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# ON THE EXTENSION PROBLEM FOR UNBOUNDED MEASURES ON PROJECTIONS 

G. D. Lugovaya - A. N. Sherstnev<br>(Communicated by Anatolij Dvurečenskij)


#### Abstract

We construct an unbounded semifinite finitely additive measure on projections in a von Neumann algebra with no direct summands of type $I_{2}$ not extending to a weight. Thus we give a negative solution to the problem set in [SHERSTNEV, A. N.: On certain problems in the theory of unbounded measures on projections, Atti Sem. Mat. Fis. Univ. Modena 42 (1994), 357-366]


## 1. Introduction

The famous problem of linearity in non-commutative measure theory deals with extending orthoadditive measures on projections in a von Neumann algebra to linear functionals. The problem has been set up and solved for factors and unitarily-invariant measures by F. Murray and J. von Neumann in their classical works on rings of operators. The full extension program for unitary-invariant measures to integrals has been carried out by I. Segal [1]. For general orthoadditive bounded measures the above problem has been solved exhaustively due to the efforts of several mathematicians during 1957-1983 ([2]-[5]). The problem was positively solved for all types of von Neumann algebras with no direct summand of type $I_{2}$. In 1984, the authors [6] obtained the positive solution to the problem for unbounded $\sigma$-orthoadditive measures on the algebra of all bounded linear operators on a Hilbert space, and then this result was extended to the case of semifinite von Neumann algebras by M. Matveichuk [7]. The aim of this paper is to present a negative solution to the problem for the case of unbounded finitely additive measures.

In the next section, the main result of the paper is stated. In Section 3, we introduce the notion of an orthoideal of orthoprojections in a von Neumann alge-

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bra. This notion plays a key role in constructing the measure. The construction is described in Section 4. In Section 5, all necessary proofs are adduced. The results of this paper were announced in [8], [9].

## 2. The main result

Let $M$ be a von Neumann algebra. We shall denote by $M^{\text {pr }}$ and $M^{+}$the classes of all orthoprojections and positive operators (respectively) in $M$. We denote by $B(H)$ the algebra of all bounded linear operators on a Hilbert space $H$. For $x \in B(H)$ we denote by $\mathcal{R}(x)$ the range of $x$. Let $I\left(=I_{H}\right)$ be the identity operator on $H$.

1. Definition. A mapping $m: M^{\mathrm{pr}} \rightarrow[0,+\infty]$ is said to be a finitely additive measure if

$$
m(p+q)=m(p)+m(q) \quad\left(p, q \in M^{\mathrm{pr}}, p q=0\right)
$$

A measure $m$ is said to be unbounded if $m(I)=+\infty$.
We call $m$ semifinite if there exists a net $\left(p_{\alpha}\right)_{\alpha \in A} \subset M^{\mathrm{pr}}$ with $p_{\alpha} \nearrow I$ and $m\left(p_{\alpha}\right)<+\infty$ for every $\alpha \in A$.

Nonsemifinite measures are rather difficult to view even if $\operatorname{dim} H<+\infty$, and we shall not examine them here. Recall that a weight on a von Neumann algebra $M$ is a map $\varphi: M^{+} \rightarrow[0,+\infty]$ such that
$\varphi(x+y)=\varphi(x)+\varphi(y), \quad \varphi(\lambda x)=\lambda \varphi(x) \quad\left(x, y \in M^{+}, \lambda \geq 0 . \quad 0 \cdot \infty \equiv 0\right)$.
When $\varphi(I)<+\infty$, a weight $\varphi$ extends to a positive linear functional $\varphi \in M^{*}$ by linearity (we use the same letter $\varphi$ for this extension). The fundamental result of Christensen-Yeadon [3], [4] lies in the fact that every bounded finitely additive measure on the orthoprojections in a von Neumann algebra with no direct summand of type $I_{2}$ extends to a positive linear functional. The main result of this paper is:
2. Theorem. There exists a von Neumann algebra $M$ with no direct summands of type $I_{2}$ and an unbounded semifinite finitely additive measure $m$ : $M^{\mathrm{pr}} \rightarrow[0,+\infty]$ not extending to a weight.

Thus we give the negative answer to a question raised by one of the authors in 1992 ([10; Problem 2.7]).

The proof of the theorem consists in constructing an appropriate ron Neumann algebra $M$ and a two-valued measure $m: M^{\text {pr }} \rightarrow\{0 .+\infty\}$ with the required properties.

## 3. Orthoideals of projections

3. Definition. A set $J \subset M^{\text {pr }}$ is said to be an orthoideal of projections in a von Neumann algebra $M$ if the following properties are satisfied:
(i) $p, q \in J, p q=0$ implies $p+q \in J$;
(ii) $p \leq q\left(p \in M^{\mathrm{pr}}, q \in J\right)$ implies $p \in J$.
4. If $S$ is a subset of $M^{\mathrm{pr}}$, then among all orthoideals containing $S$, there exists the smallest. This is the intersection of all orthoideals containing $S$. It is natural to call it the orthoideal generated by $S$. We shall denote the orthoideal by $J(S)$. This orthoideal can be described simply when $S=\{p, q\}$ is a pair of projections in $M^{\mathrm{pr}}$. Consider the following increasing sequence of sets $\left(J_{n}\right) \subset M^{\mathrm{pr}}$, which is defined by induction:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& J_{0}=\{p, q, 0\} \\
& J_{n}=\left\{r \in M^{\text {pr }}:\left(\exists s, t \in J_{n-1}\right)(s t=0 \& r \leq s+t)\right\} \quad(n \in \mathbb{N})
\end{aligned}
$$

Then $J(p, q)=\bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} J_{n}$.
Denote by $M^{\mathrm{fpr}}$ the set of all finite-dimensional orthoprojections in $M$.
5. Proposition. Let $p, q \in M^{\mathrm{pr}}$ and $S=\{p, q\} \cup M^{\mathrm{fpr}}$. Then

$$
J(S)=\left\{r+k: r \in J(p, q), \quad k \in M^{\mathrm{fpr}}, \quad r k=0\right\}
$$

Proof. It is obvious that projections of the form $r+k$, where $r \in J(p, q)$, $k \in M^{\mathrm{fpr}}$ and $r k=0$ are contained in the orthoideal generated by $S$. Thus it is sufficient to verify that $\left\{r+k: r \in J(p, q), k \in M^{\mathrm{fpr}}, r k=0\right\}$ is itself an orthoideal.

The condition (i) in Definition 3 is obviously satisfied. Now, let $r \in J(p, q)$, $k \in M^{\mathrm{fpr}}, r k=0$, and $s \in M^{\mathrm{pr}}$ be such that $s \leq r+k$. We show that $s$ has the form $s=r_{1}+k_{1}\left(r_{1} \in J(p, q), k_{1} \in M^{\mathrm{fpr}}\right)$. Put $r_{1}=s \wedge r$. Then $r_{1} \in J(p, q)$ because $r_{1} \leq r$. It remains to be proved that $k_{1} \equiv s-r_{1} \in M^{\mathrm{fpr}}$. We may assume (and we do this) that $k_{1} \wedge k=0$. Suppose on the contrary $\operatorname{dim} k_{1}=+\infty$ and let $\left\{e_{1}, e_{2}, \ldots\right\}$ be an orthonormal sequence in $\mathcal{R}\left(k_{1}\right)$. Consider the decompositions

$$
e_{j}=f_{j}+g_{j} \quad(j \in \mathbb{N}), \quad \text { where } \quad f_{j}=r e_{j}, \quad g_{j}=k e_{j}
$$

Note that $f_{j}, g_{j} \neq \theta(j \in \mathbb{N})$. (Indeed, if $f_{j}=\theta$, then $e_{j} \in \mathcal{R}\left(k_{1} \wedge k\right)=\{\theta\}$; if $g_{j}=\theta$, then $\left.e_{j} \in \mathcal{R}\left(k_{1} \wedge r\right)=\{\theta\}\right)$. Let $n=\operatorname{dim} k$. Then there are numbers $\lambda_{1}, \ldots, \lambda_{n+1}$ not all equal to zero with $\sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \lambda_{j} g_{j}=\theta$. Hence

$$
\sum_{j-1}^{n+1} \lambda_{j} e_{j}=\sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \lambda_{j} f_{j}+\sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \lambda_{j} g_{j}=\sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \lambda_{j} f_{j} \in \mathcal{R}\left(k_{1} \wedge r\right)=\{\theta\}
$$

This contradicts the linear independence of the system $\left\{e_{1}, e_{2}, \ldots\right\}$.
6. Remark. If $J\left(\subset M^{\mathrm{pr}}\right)$ is an orthoideal, then a two-valued finitely additive measure on $M^{\mathrm{pr}}$ is naturally associated with $J$ by

$$
m_{J}(r) \equiv \begin{cases}0 & \text { if } r \in J, \\ +\infty & \text { if } r \in M^{\mathrm{pr}} \backslash J .\end{cases}
$$

## 4. The construction

7. Let $K$ be an infinite-dimensional separable Hilbert space and $T \geq 0$ a compact operator acting on $K$ with $\operatorname{Ker} T=\{\theta\}$ ( $\theta$ is the null vector in $\bar{K}$ ). We will denote the projection-valued measure on the Borel algebra $\mathfrak{B}(\mathbb{R})$ constructed by the resolution of the identity for $T$ by $e(\cdot)=e^{T}(\cdot)$. Let $\mathcal{N}=\{T\}^{\prime \prime}$ be the commutative von Neumann algebra in $K$ generated by $T$. Put $H=K \oplus K \oplus K$ and introduce the von Neumann algebra $M \equiv\left\{\left[u_{i j}\right]: u_{i j} \in \mathcal{N}\right\}$ acting on $H$ (here, $\left[u_{i j}\right]$ are $3 \times 3$-matrices). This algebra has no direct summands of type $I_{2}$. For the construction of the required orthoideal we fix two orthoprojections,

$$
p=\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
\Delta_{T} & \Delta_{T} T & 0 \\
T \Delta_{T} & T \Delta_{T} T & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right] \quad \text { and } \quad q=\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
\Delta_{2 T} & 2 \Delta_{2 T} T & 0 \\
2 T \Delta_{2 T} & 4 T \Delta_{2 T} T & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right]
$$

(for $V \in B(K)$ we set $\Delta_{V} \equiv\left(I_{K}+V^{*} V\right)^{-1}$ ). Consider the orthoideal $J \equiv$ $\left\{r+k: r \in J(p, q), k \in M^{\mathrm{fpr}}, r k=0\right\}$ introduced in Propos tion 5. The measure $m_{J}$ canonically associated with the orthoideal due to Remark 6 is semifinite. (In fact, let $\omega_{n}=\left(\frac{1}{n},+\infty\right)$. By the spectral theorem for the compact operator $T, e\left(\omega_{n}\right) \in \mathcal{N}^{\mathrm{fpr}}$ and $e\left(\omega_{n}\right) \nearrow I_{K}$ (since $\operatorname{Ker} T=\{\theta\}$ ). Therefore. $\left[e\left(\omega_{n}\right) \delta_{i j}\right] \nearrow I_{H}$ and $\left.m_{J}\left(\left[e\left(\omega_{n}\right) \delta_{i j}\right]\right)=0(n \in \mathbb{N}).\right)$
8. The proof of Theorem 2. We will show that the measure $m_{J}$ constructed in Paragraph 7 does not extend to a weight. We should prove two key lemmas (this will be done in Section 5):
9. Lemma. Let $E$ be a Hilbert space and let $r, s, t$ be orthoprojections in $E$. Then the following conditions are equivalent.
(i) $\mathfrak{R}(r) \subset \mathfrak{R}(s)+\mathfrak{R}(t)$;
(ii) there exists $C>0$ such that $r \leq C(s+t)$.
10. Lemma. The orthoprojection $r=\left[\begin{array}{ccc}I_{K} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0\end{array}\right]$ belongs to $M^{\mathrm{pr}} \backslash J$.

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Now, we complete the proof of Theorem 2. Suppose that $\varphi: M^{+} \rightarrow[0,+\infty]$ is a weight such that $\varphi M_{M^{\text {pr }}}=m_{J}$. Note that the orthoprojections $r, p, q$ satisfy the condition (i) in Lemma 9:

$$
\begin{aligned}
r\{f, g, h\} & =\{f, \theta, \theta\}=\{2 f, 2 T f, \theta\}+\{-f,-2 T f, \theta\} \\
& =p\{2 f, 2 T f, \theta\}+q\{-f,-2 T f, \theta\} \quad(f, g, h \in K)
\end{aligned}
$$

Hence there exists $C>0$ such that $r \leq C(p+q)$. Since $p, q \in J$ and $r \in M^{\text {pr }} \backslash J$ (see Lemma 10), we obtain the contradiction

$$
+\infty=m(r)=\varphi(r) \leq C \varphi(p+q)=C(\varphi(p)+\varphi(q))=C(m(p)+m(q))=0,
$$

which proves the theorem.

## 5. Proofs

In this section, we give the proofs of Lemmas 9 and 10.
11. Lemma. Let $E$ be a Hilbert space and $x_{j} \in B(E)^{+}(1 \leq j \leq n)$. Then

$$
\mathcal{R}\left(\left(x_{1}+\cdots+x_{n}\right)^{1 / 2}\right)=\mathcal{R}\left(x_{1}^{1 / 2}\right)+\cdots+\mathcal{R}\left(x_{n}^{1 / 2}\right)
$$

(Here, the right-hand side is regarded as the algebraic sum of linear subspaces.) Proof. Put $a=x_{1}+\cdots+x_{n}$. Then $x_{j} \leq a$ and [ $9 ; \mathrm{I}, \S 1$, Lemma 2] give

$$
x_{j}^{1 / 2}=d_{j} a^{1 / 2}=a^{1 / 2} d_{j}^{*} \quad(1 \leq j \leq n)
$$

where $d_{j}$ are operators in $B(E)$. Hence $\mathcal{R}\left(x_{1}^{1 / 2}\right)+\cdots+\mathcal{R}\left(x_{n}^{1 / 2}\right) \subset \mathcal{R}\left(a^{1 / 2}\right)$.
Conversely, observe that $b \equiv \sum d_{j}^{*} d_{j}$ is the range projection of $a$. In fact, we have $a=a^{1 / 2} b a^{1 / 2}$ and $d_{j} h=\theta(1 \leq j \leq n)$, and for all $f, g \in E, h \in \operatorname{Ker} a$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left\langle\left(\sum d_{j}^{*} d_{j}\right) a^{1 / 2} f, a^{1 / 2} g+h\right\rangle & =\left\langle\left(\sum d_{j}^{*} d_{j}\right) a^{1 / 2} f, a^{1 / 2} g\right\rangle \\
& =\left\langle a^{1 / 2} b a^{1 / 2} f, g\right\rangle=\langle a f, g\rangle=\left\langle a^{1 / 2} f, a^{1 / 2} g\right\rangle \\
& =\left\langle a^{1 / 2} f, a^{1 / 2} g+h\right\rangle
\end{aligned}
$$

For every vector of the form $a^{1 / 2} f$ we now have

$$
\begin{aligned}
a^{1 / 2} f & =a^{1 / 2} b f \\
& =\sum a^{1 / 2} d_{j}^{*} d_{j} f \\
& =\sum x_{j}^{1 / 2}\left(d_{j} f\right) \in \mathcal{R}\left(x_{1}^{1 / 2}\right)+\cdots+\mathcal{R}\left(x_{n}^{1 / 2}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

and the lemma follows.
12. The proof of Lemma 9. Let us first assume that the condition (ii) is satisfied. From the inequality $r \leq C(s+t)$ it follows that there exists an operator $x \in B(E),\|x\| \leq \sqrt{C}$ such that $r=x(s+t)^{1 / 2}=(s+t)^{1 / 2} x^{*}$. Therefore

$$
\mathcal{R}(r)=\mathcal{R}\left((s+t)^{1 / 2} x^{*}\right) \subset \mathcal{R}\left((s+t)^{1 / 2}\right)=\mathcal{R}(s)+\mathcal{R}(t)
$$

by Lemma 11.
Conversely, let the condition (i) holds and $F=\overline{\mathcal{R}(s)+\mathcal{R}(t)}$. The operator $\left.(s+t)^{1 / 2}\right|_{F}$ is bounded and injective. Hence there exists a closed inverse operator $(s+t)^{-1 / 2}: \mathcal{R}(s)+\mathcal{R}(t) \rightarrow F$. Since $\mathcal{R}(r) \subset \mathcal{R}(s)+\mathcal{R}(t)$, the closed operator $A \equiv(s+t)^{-1 / 2} r$ is defined everywhere on $E$. Therefore it is bounded. Putting $C=\|A\|^{2}$ we have

$$
r=(s+t)^{1 / 2} A=(s+t)^{1 / 2} A A^{*}(s+t)^{1 / 2} \leq C(s+t)
$$

and the Lemma follows.
13. The proof of Lemma 10. We start with the observation that it is sufficient to prove the "reduced" version of this lemma. To be precise, let $\pi=\left[\begin{array}{ccc}I_{K} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I_{K} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0\end{array}\right]\left(\in M^{\mathrm{pr}}\right)$. Consider the reduced von Neumann algebra $M_{\pi} \equiv$ $\left\{\left.\pi x\right|_{\mathcal{R}(\pi)}: x \in M\right\}$ acting on the Hilbert space $H_{\pi}=K \oplus K$,

$$
p_{\pi}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\Delta_{T} & \Delta_{T} T \\
T \Delta_{T} & T \Delta_{T} T
\end{array}\right]=\left.\pi p\right|_{H_{\pi}}, \quad q_{\pi}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\Delta_{2 T} & 2 \Delta_{2 T} T \\
2 T \Delta_{2 T} & 4 T \Delta_{2 T} T
\end{array}\right]=\left.\pi q\right|_{H_{\pi}}
$$

It should be noted that $p_{\pi}=P_{\Gamma(T)}$ (respectively $\left.q_{\pi}=P_{\Gamma(2 T)}\right)$ is the orthoprojection onto the graph of $T$ (respectively $2 T$ ). Let $J_{\pi}$ be the orthoideal generated by $S=\left\{p_{\pi}, q_{\pi}\right\} \cup M_{\pi}^{\mathrm{fpr}}$. Our next goal is to prove the following lemma.
14. LEMMA. The orthoprojection $r_{\pi}=\left[\begin{array}{rr}I_{K} & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right]$ belongs to $M_{\pi}^{\mathrm{pr}} \backslash J_{\pi}$.

We will slightly simplify the problem by restricting ourselves to consideration of the ideal $J\left(p_{\pi}, q_{\pi}\right)$ generated by the two-element set $\left\{p_{\pi} . q_{\pi}\right\}$ (see Paragraph 4). Namely, we will prove:
15. PROPOSITION. If $r=\left[\begin{array}{ll}r_{11} & r_{12} \\ r_{21} & r_{22}\end{array}\right] \in J\left(p_{\pi}, q_{\pi}\right)$, then $\operatorname{Ker}\left(I_{K}-r_{11}\right)=\{\theta\}$.

Now, since every orthoprojection $r^{\prime} \in J_{\pi}$ is of the form $r^{\prime}=r+k, r \in$ $J\left(p_{\pi}, q_{\pi}\right), \operatorname{dim} k<+\infty$, it follows from Proposition 15 that $\operatorname{dim} \operatorname{Ker}\left(I_{K}-r_{11}^{\prime}\right)=$ $\operatorname{dim} \operatorname{Ker}\left(I_{K}-r_{11}-k_{11}\right)<+\infty$, whereas

$$
\operatorname{dim} \operatorname{Ker}\left(I_{K}-\left(r_{\pi}\right)_{11}\right)=\operatorname{dim} \operatorname{Ker} 0=+\infty
$$

which proves Lemma 14 .
We begin with some general facts concerning the matrix structure of orthoprojections onto the graphs of operators.
16. Proposition. Let $T$ be a closed densely defined operator acting on a Hilbert space $K, E=K \oplus K$. Then $\Gamma(T)^{\perp}=\left\{\left\{-T^{*} f, f\right\}: f \in D\left(T^{*}\right)\right\}$, and the orthoprojection in $E$ onto the graph $\Gamma(T)$ has the form

$$
P_{\Gamma(T)}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\Delta & (T \Delta)^{*} \\
T \Delta & T(T \Delta)^{*}
\end{array}\right], \quad \text { where } \quad \Delta=\left(I+T^{*} T\right)^{-1}
$$

Moreover, if $r$ is a subprojection of $P_{\Gamma(T)}$, then $r$ can be represented in the form $r=\left[\begin{array}{cc}\alpha & (T \alpha)^{*} \\ T \alpha & T(T \alpha)^{*}\end{array}\right]$, where the operator $\alpha$ satisfies $0 \leq \alpha=\alpha^{2}+(T \alpha)^{*} T \alpha$.

Proof. The operator matrix of an orthoprojection in $B(E)$ has the form $\left[\begin{array}{cc}\alpha & \gamma \\ \gamma^{*} & \beta\end{array}\right]$. In addition

$$
\alpha^{2}+\gamma \gamma^{*}=\alpha, \quad \beta^{2}+\gamma^{*} \gamma=\beta, \quad \alpha \gamma+\gamma \beta=\gamma
$$

If that is the matrix of $P_{\Gamma(T)}$, then

$$
\begin{aligned}
& {\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\alpha & \gamma \\
\gamma^{*} & \beta
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{l}
f \\
\theta
\end{array}\right] \in P_{\Gamma(T)}(f \in K) \Longrightarrow \gamma^{*}=T \alpha, \gamma=(T \alpha)^{*}=\overline{\alpha T^{*}},} \\
& {\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\alpha & \gamma \\
\gamma^{*} & \beta
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{l}
\theta \\
f
\end{array}\right] \in P_{\Gamma(T)}(f \in K) \Longrightarrow \beta=T(T \alpha)^{*}=T \cdot \overline{\alpha T^{*}},}
\end{aligned}
$$

If $f \in D\left(T^{*} T\right)$, then $\left[\begin{array}{cc}\alpha & (T \alpha)^{*} \\ T \alpha & T(T \alpha)^{*}\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{c}f \\ T f\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{c}\alpha\left(1+T^{*} T\right) f \\ T \alpha\left(1+T^{*} T\right) f\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{c}f \\ T f\end{array}\right]$ implies $\alpha=$ $\left(I+T^{*} T\right)^{-1}$.
17. The proof of Proposition 15. In the notation of Paragraph 4, we have $J\left(p_{\pi}, q_{\pi}\right)=\bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} J_{n}\left(p_{\pi}, q_{\pi}\right)$, where
$J_{0}\left(p_{\pi}, q_{\pi}\right)=\left\{p_{\pi}, q_{\pi}, 0\right\}$,
$J_{n}\left(p_{\pi}, q_{\pi}\right)=\left\{r \in M_{\pi}^{\mathrm{pr}}:\left(\exists s, t \in J_{n-1}\left(p_{\pi}, q_{\pi}\right)\right)(s t=0 \& r \leq s+t)\right\} \quad(n \in \mathbb{N})$.
We will prove the following assertion: the projections in $J_{n}\left(p_{\pi}, q_{\pi}\right)$ are subprojections of projections onto graphs of compact operators which are functions of $T$. In addition, Proposition 15 holds for the corresponding null-space.

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Let us make the matrix structure of such subprojections more precise. Given a nonnegative compact operator $V$ which is a function of $T$, we have, according to Proposition 16, $r=\left[\begin{array}{cc}r_{11} & r_{11} V \\ V r_{11} & V r_{11} V\end{array}\right]$. We shall seek $r_{11}$ in the form $r_{11}=x \Delta_{V}$, where $x \in \mathcal{N}$ is an unknown operator. As $\mathcal{N}$ is commutative,

$$
x \Delta_{V}=\Delta_{V} x=x^{*} \Delta_{V} \Longrightarrow x=x^{*},
$$

and

$$
x \Delta_{V}=r_{11}=r_{11}\left(I_{K}+V^{2}\right) r_{11}=x \Delta_{V} \Delta_{V}^{-1} x \Delta_{V}=x^{2} \Delta_{V} \Longrightarrow x=x^{2}
$$

Thus, there exists $\omega \in \mathfrak{B}(\mathbb{R})$ such that $r_{11}=e(\omega) \Delta_{V}$. Hence

$$
r=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\Delta_{V} e(\omega) & V \Delta_{V} e(\omega)  \tag{*}\\
V \Delta_{V} e(\omega) & V^{2} \Delta_{V} e(\omega)
\end{array}\right]
$$

We will prove the above assertion by induction on $n$. It can easily be seen that it is true for every projection in $J_{0}\left(p_{\pi}, q_{\pi}\right)$. Suppose it holds for the projections in $J_{k}\left(p_{\pi}, q_{\pi}\right)(0 \leq k \leq n)$. Consider $s, t \in J_{n}\left(p_{\pi}, q_{\pi}\right)$ such that $s t=0$. Write $s$ and $t$ in the matrix form:

$$
s=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\Delta_{V} e(\omega) & V \Delta_{V} e(\omega) \\
V \Delta_{V} e(\omega) & V^{2} \Delta_{V} e(\omega)
\end{array}\right], \quad t=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\Delta_{W} e(\delta) & W \Delta_{W} e(\delta) \\
W \Delta_{W} e(\delta) & W^{2} \Delta_{W} e(\delta)
\end{array}\right] .
$$

Since $s$ and $t$ are orthogonal, we conclude that $e(\omega) e(\delta)=e(\omega \cap \delta)=0$ (as $V, W \geq 0$, by the assumption of induction). Without loss of generality. we can suppose that $\omega \cap \delta=\emptyset$. Then an easy computation shows that the projection $r=s+t \in J_{n+1}\left(p_{\pi}, q_{\pi}\right)$ is a subprojection of the projection onto the graph of the non-negative compact operator $X=V e(\omega)+W e(\delta)$. By the inductive assumption, it follows that

$$
\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{Ker}\left(I_{K}-r_{11}\right) & =\left\{f \in \mathcal{R}(e(\omega \cup \delta)): \Delta_{V} e(\omega) f+\Delta_{W} e(\delta) f=f\right\} \\
& =\left\{f \in \mathcal{R}(e(\omega \cup \delta)): \Delta_{V} e(\omega) f=e(\omega) f, \Delta_{W} e(\delta) f=e(\delta) f\right\} \\
& =\{f \in \mathcal{R}(e(\omega \cup \delta)): e(\omega) f=e(\delta) f=\theta\}=\{\theta\}
\end{aligned}
$$

The proof is complete.

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