

# Polynomials of almost-normal arguments in $C^*$ -algebras

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The functional calculus for normal elements in  $C^*$ -algebras is an important tool of analysis. We consider polynomials  $p(a, a^*)$  for elements  $a$  with small self-commutator norm  $\|[a, a^*]\| \leq \delta$  and show that many properties of the functional calculus are retained modulo an error of order  $\delta$ .

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