



# Substitution conditional type operators on $L^2(\Sigma)$

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## Abstract

In this paper point spectrum, compactness, reducibility, generalized inverse and some weak normal classes of substitution conditional type operators acting on  $L^2(\Sigma)$  will be investigated.

**Keywords** Conditional expectation · Reducibility · Generalized inverse · Compact · Normal · Composition operator

**Mathematics Subject Classification** Primary 47B20; Secondary 47B25

## 1 Introduction and preliminaries

Let  $(X, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a complete  $\sigma$ -finite measure space and let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a sub- $\sigma$ -finite algebra of  $\Sigma$ . We use the notation  $L^2(\mathcal{A})$  for  $L^2(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu|_{\mathcal{A}})$  and henceforth we write  $\mu$  in place of  $\mu|_{\mathcal{A}}$ . All comparisons between two functions or two sets are to be interpreted as holding up to a  $\mu$ -null set. We denote the linear space of all complex-valued  $\Sigma$ -measurable functions on  $X$  by  $L^0(\Sigma)$ . The support of  $f \in L^0(\Sigma)$  is defined by  $\sigma(f) = \{x \in X : f(x) \neq 0\}$ . We say that  $S$  is a localizing set for  $\mathcal{A}$  (see [13]) if  $S$  is not a null set, and  $\mathcal{A}_S = \Sigma_S$ , where  $\mathcal{A}_S = \{A \cap S : A \in \mathcal{A}\}$ . Let  $E_{\mathcal{A}} : L^2(\Sigma) \rightarrow L^2(\mathcal{A})$  be the conditional expectation operator, so that for  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ ,  $E_{\mathcal{A}}(f)$  is the unique  $\mathcal{A}$ -measurable function such that  $\int_A f d\mu = \int_A E_{\mathcal{A}}(f) d\mu$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ . As an operator on  $L^2(\Sigma)$ ,  $E = E_{\mathcal{A}}$  is an orthogonal projection of  $L^2(\Sigma)$  onto  $L^2(\mathcal{A})$ . Note that  $\mathcal{D}(E)$ , the domain of  $E$ , contains  $L^2(\Sigma) \cup \{f \in L^0(\Sigma) : f \geq 0\}$ . For more details on the properties of  $E$  see ([8, 13, 15]). Those properties of  $E$  used in our discussion are summarized below. In all cases, we assume that  $f, g, fg \in \mathcal{D}(E)$ .

- $\chi_A f = f$  whenever  $\sigma(f) \subseteq A \in \Sigma$ .

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- $E(g) = g$  if and only if  $g$  is  $\mathcal{A}$ -measurable.
- If  $g$  is  $\mathcal{A}$ -measurable then  $E(fg) = E(f)g$ .
- If  $f \geq g$  then  $E(f) \geq E(g)$  and  $\sigma(f - g) \subseteq \sigma(E(f - g))$ .
- $|E(fg)|^2 \leq E(|f|^2)E(|g|^2)$  (conditional Cauchy-Schwarz inequality).

For  $w, u \in \mathcal{D}(E)$ , the mapping  $T_1 : L^2(\Sigma) \supseteq \mathcal{D}(T_1) \rightarrow L^2(\Sigma)$  given by  $T_1(f) = wE(uf)$  for  $f \in \mathcal{D}(T_1) = \{f \in L^2(\Sigma) : T_1(f) \in L^2(\Sigma)\}$ , is well-defined and linear. Such an operator is called a Lambert conditional type operator induced by the pair  $(w, u)$ . Let  $\varphi : X \rightarrow X$  be a measurable transformation on  $X$ , that is,  $\varphi^{-1}(A) \in \Sigma$  for all  $A \in \Sigma$ . Define the measure  $\mu \circ \varphi^{-1}$  on  $\Sigma$  by  $(\mu \circ \varphi^{-1})(A) = \mu(\varphi^{-1}(A))$  for all  $A \in \Sigma$ . We say that  $\varphi$  is nonsingular, if  $\mu \circ \varphi^{-1}$  is absolutely continuous with respect to  $\mu$ . In this case we write  $\mu \circ \varphi^{-1} \ll \mu$ , as usual. Let  $h$  be the Radon-Nikodym derivative  $h = d(\mu \circ \varphi^{-1})/d\mu$  and it is always assumed that  $h$  is almost everywhere finite-valued. Equivalently,  $\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)$  is a sub- $\sigma$ -finite algebra of  $\Sigma$ . By the change of variables formula we observe that for each  $f \in L^1(\Sigma)$  and  $A \in \Sigma$  we have

$$\int_A f d(\mu \circ \varphi^{-1}) = \int_{\varphi^{-1}(A)} (f \circ \varphi) d\mu = \int_A hf d\mu.$$

Let  $u$  and  $w$  be in  $\mathcal{D}(E)$ , the domain of  $E$ . The operator  $T : L^2(\Sigma) \rightarrow L^0(\Sigma)$  that induced by the triple  $(u, w, \varphi)$  is called substitution conditional type operator and defined by  $T = M_w E M_u C_\varphi$ , where  $M_w$  and  $M_u$  are multiplication operators and  $C_\varphi$  is a composition operator. If we take  $\varphi = id$ , the identity map, then  $C_\varphi = I$  and  $T$  is a Lambert conditional type operator  $T_1 = M_w E M_u$ . Also, if  $\mathcal{A} = \Sigma$ , then  $E = I$  and  $T$  is a weighted composition operator  $T_2 = M_{uw} C_\varphi$ .

Let  $1 < p < \infty$ . Moy in [14] showed that if  $T \in B(L^p(\Sigma)), T(L^\infty(\Sigma)) \subset L^\infty(\Sigma)$  and  $T(fT(g)) = T(f)T(g)$  for all  $f, g \in L^\infty(\Sigma)$ . then  $T = E_{\mathcal{A}} M_u$  for some  $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \Sigma$ . Substitution conditional type operators of the form  $T = T_1 C_\varphi$  are closely related to the multiplication operators, weighted composition operators, integral and averaging operators and to the operators called conditional expectation type which has been studied in [5, 6, 8, 9, 15]. For example, let  $X = [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ ,  $d\mu = dx dy$ ,  $\Sigma$  be the Lebesgue subsets of  $X$  and let  $\mathcal{A} = \{A \times [0, 1] : A \text{ is a Lebesgue set in } [0, 1]\}$ . Then, for each  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ ,  $(Ef)(x, y) = \int_0^1 f(x, t) dt$ , which is independent of the second coordinate. In this case we have

$$T(f) = w(x, y)E(u \cdot f \circ \varphi)(x, y) = w(x, y) \int_0^1 u(x, t) f(\varphi(x, t)) dt.$$

In [5, 11] we have studied substitution conditional type operator  $T = M_w E M_u C_\varphi$  induced by the triple  $(w, u, \varphi)$  on  $L^2(\Sigma)$ . In the next section, we discuss measure theoretic characterizations for substitution conditional type operators. Boundedness, point spectrum, compactness, reducibility, generalized inverse and some weak normal classes of a these type of operators will be investigated.

## 2 Characterizations

Let  $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \Sigma$  be a sub- $\sigma$ -algebra and let  $\varphi$  be a nonsingular measurable transformation for which the composition operator  $C_\varphi$  is densely defined. For each  $u, w \in L^0(\Sigma)$ , it is assumed that  $u\mathcal{R}(C_\varphi) \subset \mathcal{D}(E)$ . It follows that the substitution conditional type operator  $T = M_w E M_u C_\varphi : L^2(\Sigma) \rightarrow L^0(\Sigma)$  is well-defined. Now, we provide some lemmas for later use.

**Lemma 2.1** *Let  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A})$  be a  $\sigma$ -finite subalgebra of  $\mathcal{A}$  and let  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq \mathcal{A} \subseteq \varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)$ . Then  $E_{\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)} E_{\mathcal{A}} = E_{\mathcal{A}} E_{\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)} = E_{\mathcal{A}}$ ,  $E_{\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A})} E_{\mathcal{A}} = E_{\mathcal{A}} E_{\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A})} = E_{\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A})}$ . Moreover,  $E_{\mathcal{A}}(f \circ \varphi) = f \circ \varphi = E_{\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)}(f \circ \varphi)$  and  $E_{\mathcal{A}}(f) \circ \varphi^{-1}$  is well-defined for all  $f \in L^0(\mathcal{A}) \cap \mathcal{D}(E)$ .*

From now on, we take  $E_\varphi = E_{\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)}$ ,  $E = E_{\mathcal{A}}$  and assume that  $h < \infty$ .

**Lemma 2.2** *Let  $T = M_w E M_u C_\varphi : L^2(\Sigma) \rightarrow L^0(\Sigma)$  be a densely defined substitution conditional type operator. Then for each  $f \in \mathcal{D}(T^*)$ ,  $T^* f = h E_\varphi \{ \bar{u} E(\bar{w} f) \} \circ \varphi^{-1}$ .*

**Proof** Let  $f \in \mathcal{D}(T^*)$  and  $g \in \mathcal{D}(T)$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle g, T^* f \rangle &= \langle Tg, f \rangle = \int_X w E(u(g \circ \varphi)) \bar{f} d\mu = \int_X u(g \circ \varphi) E(w \bar{f}) d\mu \\ &= \int_X E_\varphi(u E(w \bar{f})) g \circ \varphi d\mu = \int_X h E_\varphi \{ u E(w \bar{f}) \} \circ \varphi^{-1} g d\mu \\ &= \left\langle g, h E_\varphi \{ \bar{u} E(\bar{w} f) \} \circ \varphi^{-1} \right\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the desired conclusion holds. □

We recall that, by assumption,  $h$  is finite-valued. Thus,  $C_\varphi$  is densely defined and hence  $C_\varphi^*$  is well-defined (see [1]). Then by Lemma 2.2,  $T^* = C_\varphi^* M_{\bar{u}} E M_{\bar{w}}$ .

We write  $B(L^2(\Sigma))$  and  $K(L^2(\Sigma))$  for the space of bounded and compact linear operators on  $L^2(\Sigma)$ , respectively. Boundedness of  $T$  has been proven in [5]. In the following we improve it as follows.

**Theorem 2.3** *Let  $T : L^2(\Sigma) \rightarrow L^0(\Sigma)$  be a substitution conditional type operator  $T = M_w E M_u C_\varphi$ . If  $J_1 = h E_\varphi \{ E(|u|^2) E(|w|^2) \} \circ \varphi^{-1} \in L^\infty(\Sigma)$ , then  $T$  is bounded and  $\|T\|^2 \leq \|J_1\|_\infty$ . Moreover, if  $h \in L^\infty(\Sigma)$  and  $T \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$ , then  $J_2 = E\{ |h E_\varphi(\bar{u} \sqrt{E(|w|^2)} \circ \varphi^{-1})|^2 \} \in L^\infty(\mathcal{A})$  with  $\|J_2\|_\infty \leq \|h\|_\infty \|T\|^2$ .*

**Proof** Let  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ . Then by Lemma 2.1 we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|Tf\|^2 &= \int_X E(|w|^2) |E(u(f \circ \varphi))|^2 d\mu = \int_X |E(u \sqrt{E(|w|^2)}(f \circ \varphi))|^2 d\mu \\ &\leq \int_X E(|u|^2 E(|w|^2)) E(|f|^2 \circ \varphi) d\mu = \int_X E(|u|^2) E(|w|^2) (|f|^2 \circ \varphi) d\mu \\ &= \int_X E_\varphi \{ E(|u|^2) E(|w|^2) \} (|f|^2 \circ \varphi) d\mu \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \int_X h E_\varphi \{ E(|u|^2) E(|w|^2) \} \circ \varphi^{-1} |f|^2 d\mu \\
 &= \int_X J_1 |f|^2 d\mu \leq \|J\|_\infty \int_X |f|^2 d\mu = \|J_1\|_\infty \|f\|^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $T$  is bounded and  $\|T\|^2 \leq \|J_1\|_\infty$ . Conversely, let  $T$  is bounded. Set  $v = u\sqrt{E(|w|^2)}$ . Then  $\|Tf\|^2 = \int_X |EM_v C_\varphi f|^2 d\mu = \|EM_v C_\varphi f\|^2$ , for each  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ . Consequently,  $EM_v C_\varphi$  is bounded and  $\|C_\varphi^* M_{\bar{v}} E\| = \|EM_v C_\varphi\| = \|T\|$ . Now, for  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  with  $0 < \mu(A) < \infty$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_A J_2 d\mu &= \int_A h^2 |E_\varphi(\bar{v}) \circ \varphi^{-1}|^2 d\mu = \int_A h |E_\varphi(\bar{v})|^2 \circ \varphi^{-1} d(\mu \circ \varphi^{-1}) \\
 &= \int_{\varphi^{-1}(A)} (h \circ \varphi) |E_\varphi(\bar{v})|^2 d\mu = \int_X (h \circ \varphi) |E_\varphi(\bar{v} \chi_{\varphi^{-1}(A)})|^2 d\mu \\
 &= \int_X h^2 |E_\varphi(\bar{v} \chi_{\varphi^{-1}(A)})|^2 \circ \varphi^{-1} d\mu = \int_X |h E_\varphi(\bar{v} \chi_{\varphi^{-1}(A)}) \circ \varphi^{-1}|^2 d\mu \\
 &= \int_X |C_\varphi^* M_{\bar{v}} E(\chi_{\varphi^{-1}(A)})|^2 d\mu = \|C_\varphi^* M_{\bar{v}} E(\chi_{\varphi^{-1}(A)})\|^2 \\
 &\leq \|C_\varphi^* M_{\bar{v}} E\|^2 \mu(\varphi^{-1}(A)) = \|T\|^2 \int_A d(\mu \circ \varphi^{-1}) \\
 &= \|T\|^2 \int_A h d\mu \leq \|T\|^2 \|h\|_\infty \mu(A).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\|J_2\|_\infty = \sup\{\frac{1}{\mu(A)} \int_A J_2 d\mu : 0 < \mu(A) < \infty\} \leq \|T\|^2 \|h\|_\infty < \infty$ , and hence  $\|J_2\|_\infty \leq \|h\|_\infty \|T\|^2$ . □

**Corollary 2.4**  $T_1 = M_w E M_u \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$  if and only if  $E(|u|^2) E(|w|^2) \in L^\infty(\mathcal{A})$ , and in this case  $\|T_1\|^2 = \|E(|u|^2) E(|w|^2)\|_\infty$ .

**Proof** Put  $\varphi = id$  in Theorem 2.3. Then  $E_\varphi = I = C_\varphi = C_\varphi^*$  and  $h = 1$ . □

Let  $v \in L^0(\Sigma)$  and  $J = h(E_\varphi(|v|^2) \circ \varphi^{-1})$ . We recall that the weighted composition operator  $(vC_\varphi)(f) := v.(f \circ \varphi)$  defines a bounded operator on  $L^2(\Sigma)$  if and only if  $J \in L^\infty(\Sigma)$  (see [3]).

**Example 2.5** Let  $\Sigma$  be the Lebesgue subsets of  $X = [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ ,  $d\mu = dx dy$  and let  $\varphi : X \rightarrow X$  be the baker transformation defined by

$$\varphi(x, y) = \left(2x, \frac{y}{2}\right) \chi_{[0, \frac{1}{2}] \times [0, 1]} + \left(2x - 1, \frac{y + 1}{2}\right) \chi_{[\frac{1}{2}, 1] \times [0, 1]}.$$

Then

$$\varphi^{-1}(x, y) = \left(\frac{x}{2}, 2y\right) \chi_{[0, 1] \times [0, \frac{1}{2}]} + \left(\frac{x + 1}{2}, 2y - 1\right) \chi_{[0, 1] \times [\frac{1}{2}, 1]}.$$

It follows that  $\varphi$  preserves the Lebesgue measure  $\mu$  on  $X$ . Thus,  $h = 1 = \|C_\varphi\|$ ,  $E_\varphi = I$  and hence  $hE_\varphi(f) \circ \varphi^{-1} = f \circ \varphi^{-1}$  for all  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ . Let  $u, w \in L^2(\Sigma)$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = \{\emptyset, X\}$  and let  $T = M_wEM_uC_\varphi$ . Then  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{A}$  and for each  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$  we have  $E(f)(x, y) = \int_0^1 \int_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 f(s, t) ds dt$  for all  $(x, y) \in X$ . Therefore  $\{E(f) \circ \varphi^{-1}\}(x, y) = E(f)(x, y)$ . It follows that

$$Tf = w \left\{ \int_0^1 \int_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 u(s, t) f \left( 2s, \frac{t}{2} \right) ds dt + \int_0^1 \int_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 u(s, t) f \left( 2s - 1, \frac{t+1}{2} \right) ds dt \right\}.$$

Moreover,  $J_1 = hE_\varphi\{E(|u|^2)E(|w|^2)\} \circ \varphi^{-1} = E(|u|^2)E(|w|^2) = \|u\|_2^2 \|w\|_2^2$ . Thus, by Theorem 2.3,  $T \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$  with  $\|T\| = \|u\|_2 \|w\|_2 = \|T_1\|$ . Also, by Lemma 2.2, we have

$$\begin{aligned} T^*f(x, y) &= \bar{u}(\varphi^{-1}(x, y))E(\bar{w}f)(x, y) \\ &= \left\{ \bar{u} \left( \frac{x}{2}, 2y \right) \chi_{[0, 1] \times [0, \frac{1}{2}]} + \bar{u} \left( \frac{x+1}{2}, 2y - 1 \right) \chi_{[0, 1] \times [\frac{1}{2}, 1]} \right\} \int_0^1 \int_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 \bar{w}(s, t) f(s, t) ds dt. \end{aligned}$$

We write  $\mathcal{N}(T)$  and  $\mathcal{R}(T)$  for the null-space and the range of an operator  $T \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$ , respectively. In the following we characterize the null-space of  $T$ .

**Lemma 2.6** *Let  $T = M_wEM_uC_\varphi$  be a weighted composition Lambert-type operator on  $L^2(\Sigma)$ . Then  $\mathcal{N}(T) = \{C_\varphi^*(\bar{u}\sqrt{E(|w|^2)}L^2(\mathcal{A}))\}^\perp$ .*

**Proof** Set  $v = \bar{u}\sqrt{E(|w|^2)}$ . Since  $\|Tf\| = \|EM_vC_\varphi f\|$  for all  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ , then  $\mathcal{N}(T) = \mathcal{N}(EM_vC_\varphi)$ . Let  $g \in L^2(\mathcal{A})$  be an arbitrary. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f, C_\varphi^*(\bar{v}g) \rangle &= \left\langle f, hE_\varphi(\bar{v}g) \circ \varphi^{-1} \right\rangle = \int_X f E_\varphi(\bar{v}g) \circ \varphi^{-1} d(\mu \circ \varphi^{-1}) \\ &= \int_X (f \circ \varphi) E_\varphi(\bar{v}g) d\mu = \int_X v(f \circ \varphi) \bar{g} d\mu \\ &= \int_X E(v(f \circ \varphi)) \bar{g} d\mu = \langle EM_vC_\varphi(f), g \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,  $f \in \{C_\varphi^*(\bar{v}L^2(\mathcal{A}))\}^\perp$  if and only if  $f \in \mathcal{N}(EM_vC_\varphi) = \mathcal{N}(T)$ . □

**Theorem 2.7** *Let  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A})$  be  $\sigma$ -finite,  $S = \sigma(E(u)E(w))$ ,  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq \mathcal{A} \subseteq \varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)$  and let  $T = M_wEM_uC_\varphi \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$ . If  $(\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma))_S = \mathcal{A}_S$  and*

$$hE_\varphi \left\{ \bar{u}E(|w|^2)E(u) \right\} \circ \varphi^{-1} = wE \left\{ u(h \circ \varphi)E_\varphi(\bar{u}E(\bar{w})) \right\}, \tag{2.1}$$

then  $T$  is normal on  $L^2(\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma))$ . Moreover, if  $T$  is normal, then (2.1) is holds.

**Proof** Let  $f \in L^2(\mathcal{A})$ . Then  $f \circ \varphi \in L^0(\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A})) \subseteq L^0(\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma))$  and  $(f \circ \varphi) \circ \varphi^{-1} = f$  on  $\sigma(h)$ . It follows that

$$T^*Tf = hE_\varphi \left\{ \bar{u}E(|w|^2)E(u) \right\} \circ \varphi^{-1} f,$$

$$TT^*f = wE \{u(h \circ \varphi)E_\varphi(\bar{u}E(\bar{w}))\} f.$$

Let  $(\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma))_S = \mathcal{A}_S$  and (2.1) is true. For  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  with  $\mu(A) < \infty$ , put  $g = \chi_{A \cap S}$ . Since  $EE_\varphi = E$  and  $\sigma(hE_\varphi\{\bar{u}E(|w|^2)E(u)\} \circ \varphi^{-1}) = \sigma(wE\{u(h \circ \varphi)E_\varphi(\bar{u}E(\bar{w}))\}) = \sigma(w) \cap \sigma(E(u)) \cap \sigma(\bar{u}E(\bar{w})) \subseteq \sigma(E(u)E(w)) = S$ , then  $T^*Tg = TT^*g$ . From  $(\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma))_S = \mathcal{A}_S$ , we obtain that  $T^*Tg = TT^*g$  holds for any  $\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)$ -measurable subset  $A$  of  $S$ , as long as  $A$  has finite measure. Consequently,  $T^*T\chi_A = TT^*\chi_A$  for all such  $A$ , implying  $T$  is normal on  $L^2(\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma))$ .

Now, let  $T \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$  is normal. Since  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A})$  be  $\sigma$ -finite, there exists  $\{A_n\}_n \subseteq \mathcal{A}$  such that  $A_n \subseteq A_{n+1}$ ,  $X = \cup_n(\varphi^{-1}(A_n))$  with  $\mu(\varphi^{-1}(A_n)) < \infty$ . Put  $f_n = \chi_{\varphi^{-1}(A_n)}$ . Since  $T^*Tf_n = TT^*f_n$  and  $f_n \nearrow \chi_X$ , then we obtain (2.1).  $\square$

**Corollary 2.8** ([3, 10]) *Under assumptions of Theorem 2.7, if  $\varphi = id$ , then  $T_1 = M_wEM_u$  is normal if and only if  $T_1 = M_{g\bar{u}}EM_u$  for some  $g \in L^0(\mathcal{A})$ . Moreover, if  $\mathcal{A} = \Sigma$  then the weighted composition operator  $T_2 = M_{uw}C_\varphi$  is normal whenever  $hE_\varphi(|uw|^2) \circ \varphi^{-1} = uw(h \circ \varphi)E_\varphi(\bar{u}\bar{w})$ .*

**Theorem 2.9** *Let  $T = M_wEM_uC_\varphi \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$  be self adjoint. Then*

(i)  $hE_\varphi(\bar{u}E(\bar{w})) \circ \varphi^{-1} = wE(u)$ .

(ii)  $wE(u.(wE(u) \circ \varphi)) = hE_\varphi(\bar{u}E(|w|^2)E(u)) \circ \varphi^{-1}$ .

(iii)  $\varphi_D^2 = id$ , where  $\varphi_D$  is a measurable self adjoint map on  $D = \sigma(wE(u(wE(u) \circ \varphi))$  is a localising set for  $\mathcal{A}$ .

**Proof** Let  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ . Since  $T^* = T$ , then

$$hE_\varphi\{\bar{u}E(\bar{w}f)\} \circ \varphi^{-1} = wE(u.f \circ \varphi). \tag{2.2}$$

Since  $\mathcal{A}$  is  $\sigma$ -finite, choose an increasing sequence of measurable set  $\{C_n\}$ , each of finite measurable, whose union is all of  $X$ . Setting  $f = \chi_{C_n}$  in (2.2) and letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain  $hE_\varphi\{\bar{u}E(\bar{w})\} \circ \varphi^{-1} = wE(u)$ . Now, since  $T^2 = T^*T$  then for each  $f \in L^2(\mathcal{A})$  we have

$$w(u(wE(w)) \circ \varphi)f \circ \varphi^2 = hE_\varphi\{\bar{u}E(|w|^2)E(u)\} \circ \varphi^{-1}f. \tag{2.3}$$

Put again  $f = \chi_{C_n}$  as above. Then we obtain (ii). Dividing both side of (2.3) by  $wE(u(wE(w) \circ \varphi))$  and using (ii), we have  $\chi_D f \circ \varphi^2 = \chi_D f$ . Now, let  $f = \chi_C$ , when  $C \in \mathcal{A}$ . Then  $\chi_D \chi_C \circ \varphi^2 = \chi_{D \cap C}$ , and so  $\chi_{D \cap \varphi^{-2}(C)} = \chi_{D \cap C}$ . Since  $\varphi^{-2}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ , then  $\varphi_D^2 = I$  on  $(D, \mathcal{A}_D, \mu|_{\mathcal{A}_D}) = (D, \Sigma_D, \mu|_{\Sigma_D})$ , because  $D$  is a localising set for  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\square$

If we take  $\varphi = id$  in Theorem 2.9, we get that (a)  $\bar{u}E(\bar{w}) = wE(u)$  and (b)  $wE(uw) = \bar{u}E(|w|^2)$ . Put  $A = \sigma(E(w))$ ,  $B = \sigma(E(|w|^2))$  and  $C = \sigma(E(uw))$ . Then

$$E(w)\bar{u} \stackrel{(b)}{=} \frac{E(w)wE(uw)}{E(|w|^2)}\chi_B = \frac{E(wE(uw))}{E(|w|^2)}w\chi_B$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{(b)}{E(|w|^2)} \frac{E(\bar{u}E(|w|^2))}{E(|w|^2)} w\chi_B = E(\bar{u})w\chi_B = wE(\bar{u}), \\ wE(|u|^2) &= wE(u\bar{u}) \stackrel{(a)}{=} wE\left(\frac{uwE(u)}{E(\bar{w})}\chi_A\right) \\ &= \frac{wE(uw)E(u)}{E(\bar{w})}\chi_A \stackrel{(a)}{=} \frac{\bar{u}E(\bar{w})E(uw)}{E(\bar{w})}\chi_A = \bar{u}E(uw)\chi_A. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $T_1 = M_wEM_u \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$  be self-adjoint. It is known that ([10, Theorem 2.21]) ess range  $E(uw) = \text{spec}(T_1) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ , the spectrum of  $T_1$ , and so  $E(uw)$  is a real valued function. Then, using (b), we get that  $T_1 = M_{g\bar{u}}EM_u$  where  $g = \frac{E(|w|^2)}{E(uw)}\chi_C \in L^0(\mathcal{A})$  with  $\bar{g} = g$  (see [10, Theorem 2.32(a)]).

Now, take  $\mathcal{A} = \Sigma$  and  $v = uw$  in Theorem 2.9. Setting  $T_2^* = T_2 = M_vC_\varphi$  yields  $v = hE_\varphi(\bar{v}) \circ \varphi^{-1}$ ,  $v(v \circ \varphi) = hE_\varphi(|v|^2) \circ \varphi^{-1}$  and  $\varphi_D^2 = id$ , where  $D = \sigma(v(v \circ \varphi)) = \sigma(hE_\varphi(|v|^2) \circ \varphi^{-1})$  (see [2]).

We recall that an  $\mathcal{A}$ -atom of the measure  $\mu$  is an element  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  with  $\mu(A) > 0$ , such that for each  $B \in \mathcal{A}$ , if  $B \subseteq A$ , then either  $\mu(B) = 0$  or  $\mu(B) = \mu(A)$ . A measure space  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  with no atoms is called non-atomic measure space. It is well-known fact that every  $\sigma$ -finite measure space  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  can be partitioned uniquely as  $X = (\cup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n) \cup B$ , where  $\{A_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a countable collection of pairwise disjoint  $\mathcal{A}$ -atoms and  $B \in \mathcal{A}$ , being disjoint from each  $A_n$ , is non-atomic (see [17]).

It is known that every  $\mathcal{A}$ -measurable function  $f$  is constant on each  $\mathcal{A}$ -atom  $A$ , namely  $f|_A = c$ . Since  $f(x)\chi_A(x) = c\chi_A(x) = (f\chi_A)(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ , we take  $f(A) = c$  when no confusion can arise. The cardinal number of a set  $A \in \Sigma$  is represented as  $\#(A)$ . Set  $\varphi_0(x) = x$  and put  $\varphi_k(x) = \varphi(\varphi_{k-1}(x))$ , for all  $x \in X$ . An  $\mathcal{A}$ -atom  $A$  in  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  is called a fixed atom of  $\varphi$  of order  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  if  $\varphi_n(A) = A$  and  $\varphi_k(A) \neq A$  for  $1 \leq k \leq n - 1$ .

For Lambert conditional operators and compact weighted composition operators on  $L^p$  some properties of their ra were described by Herron [8] and Takagi [16]. In the following, we show that the point spectrum  $\Pi_0(T)$  of a substitution conditional type operator  $T$  on  $L^2(\Sigma)$  contains some special numbers.

**Theorem 2.10** *Let  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  be partitioned as  $X = (\cup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n) \cup B$ ,  $\varphi^{-1}(A) \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ ,  $W = E(u(w \circ \varphi))$  and let  $T = M_wEM_uC_\varphi \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$ . Then  $\Lambda \subseteq \text{spec}(T)$  where  $\Lambda = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : \lambda^n = W(A)W(\varphi(A)) \cdots W(\varphi_{n-1}(A))\}$  for some fixed atom  $A$  of  $\varphi$  of order  $n$ ).*

**Proof** To prove the theorem, we adopt the method used by Kamowitz [12]. Let  $W(\varphi_n(A)) = 0$  for some  $\mathbb{N}_0 = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . We claim that  $T$  is not onto and so  $\lambda = 0 \in \sigma_p(T)$ . Suppose not, then  $T^{n+2}$  is onto. This yields a function  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$  with  $T^{n+2}f = w\{W(W \circ \varphi) \cdots (W \circ \varphi_n)\}E(uf \circ \varphi) \circ \varphi_{n-1} = \chi_A$ . Thus,  $\sigma(T^{n+2}f) \subseteq \sigma(W \circ \varphi_n)$ . Since  $\sigma(W \circ \varphi_n) \cap A = \emptyset$ , then  $(T^{n+2}f)|_A = 0$  whereas  $\chi_A(A) = 1$ . This shows that  $T$  is not onto.

Assume  $W(\varphi_k(A)) \neq 0$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and  $\lambda^n = W(A)W(\varphi(A)) \cdots W(\varphi_{n-1}(A))$ . If  $n = 1$ , then  $\lambda = W(A)$  and  $\varphi(A) = A$ . Put  $g = w\chi_A$ . We show that there exists no  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$  such that  $\lambda f - Tf = g$ . Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lambda f - Tf &= g \xrightarrow{C_\varphi} \lambda f \circ \varphi - (w \circ \varphi)E(u.f \circ \varphi) \circ \varphi = g \circ \varphi \\
 &\xrightarrow{\times u} \lambda uf \circ \varphi - u(w \circ \varphi)E(u.f \circ \varphi) \circ \varphi = ug \circ \varphi \\
 &\xrightarrow{E} \lambda E(uf \circ \varphi) - E(u(w \circ \varphi))E(u.f \circ \varphi) \circ \varphi = E(ug \circ \varphi).
 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ , then  $0 = (\lambda - W(A))E(uf \circ \varphi)(A) = W(A)\chi_A(\varphi(A)) = W(A) \neq 0$ . This shows that  $\lambda I - T$  is not onto and hence  $\lambda \in spec(T)$ .

Now, let  $n \geq 2$ ,  $\lambda^n = W(A)W(\varphi(A)) \cdots W(\varphi_{n-1}(A))$  and  $\varphi_n(A) = A$ . Put  $F = E(uf \circ \varphi)$  and  $G = E(ug \circ \varphi)$  where  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$  and  $g = w\chi_A$ . It follows that  $F(\varphi_n(A)) = F(A)$ ,  $G(\varphi_{n-1}(A)) = E(u(w \circ \varphi))(\varphi_{n-1}(A))\chi_A(\varphi_n(A)) = W(\varphi_{n-1}(A))$  and  $G(\varphi_k(A)) = 0$  for  $0 \leq k \leq n - 2$ . Again we claim that there exists no  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$  which satisfies  $\lambda f - Tf = g$ . For, if such a function  $f$  exists, then by induction and using the same method in case  $n = 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lambda^n F - W(W \circ \varphi) \cdots (W \circ \varphi_{n-1})F \circ \varphi_n &= \lambda^{n-1}G + \lambda^{n-2}WG \circ \varphi + \cdots \\
 &\quad + W(W \circ \varphi) \cdots (W \circ \varphi_{n-2})G \circ \varphi_{n-1}.
 \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\left\{ \lambda^n - W(A) \cdots W(\varphi_{n-1}(A)) \right\} F(A) = W(A) \cdots W(\varphi_{n-1}(A)). \tag{2.4}$$

Since  $W(\varphi_k(A)) \neq 0$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , the right hand side of (2.4) is non-zero, whereas the left hand side of (2.4) is zero. This contradiction shows that  $\lambda I - T$  is not onto and thus  $\lambda \in spec(T)$ . □

**Corollary 2.11** *Under assumptions of Theorem 2.10, if  $T = M_wEM_uC_\varphi \in K(L^2(\Sigma))$  then  $\Lambda \cup \{0\} \subseteq \Pi_0(M_wEM_u) \cup \{0\}$ .*

**Corollary 2.12** *Let  $\{M_wEM_u, M_uC_\varphi\} \subset K(L^2(\Sigma))$ .  $\Lambda_1 = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : \lambda^n = u(A) \cdots u(\varphi_{n-1}(A))\}$ , for some fixed  $\Sigma$ -atom  $A$  of  $\varphi$  of order  $n$  and  $\Lambda_2 = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : \lambda = E(uw)(A)$ , for some  $\mathcal{A}$ -atom  $A\}$ . Then  $\Lambda_1 \cup \{0\} \subseteq \Pi_0(M_uC_\varphi) \cup \{0\}$  and  $\Lambda_2 \cup \{0\} \subseteq \Pi_0(M_wEM_u) \cup \{0\}$ .*

Recall that a linear operator  $T$  on a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  is said to be compact if for each bounded sequence  $\{f_n\}_n \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ , there is a subsequence of  $\{Tf_n\}_n$  that is convergent. In the following theorem we give a sufficient and necessary conditions for the compactness of  $T = M_wEM_uC_\varphi$  on  $L^2(\Sigma)$ .

**Theorem 2.13** *Let  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  be partitioned as  $X = (\cup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n) \cup B$ ,  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq \mathcal{A}$  and let  $T = M_wEM_uC_\varphi$  be a substitution conditional type operator on  $L^2(\Sigma)$ . If  $T$  is compact, then for each  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\mu(B \cap K_\varepsilon) = 0$  and  $\#\{n \in \mathbb{N} : K_\varepsilon \supseteq A_n \in \mathcal{A}\} < \infty$ , where  $K_\varepsilon := \{x \in X : h(x)E_\varphi\{E(|w|^2)|E(u)|^2\} \circ \varphi^{-1}(x) \geq \varepsilon\}$ . Conversely,  $T$  is compact whenever for each  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\mu(B \cap G_\varepsilon) = 0$  and  $\#\{n \in \mathbb{N} : G_\varepsilon \supseteq A_n \in \mathcal{A}\} < \infty$ , where  $G_\varepsilon := \{x \in X : h(x)E_\varphi\{E(|w|^2)|E(|u|^2)\} \circ \varphi^{-1}(x) \geq \varepsilon\}$ .*



**Proof** Suppose  $T$  is a compact operator. We show that for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  the set  $K_\varepsilon$  consists of finitely many  $\mathcal{A}$  atoms. Assume the contrary. Then for some  $\varepsilon > 0$  the set  $K_\varepsilon$  either contains a subset of nonatomic part  $B \in \mathcal{A}$  or has infinitely many  $\mathcal{A}$ -atoms. In both cases we can find a sequence  $\{A_n\}_n$  of pairwise disjoint  $\mathcal{A}$ -measurable sets with  $0 < \mu(A_n) < \infty$ . Define  $f_n = \frac{\chi_{A_n}}{\sqrt{\mu(A_n)}}$ . Then for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\{f_n, f_n \circ \varphi\} \subset L^2(\mathcal{A}) \cup L^2(\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A})) = L^2(\mathcal{A})$  with  $\|f_n\|_2 = 1$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \|Tf_n\|_2^2 &= \int_X |wE(u(f_n \circ \varphi))|^2 d\mu = \int_X |w|^2 |E(u)|^2 |f_n|^2 \circ \varphi d\mu \\ &= \int_X E(|w|^2) |E(u)|^2 |f_n|^2 \circ \varphi d\mu = \int_X hE_\varphi\{E(|w|^2) |E(u)|^2\} \circ \varphi^{-1} |f_n|^2 d\mu \\ &= \frac{1}{\mu(A_n)} \int_{A_n} hE_\varphi\{E(|w|^2) |E(u)|^2\} \circ \varphi^{-1} d\mu \geq \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

For  $n \neq m$ ,  $\mu(\sigma(Tf_n) \cap \sigma(Tf_m)) = 0$  and hence  $\|Tf_n - Tf_m\|_2^2 = \|Tf_n\|_2^2 + \|Tf_m\|_2^2 \geq 2\varepsilon$ . Thus, the sequence  $\{Tf_n\}$  does not contain any convergent subsequence, and so  $T$  is not compact.

Conversely, suppose for each  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $G_\varepsilon \cap \{A_n\}_n = \{A_\varepsilon^1, \dots, A_\varepsilon^k\}$ . Put  $B_\varepsilon = A_\varepsilon^1 \cup \dots \cup A_\varepsilon^k$ ,  $v = u\chi_{B_\varepsilon}$  and take  $T_\varepsilon = M_wEM_vC_\varphi$ . Then for each  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$  we have

$$T_\varepsilon f = wE(u\chi_{B_\varepsilon}(f \circ \varphi)) = (Tf)\chi_{B_\varepsilon} = w \sum_{i=1}^k \left(E(u(f \circ \varphi))(A_\varepsilon^i)\right) \chi_{A_\varepsilon^i}.$$

Thus,  $T_\varepsilon$  is a finite rank operator. Also, since  $u = v$  on  $B_\varepsilon$ , then

$$\int_{B_\varepsilon} |(T - T_\varepsilon)f|^2 d\mu = \int_{B_\varepsilon} |M_wEM_{(u-v)}C_\varphi f|^2 d\mu = 0.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \|(T - T_\varepsilon)f\|_2^2 &= \int_{X \setminus B_\varepsilon} |Tf - T_\varepsilon f|^2 d\mu = \int_{X \setminus B_\varepsilon} |Tf|^2 d\mu \\ &= \int_{X \setminus B_\varepsilon} |w|^2 |E(u(f \circ \varphi))|^2 d\mu \\ &= \int_{X \setminus B_\varepsilon} E(|w|^2) E(u(f \circ \varphi))^2 d\mu \\ &\leq \int_{X \setminus B_\varepsilon} E(|w|^2) E(|u|^2) E(|f|^2 \circ \varphi) d\mu \\ &= \int_{X \setminus B_\varepsilon} E(|w|^2) E(|u|^2) (|f|^2 \circ \varphi) d\mu \\ &= \int_{X \setminus B_\varepsilon} hE_\varphi \left\{ E(|w|^2) E(|u|^2) \right\} \circ \varphi^{-1} |f|^2 d\mu \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq \varepsilon \int_X |f|^2 d\mu = \varepsilon \|f\|_2^2.$$

Consequently,  $T$  is compact on  $L^2(\Sigma)$ . □

**Corollary 2.14** *Let  $T : L^2(\Sigma) \rightarrow L^0(\Sigma)$  be a substitution conditional type operator  $T = M_w E M_u C_\varphi$ . Then the followings hold.*

(i) *If  $T_1 = M_w E M_u$  is a compact operator on  $L^2(\Sigma)$ , then for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  the set  $\{E(|w|^2)|E(u)|^2 \geq \varepsilon\}$  consists of finitely many  $\mathcal{A}$ -atoms. Conversely, if for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  the set  $\{E(|w|^2)E(|u|^2) \geq \varepsilon\}$  consists of finitely many  $\mathcal{A}$ -atoms, then  $T$  is compact on  $L^2(\Sigma)$ .*

(ii) *The weighted composition operator  $T_2 = M_{uw} C_\varphi$  is compact on  $L^2(\Sigma)$  if and only if for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  the set  $\{hE_\varphi(|uw|^2) \circ \varphi^{-1} \geq \varepsilon\}$  consists of finitely many  $\Sigma$ -atoms.*

**Proof** Take  $\varphi = id$  and  $\mathcal{A} = \Sigma$  in Theorem 2.13, respectively. □

Let  $T \in B(\mathcal{H})$ . We recall that the unique operator  $S \in B(\mathcal{H})$  satisfying

$$(1) TST = T, \quad (2) STS = S, \quad (3) (TS)^* = TS, \quad (4) (ST)^* = ST$$

is called the Moore-Penrose inverse of  $T$  and is denoted by  $T^\dagger$ . Let  $T\{i, \dots, j\}$  denote the set of all operators  $S$  satisfying condition (k) for all labels  $k$  in the list  $\{i, \dots, j\}$ . In this case  $S \in T\{i, \dots, j\}$  is a  $\{i, \dots, j\}$ -inverse of  $T$  and is denoted by  $T^{(i, \dots, j)}$ . Note that  $T^{(1,2,3,4)} = T^\dagger$ . For other important properties of  $T^\dagger$  (see [4, 7]).

**Lemma 2.15** *Let  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq \mathcal{A} \subseteq \varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)$ ,  $h \in L^0(\mathcal{A})$ ,  $K = h\{E(uE_\varphi(\bar{u}))E(|w|^2)\} \circ \varphi^{-1}$  and  $T = M_w E M_u C_\varphi \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$ . Then  $K$  is bounded away from zero on  $\sigma(K)$  whenever  $T$  has closed range.*

**Proof** Suppose  $T$  has closed range, but  $K$  is not bounded away from zero on  $\sigma(K)$ . Then for fixed  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\{A_n\}_n \in \mathcal{A}$  with  $A_n \subseteq A_{n+1} \subseteq \sigma(K)$  and  $0 < \mu(A_n) < \infty$  such that  $|K|\chi_{A_n} < 1/\sqrt{n}$ . Put  $f_n = \sqrt{h}E_\varphi(\bar{u}\sqrt{E(|w|^2)}) \circ \varphi^{-1} \chi_{A_n}$ . Then by Theorem 2.3 we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_n\|_2^2 &= \int_X |E_\varphi(\bar{u}\sqrt{E(|w|^2)})|^2 (\chi_{A_n} \circ \varphi) d\mu \leq \int_X E(|u|^2)E(|w|^2) (\chi_{A_n} \circ \varphi) d\mu \\ &= \int_{A_n} hE_\varphi\{E(|u|^2)E(|w|^2)\} \circ \varphi^{-1} d\mu \leq \|J_1\|_\infty \mu(A_1) < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Now, let  $g \in \mathcal{N}(T)$ . Then we get that

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle g, f_n \rangle|^2 &= \left| \int_X \frac{\chi_{\sigma(h)}}{\sqrt{h}} g E_\varphi(u\sqrt{E(|w|^2)}) \circ \varphi^{-1} \chi_{A_n} d(\mu \circ \varphi^{-1}) \right|^2 \\ &= \left| \int_X \frac{g \circ \varphi}{\sqrt{h \circ \varphi}} (u\sqrt{E(|w|^2)}) (\chi_{A_n} \circ \varphi) d\mu \right|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \left| \int_X E(u(g \circ \varphi)) \sqrt{\frac{E(|w|^2)}{h \circ \varphi}} (\chi_{A_n} \circ \varphi) d\mu \right|^2 \\
 &\leq \int_X |E(u(g \circ \varphi))|^2 \frac{E(|w|^2)}{h \circ \varphi} (\chi_{A_n} \circ \varphi) d\mu \\
 &= \int_X |wE(u(g \circ \varphi))|^2 \frac{1}{h \circ \varphi} (\chi_{A_n} \circ \varphi) d\mu \\
 &= \int_X |Tg|^2 \frac{\chi_{A_n} \circ \varphi}{h \circ \varphi} du = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $f_n \in L^2(\Sigma) \cap \mathcal{N}(T)^\perp$  and satisfies

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|Tf_n\|^2 &= \int_{\varphi^{-1}(A_n)} |w|^2 |E(u(\sqrt{h} \circ \varphi)E_\varphi(\bar{u}))\sqrt{E(|w|^2)}|^2 d\mu \\
 &= \int_{\varphi^{-1}(A_n)} (h \circ \varphi) |E(uE_\varphi(\bar{u}))E(|w|^2)|^2 d\mu \\
 &= \int_{A_n} h^2 |E(uE_\varphi(\bar{u}))E(|w|^2)|^2 \circ \varphi^{-1} d\mu \\
 &= \int_{A_n} |K|^2 \chi_{A_n} d\mu \leq \frac{1}{n} \mu(A_1) \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.
 \end{aligned}$$

But this is a contradiction. □

In Theorem 2.15, if we take  $\varphi = id$  or  $\mathcal{A} = \Sigma$ , then we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 2.16** (a) *If  $T_1 = M_wEM_u \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$  has closed range, then  $K_1 = E(|u|^2)E(|w|^2)$  is bounded away from zero on  $\sigma(K_1)$ .*

(b) *Let  $v = uw$  and  $\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma) = \Sigma$ . Then  $K_2 = h(|v|^2 \circ \varphi^{-1})$  is bounded away from zero on  $\sigma(K_2)$  whenever the weighted composition operator  $T_2 = M_vC_\varphi$  has closed range.*

**Lemma 2.17** *Let  $\varphi^{-1}(A) \subseteq \mathcal{A} \subseteq \varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)$ ,  $A = \sigma(hE\{uE_\varphi(\bar{u})E(|w|^2)\} \circ \varphi^{-1})$ ,  $h \in L^0(A)$  and for each  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ ,*

$$Sf = \frac{\chi_A}{hE\{uE_\varphi(\bar{u})E(|w|^2)\} \circ \varphi^{-1}} hE_\varphi\{\bar{u}E(\bar{w}f)\} \circ \varphi^{-1}.$$

*Then  $S \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$  whenever  $T = M_wEM_uC_\varphi \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$  has closed range.*

**Proof** Let  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ . By Lemma 2.15,  $|K|^2 = h^2\{|E(uE_\varphi(\bar{u}))E(|w|^2)|\}^2 \circ \varphi^{-1} \geq \alpha$  on  $\sigma(K) = \sigma(A)$  for some  $\alpha > 0$ . Using Theorem 2.3 and the conditional Cauchy inequality we have

$$\|Sf\|_2^2 = \int_X \frac{\chi_A h^2 |E_\varphi\{\bar{u}E(\bar{w}f)\}|^2 \circ \varphi^{-1}}{h^2 |E\{uE_\varphi(\bar{u})E(|w|^2)\}|^2 \circ \varphi^{-1}} d\mu$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\leq \frac{1}{\alpha} \int_X h\chi_A |E_\varphi\{\bar{u}E(\bar{w}f)\}|^2 d(\mu \circ \varphi^{-1}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{\alpha} \int_X (h \circ \varphi)(\chi_A \circ \varphi) |E_\varphi\{\bar{u}E(\bar{w}f)\}|^2 d\mu \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{\alpha} \int_X (h \circ \varphi)(\chi_A \circ \varphi) E(|u|^2) E(|w|^2) E(|f|^2) d\mu \\
 &= \frac{1}{\alpha} \int_X (h \circ \varphi)(\chi_A \circ \varphi) E(|u|^2) E(|w|^2) |f|^2 d\mu \\
 &= \frac{1}{\alpha} \int_X (h \circ \varphi)(\chi_A \circ \varphi) E_\varphi \left\{ E(|u|^2) E(|w|^2) \right\} E_\varphi(|f|^2) d\mu \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{\alpha} \int_X \left( hE_\varphi \left\{ E(|u|^2) E(|w|^2) \right\} \circ \varphi^{-1} \right) \left( hE_\varphi(|f|^2) \circ \varphi^{-1} \right) d\mu \\
 &\leq \frac{\|J_1\|_\infty}{\alpha} \int_X hE_\varphi(|f|^2) \circ \varphi^{-1} d\mu = \frac{\|J_1\|_\infty}{\alpha} \|f\|_2^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

□

Let  $\sigma(uE_\varphi(\bar{u})) \supseteq \sigma(u)$ . As the assumptions of Lemma 2.17 let  $h \in L^0(\mathcal{A})$ ,  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq \mathcal{A} \subseteq \varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)$  and  $A = \sigma(hE\{uE_\varphi(\bar{u})E(|w|^2)\} \circ \varphi^{-1})$ . Since  $\sigma(h \circ \varphi) = X$ , then  $\varphi^{-1}(A) = \sigma((h \circ \varphi)E\{uE_\varphi(\bar{u})E(|w|^2)\}) = \sigma(E\{uE_\varphi(\bar{u})E(|w|^2)\})$  and so  $\chi_A \circ \varphi = \chi_{\varphi^{-1}(A)} = \chi_{\sigma(uE_\varphi(\bar{u}))} \chi_{\sigma(E(|w|^2))}$ . Thus, for each  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\chi_A \circ \varphi)Tf &= w\chi_{\sigma(E(|w|^2))} E(\chi_{\sigma(uE_\varphi(\bar{u}))} u(f \circ \varphi)) \\
 &= wE(u \circ \varphi) = Tf.
 \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$STf = \frac{\chi_A}{E\{uE_\varphi(\bar{u})E(|w|^2)\} \circ \varphi^{-1}} E_\varphi \left\{ \bar{u}E(|w|^2)E(u(f \circ \varphi)) \right\} \circ \varphi^{-1}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 TSTf &= wE \left\{ \frac{u(\chi_A \circ \varphi)}{E\{uE_\varphi(\bar{u})E(|w|^2)\}} E_\varphi(\bar{u})E(|w|^2)E(u(f \circ \varphi)) \right\} \\
 &= (\chi_A \circ \varphi)wE(f \circ \varphi) = (\chi_A \circ \varphi)Tf = Tf.
 \end{aligned}$$

By Similar computations, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 STS &= S \left( wE \left( \frac{u(\chi_A \circ \varphi)}{E\{uE_\varphi(\bar{u})E(|w|^2)\}} E_\varphi\{\bar{u}E(\bar{w}f)\} \right) \right) = S \left( w(\chi_A \circ \varphi) \frac{E(\bar{w}f)}{E(|w|^2)} \right) \\
 &= \frac{\chi_A}{E\{uE_\varphi(\bar{u})E(|w|^2)\} \circ \varphi^{-1}} E_\varphi \left\{ \bar{u}E \left( w\bar{w}(\chi_A \circ \varphi) \frac{E(\bar{w}f)}{E(|w|^2)} \right) \right\} \circ \varphi^{-1} \\
 &= \frac{\chi_A}{E\{uE_\varphi(\bar{u})E(|w|^2)\} \circ \varphi^{-1}} E_\varphi\{\bar{u}E(\bar{w}f)\} \circ \varphi^{-1} = Sf.
 \end{aligned}$$

These observations establish the following result.

**Theorem 2.18** *Let  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq \mathcal{A} \subseteq \varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)$ ,  $A = \sigma(hE\{uE_\varphi(\bar{u})E(|w|^2)\} \circ \varphi^{-1})$ ,  $h \in L^0(\mathcal{A})$  and let  $T = M_wEM_uC_\varphi \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$  has closed range and*

$$Sf = \frac{\chi_A}{E\{uE_\varphi(\bar{u})E(|w|^2)\} \circ \varphi^{-1}} E_\varphi\{\bar{u}E(\bar{w}f)\} \circ \varphi^{-1}, \quad f \in L^2(\Sigma).$$

Then  $T^{(2)} = S$ . Moreover, if  $\sigma(uE_\varphi(\bar{u})) \supseteq \sigma(u)$  then  $T^{(1,2)} = S$ .

**Corollary 2.19** *Let  $T_1 = M_wEM_u$  and  $T_2 = M_vC_\varphi$ , where  $v = uw$ . If  $T_i \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$  has closed range, then for each  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ ,*

$$T_1^\dagger(f) = \frac{\chi_{\sigma(E(|w|^2))}}{E(|u|^2)E(|w|^2)} \bar{u}E(\bar{w}f);$$

$$T_2^\dagger(f) = \frac{\chi_{A_2}}{|v|^2 \circ \varphi^{-1}} (f \circ \varphi^{-1})$$

where  $A_2 = \sigma(h(|v|^2 \circ \varphi^{-1}))$  and  $E_\varphi = I$ .

Let  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$  and  $hE_\varphi(f) \circ \varphi^{-1} = 0$ . Then  $(h \circ \varphi)\{E_\varphi(f) \circ \varphi^{-1}\} \circ \varphi = (h \circ \varphi)E_\varphi(f) = 0$ . Since  $h \circ \varphi > 0$ , then  $E_\varphi(f) = 0$ . Conversely, suppose  $E_\varphi(f) = 0$ . Then for each  $B \in \Sigma$  we have

$$\int_B hE_\varphi(f) \circ \varphi^{-1} d\mu = \int_{\varphi^{-1}(B)} E_\varphi(f) d\mu = 0.$$

and so  $hE_\varphi(f) \circ \varphi^{-1} = 0$ . Let  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq \mathcal{A}$  be a  $\sigma$ -finite subalgebra of  $\mathcal{A}$  and let  $E_\varphi(f) = 0$  for all  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ . Then there is  $\{B_n\} \subseteq \varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq \varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)$  with  $B_n \subseteq B_{n+1}$ ,  $0 < \mu(B_n) < \infty$  and  $X = \cup_n B_n$ . Take  $f_n = \chi_{B_n}$ . Then  $E_\varphi(u) = \lim E_\varphi(u)f_n = \lim E_\varphi(uf_n) = 0$ .

Now, let  $\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)$  is a  $\sigma$ -finite. Then  $h = d(\mu \circ \varphi^{-1})/d\mu$  is finite-valued and hence  $C_\varphi$  is densely defined. It follows that (see [1])

$$\overline{\mathcal{R}(C_\varphi)} = \mathcal{R}(E_\varphi) = L^2(\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma))$$

$$= \left\{ f \circ \varphi : \int_X |f|^2 d(\mu \circ \varphi^{-1}) < \infty \right\} = \{f \circ \varphi : f \in L^2(hd\mu)\}.$$

Hence we have the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.20** *Let  $u \in \mathcal{D}(E_\varphi)$  and  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A})$  be a  $\sigma$ -finite subalgebra of  $\varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)$ . Then the following assertions hold.*

- (a)  $hE_\varphi(f) \circ \varphi^{-1} = 0$  if and only if  $E_\varphi(f) = 0$ , for all  $f \in L^2(\mathcal{A})$ .
- (b) If  $E_\varphi(uf) = 0$  for all  $f \in L^2(\mathcal{A})$ , then  $E_\varphi(u) = 0$ .
- (c)  $\overline{\mathcal{R}(C_{\varphi|L^2(\mathcal{A})})} = \overline{\mathcal{R}(C_\varphi E_\varphi)} = \overline{C_\varphi(L^2(\mathcal{A}))} = L^2(\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A})) = \{f \circ \varphi : \int_X |f|^2 d(\mu \circ \varphi^{-1}) < \infty\} = \{f \circ \varphi : f \in L^2(hd\mu)\}.$

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a closed subspace of  $\mathcal{H}$ . If  $T \in B(\mathcal{H})$ , then  $T$  can be written  $2 \times 2$  matrix with operator entries  $[T_{ij}]_{1 \leq i, j \leq 2}$ , where  $T_{11} \in B(\mathcal{M})$ ,  $T_{12} \in B(\mathcal{M}^\perp, \mathcal{M})$ ,  $T_{21} \in B(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{M}^\perp)$  and  $T_{22} \in B(\mathcal{M}^\perp)$ .  $\mathcal{M}$  is said to be a reducing subspace for  $T$  if  $\mathcal{M}$  is invariant subspace for  $T$  and  $T^*$ , or equivalently,  $T_{12} = T_{12}^* = 0$ .

Relative to the direct sum decomposition  $L^2(\Sigma) = \mathcal{R}(E) \oplus \mathcal{N}_2(E)$ , any element  $f$  of  $L^2(\Sigma)$  can be written uniquely as  $f = f_1 + f_2$  where  $f_1 = E(f) \in L^2(\mathcal{A})$  and  $f_2 = f - E(f) \in \mathcal{N}_2(E) = \{f \in L^2(\Sigma) : E(f) = 0\}$ . Now, let  $T = M_w E M_u C_\varphi \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$ . Then the matrix representation of  $T$  and  $T^*$  with respect to the decomposition  $L^2(\Sigma) = L^2(\mathcal{A}) \oplus \mathcal{N}_2(E)$  are

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} M_{w_1 u_1} C_\varphi & E M_{w_1 u_2} C_\varphi \\ M_{w_2 u_1} C_\varphi & M_{w_2} E M_{u_2} C_\varphi \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } T^* = \begin{bmatrix} C_\varphi^* M_{\overline{w_1 u_1}} & E C_\varphi^* M_{\overline{w_2 u_1}} \\ C_\varphi^* M_{\overline{w_1 u_2}} & C_\varphi^* M_{\overline{u_2}} E M_{\overline{w_2}} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Consequently,  $L^2(\mathcal{A})$  is a reducing subspace for  $T$  if and only if  $M_{w_2 u_1} C_\varphi : L^2(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_2(E)$  and  $C_\varphi^* M_{\overline{w_1 u_2}} : \mathcal{N}_2(E) \rightarrow L^2(\mathcal{A})$  are 0. Let  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{A} \subseteq \varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)$ . Then by Lemma 2.20,  $\overline{\mathcal{R}(C_\varphi|_{L^2(\mathcal{A})})} = L^0(\mathcal{A})$ . In this case we have

$$\begin{aligned} M_{w_2 u_1} C_\varphi = 0 &\iff w_2 u_1 (f \circ \varphi) = 0, \quad \forall f \in L^2(\mathcal{A}) \\ &\iff w_2 u_1 = 0 \quad (\text{by Lemma 2.20}) \\ &\iff (w - w_1) u_1 = w u_1 - w_1 u_1 = 0 \\ &\iff w \chi_{\sigma(u_1)} = w_1 \chi_{\sigma(u_1)} \in L^0(\mathcal{A}) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} C_\varphi^* M_{\overline{w_1 u_2}} = 0 &\iff h E_\varphi(\overline{w_1 u_2} f) \circ \varphi^{-1} = 0, \quad \forall f \in L^2(\mathcal{A}) \\ &\iff E_\varphi(\overline{w_1 u_2} f) = 0 \quad (\text{by Lemma 2.20}) \\ &\iff E_\varphi(w_1(u - u_1)) = E_\varphi(w_1 u) - E_\varphi(w_1 u_1) = 0 \\ &\iff E_\varphi(u) w_1 = w_1 u_1 \quad (\text{since } \mathcal{A} \subseteq \varphi^{-1}(\Sigma)) \\ &\iff E_\varphi(u) \chi_{\sigma(w_1)} = u_1 \chi_{\sigma(w_1)} \in L^0(\mathcal{A}). \end{aligned}$$

These observations establish the following result.

**Theorem 2.21** *Let  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{A}$  be a  $\sigma$ -finite algebra of  $\Sigma$  and let  $T = M_w E M_u C_\varphi \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$ . Then  $L^2(\mathcal{A})$  is a reducing subspace of  $T$  if and only if*

$$\{w \chi_{\sigma(u_1)}, E_\varphi(u) \chi_{\sigma(w_1)}\} \subseteq L^0(\mathcal{A}).$$

In Theorem 2.21 if we take  $\varphi = id$ , then we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 2.22** *Let  $T_1 = M_w E M_u \in B(L^2(\Sigma))$ . Then  $\mathcal{R}(E) = L^2(\mathcal{A})$  is a reducing subspace of  $T_1$  if and only if  $w \chi_{\sigma(E(u))}$  and  $u \chi_{\sigma(E(w))}$  are  $\mathcal{A}$ -measurable functions.*

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**Data availability** The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author, [M. R. Jabbarzadeh], upon reasonable request.

## Declarations

**Competing interests** The authors declare no competing interests.

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