

## On The Reflexivity of Direct Sum of Reflexive Operators

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### ABSTRACT

Sarason did pioneer work on reflexive operator and reflexivity of normal operators, however, he did not use the word reflexive but his results are equivalent to say that every normal operator is reflexive. The word reflexive was suggested by HALMOS and first appeared in H. Rajdavi and P. Rosenthal's book 'Invariant Subspaces' in 1973. This line of research was continued by Deddens who showed that every isometry in  $\mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is reflexive. R. Wogen has proved that 'every quasi-normal operator is reflexive'. These results of Deddens, Sarason, Wogen are particular cases of theorem of Olin and Thomson which says that all sub-normal operators are reflexive. In other direction, Deddens and Fillmore characterized these operators acting on a finite dimensional space are reflexive. J. B. Conway and Dudziak generalized the result of reflexivity of normal, quasi-normal, sub-normal operators by proving the reflexivity of Von Neumann operators. In this paper we shall discuss one of the questions that have been posed by Deddens whether the direct sum  $A \oplus B$  of Reflexive operators  $A$  and  $B$  acting on Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\mathcal{K}$  respectively is necessarily reflexive. The answer is known to be yes in many cases, in which additional hypotheses were placed on one or both summands. First we shall discuss the operators for which the direct sum of Reflexive operators is Reflexive. After this we shall discuss the operators on which direct sum of Reflexive operators fails to be reflexive. In general, we can say that direct sum of Reflexive operators is not reflexive. We further modified the result by showing that if  $A$  and  $B$  are Reflexive operators  $A \otimes B$  is not Reflexive.

**Keywords:** Reflexive operators, Normal operators, Subnormal operators, Direct sum of operators.

### INTRODUCTION

A bounded linear operator  $T$  on a complex separable Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  is reflexive if  $\text{Alg } T = \text{Alg Lat } T$ , where  $\text{Alg Lat } T$  and  $\text{Alg } T$  denote respectively the weakly closed algebra of operators which leave invariant every invariant sub-space of  $T$  and the weakly closed algebra generated by  $T$  and  $I$ .

**1.1 Theorem:** Let  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  be reflexive operators on a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ , if  $A_1$  is algebraic then  $A_1 \oplus A_2$  is reflexive.

**1.2 Corollary:** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be reflexive algebraic operators, then  $A \oplus B$  is reflexive

**1.3 Definition:** A contraction  $T$  on a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  is of class  $C_0$  if  $T$  is c.n.u and for some function  $u$  in  $\mathcal{H}$ ,  $u(T)=0$ . If  $u=u_i u_e$  is the canonical factorization of  $u$  into its inner part  $u_i$  and outer part  $u_e$ , then  $u(T)=0$  if and only if  $u_i(T)=0$ . Also  $\{u \in \mathcal{H}^\infty : u \text{ is inner and } u(T) = 0\}$  has a greatest common divisor  $m$  and  $m(T)=0$ . This function  $m$  is called the minimal function of  $T$ .

**1.4 Theorem[6]:** If  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are contractions of class  $C_0$  with minimal function  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  then the following statements are equivalent:

(a):  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  have no common divisor other than 1.

(b):  $\text{Alg}(T_1 \oplus T_2) = \text{Alg } T_1 \oplus \text{Alg } T_2$

(c):  $\text{Lat}(T_1 \oplus T_2) = \text{Lat } T_1 \oplus \text{Lat } T_2$

(d):  $\text{Alg Lat}(T_1 \oplus T_2) = \text{Alg Lat } T_1 \oplus \text{Alg Lat } T_2$

**1.5 Corollary:** If  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are contractions of class  $C_0$  and if their minimal function have no common divisor other than 1, then if  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are reflexive

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**Proof:** By the hypothesis  $\text{Alg}(T_1 \oplus T_2) = \text{Alg}T_1 \oplus \text{Alg}T_2$  and  $\text{AlgLat}(T_1 \oplus T_2) = \text{AlgLat}T_1 \oplus \text{AlgLat}T_2$

From theorem 1.4, The result follows immediately. This corollary shows that if  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are reflexive contractions of class  $C_0$ , then  $T_1 \oplus T_2$  IS reflexive.

**1.6** Now we shall discuss the non reflexivity of the direct sum of reflexive operators. So that in general we can say that direct sum of two reflexive operators need not be reflexive.

Let  $\mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})$  denote the algebra of all bounded linear operators on  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\mathfrak{B}_1 = \mathfrak{B}_1(\mathcal{H})$  denote the ideal of trace class operators on  $\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is the dual of  $\mathfrak{B}_1(\mathcal{H})$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}(T)$  denote the weak\* closure of polynomial in  $T$  and  $I$ .

Let  $T \in \mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})$

- I. Does  $\text{Alg } T = \{T\}' \cap \text{Alg Lat } T$ ? [4, page 197]
- II. Is  $T \oplus T$  reflexive. [5]
- III. Does  $\text{Alg } T = \mathcal{A}(T)$ . In addition [3] [7]
- IV. If  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are reflexive, is  $T_1 \oplus T_2$  reflexive? We also add one more question here.
- V. If  $A$  and  $B$  are reflexive, Is  $A \otimes B$  reflexive?.

*Note that the first two questions are related.  $T \oplus T$  is reflexive whenever*

$\text{Alg } T = \{T\}' \cap \text{Alg Lat } T$ . An example of a reflexive operators  $T$  is also given for which  $T^2$  is not reflexive.

**1.7: Definition:** A sub space  $\mathcal{L} = \{B \in \mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H}) : Bx \in [\mathcal{L}x] \forall x \in \mathcal{H}\}$ . For algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  containing  $I$ . This is equivalent to say  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Alg Lat } \mathcal{A}$ . Further  $\mathcal{L}$  is  $n$ -reflexive if  $\mathcal{L}^{(n)}$  the  $n$ -fold inflation of  $\mathcal{L}$  is reflexive. Also an operator  $T$  is  $n$ -reflexive if  $W(T)$  is  $n$ -reflexive.

**1.8: Definition:** The annihilator of  $\mathcal{L}$ , denoted by  $\mathcal{L}_\perp$  is the set

$$\mathcal{L}_\perp = \{U \in \mathfrak{B}_1 : \text{tr}(SU) = 0 \forall S \in \mathcal{L}\} \text{ where } \mathfrak{B}_1 \text{ is the set of trace class operators on } \mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H}).$$

**1.9: Proposition [9]:** A sub space  $\mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is  $n$ -reflexive if and only if  $\mathcal{L}_\perp \cap F_n$  total in  $\mathcal{L}_\perp$ , where  $F_n = F_n(\mathcal{H})$  denotes the set of operators in  $\mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})$  of rank  $\leq n$ .

**1.10: Lemma [9]:** If  $\text{Alg } T = \{T\}' \cap \text{Alg Lat } T$  then  $T$  is  $n$ -reflexive for every  $n \geq 2$ .

**Remark:** For any  $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathfrak{B}(K \oplus \mathcal{H})$ , let  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}} = \{A - A_{1,\infty} : A \in \mathcal{A}\}$

**1.11: Lemma [9]:**  $\{\text{Alg } T\}^\sim = (\{T\}' \cap \text{Alg Lat } T)^\sim = \{T\}' \cap (\text{Alg Lat } T)^\sim$

**1.12: Lemma [9]:**  $(\{T\}' \cap \text{Alg Lat } T)_{1,\infty} = (\text{Alg Lat } T)_{1,\infty} = R(\mathcal{L})_{1,\infty}$ ,

Where  $R(\mathcal{L}) = \{R \in \mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H}) : Rx \in [\mathcal{L}x] \forall x \in \mathcal{H}\}$

**1.13: Lemma [2]:** If  $n \geq 2$ , then  $\text{Alg}(T^{(n)})^\sim = \text{Alg Lat}(T^{(n)})^\sim$  and  $\text{Alg}(T^{(n)})^\sim$  is a reflexive sub space.

**1.14: Proposition:** For  $T$  as in basic construction [9]  $\text{Alg } T = \{T\}' \cap \text{Alg Lat } T$  if and only if  $\mathcal{L}$  is reflexive Sub space.

**Proof:** Using the Lemmas 1.11 and 1.12 we have  $\text{Alg } T = (\text{Alg } T)^\sim + [\mathcal{L}]_{1,\infty}$  and  $\{T\}' \cap \text{Alg Lat } T = \{T\}' \cap (\text{Alg Lat } T) + (\text{Alg Lat } T)_{1,\infty} = (\text{Alg } T) + [R(\mathcal{L})]_{1,\infty}$  but  $R(\mathcal{L}) = \mathcal{L}$  precisely when  $\mathcal{L}$  is reflexive.

**1.15: Proposition:** For  $T$  as in basic construction [9] and  $n \geq 2$ ,  $T$  is reflexive if and only if  $\mathcal{L}$  is  $n$ -reflexive

**Proof:** We have  $\text{Alg}(T^{(n)}) = \text{Alg}(T^{(n)})^\sim + [\mathcal{L}^{(n)}]_{1,\infty}$  and  $\text{Alg Lat}(T^{(n)}) + \text{Alg Lat}(T^{(n)})^\sim + [R(\mathcal{L}^{(n)})]_{1,\infty}$  Lemma 1.13 shows that  $\text{Alg}(T^{(n)}) = (\text{Alg Lat } T^{(n)})^\sim$ .

So that  $T^{(n)}$  is reflexive if and only if  $\mathcal{L}^{(n)} = R(\mathcal{L}^{(n)})$  and if and only if  $\mathcal{L}^{(n)}$  is reflexive.

**1.16: Example [2]:** If  $1 < n < \infty$ , there is a reflexive operator  $S$  so that  $S^2$  is not  $n$ -reflexive.

**Proof:** Suppose that  $\mathcal{L}$  is a wot closed subspace of  $\mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})$  which is not  $2n$ -reflexive. We can construct an operator  $T$  as in basic construction [9] so that  $(\text{Alg } T)_{1,\infty} = [\mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})]_{1,\infty}$  While  $\text{Alg}(T^2) = [\mathcal{L}^{(n)}]_{1,\infty}$ . The idea is that to choose the even entries in the column matrix  $Q$  to have wot. Span, while the odd entries are chosen to span  $\mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})$ .

Now let  $S=T^2$ . By the proposition 1.15  $S$  is reflexive. Since  $[\text{Alg}(S^2)]_{1,\infty}$  and  $\mathcal{L}^{(2)}$  is not  $n$ -reflexive. We can see that  $S^{(2)}$  is not  $n$ -reflexive.

We now give answer to question 4 by constructing a direct sum of reflexive operators which is not reflexive.

**1.17 Lemma:** Fix  $1 \leq n < \infty$  and suppose that  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{C}^{n+1}$ . There is a subspace  $\mathcal{L}$  of  $\mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{M} \oplus \mathcal{M})$  with these properties  $\mathcal{M} \oplus 0$  reduces  $\mathcal{L}$ , the sub spaces  $\mathcal{L}_1 = \mathcal{L}/\mathcal{M} \oplus 0$  and  $\mathcal{L}_2/0 \oplus \mathcal{M}$  are reflexive, and  $\mathcal{L}$  is not  $n$ -reflexive.

Proof: Let  $\mathcal{L} = \{S \oplus T : S, T \in \mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{M}) \text{ and } \text{trace}(S+T)=0\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{L}_1 = (\mathcal{M}) = \mathcal{L}_2$ , so that  $\mathcal{L}_1$  and  $\mathcal{L}_2$  are reflexive. We use proposition 1.9 to show that  $\mathcal{L}$  is not  $n$ -reflexive by showing that  $[S_1 \cap F_n] \neq S_\perp$ .

Each  $U \in \mathcal{L}_\perp$  has form  $\begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix}$  with  $A, B, C, D \in \mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{M})$ . For every  $S \in \mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{M})$  with  $S=0$ . We have  $\text{tr}(U(S \oplus 0)) = \text{tr}AS = 0$ . Thus  $A = \lambda I$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathcal{C}$ . In particular, if  $U \in S_\perp \cap F_n$ , then  $A=0$ . Thus  $I \oplus I \in S_\perp$  but  $I \oplus I \notin [S_\perp \cap F_n]$

**1.18 Example [9]:** If  $1 \leq n < \infty$ , then there are reflexive operators  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  so that  $S_1 \oplus S_2$  is not  $n$ -reflexive.

**1.19 Definition:** Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a complex Hilbert space and let  $\mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})$  denote the algebra of bounded linear operator on  $\mathcal{H}$ . For a linear sub-space  $\mathcal{L}$  of  $\mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})$

$$\text{Ref } \mathcal{L} = \{B \in \mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H}) : Bx \in [\mathcal{L}x], x \in \mathcal{H}\}$$

If  $A \in \mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , then  $\mathcal{W}(A)$  will denote the closure in the weak topology of  $\mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})$  of the set  $P(A)$  of polynomial in  $A$ , and  $\mathcal{W}_0(A)$  will denote the weakly closed principal ideal generated by  $A$ . Thus  $\mathcal{W}_0(A)$  is the closure in the wot of the linear span of the positive power of  $A$ , and it may happen that  $\mathcal{W}_0(A) = \mathcal{W}(A)$ . So the operator  $A$  will be reflexive if

$$\mathcal{W}(A) = \text{AlgLat } A = \text{Ref } \mathcal{W}(A)$$

**1.20 Proposition [1]:** Let  $A \in \mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})$  then:

- (1)  $\text{Lat}(A \oplus 0)$  splits if and only if  $I \in \text{Ref } \mathcal{W}(A)$ .
- (2)  $(A \oplus 0)$  splits if and only if  $I \in \mathcal{W}_0(A)$ .

**1.21 Proposition:** Let  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\mathcal{K}$  be Hilbert space with  $\dim \mathcal{K} \geq 1$ . Let  $A \in \mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , and  $0$  denote the zero transformation on  $\mathcal{K}$ , then

- (1)  $A \oplus 0$  is reflexive if and if  $\mathcal{W}_0(A)$  is reflexive.
- (2) If  $A$  is reflexive, then  $A \oplus 0$  fails to be reflexive if and only if  $I \notin \mathcal{W}_0(A)$  but  $I \in \text{Ref } \mathcal{W}_0(A)$ .

**Proof:** Let us suppose that  $\mathcal{W}_0(A)$  is reflexive.

Let  $B \in \text{Ref}((A \oplus 0))$  be arbitrary. Since  $\text{Ref}(\mathcal{W}(A) \oplus \mathcal{C}I)$  is a reflexive algebra containing  $A \oplus 0$ , it follows that  $B = B_1 \oplus \lambda I$  for some  $B_1 \in \text{Ref } \mathcal{W}(A)$  and  $\lambda \in \mathcal{C}$ . We shall show that  $B_1 - \lambda I \in \mathcal{W}_0(A)$ , and hence

Since  $\mathcal{W}(A \oplus 0) = \mathcal{W}_0(A \oplus 0) + \mathcal{C}(I \oplus I)$  and  $\mathcal{W}_0(A \oplus 0) = \mathcal{W}_0(A) \oplus 0$ , This will prove that  $B \in \mathcal{W}(A \oplus 0)$ , as required.

Fix a non zero vector  $y \in \mathcal{K}$ . Let  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  be arbitrary. Since  $B \in \text{Ref } \mathcal{W}(A \oplus 0)$ , there exist a sequence of polynomial  $\{p_n\}$  depending on  $x$ , such that

$$\text{Lim}_n(p_n(A \oplus 0))(x \oplus y) = (B_1 \oplus \lambda I)(x \oplus y) = (B_1x) \oplus (\lambda y)$$

$$\text{Since } p_n(A \oplus 0) = p_n(A) \oplus (p_n(0)I),$$

$$\text{We must have } p_n(0) \rightarrow \lambda \text{ and } p_n(A)x \rightarrow B_1x$$

$$\text{Let } q_n(0) = p_n - p_n(0) \text{ then } q_n(0) = 0 \text{ and } q_n(A)x \rightarrow (B_1 - \lambda I)x. \text{ Thus}$$

$$(B_1 - \lambda I)x \in [\mathcal{W}_0(A)x]. \text{ Since } x \text{ is arbitrary, this shows that}$$

$$B_1 - \lambda I \in \text{Ref}(\mathcal{W}_0(A)) = \mathcal{W}_0(A), \text{ As needed. So } A \oplus 0 \text{ is reflexive.}$$

For the converse let  $A \oplus 0$  is reflexive. If  $C \in \text{Ref}(\mathcal{W}_0(A))$ , then

$$C \oplus 0 \in \text{Ref}(\mathcal{W}_0(A)) \oplus 0 = \text{Ref}(\mathcal{W}_0(A) \oplus 0) = \text{Ref}(\mathcal{W}_0(A \oplus 0)) \subseteq \text{Ref}(\mathcal{W}(A \oplus 0)) = \mathcal{W}(A \oplus 0) = \mathcal{W}(A \oplus 0) + \mathcal{C}(I \oplus I).$$

It follows that  $C \in \mathcal{W}_0(A)$  as needed. So  $\mathcal{W}_0(A)$  is reflexive.

(2) Follows from (1). Assume that  $A$  is reflexive. We have

$$\mathcal{W}_0(A) \subseteq \text{Ref}(\mathcal{W}_0(A)) = \text{Ref } \mathcal{W}(A) = \mathcal{W}(A) = \mathcal{W}_0(A) + \mathcal{C}I$$

From this it is clear that the only way in which  $A \oplus 0$ , and hence  $\mathcal{W}_0(A)$ , can fail to be reflexive is if  $I \notin \mathcal{W}_0(A)$  but  $I \in \text{Ref}(\mathcal{W}_0(A))$

**1.22 Lemma [1]:**  $I \in \text{Ref}(\mathcal{W}_0(T))$

**1.23 Lemma [1]:**  $T$  is a reflexive operator, then  $\mathcal{W}(T) = \mathcal{A}(T)$

**1.24 Lemma [1]:**  $T$  is 2-elementary. The relative weak operator topology coincides with the relative \* weak operator topology on  $\mathcal{W}(T)$

**1.25 Lemma:**  $I \notin \mathcal{W}_0(T)$ .

**Proof:** By the Lemma 1.24  $\mathcal{W}_0(T)$  is the weak \* closure of the linear span of the idempotent  $\{Q_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ . Let  $h = (h_{ij})$  be the operator defined in term of its coordinate elements by

$$h_{kk} = 2^{-k}$$

$$h_{2k-1, 2k-1} = 4^{-k} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{2k-1} 2^{-j} \right)$$

$$h_{2k+1, 2k+1} = 4^{-k} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{2k} 2^{-j} \right)$$

For all  $k \geq 1$  and all other elements 0, then  $h \in \mathfrak{B}_1(\mathcal{H})$ . Since it is supported on finitely many (three) diagonal  $S$  and each diagonal is absolutely summable. It can be verified that  $\text{tr}(Q_k h) = 0 \forall k \geq 1$ . [1]

So  $h \in \mathcal{W}_0(T)_{\perp}$ . Also  $(\text{tr } h) = 1$ . This shows that  $I \notin \mathcal{W}_0(T)$ .

**1.26 Theorem:**  $T$  is reflexive but  $T \oplus 0$  is not reflexive.

**Proof:** It was shown in Lemma 1.23, that  $T$  is reflexive on the other hand Lemma 1.22 and 1.24 show that  $\mathcal{W}_0(T)$  is not reflexive, by the proposition 1.21  $T \oplus 0$  fails to be reflexive.

**1.27 Theorem:** Direct sum of two reflexive operators need not to be reflexive.

**Proof:** Let  $T$  be a reflexive operator and  $0$  is null operator. Since  $0$ -operator is trivially reflexive and elementary, Theorem 1.26 says that  $T \oplus 0$  is not reflexive. This shows that the direct sum of two reflexive operators need not to be reflexive even under the hypothesis that one is elementary and other is 2-elementary.

**1.28 Theorem:** If  $A$  and  $B$  are reflexive operators then  $A \otimes B$  need not to be reflexive.

**Proof:** Let  $A$  be a reflexive operators and  $B$  is a reflexive and rank one projection on a two dimension Hilbert space. Fix an ortho normal basis  $\{e_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ , for an infinite dimensional Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ . View each operator  $A \in \mathfrak{B}(\mathcal{H})$  as an infinite matrix  $A = (A_{jk})_{j,k \geq 1}$ . Let  $E_{jk}$  be the unit matrix which has 1 as its  $(j,k)$  element and all other elements 0. Let  $M_n = [e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_n]$  and  $P_n$  be the orthogonal projection on to  $M_n$ . For each  $k \geq 1$ , let

$$Q_{2k-1} = P_{2k-1} + 4^k E_{2k, 2k-1}$$

$$Q_{2k} = P_{2k} + 4^k E_{2k, 2k+1}$$

Set  $Q_0 = 0$ . Observe that each  $Q_n$  is an idempotent of rank  $n$  and that  $\text{range}(Q_n) \subset \text{range}(Q_{n+1})$ . Also if  $m < n$  then  $Q_m Q_n = Q_n Q_m = Q_m$ . For  $k \geq 1$  set  $T_k = Q_k - Q_{k-1}$ . Each  $T_k$  is a rank one idempotent and  $T_j T_k = 0$  if  $j \neq k$ , we have

$$A_1 = E_{11} + 4E_{21}$$

$$A_{2k-1} = -4^{k-1} E_{2k-2, 2k-1} + E_{2k-1, 2k-1} + 4^k E_{2k, 2k-1} \text{ for } k \geq 2.$$

$$A_{2k} = -4^k E_{2k, 2k-1} + E_{2k, 2k} + 4^k E_{2k, 2k+1} \text{ for } k \geq 1$$

Thus  $A_{2k-1}$  has non zero entries only in the  $2k-1$  column and  $A_{2k}$  has non zero entries only in the  $2k$  row. Since  $B$  be a rank one projection on a two dimensional Hilbert space, then  $A \otimes B$  is equivalent

to  $T \oplus 0$ , which is not reflexive by theorem 1.26. Since equivalence preserves the reflexivity, so  $A \otimes B$  is not reflexive.

## **CONCLUSION**

In the light of above discussion it is clear that direct sum of two reflexive operators is not reflexive. If  $A$  and  $B$  are two reflexive operators then  $A \otimes B$  is not reflexive.

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