

Theorem 2 (polar decomposition)

- $T \in \mathcal{L}(H) \Rightarrow T^*T$ is positive

$$\langle T^*T x, x \rangle = \langle T x, T x \rangle = \|T x\|^2 \geq 0$$

- $T \in \mathcal{L}(H) \Rightarrow |T| := \sqrt{T^*T}$ (T^*T self-adjoint, $\sigma(T^*T) \subset [0, \infty)$)

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet x \in H \Rightarrow \langle |T|x, |T|x \rangle &= \langle |T|^2 x, x \rangle = \langle T^*T x, x \rangle \\ &= \langle T x, T x \rangle = \|T x\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

So, define $U \in \mathcal{L}(H)$ as follows:

- for $y = |T|x \in \mathcal{R}(|T|)$ define $Uy := Tx$

as $\||T|x\| = \|Tx\|$, U is an isometry of $\mathcal{R}(|T|)$ onto $\mathcal{R}(T)$

So, it can be extended to $\overline{\mathcal{R}(|T|)}$

- for $y \in \mathcal{R}(|T|)^\perp$ put $Uy = 0$

Then U is a partial isometry, $U|T| = T$, $U \upharpoonright_{\mathcal{R}(|T|)^\perp} = 0$.

The uniqueness is clear.

- Similarly define a partial isometry V s.t. $|T| = VT$ and $V \upharpoonright_{\mathcal{R}(T)^\perp} = 0$.

Then $U^* = V$: $x, y \in H$ $x = x_1 + x_2$ ($x_1 \in \overline{\mathcal{R}(|T|)}, x_2 \in \mathcal{R}(T)^\perp$) $y = y_1 + y_2$ ($y_1 \in \overline{\mathcal{R}(|T|)}, y_2 \in \mathcal{R}(|T|)^\perp$)

$$\langle Vx, y \rangle = \langle Vx_1, y_1 + y_2 \rangle = \langle Vx_1, y_1 \rangle \text{ as } Vx_2 = 0$$

$$\langle x, Uy \rangle = \langle x_1 + x_2, Uy_1 \rangle = \langle x_1, Uy_1 \rangle \text{ as } Uy_2 = 0$$

Recall $U(|x\rangle) = Tx$, $V(|x\rangle) = |Tx\rangle$, $x \in H$

Thus $U|_{R(\mathcal{T})} = (V|_{R(\mathcal{T})})^{-1}$

This can be extended to the closures:

$U|_{\overline{R(\mathcal{T})}} = (V|_{\overline{R(\mathcal{T})}})^{-1}$

Hence $\langle Vx_1, y_1 \rangle = \langle Ux_1, Uy_1 \rangle = \langle x_1, y_1 \rangle$

$U|_{\overline{R(\mathcal{T})}}$ is an isometry, use Prop. 1

Thus $V = U^*$

$\langle Vx, y \rangle = \langle Ux, Uy \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle$