

# SOME NEW HILBERT ALGEBRAS

BY  
R. KEOWN<sup>(1)</sup>

1. **Introduction.** The object of the present paper is the introduction of a new class of commutative Hilbert algebras. These algebras are distinct from those produced by a number of variations of the original axioms of an  $H^*$ -algebra given by W. Ambrose [1], [2]. The structure theorems obtained in the previous modifications give decompositions of the algebra into orthogonal subspaces, each of which is a minimal left ideal. In the commutative case, these result in an orthogonal basis for the space consisting of minimal, usually selfadjoint, idempotents. By adopting a different set of axioms, the present author determines a more general set of commutative  $H$ -algebras in which the direct sum decomposition is not necessarily an orthogonal one. The set  $\{e_i\}$  of minimal idempotents which appear need neither be selfadjoint nor orthogonal, but rather make up the elements of a Fischer-Riesz system, a concept introduced by N. Bary [3]. A brief summary of the theory of Bary's is given in §4.

This paper obtains structure theorems for three different formulations of the axioms. §2 discusses the concept of a *regular algebra* in which the fundamental assumption is that every maximal modular ideal  $R$  have a complementary ideal. §3 introduces the concepts of an adjoint algebra and of a dual adjoint algebra. An *adjoint algebra* is an algebra with two binary operations which permit the appearance of nonselfadjoint idempotents in the commutative case. A *dual adjoint algebra* is an algebra with two inner products which again permit the occurrence of nonselfadjoint idempotents. §4 gives a brief summary of the concepts of Bessel system, Hilbert system, and Fischer-Riesz system introduced by N. Bary. It also contains a basic example of a more general type of  $H$ -algebra than the standard  $H^*$ -algebra.

The symbols  $\{e_i\}$ ,  $\{g_i\}$ , ( $i=1, 2, \dots$ ), are used to denote the elements of a biorthogonal system in a Hilbert space  $H$ . The symbols  $(e_i)$  and  $[e_i]$  denote the linear hull and the closed linear hull respectively of the set of vectors  $\{e_i\}$ , ( $i=1, 2, \dots$ ). All of the algebras which appear in this paper are semisimple, commutative  $H$ -algebras, although this condition is not always expressly stated. The continuity in multiplication is given by the existence of a constant  $K$  such that

$$\|xy\| \leq K\|x\| \|y\|.$$

All of the Hilbert spaces which appear as underlying spaces of the algebras are assumed to be separable. This convention is used primarily for notational convenience.

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**2. Complemented algebras.** All of the Banach algebras considered in §2 are semisimple, commutative  $H$ -algebras. An algebra  $A$  is *regular* if every maximal modular ideal  $R$  of  $A$  is complemented, i.e., there exists an ideal  $I$  of  $A$  such that  $A$  is the direct sum  $R+I$ .

LEMMA 2.1. *Every maximal modular ideal  $R$  of a regular algebra  $A$  has associated with it a unique minimal idempotent  $e$  and a unique multiplicative element  $g$ . An element  $x \in A$  is in  $R$  if and only if either  $ex$  is the zero vector or  $(x, g)$  is the zero complex number. For every pair  $x, y \in A$ ,*

$$(2.01) \quad (xy, g) = (x, g)(y, g), \quad \text{and} \quad ex = (x, g)e.$$

**Proof.** The difference algebra  $A/R$  is isomorphic to the complex numbers so that the natural mapping  $n$  of  $A$  onto  $A/R$  can be regarded as a linear functional on  $A$ . Since  $R$  is closed,  $n$  is a bounded linear functional. Thus there exists a unique element  $g \in A$  so that  $n(x)$  and  $(x, g)$  are equal for every  $x \in A$ . Since  $n$  is a homomorphism of  $H$ ,

$$(2.02) \quad (xy, g) = n(xy) = n(x)n(y) = (x, g)(y, g)$$

for every  $x, y \in A$ . This unique  $g$  is called the *associated multiplicative element* of  $R$ . Note that if  $e$  is any idempotent, then

$$(2.03) \quad (e, g) = (e^2, g) = (e, g)^2$$

so that  $(e, g)$  must be either one or zero.

There exists at least one ideal  $I$  complementary to  $R$ . Since  $I$  is isomorphic as a vector space to  $A/R$ , it must be a one-dimensional minimal ideal of  $A$ . The idempotent generator  $e$  of  $I$  is a minimal idempotent of  $A$ . If  $I$  and  $I'$  are distinct complementary ideals of  $R$  with idempotent generators  $e$  and  $e'$  respectively, the product  $ee'$  must be zero. Consequently,

$$0 = (ee', g) = (e, g)(e', g).$$

It follows that either  $e$  or  $e'$  must be contained in  $R$ , a contradiction. Therefore the complementary minimal ideal  $I$  and the minimal idempotent generator  $e$  are uniquely determined by the maximal modular ideal  $R$ .

Note that  $ex$  must be a multiple  $\pi e$  of  $e$  for any  $x \in A$ . Since  $(e, g)$  is one, we see that

$$(2.04) \quad ex = (x, g)e.$$

A slight variation of the above argument gives the

LEMMA 2.2. *Every minimal idempotent  $e$  of a regular algebra  $A$  is the idempotent associated with some maximal regular ideal  $R$  of  $A$ .*

We emphasize the useful fact that  $ex$  is zero for a minimal idempotent  $e$  if and only if  $(x, g)$  is zero for the associated multiplicative element  $g$ , i.e., if and only if  $x$  is an element belonging to the corresponding maximal regular ideal  $R$ .

LEMMA 2.3. Let  $\{R_\pi\}$ ,  $\{e_\pi\}$ ,  $\{g_\pi\}$ , ( $\pi \in P$ ), denote the set of all maximal modular ideals, associated minimal idempotents, and associated multiplicative elements respectively of a regular algebra  $A$ . Then

$$(2.05) \quad \begin{aligned} (e_\pi, g_{\pi'}) &= 1, & \pi &= \pi', \\ &= 0, & \pi &\neq \pi'. \end{aligned}$$

This lemma is merely a restatement of the preceding two. Nevertheless, it points up the important fact that the two systems  $\{g_\pi\}$  and  $\{e_\pi\}$  form a biorthogonal system for a regular algebra  $A$ . It follows immediately from semisimplicity that the system  $\{g_\pi\}$  is complete.

LEMMA 2.4. A regular algebra  $A$  contains at most a countably infinite number of distinct maximal regular ideals whenever  $A$  is a separable Hilbert space.

**Proof.** The set  $M$  of multiplicative elements  $\{g_\pi\}$  is a part of a biorthogonal system. By a result of S. Levin [7], no element  $g$  of  $M$  is contained in the closed linear hull  $[g']$ , ( $g' \in M$ ,  $g' \neq g$ ). Let the elements of  $M$  be labelled with the members of a well-ordered set  $P$ , i.e., let

$$M = \{g_\pi : \pi \in P\}.$$

By induction, there exists an orthonormal set  $\{u_\pi : \pi \in P\}$  such that for every  $\pi' \in P$

$$\{(g_\pi] : \pi < \pi'\} = \{(u_\pi] : \pi < \pi'\}.$$

The set  $\{u_\pi : \pi \in P\}$  must be countable which establishes the lemma.

LEMMA 2.5. Every nonzero ideal  $I$  of a regular algebra  $A$  contains a minimal idempotent.

**Proof.** If  $I$  contains no minimal idempotent  $e_i$ ; then  $e_i x$  must be zero for every minimal idempotent  $e_i$  and every  $x$  in  $I$ . It follows that  $I$  is the zero ideal, a contradiction.

LEMMA 2.6. Every finite-dimensional ideal  $I$  of a regular algebra  $A$  is complemented, i.e., there exists a closed ideal  $J$  such that  $A$  is the direct sum  $I+J$ .

**Proof.** Observe that every minimal idempotent  $e$  of  $A$  either belongs to  $I$  or else  $ex$  is zero for every  $x$  of  $I$ . Since the set  $E$  of minimal orthogonal idempotents of  $A$  is finitely linearly independent; only a finite set, say  $\{e_i\}$ , ( $i=1, \dots, n$ ), of minimal idempotents is contained in  $I$ . Denote by  $E_n$  the idempotent  $e_1 + \dots + e_n$  of  $I$ . Every  $x$  in  $A$  can be written

$$(2.06) \quad x = E_n x + (x - E_n x).$$

If  $y$  denotes  $x - E_n x$ , then  $e_i y$  is zero for every  $e_i$  contained in  $I$ . It follows that when  $x$  belongs to  $I$ ,  $e_i y$  vanishes for every  $e_i$  in  $A$ , implying that  $y$  is zero. Hence every  $x$  of  $I$  can be written

$$(2.07) \quad x = E_n x = (x, g_1)e_1 + \dots + (x, g_n)e_n.$$

Thus  $I$  is the linear hull  $(e_i)$ ,  $(e_i \in I)$ . The set of all  $y$  such that  $e_i y$  is zero for  $e_i$  in  $I$  is a closed ideal  $J$  containing all elements of the form  $x - E_n x$  where  $x$  is any element of  $A$ . It follows that  $A$  is the direct sum  $I + J$ .

In the case of  $H^*$ -algebras, orthogonality enables one to extend this lemma to any proper closed ideal of  $A$ . We recall that the *socle* of any commutative algebra  $A$ , Banach or not, is the algebraic sum of the minimal ideals of  $A$ .

**LEMMA 2.7.** *The socle of a regular algebra  $A$  is dense if and only if every proper closed ideal  $I$  of  $A$  is contained in a maximal regular ideal  $R$  of  $A$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose the socle  $(e_i)$ ,  $(i = 1, 2, \dots)$ , is dense in  $A$ . If  $I$  is a proper closed ideal, then there exists a minimal idempotent  $e_i$  not contained in  $I$ . Consequently,  $e_i I$  is the zero ideal and  $I$  is contained in  $R_i$ . Let every proper ideal  $I$  of  $A$  be contained in a maximal regular ideal  $R$  of  $A$ . Then since  $[e_i]$ ,  $(i = 1, 2, \dots)$ , is a closed ideal not contained in any maximal regular ideal  $R$ , it must coincide with  $A$ .

The structural analysis of  $H^*$ -algebras proceeds via the route of orthogonal, complete reducibility. At each stage, one is presented with a direct sum decomposition  $I + J$  where  $x \in I$ ,  $y \in J$  imply that  $(x, y)$  is zero. Any Hilbert algebra  $A$  is said to be *well separated* if, whenever  $A$  is the direct sum  $I + J$  of closed ideals  $I$  and  $J$ , there exists a constant  $k$ , with  $0 < k < 1$ , such that  $x \in I$ ,  $y \in J$  imply

$$(2.08) \quad |(x, y)| \leq k \|x\| \|y\|.$$

**THEOREM 2.8.** *Let  $A$  be a well-separated, regular algebra in which every proper closed ideal is contained in a maximal regular ideal. Then there exists a basis of minimal idempotents,  $\{e_i\}$ , of  $A$  and two sequences of positive numbers,  $\{d_i\}$  and  $\{D_i\}$ ,  $(i = 1, 2, \dots)$ , such that*

$$\begin{aligned} d_1 |x_1|^2 + \dots + d_n |x_n|^2 + \dots &\leq \|x_1 e_1 + \dots + x_n e_n + \dots\|^2 \\ &\leq D_1 |x_1|^2 + \dots + D_n |x_n|^2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

for every element  $x_1 e_1 + \dots + x_n e_n + \dots$  of  $A$ . Furthermore, there exists a continuous homomorphism of an  $H^*$ -algebra  $H_1$  into a dense subset of  $A$  and a continuous homomorphism of  $A$  into an  $H^*$ -algebra  $H_2$ .

**Proof.** Denote by  $E$  the set of all minimal idempotents of  $A$ . Let  $\{u_i\}$  be an orthonormal set of  $A$  such that

$$(2.09) \quad \{(e_i), i = 1, \dots, m\} = \{(u_i), i = 1, \dots, m\}$$

for every  $m$ . Since the socle is dense, it follows that the set  $\{u_i\}$  is an orthonormal basis of  $A$ .

For each positive integer  $n$ , let  $I_n$  and  $E_n$  denote the ideal  $(e_i)$ ,  $(i = 1, \dots, n)$ , and the idempotent  $e_1 + \dots + e_n$  respectively. According to Lemma 2.6,  $A$  is a direct sum  $I_n + J_n$  of closed ideals. Consequently, any  $z \in A$  can be written  $x + y$  with  $x \in I_n$ ,  $y \in J_n$ . It follows that

$$\|z\|^2 \geq (1 - k)(\|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2).$$

Also

$$\|z\|^2 \leq (1+k)(\|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2).$$

Finally,

$$(2.10) \quad a(\|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2) \leq \|z\|^2 \leq b(\|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2)$$

where  $0 < 1-k = a < 1 < 1+k = b$ . If  $c^2(1-k)$  is one, then

$$(2.11) \quad \|E_n z\| \leq c\|z\|.$$

Thus the projections of the set  $\{E_i\}$ , ( $i=1, 2, \dots$ ), are uniformly bounded by the number  $c$ .

Now, given any  $x$  in  $A$  and any positive number  $\varepsilon$ , there exists an integer  $N$  such that if

$$x_n = (x, u_1)u_1 + \dots + (x, u_n)u_n,$$

then

$$\|x - x_n\| < \varepsilon/(1+c)$$

for  $n$  greater than  $N$ . Note that equation (2.09) implies that  $x_n \in I_r$  whenever  $r$  exceeds  $n$ . Now for  $N < n < r$ , we have

$$(2.12) \quad \begin{aligned} \|x - E_r x\| &\leq \|x - x_n\| + \|x_n - E_r x\| \\ &\leq \|x - x_n\| + \|E_r(x - x_n)\| \\ &\leq \|x - x_n\| + c\|x - x_n\| \\ &< \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the sequence  $\{E_j x\}$ , ( $j=1, 2, \dots$ ), where

$$(2.13) \quad E_j x = (x, g_1)e_1 + \dots + (x, g_j)e_j$$

converges to  $x$  for every  $x \in A$ . Consequently, the set  $E$  of minimal idempotents is a basis of  $A$ .

Repeated applications of inequality (2.10) lead to the following inequality,

$$(2.14) \quad \begin{aligned} |x_1|^2 a \|e_1\|^2 + \dots + |x_n|^2 a^n \|e_n\|^2 &\leq \|x_1 e_1 + \dots + x_n e_n\|^2 \\ &\leq |x_1|^2 b \|e_1\|^2 + \dots + |x_n|^2 b^n \|e_n\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Define two new sequences,  $\{d_i\}$  and  $\{D_i\}$ , by means of

$$(2.15) \quad d_i = a^i \|e_i\|^2, \quad D_i = b^i \|e_i\|^2, \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Equation (2.14) asserts that given a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  such that

$$(2.16) \quad D_1 |x_1|^2 + \dots + D_n |x_n|^2 + \dots$$

converges, then there exists an  $x$  in  $A$  given by

$$(2.17) \quad x = x_1 e_1 + \dots + x_n e_n + \dots$$

Furthermore, it states that if some  $x$  in  $A$  is given by equation (2.17), then the series

$$(2.18) \quad d_1|x_1|^2 + \cdots + d_n|x_n|^2 + \cdots$$

converges.

These results are quite similar to the standard ones for semisimple, commutative  $H^*$ -algebras. The  $H^*$ -algebras are distinguished by the fact that the two sequences  $\{d_i\}$  and  $\{D_i\}$  coincide, due to the orthogonality conditions on the minimal idempotents. We are now able to define a continuous homomorphism of an  $H^*$ -algebra  $H_1$  into a dense subset of  $A$  and a continuous homomorphism of  $A$  into an  $H^*$ -algebra  $H_2$ .

Let  $H_1$  denote an  $H^*$ -algebra with a sequence of minimal selfadjoint idempotents  $\{s_i\}$  satisfying the conditions that

$$\|s_i\|^2 = D_i.$$

If

$$(2.19) \quad x = x_1s_1 + \cdots + x_ns_n + \cdots$$

denotes any element of  $H_1$ , then

$$\|x\|^2 = |x_1|^2 D_1 + \cdots + |x_n|^2 D_n + \cdots$$

The multiplication in  $H_1$  satisfies a condition of the form

$$(2.20) \quad \|xy\| \leq K' \|x\| \|y\|$$

for every  $x, y \in H_1$ . The mapping  $T$  which makes the element  $x$  of equation (2.19) correspond to

$$T(x) = x_1e_1 + \cdots + x_ne_n + \cdots$$

is a continuous homomorphism of  $H_1$  into  $A$ . Since the  $\text{Im } T$  includes all elements of the form,  $x_1e_1 + \cdots + x_ne_n$ , the  $\text{Im } T$  is dense in  $A$ . The construction of  $H_2$  should be clear.

An equation such as equation (2.20) implies that  $1/K' \leq \|e\|$  for an idempotent  $e$  of an algebra  $A$ . However, there is no result in the theory of  $H^*$ -algebras bounding the norms of the minimal selfadjoint idempotents of the algebra. Nevertheless, an  $H^*$ -algebra is somewhat pathological when there is no uniform bound for these. Call a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  *admissible* with respect to the basis  $\{v_i\}$  if  $x_1v_1 + \cdots + x_nv_n + \cdots$  converges. For  $H^*$ -algebras with bases of uniformly bounded minimal idempotents  $\{v_i\}$ , the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{x_{p(n)}\}$  are either both admissible or both inadmissible, for any permutation  $p$  of the integers. An algebra  $A$  with a basis of minimal idempotents  $\{e_i\}$  is *homogeneous* if it enjoys this property. I. M. Gel'fand [4] has proved that a homogeneous basis is a Fischer-Riesz basis. Thus we have established most of the following theorem. The remainder of the proof is given in §4.

**THEOREM 2.9.** *A well-separated, regular algebra  $A$  in which every proper closed*

ideal is contained in a maximal modular ideal is an isomorphic image of a homogeneous  $H^*$ -algebra if and only if  $A$  is homogeneous.

We close this section with a characterization of regular algebras in terms of their structure space. We recall that for a commutative Banach algebra the structure space is the set of all maximal modular ideals  $M$ . Recall that the *hull*  $h(I)$  of an ideal  $I$  is the set of all maximal modular ideals containing  $I$ . The *kernel*  $k(S)$  of a set  $S$  of maximal modular ideals is their intersection, a closed ideal. The set  $M$  of maximal modular ideals is topologized by defining the closure  $\bar{S}$  of a set  $S$  of  $M$  to be the hull of the kernel of  $S$ .

**THEOREM 2.10.** *An algebra  $A$  is regular if and only if the structure space  $M$  of  $A$  is discrete in the hull-kernel topology.*

**Proof.** Let  $M$  denote the structure space of a regular algebra  $A$ . Denote by  $S_i$  the subset of  $M$  consisting of all maximal regular ideals other than  $R_i$ . Let  $J_i$  be  $k(S_i)$ , the kernel of  $S_i$ . Since  $(e_i, g_j)$  is zero for  $j$  different from  $i$ , it follows that  $J_i$  contains the minimal ideal  $Ae_i$ . Thus

$$J_i = Ae_i + J_i \cap R_i$$

where the sum is direct. However, if  $x$  is an element of  $J_i \cap R_i$ , then  $x$  belongs to the radical and must be zero. Thus  $J_i$  coincides with the minimal ideal  $Ae_i$ . On the other hand, since  $(e_i, g_j)$  is zero only for  $j$  not equal to  $i$ , it follows that  $h(J_i)$  must be  $S_i$ .

Consequently,

$$S_i = h(J_i) = h(k(S_i)),$$

and  $S_i$  is closed in the hull-kernel topology. Therefore  $R_i$ , the complement of  $S_i$ , must be open. Since  $R_i$  is maximal, it follows that

$$R_i = h(R_i) = h(k(R_i))$$

so that  $R_i$  is also closed. The structure space  $M$  is discrete.

Suppose, on the other hand, that the structure space of a semisimple, commutative  $H$ -algebra  $A$  is discrete. Using the notation  $S_i$  as above, we see that  $S_i$  is closed so that

$$S_i = h(k(S_i)).$$

Consequently, there exists a nonzero vector  $x_i$  in  $k(S_i)$  which is not in  $R_i$ . It follows that  $(x_i, g_j)$  is not zero. For each  $i$ , define  $e_i$  to be  $x_i/(x_i, g_i)$ . Then

$$(2.21) \quad \begin{aligned} (e_i, g_j) &= 1, & i &= j, \\ &= 0, & i &\neq j. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the sequences  $\{e_i\}$ ,  $\{g_i\}$ , ( $i=1, 2, \dots$ ), form a biorthogonal system. We note that  $(e_i^2 - e_i, g_j)$  is zero for every  $j$  which implies that

$$e_i^2 - e_i = 0, \quad \text{or} \quad e_i^2 = e_i.$$

Consequently, the sequence  $\{e_i\}$  consists entirely of idempotents. Furthermore, note that for every  $x$

$$(e_i x, g_j) = (e_i, g_j)(x, g_j).$$

This equation implies that  $e_i x$  is an element of  $R_j$  whenever  $i$  differs from  $j$ . To the contrary,  $e_i x$  belongs to  $R_i$  only when it is the zero vector. In addition, for any  $x$  in  $H$ ,

$$(x - e_i x, g_i) = 0.$$

Hence  $A$  is the direct sum  $R_i + Ae_i$ , i.e., every maximal modular ideal  $R_i$  is complemented and  $A$  is regular.

**3. Adjoint algebras.** Let  $H$  be a Hilbert space on which there exist two binary operations  $f$  and  $f^*$ . The *standard product* of  $x, y \in H$  is the image  $f(x, y)$  and is denoted by  $xy$ . The *adjoint product* is the image  $f^*(x, y)$  denoted by  $x \cdot y$  to distinguish it from the standard product. Assume further that constants  $K$  and  $K^*$  exist such that

$$(3.01) \quad \|xy\| \leq K \|x\| \|y\|, \quad \|x \cdot y\| \leq K^* \|x\| \|y\|.$$

In addition, there exists a bijection  $\pi$  on  $H$  with  $\pi(x)$  denoted by  $x^*$  such that  $\|x^*\| \leq b \|x\|$ ,  $\|x\| \leq b^* \|x^*\|$  for all  $x$ . The set  $H$  is said to form an *adjoint algebra*  $A$  if it is a Hilbert algebra under each of the binary operations and the following equation is satisfied for all  $x, y, z \in H$

$$(3.02) \quad (xy, z) = (y, x^* \cdot z).$$

We limit our considerations to the case where  $H$  is a semisimple, commutative  $H$ -algebra under each of the binary operations. We do not repeat these assumptions in the following paragraphs. We use the adjectives, *standard* and *adjoint*, in the expected way. A *standard ideal*  $I$  of  $A$  is a vector subspace which is closed under standard multiplication by any element in  $A$ . An *adjoint maximal modular ideal* is a maximal modular ideal under the adjoint product. Given that each of the products is semisimple, the following rules are valid

$$(3.03) \quad \begin{aligned} (\varepsilon_1 x + \varepsilon_2 y)^* &= \bar{\varepsilon}_1 x^* + \bar{\varepsilon}_2 y^*, \\ (xy)^* &= y^* \cdot x^* = x^* \cdot y^* \end{aligned}$$

where  $x, y$  belong to  $H$ ;  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2$  are complex numbers.

The following lemma is clear.

**LEMMA 3.1.** *The orthogonal complement of a standard (adjoint) ideal  $I$  of the adjoint algebra  $A$  is an adjoint (standard) ideal  $J$  of  $A$ .*

**LEMMA 3.2.** *An adjoint algebra  $A$  is regular under each of its two products.*

**Proof.** Let  $R$  be a standard maximal modular ideal of  $A$ . Then  $A$  is the orthogonal direct sum  $R + J$  where  $J$  is a one-dimensional adjoint ideal of  $A$ . It follows



that  $J$  is minimal and contains an idempotent generator  $e^*$  such that  $J$  and  $A \cdot e^*$  coincide. Let  $e$  denote  $\pi^{-1}(e^*)$  so that  $e$  is a standard idempotent by equation (3.03). For  $y \in R$ ,  $x \in A$ ,

$$(ye, x) = (y, x \cdot e^*) = 0$$

so that  $ye$  is zero for every element  $y \in R$ . On the other hand, if  $ye$  is zero then  $(y, x \cdot e^*) = (ye, x) = 0$  for every  $x$  which implies that  $y \in R$ , i.e.,  $R$  is the annihilator of  $e$ . Finally,  $x = (x - xe) + xe$  for every  $x$  in  $A$ , that is

$$(3.04) \quad A = R + Ae$$

is a direct sum decomposition of  $A$ . Consequently, the standard maximal modular ideal  $R$  is complemented and  $A$  is regular with respect to the standard product. A similar argument is valid for the adjoint product.

Let  $\{e_i\}$  ( $i=1, 2, \dots$ ) denote the complete set of standard minimal idempotents of the adjoint algebra  $A$ . Then the set  $\{e_i^*\}$  ( $i=1, 2, \dots$ ) where  $e_i^* = \pi(e_i)$ , is a complete set of minimal adjoint idempotents of  $A$ . Let  $\{g_i\}$ , ( $i=1, 2, \dots$ ), be the set of associated functionals for the set  $\{e_i^*\}$ . Note that

$$\delta_i^j = (e_i^*, g_j) = (e_i^*, e_j g_i) = (g_i^*, e_j)$$

which implies that the set  $\{g_i^*\}$  where  $g_i^* = \pi(g_i)$  is the set of associated functions for the set  $\{e_i\}$ . In this section, we use the symbols  $\{e_i\}$ ,  $\{g_i^*\}$  and  $\{e_i^*\}$ ,  $\{g_i\}$ , ( $i=1, 2, \dots$ ), to denote the biorthogonal sequences of minimal idempotents and associated linear functions in the cases of the standard and adjoint operations, respectively, of the adjoint algebra  $A$ .

LEMMA 3.3. *The standard (adjoint) socle is dense in the adjoint algebra  $A$ .*

**Proof.** The closed linear hull  $[e_i]$ , ( $e_i \in A$ ), is a standard ideal  $I$  of  $A$ . If the standard socle is not dense, then the orthogonal complement  $J$  of  $I$  is a proper adjoint ideal of  $A$  and

$$(3.05) \quad A = I + J.$$

Let  $y \in A$ ,  $x \in J$ , and  $e_i^*$  be any minimal adjoint idempotent. Then

$$(3.06) \quad (y, e_i^* \cdot x) = (e_i y, x) = 0$$

so that  $e_i^* \cdot x$  is zero for every adjoint minimal idempotent which implies that  $x$  is in the adjoint radical. Thus  $J$  is a nonzero ideal contained in the adjoint radical, a contradiction. We do not argue the adjoint case since it is essentially the same.

LEMMA 3.4. *Let  $A$  be an adjoint algebra such that  $\pi$  is an involution. Then*

$$(3.07) \quad (x, y) = (y^*, x^*)$$

for all  $x, y \in A$ .

**Proof.** First, consider the case where one of the elements is a minimal idempotent  $e_i$ . Then for any  $x \in A$

$$\begin{aligned}(e_i, x) &= (e_i^2, x) = (e_i, e_i^* \cdot x) \\ &= (e_i x^*, e_i^*) = (x^*, e_i^* \cdot e_i^*) = (x^*, e_i^*)\end{aligned}$$

Now let

$$z_n = z_{n1}e_1 + \cdots + z_{nn}e_n$$

and  $y$  be any element of  $A$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}(z_n, y) &= (z_{n1}e_1 + \cdots + z_{nn}e_n, y) \\ &= z_{n1}(e_1, y) + \cdots + z_{nn}(e_n, y) \\ &= z_{n1}(y^*, e_1^*) + \cdots + z_{nn}(y^*, e_n^*) \\ &= (y^*, \bar{z}_{n1}e_1^* + \cdots + \bar{z}_{nn}e_n^*) \\ &= (y^*, z_n^*)\end{aligned}$$

We see, in particular, for elements  $z_n$ , that

$$(3.08) \quad \|z_n\|^2 = (z_n, z_n) = (z_n^*, z_n^*) = \|z_n^*\|^2.$$

Since the socle is dense, the stated result follows via continuity of the mapping  $\pi$  and of the inner product.

**LEMMA 3.5.** *Let  $e_i$  be a minimal idempotent of the adjoint algebra  $A$ . Then*

$$e_i e_i^* = \varepsilon_i e_i \quad \text{and} \quad e_i = \pi_i g_i$$

where  $\varepsilon_i$  and  $\pi_i$  are complex numbers different from zero.

**Proof.** First, observe that

$$(e_i, e_j^*) = (e_i e_i, e_j^*) = (e_i, e_i^* \cdot e_j^*)$$

which is zero whenever  $i$  differs from  $j$ . However, if  $(e_i, e_i^*)$  is also zero, then  $e_i$  itself must be zero, an impossibility. It follows that  $e_i$  must be a nonzero multiple of  $g_i$ , that is

$$(3.09) \quad e_i = \pi_i g_i.$$

Furthermore, if  $e_i e_i^*$  is zero, then

$$0 = (e_i e_i^*, e_i^*) = (e_i^*, e_i^* \cdot e_i^*) = (e_i^*, e_i^*)$$

so that  $e_i^*$  is zero, contradicting its definition as an adjoint minimal idempotent. Thus

$$(3.10) \quad e_i e_i^* = \varepsilon_i e_i$$

where  $\varepsilon_i$  is not zero.

We wish to observe that in the case of an  $H^*$ -algebra, the minimal idempotent  $e_i$  is selfadjoint and equation (3.10) holds with  $\varepsilon_i$  equal to one. An adjoint algebra  $A$  is called *normal* if each  $\varepsilon_i$  satisfying equation (3.10) is positive.

**THEOREM 3.6.** *Let  $A$  be a normal adjoint algebra in which the minimal idempotents are bounded in norm by  $B$ . Then  $A$  has a basis  $\{e_i\}$  ( $i=1, 2, \dots$ ) of minimal idempotents which is a Fischer-Riesz system.*

**Proof.** It follows from equations (3.09) and (3.10) that

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_i &= (\varepsilon_i e_i, g_i^*) = (e_i e_i^*, g_i^*) \\ &= (e_i^*, g_i^*) = \bar{\pi}_i(g_i^*, g_i^*) \end{aligned}$$

which proves that  $\pi_i$  is real and positive.

The following inequalities are valid in  $A$ :

$$(3.11) \quad \begin{aligned} 1/B &\leq \|g_i\| \leq K, \\ 1/B &\leq \|g_i^*\| \leq K^*, \\ 1/K &\leq \|e_i\| \leq B, \\ 1/K^* &\leq \|e_i^*\| \leq B, \\ 1/K^2 &\leq \pi_i \leq B^2. \end{aligned}$$

Now let  $x$  be any element in  $A$  and denote  $(x, g_i^*)$  by  $x_i$ . Since the standard socle is dense, there exist sequences

$$(3.12) \quad \begin{aligned} z_n &= x_{n1}e_1 + \dots + x_{nn}e_n, \\ z_n^* &= \bar{x}_{n1}e_1^* + \dots + \bar{x}_{nn}e_n^* \\ &= \pi_1 \bar{x}_{n1} g_1^* + \dots + \pi_n \bar{x}_{nn} g_n^*, \end{aligned}$$

such that  $x$  is the limit of  $z_n$ . It follows from the continuity of the norm and inner product that

$$(3.13) \quad \lim \|z_n\| = \|x\|, \quad \text{and} \quad \lim x_{nj} = x_j.$$

From relations (3.11) and (3.12), we see that

$$\begin{aligned} (1/K)^2(|x_{n1}|^2 + \dots + |x_{nn}|^2) &\leq \pi_1 |x_{n1}|^2 + \dots + \pi_n |x_{nn}|^2 \\ &= (z_n, z_n^*) \leq \|z_n\| \|z_n^*\| \leq b \|z_n\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists an integer  $N$  such that

$$\|z_n\|^2 \leq (\|x\|^2 + \varepsilon)^2$$

whenever  $n > N$ . Thus, for this case,

$$(1/K)^2(|x_{n1}|^2 + \dots + |x_{nn}|^2) \leq b(\|x\| + \varepsilon)^2,$$

which implies that, for  $v = K^2 b$ ,

$$(|x_1|^2 + \dots + |x_n|^2) \leq v(\|x\| + \varepsilon)^2$$

for every  $\varepsilon$ . Consequently, we have

$$(3.14) \quad \begin{aligned} (|x_1|^2 + \dots + |x_n|^2) &\leq v\|x\|^2, \\ (|x_1|^2 + \dots + |x_n|^2 + \dots) &\leq v\|x\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Equation (3.14) implies that the set  $\{e_i\}$  of minimal idempotents is a Bessel system. It follows from the results of Bary, that the system  $\{g_i^*\}$ , biorthogonal to it, is a Hilbert system. Therefore, given any sequence  $\{c_i\}$  in  $l_2$ , the sequence  $\{z_n\}$  given by

$$(3.15) \quad z_n = c_1 g_1^* + \cdots + c_n g_n^*$$

converges to an element  $x$  of  $A$ . Furthermore, there exists a constant  $m$  such that

$$\|x\| \leq m(|c_1|^2 + \cdots + |c_n|^2 + \cdots).$$

Note that the sequence  $\{c_i\}$  belongs to  $l_2$  if and only if the sequence  $\{c_i \pi_i\}$  belongs to  $l_2$ . Consequently, if  $\{c_i\}$  is in  $l_2$ , then the sequence  $\{z_n\}$  where

$$(3.16) \quad \begin{aligned} z_n &= c_1 e_1^* + \cdots + c_n e_n^* \\ &= c_1 \pi_1 g_1^* + \cdots + c_n \pi_n g_n^* \end{aligned}$$

converges to an element  $x$  in  $A$ . In addition,

$$\begin{aligned} \|x\| &\leq m(|\pi_1 c_1|^2 + \cdots + |\pi_n c_n|^2 + \cdots) \\ &\leq mB^4(|c_1|^2 + \cdots + |c_n|^2 + \cdots) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we see that the system  $\{e_i^*\}$  is a Hilbert system. However,  $\{e_i^*\}$  is a Bessel system by the same sort of argument that proved that  $\{e_i\}$  is a Bessel system. It follows that  $\{e_i^*\}$  and, consequently,  $\{e_i\}$  are Fischer-Riesz systems, as was to be shown.

We turn to one further variation in the axioms in which the results follow almost immediately.

Let  $A$  be a commutative, semisimple  $H$ -algebra with an involution  $\pi$  where the image  $\pi(x)$  is denoted by  $x^*$ . Suppose that  $f$  and  $f^*$  are two inner products on  $A$  with  $f(x, y)$  and  $f^*(x, y)$  denoted by  $(x, y)$  and  $[x, y]$  respectively. In addition, assume there exist positive constants  $B$  and  $B^*$  such that

$$(3.17) \quad |(x, y)|^2 \leq B^2[x, x][y, y], \quad \text{and} \quad |[x, y]|^2 \leq (B^*)^2(x, x)(y, y).$$

The algebra  $A$  is called a *dual adjoint algebra* if the involution and the inner products satisfy the relations

$$(3.18) \quad (xy, z) = [x, zy^*] = [y, x^*z].$$

**THEOREM 3.7.** *The dual adjoint algebra  $A$  has a basis  $\{e_i\}$ , ( $i=1, 2, \dots$ ), of minimal idempotents. Furthermore, the basis  $\{e_i\}$  is a Fischer-Riesz system if and only if the minimal idempotents are uniformly bounded.*

**Proof.** We define a new inner product on  $A$  under which it becomes an  $H^*$ -algebra. For  $x, y \in A$ , let

$$(3.19) \quad \{x, y\} = (x, y) + [x, y].$$

Denote the norm of  $x$  in this new inner product by  $\| \| x \| \|$ . It is easy to see that

$$(3.20) \quad \begin{aligned} |\{x, y\}| &\leq (1 + B^*) \|x\| \|y\|, \text{ and} \\ |(x, y)| &\leq \|x\| \|y\| \leq \| \| x \| \| \| y \| \| \end{aligned}$$

where  $\|x\|^2$  denotes  $(x, x)$ . Furthermore, if  $\|xy\| \leq K \|x\| \|y\|$ , then  $\| \| xy \| \| \leq K' \| \| x \| \| \| y \| \|$  where  $K'$  denotes  $K(1 + B^*)^{1/2}$ . Finally,

$$\{xy, z\} = \{y, x^*z\} = \{x, zy^*\}$$

so that  $A$  is a semisimple, commutative  $H^*$ -algebra in this new norm. We denote the "two" normed algebras by  $A( , )$  and  $A\{ , \}$  respectively.

The fundamental theorem on  $H^*$ -algebras asserts that  $A\{ , \}$  has an orthonormal basis  $\{e_i\}$ ,  $(i=1, 2, \dots)$ , of minimal selfadjoint idempotents. The identity mapping of  $A\{ , \}$  onto  $A( , )$  is a continuous automorphism. It follows that the set  $\{e_i\}$  is a basis of minimal idempotents in the algebra  $A( , )$ , the original dual adjoint algebra. It is easy to see that  $\{e_i\}$  is a Fischer-Riesz basis in each algebra if and only if the minimal idempotents are uniformly bounded.

**4. Examples.** The following examples were suggested by the results of N. Bary [3] in which the most natural generalization of orthonormal base is developed. Her more important results for biorthogonal systems  $\{e_i\}, \{g_i\}$ ,  $(i=1, 2, \dots)$ , in the separable Hilbert space  $H$  are in terms of three basic concepts. The complete system  $\{e_i\}$  is said to be a *Bessel system* if given any  $x \in H$ , the coefficients  $\{(x, g_i)\}$  belong to  $l_2$ . The complete system  $\{g_i\}$  is said to be a *Hilbert system* if given any sequence  $\{c_i\}$  in  $l_2$  there exists a unique  $x \in H$  such that  $\{c_i\}$  coincides with the sequence  $\{(x, e_i)\}$ . A complete system  $\{e_i\}$  is said to be a *Fischer-Riesz system* if it is both a Bessel and a Hilbert system. The fundamental results of Bary's are: A system  $\{e_i\}$  is a Fischer-Riesz system if and only if it is the image of every orthonormal basis  $\{u_i\}$  of  $H$  under some continuous automorphism, not necessarily isometric, of  $H$ . A system  $\{e_i\}$  is a Bessel system if and only if every orthonormal basis  $\{u_i\}$  is the image of  $\{e_i\}$  under some continuous endomorphism of  $H$ . A system  $\{e_i\}$  is a Hilbert system if and only if it is the image of every unitary basis  $\{u_i\}$  under some continuous endomorphism of  $H$ .

The results have the following additional interpretations. Let  $\{e_i\}, \{g_i\}$  form a biorthogonal system. Let  $x$  be in  $H$  and consider the following two inequalities:

$$(4.01) \quad m(|(x, g_1)|^2 + \dots + |(x, g_n)|^2 + \dots) \leq \|x\|^2.$$

$$(4.02) \quad \|x\|^2 \leq M(|(x, g_1)|^2 + \dots + |(x, g_n)|^2 + \dots).$$

A Fischer-Riesz system  $\{e_i\}$  is a basis such that constants  $m$  and  $M$  exist for which both inequalities (4.01) and (4.02) are valid whenever  $x$  belongs to  $H$ . Although a complete Hilbert system  $\{e_i\}$  need not be a basis, there exists a constant  $M$  such that inequality (4.02) is valid for every  $x$  in  $H$ . Furthermore, a complete Bessel system  $\{e_i\}$  need not be a basis, but there exists a constant  $m$  such that inequality (4.01) is valid for every  $x$  in  $H$ .

We need the following Lemmas before considering our examples.

LEMMA 4.1. *Let the Hilbert space  $H$  be the direct sum  $I+J$  of the nonorthogonal, closed subspaces  $I$  and  $J$ . Let  $P$  be the projection of  $H$  on  $I$  along  $J$ . Then if  $u \in I$ ,  $v \in J$*

$$(4.03) \quad |(u, v)| \leq k \|u\| \|v\|, \quad \text{and} \quad 0 < k < 1.$$

**Proof.** Let  $u$  and  $v$  be elements of  $I$  and  $J$ , respectively, each being of unit norm. Since  $u$  and  $v$  are linearly independent,  $|(u, v)| < \|u\| \|v\| = 1$ .

If  $r$  is the vector  $[u - (u, v)v]/[1 - |(u, v)|^2]$ , then it is easy to see that

$$\|P\|^2 \geq \|r\|^2 = 1/[1 - |(u, v)|^2] \geq 1.$$

From which it follows that

$$|(u, v)|^2 \leq \{\|P\|^2 - 1\}/\|P\|^2 < k^2 < 1.$$

For general  $u$  and  $v$ , we have the desired result:

$$|(u, v)| \leq k \|u\| \|v\|.$$

Whenever  $T$  is a continuous automorphism of a Hilbert space  $H$  onto itself,  $T$  has a continuous inverse  $T^{-1}$  such that  $1 \leq \|T\| \|T^{-1}\|$ .

LEMMA 4.2. *Let  $T$  be a continuous automorphism of a Hilbert space  $H$  onto itself. Then, if  $\|T\| \|T^{-1}\|$  is one,  $T$  is essentially unitary, i.e., there exists a positive number  $r$  and a unitary transformation  $U$  such that*

$$T = rU.$$

**Proof.** Suppose there exist vectors  $x_1, x_2$  in  $H$  such that

$$\|x_1\| = \|x_2\| = 1, \quad \|Tx_1\| < \|Tx_2\|.$$

Then

$$1/(\|T^{-1}\|) \leq \|Tx_1\| < \|Tx_2\| \leq \|T\|$$

so that

$$1 < \|T\| \|T^{-1}\|,$$

a contradiction. Thus

$$\|Tx_1\| = \|Tx_2\| = r^2 > 0$$

whenever  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are of norm one. It follows that

$$((T/r)x, (T/r)x) = (x, x)$$

for every  $x$ , i.e.,  $(T/r)$  is an isometry and, consequently, must be unitary.

Let  $\{e_i\}, \{g_i\}$  be a biorthogonal system where both  $\{e_i\}$  and  $\{g_i\}$  are Fischer-Riesz systems. Let  $\{u_i\}$  be an orthonormal basis of  $H$  and  $T$  be the continuous automorphism of  $H$  such that

$$(4.04) \quad e_i = Tu_i, \quad \text{and} \quad 1/(\|T^{-1}\|) \leq \|e_i\| \leq \|T\|.$$

The continuous automorphism  $T' = (T^*)^{-1}$  has the property that

$$(4.05) \quad g_i = T'u_i, \quad \text{and} \quad 1/\|T^*\| \leq \|g_i\| \leq \|T'\|.$$

REMARK 4.3. Now let  $R \cup S$  be any partition of the integers  $Z$  into disjoint subsets and

$$\begin{aligned} I' &= [u_i], \quad (i \in R); & J' &= [u_i], \quad (i \in S); \\ I &= [e_i], \quad (i \in R); & J &= [e_i], \quad (i \in S). \end{aligned}$$

Then  $H$  is the orthogonal direct sum  $I' + J'$  of the subspaces  $I'$  and  $J'$ . It follows from the fact that  $T$  is a continuous automorphism that  $H$  is also the direct sum  $I + J$ .

LEMMA 4.4. *The subspaces  $I$  and  $J$  are well separated, i.e., there exists a constant  $k$  with  $0 < k < 1$  such that if  $u \in I, v \in J$  then  $|(u, v)| \leq k \|u\| \|v\|$  for any choice of the partitioning sets  $R$  and  $S$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $P$  and  $P'$  denote the orthogonal projections on the subspaces  $I'$  and  $J'$  respectively. The projections on  $I$  and  $J$  are given by

$$E = T(P)T^{-1} \quad \text{and} \quad E' = T(P')T^{-1}$$

from which it follows that each of them is bounded by the constant  $\|T\| \|T^{-1}\|$ . It follows from Lemma 4.1 that if  $k$  is any constant such that

$$((\|T\| \|T^{-1}\|)^2 - 1) / (\|T\| \|T^{-1}\|)^2 < k^2 < 1$$

then  $u \in I, v \in J$  implies  $|(u, v)| \leq k \|u\| \|v\|$ .

EXAMPLE 4.5. Let  $\{e_i\}$  be a Fischer-Riesz basis for the separable Hilbert space  $H$ . If

$$x = x_1 e_1 + \dots + x_n e_n + \dots, \quad y = y_1 e_1 + \dots + y_n e_n + \dots$$

are any two elements in  $H$ , let the product  $xy$  be defined by

$$(4.06) \quad xy = x_1 y_1 e_1 + \dots + x_n y_n e_n + \dots$$

Then it follows from inequalities (4.01) and (4.02) that

$$\begin{aligned} \|xy\| &\leq M(|x_1 y_1|^2 + \dots + |x_n y_n|^2 + \dots) \\ &\leq M(|x_1|^2 + \dots + |x_n|^2 + \dots) (|y_1|^2 + \dots + |y_n|^2 + \dots) \\ &= (M/m^2)[m(|x_1|^2 + \dots + |x_n|^2 + \dots)] [m(|y_1|^2 + \dots + |y_n|^2 + \dots)] \\ &\leq (M/m^2) \|x\|^2 \|y\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, we see that  $H$  becomes a Hilbert algebra  $A$  with this definition of product. Denote by  $R_j$  the set of all linear combinations

$$x = x_1 e_1 + \dots + x_n e_n + \dots$$

where the coefficient  $x_j$  is zero. Clearly,  $R_j$  is a maximal modular ideal. The algebra  $A$  is semisimple since the intersection of all the maximal modular ideals in the set  $\{R_i\}, (i=1, 2, \dots)$ , is the zero ideal. The basis  $\{e_i\}$  is clearly a maximal set of minimal idempotents. Suppose that  $R$  is any maximal modular ideal of  $A$ . Since  $R$  is closed, there exists an  $e_j$  which is not contained in  $R$ . From this, it follows that  $R$  must be contained in  $R_j$  and, consequently, must coincide with  $R_j$ . The minimal ideal  $Ae_j$  is complementary to  $R$ . Thus  $A$  is a regular algebra. The sequence  $\{g_i\}$

biorthogonal to  $\{e_i\}$  is the set of multiplicative elements associated with the set  $\{R_i\}$  of maximal modular ideals. Given that  $A$  is the direct sum  $I+J$  of two proper closed ideals, then  $I$  coincides with  $[e_i]$ , ( $e_i \in I$ ), and  $J$  coincides with  $[e_i]$ , ( $e_i \in J$ ). It follows from Lemma 4.4 that  $A$  is well separated. Inequalities (4.01) and (4.02) imply that  $A$  is homogeneous. Thus we see that  $A$  is an example of a homogeneous, semisimple, commutative well-separated regular algebra in which every proper closed ideal is contained in a maximal regular ideal.

Furthermore, the mapping  $T^{-1}$  of equation (4.04) is an isomorphism of  $A$  onto an  $H^*$ -algebra  $H$  generated by taking the orthonormal basis  $\{u_i\}$  as the selfadjoint minimal idempotents of  $H$ . Consequently, every  $H$ -algebra  $A$  with a set  $\{e_i\}$  of minimal idempotents which form a Fischer-Riesz basis for the space  $A$  is isomorphic to an  $H^*$ -algebra. This result shows in particular that a homogeneous, well-separated, regular algebra  $A$  in which every proper closed ideal is contained in a maximal regular ideal is isomorphic to an  $H^*$ -algebra. When the isomorphism is also isometric, it is easy to see as well that the original algebra is actually an  $H^*$ -algebra and the isomorphism is a  $*$ -isomorphism.

We note that the definition of the multiplication can be framed somewhat differently. If  $x, y \in A$ , then the product  $xy$  can be defined to be that unique element  $z$  in  $A$  such that

$$(4.07) \quad (z, g_i) = (x, g_i)(y, g_i).$$

A second product  $x \cdot y$  can be defined to be that unique element  $z'$  in  $A$  such that

$$(4.08) \quad (z', e_i) = (x, e_i)(y, e_i).$$

This last definition is equivalent to defining  $x \cdot y$  for

$$\begin{aligned} x &= x_1 g_1 + \cdots + x_n g_n + \cdots, \\ y &= y_1 g_1 + \cdots + y_n g_n + \cdots \end{aligned}$$

to be given by

$$x \cdot y = x_1 y_1 g_1 + \cdots + x_n y_n g_n + \cdots.$$

A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is admissible for the Fischer-Riesz basis  $\{e_i\}$  if and only if it is admissible for the system  $\{g_i\}$ . Consequently, the mapping  $\pi$  defined by

$$(4.09) \quad \pi(x_1 e_1 + \cdots + x_n e_n + \cdots) = \bar{x}_1 g_1 + \cdots + \bar{x}_n g_n + \cdots$$

is a bijection on  $A$ . Note that  $\pi$  is usually not an involution; however, if we denote  $\pi(x)$  by  $x^*$ , then

$$(4.10) \quad (xy, z) = (x, z \cdot y^*) = (y, x^* \cdot z)$$

so that  $A$  is an example of an adjoint algebra.

We briefly consider an algebra  $A$  which is a continuous automorphic image of an  $H^*$ -algebra  $H$  whose minimal idempotents  $\{s_i\}$  are uniformly bounded by  $B$ . If  $T$  is the given automorphism, then  $T$  maps the set of all minimal selfadjoint



idempotents  $\{s_i\}$  of  $H$  onto the set of all minimal idempotents  $\{e_i\}$  of  $A$ . It is easy to see that  $\{e_i\}$  is a Fischer-Riesz system so that all of the results on algebras with a Fischer-Riesz basis of minimal idempotents apply to  $A$ . It should be clear now that if  $A$  is an algebra with a Fischer-Riesz basis of minimal idempotents, then  $A$  is a continuous isomorphic image of any  $H^*$ -algebra  $H$  whose minimal idempotents are uniformly bounded. This statement finishes the proof of Theorem 2.9 and completes our discussion of this particular kind of algebra.

We end with a counterexample:

EXAMPLE 4.6. Let  $A$  be an  $H^*$ -algebra whose maximal set of selfadjoint minimal idempotents  $\{s_i\}$  has the property that  $\|s_k\|$  is equal to  $k$ . It is easy to see that  $A$  is a well-separated, regular algebra in which every proper closed ideal is contained in a maximal regular ideal. Nevertheless, it is clear that there exists no continuous automorphism carrying a unitary basis  $\{u_i\}$  onto the set of minimal idempotents  $\{s_i\}$ . Consequently, the set  $\{s_i\}$  is not a Fischer-Riesz basis and  $A$  is not homogeneous.

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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY,  
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS