



INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICS

THE CZECH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

**On invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension  
of an  $m$ -isometry**

*Tereza Bermúdez*

*Antonio Martín*

*Vladimír Müller*

*Hajer Zaway*

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# ON INVERTIBLE $m$ -ISOMETRICAL EXTENSION OF AN $m$ -ISOMETRY.

T. BERMÚDEZ, A. MARTINÓN, V. MÜLLER, H. ZAWAY

ABSTRACT. We give necessary and sufficient conditions on an  $m$ -isometry to have an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension. As particular cases, we give a useful characterization for a general  $m$ -isometrical unilateral weighted shift and for  $\ell$ -Jordan isometries. In particular, every  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry operator has an invertible  $(2\ell - 1)$ -isometrical extension.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

In the last twenty years there has been an intense research activity on  $m$ -isometries. In this paper, we focus our attention on characterizing  $m$ -isometries that have an invertible extension that is also  $m$ -isometry.

The notion of  $m$ -isometric operator on a Hilbert space was introduced by J. Agler [2] and studied in detail shortly after by J. Agler and M. Stankus in three papers [4, 5, 6]. These publications can be considered the first ones to initiate this topic of study.

An operator  $T \in L(H)$ , the algebra of all bounded linear operators acting on a Hilbert space  $H$ , is called an  $m$ -isometry, for some positive integer  $m$ , if

$$\sum_{k=0}^m \binom{m}{k} (-1)^k T^{*k} T^k = 0,$$

where  $T^*$  denotes the adjoint operator of  $T$ . When  $m = 1$ , we obtain an isometry. It is said that  $T$  is a *strict  $m$ -isometry* if either  $m = 1$  or  $T$  is an  $m$ -isometry with  $m > 1$  but it is not  $(m - 1)$ -isometry.

As one should expect,  $m$ -isometries share many important properties with isometries. For example, the following dichotomy property: the spectrum of an  $m$ -isometry is the closed unit disc if it is not invertible or a closed subset of the unit circle if it

is invertible [4]. Also, if  $T$  is an  $m$ -isometry, then  $T$  is bounded below; that is, there exists  $M > 0$  such that  $\|Tx\| \geq M\|x\|$  for every  $x \in H$ .

Given an  $m$ -isometry  $T \in L(H)$ , we are interested in research conditions which guarantee the existence of a Hilbert space  $K$  and an operator  $S \in L(K)$ , which is an extension of  $T$ , such that  $S$  is an invertible  $m$ -isometry. To say that  $S \in L(K)$  is an *extension* of  $T \in L(H)$  means that  $K$  contains an isometric subspace to  $H$ , which we denote also by  $H$ , and the restriction  $S|_H$  from  $H$  to  $H$  coincides with  $T$ .

**Problem 1.1.** *Characterize those  $m$ -isometric operators which have an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension.*

In 1969 Douglas [13] obtained that any isometry in a Banach space has an invertible isometric extension, also valid in a Hilbert space context. So, the case  $m = 1$  holds. For  $m \geq 2$ , first immediate consideration is that  $m$  must be odd, since every invertible  $m$ -isometry with even  $m$  is an  $(m - 1)$ -isometry by [4, Proposition 1.23].

Our problem is similar to others that arise naturally in Operator Theory and can be formulated in very general terms as follows. Given a class  $\mathcal{C}$  of operators, for example defined on Hilbert spaces, and given a property  $P$  relative to those operators, we wish to characterize the operators that have an extension in the class  $\mathcal{C}$  with property  $P$ .

Let  $T \in L(H)$  and  $S \in L(K)$  with  $H$  a closed subspace of  $K$ . Denote by  $P_H$  the orthogonal projection of  $K$  onto  $H$  and by  $J$  the inclusion of  $H$  into  $K$ . It is said that

- $S$  is a *lifting* of  $T$  if  $P_H S = T P_H$ .
- $S$  is a *dilation* of  $T$  if  $T^n = P_H S^n J$ , for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Many authors have studied, for a given bounded linear operator  $T \in L(H)$ , some additional properties of extension, lifting, or dilation of the operator  $T$ . The following results are known and respond to these problems :

- Every contraction has an extension which is a unitary dilation and a lifting which is an isometry. See [16].
- Every isometry has a unitary extension. See [13].
- Every operator  $T$  such that the norms of its powers grow polynomially has an extension which is an  $m$ -isometric lifting for some integer  $m \geq 1$ . See [9].

Notice that the norms of the powers of an  $m$ -isometry have a polynomial behaviour (see part (1) of Proposition 2.1). However, there are operators such that those norms have a polynomial behaviour that are not  $m$ -isometries. In [9], the authors study lifting and dilations which are  $m$ -isometries. In particular, they obtain that if  $T$  is an  $m$ -isometry, then  $T$  has an  $(m + 3)$ -isometric lifting with other additional properties.

A special class of  $m$ -isometric operators is the  $\ell$ -Jordan isometries; that is, operators which are the sum of an isometry and an  $\ell$ -nilpotent operator which commute. It is known that every  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry is a strict  $(2\ell - 1)$ -isometry, but the converse is not valid. However, every strict  $m$ -isometry on a finite dimensional Hilbert space is an  $\frac{(m+1)}{2}$ -Jordan isometry operator. See [12, 17, 3] for more details.

Another natural and important examples of  $m$ -isometries are certain weighted shift operators. In [1, 11], the authors obtained a characterization of weighted shift which are  $m$ -isometric.

We summarize the contents of the paper. In Section 2, we define a bilateral sequence of operators associated to an  $m$ -isometry that allow us to transfer important information of the  $m$ -isometry to the bilateral sequence, that it will be an important tool in the paper. In Section 3, we present some necessary conditions to obtain an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension. The main results are given in Section 4 where we obtain characterizations for an  $m$ -isometry to have an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension. Finally, in Section 5, we present particular classes of  $m$ -isometries for which one can obtain nice results. In particular, we give a useful characterization for a general  $m$ -isometrical unilateral weighted shift and for  $\ell$ -Jordan isometries. In particular, every  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry operator has an invertible  $(2\ell - 1)$ -isometrical extension.

## 2. SOME PREVIOUS RESULTS

In this section, we define a bilateral sequence of operators associated to an  $m$ -isometry, that allow us to transfer important information of the  $m$ -isometry to the bilateral sequence that it will be relevant for obtaining necessary conditions for having an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension.

Any polynomial of degree less or equal to  $m - 1$  is uniquely determined by its values at  $m$  distinct points. If  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{m-1}$  are given real (or complex) numbers,

then the unique polynomial  $p$  of degree less or equal to  $m - 1$  satisfying  $p(k) = a_k$  for all  $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, m - 1\}$  is giving by Lagrange interpolating polynomial

$$p(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} a_k \prod_{\substack{0 \leq j \leq m-1 \\ j \neq k}} \frac{z - j}{k - j}.$$

Note that

$$p(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} a_k b_k(n)$$

with

$$b_k(n) := \prod_{\substack{0 \leq j \leq m-1 \\ j \neq k}} \frac{n - j}{k - j} = (-1)^{m-k-1} \frac{n(n-1) \dots \widehat{(n-k)} \dots (n-m+1)}{k!(m-k-1)!} \quad (2.1)$$

where  $\widehat{(n-k)}$  means that the factor  $(n-k)$  is omitted.

Given  $T \in L(H)$ , define the bilateral sequence by

$$D_n := \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} b_k(n) T^{*k} T^k, \quad (2.2)$$

for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Clearly  $D_n \in L(H)$  and it is self adjoint operator for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Denote  $p_x(k) := \langle D_k x, x \rangle$  for every  $x \in H$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Given  $T \in L(H)$ , denote  $T > 0$  if  $\langle T x, x \rangle > 0$  for every  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$  and we call it *strictly positive operator*.

We concentrate now on the family  $(D_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  of operators which arise from a fixed  $m$ -isometry. Indeed, the bilateral sequence  $(D_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  has some interesting properties that will be important tools to solve Problem 1.1.

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $T \in L(H)$  be an  $m$ -isometry and  $(D_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  be operators defined by (2.2).*

*Then*

- (1) [11, Theorem 2.1] & [4]  $D_n = T^{*n} T^n$  and  $p_x(n) = \langle D_n x, x \rangle = \|T^n x\|^2 > 0$  for every  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . Henceforth, there exists the square root  $D_n^{1/2}$  of  $D_n$ , for every  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ .
- (2)  $D_n$  is invertible for every  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ .
- (3)  $T^{*k} D_n T^k = D_{n+k}$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

(4) Let  $y \in R(T^k)$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $p_y(-k) = \|x\|^2$ , where  $y = T^k x$ .

(5) If  $D_{-n} > 0$  and invertible, then  $D_{-k} > 0$  and invertible for every  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$ .

*Proof.* (2) Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . By [14, Theorem 2.3] & [10, Theorem 3.1], any power of  $T$ ,  $T^n$  is an  $m$ -isometry, so,  $T^n$  is bounded below. Hence

$$\|D_n x\| \|x\| \geq |\langle D_n x, x \rangle| = \langle D_n x, x \rangle = \|T^n x\|^2 \geq M(n)^2 \|x\|^2,$$

where  $M(n) > 0$ . That is,  $D_n$  is bounded below. Then trivially  $D_n$  is invertible since  $D_n$  is self adjoint operator.

(3) It is enough to prove the required equality for  $k = 1$ . Observe that

$$p_{Tx}(n) = \|T^n Tx\|^2 = \|T^{n+1} x\|^2 = p_x(n+1),$$

for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and

$$\langle D_{n+1} x, x \rangle = p_x(n+1) = p_{Tx}(n) = \langle D_n Tx, Tx \rangle = \langle T^* D_n Tx, x \rangle$$

for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(4) Let  $y = T^k x$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $x \in H$ . Then

$$p_y(n) = p_{T^k x}(n) = p_x(k+n),$$

for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Therefore  $p_y(n) = p_x(k+n)$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(5) Let  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$  and  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$ . If  $D_{-n} > 0$ , then by part (3),

$$\langle D_{-k} x, x \rangle = \langle T^{*n-k} D_{-n} T^{n-k} x, x \rangle = \langle D_{-n} T^{n-k} x, T^{n-k} x \rangle > 0. \quad (2.3)$$

Since  $T^{n-k}$  is bounded below and by (2.3), we have that

$$\|D_{-k}^{1/2} x\|^2 = \|D_{-n}^{1/2} T^{n-k} x\|^2 \geq M \|x\|^2.$$

So, the result is obtained since  $D_{-k}$  is a self adjoint operator.  $\square$

We close this section by studying the bilateral sequence  $(D_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  associated to unilateral weighted shift which are  $m$ -isometries.

Let  $H$  be a Hilbert space with an orthonormal basis  $(e_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ . Recall that the unilateral weighted shift given by  $S_w e_n = w_n e_{n+1}$  on  $H$ , where  $w_n = \sqrt{\frac{p(n+1)}{p(n)}}$  with  $p$  a polynomial of degree  $m-1$ , is a non invertible strict  $m$ -isometry, [1]. Also

$$p_{e_j}(n) = \|S_w^n e_j\|^2 = |w_j w_{j+1} \cdots w_{n+j-1}|^2 = \frac{p(j+n)}{p(j)}. \quad (2.4)$$

The following proposition gives an explicit expression of the operator  $D_n$ , when  $T$  is an  $m$ -isometrical unilateral weighted shift operator.

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $H$  be a Hilbert space with orthonormal basis  $(e_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and let  $S_w \in L(H)$  be an  $m$ -isometrical unilateral weighted shift with weight sequence  $w = (w_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ . Then*

(1)  $D_n$  is a diagonal operator for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , with diagonal

$$\lambda_n(j) := \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} b_k(n) \prod_{\ell=j}^{j+k-1} |w_\ell|^2,$$

where  $b_k(n)$  is giving by (2.1).

(2) Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . The following conditions are equivalent

- (a)  $D_n$  is invertible.
- (b)  $D_n > 0$ .
- (c)  $\lambda_n(j) > 0$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ .

*Proof.* (1) By [1], there exists a polynomial  $p$  of degree  $m-1$ , such that the weights are given by  $w_n = \sqrt{\frac{p(n+1)}{p(n)}}$ . So,

$$\begin{aligned} D_n e_j &= \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} b_k(n) S_w^{*k} S_w^k e_j = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} b_k(n) \prod_{\ell=j}^{j+k-1} |w_\ell|^2 e_j \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} b_k(n) \frac{p(j+k)}{p(j)} e_j = \lambda_n(j) e_j, \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

where

$$\lambda_n(j) = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} b_k(n) \frac{p(j+k)}{p(j)}. \quad (2.6)$$

(2) It is immediate by (1). □



In general, the converse of part (5) of Proposition 2.1 is not valid. A suitable choice of the weight sequence gives an example such that  $D_{-q} > 0$  and  $D_{-(q+1)}$  is not positive for some  $q \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Example 2.3.** Let  $q \in \mathbb{N}$  and define  $p_q(n) := (n+q)(n+q+1)$ . Then  $S_w$  with weight  $w_n = \sqrt{\frac{p_q(n+1)}{p_q(n)}}$  is a 3-isometry and it satisfies that  $D_{-n} > 0$  and invertible for  $n \in \{1, \dots, q\}$  and  $D_{-(q+1)}$  is not. In fact,

$$\lambda_{-n}(j) := \frac{p_q(j-n)}{p_q(j)} = \frac{(j+q-n)(j+q-n+1)}{(j+q)(j+q+1)},$$

for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $n \in \{1, \dots, q\}$ , then we have that  $-q-1+n < -q+n < 0$ . Hence,  $\lambda_{-n}(j) > 0$ , for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $n = q+1$ ,

$$\lambda_{-(q+1)}(j) = \frac{j(j-1)}{(j+q)(j+q+1)}.$$

Hence  $\lambda_{-(q+1)}(1) = 0$  and consequently  $\langle D_{-(q+1)}e_1, e_1 \rangle = 0$ .

### 3. NECESSARY CONDITIONS OF HAVING AN INVERTIBLE $m$ -ISOMETRICAL EXTENSION

In an attempt towards solution of finding necessary conditions to obtain an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension, we draw upon an interesting connection between  $D_{-1} > 0$  and the invertibility of  $D_{-1}$  with the existence of a particular  $m$ -isometrical extension. Notice that in the following theorem we do not obtain an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $T \in L(H)$  be an  $m$ -isometry. The following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) *There exist a Hilbert space  $K \supset H$  and an  $m$ -isometry  $S \in L(K)$  such that  $S|_H = T$  and  $R(S) = H$ .*
- (ii)  *$D_{-1} > 0$  and  $D_{-1}$  is invertible.*

*Proof.* (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii): Let  $x \in H$  and  $y = S^{-1}x \in K$ . For  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , denote

$$\tilde{D}_n := \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} b_k(n) S^{*k} S^k, \quad D_n := \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} b_k(n) T^{*k} T^k$$

and for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\tilde{p}_x(n) := \|S^n x\|^2, \quad p_x(n) := \|T^n x\|^2,$$

where  $b_k(n)$  is given by (2.1). Then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \tilde{D}_{-1}x, x \rangle &= \langle \tilde{D}_{-1}Sy, Sy \rangle = \langle S^* \tilde{D}_{-1}Sy, y \rangle = \langle \tilde{D}_0y, y \rangle = \|y\|^2 \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} b_k(-1) \langle S^{*k} S^k x, x \rangle = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} b_k(-1) \langle T^k x, T^k x \rangle \\ &= \langle D_{-1}x, x \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $\langle \tilde{D}_{-1}x, x \rangle = \|y\|^2 = \langle D_{-1}x, x \rangle \geq 0$  for all  $x \in H$ . Also

$$\|D_{-1}x\| \|x\| \geq \langle D_{-1}x, x \rangle = \|y\|^2 \geq \frac{\|Sy\|^2}{\|S\|^2} = \frac{\|x\|^2}{\|S\|^2}.$$

So,  $D_{-1} > 0$  and bounded below. Hence  $D_{-1}$  is invertible since  $D_{-1}$  is self adjoint operator.

(ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i): Consider the vector space  $H \times H$  with a new seminorm

$$|||(h, h')||| := \|D_{-1}^{1/2}(Th + h')\|$$

and the subspace

$$N := \{(h, h') \in H \times H : |||(h, h')||| = 0\}.$$

Let  $K := (H \times H)/N$  with the quotient norm

$$|||(h, h') + N||| := \|D_{-1}^{1/2}(Th + h')\|.$$

Then  $K$  is a normed space. Let us prove that  $||| \cdot |||$  satisfies the parallelogram law.

For  $u = (h, h') + N$  and  $v = (g, g') + N$  in  $K$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} |||u + v|||^2 + |||u - v|||^2 &= \langle D_{-1}(Th + h' + Tg + g'), Th + h' + Tg + g' \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle D_{-1}(Th + h' - Tg - g'), Th + h' - Tg - g' \rangle \\ &= 2\langle D_{-1}(Th + h'), Th + h' \rangle + 2\langle D_{-1}(Tg + g'), Tg + g' \rangle \\ &= 2|||u|||^2 + 2|||v|||^2. \end{aligned}$$

Henceforth,  $K$  is a pre-Hilbert space. The linear mapping  $\phi : K \rightarrow H$  defined by  $\phi((h, h') + N) = Th + h'$  is an isomorphism. Indeed,  $\phi$  is bounded since  $D_{-1}$  is an invertible operator. It is clear that  $\phi$  is onto and bounded below since the square

root of  $D_{-1}$  is a bounded operator. Hence  $K$  is complete and so it is a Hilbert space. Moreover,

$$\| |(h, 0) + N | \|^2 = \| D_{-1}^{1/2}(Th) \|^2 = \langle D_{-1}Th, Th \rangle = \langle T^*D_{-1}Th, h \rangle = \| D_0h \|^2 = \| h \|^2 .$$

So  $K$  contains  $H$  as a subspace and we identify  $h \in H$  with  $(h, 0) + N \in K$ .

Define  $S$  on  $K$  by  $\left( (h, h') + N \right) := (Th + h', 0) + N$ . The operator  $S$  is well defined and bounded:

$$\begin{aligned} \| |S\left( (h, h') + N \right) | \|^2 &= \| |(Th + h', 0) + N | \|^2 = \| D_{-1}^{1/2}(T(Th + h')) \|^2 \\ &= \langle D_{-1}(T(Th + h')), T(Th + h') \rangle = \langle D_0(Th + h'), Th + h' \rangle \\ &= \| Th + h' \|^2 \leq \| D_{-1}^{-1/2} \|^2 \| D_{-1}^{1/2}(Th + h') \|^2 \\ &= \| D_{-1}^{-1/2} \|^2 \| |(h, h') + N | \|^2 . \end{aligned}$$

Clearly  $S$  is an extension of  $T$ . Let  $h \in H$ . We have identified  $h$  with  $(h, 0) + N \in K$  and  $S((h, 0) + N) = (Th, 0) + N$ . Also  $SK = H$ .

Let us prove that  $S$  is an  $m$ -isometry. Let  $u = (h, h') + N \in K$  and write  $y := Th + h' \in H$ . We have that  $Su = (y, 0) + N$ ,  $S^k u = (T^{k-1}y, 0) + N$  and  $\| |S^k u | \|^2 = \| D_{-1}^{1/2}(T^k y) \|^2 = \| T^{k-1}y \|^2$  for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . So

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} \| |S^k u | \|^2 &= \| |u | \|^2 + \sum_{k=1}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} \| |S^k u | \|^2 \\ &= \langle D_{-1}y, y \rangle + \sum_{k=1}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} \| T^{k-1}y \|^2 \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} p_y(k-1) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

since  $p_y$  has degree less or equal to  $m - 1$ . Hence  $S$  is an  $m$ -isometry.  $\square$

The following result gives necessary conditions of having an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension.

**Proposition 3.2.** *Let  $T \in L(H)$  be a strict  $m$ -isometry.*

(1) *If  $T$  is invertible, then  $p_x(n) = \| T^n x \|^2 > 0$  for every  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .*

- (2) If  $T$  has an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension  $S$ , then  $p_x(-k) := \|S^{-k}x\|^2 > 0$  for every  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $p_x(n) := \|T^n x\|^2$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . In particular, the degree of  $p_x$  is even for every  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$ .
- (3) If there exists an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension of  $T$ , then  $D_n > 0$  and invertible operator for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

*Proof.* (1) Part (3) of Proposition 2.1 yields that  $T^{*n}D_{-n}T^n = D_0 = I$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . So, for every  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$p_x(-n) = \langle D_{-n}x, x \rangle = \langle T^{*-n}T^{-n}x, x \rangle = \|T^{-n}x\|^2 > 0,$$

since  $T^{-1}$  is an  $m$ -isometry.

(2) Let  $x \in H$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Denote by

$$p_x(n) := \langle D_n x, x \rangle := \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} b_k(n) \|T^k x\|^2$$

$$\tilde{p}_x(n) := \langle \tilde{D}_n x, x \rangle := \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} b_k(n) \|S^k x\|^2,$$

where  $S$  is an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension of  $T$ . Clearly,  $p_x(n) = \tilde{p}_x(n)$  is a polynomial of degree less or equal to  $m - 1$ . Observe that  $p_x(-n) = \tilde{p}_x(-n) = \|S^{-n}x\|^2$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.3.** (1) Observe that part (2) of the above Proposition implies that the degree of  $p_x$  is even if  $p_x(n) > 0$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Indeed, this is a different way to prove that there are no invertible strict  $m$ -isometries for even  $m$ . See also [4, Proposition 1.23].

- (2) The conditions  $D_n > 0$  and invertible operator for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  are not sufficient to define an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension of  $T$ . Indeed, invertibility of  $D_n$  would suffice to construct an unbounded  $m$ -isometrical extension of  $T$  with dense range.

Proposition 3.2 allow us to obtain that some  $m$ -isometries have not an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension.

**Remark 3.4.** Let  $T \in L(H)$  be a strict  $m$ -isometry. Denote  $p_x(n) := \|T^n x\|^2$ , for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$ . Then

- (1) If  $m = 1$ , then  $p_x(n) > 0$  for every  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- (2) If  $m$  is even, then there exist  $x_0 \in H$  and  $n_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $n_0 < 0$  such that  $p_{x_0}(n_0) \leq 0$ .
- (3) If  $m$  is odd, then it is possible that  $p_x(n) > 0$  for every  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  or there exist  $x_0 \in H$  and  $n_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $n_0 < 0$  such that  $p_{x_0}(n_0) \leq 0$ .

In the following examples we present different behaviours of  $p_x(n)$  with negative integer  $n$  for unilateral weighted shift.

**Example 3.5.** Let  $p(n) = n^{m-1}$  with odd  $m$ . It is clear that  $p_{e_j}(n) := \|S_w^n e_j\|^2 = \left(\frac{j+n}{j}\right)^{m-1}$  and  $p_{e_j}(-j) = 0$ . So,  $S_w$  can not have an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension.

**Example 3.6.** Let  $p(n) := \prod_{i=1}^{m-1} (mn + i)$  with odd  $m$ . It is clear that

$$p_{e_j}(n) := \|S_w^n e_j\|^2 = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^{m-1} (m(j+n) + i)}{\prod_{i=1}^{m-1} (mj + i)}.$$

If  $j \geq n$ , then  $p_{e_j}(-n) > 0$ . In other case,  $p_{e_j}(-n) > 0$  since  $m - 1$  is even. As we will see later,  $S_w$  has an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension by Theorem 5.1.

#### 4. CHARACTERIZATION OF HAVING AN INVERTIBLE $m$ -ISOMETRICAL EXTENSION

The main result of this paper is to obtain, for a fixed  $m$ -isometry, characterizations of having an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension. In Proposition 3.2, we proved that a necessary condition is that the bilateral sequence of operators  $(D_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  must be strictly positive and invertible.

Now, we are in position to prove the main result.

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $T \in L(H)$  be an  $m$ -isometry and let  $(D_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  be the bilateral sequence defined by (2.2). Denote  $p_x(n) := \langle D_n x, x \rangle$  for every  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . The following statements are equivalent:

- (i) There exist a Hilbert space  $K \supset H$  and an invertible  $m$ -isometrical operator  $S \in L(K)$  such that  $S|_H = T$ .

(ii)  $p_x(j) > 0$  for every  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$ , and  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$  and

$$\sup \left\{ \frac{p_x(j+1)}{p_x(j)} : x \in H \setminus \{0\}, j \in \mathbb{Z} \right\} < \infty. \quad (4.7)$$

(iii)  $D_n > 0$  and invertible for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , and

$$\sup \left\{ \frac{\langle D_{-n+1}x, x \rangle}{\langle D_{-n}x, x \rangle} : x \in H, \|x\| = 1, n \in \mathbb{N} \right\} < \infty. \quad (4.8)$$

*Proof.* (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii): Let  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$ . Then

$$\|S^{j+1}x\|^2 = \|T^{j+1}x\|^2 = p_x(j+1) > 0$$

for  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$  and

$$\frac{p_x(j+1)}{p_x(j)} = \frac{\|S^{j+1}x\|^2}{\|S^jx\|^2} \leq \|S\|^2.$$

So, we get (4.7).

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii): By parts (1) and (2) of Proposition 2.1 we have that  $D_n > 0$  and invertible for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . By hypothesis,  $D_j > 0$  for  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$  since  $p_x(j) = \langle D_jx, x \rangle$ . Let us prove that  $D_{-n}$  are bounded below for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . The condition (4.7) yields that there exists  $M > 0$  such that

$$p_x(-n) \geq \frac{p_x(-n+1)}{M} \geq \frac{p_x(0)}{M^n} = \frac{\|x\|^2}{M^n}$$

hence

$$\|D_{-n}^{1/2}x\|^2 \geq \frac{\|x\|^2}{M^n},$$

for every  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Therefore  $D_{-n}$  is bounded below for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and hence invertible.

It is remained to prove (4.8). Indeed, (4.8) is an immediate consequence of (4.7) using the identification  $p_x(j) = \langle D_jx, x \rangle$  for every  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$  and  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i): Let  $V$  be the vector space of all sequences  $(h_1, h_2, \dots)$  of elements of  $H$  with finite support, that is, there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $h_j = 0$  for  $j > n$ . Define a new seminorm on  $V$  by

$$\| |(h_1, h_2, \dots)| \|^2 := \langle D_{-n}y, y \rangle,$$

where  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  is any integer satisfying  $h_j = 0$  for  $j > n$  and  $y := \sum_{j=1}^n T^{n-j}h_j$ .

The seminorm  $||| \cdot |||$  does not depend on the choice of  $n$ . Indeed, if  $h_j = 0$  for  $j > n$ ,  $r = n + n_0$  with  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $y = \sum_{j=0}^n T^{n-j}h_j$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle D_{-r} \sum_{j=1}^r T^{r-j}h_j, \sum_{i=1}^r T^{r-i}h_i \right\rangle &= \left\langle D_{-(n+n_0)} T^{n_0} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n+n_0} T^{n-j}h_j \right), T^{n_0} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n+n_0} T^{n-i}h_i \right) \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle T^{*n_0} D_{-(n+n_0)} T^{n_0} \left( \sum_{j=1}^n T^{n-j}h_j \right), \sum_{i=1}^n T^{n-i}h_i \right\rangle = \langle D_{-n}y, y \rangle \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality is by part (3) of Proposition 2.1.

Let  $N := \{(h_1, h_2, \dots) \in V : |||(h_1, h_2, \dots)||| = 0\}$  and let  $K$  be the completion of  $V/N$ .

Let us prove that  $K$  is a pre-Hilbert space. For that, it is enough to prove that  $||| \cdot |||$  satisfies the parallelogram law. Let  $u := (h_1, h_2, \dots) + N$ ,  $v := (g_1, g_2, \dots) + N \in V/N$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $h_j = 0 = g_j$  for  $j > n$  and  $x := \sum_{j=1}^n T^{n-j}h_j$ ,  $y := \sum_{j=1}^n T^{n-j}g_j$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |||u + v|||^2 + |||u - v|||^2 &= \langle D_{-n}(x + y), x + y \rangle + \langle D_{-n}(x - y), x - y \rangle \\ &= 2(|||u|||^2 + |||v|||^2). \end{aligned}$$

For each  $h \in H$  we have  $|||(h, 0, 0, \dots) + N|||^2 = \langle D_{-1}Th, Th \rangle = \langle D_0h, h \rangle = \|h\|^2$ .

Let  $L$  be the closed subspace generated by  $(h, 0, \dots) + N$  with  $h \in H$  and define  $\phi$  on  $H$  taking values on  $L$  by  $\phi(h) := (h, 0, \dots) + N$ . Then  $\|h\|^2 = |||\phi(h)|||^2$  and  $R(\phi) = L$ . For each  $h \in H$  we can identify  $h$  with  $(h, 0, \dots) + N \in K$ . So,  $K$  contains  $H$  as a subspace.

Define  $S$  on  $V/N$  by  $S((h_1, h_2, \dots) + N) := (Th_1 + h_2, h_3, \dots) + N \in V/N$ . Then the definition of  $S$  is correct and  $S$  is bounded. Indeed, let  $u := (h_1, h_2, \dots) + N \in V/N$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $h_j = 0$  for  $j > n$  and  $y := \sum_{j=1}^n T^{n-j}h_j$ . Denote  $(\tilde{h}_1, \tilde{h}_2, \dots) := (Th_1 + h_2, h_3, \dots)$ . Then

$$|||Su|||^2 = |||(Th_1 + h_2, h_3, \dots) + N|||^2 = \langle D_{-(n-1)}\tilde{y}, \tilde{y} \rangle$$

where

$$\tilde{y} := \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} T^{n-1-j} \tilde{h}_j = T^{n-1}(Th_1 + h_2) + \sum_{j=2}^{n-1} T^{n-1-j} \tilde{h}_j = y .$$

Then  $\|Su\|^2 = \langle D_{-(n-1)}y, y \rangle = p_y(-n+1)$ . Repeating the process we have that

$$\|S^k u\|^2 = p_y(-n+k) ,$$

for  $k = 0, \dots, m$ . Therefore

$$\sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} \|S^k u\|^2 = \sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} p_y(-n+k) = 0 ,$$

since  $p_y$  has degree less or equal to  $m-1$ . By continuity,  $S$  is an  $m$ -isometry.

It is easy to see that  $R(S) \supset V + N$ . So the range of  $S$  is dense, and consequently  $S$  is an invertible  $m$ -isometry.  $\square$

Moreover, the invertible extension  $S \in L(K)$  is defined uniquely (up to the unitary equivalence) if we assume that  $S$  is minimal, i.e.,  $K = \bigvee_{k \geq 0} S^{-k}H$ .

We will prove that the converse of part (3) of Proposition 3.2 is not true in general, that is, if  $D_n > 0$  and invertible for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  are not sufficient to have an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension of an  $m$ -isometry. Firstly, we need a previous result on  $m$ -isometries.

**Proposition 4.2.** *Let  $(T_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset L(H)$  be a uniformly bounded sequence of  $m$ -isometries. Then  $T = T_1 \oplus T_2 \oplus \dots$  is an  $m$ -isometry on  $\ell^2(H)$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $(T_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a uniformly bounded, then  $T = T_1 \oplus T_2 \oplus \dots$  is well-defined on  $\ell^2(H)$ .

Let  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots) \in \ell^2(H)$ . Denote  $p_{x_n}(k) := \|T_n^k x_n\|^2$ . Since  $(T_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a sequence of  $m$ -isometries, then  $(p_{x_n}(k))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a sequence of polynomials of degree less or equal to  $m-1$ . Fixed  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$p_x(k) := \|T^k x\|^2 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|T_n^k x_n\|^2 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p_{x_n}(k)$$

is a polynomial of degree less or equal to  $m-1$ . Hence  $T$  is an  $m$ -isometry.  $\square$



It is possible to exhibit an example of  $m$ -isometry with odd  $m$  such that  $D_n > 0$  and invertible for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  but not fulfilling the hypothesis of Theorem 4.1. In order to simplify the presentation we include an example with a 3-isometry.

**Example 4.3.** Let  $q_n(j) := j^2 + j(2 - \frac{1}{n}) + 1$ . Let  $H$  be a Hilbert space with an orthonormal basis  $(e_{n,j})_{n,j \in \mathbb{N}}$  and  $K := \ell^2(H)$ . Define  $T \in L(K)$  by

$$Te_{n,j} := \sqrt{\frac{q_n(j+1)}{q_n(j)}} e_{n,j+1}$$

for any  $n, j \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then

- (1)  $T$  is a 3-isometry on  $K$ .
- (2)  $p_x(k) > 0$  for every  $x \in K \setminus \{0\}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $p_x(n) := \|T^n x\|^2$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- (3)  $D_n > 0$  and invertible for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- (4) There is no invertible 3-isometrical extension of  $T$ .

**Proof:** It is clear that  $q_n(j) > 0$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Let  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots) = (\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{n,1} e_{n,1}, \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{n,2} e_{n,2}, \dots) \in K$ . Then

$$T(x_1, x_2, \dots) := (0, T_1 x_1, T_2 x_2, \dots),$$

where

$$T_i x_i := T_i \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{n,i} e_{n,i} \right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{n,i} w_{n,i} e_{n,i+1}$$

and

$$w_{n,i} := \sqrt{\frac{q_n(i+1)}{q_n(i)}}.$$

By Proposition 4.2, the operator  $T$  is a 3-isometry, since  $T_n$  is a 3-isometry for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and also  $(T_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is uniformly bounded, that is

$$\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|T_n\| \leq \sup_{n,i \in \mathbb{N}} \sqrt{\frac{q_n(i+1)}{q_n(i)}} < M$$

for some positive constant  $M$ .

Let us prove that  $p_x(k) > 0$  for every  $x \in K \setminus \{0\}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots) = (\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{n,1} e_{n,1}, \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{n,2} e_{n,2}, \dots) \in K \setminus \{0\}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} p_x(k) &:= \|T^k x\|^2 = \|(0, \dots, 0, T_k T_{k-1} \cdots T_1 x_1, T_{k+1} T_k \cdots T_2 x_2, \dots)\|^2 \\ &= \left\| \left( 0, \dots, 0, \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{n,1} \sqrt{\frac{q_n(k+1)}{q_n(1)}} e_{n,k+1}, \dots \right) \right\|^2 \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \left\| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{n,j} \sqrt{\frac{q_n(k+j)}{q_n(j)}} e_{n,k+j} \right\|^2 = \sum_{n,j=1}^{\infty} |\alpha_{n,j}|^2 \frac{q_n(k+j)}{q_n(j)} > 0 \end{aligned}$$

for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Notice that

$$D_{-n} := \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2} I - n(n+2) T^* T + \frac{n(n+1)}{2} T^{*2} T^2,$$

is a diagonal operator given by  $D_{-n} e_{m,j} = \lambda_{-n}(k, j) e_{k,j}$  where

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_{-n}(k, j) &:= \frac{1}{2q_k(j)} \left( (n+1)(n+2)q_k(j) - n(n+2)q_k(j+1) + n(n+1)q_k(j+2) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2q_k(j)} \left( j^2(n^2 + 2n + 2) + j \left( -\frac{n^2}{k} + 4n^2 - 2\frac{n}{k} + 4n - \frac{2}{k} + 4 \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{n^2}{k} + 6n^2 + 4n + 2 \right) > 0, \end{aligned}$$

for  $n, k, j \in \mathbb{N}$ . So, it is immediate that  $D_{-n}$  is invertible for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

In order to finish the proof, let us prove that there is no invertible 3-isometrical extension of  $T$ . Taking into account that

$$\frac{p_{e_{n,1}}(-1)}{p_{e_{n,1}}(-2)} = \frac{q_n(0)}{q_n(-1)} = n,$$

we have that

$$\sup \left\{ \frac{p_x(j+1)}{p_x(j)} : x \in K \setminus \{0\}, j \in \mathbb{Z} \right\} = \infty.$$

□

## 5. SOME PARTICULAR CASES

In this section, the goal is to study two different examples of  $m$ -isometries, the  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry and unilateral weighted shift that are  $m$ -isometries for some  $m$ .

In the case of unilateral weighted shift we can obtain a nice characterization of invertible  $m$ -isometrical extensions of an  $m$ -isometry, as a consequence of Theorem 4.1.

**Theorem 5.1.** *Let  $H$  be a Hilbert space with orthonormal basis  $(e_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and let  $S_w \in L(H)$  be an  $m$ -isometrical unilateral weighted shift associated to the weight  $w := (w_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ . Then  $S_w$  has an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension if and only if  $p_{e_1}(n) > 0$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $p_{e_1}(n) := \|S_w^n e_1\|^2$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

*Proof.* If  $S_w$  has an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension  $S$ , then  $p_x(n) := \|S^n x\|^2 > 0$  for every  $x \in H \setminus \{0\}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , by Proposition 3.2. Hence  $p_{e_1}(n) > 0$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Let us prove the sufficient condition. Suppose that  $p_{e_1}(n) > 0$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . A first consequence is that  $m$  is odd. By equality (2.4),  $p_{e_1}(n)$  is a polynomial of degree  $m - 1$ . Hence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{p_{e_1}(-n+1)}{p_{e_1}(-n)} = 1,$$

and

$$\inf \left\{ \frac{p_{e_1}(-n+1)}{p_{e_1}(-n)} : n \in \mathbb{N} \right\} > 0.$$

Let  $K$  be a Hilbert space with  $(e_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  an orthonormal basis. Define  $T_\beta \in L(K)$  by  $T_\beta e_n = \beta_n e_{n+1}$  where  $\beta_n = \sqrt{\frac{p_{e_1}(n)}{p_{e_1}(n-1)}}$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . By [1, Theorem 19] we have that  $T_\beta$  is an  $m$ -isometry, since  $p_{e_1}(n)$  is a polynomial of degree  $m - 1$  by (2.4). Moreover,  $T_\beta$  is an invertible extension of  $S_w$  and the desired result is proved.  $\square$

**Remark 5.2.** In the above theorem, it is possible to obtain the same information with different elements of the orthogonal basis, as a consequence of equality (2.4). Indeed, in the conditions of Theorem 5.1 the following statements are equivalent:

- (1)  $S_w$  has an invertible  $m$ -isometrical extension.
- (2)  $p_{e_1}(n) > 0$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- (3)  $p_{e_j}(n) > 0$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and some  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ .  
 (4)  $p_{e_j}(n) > 0$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Let us obtain a first approach to  $\ell$ -Jordan isometries. In the next result we obtain that any 2-Jordan isometry operator admits an invertible 3-isometric extension, as a particular case of Theorem 4.1.

**Corollary 5.3.** *Let  $T \in L(H)$  be a 2-Jordan isometry operator. Then  $T$  has an invertible 2-Jordan isometry extension.*

*Proof.* Let  $T$  be a 2-Jordan isometry operator, that is  $T = A + Q$ , where  $A$  is an isometry and  $Q$  is a 2-nilpotent operator such that  $AQ = QA$ . By (2.2) we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} D_{-n} &= \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}I - n(n+2)T^*T + \frac{n(n+1)}{2}T^{*2}T^2 \\ &= I - n(A^*Q + Q^*A) + n^2Q^*Q. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\langle D_{-n}x, x \rangle = \|x\|^2 - n(\langle Qx, Ax \rangle + \langle Ax, Qx \rangle) + n^2\|Qx\|^2.$$

Let us prove that  $\langle D_{-n}x, x \rangle > 0$  for every  $x \in H$  such that  $\|x\| = 1$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . It is enough to prove that

$$n^2\|Qx\|^2 + 1 > 2n\operatorname{Re}(\langle Ax, Qx \rangle), \quad (5.9)$$

where  $\operatorname{Re}(z)$  denotes the real part of  $z$ . If  $\operatorname{Re}(\langle Ax, Qx \rangle) \leq 0$ , then (5.9) is clear. Assume that  $\operatorname{Re}(\langle Ax, Qx \rangle) > 0$ . Then

$$\operatorname{Re}(\langle Ax, Qx \rangle) = |\operatorname{Re}(\langle Ax, Qx \rangle)| \leq |\langle Ax, Qx \rangle| \leq \|Ax\|\|Qx\| \leq \|Q\|.$$

If  $|\langle Ax, Qx \rangle| = \|Ax\|\|Qx\|$ , then the vectors  $Ax$  and  $Qx$  are linearly dependent, so there exists  $\lambda$  such that  $Qx = \lambda Ax$ . Then  $\lambda = 0$ , since  $0 = \|Q^2x\| = |\lambda|^2\|A^2x\| = |\lambda|^2$  and therefore  $\|Qx\| = 0$ , which is an absurd with  $\operatorname{Re}(\langle Ax, Qx \rangle) > 0$ . If  $|\langle Ax, Qx \rangle| < \|Ax\|\|Qx\|$ , then

$$2n\operatorname{Re}(\langle Ax, Qx \rangle) < 2n\|Qx\| \leq n^2\|Qx\|^2 + 1.$$

So,  $\langle D_{-n}x, x \rangle > 0$  for every  $x \in H$  such that  $\|x\| = 1$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

In order to get the result, it is enough to prove that (4.8) is bounded. Let  $x \in H$  such that  $\|x\| = 1$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\langle D_{-n+1}x, x \rangle}{\langle D_{-n}x, x \rangle} &= 1 + \frac{2\operatorname{Re}(\langle Ax, Qx \rangle) + (-2n+1)\|Qx\|^2}{1 - 2n\operatorname{Re}(\langle Ax, Qx \rangle) + n^2\|Qx\|^2} \\ &\leq 1 + \left| \frac{2\operatorname{Re}(\langle Ax, Qx \rangle) + (-2n+1)\|Qx\|^2}{1 - 2n\operatorname{Re}(\langle Ax, Qx \rangle) + n^2\|Qx\|^2} \right| \\ &\leq 1 + \frac{2\|Q\| + (2n-1)\|Q\|^2}{1 - 2n\|Q\| - n^2\|Q\|^2} \end{aligned}$$

converges to zero as  $n$  tends to infinity. Hence

$$\sup \left\{ \frac{\langle D_{-n+1}x, x \rangle}{\langle D_{-n}x, x \rangle} : x \in H, \|x\| = 1, n \in \mathbb{N} \right\} < \infty.$$

□

**Corollary 5.4.** *Let  $T, C \in L(H)$  such that  $TC = CT$ .*

(1) *If  $T$  is an isometry, then  $\tilde{T} := \begin{pmatrix} T & C \\ 0 & T \end{pmatrix}$  has an invertible 3-isometric extension on  $K \supset H \oplus H$ .*

(2) *If  $\lambda T$  is an isometry for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , then  $\lambda\tilde{T} = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} T & C \\ 0 & T \end{pmatrix}$  has an invertible 3-isometric extension on  $K \supset H \oplus H$ .*

*Proof.* (1) It is clear that  $\tilde{T} = \begin{pmatrix} T & 0 \\ 0 & T \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & C \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  is a 2-Jordan isometry operator.

Therefore the result is consequence of Corollary 5.3.

Applying (1) to the operator  $\lambda T$  we obtain (2). □

A similar result of part (1) of Corollary 5.4 was obtained in [8, Corollary 4.4]. That is, if  $T \in L(H)$  is a contraction and  $C \in L(H)$  such that  $TC = CT$ , then  $\tilde{T}$  has a 3-isometric lifting on  $K \supset H \oplus H$ .

In the next theorem we can improve Corollary 5.3. Indeed, we prove that every  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry has an invertible  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry extension. The first part of our proof is based in the construction by Douglas [13], as it is presented by Laursen and Neumann in the monograph [15, Proposition 1.6,6].

**Theorem 5.5.** *Let  $T \in L(H)$  be an  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry. Then there exist a Hilbert space  $K$  and  $S \in L(K)$ , such that  $H$  is isometrically embedded in  $K$  and  $S$  is an invertible  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry extension of  $T$ .*

*Proof.* As  $T$  is an  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry, there are an isometry  $A \in L(H)$  and an  $\ell$ -nilpotent operator  $Q \in L(H)$  such that  $AQ = QA$  and  $T = A + Q$ .

Let  $K_0$  be the linear space of all the sequences  $u = (u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  in  $H$  such that there is  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  satisfying  $u_{m+k} = A^k u_m$ , for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Define, for  $u, v \in K_0$ ,

$$\langle u, v \rangle_0 := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle u_n, v_n \rangle,$$

being  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  the inner product on  $H$ . Note that there exists  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\langle u_m, v_m \rangle = \langle A^k u_m, A^k v_m \rangle = \langle u_{m+k}, v_{m+k} \rangle$ , so the sequence  $(\langle u_n, v_n \rangle)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is eventually constant, that is, there exists  $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\langle u_n, v_n \rangle$  is constant for  $n > k_0$ . It is routine to verify what  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_0$  is a semi-inner product on  $K_0$ . Therefore  $K_0$  is a semi pre-Hilbert space. Moreover,

$$\|u\|_0^2 := \langle u, u \rangle_0 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle u_n, u_n \rangle = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|u_n\|^2$$

defines a seminorm  $\|\cdot\|_0$  on  $K_0$ .

Let  $M := \{u \in K_0 : \langle u, u \rangle_0 = \|u\|_0^2 = 0\}$ . Then  $M$  is a closed subspace of  $K_0$  and we consider the quotient space  $K_0/M$ . In this space are defined, for  $u, v \in K_0$ ,

$$\langle u + M, v + M \rangle := \langle u, v \rangle_0 \quad \text{and} \quad \|u + M\|^2 := \langle u + M, u + M \rangle = \langle u, u \rangle_0 = \|u\|_0^2,$$

and we obtain that  $K_0/M$  is a pre-Hilbert space.

Denote by  $K$  the Hilbert space what it is the completion of  $K_0/M$ . The operator  $J \in L(H, K)$ , defined by  $Jx := (A^n x)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M$  for  $x \in H$ , satisfies that

$$\|Jx\| = \|(A^n x)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M\| = \|(A^n x)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}\|_0 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|A^n x\| = \|Ax\| = \|x\|,$$

hence  $J$  is an isometry. So  $K$  contains an isometric copy of  $H$ . It is clear that  $J(H)$  is a closed subspace of  $K$ .

In order to define  $B \in L(K)$ , we define an isometry on  $K_0/M$  by

$$B((u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M) := (Au_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M,$$

for every  $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M \in K_0/M$ . Note that  $B$  is a linear isometry whose range contains  $K_0/M$ ; in fact, given  $(v_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M = (v_1, \dots, v_m, Av_m, A^2v_m, \dots) + M$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} B(\underbrace{(0, \dots, 0)}_m, v_m, Av_m, A^2v_m, \dots) + M &= (\underbrace{(0, \dots, 0)}_m, Av_m, A^2v_m, A^3v_m, \dots) + M \\ &= (v_1, \dots, v_m, Av_m, A^2v_m, \dots) + M. \end{aligned}$$

As  $K_0/M$  is dense in  $K$ , we have that  $B$  can be extended to an invertible isometry defined on  $K$ . Moreover,  $B$  can be considered as an extension of  $A$  since, for  $x \in H$ ,

$$BJx = B((A^n x)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M) = (A^{n+1}x)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M = JAx.$$

That is,  $BJ = JA$ .

Define  $P \in L(K)$  in the following way

$$P((u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M) = (Qu_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M,$$

for every  $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M \in K_0/M$ . It is clear that  $P$  is an  $\ell$ -nilpotent. Let us prove that  $B$  and  $P$  commute. Taking into account that  $AQ = QA$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} BP((u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M) &= B((Qu_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M) = (AQu_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M \\ &= (QAu_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M = P((Au_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M) = PB((u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M). \end{aligned}$$

for every  $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M \in K_0/M$ . Therefore,  $S := B + P \in L(K)$  is an  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry that extends  $T$ . Moreover,  $S$  is an invertible since  $\sigma(S) = \sigma(B)$  and  $B$  is an invertible isometry. So the proof is finished.  $\square$

An operator  $T \in L(H)$  is a *doubly  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry* if  $T = A + Q$  is an  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry operator such that the  $\ell$ -nilpotent  $Q \in L(H)$  which commutes with  $A$  also commutes with  $A^*$ . For all scalar  $\lambda$  with  $|\lambda| = 1$  and an  $\ell$ -nilpotent operator  $Q$ , we have that  $\lambda I + Q$  is a doubly  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry.

**Corollary 5.6.** *Let  $T \in L(H)$  be a doubly  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry. Then there exist a Hilbert space  $K$ , such that  $H$  is isometrically embedded in  $K$  and an invertible doubly  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry extension  $S \in L(K)$  of  $T$ .*

**Remark 5.7.** We use the notation of the proof of Theorem 5.5.

(1) It is easy to prove that the orthogonal subspace of  $J(H)$ ,  $J(H)^\perp$  is the closure of the subspace of all classes

$$(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M = (u_1, \dots, u_m, Au_m, A^2u_m, \dots) + M \in K_0/M$$

such that  $u_m \in R(A^m)^\perp$ .

(2) The decomposition  $K = J(H) \oplus J(H)^\perp$  gives rise to the representation of  $B$  as a operator matrix:

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & B_2 \\ 0 & B_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5.10)$$

being  $B_1 \in L(J(H))$ ,  $B_2 \in L(J(H)^\perp, J(H))$  and  $B_3 \in L(J(H)^\perp)$ . Notice that  $J(H)$  is a closed invariant subspace of  $B$ .

(3) The operator  $P$  is defined by the following operator matrix, associated to the decomposition  $K = J(H) \oplus J(H)^\perp$ ,

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} P_1 & P_2 \\ 0 & P_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5.11)$$

being  $P_1 \in L(J(H))$ ,  $P_2 \in L(J(H)^\perp, J(H))$  and  $P_3 \in L(J(H)^\perp)$ . Notice that  $J(H)$  is a closed invariant subspace of  $P$ .

(4) If  $T$  is a doubly  $\ell$ -Jordan isometry, then  $P_2 = 0$  in (5.11). For this purpose only it is necessary to prove that if  $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M \in J(H)^\perp$ , then  $P((u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M) \in J(H)^\perp$ , and that  $BP^* = P^*B$ . In fact, given  $u = (u_1, \dots, u_m, Au_m, A^2u_m, \dots)$  such that  $u_m \in R(A^m)^\perp$ , we have that  $Qu_m \in R(A^m)^\perp$  since, for all  $x \in H$ ,

$$\langle Qu_m, A^m x \rangle = \langle u_m, Q^* A^m x \rangle = \langle u_m, A^m Q^* x \rangle = 0,$$

because  $Q^*A = AQ^*$ . Therefore  $P((u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} + M) = (Qu_1, \dots, Qu_m, AQu_m, A^2Qu_m, \dots) + M \in J(H)^\perp$ . Hence  $P(J(H)^\perp) \subset J(H)^\perp$ .



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T. Bermúdez

*Departamento de Análisis Matemático, Universidad de La Laguna and Instituto de Matemáticas y Aplicaciones (IMAULL),  
Apartado 456, 38200, San Cristóbal de La Laguna  
(Tenerife), Spain.*

*e-mail:* tbermude@ull.edu.es

A. Martínón

*Departamento de Análisis Matemático,  
Universidad de La Laguna,  
Apartado 456, 38200, San Cristóbal de La Laguna  
(Tenerife), Spain.*

*e-mail:* anmarce@ull.edu.es

V. Müller

Mathematical Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences, Žitná 25, 115 67 Prague 1,  
Czech Republic.

*e-mail:* muller@math.cas.cz

H. Zaway

Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Sciences,  
University of Gabes, Gabes, Tunissia.

Department of Mathematics and Statistics,  
University of King Faisal, Al Ahsa, Saudi Arabia.

*email:* hajer\_zaway@live.fr