

## HYPERINVARIANT SUBSPACES OF OPERATORS ON HILBERT SPACES

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**1. Introduction.** Let  $H$  be a complex separable Hilbert space,  $\mathcal{B}(H)$  the algebra of all continuous linear operators on  $H$  and  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ . We denote by  $\{T\}'$  the commutant of  $T$  ( $X \in \{T\}'$  if and only if  $XT = TX$ ) and by  $\{T\}'' = \bigcap \{X\}' : XT = TX\}$  the bi-commutant of  $T$ . A contraction means an operator  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  with norm  $\|T\| \leq 1$ . By a subspace we always mean a closed linear subspace. A subspace  $L \subset H$  is called invariant for  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  if  $TL \subset L$ , and hyperinvariant (bi-invariant) for  $T$  if it is invariant for every  $X \in \{T\}'$  ( $X \in \{T\}''$ ). If  $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{B}(H)$  then  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{A}$  denotes the smallest weakly closed subalgebra of  $\mathcal{B}(H)$  containing  $\mathcal{A}$  and the identity  $I$ , and  $\text{Lat } \mathcal{A}$  denotes the set of all subspaces invariant for each  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ . The set  $\text{Lat } \mathcal{A}$  (with the operations  $\cap$  and  $\vee$  of intersection and of forming the closed linear span, respectively) is a complete lattice. If  $\mathcal{L}$  is a set of subspaces of  $H$ , then  $\text{Alg } \mathcal{L} = \{T \in \mathcal{B}(H) : \mathcal{L} \subset \text{Lat } T\}$ . The significance of these notions for the structure of an operator is obvious, e.g. from [34, Theorems 2.1 and 2.2]. In this paper the following properties of an operator  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  are treated:

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DEFINITION. Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ . Then

(i)  $T$  is said to have the *property (L)* if  $\text{Lat}\{T\}'$  is the smallest complete lattice containing all subspaces of the form  $\ker S = \{h \in H : Sh = 0\}$  and  $\overline{SH}$  for  $S \in \{T\}''$ ,

(ii)  $T$  is said to be *reflexive* if  $\text{Alg } T = \text{Alg } \text{Lat } T$ ,

(iii)  $T$  is said to be *hyperreflexive* if  $\{T\}' = \text{Alg } \text{Lat}\{T\}'$ .

The purpose of this paper is to review what is known about the property (L) and hyperreflexivity, and to show the relations between reflexivity and hyperreflexivity.

REMARK.  $\text{Lat}\{T\}'$  is often also denoted by  $\text{Hyplat } T$ .

The following lemma is used to reduce the investigation of invariant subspaces and related questions to simpler operators.

LEMMA 1. *Let the Hilbert space  $H$  be the direct sum of two subspaces,  $H = H_1 \oplus H_2$ . Let  $T_i \in \mathcal{B}(H_i)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) and  $T = T_1 \oplus T_2$ . Consider the following relations:*

- (1)  $\text{Alg}(T_1 \oplus T_2) = \text{Alg } T_1 \oplus \text{Alg } T_2$ ,
- (2)  $\text{Lat}(T_1 \oplus T_2) = \text{Lat } T_1 \oplus \text{Lat } T_2$ ,
- (3)  $\text{Alg } \text{Lat}(T_1 \oplus T_2) = \text{Alg } \text{Lat } T_1 \oplus \text{Alg } \text{Lat } T_2$ ,
- (4)  $\{T_1 \oplus T_2\}' = \{T_1\}' \oplus \{T_2\}'$ ,
- (5)  $\text{Lat}\{T_1 \oplus T_2\}' = \text{Lat}\{T_1\}' \oplus \text{Lat}\{T_2\}'$ ,
- (6)  $\text{Alg } \text{Lat}\{T_1 \oplus T_2\}' = \text{Alg } \text{Lat}\{T_1\}' \oplus \text{Alg } \text{Lat}\{T_2\}'$ ,
- (7)  $\{T_1 \oplus T_2\}'' = \{T_1\}'' \oplus \{T_2\}''$ ,
- (8)  $\text{Lat}\{T_1 \oplus T_2\}'' = \text{Lat}\{T_1\}'' \oplus \text{Lat}\{T_2\}''$ ,
- (9)  $\text{Alg } \text{Lat}\{T_1 \oplus T_2\}'' = \text{Alg } \text{Lat}\{T_1\}'' \oplus \text{Alg } \text{Lat}\{T_2\}''$ .

Then the following implications hold:

$$(1) \Rightarrow (2) \Leftrightarrow (3) \Rightarrow (4) \Leftrightarrow (5) \Leftrightarrow (6) \Leftrightarrow (7) \Rightarrow (8) \Leftrightarrow (9).$$

REMARKS. The proof of this lemma is simple and can be found e.g. in [8], [40]. (1) (and so all the other relations) is valid e.g. if  $\dim H < \infty$  and the minimal polynomials of  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are relatively prime.

If  $\dim H = \infty$  and  $\|T\| \leq 1$ , then (1) holds true if  $T_1$  is the absolutely continuous part and  $T_2$  is the singular unitary part of  $T$ . If  $T$  is a contraction of class  $C_0$  in the sense of [26], then (1) holds if the minimal functions of  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are relatively prime.

**2. Operators on finite-dimensional spaces.** Let  $\dim H < \infty$ . Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  have minimal polynomial

$$m_T(\lambda) = \prod_{i=1}^n (\lambda - \lambda_i)^{m_i}.$$

Let  $H_i = \ker(T - \lambda_i I)^{m_i}$ . Then the following assertions hold:

- (i)  $H_i \in \text{Lat}\{T\}'$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ;
- (ii)  $H = H_1 \oplus \dots \oplus H_n$ ;
- (iii) if  $T_i = T|_{H_i}$ , then  $T = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n T_i$  and  $\text{Alg } T = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \text{Alg } T_i$ .

The minimal polynomial of  $T_i$  is  $(\lambda - \lambda_i)^{m_i}$ . All the objects considered in Lemma 1 remain unchanged if we pass from  $T_i$  to the nilpotent operator  $T_i - \lambda_i$ . Therefore most problems concerning invariant subspaces of operators on finite-dimensional spaces reduce to the case of a nilpotent operator. Let  $N \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  be a nilpotent operator of order  $n$  (i.e.  $N^n = 0$ ,  $N^{n-1} \neq 0$ ). We consider its Jordan form, i.e. we assume that the matrix representation of  $N$  is

$$(I) \quad N = J(k_1) \oplus \dots \oplus J(k_m), \quad n = k_1 \geq \dots \geq k_m.$$

Let the corresponding decomposition of  $H$  be

$$(II) \quad H = H_1 \oplus \dots \oplus H_m.$$

Here  $J(k)$  is the  $k \times k$  Jordan cell (i.e. each entry on the first subdiagonal is 1, and all other entries are 0).

Denote by  $e$  the vector  $(1, 0, \dots, 0) \in H$ . The following theorem puts together results of [7], [10], [12]–[14], and [21].

**THEOREM 2.** *If  $N$  is a nilpotent operator given by (I) on the space (II), then the following assertions hold:*

- (1)  $L \in \text{Lat } N$  if and only if  $L = \ker B$  for an operator  $B \in \{N\}'$ .
- (2)  $L \in \text{Lat } N$  if and only if  $L = BH$  for an operator  $B \in \{N\}'$ .
- (3)  $\text{Alg } N = \{N\}''$  and it consists of all polynomials in  $N$ .
- (4)  $B \in \text{Alg Lat } N$  if and only if  $B = C + D$ , where  $C \in \{N\}''$  and  $D$  satisfies the conditions  $DH_1^\perp = \{0\}$ ,  $DN^i e \in \bigvee \{N^{k_2+i}e, N^{k_2+i+1}e, \dots\}$  for  $0 \leq i < n$ .
- (5)  $N$  is reflexive if and only if either  $k_1 = k_2$  or  $k_1 = k_2 + 1$  (here  $k_2 = 0$  if  $m = 1$ ).
- (6) Let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  have the block decomposition  $A = (A_{ij})$  (corresponding to the decomposition (II) of  $H$ ). Then

$$A \in \{N\}' \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} A_{ii} \in \{J(k_i)\}' \text{ for all } i; \\ \text{for } i < j, A_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ X \end{pmatrix} \text{ with } X \in \{J(k_j)\}'; \\ \text{for } i > j, A_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} Y & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ with } Y \in \{J(k_i)\}'. \end{cases}$$

Recall that  $\{J(k)\}'$  consists of polynomials in  $J(k)$  and thus of lower-triangular matrices with equal entries on each subdiagonal ( $a_{i+1,j+1} = a_{ij}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq k$ ).

- (7)  $\mathcal{L} \in \text{Lat}\{N\}' \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{L} = \bigoplus_{j=1}^m \ker J(k_j)^{r_j}$  for an  $m$ -tuple  $r_1, \dots, r_m$  of integers with

$$r_1 \geq \dots \geq r_m \geq 0, \quad k_1 - r_1 \geq \dots \geq k_m - r_m \geq 0.$$

(8) Let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  have the block decomposition  $A = (A_{ij})$ . Then  $A$  belongs to  $\text{Alg Lat}\{N\}'$  if and only if it has the following form:

$$A_{ij} = \begin{cases} \text{a lower-triangular matrix if } i = j; \\ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ X \end{pmatrix} \text{ with } X \text{ lower-triangular if } i < j; \\ (Y \ 0) \text{ with } Y \text{ lower-triangular if } i > j. \end{cases}$$

(9) (6) and (8) imply that  $N \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  is hyperreflexive if and only if  $N = 0$ .

(10)  $\text{Lat } N = \text{Lat}\{N\}'$  if and only if  $m = 1$ , i.e. the operator  $N$  has only one Jordan block.

**Remarks.** The assertions (1)–(3) hold for arbitrary operators from  $\mathcal{B}(H)$ . (1) and (2) were proved in [14], the proof of (3) can be found in [12] and [15, Theorem 4.4.19]. From (7) and from Lemma 1 it follows (see [13]) that every  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  has the property (L). In [20, Proposition 2] it was shown that every  $\mathcal{L} \in \text{Lat}\{T\}'$  is the range of an operator  $B \in \{T\}'$ . This can also be proved using (7). (4) and (5) were proved in [10]. Let us point out that (5) means that the reflexivity of  $N$  only depends on the dimensions of the largest and second largest Jordan blocks of  $N$ . (9) and Lemma 1 imply that  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  is hyperreflexive if and only if it is similar to a diagonal operator (i.e. all eigenvalues of  $T$  have multiplicity 1). (10) together with some other equivalent conditions was proved by Ong [21]. In [25, Theorem I.3.5] it was proved that if the minimal and characteristic polynomials of an operator  $T$  (in a space over an arbitrary field) coincide then  $\{T\}'$  consists of all polynomials in  $T$ . A generalization of (5) for an arbitrary scalar field was given in [2].

If  $N$  satisfies (9), then  $k_1 = \dots = k_m = 1$ . Consequently, if  $N$  is hyperreflexive, then it is reflexive. Then using Lemma 1 we conclude that hyperreflexivity implies reflexivity for every operator in a finite-dimensional space. In the last section of this paper we show that this is not true in infinite-dimensional Hilbert spaces. The other implication is not even true in finite dimensions, e.g. the operator  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  is reflexive, but it is not hyperreflexive.

**3. Weak contractions.** Throughout this section we shall use the terminology and results of Sz.-Nagy and Foiaş [26]. Let  $H_1, H_2$  be Hilbert spaces. Recall that an operator  $X \in \mathcal{B}(H_1, H_2)$  is a *quasiaffinity* if  $\ker X = \{0\}$  and  $\overline{XH_1} = H_2$  ( $\mathcal{B}(H_1, H_2)$  is the set of all operators from  $H_1$  into  $H_2$ ).  $T_2$  is called a *quasiaffine transform* of  $T_1$  if there exists a quasiaffinity  $X \in \mathcal{B}(H_1, H_2)$  intertwining  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ , i.e. satisfying  $T_2X = XT_1$ . We then write  $T_1 \succ T_2$ . If both  $T_1 \succ T_2$  and  $T_1 \prec T_2$ , then  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are *quasisimilar*. These relations play an important role in the theory of functional models of contractions (see e.g. [4], [26]).

It is well known ([26], [38]) that for every contraction  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  there exists a unique decomposition of  $H$  into the orthogonal direct sum of three subspaces from  $\text{Lat } T$ ,

$$(III) \quad H = H_1 \oplus H_2 \oplus H_3, \quad T = T_1 \oplus T_2 \oplus T_3,$$

where  $T_i = T|_{H_i}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , such that  $T_1$  is a completely non-unitary (c.n.u.) contraction (i.e. there is no  $L \in \text{Lat } T_1$  for which  $T_1|_L$  is a unitary operator), and  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are absolutely continuous (a.c.) and singular unitary (s.u.) operators (i.e. their spectral measures are absolutely continuous and singular with respect to the Lebesgue measure on the unit circle, respectively). Then  $\text{Alg}(T_1 \oplus T_2 \oplus T_3) = \text{Alg}(T_1 \oplus T_2) \oplus \text{Alg}(T_3)$ . Using Lemma 1 we may suppose that  $T_3 = 0$ . Then  $T$  is called *absolutely continuous*. The reason for this terminology is that the minimal unitary dilation ([4], [26]) of  $T$  is a.c.

Recall that a contraction  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  is a *weak contraction* if

- (i) its spectrum  $\sigma(T)$  does not contain the unit disc  $D = \{\lambda : |\lambda| < 1\}$ ,
- (ii) the operator  $I - T^*T$  has finite trace.

Since every a.c. weak contraction is similar to a c.n.u. weak contraction [39] it can be assumed that  $T$  is c.n.u. when studying invariant and hyperinvariant subspaces of a weak contraction  $T$ . Moreover, we can use the  $C_0$ - $C_{11}$  decomposition of  $T$  (see [26], [33], [37]):

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  be a c.n.u. weak contraction. Then there exist  $H_0, H_1 \in \text{Lat } T$  such that:*

(i)  $T_0 = T|_{H_0} \in C_0$  and  $T_1 = T|_{H_1} \in C_{11}$ . ( $C_0$  is the class of contractions  $T$  for which there exists a bounded analytic function  $u$  satisfying  $u(T) = 0$ ;  $T \in C_{11}$  if for all non-zero  $h \in H$ , neither  $T^n h$  nor  $T^{*n} h$  converges to 0.)

(ii)  $H_0 \vee H_1 = H$  and  $H_0 \cap H_1 = \{0\}$ .

(iii)  $H_0 = \ker m(T)$ ,  $H_1 = \overline{m(T)H}$ , where  $m$  is the minimal function of  $T_0$ . Since  $m(T) \in \{T\}''$ , it follows that  $H_0, H_1 \in \text{Lat}\{T\}'$ .

(iv) There exists  $S \in \{T\}''$  such that  $H_0 = \overline{SH}$  and  $H_1 = \ker S$ .

(v)  $\text{Lat}\{T\}'$  and  $\text{Lat}\{T_0\}' \oplus \text{Lat}\{T_1\}'$  are isomorphic.

If  $L \in \text{Lat } T$  and  $T$  is a weak contraction the restriction  $T|_L$  need not be weak (its spectrum may contain the whole unit disc). But if  $L \in \text{Lat}\{T\}'$ , then  $\sigma(T|_L) \subset \sigma(T)$  and so  $T|_L$  is a weak contraction. This allows one to show (see [37], [39]) that every weak contraction of class  $C_{11}$  has the property (L).

**DEFINITION.** An operator  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  is said to have the *property (P)* if

$$(XT = TX \text{ and } \ker X = \{0\}) \Rightarrow \overline{XH} = H.$$

In [35] it was proved that every weak contraction of class  $C_0$  has the property (L) as a consequence of the fact [3] that every weak  $C_0$  contraction has the property (P) and every  $C_0$  contraction having (P) has (L).

Recall that for c.n.u.  $C_{11}$  and  $C_0$  contractions there are some canonical operators (Jordan models) in their quasisimilarity orbits. Denote by  $H^\infty, H^2$  the corresponding Hardy classes of analytic functions and by  $H_1^\infty$  the space of all inner functions in  $H^\infty$ . If  $m \in H_1^\infty$ , then  $P(m)$  denotes the orthogonal projection from  $H^2$  onto the space  $H(m) = (mH^2)^\perp = H^2 \ominus mH^2$  and

$$S(m)u = P_m(u \cdot m), \quad \text{for every } u \in H(m).$$

$S(m)$  is a contraction of class  $C_0$  whose minimal function is  $m$ . For a contraction  $T \in C_0$  with minimal function  $m$  there exists a unique sequence of inner functions  $m_1 = m, m_2, m_3, \dots$  such that  $m_{i+1}$  divides  $m_i$  for every  $i$  and the Jordan model of  $T$  is

$$S(m_1) \oplus S(m_2) \oplus \dots \quad \text{on } H(m_1) \oplus H(m_2) \oplus \dots$$

It was shown in [3] that a  $C_0$  contraction  $T$  has the property (P) if and only if the greatest common inner divisor of the functions  $m_i$  in the Jordan model of  $T$  is 1.

In [18] a similar characterization of a.c.  $C_{11}$  contractions  $T$  having the property (P) was given. It is well known that  $T$  is quasisimilar to an a.c. unitary operator  $U$ . According to the theory of spectral multiplicities there exist a sequence  $E_1, E_2, \dots$  of measurable subsets of the unit circle  $\mathbb{T}$  such that  $T$  is quasisimilar to

$$M(E_1) \oplus M(E_2) \oplus \dots \quad \text{on } L^2(E_1) \oplus L^2(E_2) \oplus \dots$$

For  $E \subset \mathbb{T}$ ,  $L^2(E)$  denotes the space of all functions from  $L^2(\mathbb{T})$  that vanish outside  $E$  and  $M(E)$  denotes the operator of multiplication by  $e^{it}$ , i.e. the restriction of the usual bilateral shift to its reducing subspace  $L^2(E)$ .

According to [18, Theorem 1],  $T$  has the property (P) if and only if the Lebesgue measure of  $\bigcap_{n \geq 1} E_n$  is zero. According to Lemma 3 of [39] for every a.c. unitary operator  $U$  there exists a c.n.u. weak contraction similar to  $U$ . Therefore not every weak contraction of class  $C_{11}$  has the property (P) (while all weak  $C_0$  contractions have (P)).

**PROBLEM.** For  $C_0$  contractions, (P) implies (L). It is not known whether this implication holds for  $C_{11}$  contractions.

**Remarks.** 1. The problem of reflexivity and hyperreflexivity of a  $C_0$  contraction was reduced to the problem of reflexivity of a single Jordan block  $S(m)$  in [5]. Recently, Kapustin [16] has characterized those inner functions  $m$  for which  $S(m)$  is reflexive.

2. The property (L) was first proved for contractions with finite defect indices (see [28], [30], [32], [33]). Then these results were generalized to some contractions with infinite defect indices, in particular to all weak contractions (see [35]–[37], [39]).

3. In [16] and [17] a relation called pseudosimilarity was defined. It is stronger than quasisimilarity and preserves many of the properties of invariant subspace lattices and operator algebras connected with an operator  $T$ . Most of the above mentioned results were first proved for the Jordan models and the second step was to show that in those particular cases quasisimilarity preserves the properties in question. The reason was that in most cases the Jordan model of  $T$  was pseudosimilar to  $T$ .

4. In [1] some nilpotent operators in Banach space were proved to have the property (L).

**4. Hyperinvariant subspaces of isometries.** Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  be an isometry. The hyperinvariant subspaces of  $T$  were described in [11] in terms of the canonical decomposition (III). Using this decomposition the characterization of isometries having the property (L) and of hyperreflexive isometries were obtained in [36], [41]. Hyperreflexive isometries were characterized much earlier by V. S. Shul'man [23]. The following theorem puts together the above mentioned results.

**THEOREM 4.** *Consider the canonical decomposition (III) of an isometry  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ . Then:*

(1)  $L \in \text{Lat}\{T\}'$  if and only if  $L = L_1 \oplus L_2 \oplus L_3$ , where  $L_i \in \text{Lat}\{T_i\}'$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , and either  $L_1 = \{0\}$  or  $L_2 = H_2$ .

(2) Every  $A \in \{T\}'$  has a matrix form

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & 0 & 0 \\ X & A_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & A_3 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $A_i \in \{T_i\}'$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , and  $XT_1 = T_2X$ .

(3)  $A \in \text{Alg Lat}\{T\}'$  if and only if it has the above matrix form with some  $X \in \mathcal{B}(H_1, H_2)$ .

(4)  $T$  is hyperreflexive if and only if either  $T_1 = 0$  or  $T_2 = 0$ .

(5)  $T$  has the property (L) if and only if it is hyperreflexive.

**Remark.** It was shown in [41] that neither implication in (5) holds for general bounded operators in Hilbert space.

Every isometry is reflexive [9] and so for isometries as well as for operators in finite-dimensional spaces and for  $C_0$  contractions [5] hyperreflexivity implies reflexivity. It has been an open problem whether there exists a hyperreflexive operator which is not reflexive. We give a solution of this problem in the following section.

**5. Hyperreflexivity and reflexivity.** We start with a simple sufficient condition for hyperreflexivity:

**THEOREM 5.** *Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ . If the closed linear span of all eigenvectors of  $T$  is  $H$ , then  $T$  is hyperreflexive.*

**Proof.** If  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $T$ , then  $\ker(\lambda - T)$  is hyperinvariant for  $T$ . It follows that for every  $A \in \text{Alg Lat}\{T\}'$  and for every eigenvector  $h \in \ker(\lambda - T)$ ,

$$ATh = A(\lambda h) = \lambda Ah = TAh.$$

Since the eigenvectors span  $H$ , we have  $AT = TA$ , i.e.  $T$  is hyperreflexive.

Even the very strong assumptions of the preceding theorem are not sufficient for  $T$  to be reflexive. Before showing this fact we prove another simple result.

**THEOREM 6.** *Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ , let  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue of  $T$  and let  $A \in \text{Alg Lat } T$ . Then there exists a complex number  $a(\lambda)$  such that every  $h \in \ker(\lambda - T)$  is an eigenvector of  $A$  with eigenvalue  $a(\lambda)$ . Consequently, if in addition the eigenvectors of  $T$  span  $H$ , then  $A \in \{T\}''$ .*

**Proof.** The 1-dimensional space spanned by  $h \in \ker(\lambda - T)$  is invariant for  $T$  and so also for  $A$ . Therefore there exists a complex number  $a$  such that  $Ah = ah$ . If  $g \in \ker(\lambda - T)$  is another eigenvector, then there are  $b, c \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $Ag = bg$  and  $A(h + g) = c(h + g) = ah + bg$ . It is easy to prove that  $b = c = a$ .

Recently, Larson and Wogen [19] have constructed a reflexive operator  $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  whose eigenvectors span  $H$  such that the operator  $T \oplus 0 \in \mathcal{B}(H \oplus K)$  with  $\dim K \geq 1$  is not reflexive. They used this example to give solutions to several open problems. It turns out that the same example also answers (negatively) the problem whether every hyperreflexive operator must be reflexive. Indeed, the eigenvectors of  $T \oplus 0$  span  $H \oplus K$  and so  $T \oplus 0$  is hyperreflexive.

**PROBLEMS.** 1. If a nilpotent operator  $T$  is hyperreflexive, then it is equal to 0 [12]. Does there exist a non-zero hyperreflexive operator in a (necessarily infinite-dimensional) Hilbert space with spectrum  $\sigma(T) = \{0\}$ ?

2. Every contraction of class  $C_{11}$  is hyperreflexive because it is quasisimilar to a unitary operator and quasisimilarity preserves hyperreflexivity. Does there exist a non-reflexive contraction of class  $C_{11}$ ? Note that since every  $C_{11}$  contraction  $T$  has reflexive bi-commutant [27], we have the implication  $A \in \text{Alg Lat } T \Rightarrow A \in \{T\}''$ .

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