

## Reflexive and hyper-reflexive operators of class $C_0$

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*Dedicated to P. R. Halmos on his 65th birthday*

The Jordan model of a finite matrix was used for the first time in the study of reflexive operators (on finite dimensional spaces) by DEDDENS and FILLMORE [5]. Their result was extended in [1] to the class of algebraic operators on Hilbert space, using the quasi-similar Jordan model (in fact in [1] the notion of para-reflexivity is studied, but one can easily see that reflexivity and para-reflexivity are equivalent for algebraic operators). The possibility of extending these results to the entire class  $C_0$  was then indicated in [6] for the separable case and [2] (where a sketch of proof is done) for the nonseparable case. It appeared that the reflexivity of an operator of class  $C_0$  is equivalent to the reflexivity of a single "Jordan block"  $S(m)$  (cf. § 1 below for the precise statement).

In this note we give a simplified version of the proofs of [6] and [2]. We further study the related notion of hyper-reflexivity (stronger than reflexivity for the class  $C_0$ ) and prove an analogous characterization of hyper-reflexive operators of class  $C_0$ .

### 1. Notations and results

We shall denote by  $\mathfrak{H}$  a complex Hilbert space and by  $\mathcal{B}(\mathfrak{H})$  the algebra of linear and bounded operators acting on  $\mathfrak{H}$ . For an algebra  $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{B}(\mathfrak{H})$ ,  $\text{Lat } \mathcal{A}$  will stand for the set of closed linear subspaces  $\mathfrak{M} \subset \mathfrak{H}$  invariant with respect to all elements of  $\mathcal{A}$ :  $X\mathfrak{M} \subset \mathfrak{M}$ ,  $X \in \mathcal{A}$ . For a family  $\mathcal{L}$  of closed linear subspaces of  $\mathfrak{H}$ ,  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{L}$  will denote the algebra of operators  $X \in \mathcal{B}(\mathfrak{H})$  for which  $X\mathfrak{M} \subset \mathfrak{M}$  whenever  $\mathfrak{M} \in \mathcal{L}$ . The algebra  $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{B}(\mathfrak{H})$  is called *reflexive* if  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Alg Lat } \mathcal{A}$ . An operator  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathfrak{H})$  is *reflexive* if the weakly closed algebra  $\mathcal{A}_T$  generated by  $T$  and  $I_{\mathfrak{H}}$  is a reflexive algebra. An operator  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathfrak{H})$  will be called *hyper-reflexive* if its commutant  $\{T\}' = (\mathcal{A}_T)'$  is a reflexive algebra.

Recall that a completely nonunitary contraction  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathfrak{H})$  is an operator of class  $C_0$  if  $u(T) = 0$  for some  $u \in H^\infty$ ,  $u \neq 0$  (cf. [10], ch. V). The simplest operators of class  $C_0$  are the "Jordan blocks"  $S(m)$ , with  $m \in H^\infty$  an inner function, defined by

$$(1.1) \quad S(m)u = P_{\mathfrak{H}(m)}(zu(z)), u \in \mathfrak{H}(m) = H^2 \ominus mH^2.$$

By the results of [11], [4] and [3], every operator  $T$  of class  $C_0$  is quasi-similar to a unique Jordan operator, that is to an operator of the form

$$(1.2) \quad S = \bigoplus_{\alpha} S(m_{\alpha})$$

where the values of  $\alpha$  are ordinal numbers and the inner functions  $m_{\alpha}$  are subject to the conditions

$$(1.3) \quad m_{\alpha} = 1 \quad \text{for some } \alpha \cong 0;$$

$$(1.4) \quad m_{\alpha} \text{ divides } m_{\beta} \text{ whenever } \alpha \cong \beta;$$

$$(1.5) \quad m_{\alpha} = m_{\beta} \quad \text{whenever } \text{card}(\alpha) = \text{card}(\beta).$$

Let us note that  $m_0$  coincides with the minimal function  $m_T$  of  $T$ . The operators quasi-similar to some  $S(m)$  are precisely the cyclic operators of class  $C_0$  (multiplicity-free operators). For multiplicity-free  $T$  it follows from [12] that  $\text{Lat } T = \text{Lat } \{T\}'$  and  $\mathcal{A}_T = (\mathcal{A}_T)'$  so for such operators reflexivity and hyper-reflexivity are equivalent.

We are now able to state the main results of this note.

**Theorem A.** *An operator  $T$  of class  $C_0$  with Jordan model  $S = \bigoplus_{\alpha} S(m_{\alpha})$  is reflexive if and only if  $S(m_0/m_1)$  is reflexive.*

**Theorem B.** *Let  $T$  and  $S$  be as in Theorem A. Then  $T$  is hyper-reflexive if and only if  $S(m_0)$  is reflexive.*

Recently P. Y. WU [15] published a proof of Theorem A for the particular case of operators of class  $C_0$  with finite defect indices.

## 2. Preliminary results

The following theorem plays an important role in the study of reflexive operators of class  $C_0$  (cf. [13] and [14] for the proof).

**Theorem 2.1.** *For every operator  $T$  of class  $C_0$  we have*

$$(2.1) \quad \mathcal{A}_T = \{T\}'' = \{T\}' \cap \text{Alg Lat } T.$$

**Corollary 2.2.** *An operator  $T$  of class  $C_0$  is reflexive if and only if  $\text{Alg Lat } T \subset \{T\}'$ . — Obvious from relation (2.1).*

**Corollary 2.3.** *Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathfrak{H})$  be an operator of class  $C_0$  and let  $\mathfrak{M}_j \in \text{Lat } T$  ( $j \in J$ ) be such that  $T|_{\mathfrak{M}_j}$  is reflexive for each  $j$ . If  $\mathfrak{H} = \bigvee_{j \in J} \mathfrak{M}_j$  then  $T$  is reflexive.*

**Proof.** It follows from Corollary 2.2 that it is enough to show that every  $X \in \text{Alg Lat } T$  commutes with  $T$ . But it is obvious that for  $X \in \text{Alg Lat } T$  we have  $X|_{\mathfrak{M}_j} \in \text{Alg Lat } (T|_{\mathfrak{M}_j})$  so that  $X|_{\mathfrak{M}_j} \in \{T|_{\mathfrak{M}_j}\}'$  by the hypothesis. Therefore,

$$\ker(XT - TX) \supset \bigvee_{j \in J} \mathfrak{M}_j = \mathfrak{H}, \quad \text{that is } X \in \{T\}'.$$

**Corollary 2.4.** *Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathfrak{H})$  be a reflexive operator of class  $C_0$ . For every  $X \in \mathcal{A}_T$  the operator  $T|(X\mathfrak{H})^-$  is reflexive.*

**Proof.** Let us take  $Y \in \text{Alg Lat } (T|(X\mathfrak{H})^-)$ . Since  $X \in \text{Alg Lat } T$  we infer  $YX \in \text{Alg Lat } T$  and therefore  $YX \in \{T\}'$ , by the reflexivity of  $T$  and Corollary 2.2. As  $X$  and  $T$  commute, we have  $YT \cdot X = YX \cdot T = TY \cdot X$  such that  $Y \in \{T|(X\mathfrak{H})^-\}'$  and the conclusion follows again by Corollary 2.2.

We shall introduce now an auxiliary property.

**Definition 2.5.** A completely nonunitary contraction  $T$  has *property (\*)* if for any quasi-affinity  $X \in \{T\}'$  there exists a quasi-affinity  $Y \in \{T\}'$  such that

$$(2.3) \quad XY = YX = u(T) \quad \text{for some } u \in H^\infty$$

for some  $u \in H^\infty$ .

**Lemma 2.6.** *Let  $T$  and  $T'$  be two quasi-similar completely nonunitary contractions. If  $T$  has property (\*) then  $T'$  does also. Moreover, if  $T$  has property (\*) then there exist quasi-affinities  $A, B$  such that  $T'B = BT$ ,  $TA = AT'$  and*

$$(2.4) \quad AB = u(T), \quad BA = u(T') \quad \text{for some } u \in H^\infty.$$

**Proof.** Let us assume that  $T$  has property (\*) and  $A, B'$  are two quasi-affinities such that  $T'B' = B'T$  and  $TA = AT'$ . For any quasi-affinity  $X \in \{T'\}'$  we have  $AXB' \in \{T\}'$  so that, by the assumption, we have  $AXB' \cdot Y' = Y' \cdot AXB' = u(T)$  for some quasi-affinity  $Y' \in \{T\}'$  and  $u \in H^\infty$ . We obviously have

$$A(X \cdot B'Y'A - u(T')) = AXB'Y' \cdot A - Au(T') = u(T)A - Au(T') = 0,$$

$$(B'Y'A \cdot X - u(T'))B' = B' \cdot Y'AXB' - u(T')B' = B'u(T) - u(T')B' = 0$$

so that  $X \cdot B'Y'A = u(T')$  by the injectivity of  $A$ , and  $B'Y'A \cdot X = u(T')$  by the quasi-surjectivity of  $B'$ . So we have  $XY = YX = u(T')$  for  $Y = B'Y'A$  and therefore  $T'$  has property (\*). For the last assertion of the Lemma it is enough to set  $B = B'Y'$  where  $Y'$  is obtained from the preceding proof for  $X = I$ . The Lemma follows.

Lemma 2.7. *Every Jordan operator of the form  $S = S(m_0) \oplus S(m_1)$  has property (\*)*.

Proof. Let  $X \in \{S\}'$  be a quasi-affinity. By the Lifting Theorem ([10], sec. II. 2.3) there exists a  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$  with entries in  $H^\infty$ , such that

$$(2.5) \quad P_{\mathfrak{H}} A (I - P_{\mathfrak{H}}) = 0 \quad \text{on} \quad H^2 \oplus H^2, \quad \text{and} \quad X = P_{\mathfrak{H}} A \quad \text{on} \quad \mathfrak{H} = \mathfrak{H}(m_0) \oplus \mathfrak{H}(m_1).$$

Let us remark that

$$(2.6) \quad a \wedge b \wedge m_0 = 1.$$

Indeed, if  $q = a \wedge b \wedge m_0 \neq 1$  it follows that  $\hat{q} = (1 - \overline{q(0)}q) \oplus 0$  is a non-zero vector in  $\mathfrak{H}$  such that for every vector of the form  $Xh$  ( $h = h_0 \oplus h_1 \in \mathfrak{H}$ ) we have

$$(Xh, \hat{q}) = (P_{\mathfrak{H}} Ah, \hat{q}) = (Ah, \hat{q}) = \int ((a/q)h_0 + (b/q)h_1)(q - q(0)) = 0,$$

and this is impossible since  $X$  has dense range. Moreover, we have

$$(2.7) \quad \det A \wedge m_1 = 1.$$

Indeed, let us set  $p = \det A \wedge m_1$  and denote  $h = -b(m_1/p) \oplus a(m_1/p)$ . Then we have, by (2.5),

$$XP_{\mathfrak{H}} h = P_{\mathfrak{H}} AP_{\mathfrak{H}} h = P_{\mathfrak{H}} Ah = P_{\mathfrak{H}} (0 \oplus m_1 \cdot (\det A)/p) = 0$$

and therefore  $P_{\mathfrak{H}} h = 0$  by the injectivity of  $X$ . Hence,  $h \in m_0 H^2 \oplus m_1 H^2$ , which implies that  $p$  divides  $b$  and  $a$ ; taking account of the definition of  $p$  we infer that  $p$  divides  $a \wedge b \wedge m_1 \wedge \det A$  also. Then (2.6) forces  $p$  to equal 1, concluding the proof of (2.7). From (2.6—7) it obviously follows that

$$\det A \wedge m_1 a \wedge m_1 b \wedge m_0 = 1$$

so that [7] (cf. also [9]) implies the existence of  $c', d', e' \in H^\infty$  (even constants) such that  $(\det A + m_1(ad' - be') + m_0 e') \wedge m_0 = 1$  or, equivalently,

$$(2.8) \quad (\det A + m_1(ad' - bc')) \wedge m_0 = 1.$$

Let us remark now that the matrix  $A' = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c + m_1 c' & d + m_1 d' \end{bmatrix}$  satisfies the relations analogous to (2.5) and moreover  $\det A' \wedge m_0 = 1$  by (2.8). Let us define  $Yh = P_{\mathfrak{H}} B h$  for  $h \in \mathfrak{H} = \mathfrak{H}(m_0) \oplus \mathfrak{H}(m_1)$ , where  $B = \begin{bmatrix} d + m_1 d' & -b \\ -c - m_1 c' & a \end{bmatrix}$ . It follows by direct computation that  $Y \in \{S\}'$  and  $XY = YX = u(S)$  with  $u = \det A'$ . Now  $u(S)$  is a quasi-affinity because  $u \wedge m_0 = 1$  (cf. [10], Prop. III. 4.7b) and therefore  $Y$  is also a quasi-affinity. The Lemma follows.

Remark 2.8. Lemma 2.7 also applies to operators of the form  $S = S(m)$  (take  $m_1 = 1$ ). By the celebrated theorem of SARASON [8] we have then, in fact,  $X = u(S)$  with some  $u \in H^\infty$ , for every  $X \in \{S\}'$ .

### 3. Reflexive operators

The role of property  $(*)$  in the study of reflexive operators is underlined by the following result.

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $T$  and  $T'$  be two quasi-similar operators of class  $C_0$  having property  $(*)$ . Then  $T$  is reflexive if and only if  $T'$  is reflexive.*

**Proof.** By Lemma 2.6 there exist quasi-affinities  $A, B$  such that  $T'B=BT$ ,  $TA=AT'$  and  $AB=u(T)$ ,  $BA=u(T')$  for some  $u \in H^\infty$ . Assume  $T$  is reflexive. For any  $X \in \text{Alg Lat } T'$  and  $\mathfrak{M} \in \text{Lat } T$  we have  $AXB\mathfrak{M} \subset A(B\mathfrak{M})^- \subset (AB\mathfrak{M})^- = (u(T)\mathfrak{M})^- \subset \mathfrak{M}$  because  $(B\mathfrak{M})^- \in \text{Lat } T'$  and  $u(T) \in \text{Alg Lat } T$ . By the reflexivity of  $T$  we have  $AXB \in \{T\}'$  and from the relations

$$A \cdot XT' \cdot B = AXB \cdot T = T \cdot AXB = A \cdot T'X \cdot B$$

it follows that  $X \in \{T'\}'$ . The reflexivity of  $T'$  follows then by Corollary 2.2, and Lemma 3.1 is proved.

For easier reference, let us formulate the following:

**Lemma 3.2.** *For two ('comparable') inner functions, say  $p$  and  $q$ , the operator  $V_{pq}: \mathfrak{H}(p) \rightarrow \mathfrak{H}(q)$ , defined by*

$$(3.1) \quad V_{pq}h = \begin{cases} P_{\mathfrak{H}(q)}h & \text{if } q \text{ divides } p \\ (q/p)h & \text{if } p \text{ divides } q \end{cases} \quad (h \in \mathfrak{H}(p)),$$

*intertwines  $S(p)$  and  $S(q)$ .*

**Proof.** If  $q$  divides  $p$ , we have for  $h \in \mathfrak{H}(p)$ , using (1.1) and (3.1),

$$(S(q)V_{pq} - V_{pq}S(p))h = P_{\mathfrak{H}(q)}\{zP_{\mathfrak{H}(q)}h - P_{\mathfrak{H}(p)}zh\} = 0$$

because  $zP_{\mathfrak{H}(q)}h = z(h + qw) = zh + qw'$ ,  $P_{\mathfrak{H}(p)}zh = zh + pw' = zh + qw''$  with some  $w, w', w'' \in H^2$ , and hence  $\{...\} \in qH^2$ .

If, conversely,  $p$  divides  $q$ , then we use the relation  $P_{\mathfrak{H}(m)}u = u - m[\bar{m}u]_+$ , valid for any inner  $m$  and for any  $u \in H^2$ ,  $[\dots]_+$  denoting here the natural projection  $L^2 \rightarrow H^2$ . We get by (1.1) and (3.2)

$$\begin{aligned} (S(q)V_{p,q} - V_{p,q}S(p))h &= P_{\mathfrak{H}(q)}z\frac{q}{p}h - \frac{q}{p}P_{\mathfrak{H}(p)}(zh) = \\ &= \left(z\frac{q}{p}h - q\left[\bar{q}z\frac{q}{p}h\right]_+\right) - \frac{q}{p}(zh - p[\bar{p}zh]_+) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

because  $\bar{q}q=1$ ,  $\frac{1}{p}=\bar{p}$  on the circle  $\{z: |z|=1\}$ .

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $S = S(m_0) \oplus S(m_1)$  be a Jordan operator. Then for every  $X \in \text{Alg Lat } S$  there exists  $Y \in \mathcal{A}_S$  such that  $X - Y = Z \oplus 0$  with some operator  $Z$  on  $\mathfrak{H}(m_0)$  and the zero operator on  $\mathfrak{H}(m_1)$ .*

**Proof.** The subspaces  $\mathfrak{H}(m_0) \oplus \{0\}$  and  $\{0\} \oplus \mathfrak{H}(m_1)$  are invariant for  $S$  so the assumption  $X \in \text{Alg Lat } S$  implies

$$X = X_0 \oplus X_1, \quad X_j \in \text{Alg Lat } S(m_j) \quad (j = 1, 2).$$

Consider the (obviously isometric) operator  $V = V_{m_0, m_1}$  defined by (3.2), and the subspaces

$$\{Vh \oplus h: h \in \mathfrak{H}(m_1)\} \quad \text{and} \quad \{VS(m_1)h \oplus h: h \in \mathfrak{H}(m_1)\}.$$

By Lemma 3.2, both are invariant for  $S$ , and hence for  $X$  also. So we infer

$$X_0 Vh = V X_1 h \quad \text{and} \quad X_0 V S(m_1)h = V S(m_1) X_1 h \quad \text{for } h \in \mathfrak{H}(m_1).$$

Apply the first equation for  $S(m_1)h$  in place of  $h$  and compare the results to obtain  $V X_1 S(m_1)h = V S(m_1) X_1 h$  for all  $h \in \mathfrak{H}(m_1)$ . Hence,  $X_1 S(m_1) = S(m_1) X_1$ . By a well-known theorem of SARASON [8] this implies that  $X_1 = u(S(m_1))$  for some  $u \in H^\infty$ . Hence,  $Y = u(S) = u(S(m_0)) \oplus u(S(m_1))$  has the property we needed.

**Lemma 3.4.** *Let  $S = S(m_0) \oplus S(m_1)$  be a Jordan operator and let  $Z$  be an operator on  $\mathfrak{H}(m_0)$  such that  $Z \oplus 0 \in \text{Alg Lat } S$ . Then*

$$(3.3) \quad Z(qH^2 \ominus m_0 H^2) \subset qm_1 H^2 \ominus m_0 H^2$$

for every inner divisor  $q$  of  $m_0/m_1$ .

**Proof.** As  $m_1$  is a divisor of  $m_0/q$ , which, in turn, is a divisor of  $m_0$ , we can consider the operators  $V_0 = V_{m_0/q, m_0}$  and  $V_1 = V_{m_0/q, m_1}$  defined by (3.2) and (3.1), respectively, and observe that  $\{V_0 h \oplus V_1 h: h \in \mathfrak{H}(m_0/q)\}$  is a subspace invariant for  $S$  (closure follows from the fact that  $V_0$  is an isometry, namely multiplication by the inner function  $q$ ). Then it is invariant for  $Z \oplus 0$  also. Hence we infer that for every  $h \in \mathfrak{H}(m_0/q)$  there exists  $h' \in \mathfrak{H}(m_0/q)$  such that  $ZV_0 h = V_0 h'$  and  $0 = V_1 h'$ . As  $V_1 h' = P_{\mathfrak{H}(m_1)} h'$  by (3.1), we must have  $h' \in \left(H^2 \ominus \frac{m_0}{q} H^2\right) \ominus (H^2 \ominus m_1 H^2)$  i.e.  $h' \in m_1 H^2 \ominus \frac{m_0}{q} H^2$ . We conclude that  $Zq\mathfrak{H}\left(\frac{m_0}{q}\right) \subset q\left(m_1 H^2 \ominus \frac{m_0}{q} H^2\right)$ , and this obviously implies (3.3).

**Remark.** In the particular cases  $q=1$  and  $q = \frac{m_0}{m_1}$  (3.3) implies

$$(3.4) \quad \text{ran } Z \subset m_1 H^2 \ominus m_0 H^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \ker Z \supset (m_0/m_1) H^2 \ominus m_0 H^2.$$

In the proof of the following result we shall use the *unitary* operator

$$(3.5) \quad R: m_1 H^2 \ominus m_0 H^2 \rightarrow \mathfrak{H}(m_0/m_1) \quad \text{defined by} \quad Rh = h/m_1,$$

which satisfies the relation

$$(3.6) \quad RS(m_0)|(m_1 H^2 \ominus m_0 H^2) = S(m_0/m_1)R = P_{\mathfrak{H}(m_0/m_1)}S(m_0)R.$$

**Proposition 3.5.** *The Jordan operator  $S = S(m_0) \oplus S(m_1)$  is reflexive whenever  $S(m_0/m_1)$  is reflexive.*

**Proof.** By Lemmas 3.3, 3.4, and Corollary 2.2 it suffices to show that every operator  $Z \in \text{Alg Lat } S(m_0)$  satisfying (3.3) commutes with  $S(m_0)$ . We claim that for such a  $Z$  we have  $RZ|\mathfrak{H}(m_0/m_1) \in \text{Alg Lat } S(m_0/m_1)$ . Indeed, the general form of the subspaces in  $\text{Lat } S(m_0/m_1)$  is  $qH^2 \ominus (m_0/m_1)H^2$  for  $q$  a divisor of  $m_0/m_1$ . By (3.3—4) we have  $RZ(qH^2 \ominus (m_0/m_1)H^2) \subset RZ(qH^2 \ominus m_0 H^2) \subset R(qm_1 H^2 \ominus m_0 H^2) = qH^2 \ominus (m_0/m_1)H^2$ . The reflexivity of  $S(m_0/m_1)$  implies  $RZ|\mathfrak{H}(m_0/m_1) \in \{S(m_0/m_1)\}'$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} R(ZS(m_0) - S(m_0)Z)|\mathfrak{H}(m_0/m_1) &= ((RZ)S(m_0) - RS(m_0)Z)|\mathfrak{H}(m_0/m_1) = \\ &= ((RZ)P_{\mathfrak{H}(m_0/m_1)}S(m_0) - S(m_0/m_1)RZ)|\mathfrak{H}(m_0/m_1) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

so that  $Z$  commutes with  $S(m_0)$  on  $\mathfrak{H}(m_0/m_1)$ . Because by (3.4) we have  $ZS(m_0) = S(m_0)Z = 0$  on  $(m_0/m_1)H^2 \ominus m_0 H^2$  it follows that  $Z \in \{S(m_0)\}'$ . The Proposition is proved.

**Proof of Theorem A.** Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathfrak{H})$  be of class  $C_0$ , with Jordan model  $S = \bigoplus_{\alpha} S(m_{\alpha})$  on  $\mathfrak{H} = \bigoplus_{\alpha} \mathfrak{H}(m_{\alpha})$ . If  $T$  is reflexive we infer by Corollary 2.4 that  $T|(\mathfrak{H}_1(T)\mathfrak{H})^-$  is reflexive. But  $T|(\mathfrak{H}_1(T)\mathfrak{H})^-$  is quasi-similar to  $S(m_0/m_1)$  and the reflexivity of  $S(m_0/m_1)$  follows by Lemma 3.1 and Remark 2.8.

Conversely, let us assume that  $S(m_0/m_1)$  is reflexive. Let  $X$  be any quasi-affinity such that  $TX = XS$ . Let us consider the spaces  $\mathfrak{H}_{\alpha} = (X\mathfrak{H}(m_{\alpha}))^-$  and  $\mathfrak{R}_{\alpha} = (X \ker m_{\alpha}(S|\mathfrak{H}(m_0)))^-$  for every ordinal number  $\alpha$ . Then the restriction  $T|\mathfrak{H}_0 \vee \mathfrak{H}_1$  is quasi-similar to  $S(m_0) \oplus S(m_1)$  and  $T|\mathfrak{R}_{\alpha} \vee \mathfrak{H}_{\alpha} (\alpha \geq 1)$  is quasi-similar to  $S(m_{\alpha}) \oplus S(m_{\alpha})$ . All these restrictions are reflexive by Lemmas 2.7, 3.1 and Proposition 3.5 so that the reflexivity of  $T$  follows by Corollary 2.3 because  $(\mathfrak{H}_0 \vee \mathfrak{H}_1) \vee \bigvee_{\alpha \geq 1} (\mathfrak{H}_{\alpha} \vee \mathfrak{R}_{\alpha}) = \bigvee_{\alpha \geq 0} \mathfrak{H}_{\alpha} = \mathfrak{H}$ .

**Corollary 3.6.** *Let  $T$  and  $T'$  be two quasi-similar operators of class  $C_0$ . Then  $T$  is reflexive if and only if  $T'$  is reflexive.*

**Proof.** Two operators of class  $C_0$  are quasi-similar if and only if they have the same Jordan model. Corollary obviously follows from Theorem A.

#### 4. Hyper-reflexive operators

**Proposition 4.1.** *If the operators  $T$  and  $T'$  are quasi-similar and one of them is hyper-reflexive then so is the other.*

**Proof.** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two quasi-affinities such that  $T'X = XT$  and  $TY = YT'$  and let  $A \in \text{Alg Lat } \{T'\}'$ . Then  $XAY \in \text{Alg Lat } \{T'\}'$ ; indeed, for each  $\mathfrak{M} \in \text{Lat } \{T'\}'$  we have

$$(4.1) \quad \mathfrak{N} = \bigvee_{Z \in \{T'\}'} ZY\mathfrak{M} \in \text{Lat } \{T'\}'$$

and  $X\mathfrak{N} \subset \bigvee_{Z \in \{T'\}'} XZY\mathfrak{M} \subset \bigvee_{Z' \in \{T'\}'} Z'\mathfrak{M} = \mathfrak{M}$ . In particular,  $XAY\mathfrak{M} \subset XA\mathfrak{N} \subset X\mathfrak{N} \subset \mathfrak{M}$  and  $XAY \in \text{Alg Lat } \{T'\}'$  because  $\mathfrak{M} \in \text{Lat } \{T'\}'$  is arbitrary.

If  $T'$  is hyper-reflexive it follows that  $XAY \in \{T'\}'$  so that  $X \cdot AT \cdot Y = XAY \cdot T' = T' \cdot XAY = X \cdot TA \cdot Y$  and  $A \in \{T'\}'$  because  $X$  and  $Y$  are quasi-affinities. It follows that  $T$  is hyper-reflexive. The Proposition is proved.

**Proof of Theorem B.** By the preceding proposition it is enough to consider the case  $T = S$ . Let us assume that  $S$  is hyper-reflexive and take  $A \in \text{Alg Lat } S(m_0)$ . Then the operator  $B = \bigoplus_{\alpha} A_{\alpha}$ , where  $A_0 = A$  and  $A_{\alpha} = 0$  for  $\alpha \geq 1$ , belongs to  $\text{Alg Lat } \{S\}'$ . Indeed, since each  $\mathfrak{R} \in \text{Lat } \{S\}'$  has the form  $\bigoplus_{\alpha} \mathfrak{R}_{\alpha}$  where  $\mathfrak{R}_{\alpha} \in \text{Lat } S(m_{\alpha})$ , we have  $B\mathfrak{R} \subset \mathfrak{R}$ . It follows that  $B \in \{S\}'$  and this implies  $A \in \{S(m_0)\}'$ . The reflexivity of  $S(m_0)$  follows by Corollary 2.2.

Conversely, let us assume that  $S(m_0)$  is reflexive. Because  $S(m_{\alpha})$  is unitarily equivalent to  $S(m_0)(\text{ran } u_{\alpha}(S(m_0)))^{-1}$  ( $u_{\alpha} = m_0/m_{\alpha}$ ) it follows by Corollary 2.4 that  $S(m_{\alpha})$  is reflexive for every  $\alpha$ . We consider the operators  $R_{\alpha\beta} \in \{S\}'$  defined by  $R_{\alpha\beta}(\bigoplus_{\gamma} h_{\gamma}) = \bigoplus_{\gamma} k_{\gamma}$  where  $k_{\gamma} = 0$  for  $\gamma \neq \alpha$  and

$$(4.2) \quad k_{\alpha} = V_{m_{\beta}, m_{\alpha}} h_{\beta} = \begin{cases} P_{\mathfrak{S}(m_{\alpha})} h_{\beta} & \text{whenever } \alpha > \beta, \\ (m_{\alpha}/m_{\beta}) h_{\beta} & \text{whenever } \alpha \leq \beta. \end{cases}$$

Cf. (3.1—2). Obviously,  $P_{\alpha} = R_{\alpha\alpha}$  coincides with the orthogonal projection of  $\bigoplus_{\gamma} \mathfrak{S}(m_{\gamma})$   $\alpha$ -component space.

Let  $A \in \text{Alg Lat } \{S\}'$ ; we have  $P_{\alpha}AP_{\beta} \in \text{Alg Lat } \{S\}'$  and  $A = \sum_{\alpha, \beta} P_{\alpha}AP_{\beta}$  in the strong operator topology. To conclude the proof it is enough to show that  $P_{\alpha}AP_{\beta} \in \{S\}'$ . Let us note that the operators  $R_{\beta\alpha}P_{\alpha}AP_{\beta}$  and  $P_{\alpha}AP_{\beta}R_{\beta\alpha}$  belong to  $\text{Alg Lat } \{S\}'$  and are of the form  $\bigoplus_{\gamma} T_{\gamma}$  with  $T_{\gamma} = 0$  for  $\gamma \neq \beta$  and  $\gamma \neq \alpha$ , respectively. Considering the spaces of the form  $\ker m(S) \in \text{Lat } \{S\}'$  for  $m$  a divisor of  $m_0$ , it is easily seen that necessarily  $T_{\gamma} \in \text{Alg Lat } S(m_{\gamma})$  so that  $T_{\gamma} \in \{S(m_{\gamma})\}'$  by



the reflexivity of  $S(m_\gamma)$ . It follows that  $R_{\beta\alpha}P_\alpha AP_\beta$  and  $P_\alpha AP_\beta R_{\beta\alpha}$  commute with  $S$  and therefore

$$R_{\beta\alpha}(P_\alpha AP_\beta S - SP_\alpha AP_\beta) = (P_\alpha AP_\beta S - SP_\alpha AP_\beta)R_{\beta\alpha} = 0.$$

If the range of  $R_{\beta\alpha}$  does not contain  $\text{ran } P_\beta$  it follows that  $\beta < \alpha$  and therefore  $R_{\beta\alpha}$  is one-to-one on  $\text{ran } P_\alpha$ ; therefore in both cases we infer  $P_\alpha AP_\beta \in \{S\}'$ . The Theorem is proved.

Remark 4.2. It follows from Theorems A and B that each hyper-reflexive operator of class  $C_0$  is also reflexive. This fact can be proved directly also, by using Theorem 2.1.

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