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THE STRUCTURE OF $n \times n$ POSITIVE OPERATOR-MATRICES

by

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THE STRUCTURE OF $n \times n$ POSITIVE OPERATOR-MATRICES

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The structure of nxn positive operator-matrices

by T. Constantinescu

I Preliminaries

The purpose of this note is to describe the structure of nxn positive operator matrices. In the first part of the paper, we shall express the entries of a positive operator-matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} I, S_{12}, S_{13}, \dots, S_{1n} \\ S_{12}^*, I, S_{23}, \dots, S_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ S_{ln}^*, \dots, I \end{pmatrix}$$

as functions depending on a family $\{\Gamma_{ij}\}_{i,j=1}^{\infty}$ of free parameters. (S_{ij} are operators acting on a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} .)

The result can be used to solve the similar problem for contractive operator-matrices. (A first attempt is given in [4] where the parametrization with arbitrary contractions is proved, but no explicit formulas appear.)

In the second part, we shall deduce an explicit construction of the Kolmogorov decomposition of a positive-definite kernel on \mathbb{N} . One more step is done in order to obtain a dilation result:

there exists a family of unitary operators $W(n), W(n) \in \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{K}_n, \mathcal{K}_n)$ so that

$$S_{ij} = P_{\mathcal{H}}^{\mathcal{K}_i} W(i) \dots W(j-1) / \mathcal{H}, \quad i > j.$$

We remark that all these facts are obtained by a slight modification of the proofs in [2] and [3]. The notations we will use, follow those of [1], [2], [3], but, for the sake of completeness, we indicate here the necessary changes.

First of all, let us mention that, in our situation, the parameters consist of the contractions Γ_{ij} , $i \geq 1, j \geq i+1$, so that for $j=i+1, i \geq 1, \Gamma_{ij}$ acts on \mathcal{H} and otherwise, Γ_{ij} acts

from $\mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}}$ into $\mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i,j-1}^*}$. Associated with a fixed set of parameters, we consider the operators: for $i \geq 1$ and $j \geq i+1$,

$$\begin{aligned} J_{ij}^1 &: \mathcal{K} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}^*} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,i+2}} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,i+3}} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \longrightarrow \\ &\longrightarrow \mathcal{K} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,i+2}} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \\ J_{ij}^1 &= J(\Gamma_{i,i+1}) \oplus I ; \end{aligned}$$

for $j-1 \geq k > 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} J_{ij}^k &: \mathcal{K} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,i+2}} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,i+k}} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i,i+k}^*} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \longrightarrow \\ &\longrightarrow \mathcal{K} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,i+2}} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i,i+k+1}^*} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i,i+k}} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \\ J_{ij}^k &= I \oplus J(\Gamma_{i,i+k}) \oplus I , \end{aligned}$$

where, for an arbitrary contraction $T: \mathcal{K} \longrightarrow \mathcal{K}$,

$$J(T): \mathcal{K} \oplus \mathcal{D}_T^* \longrightarrow \mathcal{K} \oplus \mathcal{D}_T$$

$$J(T) = \begin{pmatrix} T & ; & D_T^* \\ D_T & ; & -T^* \end{pmatrix} , \quad D_T = (I - T^* T)^{\frac{1}{2}} , \quad \mathcal{D}_T = \overline{D_T \mathcal{K}} ,$$

and I denotes the identity on the corresponding space. It is known that $J(T)$ is unitary, consequently J_{ij}^k are unitary too. These operators appear in the contractive intertwining dilations theory [1]. We also define the operators:

$$\begin{aligned} V_{ij} &: \mathcal{K} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,i+2}} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,i+3}} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{ij}^*} \longrightarrow \\ &\longrightarrow \mathcal{K} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i,j-1}} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{ij}} \\ V_{ij} &= J_{ij}^1 J_{ij}^2 \dots J_{ij}^{j-1} . \end{aligned}$$

Finally, let us define some operators considered in [2] and

[3]:

$$\begin{aligned} X_{ij} &= X_{ij}(\Gamma_{i,i+1}, \Gamma_{i,i+2}, \dots, \Gamma_{ij}): \mathcal{K} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,i+2}} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{K} \\ X_{ij} &= (\Gamma_{i,i+1}, \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}^*} \Gamma_{i,i+2}, \dots, \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}^*} \dots \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i,j-1}^*} \Gamma_{ij}) \\ \tilde{X}_{ij} &= \tilde{X}_{ij}(\Gamma_{j-1,j}, \Gamma_{j-2,j}, \dots, \Gamma_{ij}): \mathcal{K} \longrightarrow \mathcal{K} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{j-2,j}^*} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i,j-1}^*} \\ \tilde{X}_{ij} &= (\Gamma_{j-1,j}, \Gamma_{j-2,j} \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{j-2,j}} , \dots, \Gamma_{ij} \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \dots \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{j-2,j}})^t \end{aligned}$$

("t" standing for matrix transpose). As proved in [3], X_{ij} and \tilde{X}_{ij} are contractions. moreover, we mention the following identity from [2]:

that for $j-1 \geq 1, i \geq 1, \Gamma_{ij}$ acts on \mathcal{K} and Γ_{ij}

$$V_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} X_{ij} & , & D_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}}^* \cdot D_{\Gamma_{i,i+2}}^* \cdots D_{\Gamma_{ij}}^* \\ D_{ij} & , & -Y_{ij} \end{pmatrix}$$

where

$$D_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} D_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}}^* & , & -\Gamma_{i,i+1}^* \Gamma_{i,i+2}^* & , & \dots & , & -\Gamma_{i,i+1}^* D_{\Gamma_{i,i+2}}^* \cdots D_{\Gamma_{i,j-1}}^* \Gamma_{ij}^* \\ 0 & , & D_{\Gamma_{i,i+2}}^* & , & \dots & & \\ \vdots & & & & & & \\ 0 & , & 0 & , & \dots & & D_{\Gamma_{ij}}^* \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$Y_{ij} = (\Gamma_{i,i+1}^* D_{\Gamma_{i,i+2}}^* \cdots D_{\Gamma_{ij}}^* , \Gamma_{i,i+2}^* D_{\Gamma_{i,i+3}}^* \cdots D_{\Gamma_{ij}}^* , \dots , \Gamma_{i,j-1}^* D_{\Gamma_{ij}}^* , \Gamma_{ij}^*)^t$$

II nxn positive operator-matrices

In this section we shall obtain a one-to-one correspondence between the set of sequences of positive operators $\{B_{ln}\}_{n=2}^{\infty}$,

$$B_{ln} = \begin{pmatrix} I & , & S_{12} & , & S_{13} & , & \dots & , & S_{1n} \\ S_{12}^* & , & I & , & S_{23} & , & \dots & , & S_{2n} \\ \vdots & & & & & & & & \\ S_{1n}^* & , & \dots & & & & & , & I \end{pmatrix}$$

and the set of parameters Γ_{ij} introduced in I.

This result will be derived by the use of the well-known structure of a 2x2 positive operator, along the same line as in the proof of Theorem 1.2 in [2]. So, we shall consider the operators: $U_{ii} = I, i \geq 1$ and

$$U_{ij} : \mathcal{H} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}}^* \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i,j-1}}^* \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{ij}}^* \longrightarrow \mathcal{H} \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}}^* \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{ij}}^*$$

$$U_{ij} = V_{ij} (U_{i+1,j} \oplus I_{\mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{ij}}^*})$$

and $F_{ii} = I, i \geq 1,$

$$F_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} F_{i,j-1} & , & U_{i,j-1} \tilde{X}_{ij} \\ 0 & , & D_{\Gamma_{ij}}^* \cdots D_{\Gamma_{j-1,j}}^* \end{pmatrix}$$

We need some preparations about the structure of the operators

F_{ij}

2.1 LEMMA For $i \geq 1, j \geq i+1$,

$$U_{i,j-1} \tilde{X}_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} X_{i,j-1} U_{i+1,j-1} \tilde{X}_{i+1,j} + D_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}}^* \dots D_{\Gamma_{i,j-1}}^* \Gamma_{ij} D_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \dots D_{\Gamma_{j-1,j}} \\ D_{i,j-1} U_{i+1,j-1} \tilde{X}_{i+1,j} - Y_{i,j-1} \Gamma_{ij} D_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \dots D_{\Gamma_{j-1,j}} \end{pmatrix}$$

PROOF By a direct computation:

$$\begin{aligned} U_{i,j-1} \tilde{X}_{ij} &= V_{i,j-1} \begin{pmatrix} U_{i+1,j-1} & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{X}_{i+1,j} \\ \Gamma_{ij} D_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \dots D_{\Gamma_{j-1,j}} \end{pmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} X_{i,j-1} & D_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}}^* \dots D_{\Gamma_{i,j-1}}^* \\ D_{i,j-1} & -Y_{i,j-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_{i+1,j-1} & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{X}_{i+1,j} \\ \Gamma_{ij} D_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \dots D_{\Gamma_{j-1,j}} \end{pmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} X_{i,j-1} U_{i+1,j-1} \tilde{X}_{i+1,j} + D_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}}^* \dots D_{\Gamma_{i,j-1}}^* \Gamma_{ij} D_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \dots D_{\Gamma_{j-1,j}} \\ D_{i,j-1} U_{i+1,j-1} \tilde{X}_{i+1,j} - Y_{i,j-1} \Gamma_{ij} D_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \dots D_{\Gamma_{j-1,j}} \end{pmatrix}. \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

2.2 LEMMA For $i \geq 1, j \geq i+1$,

$$F_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} I & X_{ij} F_{i+1,j} \\ 0 & D_{ij} F_{i+1,j} \end{pmatrix}$$

PROOF For every fixed i , we prove the equality by induction. The main step is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} I, X_{ij} F_{i+1,j} \\ 0, D_{ij} F_{i+1,j} \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} I, (X_{i,j-1} D_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}}^* \dots \Gamma_{ij}) \\ 0, \begin{pmatrix} D_{i,j-1} & -Y_{i,j-1} \Gamma_{ij} \\ 0 & D_{\Gamma_{ij}} \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} F_{i+1,j-1}, U_{i+1,j-1} \tilde{X}_{i+1,j} \\ 0, D_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \dots D_{\Gamma_{j-1,j}} \end{pmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} F_{i,j-1} & U_{i,j-1} \tilde{X}_{ij} \\ 0 & D_{\Gamma_{ij}} D_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \dots D_{\Gamma_{j-1,j}} \end{pmatrix} = F_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

where we used the inductive hypothesis and Lemma 2.1. ■

2.3 LEMMA For $i \geq 1, j \geq i+1$,

$$F_{ij} = V_{ij} \begin{pmatrix} X_{ij}^* & F_{i+1,j} \\ D_{\Gamma_{ij}^*} \dots D_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}^*} & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

PROOF Again, by a direct computation, using Lemma 2.2:

$$\begin{aligned} V_{ij} \begin{pmatrix} X_{ij}^* & F_{i+1,j} \\ D_{\Gamma_{ij}^*} \dots D_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}^*} & 0 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} X_{ij} & D_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}^*} \dots D_{\Gamma_{ij}^*} \\ D_{ij} & -Y_{ij} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X_{ij}^* & F_{i+1,j} \\ D_{\Gamma_{ij}^*} \dots D_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}^*} & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} X_{ij} X_{ij}^* + D_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}^*} \dots D_{\Gamma_{ij}^*} \dots D_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}^*} & X_{ij} F_{i+1,j} \\ D_{ij} X_{ij}^* - Y_{ij} D_{\Gamma_{ij}^*} \dots D_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}^*} & D_{ij} F_{i+1,j} \end{pmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} I & X_{ij} F_{i+1,j} \\ 0 & D_{ij} F_{i+1,j} \end{pmatrix} = F_{ij} \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

Given the above lemmas we shall prove the main result of this section.

2.4. THEOREM There exists a one-to-one correspondence between the set of the sequences of positive operators B_{1n} and the set of parameters Γ_{ij} , given by the formulas:

$$S_{i,i+1} = \Gamma_{i,i+1}, \quad i \geq 1$$

$$S_{ij}^* = X_{i,j-1} U_{i+1,j-1} \tilde{X}_{i+1,j} + D_{\Gamma_{i,i+1}^*} \dots D_{\Gamma_{i,j-1}^*} \Gamma_{ij} D_{\Gamma_{i+1,j}} \dots D_{\Gamma_{j-1,j}}$$

, $i \geq 1, j \geq i+1$.

PROOF We only sketch the main parts of the proof. The first step is well-known:

$$B_{12} = \begin{pmatrix} I & S_{12} \\ S_{12}^* & I \end{pmatrix} \geq 0 \quad \text{if and only if } S_{12} = \Gamma_{12} \quad \text{is a}$$

contraction on \mathcal{H} . Further, we suppose for every $n \times n$ matrix to be true the following sentences (but we write them only for the matrix B_{1n}):

(1)_n $(S_{12}, \dots, S_{1n}) = X_{1n} F_{2n}$

(2)_n $(S_{1n}, \dots, S_{n-1,n})^t = F_{1,n-1}^* U_{1,n-1} \tilde{X}_{1n}$

(3)_n $B_{1n} = F_{1n}^* F_{1n}$

(4)_n there exists a unique contraction $\Gamma_{1,n+1} : \mathcal{D}_{1,n+1} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_{1,n}^*$ so that

$$S_{1,n+1} = X_{1n} U_{2n} \tilde{X}_{2,n+1} + \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{12}^*} \dots \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{1n}^*} \Gamma_{1,n+1} \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{2,n+1}} \dots \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{n,n+1}}$$

and we shall prove the same facts for $B_{1,n+1}$.

(1)_{n+1} $(S_{12}, \dots, S_{1,n+1}) = (X_{1n} F_{2n}, X_{1n} U_{2n} \tilde{X}_{2,n+1} + \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{12}^*} \dots \Gamma_{1,n+1} \dots \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{n,n+1}}) = X_{1,n+1} F_{2,n+1}$

(2)_{n+1} $(S_{1,n+1}, \dots, S_{n,n+1})^t = \begin{pmatrix} X_{1n} U_{2n} \tilde{X}_{2,n+1} + \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{12}^*} \dots \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{1n}^*} \Gamma_{1,n+1} \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{2,n+1}} \dots \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{n,n+1}} \\ F_{2n}^* U_{2n} \tilde{X}_{2,n+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} X_{1n} U_{2n}, \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{12}^*} \dots \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{1n}^*} \\ F_{2n}^* U_{2n}, 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \tilde{X}_{1,n+1}$

But, using Lemma 2.3, it results:

$$F_{1n}^* U_{1n} = \begin{pmatrix} X_{1n} U_{2n}, \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{12}^*} \dots \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{1n}^*} \\ F_{2n}^* U_{2n}, 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

consequently,

$$(S_{1,n+1}, \dots, S_{n,n+1})^t = F_{1n}^* U_{1n} \tilde{X}_{1,n+1}$$

(3)_{n+1} We can write:

$$B_{1,n+1} = \begin{pmatrix} B_{1n}, (S_{1,n+1}, \dots, S_{n,n+1})^t \\ (S_{1,n+1}, \dots, S_{n,n+1})^*, I \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} F_{1n}^* F_{1n}, F_{1n}^* U_{1n} \tilde{X}_{1,n+1} \\ \tilde{X}_{1,n+1}^* U_{1n} F_{1n}, I \end{pmatrix} = F_{1,n+1}^* F_{1,n+1}$$

(4)_{n+1} If $B_{1,n+2} \succ 0$ then

$$B_{2,n+2} \succ (S_{12}, \dots, S_{1,n+2})^* (S_{12}, \dots, S_{1,n+2}) \text{ so}$$

there exists a contraction $K=(K_1, \dots, K_{n+2})$ so that

$$(S_{12}, \dots, S_{1, n+2}) = (K_1, \dots, K_{n+2}) \begin{pmatrix} F_{2, n+1}, U_{2, n+1} \widetilde{X}_{2, n+2} \\ 0, D_{\Gamma_{2, n+2}} \dots D_{\Gamma_{n+1, n+2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

We obtain $(K_1, \dots, K_{n+1}) = X_{1, n+1}$ and

$$S_{1, n+2} = X_{1, n+1} U_{2, n+1} \widetilde{X}_{2, n+2} + D_{\Gamma_{12}^*} \dots D_{\Gamma_{1, n+1}^*} \Gamma_{1, n+2} D_{\Gamma_{2, n+2}} \dots D_{\Gamma_{n+1, n+2}}$$

where $\Gamma_{1, n+2}$ is a contraction uniquely determined by $S_{1, n+2}$.

The essential part of the Theorem is proved. ■

2.5 REMARK

We can use Theorem 2.4 in order to find the structure of a $m \times n$ contractive operator-matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11}, A_{12}, \dots, A_{1n} \\ A_{21}, \dots \\ \vdots \\ A_{m1}, \dots, A_{mn} \end{pmatrix}$$

We know that A is a contraction if and only if $\begin{pmatrix} I & A \\ A^* & I \end{pmatrix}$ is

positive and now we use the algorithm obtained in Theorem 2.4.

In [4], the same problem was solved, providing a factorization of the given contraction A into contractions of simple special form. But, from this factorization is not so easy to obtain explicit relations between A_{ij} and the parameters, as is done by the algorithm in Theorem 2.4. ■

III Positive-definite kernels on \mathbb{N}

In this section we shall use Theorem 2.4 in order to obtain a concrete matricial construction for the minimal Kolmogorov decomposition of a positive-definite kernel on \mathbb{N} . At this end we first recall some of the standard definitions (see for example [5]).

We call a positive-definite kernel on \mathbb{N} , a map

$$K: \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \longrightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$$

with the property that for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and each choice of vectors

h_1, \dots, h_n in \mathcal{H} and p_1, \dots, p_n in \mathbb{N} , the following inequality holds:

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^n (K(p_i, p_j) h_j, h_i) \geq 0.$$

Without the loss of generality, we can suppose $K(p, p) = I$ for $p \in \mathbb{N}$, and in this case it is easy to see that K is positive-definite if and only if the matrices B_{1n} are positive for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, where

$$S_{ij}^* = K(i, j).$$

A Kolmogorov decomposition of K will be a map

$$V: \mathbb{N} \longrightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H}_V)$$

where \mathcal{H}_V is a Hilbert space, so that

$$K(i, j) = V(i)^* V(j), \quad i, j \in \mathbb{N},$$

and, if $\mathcal{H}_V = \bigvee_{n=1}^{\infty} V(n) \mathcal{H}$ then the decomposition is said to be minimal.

It is well-known that two minimal Kolmogorov decompositions are equivalent in a common sense.

Using Theorem 2.4, we associate parameters Γ_{ij} to every positive-definite kernel on \mathbb{N} . We define

$$\mathcal{K}_+ = \mathcal{K} \oplus \bigoplus_{n=2}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_n}$$

and we look at the spaces $\mathcal{K} \oplus \bigoplus_{k=2}^n \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_k}$ as being embedded in \mathcal{K}_+ .

Regarding the minimal Kolmogorov decomposition we obtain:

3.1 THEOREM Let K be a positive-definite kernel on \mathbb{N} and Γ_{ij} the associated parameters. Then

$$V: \mathbb{N} \longrightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{K}_+)$$

$$V(n) = \begin{pmatrix} U_{1, n-1} \tilde{X}_{1n} \\ \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{1n}} \dots \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{n-1, n}} \end{pmatrix}$$

is the minimal Kolmogorov decomposition of K .

PROOF From the definitions:

$$F_{1n} = (V(1), V(2), \dots, V(n))$$

and using (3)_n from the proof of Theorem 2.4, it results

$$B_{1n} = (V(1)^*, \dots, V(n)^*)^t (V(1), \dots, V(n))$$

consequently,

$$S_{ij} = V(i)^* V(j), \quad i, j \in \mathbb{N}$$

For the minimality we have to prove that

$$\mathcal{K}_+ = \bigvee_{n=1}^{\infty} V(n)\mathcal{H}$$

Let $f = (h_0, h_1, \dots) \in \mathcal{K}_+$, $f \perp V(n)\mathcal{H}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. But

$$V(n)h = (*, *, \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{1n}} \dots \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{n-1n}} h, 0, 0, \dots) \quad \text{for } h \in \mathcal{H}$$

so, successively, $h_0 = 0, h_1 = 0, \dots$ and $\mathcal{K}_+ = \bigvee_{n=1}^{\infty} V(n)\mathcal{H}$. ■

We next show that the map V has a simple multiplicative structure. For this aim, we follow [3] in order to define the operators:

$$W_+(n) = W_+(\Gamma_{n,n+1}, \Gamma_{n,n+2}, \dots) : \mathcal{H} \oplus \bigoplus_{k=2}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{n+1,n+k}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{H} \oplus \bigoplus_{k=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{n,n+k}}$$

For this, let us denote for $k \geq 1$

$$W_k(n) = V_{n,n+k} (I \oplus \Gamma_{n,n+k})$$

and

$$W_+(n) = s\text{-}\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} W_k(n) \quad (\text{Lemma 2.3 in [3]}).$$

3.2 THEOREM For $n > 1$,

$$V(n) = W_+(1)W_+(2)\dots W_+(n-1) / \mathcal{H}$$

PROOF First, we argue as in Lemma 2.2 [3] that

$$W_+(1)\dots W_+(n) / \mathcal{H} = W_{n+1}(1)\dots W_{n+1}(n) / \mathcal{H}$$

Further, we prove by induction that for $n > 1$,

$$W_n(1)\dots W_n(n-1)(I, O_{n-1})^t = V(n).$$

The main step is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} W_{n+1}(1)\dots W_{n+1}(n)(I, O_n)^t &= \begin{pmatrix} W_n(1) & , & * \\ 0, \dots, \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{1n}} & , & * \end{pmatrix} \dots \begin{pmatrix} W_n(n) & , & * \\ 0, \dots, \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{n,2n}} & , & * \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I \\ O_n \end{pmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} W_n(1) & , & * \\ 0, \dots, \mathcal{D}_{\Gamma_{1n}} & , & * \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} W_n(2)\dots W_n(n)(I, O_{n-1})^t & , & 0 \\ 0 & & , & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \end{aligned}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} W_n(1) \begin{pmatrix} U_{2n} \tilde{X}_{2,n+1} \\ D_{T_{2,n}} \dots D_{T_{n,n+1}} \end{pmatrix} \\ D_{T_{1,n}} \dots D_{T_{n,n+1}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U_{1n} \tilde{X}_{1,n+1} \\ D_{T_{1,n+1}} \dots D_{T_{n,n+1}} \end{pmatrix} = V(n+1). \quad \blacksquare$$

Now, let us denote

$$W(n): \mathcal{K}_{n+1} \longrightarrow \mathcal{K}_n$$

the unitary extensions of the isometries $W_+(n)$. We obtain the following dilation result:

3.3 THEOREM Let $\{B_{ij}\}_{\substack{i=1 \\ j>i}}^{\infty}$ be a family of contractions on a

Hilbert space \mathcal{H} so that $B_{1n} \geq 0$ for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then, there exists a sequence of unitary operators $W(n) \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{K}_{n+1}, \mathcal{K}_n)$ with:

$$S_{ij} = P_{\mathcal{H}} \left(W(i) \dots W(j-1) \right) / \mathcal{H}, \quad i \geq 1, j > i$$

and an appropriate minimality condition.

PROOF It is an immediate consequence of Theorem 3.1 and Theorem 3.2. \blacksquare

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