

NORMAL INTERPOLATION PROBLEMS IN $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$

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ABSTRACT. Let X and Y be operators acting on a Hilbert space and let \mathcal{L} be a subspace lattice of orthogonal projections on the space containing 0 and I . We investigate normal interpolation problems in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$: Given operators X and Y acting on a Hilbert space, when does there exist a normal operator A in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$ such that $AX = Y$?

1. Introduction

A number of authors have considered the equation $Ax = y$, where x and y represent given vectors in Hilbert space and the bounded operator A is to be found subject to certain criteria.

Lance [6] initiated the discussion by considering a nest \mathcal{N} and asking what conditions on x and y will guarantee the existence of an operator A in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{N}$ such that $Ax = y$. This result was used to find a new proof of Ringrose's characterization of the Jacobson radical. Hopenwasser [3] extended Lance's result to the case where the nest \mathcal{N} is replaced by an arbitrary commutative subspace lattice \mathcal{L} ; the conditions in both cases read the same. Munch [7] considered the problem of finding a Hilbert-Schmit operator A in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{N}$ that maps x to y , where upon Hopenwasser [4] again extended to $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$. In [1], authors studied the problem of finding A so that $Ax = y$ and A is required to lie in certain ideals contained in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$ (for a nest \mathcal{L}).

When an operator maps one thing to another, we think of the operator as an interpolating operator and the equation representing the mapping as the interpolation equation. The equations $Ax = y$ and $AX = Y$ are

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indistinguishable if spoken aloud, but we mean the change to capital letters to indicate that we intend to look at fixed operators X and Y , and ask under what conditions there will exist an operator A satisfying the equation $AX = Y$. Let x and y be vectors in a Hilbert space. Then $\langle x, y \rangle$ means the inner product of vectors x and y . Note that the “vector interpolation” problem is a special case of the “operator interpolation” problem. Indeed, if we denote by $x \otimes u$ the rank-one operator defined by the equation $x \otimes u(w) = \langle w, u \rangle x$, and if we set $X = x \otimes u$, and $Y = y \otimes u$, then the equations $AX = Y$ and $Ax = y$ represent the same restriction on A .

The simplest case of the operator interpolation problem relaxes all restrictions on A , requiring it simply to be a bounded operator. In this case, the existence of A is nicely characterized by the well-known factorization theorem of Douglas :

THEOREM D[2]. *Let Y and X be bounded operators on a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} . The following statements are equivalent:*

- (1) $\text{range}(Y^*) \subseteq \text{range}(X^*)$;
- (2) $Y^*Y \leq \lambda^2 X^*X$ for some $\lambda \geq 0$;
- (3) *there exists a bounded operator A on \mathcal{H} so that $AX = Y$.*

Moreover, if (1), (2), and (3) are valid, then there exists a unique operator A so that

- (a) $\|A\|^2 = \inf\{\mu : Y^*Y \leq \mu X^*X\}$;
- (b) $\ker[Y^*] = \ker[A^*]$; and
- (c) $\text{range}[A^*] \subseteq \text{range}[X]^{\perp}$.

We establish some notations and conventions. A (commutative) subspace lattice \mathcal{L} is a strongly closed lattice of (commutative) projections acting on a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} . We assume that the projections 0 and I lie in \mathcal{L} . We usually identify projections and their ranges, so that it makes sense to speak of an operator as leaving a projection invariant.

2. Results

Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and \mathcal{L} be a subspace lattice of orthogonal projections acting on \mathcal{H} containing 0 and I. Then $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$ is the algebra of all bounded linear operator on \mathcal{H} that leave invariant all projections in \mathcal{L} . Let M be a subset of a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} . Then \overline{M} means the closure of M and M^{\perp} the orthogonal complement of M . A bounded operator A is *normal* if $AA^* = A^*A$. Let \mathbb{N} be the set of all natural

numbers and let \mathbb{C} be the set of all complex numbers. In this paper, we use the convention $\frac{0}{0} = 0$, when necessary.

THEOREM 1. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and \mathcal{L} be a subspace lattice on \mathcal{H} . Let X and Y be operators acting on \mathcal{H} . Assume that the range X is dense in \mathcal{H} . Then the following statements are equivalent.*

(1) *There exists a normal operator A in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$ such that $AX = Y$ and every E in \mathcal{L} reduces A .*

(2) $\sup \left\{ \frac{\|\sum_{i=1}^n E_i Y f_i\|}{\|\sum_{i=1}^n E_i X f_i\|} : n \in \mathbb{N}, f_i \in \mathcal{H} \text{ and } E_i \in \mathcal{L} \right\} < \infty$ and there is an operator T acting on \mathcal{H} such that

$$\langle Xf, Tg \rangle = \langle Yf, Xg \rangle$$

and

$$\langle Tf, Tg \rangle = \langle Yf, Yg \rangle$$

for all f and g in \mathcal{H} .

PROOF. (1) \Rightarrow (2). If there exists a normal operator A in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$ such that $AX = Y$ and every E in \mathcal{L} reduces A , then

$$\sup \left\{ \frac{\|\sum_{i=1}^n E_i Y f_i\|}{\|\sum_{i=1}^n E_i X f_i\|} : n \in \mathbb{N}, f_i \in \mathcal{H} \text{ and } E_i \in \mathcal{L} \right\} < \infty$$

by Theorem 1 [5]. Let $A^*X = T$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Tf, Tg \rangle &= \langle A^*Xf, A^*Xg \rangle \\ &= \langle AA^*Xf, Xg \rangle \\ &= \langle A^*AXf, Xg \rangle \\ &= \langle AXf, AXg \rangle \\ &= \langle Yf, Yg \rangle \text{ and} \\ \langle Xf, Tg \rangle &= \langle Xf, A^*Xg \rangle \\ &= \langle AXf, Xg \rangle \\ &= \langle Yf, Xg \rangle \text{ for all } f \text{ and } g \text{ in } \mathcal{H}. \end{aligned}$$

Conversely, under the first condition of hypothesis, there is an operator A in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$ such that $AX = Y$ and every E in \mathcal{L} reduces A by Theorem 1 [5]. Since $\langle Yf, Xg \rangle = \langle Xf, Tg \rangle$, $\langle AXf, Xg \rangle = \langle Yf, Xg \rangle = \langle Xf, Tg \rangle$

for all f and g in \mathcal{H} . Since the range X is dense in \mathcal{H} , $A^*X = T$. Since $\langle Yf, Yg \rangle = \langle Tf, Tg \rangle$,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle AXf, Yg \rangle &= \langle Yf, Yg \rangle \\ &= \langle Tf, Tg \rangle \\ &= \langle A^*Xf, Tg \rangle \\ &= \langle Xf, ATg \rangle \text{ for all } f \text{ and } g \text{ in } \mathcal{H}. \end{aligned}$$

Since the range X is dense in \mathcal{H} , $A^*Y = AT$. Hence $A^*AX = AA^*X$. Since the range X is dense in \mathcal{H} , $A^*A = AA^*$. \square

THEOREM 2. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and let \mathcal{L} be a commutative subspace lattice on \mathcal{H} . Let X and Y be operators acting on \mathcal{H} .*

$$\text{Let } \mathcal{M} = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n E_i X f_i : n \in \mathbb{N}, E_i \in \mathcal{L} \text{ and } f_i \in \mathcal{H} \right\}.$$

Assume that $EYf \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}$ for all E in \mathcal{L} and all f in \mathcal{H} . Then the following statements are equivalent.

(1) *There exists a normal operator A in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$ such that $AX = Y$ and every E in \mathcal{L} reduces A .*

(2) $\sup \left\{ \frac{\|\sum_{i=1}^n E_i Y f_i\|}{\|\sum_{i=1}^n E_i X f_i\|} : n \in \mathbb{N}, E_i \in \mathcal{L} \text{ and } f_i \in \mathcal{H} \right\} < \infty$ and there is an operator T acting on \mathcal{H} such that

$$\langle EYf, Yg \rangle = \langle ETf, Tg \rangle, \langle EYf, Xg \rangle = \langle EXf, Tg \rangle$$

and $Th \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}$ for all E in \mathcal{L} and all f, g and h in \mathcal{H} .

PROOF. (1) \Rightarrow (2). By Theorem 1, we can get the first result. Let $T = A^*X$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle EYf, Yg \rangle &= \langle ETf, Tg \rangle, \\ \langle EYf, Xg \rangle &= \langle EXf, Tg \rangle \end{aligned}$$

and $Th \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}$ for all $E \in \mathcal{L}$ and for all f, g, h in \mathcal{H} .

Conversely, under the conditions of hypothesis, there exists an operator A in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$ such that $AX = Y$ and every E in \mathcal{L} reduces A by

Theorem 2 [5]. Since $\langle EYf, Xg \rangle = \langle EXf, Tg \rangle$ for all f, g in \mathcal{H} and all E in \mathcal{L} ,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle A\left(\sum_{i=1}^n E_i X f_i\right), Xg \right\rangle &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n E_i Y f_i, Xg \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n E_i X f_i, Tg \right\rangle, \end{aligned}$$

$n \in \mathbb{N}$, $E_i \in \mathcal{L}$ and $f_i \in \mathcal{H}$. Let $f \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}$. Then $\langle Af, Xg \rangle = \langle f, Tg \rangle$. Since $\langle x, Th \rangle = 0$ and $\langle Ax, Xh \rangle = 0$ for all x in $\overline{\mathcal{M}}^\perp$ and all h in \mathcal{H} , $A^*X = T$. Since $\langle EYf, Yg \rangle = \langle ETf, Tg \rangle$ for all E in \mathcal{L} and all f, g in \mathcal{H} ,

$$\begin{aligned} &\left\langle A\left(\sum_{i=1}^n E_i X f_i\right), Yg \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n E_i Y f_i, Yg \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n E_i T f_i, Tg \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n E_i A^* X f_i, Tg \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle A^*\left(\sum_{i=1}^n E_i X f_i\right), Tg \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n E_i X f_i, ATg \right\rangle, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}, E_i \in \mathcal{L} \text{ and } f_i \in \mathcal{H}. \end{aligned}$$

So $\langle Af, Yg \rangle = \langle f, ATg \rangle$ for all f in $\overline{\mathcal{M}}$. Since $EYf \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}$ and $Th \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}$ for all f, h in \mathcal{H} and all E in \mathcal{L} , $ATh \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}$. Since $\langle x, Th \rangle = 0$ for all x in $\overline{\mathcal{M}}^\perp$ and h in \mathcal{H} , $\langle Ax, Yg \rangle = \langle x, ATg \rangle = 0$. So $A^*Y = AT$ and hence $A^*AX = AA^*X$. Since $AE = EA$ and $EA^* = A^*E$ for all E in \mathcal{L} , $A^*Af = AA^*f$ for all f in $\overline{\mathcal{M}}$. Since $A^*X = T$ and $EYf \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}$ for all E in \mathcal{L} and all f in \mathcal{H} , $0 = \langle EYf, x \rangle = \langle AEXf, x \rangle = \langle EXf, A^*x \rangle$ for all x in $\overline{\mathcal{M}}^\perp$. So $A^*x \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}^\perp$ for all x in $\overline{\mathcal{M}}^\perp$. Hence $AA^*x = 0$ for all x in $\overline{\mathcal{M}}^\perp$. Thus $A^*A = AA^*$. \square

THEOREM 3. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and \mathcal{L} be a subspace lattice on \mathcal{H} . Let $X_1, \dots, X_n, Y_1, \dots, Y_n$ be operators acting on \mathcal{H} . Assume that the range of one of the X_p 's is dense in $\mathcal{H}(p = 1, 2, \dots, n)$, let it be X_1 . Then the following statements are equivalent.*

(1) *There exists a normal operator A in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$ such that $AX_j = Y_j (j = 1, 2, \dots, n)$ and every E in \mathcal{L} reduces A .*

(2) $\sup \left\{ \frac{\|\sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} Y_i f_{k,i}\|}{\|\sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} X_i f_{k,i}\|} : l \leq n, m_i \in \mathbb{N}, E_{k,i} \in \mathcal{L} \text{ and } f_{k,i} \in \mathcal{H} \right\} < \infty$
and there are operators $T_r (r = 1, 2, \dots, n)$ acting on \mathcal{H} such that

$$\langle Y_p f, Y_q g \rangle = \langle T_p f, T_q g \rangle$$

and

$$\langle Y_p f, X_q g \rangle = \langle X_p f, T_q g \rangle$$

all f, g in \mathcal{H} and all $p, q = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

PROOF. (1) \Rightarrow (2). Under the conditions of hypothesis except that A is normal,

$$\sup \left\{ \frac{\|\sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} Y_i f_{k,i}\|}{\|\sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} X_i f_{k,i}\|} : l \leq n, m_i \in \mathbb{N}, E_{k,i} \in \mathcal{L} \text{ and } f_{k,i} \in \mathcal{H} \right\} < \infty$$

by Theorem 3 [5]. Let $A^* X_r = T_r (r = 1, 2, \dots, n)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle X_p f, T_q g \rangle &= \langle X_p f, A^* X_q g \rangle \\ &= \langle AX_p f, X_q g \rangle \\ &= \langle Y_p f, X_q g \rangle \text{ and} \\ \langle T_p f, T_q g \rangle &= \langle A^* X_p f, A^* X_q g \rangle \\ &= \langle AA^* X_p f, X_q g \rangle \\ &= \langle A^* AX_p f, X_q g \rangle \\ &= \langle AX_p f, AX_q g \rangle \\ &= \langle Y_p f, Y_q g \rangle \end{aligned}$$

for all f, g in \mathcal{H} and all $p, q = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Conversely, under the first condition of hypothesis, there exists an operator A in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$ such that $AX_j = Y_j$ and every E in \mathcal{L} reduces $A (j = 1, 2, \dots, n)$ by Theorem 4 [5]. Since $\langle Y_1 f, X_q g \rangle = \langle X_1 f, T_q g \rangle$ for all f, g

in \mathcal{H} and all $q = 1, 2, \dots, n$, $\langle AX_1f, X_qg \rangle = \langle Y_1f, X_qg \rangle = \langle X_1f, T_qg \rangle$. Hence $A^*X_q = T_q$ for all $q = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Since $\langle Y_p f, Y_q g \rangle = \langle T_p f, T_q g \rangle$ for all f, g in \mathcal{H} and all $p, q = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle AX_1f, Y_qg \rangle &= \langle Y_1f, Y_qg \rangle \\ &= \langle T_1f, T_qg \rangle \\ &= \langle A^*X_1f, T_qg \rangle \\ &= \langle X_1f, AT_qg \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Since the range X_1 is dense in \mathcal{H} , $A^*Y_q = AT_q$ for all $q = 1, 2, \dots, n$. So $A^*AX_q = AA^*X_q$ for all $q = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Hence $A^*A = AA^*$ because the range X_1 is dense in \mathcal{H} . \square

THEOREM 4. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and let \mathcal{L} be a commutative subspace lattice on \mathcal{H} . Let $X_1, \dots, X_n, Y_1, \dots, Y_n$ be operators acting on \mathcal{H} .*

$$\text{Let } \mathcal{N} = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} Y_i f_{k,i} : l \leq n, m_i \in \mathbb{N}, E_{k,i} \in \mathcal{L} \text{ and } f_{k,i} \in \mathcal{H} \right\}.$$

Assume that $EY_p f \in \overline{\mathcal{N}}$ for all E in \mathcal{L} , all f in \mathcal{H} and all $p = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Then the following statements are equivalent.

(1) There is a normal operator A in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$ such that $AX_p = Y_p$ ($p = 1, 2, \dots, n$) and every E in \mathcal{L} reduces A .

$$(2) \sup \left\{ \frac{\|\sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} Y_i f_{k,i}\|}{\|\sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} X_i f_{k,i}\|} : l \leq n, m_i \in \mathbb{N}, E_{k,i} \in \mathcal{L} \text{ and } f_{k,i} \in \mathcal{H} \right\} < \infty$$

and there are operators T_r ($r = 1, 2, \dots, n$) acting on \mathcal{H} such that

$$\langle EY_p f, Y_q y \rangle = \langle ET_p f, T_q y \rangle, \langle EY_p f, X_q y \rangle = \langle EX_p f, T_q y \rangle$$

and

$$\langle g, T_p f \rangle = 0$$

for all E in \mathcal{L} , all f, y in \mathcal{H} , all g in $\overline{\mathcal{N}}^\perp$ and all $p, q = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

PROOF. (1) \Rightarrow (2). By Theorem 3, we can get all results except that $\langle g, T_p f \rangle = 0$ for all f in \mathcal{H} , all g in $\overline{\mathcal{N}}^\perp$ and all $p = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Since $A^*X_p = T_p$ and $Ag = 0$ for all g in $\overline{\mathcal{N}}^\perp$ and all $p = 1, 2, \dots, n$, $\langle g, T_p f \rangle = \langle g, A^*X_p f \rangle = \langle Ag, X_p f \rangle = 0$ for all f in \mathcal{H} .

Conversely, under the first condition of hypothesis, there is an operator A in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$ such that $AX_j = Y_j (j = 1, 2, \dots, n)$ and every E in \mathcal{L} reduces A by Theorem 5 [5]. Since $\langle EY_p f, X_q y \rangle = \langle EX_p f, T_q y \rangle$ for all E in \mathcal{L} , all f, y in \mathcal{H} and all $p, q = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle A\left(\sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} X_i f_{k,i}\right), X_q y \right\rangle &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} Y_i f_{k,i}, X_q y \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} X_i f_{k,i}, T_q y \right\rangle, \end{aligned}$$

$m_i \in \mathbb{N}$, $l \leq n$, $E_{k,i} \in \mathcal{L}$, $f_{k,i} \in \mathcal{H}$. So $\langle Af, X_q y \rangle = \langle f, T_q y \rangle$, for $f \in \overline{\mathcal{N}}$, $y \in \mathcal{H}$ and $q = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Since $\langle g, T_q y \rangle = 0$ and $\langle Ag, X_q y \rangle = 0$ for all g in $\overline{\mathcal{N}}^\perp$ and all y in \mathcal{H} , $A^*X_q = T_q$ for all $q = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Since $\langle EY_p f, Y_q y \rangle = \langle ET_p f, T_q y \rangle$ for all E in \mathcal{L} , all f, y in \mathcal{H} and all $p, q = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle A\left(\sum_{k=1}^{m_i} \sum_{i=1}^l E_{k,i} X_i f_{k,i}\right), Y_p f \right\rangle &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} Y_i f_{k,i}, Y_p f \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} T_i f_{k,i}, T_p f \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} A^* X_i f_{k,i}, T_p f \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} X_i f_{k,i}, AT_p f \right\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

So $\langle Ax, Y_p f \rangle = \langle x, AT_p f \rangle$ for all x in $\overline{\mathcal{N}}$, all f in \mathcal{H} and all $p = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Since $EY_p f \in \overline{\mathcal{N}}$ for all E in \mathcal{L} , all f in \mathcal{H} and all $p = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$\sum_{k=1}^{m_i} \sum_{i=1}^l E_{k,i} Y_i f_{k,i} \in \overline{\mathcal{N}}$, for $m_i \in \mathbb{N}$, $l \leq n$, $E_{k,i} \in \mathcal{L}$ and

$$(*) \quad f_{k,i} \in \mathcal{H}.$$

Since $\langle g, T_p f \rangle = 0$ for all g in $\overline{\mathcal{N}}^\perp$, all f in \mathcal{H} and $p = 1, 2, \dots, n$, $T_p f \in \overline{\mathcal{N}}$. Hence $AT_p f \in \overline{\mathcal{N}}$ by (*) for all f in \mathcal{H} and all $p = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Since $\langle g, AT_p f \rangle = 0$, $\langle Ag, Y_p f \rangle = \langle g, AT_p f \rangle$ for all g in $\overline{\mathcal{N}}^\perp$, all f in \mathcal{H} and all $p = 1, 2, \dots, n$. So $A^*Y_p = AT_p$ for all $p = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Thus $A^*AX_p = AA^*X_p$ ($p = 1, 2, \dots, n$). Hence $A^*Af = AA^*f$ for all f in $\overline{\mathcal{N}}$. Since $AX_p = Y_p$ and $EY_p f \in \overline{\mathcal{N}}$, $0 = \langle EY_p f, g \rangle = \langle AEX_p f, g \rangle = \langle EX_p f, A^*g \rangle$, $E \in \mathcal{L}$, $g \in \overline{\mathcal{N}}^\perp$, $f \in \mathcal{H}$ and $p = 1, 2, \dots, n$. So $A^*g \in \overline{\mathcal{N}}^\perp$ for all g in $\overline{\mathcal{N}}^\perp$. Thus $AA^*g = 0$ and $AA^*g = A^*Ag$ for all g in $\overline{\mathcal{N}}^\perp$. Hence $AA^* = A^*A$. \square

If we modify the proofs of Theorems 3 and 4 a little bit, we can prove the following theorems. So we will omit their proofs.

THEOREM 5. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and let \mathcal{L} be a subspace lattice on \mathcal{H} . Let $\{X_n\}$ and $\{Y_n\}$ be two infinite sequences of operators acting on \mathcal{H} . Assume that the range of one of X_n 's is dense in \mathcal{H} . Then the following statements are equivalent.*

(1) *There is a normal operator A in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$ such that $AX_j = Y_j$ ($j = 1, 2, \dots$) and every E in \mathcal{L} reduces A .*

(2) $\sup \left\{ \frac{\| \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} Y_i f_{k,i} \|}{\| \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} X_i f_{k,i} \|} : m_i, l \in \mathbb{N}, E_{k,i} \in \mathcal{L} \text{ and } f_{k,i} \in \mathcal{H} \right\} < \infty$
and there is a sequence $\{T_n\}$ of operators acting on \mathcal{H} such that

$$\langle Y_p f, Y_q y \rangle = \langle T_p f, T_q y \rangle$$

and

$$\langle Y_p f, X_q y \rangle = \langle X_p f, T_q y \rangle$$

for all f, y in \mathcal{H} and all $p, q = 1, 2, \dots$.

THEOREM 6. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and let \mathcal{L} be a commutative subspace lattice on \mathcal{H} . Let $\{X_n\}$ and $\{Y_n\}$ be two infinite sequences of operators acting on \mathcal{H} .*

$$\text{Let } \mathcal{K} = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} X_i f_{k,i} : m_i, l \in \mathbb{N}, E_{k,i} \in \mathcal{L} \text{ and } f_{k,i} \in \mathcal{H} \right\}.$$

Assume that $EY_p f \in \overline{\mathcal{K}}$ for all E in \mathcal{L} , all f in \mathcal{H} and all $p = 1, 2, \dots$. Then the following statements are equivalent.

(1) *There is a normal operator A in $\text{Alg}\mathcal{L}$ such that $AX_j = Y_j$ ($j = 1, 2, \dots$) and every E in \mathcal{L} reduces A .*

$$(2) \sup \left\{ \frac{\left\| \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} Y_i f_{k,i} \right\|}{\left\| \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{k=1}^{m_i} E_{k,i} X_i f_{k,i} \right\|} : m_i, l \in \mathbb{N}, E_{k,i} \in \mathcal{L} \text{ and } f_{k,i} \in \mathcal{H} \right\} < \infty$$

and there is a sequence $\{T_n\}$ of operators acting on \mathcal{H} such that

$$\langle EY_p f, Y_q y \rangle = \langle ET_p f, T_q y \rangle, \langle EY_p f, X_q y \rangle = \langle EX_p f, T_q y \rangle$$

and

$$\langle g, T_p f \rangle = 0$$

for all E in \mathcal{L} , all f, y in \mathcal{H} , all g in $\overline{\mathcal{K}}^\perp$ and all $p, q = 1, 2, \dots$.

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