

LIFTING OF A CONTRACTION INTERTWINING TWO ISOMETRIES

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0. Throughout this note we consider only (bounded, linear) operators on Hilbert spaces. As usual, we denote by $L(\mathcal{H}_1, \mathcal{H}_2)$ the space of all operators from \mathcal{H}_1 into \mathcal{H}_2 and by $L(\mathcal{H})$ the space $L(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H})$. Also, for two contractions T_1 and T_2 on \mathcal{H}_1 and \mathcal{H}_2 , respectively, we shall denote by $I(T_2, T_1)$ the set of all operators $A \in L(\mathcal{H}_1, \mathcal{H}_2)$ intertwining T_2 and T_1 ; i.e., satisfying $T_2 A = A T_1$. Let $V_i \in L(\mathcal{H}_i)$ be an isometry ($i = 1, 2$), \mathcal{H}_0 a (closed linear) subspace of \mathcal{H}_1 invariant for V_1 and $V_0 = V_1|_{\mathcal{H}_0}$. By a *contractive intertwining lifting in $I(V_2, V_1)$* (briefly, (V_2, V_1) -CIL) of a contraction $A \in I(V_2, V_0)$ we mean any contraction $\hat{A} \in I(V_2, V_1)$ satisfying $\hat{A}|_{\mathcal{H}_0} = A$. In case $V_i = S_i$ ($i = 1, 2$) is a unilateral shift, necessary and sufficient conditions for the existence and the uniqueness of such a (S_2, S_1) -CIL were given in [3, Theorem 2] and [4, Proposition 3.1]. Also, in case $V_i = U_i$ ($i = 1, 2$) is a unitary operator and \mathcal{H}_0 is a reducing subspace for U_1 , three equivalent conditions for the uniqueness of a (U_2, U_1) -CIL of A (which obviously, in this case always exists) were given in [2, Corollary 2.3]. In the present note we extend the result of [3] to the case of arbitrary isometries V_1 and V_2 (see Thm. 1.1 below), and also, adapting the quoted results of [2] and [4], we give a necessary and sufficient condition for the uniqueness of (V_2, V_1) -CIL of A (see Section 3, Thm. 3.1).

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1. **THEOREM 1.1.** *Let $V_i \in L(\mathcal{H}_i)$ be an isometry ($i = 1, 2$), let \mathcal{H}_0 be a subspace of \mathcal{H}_1 invariant for V_1 , let $V_0 = V_1|_{\mathcal{H}_0}$, and let A be a contraction belonging to $I(V_2, V_0)$. Then, there exists a (V_2, V_1) -CIL \hat{A} of A if and only if the condition*

$$(1.1) \quad \|(I - V_2^n V_2^{*n}) A h_0\| \leq \|(I - V_1^n V_1^{*n}) h_0\|$$

holds for all $n = 1, 2, \dots$ and $h_0 \in \mathcal{H}_0$.

Proof. Since the necessity of the condition (1.1) is obvious, it remains to prove its sufficiency. For this purpose we adapt the original proof of [3] to the present more general situation.

Let $U_i \in L(\mathcal{H}_i)$ be the minimal unitary dilation of V_i ($i = 0, 1, 2$) (see [9, Ch.I, Sec. 4]); obviously we can and shall identify \mathcal{H}_0 with the space $\bigvee_{n=0}^{\infty} U_1^{-n} \mathcal{H}_0$ and $U_0 = U_1|_{\mathcal{H}_0}$. Also, let us denote by P_i the orthogonal projection of \mathcal{H}_i onto \mathcal{H}_i ($i = 0, 1, 2$), and let us set $\mathcal{G}_i = (I - P_i) \mathcal{H}_i$ ($i = 1, 2$) and $\mathcal{G}_0 = ((I - P_1) \mathcal{H}_0)^{\perp}$.

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First, we define by the formula

$$(1.2) \quad A_0 k_0 = s - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_2^{-n} A P_0 U_1^n k_0 \quad (k_0 \in \mathcal{K}_0)$$

(see [6, Thm. 2 and Cor. 5.1]) the unique contraction $A_0 \in I(U_2, U_0)$ satisfying

$$(1.3) \quad A_0|_{\mathcal{K}_0} = A$$

Since we also have $A_0 U_1^{-m}|_{\mathcal{K}_0} = U_2^{-m} A$ ($m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$), it follows, by (1.1), that

$$\begin{aligned} \|(I - P_2) A_0 U_1^{-m} h_0\|^2 &= \|A_0 U_1^{-m} h_0\|^2 - \|P_2 A_0 U_1^{-m} h_0\|^2 \\ &= \|U_2^{-m} A h_0\|^2 - \|V_2^{*m} A h_0\|^2 = \|(I - V_2^m V_2^{*m}) A h_0\|^2 \\ &\leq \|(I - V_1^m V_1^{*m}) h_0\|^2 \leq \|U_1^{-m} h_0\|^2 - \|V_1^{*m} h_0\|^2 \\ &= \|(I - P_1) U_1^{-m} h_0\|^2 \quad (h_0 \in \mathcal{K}_0). \end{aligned}$$

From this and from the fact that $U_1^{-m} h_0$ ($m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, h_0 \in \mathcal{K}_0$) span \mathcal{K}_0 , we infer that there exists a unique contraction $A_1: \mathcal{G}_0 \mapsto \mathcal{G}_2$ such that

$$(1.4) \quad A_1(I - P_1) k_0 = (I - P_2) A_0 k_0 \quad (k_0 \in \mathcal{K}_0).$$

Also, denoting by W_i the isometry $U_i^{-1}|_{\mathcal{G}_i}$ ($i = 1, 2$) and remarking that since \mathcal{K}_0 reduces U_1 , \mathcal{G}_0 is invariant to W_1^* , we have, by (1.4),

$$\begin{aligned} W_2^* A_1(I - P_1) k_0 &= (I - P_2) U_2(I - P_2) A_0 k_0 = (I - P_2) U_2 A_0 k_0 \\ &= (I - P_2) A_0 U_1 k_0 = A_1(I - P_1) U_1 k_0 = A_1 W_1^*(I - P_1) k_0 \end{aligned}$$

($k_0 \in \mathcal{K}_0$), so that $A_1 \in I(W_2^*, W_1^*|_{\mathcal{G}_0})$. Then, by the lifting theorem for coisometries (see [8], [7], [9]), it follows that there exists a contraction $B_1 \in I(W_2^*, W_1^*)$ such that $B_1|_{\mathcal{G}_0} = A_1$.

Now, let us consider the subspace $\mathcal{M}_i = \bigvee_{n=0}^{\infty} U_i^n \mathcal{G}_i$ of \mathcal{K}_i and let us denote by $P_{\mathcal{M}_i}$ the orthogonal projection of \mathcal{K}_i onto \mathcal{M}_i ($i = 1, 2$); obviously $U_i P_{\mathcal{M}_i} = P_{\mathcal{M}_i} U_i$ ($i = 1, 2$). Since the strong limit of $\{U_2^n B_1(I - P_1) U_1^{-n}|_{\mathcal{M}_i}\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ exists, we can define by the formula

$$(1.5) \quad \tilde{B}_1 = s - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_2^n B_1(I - P_1) U_1^{-n}|_{\mathcal{M}_i}$$

an operator from \mathcal{M}_1 into \mathcal{M}_2 which is (for any B_1) the unique contraction belonging to $I(U_2|_{\mathcal{M}_2}, U_1|_{\mathcal{M}_1})$ such that $B_1(I - P_1)|_{\mathcal{M}_1} = (I - P_2) \tilde{B}_1$ (see [1, Thm. 1.1] and [9, Ch. VII, Prop. 3.2]). Also, by the definition of \mathcal{M}_i , we have

$$\begin{aligned} s - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_i^n (I - P_i) U_i^{-n} k_i &= s - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_i^n (I - P_i) U_i^{-n} P_{\mathcal{M}_i} k_i \\ &= P_{\mathcal{M}_i} k_i - (s - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_i^n P_i U_i^{-n} P_{\mathcal{M}_i} k_i) = P_{\mathcal{M}_i} k_i \\ &\quad (k_i \in \mathcal{K}_i, \quad i = 1, 2), \end{aligned}$$

whence, by (1.4),

$$\begin{aligned}
 (1.6) \quad B_1 P_{\mathcal{M}_1} k_0 &= s - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_2^n B_1 (I - P_1) U_0^{-n} k_0 = s - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_2^n A_1 (I - P_1) U_0^{-n} k_0 \\
 &= s - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_2^n (I - P_2) A_0 U_0^{-n} k_0 = s - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_2^n (I - P_2) U_2^{-n} A_0 k_0 \\
 &= P_{\mathcal{M}_2} A_0 k_0 \quad (k_0 \in \mathcal{K}_0).
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, if we denote $\mathcal{K}'_1 = \mathcal{M}_1 \vee \mathcal{K}_0$ and

$$(1.7) \quad B_2 = \tilde{B}_1 (P_{\mathcal{M}_1} | \mathcal{K}'_1),$$

then B_2 is obviously a contraction belonging to $I(U_2 | \mathcal{M}_2, U_1 | \mathcal{K}'_1)$ which, by (1.6), satisfies

$$(1.8) \quad B_2 | \mathcal{K}_0 = P_{\mathcal{M}_2} A_0.$$

Also, by (1.8), we have

$$\|(I - P_{\mathcal{M}_2}) A_0 k_0\| \leq \|D_{B_2} k_0\| \quad (k_0 \in \mathcal{K}_0),$$

(where as usual, for a contraction $C \in L(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H}')$ we denote $D_C = (I - C^* C)^{1/2} \in L(\mathcal{H})$ and $\mathcal{D}_C = (D_C \mathcal{H})^-$), whence it follows that there exists a unique contraction A_2 from $(D_{B_2} \mathcal{K}_0)^-$ into $(I - P_{\mathcal{M}_2}) \mathcal{K}_2$ such that

$$(1.9) \quad A_2 D_{B_2} k_0 = (I - P_{\mathcal{M}_2}) A_0 k_0 \quad (k_0 \in \mathcal{K}_0).$$

Because $U_1 D_{B_2} = D_{B_2} U_1 | \mathcal{K}'_1$, we obtain at once, by (1.8), that

$$A_2 \in I(U_2 | \mathcal{K}_2 \ominus \mathcal{M}_2, U_1 | (D_{B_2} \mathcal{K}_0)^-).$$

Now, let \hat{A}_2 be a $(U_2 | \mathcal{K}_2 \ominus \mathcal{M}_2, U_1 | \mathcal{D}_{B_2})$ -CIL of A_2 (such an A_2 is for instance $A_2 Q$, where Q denotes the orthogonal projection of \mathcal{D}_{B_2} onto $(D_{B_2} \mathcal{K}_0)^-$). Then, if we set

$$(1.10) \quad \hat{A}'_0 = B_2 + \hat{A}_2 D_{B_2}$$

it is clear that $\hat{A}'_0 \in I(U_2, U_1 | \mathcal{K}'_1)$ and that, by (1.8) and (1.9),

$$(1.11) \quad \hat{A}'_0 | \mathcal{K}_0 = A_0.$$

Moreover, since the ranges of B_2 and \hat{A}_2 are orthogonal and \hat{A}_2 is a contraction, we easily infer that \hat{A}'_0 is also a contraction. Hence \hat{A}'_0 is a $(U_2, U_1 | \mathcal{K}'_1)$ -CIL of A_0 . We note that, since

$$\begin{aligned}
 (I - P_2) B_2 &= (I - P_2) \tilde{B}_1 P_{\mathcal{M}_1} | \mathcal{K}'_1 = B_1 (I - P_1) | \mathcal{K}'_1 \\
 &= (I - P_2) \tilde{B}_1 (I - P_1) | \mathcal{K}'_1 = (I - P_2) B_2 (I - P_1) | \mathcal{K}'_1,
 \end{aligned}$$

we also have

$$(1.12) \quad (I - P_2) \hat{A}'_0 = (I - P_2) \hat{A}'_0 (I - P_1) | \mathcal{H}'_1.$$

Now, let \hat{A}_0 be a (U_2, U_1) -CIL of \hat{A}'_0 satisfying

$$(1.13) \quad (I - P_2) \hat{A}_0 = (I - P_2) \hat{A}_0 (I - P_1).$$

Note that such a (U_2, U_1) -CIL of \hat{A}'_0 exists because we can set $\hat{A}_0 = \hat{A}'_0 P_{\mathcal{H}'_1}$ where $P_{\mathcal{H}'_1}$ denotes the orthogonal projection of \mathcal{H}_1 onto \mathcal{H}'_1 . Obviously, by (1.11), \hat{A}_0 is a (U_2, U_1) -CIL of A_0 and also, by (1.13), $\hat{A}_0 | \mathcal{H}_1 \in L(\mathcal{H}_1, \mathcal{H}_2)$, so that the operator

$$(1.14) \quad \hat{A} = \hat{A}_0 | \mathcal{H}_1$$

is a (V_2, V_1) -CIL of A . This completes the proof of theorem.

2. Let the operators A , V_i , U_i ($i = 0, 1, 2$), the spaces \mathcal{G}_i ($i = 0, 1, 2$), \mathcal{M}_i ($i = 1, 2$), \mathcal{H}'_1 and the orthogonal projections P_i ($i = 0, 1, 2$), $P_{\mathcal{M}_i}$ ($i = 1, 2$), $P_{\mathcal{H}'_1}$ be as in Section 1; also, let A_0 be the contraction defined by (1.2). In the sequel we shall assume that A satisfies the condition (1.1) and A_1 will be the contraction defined by the formula (1.4). In the following three lemmas we shall give some simple facts concerning the CIL's of the contractions A and A_0 .

LEMMA 2.1. *The formulas (1.14) and*

$$(2.1) \quad \hat{A}_0 = s - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_2^{-n} \hat{A} P_1 U_1^n$$

establish a one-to-one correspondence between all the (U_2, U_1) -CIL's \hat{A}_0 of A_0 satisfying (1.13) and all the (V_2, V_1) -CIL's \hat{A} of A .

Proof. This lemma follows directly from Theorem 2 and Corollary 5.1 of [6].

LEMMA 2.2. *Let \hat{A}'_0 be a contraction in $I(U_2, U_1 | \mathcal{H}'_1)$ satisfying (1.12). The formulas*

$$(2.2) \quad \hat{A}_0 = \hat{A}'_0 P_{\mathcal{H}'_1} + D_{\hat{A}'_0} \cdot \Gamma (I - P_{\mathcal{H}'_1})$$

and

$$(2.3) \quad D_{\hat{A}'_0} \cdot \Gamma = \hat{A}_0 | \mathcal{H}_1 \ominus \mathcal{H}'_1$$

establish a one-to-one correspondence between all the contraction

$$\Gamma \in I(U_2 | \mathcal{D}_{\hat{A}'_0}, U_1 | \mathcal{H}_1 \ominus \mathcal{H}'_1)$$

satisfying

$$(2.4) \quad (I - P_2) D_{\hat{A}'_0} \cdot \Gamma = 0$$

and all the (U_2, U_1) -CIL's \hat{A}_0 of \hat{A}'_0 satisfying (1.13).

Proof. It is known (see [5, Lemma 3.1]) that for any contraction

$$A'_0 \in L(\mathcal{K}'_1, \mathcal{K}_1)$$

the formulas (2.2) and (2.3) establish a one-to-one correspondence between all the contractions $\Gamma \in L(\mathcal{K}_1 \ominus \mathcal{K}'_1, \mathcal{D}_{\hat{A}'_0})$ and all the contractions $\hat{A}_0 \in L(\mathcal{K}_1, \mathcal{K}_2)$ satisfying $\hat{A}_0|_{\mathcal{K}'_1} = \hat{A}'_0$. Also, if $\hat{A}'_0 \in I(U_2, U_1|_{\mathcal{K}'_1})$ and satisfies (1.12), then, for any contraction $\Gamma \in I(U_2|_{\mathcal{D}_{\hat{A}'_0}}, U_1|_{\mathcal{K}_1 \ominus \mathcal{K}'_1})$ satisfying (2.4) the contraction \hat{A}_0 defined by (2.2) lies in $I(U_2, U_1)$ and satisfies (1.13); on the other hand, for any (U_2, U_1) -CIL \hat{A}_0 of \hat{A}'_0 satisfying (1.13), the formula (2.3) defines a contraction belonging to $I(U_2|_{\mathcal{D}_{\hat{A}'_0}}, U_1|_{\mathcal{K}_1 \ominus \mathcal{K}'_1})$ which also satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} (I - P_2)D_{\hat{A}'_0}\Gamma(I - P_{\mathcal{K}'_1}) &= (I - P_2)\hat{A}_0(I - P_{\mathcal{K}'_1}) = (I - P_2)(\hat{A}_0 - \hat{A}'_0P_{\mathcal{K}'_1}) \\ &= (I - P_2)\hat{A}_0(I - P_1) - (I - P_2)\hat{A}'_0(I - P_1) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Remark 2.1. If, in Lemma 2.2, \hat{A}'_0 is a $(U_2, U_1|_{\mathcal{K}'_1})$ -CIL of A_0 , then the (U_2, U_1) -CIL \hat{A}_0 of \hat{A}'_0 defined by (2.2) is a (U_2, U_1) -CIL of A_0 .

LEMMA 2.3. *Let \hat{A}'_0 be a $(U_2, U_1|_{\mathcal{K}'_1})$ -CIL of A_0 satisfying (1.12). Then $(I - P_2)\hat{A}'_0|_{\mathcal{G}_1}$ is a (W_2^*, W_1^*) -CIL of A_1 , and \hat{A}'_0 satisfies also*

$$(2.5) \quad P_{\mathcal{M}_2}\hat{A}'_0 = P_{\mathcal{M}_2}\hat{A}'_0(P_{\mathcal{M}_1}|_{\mathcal{K}'_1}).$$

Proof. First, note that

$$\begin{aligned} (I - P_2)\hat{A}'_0(I - P_1)U_1|_{\mathcal{G}_1} &= (I - P_2)\hat{A}'_0U_1|_{\mathcal{G}_1} = (I - P_2)U_2\hat{A}'_0|_{\mathcal{G}_1} \\ &= (I - P_2)U_2(I - P_2)\hat{A}'_0|_{\mathcal{G}_1} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (I - P_2)\hat{A}'_0(I - P_1)k_0 &= (I - P_2)\hat{A}'_0k_0 = (I - P_2)A_0k_0 = A_1(I - P_1)k_0 \\ &(k_0 \in \mathcal{K}_0) \end{aligned}$$

whence it follows that $(I - P_2)\hat{A}'_0|_{\mathcal{G}_1}$ is a (W_2^*, W_1^*) -CIL of A_1 . Also, since (by virtue of the last three equalities in (1.6)) we have

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\mathcal{M}_2}\hat{A}'_0k_0 &= P_{\mathcal{M}_2}A_0k_0 = s - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_2^n A_1(I - P_1)U_1^{-n}k_0 \\ &= s - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_2^n(I - P_2)\hat{A}'_0(I - P_1)U_1^{-n}k_0 = P_{\mathcal{M}_2}\hat{A}'_0P_{\mathcal{M}_1}k_0 \quad (k_0 \in \mathcal{K}_0) \end{aligned}$$

it follows that \hat{A}'_0 satisfies (2.5).

Remark 2.2. It is obvious that if \hat{A}_0 is a (U_2, U_1) -CIL of A_0 satisfying (1.13), then $\hat{A}_0|_{\mathcal{K}'_1}$ is a $(U_2, U_1|_{\mathcal{K}'_1})$ -CIL of A_0 satisfying (1.12). Also, any $(U_2, U_1|_{\mathcal{K}'_1})$ -CIL \hat{A}'_0 of A_0 is of the form (1.10), where $B_2 = P_{\mathcal{M}_2}\hat{A}'_0$ and \hat{A}_2 is a contraction in $I(U_2|_{\mathcal{K}_2 \ominus \mathcal{M}_2}, U_1|_{\mathcal{D}_{B_2}})$ such that $A_2 = \hat{A}_2|(D_{B_2}\mathcal{K}_0)^-$ satisfies (1.9). From these facts and by virtue of Lemmas 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 it is clear that:

The construction given in the proof of Theorem 1.1 yields all the (V_2, V_1) -CIL's of a contraction A intertwining the isometries V_2 and $V_0 = V_1|_{\mathcal{H}_0}$ and satisfying (1.1).

3. Now, we recall some results concerning the contractive intertwining dilations (CID) of a contraction $A \in I(T_2, T_1)$, where T_i is an arbitrary contraction on \mathcal{H}_i ($i = 1, 2$). If we denote by U_{i+} the minimal isometric dilation of T_i on \mathcal{H}_{i+} ($i = 1, 2$) (see [9, Ch. I, Sec. 10]), and by P_{i+} the orthogonal projection of \mathcal{H}_{i+} onto \mathcal{H}_i , then by a (U_{2+}, U_{1+}) -CID of A we mean any contraction $A_\infty \in I(U_{2+}, U_{1+})$ satisfying $P_{2+}A_\infty = AP_{1+}$. Also, let us denote

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{cases} \mathcal{R}(A \cdot T_1) = \{d + l_1 \in \mathcal{D}_A + \mathcal{L}_1 : T_1^* D_A d + U_{1+}^* l_1 = 0\}^- \subset \mathcal{D}_A + \mathcal{L}_1 \\ \mathcal{R}(T_2 \cdot A) = \{d \oplus l_2 \in \mathcal{D}_A \oplus \mathcal{L}_2 : D_A d + A^* U_{2+}^* l_2 = 0\}^- \subset \mathcal{D}_A \oplus \mathcal{L}_2, \end{cases}$$

where $\mathcal{L}_i = ((U_{i+} - T_i) \mathcal{H}_i)^-$ ($i = 1, 2$). By a A -choice sequence (see [5, Def. 3.1]) we mean a sequence of contractions $\{\Gamma_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ such that $\Gamma_1 \in L(\mathcal{R}(A \cdot T_1), \mathcal{R}(T_2 \cdot A))$ and $\Gamma_n \in L(\mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{n-1}}, \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{n-1}^*})$ ($n \geq 2$). In [5, Propositions 2.2 and 3.1] the following result is established:

There exists a one-to-one correspondence between all the (U_{2+}, U_{1+}) -CID of A and all the A -choice sequences $\{\Gamma_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$.

We introduce now the following

Definition 3.1. We say that a (U_{2+}, U_{1+}) -CID of A is the *distinguished* (U_{2+}, U_{1+}) -CID (and we denote it by A_∞^0) if it is the CID of A corresponding to the A -choice sequence $\{\Gamma_n^0\}_{n=1}^\infty$ with $\Gamma_n^0 = 0$ for all $n = 1, 2, \dots$

Note that, if A has a unique (U_{2+}, U_{1+}) -CID, then this is the distinguished CID A_∞^0 .

We shall also consider the case when $Z \in L(\mathcal{G})$ is an isometry such that $\mathcal{G} \supset \mathcal{H}_{2+}$, \mathcal{H}_{2+} reduces Z and $Z|_{\mathcal{H}_{2+}} = U_{2+}$. By a (Z, U_{1+}) -CID of $A \in I(T_2, T_1)$ we mean any contraction $\tilde{A}_\infty \in I(Z, U_{1+})$ satisfying $\tilde{P}_2 \tilde{A}_\infty = AP_1$, where \tilde{P}_2 denotes the orthogonal projection of \mathcal{G} onto \mathcal{H}_2 . If we denote by \tilde{P}_{2+} the orthogonal projection of \mathcal{G} onto \mathcal{H}_{2+} it is clear that $\tilde{A}'_\infty = \tilde{P}_{2+} \tilde{A}_\infty \in L(\mathcal{H}_{1+}, \mathcal{H}_{2+})$ is a (U_{2+}, U_{1+}) -CID of A and $\tilde{A}''_\infty = (I - \tilde{P}_{2+}) \tilde{A}_\infty \in L(\mathcal{H}_{1+}, \mathcal{G} \ominus \mathcal{H}_{2+})$ is of the form: $\tilde{A}''_\infty = C D_{\tilde{A}'_\infty}$, where C is a contraction in $L(\mathcal{D}_{\tilde{A}'_\infty}, \mathcal{G} \ominus \mathcal{H}_{2+})$ satisfying $C D_{\tilde{A}'_\infty} U_{1+} = Z C D_{\tilde{A}'_\infty}$. The *distinguished* (Z, U_{1+}) -CID of A is by definition the following (Z, U_{1+}) -CID of A :

$$(3.2) \quad \tilde{A}_\infty^0 = \begin{bmatrix} A_\infty^0 \\ OD_{A_\infty^0} \end{bmatrix} : \mathcal{H}_{1+} \mapsto \begin{matrix} \mathcal{H}_{2+} \\ \oplus \\ \mathcal{G} \ominus \mathcal{H}_{2+} \end{matrix},$$

where A_∞^0 is the distinguished (U_{2+}, U_{1+}) -CID of A and 0 is regarded as operator from $\mathcal{D}_{A_\infty^0}$ into $\mathcal{G} \ominus \mathcal{H}_{2+}$.

In the sequel A will be a contraction as in Sections 1 and 2 satisfying the condition (1.1). Also, let A_0 and A_1 be the contractions uniquely defined by the formulas (1.2) and (1.4), respectively. Using the notation of Sections 1 and 2, we denote $\mathcal{G}'_1 = \bigvee_{n=0}^\infty W_1^n \mathcal{G}_0$ and $W_{1+} = W_1|_{\mathcal{G}'_1}$; obviously \mathcal{G}'_1 reduces W_1 (since

\mathcal{G}_0 is invariant for W_1^* , and W_{1+} is the minimal isometric dilation of $P_{\mathcal{G}_0} W_1 | \mathcal{G}_0$ (where $P_{\mathcal{G}_0}$ denotes the orthogonal projection of \mathcal{G}_1 onto \mathcal{G}_0). Let $A_{1\infty}^{*0}$ be the distinguished (W_{1+}, W_2) -CID of $A_1^* \in I(P_{\mathcal{G}_0} W_1 | \mathcal{G}_0, W_2)$, and let $\tilde{A}_{1\infty}^{*0}$ be the distinguished (W_1, W_2) -CID of A_1^* . The adjoint operator $(\tilde{A}_{1\infty}^{*0})^* = (A_{1\infty}^{*0})^* P_{\mathcal{G}'_1}$ (where $P_{\mathcal{G}'_1}$ denotes the orthogonal projection of \mathcal{G}_1 onto \mathcal{G}'_1), is a (W_2^*, W_1^*) -CIL of A_1 . We denote

$$(3.3) \quad B_1^0 = (A_{1\infty}^{*0})^* P_{\mathcal{G}'_1}$$

and we say that B_1^0 is the *distinguished* (W_2^*, W_1^*) -CIL of A_1 .

Let \tilde{B}_1^0 be the contraction defined by the formula (1.5) for $B_1 = B_1^0$, let B_2^0 be the contraction defined by the formula (1.7) for $\tilde{B}_1 = \tilde{B}_1^0$, and let A_2^0 be the contraction defined by the formula (1.9) for $B_2 = B_2^0$. If we set $\tilde{B}_2^0 = \tilde{B}_1^0 P_{\mathcal{H}'_1}$, then the operator

$$(3.4) \quad \hat{A}_0^0 = \tilde{B}_2^0 + A_2^0 \hat{Q}^0 D_{B_2^0} P_{\mathcal{H}'_1},$$

where \hat{Q}^0 denotes the orthogonal projection of $\mathcal{D}_{B_2^0}$ onto $(D_{B_2^0} \mathcal{H}_0)^-$, is a (U_2, U_1) -CIL of A_0 satisfying (1.13); obviously, in the case when A_0 has a unique (U_2, U_1) -CIL, this is \hat{A}_0^0 .

Now, by virtue of Lemma 2.2, we have the following:

LEMMA 3.1. *In order that $\hat{A}'_0 | \mathcal{H}'_1 \in I(U_2, U_1 | \mathcal{H}'_1)$ have a unique (U_2, U_1) -CIL satisfying (1.13) (which will be \hat{A}_0^0) it is necessary and sufficient that*

$$(a_1) \quad \{\Gamma \in I(U_2 | \mathcal{D}_{A_0^0}, U_1 | \mathcal{H}_1 \ominus \mathcal{H}'_1): (I - P_2) D_{A_0^0} \Gamma = 0\} = \{0\}.$$

Also by virtue of [2, Corollary 2.3] we obtain at once

LEMMA 3.2. *$\hat{A}'_0 = \hat{A}_0^0 | \mathcal{H}'_1$ is the unique $(U_2, U_1 | \mathcal{H}'_1)$ -CIL of A_0 satisfying*

$$(3.5) \quad (I - P_2) \hat{A}'_0 = B_1^0 (I - P_1) | \mathcal{H}'_1$$

if and only if

$$(a_2) \quad I(U_2 | \mathcal{H}_2 \ominus \mathcal{H}'_2, U_1 | (\mathcal{D}_{B_2^0} \ominus (D_{B_2^0} \mathcal{H}_0)^-)) = \{0\},$$

where

$$(3.6) \quad B_2^0 = P_{\mathcal{H}'_2} \hat{A}'_0.$$

Finally, if we denote by C_k the contraction from $((I - V_1^k V_1^{*k}) \mathcal{H}_0)^-$ into $(I - V_2^k V_2^{*k}) \mathcal{H}_2$ defined by the formula

$$(3.7) \quad C_k (I - V_1^k V_1^{*k}) h_0 = (I - V_2^k V_2^{*k}) A h_0 \quad (h_0 \in \mathcal{H}_0)$$

(which exists by virtue of (1.1)) for every $k = 1, 2, \dots$ and $C_0 = 0 \in L(\mathcal{H}_0, \mathcal{H}_2)$, then, by virtue of [4, Proposition 3.1] we also have the following

LEMMA 3.3. *In order that A_1 have a unique (W_2^*, W_1^*) -CIL (which will be $B_1^0: (I - P_2) \hat{A}_0^0 | \mathcal{G}_1$) it is necessary and sufficient that*

(a₃) *one of the following two conditions holds:*

(i) *for every $h_1 \in \mathcal{H}_1$ there exists $\{h_{0k}\}_{k=1}^\infty \subset \mathcal{H}_0$ and $\{n_k\}_{k=1}^\infty \subset \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$ such that*

$$(3.8) \quad \begin{cases} s - \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (I - V_1 V_1^*) V_1^{*n_k-1} h_{0k} = (I - V_1 V_1^*) h_1 \\ s - \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} D_{C_n(k)-1} (I - V_1^{n_k-1} V_1^{*n_k-1}) h_{0k} = 0 \end{cases}$$

(ii) *for every $h_2 \in \mathcal{H}_2$ there exists $\{h_{0k}\}_{k=1}^\infty \subset \mathcal{H}_0$ and $\{n_k\}_{k=1}^\infty \subset \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$ such that*

$$(3.9) \quad \begin{cases} s - \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (I - V_2 V_2^*) V_2^{*n_k-1} A h_{0k} = (I - V_2 V_2^*) h_2 \\ s - \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} D_{C_n(k)-1} (I - V_1^{n_k-1} V_1^{*n_k-1}) h_{0k} = 0. \end{cases}$$

It is clear, by virtue of the construction given in the proof of Theorem 1.1, by Remark 2.2, and by Lemmas 2.1, 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3, that every one of the conditions (a₁), (a₂) and (a₃) is a necessary condition for the uniqueness of the (V_2, V_1) -CIL of A , and also that all the conditions (a₁), (a₂) and (a₃) together are sufficient in order that A have a unique (V_2, V_1) -CIL; hence we conclude with the following

THEOREM 3.1. *In order that a contraction A belonging to $I(V_2, V_0 = V_1 | \mathcal{H}_0)$ and satisfying (1.1) have a unique (V_2, V_1) -CIL (which will be $\hat{A}^0 = \hat{A}_0^0 | \mathcal{H}_1$) it is necessary and sufficient that the conditions (a₁), (a₂) and (a₃) hold.*

4. In this section we illustrate Theorems 1.1 and 3.1 by a functional example. Let us consider an arbitrary (fixed) scalar valued analytic function $\theta_j(\lambda) \in H^\infty$, $0 \neq |\theta_j(\lambda)| \leq 1$ for $|\lambda| \leq 1$ ($j = 1, 2$). We define the space

$$(4.1)_j \quad \mathcal{H}_j = H^2 \oplus (\Delta_j L^2)^-$$

where $\Delta_j(e^{it}) = (1 - |\theta_j(e^{it})|^2)^{1/2}$ ($0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$), $j = 1, 2$, and the subspace \mathcal{H}_0 of \mathcal{H}_1 by

$$(4.1)_0 \quad \mathcal{H}_0 = \{\theta_1 u \oplus \Delta_1 u : u \in H^2\}$$

Also, we consider the following isometry on \mathcal{H}_j :

$$(4.2)_j \quad V_j(u \oplus w)(e^{it}) = e^{it} u(e^{it}) \oplus e^{it} w(e^{it}) \quad (u \oplus w \in \mathcal{H}_j, 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi).$$

($j = 1, 2$). Also, we denote by U_j the minimal unitary dilation of V_j on

$$\mathcal{H}_j = L^2 \oplus (\Delta_j L^2)^-$$

(obviously, U_j is the multiplication by e^{it} on \mathcal{H}_j), $j = 1, 2$. Using the notation of the previous section it is obvious that

$$(4.3)_j \quad \mathcal{G}_j = (L^2 \ominus H^2) \oplus \{0\} \subset \mathcal{K}_j, \quad \mathcal{M}_j = L^2 \oplus \{0\} \subset \mathcal{K}_j,$$

($j = 1, 2$) and

$$(4.3)_0 \quad \begin{cases} \mathcal{K}_0 = \{\theta_1 v \oplus \Delta_1 v : v \in L^2\}, \\ \mathcal{G}_0 = (P_{L^2 \ominus H^2} \theta_1 L^2)^- \oplus \{0\} = (L^2 \ominus H^2) \oplus \{0\} = \mathcal{G}_1. \end{cases}$$

Also, we have

$$(4.4) \quad \mathcal{K}'_1 = (L^2 \oplus \{0\}) \vee \{\theta_1 v \oplus \Delta_1 v : v \in L^2\} = (L^2 \oplus \Delta_1 L^2)^- = \mathcal{K}_1.$$

Let A be a contraction in $I(V_2, V_1 | \mathcal{K}_0)$. Then, it is clear that A has a unique form

$$(4.5) \quad A(\theta_1 u \oplus \Delta_1 u)(e^{it}) = \alpha(e^{it}) u(e^{it}) \oplus \tau(e^{it}) u(e^{it}) \quad (u \in H^2, 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi)$$

where $\alpha(\lambda) \in H^\infty$, $\tau(e^{it})$ is measurable,

$$(4.6) \quad \tau(e^{it}) = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \Delta_2(e^{it}) = 0$$

and

$$(4.7) \quad |\alpha(e^{it})|^2 + |\tau(e^{it})|^2 \leq 1 \quad \text{a.e. on } 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi.$$

Because, for any contraction A as in Theorem 1.1, the condition (1.1) is equivalent to the existence of a unique contraction A_1 (defined by (1.4)), we can easily infer in the particular case of this section that, by the functional representation of A_1 , the condition (1.1) is equivalent to the existence of a function $\beta \in H^\infty$, $\|\beta\|_{H^\infty} \leq 1$ and satisfying

$$(4.8) \quad \beta(\lambda) \theta_1(\lambda) = \alpha(\lambda) \quad (|\lambda| < 1).$$

On the other hand if $A \in I(V_2, V_1 | \mathcal{K}_0)$ is a contraction satisfying the condition (4.8), then, since $\mathcal{G}_0 = \mathcal{G}_1$ and $\mathcal{K}'_1 = \mathcal{K}_1$, the conditions (a₃) and (a₁), respectively, are automatically satisfied, so that the uniqueness of the (V_2, V_1) -CIL A^0 of A is equivalent to the condition (a₂). In order to give an explicit interpretation of the condition (a₂), we notice that in our case this can be written

$$(4.9) \quad I(U_2 | ((\{0\} \oplus (\Delta_2 L^2)^-), U_1 | (\mathcal{D}_{B_2^0} \ominus (D_{B_2^0} \mathcal{K}_0)^-)) = \{0\},$$

where the operator B_2^0 has the same meaning as in Section 3. Denote by χ_0 the characteristic function of the set $\{e^{it} : |\beta(e^{it})| \neq 1, 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi\}$ and by χ_j the characteristic function of the set $\{e^{it} : \Delta_j(e^{it}) \neq 0, 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi\}$ ($j = 1, 2$). It is easy to see that the operator $U_1 | (\mathcal{D}_{B_2^0} \ominus (D_{B_2^0} \mathcal{K}_0)^-)$ is unitarily equivalent to the operator of multiplication by e^{it} on $\chi_0 \chi_1 L^2$ and that the operator $U_2 | ((\{0\} \oplus (\Delta_2 L^2)^-)$ is unitarily equivalent to the operator of multiplication by e^{it} on $\chi_2 L^2$. From this it is clear that (4.9) is equivalent to

$$(4.10) \quad \chi_0 \chi_1 \chi_2 = 0 \quad \text{a.e.}$$

Now we can conclude with the following

COROLLARY 4.1. *Let \mathcal{H}_j and V_j be defined by (4.1)_j ($j = 0, 1, 2$), respectively by (4.2)_j ($j = 1, 2$) and let A be the operator of the form (4.5), (4.6), (4.7) satisfying also the condition (4.8) with some $\beta \in H^\infty$, $\|\beta\|_{H^\infty} \leq 1$. Then A has a unique (V_2, V_1) -CIL if and only if Lebesgue (linear) measure of the set*

$$(4.11) \quad \{e^{it}: |\theta_1(e^{it})| \neq 1, |\theta_2(e^{it})| \neq 1, |\beta(e^{it})| \neq 1, 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi\}$$

is 0.

Finally, let us give a consequence of this corollary. Using the notation and the results of [10], we have that any contraction $X \in I(S(\theta_2), S(\theta_1))$ is of the form

$$(4.12) \quad X = P_{H(\theta_2)} \hat{A} | H(\theta_1),$$

where \hat{A} is a contraction in $I(V_2, V_1)$ such that

$$(4.13) \quad \hat{A} \{\theta_1 u \oplus \Delta_1 u: u \in H^2\} \subset \{\theta_2 u \oplus \Delta_2 u: u \in H^2\}.$$

Clearly such an operator \hat{A} is a (V_2, V_1) -CIL of

$$(4.14) \quad A = \hat{A} | \mathcal{H}_0 = \hat{A} | \{\theta_1 u \oplus \Delta_1 u: u \in H^2\} \in I(V_2, V_1 | \mathcal{H}_0).$$

We say that the contraction $X \in I(S(\theta_2), S(\theta_1))$ is *associated* with A . Also, by virtue of (4.13), there exists a function $\gamma \in H^\infty$, with $|\gamma(\lambda)| \leq 1$ for $|\lambda| \leq 1$ such that

$$(4.15) \quad A(\theta_1 u \oplus \Delta_1 u) = \theta_2 \gamma u \oplus \Delta_2 \gamma u \quad (u \in H^2).$$

Comparing (4.15) with (4.5), one easily infers that the condition (1.1) is equivalent to the fact that $\theta_2 \gamma$ is divisible in H^∞ by θ_1 and that $\|\theta_2 \gamma / \theta_1\|_{H^\infty} \leq 1$. Thus, we have the following

COROLLARY 4.2. *Let A be a contraction in $I(V_2, V_1 | \mathcal{H}_0)$ of the form (4.15) with $\gamma \in H^\infty$, $\|\gamma(\lambda)\| \leq 1$ for $|\lambda| \leq 1$, and such that $\theta_2 \gamma$ is divisible in H^∞ by θ_1 and $\|\theta_2 \gamma / \theta_1\|_{H^\infty} \leq 1$. Then there exists a unique contraction $X \in I(S(\theta_1), S(\theta_2))$ associated with A if and only if the set*

$$(4.16) \quad \{e^{it}: |\theta_1(e^{it})| \neq 1, |\theta_2(e^{it})| \neq 1, |\theta_2(e^{it})\gamma(e^{it})| \neq |\theta_1(e^{it})|, 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi\}$$

has Lebesgue (linear) measure 0.

Corollaries 4.1 and 4.2 can be also stated in case the function θ_j ($j = 1, 2$) is operator valued. The numerical case considered above was chosen only for the sake of simplicity.

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