result is extended to a large class of JC-algebras X , if Z is replaced by the C*-algebra generated by X . As a byproduct we obtain a new proof of the theorem of Sinclair.

2.2. DEFINITION. A JC-algebra X on a complex Hilbert space H is said to have the *extension property*, if each derivation of X can be extended to a *-derivation of the C*-algebra generated by X on H .

Not all JC-algebras have the extension property, as the counterexample of infinite dimensional spin factors shows:

2.3. EXAMPLE. If X is a real Hilbert space of dimension > 2 and $e \in X$ is a unit vector with orthogonal complement Y , then $X = \mathbb{R}e \oplus Y$ with the product

$$(r_1e + y_1) \circ (r_2e + y_2) := (r_1r_2 + (y_1 | y_2))e + r_1y_2 + r_2y_1$$

is a JB-algebra called a *spin factor*. The derivations of X are exactly the skew-adjoint operators on Y . Now suppose that $\dim(X) = \infty$ and consider a (faithful) JC-representation $X \subset \mathcal{H}(H)$. By the universal property of the Clifford representation of X , the C*-algebra Z generated by X on H can be identified with the Clifford C*-algebra of X [22]. Each derivation of the simple C*-algebra Z [22; Prop. 1] is inner [21; Th. 4.1.11]. Hence it follows from [2; Th. 4] that $D \in \text{aut}(X)$ can be extended to a *-derivation of Z if and only if D is a trace-class operator.

Reversible JC-algebras X defined by the property

$$x_1, \dots, x_n \in X \Rightarrow x_1 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n + x_n \cdot \dots \cdot x_1 \in X$$

and thoroughly studied by Størmer [26, 27] are complementary to spin factors in the following sense: By [26; Th. 6.4 and Th. 6.6], each JW-algebra X has a decomposition

$$(2.4) \quad X = X_{\text{rev}} \oplus X_2,$$

such that X_{rev} is reversible and X_2 is a direct sum of JW-algebras isomorphic to $L^\infty(S, U)$, where S is a measure space and U is a spin factor [33; Th. 2]. Further, a JW-factor of dimension $\neq 3, 4, 6$ is a spin factor if and only if it is not reversible [26; Th. 7.1].

The following theorem is the main result of this section.

2.5. EXTENSION THEOREM. *Every reversible JC-algebra X on a complex Hilbert space H has the extension property, i.e. each derivation D of X can be extended to a *-derivation of the C*-algebra Z generated by X on H .*

For the proof we need some facts on derivations of JW-factors. Throughout, let K be one of the skew fields R, C and H of real, complex and quaternion numbers, respectively. If E and F are K -Hilbert spaces (with scalar multiplication on the right), $\mathcal{L}(E, F)$ denotes the Banach space of K -linear continuous maps from E to F . Let $z^* \in \mathcal{L}(F, E)$ be the adjoint of $z \in \mathcal{L}(E, F)$. Then $u^*v \in K$ is the inner product of $u, v \in E = \mathcal{L}(K, E)$. Put

$$\mathcal{L}(E) := \mathcal{L}(E, E), \quad \mathcal{H}(E) := \{x \in \mathcal{L}(E) : x^* = x\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{S}(E) := \{w \in \mathcal{L}(E) : w^* = -w\}.$$

If r is a positive integer, define $\mathcal{H}_r(K) := \mathcal{H}(K^r)$.

2.6. LEMMA. Let E be a K -Hilbert space. Then each derivation D of $\mathcal{H}(E)$ has the form $Dx = [w, x]$ for all $x \in \mathcal{H}(E)$, where $w \in \mathcal{L}(E)$ satisfies $4\|w\| \leq 5\|D\|$.

PROOF OF 2.6 (included for the sake of completeness). Put $r := \dim_K(E)$. If $r=2$, then $\mathcal{H}(E)$ is a spin factor. Choose a spin system e_1, \dots, e_n [26; p. 181] and define

$$(2.7) \quad 8w := \sum_{v=1}^n [De_v, e_v].$$

If $r \geq 3$, then D is induced by a $*$ -derivation, again denoted by D , of $\mathcal{L}(E)$ [11; p. 143, Cor. 3]. As in [15; Lemma 2] choose an orthogonal decomposition $E = K \oplus F$ and write the operators $z \in \mathcal{L}(E)$ as matrices

$$z = \begin{pmatrix} a & f \\ v & A \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } a \in K, v \in F, f \in \mathcal{L}(F, K) \text{ and } A \in \mathcal{L}(F).$$

Define

$$(a) := \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, (v) := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ v & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } (A) := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & A \end{pmatrix}.$$

Applying D to the identities $(1)^2 = (1)$, $(a)(1) = (a) = (1)(a)$ and $(v)(1) = (v)$, $(1)(v) = 0$, we get for some $u \in F$:

$$D(1) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & u^* \\ u & 0 \end{pmatrix}, D(a) = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{a} & au^* \\ ua & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } D(v) = \begin{pmatrix} -u^*v & 0 \\ \tilde{v} & vu^* \end{pmatrix},$$

where $a \mapsto \tilde{a}$ is a $*$ -derivation of K and $\|\tilde{v}\| \leq \|D\| \|v\|$. Hence, $\tilde{a} = [s, a]$ for all $a \in K$, where $s \in K$ is skew-adjoint. From $(v)(a) = (va)$ and $(v_1)^*(v_2) = (v_1^*v_2)$ it follows that $Sv := \tilde{v} + vs$ defines a bounded operator $S \in \mathcal{L}(F)$. Finally, $(1)(A) = 0 = (A)(1)$ and $(A)(v) = (Av)$ imply that

$$D(A) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -u^*A \\ -Au & [S, A] \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence,

$$w := \begin{pmatrix} s & -u^* \\ u & S \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{L}(E)$$

satisfies $Dx = [w, x]$ for all $x \in \mathcal{H}(E)$.

In the complex case it is possible to choose $\|w\| \leq \|D\|$ by [25; Th. 4]. If $K \neq \mathbb{C}$, we may assume that $r=2$ by considering a 2-dimensional subspace containing $h \in E$ and wh . From (2.7) it follows that $2\|w\| \leq \|D\|$ if $K = \mathbb{R}$ and $4\|w\| \leq 5\|D\|$ if $K = \mathbb{H}$.

PROOF OF 2.5. For each pure state f of Z , let $\pi_f: Z'' \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(K_f)$ be the canonical W^* -representation associated with the normal state f of the second dual Z'' [21; p. 41]. Let σ be the weak operator topology on $\mathcal{L}(K_f)$. Then

$$(2.8) \quad \pi_f(Z'') = \overline{\pi_f Z}^\sigma = \mathcal{L}(K_f).$$

If X'' is embedded in Z'' , it can be proved as in [21; Prop. 1.16.2] that the unit ball of $\pi_f(X'')$ is σ -compact. Hence it follows from the Kaplansky density theorem for Jordan algebras that

$$(2.9) \quad Y := \pi_f(X'') = \overline{\pi_f X}^\sigma$$

is reversible. By (2.9) and the proof of [21; Lemma 4.1.4], there is a commutative diagram

$$(2.10) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{D} & X \\ \pi_f \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi_f \\ Y & \xrightarrow{\delta} & Y \end{array}$$

where $\delta \in \text{aut}(Y)$ satisfies $\|\delta\| \leq \|D\|$. Since the complex algebra $C[X]$ generated by X is uniformly dense in Z , it follows from (2.8) that $C[\pi_f X]$ is σ -dense in $\mathcal{L}(K_f)$. Thus Y is a JW-factor acting irreducibly on K_f . Hence Y is of type I by [27; Th. 4.1]. Let r be the degree of Y . If $r=2$, then Y is a spin factor of dimension ≤ 6 by [26; Th. 7.1]. If $r \geq 3$, it follows from [26; Th. 3.9] that there exists a K -Hilbert space structure E on K_f such that $Y = \mathcal{H}(E)$. From (2.7) and 2.6 we can deduce that

$$(2.11) \quad \delta y = [w_f, y] \quad \text{for all } y \in Y,$$

where $w_f \in \mathcal{S}(K_f)$ satisfies $4\|w_f\| \leq 5\|D\|$. Denote by K, π and w the direct sum (over all pure states f of Z) of K_f, π_f and w_f , respectively. Then (2.10) and (2.11) imply that $\pi(Dx) = [w, \pi x]$ for all $x \in X$. Hence $[w, \pi z] \in \pi Z$ for all $z \in Z$ and thus $\pi(Dz) := [w, \pi z]$ defines a $*$ -derivation of Z extending D , since $\pi: Z \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(K)$ is faithful.

2.12. COROLLARY (Sinclair [24]). *Each Jordan derivation of a C^* -algebra is already a derivation of the associative product.*

3. Inner derivations of JBW-algebras.

If B and C are subsets of a Lie algebra with bracket $[\cdot, \cdot]$, let $[B, C]$ denote the set of all finite sums of elements $[b, c]$, where $b \in B$ and $c \in C$.

3.1. DEFINITION. Let X be a JB-algebra and put $m := \{xM : x \in X\}$, where xM denotes the multiplication operator defined by $(xM)y := x \circ y$ for all

$x, y \in X$. The elements of the ideal $\text{int}(X) := [\mathfrak{m}, \mathfrak{m}]$ of $\text{aut}(X)$ are called *inner derivations* of X .

If Δ is the bounded symmetric domain associated with a JB-algebra X (i.e. the open unit ball of the JB*-algebra $Z := X \oplus iX$) and if $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} \oplus \mathfrak{p}$ is the Cartan decomposition of $\mathfrak{g} := \text{aut}(\Delta)$, then the map $\lambda \mapsto ((\lambda e)M, \lambda - (\lambda e)M)$ induces decompositions

$$(3.2) \quad [\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{p}] = \text{im} \oplus \text{int}(X) \subset \mathfrak{k} = \text{im} \oplus \text{aut}(X).$$

Since the infinitesimal isometries in $[\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{p}]$ are explicitly known, the problem arises, to what extent \mathfrak{k} or $\text{aut}(X)$ is determined by $[\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{p}]$ or $\text{int}(X)$, respectively. If $\dim(X) < \infty$, then the answer is well-known [6; p. 281, Satz 3.1]:

$$(3.3) \quad \text{aut}(X) = \text{int}(X) \text{ and therefore } \mathfrak{k} = [\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{p}].$$

For the self-adjoint part X of a C*-algebra, $\text{aut}(X)$ does not agree with $\text{int}(X)$ in general (see (4.1)). Therefore we consider in this section JB-algebras with predual (JBW-algebras) and determine completely those JBW-algebras which have only inner derivations. Recall that by (1.4) and (2.4), each JBW-algebra X has a canonical decomposition

$$(3.4) \quad X = X_{\text{ex}} \oplus X_2 \oplus X_{\text{rev}},$$

such that

- (i) X_{ex} is a purely exceptional JBW-algebra,
- (ii) X_2 is a JW-algebra of type I_2 isomorphic to $\bigoplus_{j \in J} L^\infty(S_j, U_j)$, where $S_j \neq \emptyset$ is a measure space and U_j is a spin factor for each $j \in J$,
- (iii) X_{rev} is a reversible JW-algebra.

3.5. THEOREM. *Suppose X is a JBW-algebra with canonical decomposition (3.4). Then $\text{aut}(X) = \text{int}(X)$ if and only if $\sup_{j \in J} \dim U_j < \infty$.*

The proof of 3.5 consists of several steps giving more precise information in special cases.

3.6. PROPOSITION. *Each purely exceptional JBW-algebra X has only inner derivations.*

PROOF. Since $X \approx \mathcal{C}(S, \mathcal{H}_3(\mathbb{O}))$ for some compact space S , the assertion follows easily from (1.2).

3.7. EXAMPLE. Let $X = \text{Re} \oplus Y$ be a spin factor. Then $\text{int}(X)$ consists of finite rank operators since $[xM, yM]$ has rank ≤ 2 for all $x, y \in X$. Conversely, if $D \in \text{aut}(X)$ has finite rank and if e_1, \dots, e_n is a Hilbert basis of DX , then

$$2D = \sum_{v=1}^n [(De_v)M, (e_v)M] \in \text{int}(X).$$

If a JB-algebra X is given as in (3.4.ii), these remarks imply that $\text{aut}(X) = \text{int}(X)$ if and only if $\sup_{j \in J} \dim U_j < \infty$.

Each JW-algebra X has a type decomposition of the form

$$I_{\text{fin}} \oplus I_{\infty} \oplus II_1 \oplus II_{\infty} \oplus III$$

(cf. [28; Th. 13]). X is called *properly non-modular*, if its modular part $I_{\text{fin}} \oplus II_1$ vanishes. A *real W^* -algebra* on a complex Hilbert space H is a weakly closed self-adjoint real subalgebra W of $\mathcal{L}(H)$. If d is a cardinal number, let $\mathcal{M}_d(W)$ be the set of all bounded operators on the Hilbert sum of d copies of H which are matrices with entries in W .

3.8. THEOREM. *Let X be a properly non-modular JW-algebra. Then each $D \in \text{aut}(X)$ is the sum of 6 commutators $[xM, yM]$, where $x, y \in X$. In particular, $\text{aut}(X) = \text{int}(X)$.*

PROOF. X is reversible by [26; Th. 6.4 and Th. 6.6]. Applying [26; Lemma 6.1], [27; Lemma 2.3 and Th. 2.4] and the extension theorem 2.5, we may assume that X is the self-adjoint part of a properly infinite real W^* -algebra W and that $Dx = [w, x]$ for all $x \in X$, where $w \in W$ is skew-adjoint. It follows from [4; p. 103, Th. 1] that there is a spatial $*$ -isomorphism $\varphi: W \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_2(W)$. Define

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{pmatrix} := \varphi(w) \text{ and } A := \varphi^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ b & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Similarly, we may identify W and $\mathcal{M}_{\aleph_0}(W)$ by a spatial $*$ -isomorphism, such that

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 & \dots \\ b_1 & 0 & \dots \\ b_2 & 0 & \dots \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then $A=[P,Q]$ by [20; p. 512], where

$$P := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \cdot & \cdot & & & \\ 1 & 0 & \cdot & & & \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & & 0 & \\ \cdot & & & \cdot & \cdot & \\ \cdot & & & & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}, \quad Q := \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & -a & 0 & \cdot & & \\ b_2 & 0 & -a & \cdot & & \\ b_3 & 0 & 0 & -a & & \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}.$$

Put $2x_1:=P+P^*$. Now it can be verified that $P-P^*=2[x_2,x_3]$, where

$$x_2 := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & & & 0 \\ & 1 & & & \\ & & 0 & & \\ & & & 1 & \\ & & & & 0 \\ 0 & & & & \cdot \\ & & & & & \cdot \end{bmatrix}, \quad 2x_3 := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & & & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & & \\ & -1 & 0 & 1 & \\ & & & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & & & & \cdot \\ & & & & & \cdot \end{bmatrix}.$$

By the Jacobi identity, $A=[x_1,Q]+[x_2,[x_3,Q]]+[x_3,[Q,x_2]]$. Applying a similar argument to

$$B := \varphi^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & c \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix},$$

we obtain $w = \sum_{v=1}^6 [x_v, w_v]$, where $x_v \in X$ and $w_v \in W$ satisfy $\|x_v\| \|w_v\| \leq 4\|w\|$. Put $2y_v := w_v + w_v^*$ for all v . Then

$$D = 4 \sum_{v=1}^6 [x_v, M, y_v, M].$$

3.9. THEOREM. *Each derivation D of a reversible JW-algebra X of type I_{fin} can be written as $D=4 \sum_{v=1}^5 [x_v, M, y_v, M]$, where $x_v, y_v \in X$ satisfy $\|x_v\| \|y_v\| \leq 5\|D\|$.*

PROOF. Suppose that $X = \mathcal{H}_r(\mathbf{K})$, where r is a positive integer. Then it follows from 2.6 that $Dx=[w,x]$ for all $x \in X$, where w is a skew-adjoint $r \times r$ -matrix over \mathbf{K} satisfying $4\|w\| \leq 5\|D\|$. One can assume that $\|w\| \leq 1$.

If $\mathbf{K}=\mathbf{R}$, we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -a \\ a & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a \\ a & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right] \quad \text{for all } a \in \mathbf{R}$$

which shows that $w=[x,y]$, where $x,y \in X$ satisfy $\|x\| \|y\| \leq 1$. If $\mathbf{K} \neq \mathbf{R}$, one can assume that w is a diagonal matrix with diagonal entries $a_1, \dots, a_r \in i\mathbf{R}$. If

trace $(w)=0$, one can further assume that for each $k \leq r$ the partial sums $s_k := \sum_{j=1}^k a_j$ have modulus ≤ 1 . Define P similar as in the proof of 3.8 and let Q be the $r \times r$ -matrix with $Q_{k,k+1} := -s_k$ for $k < r$ and with zero entries elsewhere. Then $w = [P, Q]$. Now argue as in the proof of 3.8. If $p, q \in \mathbb{H}$ are skew-adjoint and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ satisfies $2\alpha^2 = |p|^2 + |q|^2$, it follows that

$$\left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 & p \\ -p & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -q \\ q & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right] = \begin{pmatrix} s & 0 \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 & p & \alpha \\ -p & 0 & -q \\ \alpha & q & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & -q & 0 \\ q & 0 & -p \\ 0 & p & -\alpha \end{pmatrix} \right] = \begin{pmatrix} s & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2s & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & s \end{pmatrix},$$

where $s := [p, q]$. Applying these formulae to the remaining case of a scalar matrix w , it is easy to show that 3.9 is true if $X = \mathcal{H}_r(\mathbb{K})$.

Now suppose that X is a reversible JW-algebra of type I_{fin} . Decomposing X into homogeneous JW-algebras with finite faithful normal trace and applying [12; Satz 36], we may assume that $X = \mathcal{C}(S, U)$, where S is a Stone space and U is a reversible spin factor or $U = \mathcal{H}_r(\mathbb{K})$ and $r \geq 3$ is finite. Each $D \in \text{aut}(X)$ can be viewed as a map $D \in \mathcal{C}(S, \text{aut } U)$ by (1.2). If $s \in S$, the above reasoning implies that

$$D(s) = 4 \sum_{v=1}^5 [x_v(s)M, y_v(s)M],$$

where the maps $x_v, y_v: S \rightarrow U$ satisfy

$$\|x_v(s)\| \|y_v(s)\| \leq 5 \|D\| \quad \text{for all } s \in S.$$

By [9; Th. 2.5], one can assume that $x_v, y_v \in X$ for all v .

3.10. THEOREM. *Let X be a reversible JW-algebra. Then each derivation of X is inner, i.e. $\text{aut}(X) = \text{int}(X)$.*

PROOF. By 3.8 and 3.9, it suffices to consider JW-algebras without type I summand. From the extension theorem 2.5 and [21; Th. 4.1.6] it follows that each $D \in \text{aut}(X)$ has the form $Dx = [w, x]$ for all $x \in X$, where $w = -w^*$ lies in the complex W^* -algebra W generated by X . It has been shown in [31, 32], that each operator having central trace 0 in a finite W^* -algebra W is a sum of 10 commutators in W (the separability condition assumed in [31; Th. 4.1] is not necessary). Using this result and [20; p. 512], we may assume that $w \in [W, W]$. By [26; Lemma 6.1] and [27; Lemma 2.3 and Th. 2.4], we may further assume that X is the self-adjoint part of a real W^* -algebra V and $w \in [V, V]$. Since X is supposed to have no type I summand, V is of continuous type. Hence V is $*$ -

isomorphic to $\mathcal{M}_2(A)$, where A is a real *-algebra [4; p. 121], Since $w^* = -w$, the following Lemma implies that $w \in [X, X]$ and therefore $D \in \text{int}(X)$.

3.11. LEMMA. *Let A be an associative real *-algebra with unit 1 and denote by V the *-algebra of all 2×2 -matrices over A . Put*

$$S := \{v \in V : v^* = -v\} \text{ and } X := \{v \in V : v^* = v\} .$$

Then $[S, S] \subset [X, X]$.

PROOF. If

$$s = \begin{pmatrix} a & -c^* \\ c & b \end{pmatrix} \in [S, S] ,$$

then $a + b$ is a finite sum of commutators $[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$ and $[\beta_1, \beta_2]$, where $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in A$ are self-adjoint and $\beta_1, \beta_2 \in A$ are skew-adjoint. Hence the assertion follows from the formulae

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -c^* \\ c & 0 \end{pmatrix} &= \left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & c^* \\ c & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right], \\ 2 \begin{pmatrix} a-b & 0 \\ 0 & b-a \end{pmatrix} &= \left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 & a-b \\ b-a & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right], \\ \begin{pmatrix} [\alpha_1, \alpha_2] & 0 \\ 0 & [\alpha_1, \alpha_2] \end{pmatrix} &= \left[\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha_1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_2 & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha_2 \end{pmatrix} \right], \\ \begin{pmatrix} [\beta_1, \beta_2] & 0 \\ 0 & [\beta_1, \beta_2] \end{pmatrix} &= \left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\beta_2 \\ \beta_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\beta_1 \\ \beta_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

4. Approximation by inner derivations.

For JB-algebras in general, the solution of the problem, how to describe $\text{aut}(X)$ in terms of $\text{int}(X)$, requires topological arguments. If E is a Banach space, let τ_E and σ_E denote the strong operator topology and the weak operator topology, respectively, on the algebra $\mathcal{L}(E)$ of all bounded operators on E . It is proved in this section that $\text{aut}(X)$ is the closure of $\text{int}(X)$ in the topology τ_X of simple convergence on X . By 3.7, $\text{int}(X)$ is not uniformly dense in $\text{aut}(X)$ if X is a spin factor of infinite dimension. Another example of this type is the following

4.1. EXAMPLE. Let X be the self-adjoint part of the C*-algebra

$$Z := \{c1_H + z : c \in \mathbf{C}, z \text{ compact operator on } H\}$$

acting on a Hilbert space H of dimension \aleph_0 . Then

$$\text{aut}(X) = \{x \mapsto [w, x] : w \in \mathcal{S}(H)\} .$$

Obviously $w \in \mathcal{S}(H)$ induces a (Jordan) inner derivation if and only if

$$w \in [X, X] \text{ mod } \mathbf{C}1_H ,$$

which by [19; Th. 1] is equivalent to $w \in Z$. Therefore $\text{int}(X)$ is uniformly closed but different from $\text{aut}(X)$.

Since JB-derivations are automatically bounded, the pointwise limit of a net of inner derivations lies in $\text{aut}(X)$. Thus τ_X seems to be a natural topology on $\text{aut}(X)$.

4.2. APPROXIMATION THEOREM. *For every JB-algebra X , $\text{aut}(X)$ is the closure of $\text{int}(X)$ in the strong operator topology τ_X (i.e. the topology of simple convergence on X).*

PROOF. Suppose that X is a JW-algebra of type I_2 . Choose $D \in \text{aut}(X)$ and $x_1, \dots, x_m \in X$. We may assume that each x_μ has vanishing central trace (cf. [28; p. 40]). Put $x_{m+\mu} := Dx_\mu$ for all $\mu \leq m$. By [33; Th. 2], X is a direct sum of JW-algebras isomorphic to $L^\infty(S, U)$, where S is a measure space and U is a spin factor. By the orthonormalization process, there exist $e_1, \dots, e_{2m} \in X$ such that

$$x_\nu = \sum_{\mu=1}^{2m} e_\mu \circ (e_\mu \circ x_\nu)$$

and $e_\mu \circ x_\nu$ are central for all $\mu, \nu \leq 2m$. This implies for all $\nu \leq m$:

$$2Dx_\nu = \sum_{\mu=1}^{2m} [(De_\mu)M, (e_\mu)M]x_\nu .$$

If X is a JB-algebra with predual, the above argument together with 3.5 shows that $\text{aut}(X) = \overline{\text{int}(X)}^{\tau_X}$. By [1; Prop. 3.9], the unit ball of a JB-algebra X is strongly dense in the unit ball of X'' . Since each $D \in \text{aut}(X)$ can be extended to a derivation of X'' and multiplication is jointly strongly continuous on bounded subsets of X'' by [1; Prop. 3.7], it follows that

$$\text{aut}(X) = \overline{\text{int}(X)}^{\sigma X} = \overline{\text{int}(X)}^{\tau_X}$$

by [5; p. 77, Prop. 11].

4.3. COROLLARY. *If Δ is a bounded symmetric domain of tube type and if $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} \oplus \mathfrak{p}$ is the Cartan decomposition of $\mathfrak{g} := \text{aut}(\Delta)$, then \mathfrak{k} is the closure of $[\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{p}]$ in the topology of simple convergence.*

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