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# PULLBACK DIAGRAM OF HILBERT MODULES OVER $H^*$ -ALGEBRAS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we generalize the construction of a pullback diagram in the framework of Hilbert modules over  $H^*$ -algebras. More precisely we prove that if a commutative diagram of Hilbert  $H^*$ -modules and morphisms



is pullback and  $\Psi_2$  is a surjection, then (i)  $\Psi_1$  is a surjection and (ii) ker  $\Phi_1 \cap$  ker  $\Psi_1 = \{0\}$ . Conversely, if (i) and (ii) hold,  $\psi_1(\tau(A_1))$  is  $\tau_{A_2}$ -closed and  $\Psi_2$  is injective, then the above diagram is pullback.

# 1. INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARIES

Pedersen [9] studied pullback diagrams of  $C^*$ -algebras. He found conditions under which a commutative diagram of  $C^*$ -algebras and morphisms is pullback. Then Amyari and Chakoshi [2] studied it in the framework of Hilbert  $C^*$ -modules. In reference [8], we study pullback diagram of H\*-algebras and morphisms. We also find conditions for pullbackness such a commutative diagram and its underlying trace classes. In this paper, we generalized the notion of pullback diagram in the framework of Hilbert  $H^*$ -modules and describe some new relations between faithful Hilbert modules over commutative proper  $H^*$ -algebras and morphisms.

Some properties of pullback diagrams are stable under Hilbert modules over  $H^*$ algebras. We use these properties to discover new ones for pullback diagram of Hilbert modules over  $H^*$ -algebras. An  $H^*$ -algebra, introduced by Ambrose [1] is a complex

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algebra A with a conjugate-linear mapping  $*: A \to A$  and an inner product  $\langle ., . \rangle$ such that it is a Hilbert space and satisfies  $a^{**} = a, (ab)^* = b^*a^*, \langle ab, c \rangle = \langle a, cb^* \rangle$ and  $\langle ab, c \rangle = \langle b, a^*c \rangle$  for all  $a, b, c \in A$ . Recall that  $A_0 = \{a \in A : aA = \{0\}\} =$  $\{a \in A : Aa = \{0\}\}$  is called the annihilator ideal of A. A proper  $H^*$ -algebra is an  $H^*$ -algebra with zero annihilator ideal. The trace-class  $\tau(A)$  of an  $H^*$ -algebra A is defined by the set  $\tau(A) = \{ab : a, b \in A\}$ . It is known that  $\tau(A)$  is an ideal of A, which is a Banach algebra under a suitable norm  $\tau_A(.)$ . The norm  $\tau_A$ is related to the given norm ||.|| on A by  $||a||^2 = \tau_A(a^*a)$  for each  $a \in A$ . By [1, Lemma 2.7], if A is proper, then  $\tau(A)$  is dense in A. The trace functional tr on  $\tau(A)$  is defined by  $\operatorname{tr}(ab) = \langle b, a^* \rangle = \langle a, b^* \rangle = \operatorname{tr}(ba)$  for each  $a, b \in A$ , in particular  $\operatorname{tr}(aa^*) = \langle a, a \rangle = ||a||^2 = \tau_A(a^*a)$  for all  $a \in A$ .

A nonzero element  $e \in A$  is called a projection, if it is self-adjoint and idempotent. In addition, if  $eAe = \mathbb{C}e$ , then it is called a minimal projection. Two idempotents e and e' are doubly orthogonal if  $\langle e, e' \rangle = 0$  and ee' = e'e = 0. An idempotent is primitive if it can not be expressed as the sum of two doubly orthogonal idempotent.

**Lemma 1.1.** Suppose that A is a commutative  $H^*$ -algebra. Then e is a minimal projection if and only if e is a primitive projection.

Proof. Suppose that e is a minimal projection. Then  $Ae = eAe = \mathbb{C}e$ , but  $\mathbb{C}e$  is a minimal ideal of A of rank one. So by [1, Lemma 3.4] e is primitive. Conversely, suppose e is a primitive projection in A. We will show that  $eAe = \mathbb{C}e$  or  $Ae^2 = \mathbb{C}e$ . Obviously  $e = e^2 \in Ae$ . Therefore  $\mathbb{C}e \subseteq Ae$ . For the other side, on the contrary, suppose that there exists an element  $a \in Ae$  such that  $a \notin \mathbb{C}e$ , so a and e are independent. Then Aa is a proper ideal of Ae, which contradicts minimality of Ae (Note that if e is primitive, then Ae is a minimal ideal). Hence  $Ae \subseteq \mathbb{C}e$ .

Each simple  $H^*$ -algebra (an  $H^*$ -algebra without nontrivial closed two-sided ideals) contains minimal projections. It is known that all minimal projections in a simple  $H^*$ -algebra have equal norms [4]. Also note that if A and B are  $H^*$ -algebras, then  $A \oplus B$  is an  $H^*$ -algebra with  $\langle (a_1, b_1), (a_2, b_2) \rangle = \langle a_1, a_2 \rangle + \langle b_1, b_2 \rangle$ . For more details on  $H^*$ -algebras, see [5, 10] and references cited therein.

**Definition 1.1.** Let A be a proper  $H^*$ -algebra. A Hilbert  $H^*$ -module [4, 7] is a right module X over A with a mapping  $[\cdot|\cdot]: X \times X \to \tau(A)$ , which satisfies the following conditions:

- (i)  $[x|\alpha y] = \alpha [x|y],$
- (ii) [x + y|z] = [x|z] + [y|z],
- (iii) [x|ya] = [x|y]a,
- (iv)  $[x|y]^* = [y|x],$
- (v) For each nonzero element x in X there is a nonzero element a in A such that  $[x|x] = a^*a$ ,

(vi) X is a Hilbert space with the inner product (x, y) = tr([x|y]),

for each  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $x, y \in X$ ,  $a \in A$ .

The Hilbert  $H^*$ -module X is full if the ideal  $I = [X, X] = \text{span}\{[x|y] : x, y \in X\}$  is dense in  $\tau(A)$  under the norm  $\tau_A(.)$ .

**Lemma 1.2.** Let X be a full Hilbert module over a proper  $H^*$ -algebra A and  $a \in A$ . Then xa = 0 for all  $x \in X$  if and only if a = 0.

Proof. If  $a \in \tau(A)$  and xa = 0 for all  $x \in X$ , then [xa|ya] = 0 for all  $x, y \in X$ . Let  $b \in \tau(A)$  be arbitrary. Since X is full, there exists a sequence  $\{u_n\}$  in I such that  $\lim_{n \to \infty} \tau_A u_n = b$ . Each  $u_n$  is of the form  $\sum_{i=1}^{k_n} \alpha_i[x_i|y_i]$  in which  $x_i, y_i \in X$  and  $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{C}$ . Hence  $a^*ba = \lim_{n \to \infty} \tau_A a^*u_n a = \lim_{n \to \infty} \tau_A a^* \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k_n} \alpha_i[x_i|y_i]\right) a = \lim_{n \to \infty} \tau_A \sum_{i=1}^{k_n} \alpha_i[x_ia|y_ia] = 0$ . Put  $b = aa^*$ . Therefore  $||a^*a||^2 = \tau_A(a^*aa^*a) = \operatorname{tr}(a^*aa^*a) = 0$ . By [1, Lemma 2.2], a = 0.

Suppose that  $a \in A - \tau(A)$  and xa = 0 for all  $x \in X$ . Let  $b \in A$  be arbitrary. So  $ab \in \tau(A)$  and xab = 0 for all  $x \in X$ . Recall that  $||xab|| \leq ||xa|| ||b||$ . By previous argument ab = 0 or  $aA = \{0\}$ . It implies that a = 0, since A is proper.

Let X and Y be Hilbert modules over proper  $H^*$ -algebras A and B, respectively, and  $\varphi : \tau(A) \to \tau(B)$  be a norm continuous \*-homomorphism (morphism). A map  $\Phi : X \to Y$  is said to be a  $\varphi$ -morphism if  $[\Phi(x)|\Phi(y)] = \varphi([x|y])$  for all x, y in X. We can extend  $\varphi$  to a continuous morphism  $\bar{\varphi} : A \to B$ . Obviously,  $\Phi$  is a  $\bar{\varphi}$ -morphism, i.e.  $[\Phi(x)|\Phi(y)] = \bar{\varphi}([x|y])$  for each x, y in X. From now on we mean by a  $\varphi$ -morphism, a  $\bar{\varphi}$ -morphism. It is easy to see that each  $\varphi$ -morphism is necessarily a linear operator and a module mapping in the sense that  $\Phi(xa) = \Phi(x)\varphi(a)$  for all  $x \in X, a \in A$ .

Let X be a Hilbert  $H^*$ -module over A and  $a \in A$ , the left translation  $L_a: X \to X$  is defined by  $L_a(x) = ax$  for  $x \in X$ . If  $e \in A$  is a projection, then  $L_e$  is an orthogonal projection defined on the Hilbert space (X, (., .)). Let us denote  $X_e = L_e X$ . The subspace  $X_e$  is a closed subspace of the Hilbert space (X, (., .)) [4].

**Theorem 1.1.** (see [4, Lemma 2.7]) Let X be a Hilbert  $H^*$ -module over A and e be a minimal projection in A. Then  $X_e = \{x \in X : [x|x] = \lambda e, \lambda \ge 0\}$ . If A is a simple  $H^*$ -algebra, then the subspace  $X_e$  generates a dense submodule in X.

Remark 1.1. In the above theorem if A is a commutative, simple and proper  $H^*$ algebra, then  $X_e = X$ . Recall that for each arbitrary minimal projection  $e \in A$ , we have  $A = Ae = eAe = \mathbb{C}e$  [1, Theorem 4.1 and 4.2]. If x is a nonzero element in X, then there is a nonzero element a in A such that  $[x|x] = a^*a$ . Hence  $[x|x] \in \tau(A) \subseteq$  $A = \mathbb{C}e$ . So there exists a positive number  $\lambda$  such that  $[x|x] = \lambda e$ . Therefore  $x \in X_e$ .

In this paper, we obtain some conditions under which a commutative diagram of Hilbert  $H^*$ -modules and morphisms is pullback.

### 2. Pullback constructions in Hilbert modules over $H^*$ -algebras

In this section we introduce a pullback diagram of  $H^*$ -algebras and investigate some properties of them. For this we need the following definition.

**Definition 2.1.** A commutative diagram of  $H^*$ -algebras and morphisms

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_1 & \stackrel{\varphi_1}{\longrightarrow} & B_1 \\ & \downarrow^{\psi_1} & \downarrow^{\psi_2} \\ A_2 & \stackrel{\varphi_2}{\longrightarrow} & B_2 \end{array}$$

is pullback if  $\ker(\varphi_1) \cap \ker(\psi_1) = \{0\}$  and for any other pair of morphisms  $\mu_1 : A \to B_1$ and  $\mu_2 : A \to A_2$  from an  $H^*$ -algebra A that satisfy condition  $\psi_2 \mu_1 = \varphi_2 \mu_2$ , there is a unique morphism  $\mu : A \to A_1$  such that  $\mu_1 = \varphi_1 \mu$  and  $\mu_2 = \psi_1 \mu$ .



It follows that  $A_1$  is isomorphic to the restricted direct sum  $A_2 \bigoplus_{B_2} B_1 = \{(a_2, b_1) \in A_2 \bigoplus B_1 | \varphi_2(a_2) = \psi_2(b_1)\}$ , so that  $\varphi_1$  and  $\psi_1$  can be identified with projections on first and second coordinates, respectively. In particular, the pullback exists for any triple of  $H^*$ -algebras  $A_2, B_1$  and  $B_2$  with linking morphisms  $\varphi_2$  and  $\psi_2$ .

Theorem 2.1. Suppose that

(2.1) 
$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_1 & \stackrel{\varphi_1}{\longrightarrow} & B_1 \\ & & \downarrow \Psi_1 & & \downarrow \Psi_2 \\ & & A_2 & \stackrel{\varphi_2}{\longrightarrow} & B_2 \end{array}$$

is a commutative diagram of  $H^*$ -algebras and morphisms. If ker  $\varphi_1 \cap \ker \psi_1 = \{0\}$  and  $\psi_1, \psi_2$  are surjective and injective, respectively, then the above diagram is pullback.

*Proof.* It is enough to show that the morphism  $\varphi : A_1 \to A_2 \oplus_{B_2} B_1$  defined by  $\varphi(a_1) = (\psi_1(a_1), \varphi_1(a_1))$  is an isomorphism. Let  $(a_2, b_1) \in A_2 \oplus_{B_2} B_1$ . Then  $\psi_2(b_1) = \varphi_2(a_2)$ . There exists  $a_1 \in A_1$ , such that  $\psi_1(a_1) = a_2$ , since  $\psi_1$  is surjective. By the commutativity of the diagram and injectivity of  $\psi_2$ , we have  $b_1 = \psi_2^{-1}\varphi_2(a_2) = \psi_2^{-1}\varphi_2\psi_1(a_1) = \psi_2^{-1}\psi_2\varphi_1(a_1) = \varphi_1(a_1)$ . It proves the surjectivity of  $\varphi$ .

It is clear that if  $\psi_1$  is injective, then so is  $\varphi$ . For injectivity of  $\psi_1$ , let  $\psi_1(a_1) = 0$ . Thus  $\varphi_2\psi_1(a_1) = \psi_2\varphi_1(a_1) = 0$  and injectivity of  $\psi_2$  implies that  $\varphi_1(a_1) = 0$ . Hence  $a_1 \in \ker \varphi_1 \cap \ker \psi_1 = \{0\}$ .

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**Lemma 2.1.** Suppose that  $\Phi_2 : X_2 \to Y_2$  and  $\Psi_2 : Y_1 \to Y_2$  are  $\varphi_2$ ,  $\psi_2$ -morphisms of Hilbert  $H^*$ -modules, where  $\varphi_2 : A_2 \to B_2$  and  $\psi_2 : B_1 \to B_2$  are morphisms of underlying  $H^*$ -algebras. Denote by  $X_2 \oplus_{Y_2} Y_1$  the set  $\{(x_2, y_1) \in X_2 \oplus Y_1 : \Phi_2(x_2) =$  $\Psi_2(y_1)\}$ , then  $X_2 \oplus_{Y_2} Y_1$  is a Hilbert module over  $H^*$ -algebra  $A_2 \oplus_{B_2} B_1$  (with operations inherited from the Hilbert  $A_2 \oplus B_1$ -module  $X_2 \oplus Y_1$ ). If  $X_2$  and  $Y_1$  are full, then  $X_2 \oplus Y_1$ is a full  $A_2 \oplus B_1$ -module and one easily concludes that  $X_2 \oplus_{Y_2} Y_1$  is also a full Hilbert module over  $A_2 \oplus_{B_2} B_1$ .

*Proof.* Straightforward (see [3, Proposition 2.1]).

**Definition 2.2.** A commutative diagram of Hilbert  $H^*$ -modules and morphisms



is pullback if  $\ker(\Phi_1) \cap \ker(\Psi_1) = \{0\}$  and for any other pair of morphisms  $\Upsilon_1 : X \to Y_1$ and  $\Upsilon_2 : X \to X_2$  from a full Hilbert  $H^*$ -module X such that satisfy the condition  $\Psi_2 \Upsilon_1 = \Phi_2 \Upsilon_2$ , there exists a unique morphism  $\Upsilon : X \to X_1$  such that  $\Upsilon_1 = \Phi_1 \Upsilon$  and  $\Upsilon_2 = \Psi_1 \Upsilon$ .



It is easily verified that  $X_1$  is isomorphic to  $X_2 \oplus_{Y_2} Y_1$ . The following proposition is proved in framework of Hilbert  $C^*$ -modules. It is easy to show that this proposition holds in the category of Hilbert  $H^*$ -modules. Density of trace class of a proper  $H^*$ algebra in its own is useful in checking commutativity of the diagram of underlying  $H^*$ -algebras.

**Proposition 2.1.** (see [3, Proposition 2.3]) Let  $X_2$ ,  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  be Hilbert modules over  $H^*$ -algebras with linking morphisms  $\Phi_2$  and  $\Psi_2$ . Then

$$\begin{array}{cccc} X_2 \oplus_{Y_2} Y_1 & \stackrel{\Phi_1}{\longrightarrow} & Y_1 \\ & & \downarrow^{\Psi_1} & & \downarrow^{\Psi_2} \\ & X_2 & \stackrel{\Phi_2}{\longrightarrow} & Y_2 \end{array}$$

with the projections  $\Phi_1(x_2, y_1) = y_1$  and  $\Psi_1(x_2, y_1) = x_2$  is a pullback diagram of Hilbert modules over  $H^*$ -algebras, where  $\Phi_1$  is a  $\varphi_1$ -morphism and  $\Psi_1$  is a  $\psi_1$ -morphism

of Hilbert modules over  $H^*$ -algebras and  $\varphi_1 : A_2 \oplus_{B_2} B_1 \to B_1$  and  $\psi_1 : A_2 \oplus_{B_2} B_1 \to A_1$ are the corresponding projections.

$$\begin{array}{cccc} A_2 \oplus_{B_2} B_1 & \stackrel{\varphi_1}{\longrightarrow} & B_1 \\ & & \downarrow^{\psi_1} & & \downarrow^{\psi_2} \\ & & A_2 & \stackrel{\varphi_2}{\longrightarrow} & B_2 \end{array}$$

Now we are ready to prove the main theorem of this paper.

**Theorem 2.2.** Suppose that

(2.2) 
$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_1 & \stackrel{\Phi_1}{\longrightarrow} & Y_1 \\ \downarrow \Psi_1 & \qquad \downarrow \Psi_2 \\ X_2 & \stackrel{\Phi_2}{\longrightarrow} & Y_2 \end{array}$$

is a commutative diagram of full Hilbert  $H^*$ -modules  $X_1, X_2$  and  $Y_1$  and arbitrary Hilbert  $H^*$ -module  $Y_2$  and continuous morphisms. If this diagram is pullback and  $\Psi_2$ is surjective, then the following conditions hold

- (i) ker  $\Phi_1 \cap \ker \Psi_1 = \{0\},\$
- (ii)  $\Psi_1$  is surjective.

Conversely, if (i) and (ii) hold,  $\psi_1(\tau(A_1))$  is  $\tau_{A_2}$ -closed and  $\Psi_2$  is injective, then (2.2) is pullback.

Proof. Suppose that the above diagram is pullback. By the definition, (i) holds and there exists a unique isomorphism  $\Phi : X_1 \to X_2 \oplus_{Y_2} Y_1$  defined by  $\Phi(x_1) = (\Psi_1(x_1), \Phi_1(x_1)) = (x_2, y_1)$ . We will show that the surjectivity of  $\Psi_2$  implies surjectivity of  $\Psi_1$ . Let  $x_2 \in X_2$ . Then  $\Phi_2(x_2) \in Y_2 = \Psi_2(Y_1)$ . So  $\Phi_2(x_2) = \Psi_2(y_1)$  for some  $y_1 \in Y_1$ . Thus  $(x_2, y_1) \in X_2 \oplus_{Y_2} Y_1$ . Therefore there exists  $x_1 \in X_1$  such that  $\Phi(x_1) = (\Psi_1(x_1), \Phi_1(x_1)) = (x_2, y_1)$ , since  $\Phi$  is onto. Hence  $\Psi_1$  is surjective.

Conversely, suppose that conditions (i) and (ii) hold,  $\psi_1(\tau(A_1))$  is  $\tau_{A_2}$ -closed and  $\Psi_2$  is injective and let (2.1) be the corresponding diagram of underlying  $H^*$ -algebras. Clearly  $\Psi_1, \Psi_2$  are  $\psi_1, \psi_2$ -morphisms and  $\Phi_1, \Phi_2$  are  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$ -morphisms of corresponding Hilbert  $H^*$ -modules. We shall show that the three conditions of Theorem 2.1 hold for the diagram of underlying  $H^*$ -algebras. The diagram of  $H^*$ -algebras is commutative, since the diagram of their Hilbert modules is commutative. Note that density of trace class of a proper  $H^*$ -algebra implies commutativity of the diagram of underlying  $H^*$ -algebras.

(I) We want to show that  $\ker \varphi_1 \cap \ker \psi_1 = \{0\}$ . Let  $a_1 \in \ker \varphi_1 \cap \ker \psi_1$  and  $x_1 \in X_1$  be arbitrary. Then, we have that  $[\Phi_1(x_1a_1)|\Phi_1(x_1a_1)] = \varphi_1([x_1a_1|x_1a_1]) = \varphi_1(a_1^*)\varphi_1([x_1|x_1])\varphi_1(a_1) = 0$ . Thus  $\|\Phi_1(x_1a_1)\|^2 = \operatorname{tr}([\Phi_1(x_1a_1)|\Phi_1(x_1a_1)]) = 0$ , so  $x_1a_1 \in \ker \Phi_1$ . Similarly  $x_1a_1 \in \ker \Psi_1$ . Hence by (i),  $x_1a_1 = 0$ , for all  $x_1 \in X_1$ . Since  $X_1$  is full, by Lemma 1.2,  $a_1 = 0$ .

(II) Let  $b_1 \in B_1$  such that  $\psi_2(b_1) = 0$  and  $y_1 \in Y_1$  be arbitrary. Then we have that  $[\Psi_2(y_1b_1)|\Psi_2(y_1b_1)] = \psi_2(b_1^*)\psi_2([y_1|y_1])\psi_2(b_1) = 0$ . So  $||\Psi_2(y_1b_1)||^2 = tr([\Psi_2(y_1b_1)|\Psi_2(y_1b_1)]) = 0$ . Then  $y_1b_1 = 0$  for each  $y_1 \in Y_1$ , since  $\Psi_2$  is an injection. By the fullness of  $Y_1$ ,  $b_1 = 0$ . Then  $\psi_2$  is injective.

(III) We will show that  $\Psi_1$  is surjective. First we show that  $\psi_1$  is injective. If  $a_1 \in \ker \psi_1$ , then commutativity of (2.1), implies that  $\psi_2 \varphi_1(a_1) = \varphi_2 \psi_1(a_1) = 0$ . By (II),  $\psi_2$  is injective, so  $\varphi_1(a_1) = 0$  and by (I),  $a_1 = 0$ . Since  $X_2$  is full,  $\Psi_1$  is surjective and  $\psi_1(\tau(A_1))$  is  $\tau_{A_2}$ -closed, we have

$$\tau(A_2) = \overline{[X_2|X_2]}^{\tau_{A_2}} = \overline{[\Psi_1(X_1)|\Psi_1(X_1)]}^{\tau_{A_2}} = \overline{\psi_1([X_1|X_1])}^{\tau_{A_2}}$$
$$\subseteq \overline{\psi_1(\tau(A_1))}^{\tau_{A_2}}$$
$$= \psi_1(\tau(A_1)).$$

Clearly  $\psi_1(\tau(A_1)) \subseteq \tau(A_2)$ . Let  $a_2 \in A_2$  be arbitrary, since  $A_2$  is proper, then there exists a sequence  $\{u_n\}$  in  $\tau(A_2) = \psi_1(\tau(A_1))$  such that  $\lim_{n \to \infty} u_n = a_2$ . Each  $u_n$  is of the form  $\psi_1(a_nb_n)$  in which,  $a_n, b_n \in A_1$ . Since  $\psi_1 : \tau(A_1) \to \tau(A_2)$  is a norm continuous isomorphism and the sequence  $\{\psi_1(a_nb_n)\}$  is Cauchy in  $\tau(A_2)$ , then  $\{\psi_1^{-1}(\psi_1(a_nb_n))\} = \{a_nb_n\}$  is Cauchy in  $\tau(A_1) \subseteq A_1$ . Hence this sequence is convergent in  $A_1$  and  $a_2 = \lim_{n \to \infty} u_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} \psi_1(a_nb_n) = \psi_1(\lim_{n \to \infty} (a_nb_n)) \in \psi_1(A_1)$ , i.e.,  $A_2 \subseteq \psi_1(A_1)$ . Then  $\psi_1$  is surjective, and by Theorem 2.1, diagram (2.1) is pullback. Therefore  $\varphi : A_1 \to A_2 \oplus_{B_2} B_1$  is defined by  $\varphi(a_1) = (\psi_1(a_1), \varphi_1(a_1))$ , is an isomorphism.

Define  $\Phi : X_1 \to X_2 \oplus_{Y_2} Y_1$  by  $\Phi(x_1) = (\Psi_1(x_1), \Phi_1(x_1))$  and show that  $\Phi$  is an isomorphism of Hilbert  $H^*$ -modules. Let  $(x_2, y_1) \in X_2 \oplus_{Y_2} Y_1$ . By the surjectivity of  $\Psi_1, x_2 = \Psi_1(x_1)$  for some  $x_1 \in X_1$ . By the commutativity of the diagram (2),  $\Psi_2 \Phi_1(x_1) = \Phi_2 \Psi_1(x_1) = \Phi_2(x_2) = \Psi_2(y_1)$ . Since  $\Psi_2$  is injective, we have  $\Phi_1(x_1) = y_1$ . So  $\Phi$  is a surjection. Also (i) implies that  $\Phi$  is an injection. On the other hand

$$\begin{split} [\Phi(x_1)|\Phi(x_1)] &= [(\Psi_1(x_1), \Phi_1(x_1))|(\Psi_1(x_1), \Phi_1(x_1))] \\ &= ([\Psi_1(x_1)|\Psi_1(x_1)], [\Phi_1(x_1)|\Phi_1(x_1)]) \\ &= (\psi_1([x_1|x_1]), \varphi_1([x_1|x_1])) = \varphi([x_1|x_1]). \end{split}$$

So  $\Phi$  is a  $\varphi$ -morphism. Hence  $X_1 \simeq X_2 \oplus_{Y_2} Y_1$ . By Proposition 2.1, diagram (2) is a pullback diagram of Hilbert  $H^*$ -modules.  $\Box$ 

Recall that a Hilbert  $H^*$ -module X over A is faithful if  $\{a \in A : Xa = \{0\}\} = \{0\}$ . By [4, Remark 1.6], for each faithful Hilbert  $H^*$ -module X over a proper  $H^*$ -algebra A there exists a family  $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$  of Hilbert  $H^*$ -modules, where each  $X_i$  is a Hilbert  $H^*$ -module over a simple  $H^*$ -algebra  $A_i$  such that X is equal to the mixed product of the family  $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$ ,

$$X = \bigotimes_{i \in I} X_i = \left\{ \{x_i\} \in \prod_{i \in I} X_i : \sum_{i \in I} \|x_i\|^2 < \infty \right\}.$$

*Example 2.1.* The Hilbert space  $l^2 = \left\{ (a_n) : a_n \in \mathbb{C}, \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n|^2 < \infty \right\}$  is a commutative and proper  $H^*$ -algebra, where for each  $(a_n)$  and  $(b_n)$  in  $l^2$ ,  $(a_n)(b_n) = (a_n b_n)$ and  $(a_n)^* = (\overline{a_n})$  [1, Example 3]. If  $e_1 = (1, 0, 0, 0, ...), e_2 = (0, 1, 0, 0, 0, ...), ...,$ then  $\{e_i\}_{i\in\mathbb{N}}$  is a maximal family of doubly orthogonal primitive elements of  $l^2$ . Put  $I = \mathbb{C}e_i$  for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then I is a simple and proper H<sup>\*</sup>-algebra. It is easy to verify that  $l^2$  is a faithful Hilbert module over itself, under the inner product  $[(a_i)|(b_i)] = (a_i \overline{b_i}) \in \tau(l^2)$ . Since  $l^2$  is also a proper  $H^*$ -algebra, then there exists the family  $\{I_i\}_{i\in\mathbb{N}}$  of Hilbert H<sup>\*</sup>-modules, where each  $I_i$  is a Hilbert H<sup>\*</sup>-module over itself as a simple  $H^*$ -algebra. Hence  $l^2 = \bigotimes_{i \in \mathbb{N}} I_i$ .

Let  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  be simple and proper  $H^*$ -algebras and  $\varphi$  be a surjective morphism from  $A_1$  into  $A_2$ . If  $e_1$  is a minimal projection in  $A_1$ , then  $\varphi(e_1)$  is a minimal projection in  $A_2$ , since

- (i)  $\varphi(e_1) = \varphi(e_1^2) = (\varphi(e_1))^2$ (ii)  $\varphi(e_1) = \varphi(e_1^*) = (\varphi(e_1))^*$
- (iii)  $\varphi(e_1)A_2\varphi(e_1) = \varphi(e_1)\varphi(A_1)\varphi(e_1) = \varphi(e_1A_1e_1) = \varphi(\mathbb{C}e_1) = \mathbb{C}\varphi(e_1).$

If A and B are commutative simple and proper  $H^*$ -algebras and  $\varphi: A \to B$  is a nonzero morphism and e,e' are minimal projections in A and B, respectively, then for some complex number  $\lambda$ ,  $\varphi(\lambda e) = e'$ . It implies that every nonzero morphism  $\varphi$ is a surjection. One can easily concludes that  $\varphi$  is an injection, too. Let (2.2) be a commutative diagram of Hilbert modules over commutative simple and proper  $H^*$ algebras and morphisms and let (2.1) be its underlying diagram of  $H^*$ -algebras and morphisms. Then for an arbitrary minimal projection  $e_1$  in  $A_1$ , there exist minimal projections  $e_1' = \varphi_1(e_1)$  in  $B_1$ ,  $e_2 = \psi_1(e_1)$  in  $A_2$  and  $e_2' = \psi_2(e_1')$  in  $B_2$ . Obviously, by the commutativity of diagram,  $\varphi_2\psi_1(e_1) = \psi_2\varphi_1(e_1)$ . So  $\varphi_2(e_2) = e_2'$ .

Suppose that  $X_{1,e_1} = \{x_1 \in X_1 : [x_1|x_1] = \lambda e_1, \lambda \ge 0\}$  and  $Y_{1,e_1'}, X_{2,e_2}, Y_{2,e_2'}$ are defined similarly. If  $x_1 \in X_{1,e_1}$ , then  $[\Phi_1(x_1)|\Phi_1(x_1)] = \varphi_1([x_1|x_1]) = \varphi_1(\lambda e_1) = \varphi_1(\lambda e_1)$  $\lambda \varphi_1(e_1) = \lambda e_1'$  for some  $\lambda \ge 0$ . Therefore the  $\varphi_1$ -morphism  $\Phi_1 : X_{1,e_1} \to Y_{1,e_1'}$  is well-defined.

Recall that if  $\{e_i\}_{i \in I}$  is a maximal family of doubly orthogonal minimal projections in commutative proper  $H^*$ -algebra A, then A is the direct sum of the minimal left ideals  $Ae_i$  or the minimal right ideals  $e_i A$  [1, Theorem 4.1]. Also by [6, Lemma 34.14], we know that every minimal ideal in A is of the form Ae or eA for some minimal projection e.

Corollary 2.1. Let (2.2) be a commutative diagram of faithful Hilbert modules over commutative proper  $H^*$ -algebras and morphisms. If their underlying  $H^*$ -algebras have the same cardinal of doubly orthogonal minimal projections and  $\Psi_1$  is surjective, then (2.2) is pullback.

Proof. Suppose that  $\{e_{1,i}\}_{i\in I}$ ,  $\{e_{2,i}\}_{i\in I} = \{\psi_1(e_{1,i})\}_{i\in I}$ ,  $\{e'_{1,i}\}_{i\in I} = \{\varphi_1(e_{1,i})\}_{i\in I}$  and  $\{e'_{2,i}\}_{i\in I} = \{\psi_2(e'_{1,i})\}_{i\in I}$  are the maximal family of doubly orthogonal minimal projections of  $A_1, A_2, B_1$  and  $B_2$ , respectively. Note that these  $H^*$ -algebras have the same cardinal of doubly orthogonal minimal projections. Put  $A_{1,i}(=A_1e_{1,i})$  for each  $i \in I$ . Then  $\{A_{1,i}\}_{i\in I}$  is the family of minimal closed ideals of  $A_1$ . Also there exists a suitable family  $\{X_{1,i}\}_{i\in I}$ , of faithful Hilbert modules over simple  $H^*$ -algebras  $A_{1,i}$ , such that  $X_1$  equals the mixed products of the family  $\{X_{1,i}\}_{i\in I}$  [7, Theorem 2.3].

Similarly we can assume that  $X_2$ ,  $Y_1$ ,  $Y_2$  are the mixed products of the family  $\{X_{2,i}\}_{i \in I}, \{Y_{1,i}\}_{i \in I}, \{Y_{2,i}\}_{i \in I}$ , respectively.

Now by Theorem 1.1, we can replace the above families of Hilbert modules over the simple and proper  $H^*$ -algebras  $\{A_{1,i}\}_{i\in I}, \{B_{1,i}\}_{i\in I}, \{A_{2,i}\}_{i\in I}, \{B_{2,i}\}_{i\in I}, by \{X_{1,e_{1,i}}\}_{i\in I}, \{Y_{1,e'_{1,i}}\}_{i\in I}, \{X_{2,e_{2,i}}\}_{i\in I}$  and  $\{Y_{2,e'_{2,i}}\}_{i\in I}$ , respectively. By the assumption  $\Psi_1$  is surjective, then  $\Psi_{1,i} : X_{1,e_{1,i}} \to X_{2,e_{2,i}}$  is surjective, where  $\Psi_{1,i} = \Psi_1|_{X_{1,e_{1,i}}}$ , for each  $i \in I$ . Since for any arbitrary element  $x_2 \in X_{2,e_{2,i}}$  and surjectivity of  $\Psi_1$ , there exists  $x_1 \in X_1$  such that  $[x_2|x_2] = [\Psi_1(x_1)|\Psi_1(x_1)] = \psi_1([x_1|x_1])$ . Furthermore for some positive number  $\lambda$ , we have  $[x_2|x_2] = \lambda e_{2,i} = \lambda \psi_1(e_{1,i}) = \psi_1(\lambda e_{1,i})$ . Since  $\psi_1$  is an isomorphism, then  $[x_1|x_1] = \lambda e_{1,i}$ . So  $x_1 \in X_{1,e_{1,i}}$  and  $\Psi_{1,i}$  is surjective. Now we are going to show the injectivity of  $\Psi_{2,i}$ . Let  $y_1 \in Y_{1,e'_1}$  and  $\Psi_{2,i}(y_1) = 0$ . Then  $[y_1|y_1] = \lambda e'_{1,i}$  for some positive number  $\lambda$  and  $[\Psi_{2,i}(y_1)|\Psi_{2,i}(y_1)] = \psi_{2,i}(\lambda e'_{1,i}) = \lambda e'_{2,i} = 0$ . Hence,  $\lambda = 0$ , so  $[y_1|y_1] = 0$ . By the definition of Hilbert  $H^*$ -module,  $y_1 = 0$ . We can prove the injectivity of other morphisms in a similar fashion. This implies that  $\ker(\Phi_{1,i}) \cap \ker(\Psi_{1,i}) = \{0\}$ . Finally one can easily verify the fullness of each of Hilbert  $H^*$ -modules in the following diagram. Hence by Theorem 2.2, the following diagram is pullback for each  $i \in I$ .

$$\begin{array}{cccc} X_{1,e_{1,i}} & \xrightarrow{\Phi_{1,i}} & Y_{1,e_{1,i}'} \\ & & \downarrow^{\Psi_{1,i}} & & \downarrow^{\Psi_{2,i}} \\ X_{2,e_{2,i}} & \xrightarrow{\Phi_{2,i}} & Y_{2,e_{2,i}'} \end{array}$$

In particular, the following diagram or (2.2) is pullback. (see [9, Proposition 4.8])

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