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On multipliers of Hilbert modules over pro-C*-algebras

by

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Abstract. We investigate the structure of the multiplier module of a Hilbert module over a pro- C^* -algebra and the relationship between the set of all adjointable operators from a Hilbert A-module E to a Hilbert A-module F and the set of all adjointable operators from the multiplier module M(E) to M(F).

1. Introduction. The notion of Hilbert C^* -module is a generalization of the notion of Hilbert space by allowing the inner product to take values in a C^* -algebra. Hilbert modules over commutative C^* -algebras were used by I. Kaplansky [8] to show that derivations of type $I AW^*$ -algebras are inner. The research on Hilbert modules over arbitrary C^* -algebras began in the 70's in [10, 14]. Hilbert C^* -modules are useful tools in the theory of operator algebras, operator K-theory, KK-theory of C^* -algebras, group representation theory, the C^* -algebraic theory of quantum groups and the theory of operator spaces. In applications, one often assumes that Hilbert modules are over C^* -algebras with countable approximate unit, because for a given C^* -algebra A, the Hilbert C^* -modules A and H_A (the Hilbert C^{*}-module of all sequences $(a_n)_n$ in A such that $\sum_n a_n^* a_n$ converges in the C^* -algebra A) are countably generated if and only if A has a countable approximate unit. In [13], I. Raeburn and S. J. Thompson considered a more general notion of countably generated module in which the generators are multipliers of the module. With their definition, A and H_A are countably generated.

In this paper, we investigate the multipliers of Hilbert modules over pro- C^* -algebras. Pro- C^* -algebras are generalizations of C^* -algebras. Instead of being given by a single C^* -norm, the topology on a pro- C^* -algebra is defined by a directed family of C^* -seminorms. Clearly, any C^* -algebra is a pro- C^* algebra. The set $C_{cc}([0,1])$ of all complex-valued continuous functions on

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[0, 1] with the topology of uniform convergence on countable compact subsets of [0, 1] is a pro- C^* -algebra which is not topologically isomorphic to any C^* algebra [3]. In [11, §1] other nice examples of pro- C^* -algebras are presented. Besides their intrinsic interest as topological algebras, pro- C^* -algebras provide an important tool in investigation of certain aspects of C^* -algebras (like multipliers of the Pedersen ideal, the tangent algebra of a C^* -algebra, crossed product and K-theory, as well as non-commutative algebraic topology) and quantum field theory. In the literature, pro- C^* -algebras have been given different names, such as b^* -algebras (C. Apostol), LMC^* -algebras (G. Lassner, K. Schmüdgen) or locally C^* -algebras (A. Inoue, M. Fragoulopoulou).

Let A be a pro- C^* -algebra and let E be a Hilbert A-module. A multiplier of E is an adjointable operator from A to E. The set M(E) of all multipliers of E is a Hilbert module over the multiplier algebra M(A) of A in a natural way. We show that M(E) is an inverse limit of multiplier modules of Hilbert C^* -modules and E can be identified with a closed submodule of M(E) which is strictly dense in M(E) (Theorem 3.3). For a countable family $\{E_n\}_n$ of Hilbert A-modules, the multiplier module $M(\bigoplus_n E_n)$ can be identified with the set of all sequences $(t_n)_n$ with $t_n \in M(E_n)$ such that $\sum_n t_n^* \circ t_n$ converges strictly in M(A) (Theorem 3.5). This is a generalization of a result of Bakic and Guljas [2] which sates that $M(H_A)$ is the set of all sequences $(m_n)_n$ in M(A) such that the series $\sum_n m_n^* m_n a$ and $\sum_n am_n^* m_n$ converge in A for all a in A.

Section 4 is devoted to the study of the connection between the set of all adjointable operators between two Hilbert A-modules E and F and the set of all adjointable operators between the respective multiplier modules M(E) and M(F). We show that any adjointable operator from M(E) to M(F) is strictly continuous (see Definition 3.2) and the locally convex space $L_A(E, F)$ of all adjointable operators from E to F is isomorphic to the locally convex space $L_{M(A)}(M(E), M(F))$ of all adjointable operators from M(E) to M(F) (Theorem 4.1). In particular the pro- C^* -algebras $L_A(E)$ and $L_{M(A)}(M(E))$ are isomorphic. The last result is a generalization of a result of Bakic and Guljas [2] which states that the C^* -algebra of all adjointable operators on a full Hilbert C^* -module is isomorphic to the C^* -algebra of all adjointable operators on the multiplier module. Also we show that Eand F are unitarily equivalent if and only if M(E) and M(F) are unitarily equivalent (Corollary 4.2).

2. Preliminaries. A $pro-C^*$ -algebra is a complete Hausdorff complex topological *-algebra A whose topology is determined by its continuous C^* -seminorms in the sense that a net $\{a_i\}_{i\in I}$ converges to 0 in A if and only if the net $\{p(a_i)\}_i$ converges to 0 for all continuous C^* -seminorms p on A. From now on, we denote the set of all such seminorms by S(A).

Here, we recall some facts about pro- C^* -algebras from [3, 4, 7, 11, 12]. Let A be a pro- C^* -algebra.

A multiplier on A is a pair (l, r) of linear maps from A to A such that l(ab) = l(a)b, r(ab) = ar(b) and al(b) = r(a)b for all $a, b \in A$. The set M(A) of all multipliers of A is a pro-C^{*}-algebra with respect to the topology determined by the family of C^{*}-seminorms $\{p_{M(A)}\}_{p\in S(A)}$, where $p_{M(A)}(l, r) = \sup\{p(l(a)); p(a) \leq 1\}.$

An approximate unit for A is an increasing net $\{e_i\}_{i\in I}$ of positive elements in A such that $p(e_i) \leq 1$ for all $p \in S(A)$ and $i \in I$, and $p(ae_i - a) \to 0$ and $p(e_ia - a) \to 0$ for all $p \in S(A)$ and $a \in A$. Any pro-C^{*}-algebra has an approximate unit.

An element $a \in A$ is bounded if $||a||_{\infty} = \sup\{p(a); p \in S(A)\} < \infty$. The set b(A) of all bounded elements in A is dense in A and it is a C^* -algebra in the C^* -norm $|| \cdot ||_{\infty}$.

By a morphism of pro- C^* -algebras we always mean a continuous morphism. Two pro- C^* -algebras A and B are isomorphic if there is a bijective map $\Phi : A \to B$ such that Φ and Φ^{-1} are morphisms of pro- C^* -algebras.

The set S(A) of all continuous C^* -seminorms on A is directed by the order $p \ge q$ if $p(a) \ge q(a)$ for all $a \in A$. For each $p \in S(A)$, ker $p = \{a \in A; p(a) = 0\}$ is a two-sided *-ideal of A and the quotient algebra $A/\ker p$, denoted by A_p , is a C^* -algebra in the C^* -norm induced by p (see, for example, [1]). The canonical map from A to A_p is denoted by π_p . For $p, q \in S(A)$ with $p \ge q$ there is a canonical surjective morphism of C^* -algebras $\pi_{pq} : A_p \to A_q$ such that $\pi_{pq}(\pi_p(a)) = \pi_q(a)$ for all $a \in A$, which extends to a morphism of C^* -algebras $\pi''_{pq} : M(A_p) \to M(A_q)$. Then $\{A_p; \pi_{pq}\}_{p,q \in S(A), p \ge q}$ and $\{M(A_p); \pi''_{pq}\}_{p,q \in S(A), p \ge q}$ are inverse systems of C^* -algebras, and moreover, the pro- C^* -algebras A and M(A) are isomorphic to $\lim_{p \in S(A)} A_p$ and $\lim_{p \in S(A)} M(A_p)$, respectively.

Hilbert modules over pro- C^* -algebras are generalizations of Hilbert C^* modules by allowing the inner product to take values in a pro- C^* -algebra
rather than in a C^* -algebra. Here, we recall some facts about Hilbert modules over pro- C^* -algebras from [5, 6, 7, 11, 15].

DEFINITION 2.1. A pre-Hilbert A-module is a complex vector space E which is also a right A-module, compatible with the complex algebra structure, equipped with an A-valued inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : E \times E \to A$ which is \mathbb{C} - and A-linear in its second variable and satisfies the following relations:

- (i) $\langle \xi, \eta \rangle^* = \langle \eta, \xi \rangle$ for every $\xi, \eta \in E$;
- (ii) $\langle \xi, \xi \rangle \ge 0$ for every $\xi \in E$;
- (iii) $\langle \xi, \xi \rangle = 0$ if and only if $\xi = 0$.

We say that E is a Hilbert A-module if E is complete with respect to the topology determined by the family of seminorms $\{\overline{p}_E\}_{p\in S(A)}$, where $\overline{p}_E(\xi) = \sqrt{p(\langle \xi, \xi \rangle)}, \ \xi \in E$.

An element $\xi \in E$ is bounded if $\sup\{\overline{p}_E(\xi); p \in S(A)\} < \infty$. The set b(E) of all bounded elements in E is a Hilbert b(A)-module which is dense in E, where $b(A) = \{a \in A; \sup\{p(a); p \in S(A)\} < \infty\}$ is the so-called bounded part of A and it is a C^* -subalgebra of A (see, for example, [7, 11, 15]).

Any pro- C^* -algebra A is a Hilbert A-module in a natural way.

A Hilbert A-module E is full if the linear space $\langle E, E \rangle$ generated by $\{\langle \xi, \eta \rangle; \xi, \eta \in E\}$ is dense in A.

Let *E* be a Hilbert *A*-module. For $p \in S(A)$, ker $\overline{p}_E = \{\xi \in E; \overline{p}_E(\xi) = 0\}$ is a closed submodule of *E* and $E_p = E/\ker \overline{p}_E$ is a Hilbert A_p -module with $(\xi + \ker \overline{p}_E)\pi_p(a) = \xi a + \ker \overline{p}_E$ and $\langle \xi + \ker \overline{p}_E, \eta + \ker \overline{p}_E \rangle = \pi_p(\langle \xi, \eta \rangle)$ (see, for example, [7, 11, 15]). The canonical map from *E* onto E_p is denoted by σ_p^E . For $p, q \in S(A)$ with $p \ge q$ there is a canonical morphism of vector spaces σ_{pq}^E from E_p onto E_q such that $\sigma_{pq}^E(\sigma_p^E(\xi)) = \sigma_q^E(\xi)$ for $\xi \in E$. Then $\{E_p; A_p; \sigma_{pq}^E, \pi_{pq}\}_{p,q \in S(A), p \ge q}$ is an inverse system of Hilbert *C**-modules in the following sense: $\sigma_{pq}^E(\xi_p a_p) = \sigma_{pq}^E(\xi_p)\pi_{pq}(a_p)$ for $\xi_p \in E_p$ and $a_p \in A_p$; $\langle \sigma_{pq}^E(\xi_p), \sigma_{pq}^E(\eta_p) \rangle = \pi_{pq}(\langle \xi_p, \eta_p \rangle)$ for $\xi_p, \eta_p \in E_p$; $\sigma_{pp}^E(\xi_p) = \xi_p$ for $\xi_p \in E_p$; and $\sigma_{qr}^E \circ \sigma_{pq}^E = \sigma_{pr}^E$ if $p \ge q \ge r$; moreover, $\lim_{p \in S(A)} E_p$ is a Hilbert *A*-module which can be identified with *E*.

We say that an A-module morphism $T: E \to F$ is adjointable if there is an A-module morphism $T^*: F \to E$ such that $\langle T\xi, \eta \rangle = \langle \xi, T^*\eta \rangle$ for every $\xi \in E$ and $\eta \in F$. Any adjointable A-module morphism $T: E \to F$ is continuous (that is, for any $p \in S(A)$, there is $M_p > 0$ such that $\overline{p}_F(T(\xi)) \leq M_p \overline{p}_E(\xi)$ for all $\xi \in E$). The set $L_A(E, F)$ of all adjointable A-module morphisms from E into F is a complete locally convex space with the topology defined by the family of seminorms $\{\widetilde{p}_{L_A(E,F)}\}_{p\in S(A)}$, where $\widetilde{p}_{L_A(E,F)}(T) =$ $\|(\pi_p^{E,F})_*(T)\|_{L_{A_p}(E_p,F_p)}$ for $T \in L_A(E,F)$ and $(\pi_p^{E,F})_*(T)(\sigma_p^E(\xi)) = \sigma_p^F(T\xi)$ for $\xi \in E$. Moreover, $\{L_{A_p}(E_p,F_p); (\pi_{pq}^{E,F})_*\}_{p,q\in S(A),p\geq q}$, where $(\pi_{pq}^{E,F})_* :$ $L_{A_p}(E_p, F_p) \to L_{A_q}(E_q,F_q)$,

$$(\pi_{pq}^{E,F})_*(T_p)(\sigma_q^E(\xi)) = \sigma_{pq}^F(T_p(\sigma_p^E(\xi))),$$

is an inverse system of Banach spaces, and $\lim_{p \in S(A)} L_{A_p}(E_p, F_p)$ can be identified with $L_A(E, F)$. Thus topologized, $L_A(E, E)$ becomes a pro- C^* algebra, and we write $L_A(E)$ for $L_A(E, E)$.

An element T in $L_A(E, F)$ is said to be *bounded* in $L_A(E, F)$ if $||T||_{\infty} = \sup\{\widetilde{p}_{L_A(E,F)}(T); p \in S(A)\} < \infty$. The set $b(L_A(E,F))$ of all bounded elements in $L_A(E, F)$ is a Banach space with respect to the norm $|| \cdot ||_{\infty}$, which is isometrically isomorphic to $L_{b(A)}(b(E), b(F))$.

For $\xi \in E$ and $\eta \in F$ we consider the rank one homomorphism $\theta_{\eta,\xi}$ from E into F defined by $\theta_{\eta,\xi}(\zeta) = \eta\langle\xi,\zeta\rangle$. Clearly, $\theta_{\eta,\xi} \in L_A(E,F)$ and $\theta_{\eta,\xi}^* = \theta_{\xi,\eta}$. The closed linear subspace of $L_A(E,F)$ spanned by $\{\theta_{\eta,\xi}; \xi \in E, \eta \in F\}$ is denoted by $K_A(E,F)$, and we write $K_A(E)$ for $K_A(E,E)$. Moreover, $K_A(E,F)$ may be identified with $\lim_{p \in S(A)} K_{A_p}(E_p,F_p)$.

We say that the Hilbert A-modules E and F are unitarily equivalent if there is a unitary element U in $L_A(E, F)$ (i.e., $U^*U = id_E$ and $UU^* = id_F$).

Given a countable family $\{E_n\}_n$ of Hilbert A-modules, the set $\bigoplus_n E_n$ of all sequences $(\xi_n)_n$ with $\xi_n \in E_n$ such that $\sum_n \langle \xi_n, \xi_n \rangle$ converges in Ais a Hilbert A-module with the action of A on $\bigoplus_n E_n$ defined by $(\xi_n)_n a = (\xi_n a)_n$ and the inner product defined by $\langle (\xi_n)_n, (\eta_n)_n \rangle = \sum_n \langle \xi_n, \eta_n \rangle$. For each $p \in S(A)$, the Hilbert A_p -modules $\bigoplus_n (E_n)_p$ and $(\bigoplus_n E_n)_p$ are unitarily equivalent and so the Hilbert A-modules $\bigoplus_n E_n$ and $\lim_{p \in S(A)} \bigoplus_n (E_n)_p$ are unitarily equivalent. If $E_n = A$ for any n, the Hilbert A-module $\bigoplus_n A$ is denoted by H_A .

3. Multiplier modules. Let A be a pro- C^* -algebra and E a Hilbert A-module. It is not difficult to check that $L_A(A, E)$ is a Hilbert $L_A(A)$ -module with the action of $L_A(A)$ on $L_A(A, E)$ defined by $t \cdot m = t \circ m$ for $t \in L_A(A, E)$ and $m \in L_A(A)$, and with the $L_A(A)$ -valued inner product defined by $\langle s, t \rangle_{L_A(A)} = s^* \circ t$. Moreover, since

$$\widetilde{p}_{L_A(A)}(s^* \circ s) = \widetilde{p}_{L_A(A,E)}(s)^2$$

for all $s \in L_A(A, E)$ and $p \in S(A)$, the topology on $L_A(A, E)$ induced by the inner product coincides with the topology determined by the family of seminorms $\{\widetilde{p}_{L_A(A,E)}\}_{p\in S(A)}$. Therefore $L_A(A, E)$ is a Hilbert $L_A(A)$ -module, and since $L_A(A)$ can be identified with the multiplier algebra M(A) of A (see, for example, [11]), $L_A(A, E)$ becomes a Hilbert M(A)-module.

DEFINITION 3.1. The Hilbert M(A)-module $L_A(A, E)$ is called the *mul*tiplier module of E, and denoted by M(E).

DEFINITION 3.2. The strict topology on M(E) is the one generated by the family of seminorms $\{\|\cdot\|_{p,a,\xi}\}_{(p,a,\xi)\in S(A)\times A\times E}$, where $\|t\|_{p,a,\xi} = \overline{p}_E(t(a)) + p(t^*(\xi))$.

THEOREM 3.3. Let A be a pro- C^* -algebra and E a Hilbert A-module.

- (i) $\{M(E_p); M(A_p); (\pi_{pq}^{A,E})_*; \pi_{pq}''\}_{p,q \in S(A), p \ge q}$ is an inverse system of Hilbert C^{*}-modules.
- (ii) The Hilbert M(A)-modules M(E) and $\varprojlim_{p \in S(A)} M(E_p)$ are unitarily equivalent.

- (iii) The isomorphism of (ii) identifies the strict topology on E with the topology on $\varprojlim_{p \in S(A)} M(E_p)$ obtained by taking the inverse limit of the strict topologies on the $M(E_p)$'s.
- (iv) M(E) is complete with respect to the strict topology.
- (v) The map $i_E : E \to M(E)$ defined by $i_E(\xi)(a) = \xi a, a \in A$, embeds E as a closed submodule of M(E). Moreover, if $t \in M(E)$ then $t \cdot a = i_E(t(a))$ for all $a \in A$ and $\langle t, i_E(\xi) \rangle_{M(E)} = t^*(\xi)$ for all $\xi \in E$.
- (vi) The image of i_E is dense in M(E) with respect to the strict topology.

Proof. (i) Let $p, q \in S(A)$ with $p \ge q, t, t_1, t_2 \in M(E_p), b \in M(A_p)$. Then

$$(\pi_{pq}^{A,E})_{*}(t \cdot b)(\pi_{q}(a)) = \sigma_{pq}^{E}((t \cdot b)(\pi_{p}(a))) = \sigma_{pq}^{E}(t(b\pi_{p}(a)))$$
$$= (\pi_{pq}^{A,E})_{*}(t)(\pi_{pq}(b\pi_{p}(a)))$$
$$= (\pi_{pq}^{A,E})_{*}(t)(\pi_{pq}''(b)\pi_{q}(a))$$
$$= ((\pi_{pq}^{A,E})_{*}(t) \cdot \pi_{pq}''(b))(\pi_{q}(a))$$

and

$$\langle (\pi_{pq}^{A,E})_{*}(t_{1}), (\pi_{pq}^{A,E})_{*}(t_{2}) \rangle_{M(E_{q})}(\pi_{q}(a)) = ((\pi_{pq}^{A,E})_{*}(t_{1}))^{*}(\sigma_{pq}^{E}(t_{2}(\pi_{p}(a))))$$

$$= (\pi_{pq}^{E,A})_{*}(t_{1}^{*})(\sigma_{pq}^{E}(t_{2}(\pi_{p}(a))))$$

$$= \pi_{pq}((t_{1}^{*} \circ t_{2})(\pi_{p}(a)))$$

$$= (\pi_{pq}^{A,A})_{*}(t_{1}^{*} \circ t_{2})(\pi_{q}(a))$$

$$= (\pi_{pq}^{A,A})_{*}(\langle t_{1}, t_{2} \rangle_{M(E_{p})})(\pi_{q}(a))$$

for all $a \in A$. From these relations we deduce (i).

(ii) By (i), $\lim_{p \in S(A)} M(E_p)$ is a Hilbert $\lim_{p \in S(A)} M(A_p)$ -module, and since $\lim_{p \in S(A)} M(A_p)$ can be identified with M(A), we can suppose that $\lim_{p \in S(A)} M(E_p)$ is a Hilbert M(A)-module. The linear map $U: M(E) \to$ $\lim_{p \in S(A)} M(E_p)$ defined by $U(t) = ((\pi_p^{A,E})_*(t))_p$ is an isomorphism of locally convex spaces [11, Proposition 4.7]. Moreover,

$$\langle U(t), U(t) \rangle_{M(A)} = (\langle (\pi_p^{A,E})_*(t), (\pi_p^{A,E})_*(t) \rangle_{M(A_p)})_p = ((\pi_p^{A,E})_*(t)^*(\pi_p^{A,E})_*(t))_p = ((\pi_p^{A,A})_*(t^* \circ t))_p = \langle t, t \rangle_{M(A)}$$

for all $t \in M(E)$. From [5, Proposition 3.3], we now deduce that U is a unitary operator from M(E) to $\lim_{p \in S(A)} M(E_p)$. Therefore the Hilbert modules M(E) and $\lim_{p \in S(A)} M(E_p)$ are unitarily equivalent.

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(iii) We will show that the connecting maps $(\pi_{pq}^{A,E})_*, p,q \in S(A)$ with $p \ge q$, are strictly continuous. Indeed, from

$$\begin{aligned} \|(\pi_{pq}^{A,E})_{*}(t)\|_{E_{q},\pi_{q}(a),\sigma_{q}^{E}(\xi)} &= \|(\pi_{pq}^{A,E})_{*}(t)(\pi_{q}(a))\|_{E_{q}} \\ &+ \|((\pi_{pq}^{A,E})_{*}(t))^{*}(\sigma_{q}^{E}(\xi))\|_{A_{q}} \\ &= \|\sigma_{pq}^{E}(t(\pi_{p}(a)))\|_{E_{q}} + \|\pi_{pq}(t^{*}(\sigma_{p}^{E}(\xi)))\|_{A_{q}} \\ &\leq \|t(\pi_{p}(a))\|_{E_{p}} + \|t^{*}(\sigma_{p}^{E}(\xi))\|_{A_{p}} = \|t\|_{E_{p},\pi_{p}(a),\sigma_{p}^{E}(\xi)} \end{aligned}$$

for all $a \in A$, $\xi \in E$, and $t \in M(E_p)$, we deduce that $(\pi_{pq}^{A,E})_*$ is strictly continuous. Clearly, the net $\{t_i\}_{i\in I}$ converges strictly in M(E) if and only if the net $\{(\pi_p^{A,E})_*(t_i)\}_{i\in I}$ converges strictly in $M(E_p)$ for each $p \in S(A)$.

(iv) Since for each $p \in S(A)$, $M(E_p)$ is strictly complete, $\varprojlim_{p \in S(A)} M(E_p)$ is strictly complete, and then by (iii), so is M(E).

(v) Let $p \in S(A)$. The map $i_{E_p} : E_p \to M(E_p)$ defined by $i_{E_p}(\xi_p)(a_p) = \xi_p a_p$ for $a_p \in A_p$ and $\xi_p \in E_p$ embeds E_p in $M(E_p)$ (see, for example, [13]). It is not difficult to check that $\sigma_{pq}^E \circ i_{E_p} = i_{E_q} \circ (\pi_{pq}^{A,E})_*$ for all $p, q \in S(A)$ with $p \ge q$. Therefore $\{i_{E_p}\}_p$ is an inverse system of isometric linear maps. Let $i_E = \lim_{p \in S(A)} i_{E_p}$. Identifying E with $\lim_{p \in S(A)} E_p$ and M(E) with $\lim_{p \in S(A)} M(E_p)$, we can suppose that i_E is a linear map from E to M(E). It is not difficult to check that $i_E(\xi)(a) = \xi a, i_E(\xi a) = i_E(\xi) \cdot a$ and $\langle i_E(\xi), i_E(\xi) \rangle_{M(A)} = \langle \xi, \xi \rangle$ for all $a \in A$ and $\xi \in E$. Moreover, if $t \in M(E)$, $a \in A$ and $\xi \in E$, then

$$(t \cdot a)(c) = t(ac) = t(a)c = i_E(t(a))(c)$$

and

$$\langle t, i_E(\xi) \rangle_{M(A)}(c) = t^*(\xi c) = t^*(\xi)c = t^*(\xi)(c)$$

for all $c \in A$.

(vi) Let $\{e_i\}_{i \in I}$ be an approximate unit for A and let $t \in M(E)$. By (v), $\{t \cdot e_i\}_{i \in I}$ is a net in E. Let $p \in S(A)$, $a \in A, \xi \in E$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|t \cdot e_i - t\|_{p,a,\xi} &= \overline{p}_E((t \cdot e_i - t)(a)) + p((t \cdot e_i - t)^*(\xi)) \\ &= \overline{p}_E(t(e_i a - a)) + p(e_i t^*(\xi) - t^*(\xi)) \\ &\leq \overline{p}_{M(E)}(t) p(e_i a - a) + p(e_i t^*(\xi) - t^*(\xi)). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\{e_i\}_{i \in I}$ is an approximate unit for A, we have $p(e_i a - a) \to 0$ and $p(e_i t^*(\xi) - t^*(\xi)) \to 0$. Therefore $\{t \cdot e_i\}_{i \in I}$ converges strictly to t.

REMARK 3.4. Let A be a pro- C^* -algebra and E a Hilbert A-module.

(i) The multiplier module M(A) coincides with the Hilbert M(A)-module M(A).

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- (ii) According to Theorem 3.3(v), E can be identified with a closed submodule of M(E). Thus, the image of an element ξ under i_E will also be denoted by ξ .
- (iii) According to Theorem 3.3(v), $EA \subseteq M(E)A \subseteq E$. Since EA is dense in E, we conclude that M(E)A is dense in E.
- (iv) If A is unital, then E is complete with respect to the strict topology and so E = M(E).
- (v) If $K_A(E)$ is unital, then, for each $p \in S(A)$, $K_{A_p}(E_p)$ is unital and by [2, Proposition 2.8], $M(E_p) = E_p$. From Theorem 3.3(ii) we now deduce that E = M(E).
- (vi) The map $\Phi : b(L_A(A, E)) \to L_{b(A)}(b(A), b(E))$ defined by $\Phi(t) = t|_{b(A)}$, where $t|_{b(A)}$ denotes the restriction of t to b(A), is an isometric isomorphism of Banach spaces [6, Theorem 3.7]. Since

$$\Phi(t \cdot b)(a) = (t \cdot b)|_{b(A)}(a) = t(ba)$$

and

$$(\Phi(t) \cdot b)(a) = (t|_{b(A)} \cdot b)(a) = t(ba)$$

for all $t \in b(L_A(A, E))$, $b \in M(b(A))$, and $a \in b(A)$, Φ is a unitary operator from $b(L_A(A, E))$ to $L_{b(A)}(b(A), b(E))$ [9]. Therefore the Hilbert M(b(A))-modules b(M(E)) and M(b(E)) are unitarily equivalent.

Let $\{E_n\}_n$ be a countable family of Hilbert A-modules and let

str.-
$$\bigoplus_n M(E_n) = \{(t_n)_n; t_n \in M(E_n) \text{ and}$$

 $\sum_n t_n^* \circ t_n \text{ converges strictly in } M(A)\}.$

If α is a complex number and $(t_n)_n \in \operatorname{str.-} \bigoplus_n M(E_n)$, then clearly $(\alpha t_n)_n \in \operatorname{str.-} \bigoplus_n M(E_n)$.

Let $(t_n)_n \in \text{str.-} \bigoplus_n M(E_n)$ with $t = \text{str.-} \lim_n \sum_{k=1}^n t_k^* \circ t_k$. Clearly, $\{\sum_{k=1}^n t_k^* \circ t_k\}_n$ is an increasing sequence of positive elements in M(A). Thus for any $a \in A$ and $p \in S(A)$, $\{p(\sum_{k=1}^n a^* t_k^*(t_k(a)))\}_n$ is an increasing sequence of positive numbers which converges to $p(a^*t(a))$. If $\{e_i\}_i$ is an approximate unit for A, then

$$\begin{split} \widetilde{p}_{L_A(A)}\Big(\sum_{k=1}^n t_k^* \circ t_k\Big) &= \sup\left\{p\Big(\sum_{k=1}^n t_k^*(t_k(a))\Big); \ a \in A, \ p(a) \le 1\right\} \\ &= \sup\left\{\lim_i p\Big(\sum_{k=1}^n e_i t_k^*(t_k(e_ia))\Big); \ a \in A, \ p(a) \le 1\right\} \\ &\le \lim_i p\Big(\sum_{k=1}^n e_i t_k^*(t_k(e_i))\Big) \le \lim_i p(e_i t(e_i)) \le \widetilde{p}_{L_A(A,E)}(t). \end{split}$$

Let $(t_n)_n, (s_n)_n \in \text{str.-} \bigoplus_n M(E_n)$ with

$$t = \operatorname{str.-} \lim_{n} \sum_{k=1}^{n} t_{k}^{*} \circ t_{k}, \quad s = \operatorname{str.-} \lim_{n} \sum_{k=1}^{n} s_{k}^{*} \circ s_{k},$$

and $a \in A$ and $p \in S(A)$. Then

$$p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} s_{k}^{*}(t_{k}(a))\Big) = p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} \langle s_{k}, t_{k} \rangle_{M(A)}(a)\Big) = p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} \langle s_{k}, t_{k} \rangle_{M(A)} \cdot a\Big)$$
$$= \widetilde{p}_{L_{A}(A)}\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} \langle s_{k}, t_{k} \cdot a \rangle_{M(A)}\Big) = \widetilde{p}_{L_{A}(A)}(\langle (s_{k})_{k=n}^{m}, (t_{k} \cdot a)_{k=n}^{m} \rangle_{M(A)})$$
$$\leq \widetilde{p}_{L_{A}(A)}\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} \langle s_{k}, s_{k} \rangle_{M(A)}\Big)^{1/2} \widetilde{p}_{L_{A}(A)}\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} \langle t_{k} \cdot a, t_{k} \cdot a \rangle_{M(A)}\Big)^{1/2}$$
$$(Cauchy-Schwarz inequality)$$

$$\leq \tilde{p}_{L_A(A)}(s)^{1/2} \tilde{p}_{L_A(A)} \Big(\sum_{k=n}^m (t_k^* \circ t_k)(a) \Big)^{1/2} p(a)^{1/2}$$

and

$$p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} t_k^*(s_k(a))\Big) \le \widetilde{p}_{L_A(A)}(t)^{1/2} \widetilde{p}_{L_A(A)}\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} (s_k^* \circ s_k)(a)\Big)^{1/2} p(a)^{1/2}$$

for all positive integers n and m with $m \ge n$. Hence $\{\sum_{k=1}^{n} s_k^* \circ t_k\}_n$ converges strictly in M(A) and so $(t_n + s_n)_n \in \text{str.-} \bigoplus_n M(E_n)$, since

$$p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} (t_k + s_k)^* ((t_k + s_k)(a))\Big) \le p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} t_k^* (t_k(a))\Big) + p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} s_k^* (s_k(a))\Big) + p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} t_k^* (s_k(a))\Big) + p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} s_k^* (t_k(a))\Big)$$

for all positive integers n and m with $n \ge m$. It is not difficult to check that str.- $\bigoplus_n M(E_n)$ with the above addition and multiplication by complex scalars is a complex vector space.

Let
$$b \in M(A)$$
 and $(t_n)_n \in \text{str.-} \bigoplus_n M(E_n)$. From

$$p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^m (t_k \cdot b)^*((t_k \cdot b)(a))\Big) = p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^m b^* t_k^*(t_k(ba))\Big) \le p\Big(b^* \sum_{k=n}^m t_k^*(t_k(ba))\Big)$$

$$\le p(b)p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^m t_n^*(t_n(ba))\Big)$$

for all $a \in A$, $p \in S(A)$, and $m \ge n$, we conclude that $\sum_n (t_n \cdot b)^* \circ (t_n \cdot b)$ converges strictly in M(A) and so $(t_n \cdot b)_n \in \text{str.-} \bigoplus_n M(E_n)$.

THEOREM 3.5. Let $\{E_n\}_n$ be a countable family of Hilbert A-modules. Then the vector space str.- $\bigoplus_n M(E_n)$ is a Hilbert M(A)-module with the module action defined by $(t_n)_n \cdot b = (t_n \cdot b)_n$ and the M(A)-valued inner product defined by

$$\langle (t_n)_n, (s_n)_n \rangle_{M(A)} = \operatorname{str.-} \lim_n \sum_{k=1}^n t_k^* \circ s_k.$$

Moreover, the Hilbert M(A)-modules str.- $\bigoplus_n M(E_n)$ and $M(\bigoplus_n E_n)$ are unitarily equivalent.

Proof. It is not difficult to check that $\operatorname{str.-} \bigoplus_n M(E_n)$ with the above inner product and action of M(A) is a pre-Hilbert M(A)-module. Let $(t_n)_n \in \operatorname{str.-} \bigoplus_n M(E_n)$ and $a \in A$. Since

$$p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} \langle t_k(a), t_k(a) \rangle \Big) = p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} a^* t_k^*(t_k(a))\Big) \le p(a)p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} (t_k^* \circ t_k)(a)\Big)$$

for all $p \in S(A)$ and $m \ge n$, we have $(t_n(a))_n \in \bigoplus_n E_n$. It is not difficult to check that the map $U((t_n)_n)$ from A to $\bigoplus_n E_n$ defined by $U((t_n)_n)(a) = (t_n(a))_n$ is a module morphism. Let $(\xi_n)_n \in \bigoplus_n E_n$ and $p \in S(A)$. Since

$$p\left(\sum_{k=n}^{m} t_{k}^{*}(\xi_{k})\right) = \sup\left\{p\left(\left\langle\sum_{k=n}^{m} t_{k}^{*}(\xi_{k}), a\right\rangle\right); p(a) \leq 1\right\}$$
$$= \sup\left\{p\left(\sum_{k=n}^{m} \langle\xi_{k}, t_{k}(a)\rangle\right); p(a) \leq 1\right\}$$
$$= \sup\{p(\langle(\xi_{k})_{k=n}^{m}, (t_{k}(a))_{k=n}^{m}\rangle); p(a) \leq 1\}$$
$$= p\left(\sum_{k=n}^{m} \langle\xi_{k}, \xi_{k}\rangle\right)^{1/2} \sup\left\{p\left(\sum_{k=n}^{m} \langle a, t_{k}^{*}(t_{k}(a))\rangle\right)^{1/2}; p(a) \leq 1\right\}$$

(Cauchy–Schwarz inequality)

$$= p \Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} \langle \xi_k, \xi_k \rangle \Big)^{1/2} \sup \Big\{ p \Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} a^* t_k^*(t_k(a)) \Big)^{1/2}; \ p(a) \le 1 \Big\}$$
$$\le p \Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} \langle \xi_k, \xi_k \rangle \Big)^{1/2} \widetilde{p}_{L_A(A)} \Big(\sum_n t_k^* \circ t_k \Big)^{1/2}$$

for $m \ge n$, it follows that $\sum_n t_n^*(\xi_n)$ converges in A. Thus we can define a linear map $U((t_n)_n)^* : \bigoplus_n M(E_n) \to A$ by

$$U((t_n)_n)^*((\xi_n)_n) = \sum_n t_n^*(\xi_n).$$

Moreover, since

$$\langle U((t_n)_n)(a), (\xi_n)_n \rangle = \langle (t_n(a))_n, (\xi_n)_n \rangle = \sum_n \langle t_n(a), \xi_n \rangle$$
$$= \sum_n \langle a, t_n^*(\xi_n) \rangle = \langle a, U((t_n)_n)^*((\xi_n)_n) \rangle$$

for all $a \in A$ and $(\xi_n)_n \in \bigoplus_n E_n$, we see that $U((t_n)_n) \in M(\bigoplus_n E_n)$. Thus, we have defined a map U from str.- $\bigoplus_n M(E_n)$ to $M(\bigoplus_n E_n)$. It is not difficult to check that U is a module morphism. Moreover,

$$\langle U((t_n)_n), U((s_n)_n) \rangle_{M(A)}(a) = U((t_n)_n)^* (U((s_n)_n)(a))$$

= $U((t_n)_n)^* ((s_n(a))_n) = \sum_n t_n^* (s_n(a)))$
= $\langle (t_n)_n, (s_n)_n \rangle_{M(A)}(a)$

for all $a \in A$ and $(t_n)_n, (s_n)_n \in \text{str.-} \bigoplus_n M(E_n)$.

Now, we will show that U is surjective. Let m be a positive integer. Clearly, $P_m : \bigoplus_n E_n \to E_m$ defined by $P_m((\xi_n)_n) = \xi_m$ is in $L_A(\bigoplus_n E_n, E_m)$. Moreover, P_m^* is the embedding of E_m in $\bigoplus_n E_n$. Let $t \in M(\bigoplus_n E_n)$, and set $t_n = P_n \circ t$ for each integer n. Then $t_n \in M(E_n)$ for each n and $t(a) = (t_n(a))_n$ for all $a \in A$. Therefore $\sum_n a^* t_n^*(t_n(a))$ converges in A for all $a \in A$. Moreover, $\sum_n a^* t_n^*(t_n(a)) = a^* t^*(t(a))$ for all $a \in A$, and so

$$\widetilde{p}_{L_A(A)}\Big(\sum_{k=n}^m t_k^* \circ t_k\Big) = \sup\left\{p\Big(\Big\langle\Big(\sum_{k=n}^m t_k^* \circ t_k\Big)(a), a\Big\rangle\Big); \, p(a) \le 1\right\}$$
$$= \sup\left\{p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^m a^* t_k^*(t_k(a))\Big); \, p(a) \le 1\right\}$$
$$\le \sup\{p(a^*t^*(t(a))); \, p(a) \le 1\} \le \widetilde{p}_{L_A(A)}(t^* \circ t)$$

for all $m \ge n$ and $p \in S(A)$. Let $a \in A$. From

$$p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} t_{k}^{*}(t_{k}(a))\Big)^{2} = p\Big(\Big\langle\sum_{k=n}^{m} t_{k}^{*}(t_{k}(a)),\sum_{k=n}^{m} t_{k}^{*}(t_{k}(a))\Big\rangle\Big)$$

$$= p\Big(\Big\langle\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} t_{k}^{*} \circ t_{k}\Big)(a),\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} t_{k}^{*} \circ t_{k}\Big)(a)\Big\rangle\Big)$$

$$= \Big\|\Big\langle(\pi_{p}^{A,A})_{*}\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} t_{k}^{*} \circ t_{k}\Big)(\pi_{p}(a)),(\pi_{p}^{A,A})_{*}\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} t_{k}^{*} \circ t_{k}\Big)(\pi_{p}(a))\Big\rangle\Big\|_{A_{p}}$$

$$\leq \Big\|(\pi_{p}^{A,A})_{*}\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} t_{k}^{*} \circ t_{k}\Big)\Big\|_{L_{A_{p}}(A_{p})}\Big\|\Big\langle\pi_{p}(a),\pi_{p}\Big(\Big(\sum_{k=n}^{m} t_{k}^{*} \circ t_{k}\Big)(a)\Big)\Big\rangle\Big\|_{A_{p}}$$

$$([10, \text{Proposition 2.6])$$

$$\leq \widetilde{p}_{L_A(A)} \Big(\sum_{k=n}^m t_k^* \circ t_k \Big) p\Big(\Big\langle a, \Big(\sum_{k=n}^m t_k^* \circ t_k \Big) (a) \Big\rangle \Big)$$

$$\leq \widetilde{p}_{L_A(A)}(t^* \circ t) p\Big(\sum_{k=n}^m a^* t_k^*(t_k(a)) \Big)$$

for all $m \ge n$ and $p \in S(A)$, we conclude that $\sum_n t_n^*(t_n(a))$ converges in A. Therefore $(t_n)_n \in \text{str.-} \bigoplus_n M(E_n)$. Moreover, $U((t_n)_n) = t$ and so U is surjective. As

$$\langle U((t_n)_n), U((t_n)_n) \rangle_{M(A)} = \langle (t_n)_n, (t_n)_n \rangle_{M(A)}$$

for all $(t_n)_n \in \text{str.-} \bigoplus_n M(E_n)$, we conclude that $\text{str.-} \bigoplus_n M(E_n)$ is a Hilbert M(A)-module, and moreover U is a unitary operator [5, Proposition 3.3]. Therefore the Hilbert M(A)-modules $\text{str.-} \bigoplus_n M(E_n)$ and $M(\bigoplus_n E_n)$ are unitarily equivalent.

REMARK 3.6. Let $\{E_n\}_n$ be a countable family of Hilbert A-modules. In general, $\bigoplus_n M(E_n)$ is a submodule of $M(\bigoplus_n E_n)$; they coincide when the pro- C^* -algebra A is also unital.

4. Operators on multiplier modules. Let E and F be Hilbert Amodules. If $T \in L_{M(A)}(M(E), M(F))$, then

$$T(E) \subseteq \overline{T(M(E)A)} = \overline{T(M(E))A} \subseteq \overline{M(F)A} = F.$$

Therefore $T(E) \subseteq F$. Clearly $T|_E : E \to F$ is a module morphism. Moreover, $T|_E \in L_A(E,F)$, since

$$\langle T|_E(\xi),\eta\rangle = \langle T(i_E(\xi)), i_E(\eta)\rangle_{M(A)} = \langle i_E(\xi), T^*(i_E(\eta))\rangle_{M(A)} = \langle \xi, T^*|_F(\eta)\rangle$$

for all $\xi \in E$ and $\eta \in F$.

THEOREM 4.1. Let E and F be Hilbert A-modules.

- (i) If $T \in L_{M(A)}(M(E), M(F))$, then T is strictly continuous.
- (ii) The locally convex spaces $L_{M(A)}(M(E), M(F))$ and $L_A(E, F)$ are isomorphic.
- (iii) The pro- C^* -algebras $L_{M(A)}(M(E))$ and $L_A(E)$ are isomorphic.

Proof. (i) Let $\{s_i\}_{i \in I}$ be a net in M(E) which converges strictly to 0. From

 $\overline{p}_F(T(s_i)(a)) = \overline{p}_F(T(s_i \cdot a)) = \overline{p}_F(T|_E(s_i(a))) \le \widetilde{p}_{L_A(E,F)}(T|_E)\overline{p}_E(s_i(a))$ and

$$p(T(s_i)^*(\xi)) = p(s_i^*(T^*(\xi)))$$

for all $p \in S(A)$, $a \in A$, $\xi \in F$ and $i \in I$, we conclude that $\{T(s_i)\}_{i \in I}$ converges strictly to 0. Therefore T is strictly continuous.

(ii) We show that the map $\Phi : L_{M(A)}(M(E), M(F)) \to L_A(E, F)$ defined by $\Phi(T) = T|_E$ is an isomorphism of locally convex spaces. Clearly, Φ is a linear map. Moreover, Φ is continuous, since

$$\widetilde{p}_{L_A(E,F)}(\Phi(T)) = \widetilde{p}_{L_A(E,F)}(T|_E) \le \widetilde{p}_{L_M(A)}(M(E),M(F))(T)$$

for all $T \in L_{M(A)}(M(E), M(F))$ and $p \in S(A)$. To show that Φ is injective, let $T \in L_{M(A)}(M(E), M(F))$ be such that $T|_E = 0$. Then

$$\overline{p}_{M(F)}(T(s)) = \sup\{\overline{p}_F(T(s)(a)); p(a) \le 1\}$$
$$= \sup\{\overline{p}_F(T(s \cdot a)); p(a) \le 1\} = 0$$

for all $s \in M(E)$ and $p \in S(A)$. Therefore T = 0.

Let $T \in L(E, F)$. Then, for each $s \in M(E)$, $T \circ s \in M(F)$. Define $\widetilde{T}: M(E) \to M(F)$ by $\widetilde{T}(s) = T \circ s$. Clearly, \widetilde{T} is linear. Moreover,

$$\widetilde{T}(s \cdot b)(a) = T((s \cdot b)(a)) = T(s(ba)) = \widetilde{T}(s)(ba) = (\widetilde{T}(s) \cdot b)(a)$$

and

$$\langle \widetilde{T}(s), r \rangle_{M(A)} = s^* \circ T^* \circ r = \langle s, T^* \circ r \rangle_{M(A)}$$

for all $s \in M(E)$, $r \in M(F)$, $b \in M(A)$, and $a \in A$. Hence \widetilde{T} is an adjointable module morphism. Therefore $\widetilde{T} \in L_{M(A)}(M(E), M(F))$. It is not difficult to check that $\widetilde{T}|_E = T$. Thus Φ is surjective. Therefore it is a continuous bijective linear map from $L_{M(A)}(M(E), M(F))$ onto $L_A(E, F)$. Moreover, $\Phi^{-1}(T)(s) = T \circ s$ for all $s \in M(E)$ and $T \in L_A(E, F)$.

To show that Φ is an isomorphism of locally convex spaces it remains to prove that Φ^{-1} is continuous. Let $p \in S(A)$ and $T \in L_A(E, F)$. Then

$$\begin{split} \widetilde{p}_{L_{M(A)}(M(E),M(F))}(\varPhi^{-1}(T)) &= \sup\{\overline{p}_{M(F)}(T \circ s); \, \overline{p}_{M(E)}(s) \leq 1\} \\ &\leq \sup\{\widetilde{p}_{L_A(E,F)}(T)\widetilde{p}_{L_A(A,E)}(s); \, \overline{p}_{M(E)}(s) \leq 1\} \\ &\leq \widetilde{p}_{L_A(E,F)}(T). \end{split}$$

Hence Φ^{-1} is continuous. Moreover, we showed that $\widetilde{p}_{L_{M(A)}(M(E),M(F))}(T) = \widetilde{p}_{L_A(E,F)}(T|_E)$ for all $p \in S(A)$.

(iii) We have shown that $\Phi : L_{M(A)}(M(E)) \to L_A(E)$ defined by $\Phi(T) = T|_E$ is an isomorphism of locally convex spaces. It is not difficult to check that also $\Phi(T_1T_2) = \Phi(T_1)\Phi(T_2)$ and $\Phi(T^*) = \Phi(T)^*$ for all $T, T_1, T_2 \in L_{M(A)}(M(E))$. Therefore Φ is an isomorphism of pro- C^* -algebras.

If E and F are unitarily equivalent full Hilbert C^* -modules, then the Hilbert C^* -modules M(E) and M(F) are unitarily equivalent [2, Proposition 1.7]. This is also valid for Hilbert modules over pro- C^* -algebras.

COROLLARY 4.2. Let E and F be Hilbert A-modules. Then E and F are unitarily equivalent if and only if M(E) and M(F) are unitarily equivalent.

Proof. Indeed, E and F are unitarily equivalent if and only if there is a unitary operator U in $L_A(E, F)$. But it is not difficult to check that $T \in L_{M(A)}(M(E), M(F))$ is unitary if and only if $T|_E$ is unitary in $L_A(E, F)$. This yields the assertion.

COROLLARY 4.3. If E is a Hilbert A-module, then $K_A(E)$ is isomorphic to an essential ideal of $K_{M(A)}(M(E))$.

Proof. By the proof of Theorem 4.1, $\Phi^{-1}(K_A(E))$ is a pro- C^* -subalgebra of $L_{M(A)}(M(E))$. Moreover, the pro- C^* -algebras $K_A(E)$ and $\Phi^{-1}(K_A(E))$ are isomorphic. Clearly, $\Phi^{-1}(K_A(E))$ is a two-sided *-ideal of $K_{M(A)}(M(E))$. To show that $\Phi^{-1}(K_A(E))$ is essential, let $\xi, \eta \in E$. If $\Phi^{-1}(\theta_{\xi,\eta})\theta_{t_1,t_2} = 0$ for all $t_1, t_2 \in M(E)$, then

$$\theta_{\xi,\eta}((t_1 \circ t_2^* \circ t_3)(a)) = 0$$

for all $a \in A$ and $t_1, t_2, t_3 \in M(E)$. As $M(E)\langle M(E), M(E) \rangle_{M(A)}A$ is dense in E, we conclude that $\theta_{\xi,\eta} = 0$.

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