

## THE COMPRESSION OF A SLANT HANKEL OPERATOR TO $H^2$

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ABSTRACT. A slant Hankel operator  $K_\varphi$  with symbol  $\varphi$  in  $L^\infty(T)$  (in short  $L^\infty$ ), where  $T$  is the unit circle on the complex plane, is an operator whose representing matrix  $M = (a_{ij})$  is given by  $a_{i,j} = \langle \varphi, z^{-2i-j} \rangle$ , where  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is the usual inner product in  $L^2(T)$  (in short  $L^2$ ). The operator  $L_\varphi$  denotes the compression of  $K_\varphi$  to  $H^2(T)$  (in short  $H^2$ ). We prove that an operator  $L$  on  $H^2$  is the compression of a slant Hankel operator to  $H^2$  if and only if  $U * L = LU^2$ , where  $U$  is the unilateral shift. Moreover, we show that a hyponormal  $L_\varphi$  is necessarily normal and  $L_\varphi$  can not be an isometry.

### 1. Introduction

Let  $\varphi$  be in  $L^\infty$ . Then  $\varphi(z) \sim \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} a_i z^i$ , where  $a_i = \langle \varphi, z^i \rangle$  is the  $i$ -th Fourier coefficient of  $\varphi$  and  $\{z^i : i \in Z\}$  is the usual orthonormal basis of  $L^2$  and  $Z$  is the set of integers. A slant Toeplitz operator  $A_\varphi$  is an operator on  $L^2$  defined by

$$A_\varphi(z^k) = \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} a_{2i-k} z^i,$$

for  $k$  in  $Z$ . Furthermore  $A_\varphi = WM_\varphi$ , where  $M_\varphi$  is a multiplication operator on  $L^2$  and  $W$  is an operator on  $L^2$  such that  $Wz^{2n} = z^n$  and  $Wz^{2n-1} = 0$ , for  $n$  in  $Z$ .

A Hankel operator  $S_\varphi$  is an operator on  $L^2$  defined by

$$S_\varphi(z^k) = \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} a_{-i-k} z^i$$

for  $k$  in  $Z$  [1]. Moreover,  $S_\varphi = JM_\varphi$  and  $M_\varphi = JS_\varphi$ , where  $J$  is the reflect in operator on  $L^2$ , that is,  $J(z^n) = z^{-n}$ , for  $n$  in  $Z$ . A slant Hankel operator  $K_\varphi$  is

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an operator on  $L^2$  defined by

$$K_\varphi(z^k) = \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} a_{-2i-k} z^i$$

for  $k$  in  $Z$ . Moreover,  $K_\varphi = JA_\varphi$  and  $A_\varphi = JK_\varphi$ , The compression of  $K_\varphi$  to  $H^2$  is denoted by  $L_\varphi$ . Symbolically  $L_\varphi = PK_\varphi|_{H^2}$ , equivalently  $L_\varphi P = PK_\varphi P$ , where  $P$  is the orthogonal projection of  $L^2$  onto  $H^2$ .

In this paper, we establish equations which characterize slant Hankel operators and their compressions. We also investigate the conditions under which these operators are self-adjoint, normal, hyponormal or compact.

### 2. Slant Hankel operators

In this section, we obtain a characterization of a slant Hankel operator on  $L^2$  and prove that the set of all slant Hankel operators on  $L^2$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{B}(L^2)$  (the algebra of all operators on  $L^2$ ). We begin by recalling the definition of the reflection operator  $J$  on  $L^2$ . For  $f$  in  $L^2$ ,  $J(f(z)) = f(\bar{z})$ . The matrix of  $J$  with respect to the orthonormal basis  $\{z^n : n \in Z\}$  is

$$\begin{pmatrix} & & & & & \bullet \\ & & & & & \bullet \\ & & & & & \bullet \\ & 0 & & & & \bullet \\ & & & & 1 & \\ & & & & 1 & \\ & & & & 1 & \\ & & & & & 0 \\ \bullet & & & & & \\ \bullet & & & & & \\ \bullet & & & & & \end{pmatrix}$$

Since  $J^2(f(z)) = J(f(\bar{z})) = f(z)$ , it follows that  $J^2 = I$ . Since  $\langle J^*(f(z)), g(z) \rangle = \langle f(z), J(g(z)) \rangle = \langle f(z), g(\bar{z}) \rangle = \langle f(\bar{z}), g(z) \rangle$ , for all  $f, g$  in  $L^2$ , it follows that  $J^* = J$ . Moreover, we have  $\|J\| = 1$ .

REMARK 2.1. (a) Since, for  $n$  in  $Z$ ,  $WJ(z^{2n}) = \bar{z}^n = JW(z^{2n})$ ,  $WJ(z^{2n-1}) = 0 = JW(z^{2n-1})$ ,  $W^*J(z^n) = \bar{z}^{2n} = JW^*(z^n)$ , it follows that  $K_\varphi = JA_\varphi = JWM_\varphi = WJM_\varphi = WS_\varphi$ , where  $S_\varphi$  is a Hankel operator on  $L^2$ .

(b)  $\|K_\varphi\| = \|A_\varphi\|$ .

(c) We note that  $J$  has a doubly infinite Hankel matrix, and an operator  $A$  having a Hankel matrix is characterized by the operator equation  $V^*A = AV$ , where  $V$  is the bilateral shift [11].

(d)  $K_\varphi^*$ , the adjoint of  $K_\varphi$ , is given by  $K_\varphi^* = A_\varphi^*J^* = M_{\bar{\varphi}}W^*J = M_{\bar{\varphi}}JW^* = JM_{\bar{\varphi}(\bar{z})}W^* = JA_{\varphi(\bar{z})}^*$ .

We know that an operator  $A$  on  $L^2$  is a slant Toeplitz operator if and only if  $VA = AV^2$ , where  $V$  is the bilateral shift [7, Proposition 3]. We present here a similar characterization of a slant Hankel operator.

**THEOREM 2.2.** *An operator  $A$  on  $L^2$  is a slant Hankel operator if and only if  $V^*A = AV^2$ , where  $V$  is the bilateral shift.*

**PROOF.** Suppose  $A = K_\varphi$  is a slant Hankel operator. Then  $V^*K_\varphi = V^*JA_\varphi = JVA_\varphi = JA_\varphi V^2 = K_\varphi V^2$ . Conversely, suppose  $V^*A = AV^2$ . Then  $VJA = JV^*A = JAV^2$ . Therefore,  $JA$  is a slant Toeplitz operator on  $L^2$  by [7, Proposition 3]. Consequently,  $A$  is a slant Hankel operator on  $L^2$ .  $\square$

**COROLLARY 2.3.** *The set of all slant Hankel operators on  $L^2$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{B}(L^2)$ .*

**PROOF.** If  $a$  and  $b$  are complex numbers and  $\varphi, \psi \in L^\infty$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} aK_\varphi + bK_\psi &= aJA_\varphi + bJA_\psi = J(aA_\varphi) + J(bA_\psi) = J(aA_\varphi + bA_\psi) \\ &= J(A_{a\varphi+b\psi}) = K_{a\varphi+b\psi}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, it is a linear manifold.

Suppose that for each  $\alpha$ ,  $K_\alpha$  is a slant Hankel operator such that  $K_\alpha \rightarrow K$  weakly, where  $\{\alpha\}$  is a net. Then, for  $f, g$  in  $L^2$ , we have  $\langle K_\alpha V^2 f, g \rangle \rightarrow \langle KV^2 f, g \rangle$  and  $\langle V^* K_\alpha f, g \rangle = \langle K_\alpha f, Vg \rangle \rightarrow \langle Kf, Vg \rangle = \langle V^* Kf, g \rangle$ . Since  $K_\alpha V^2 = V^* K_\alpha$  for all  $\alpha$ , we get  $\langle KV^2 f, g \rangle = \langle V^* Kf, g \rangle$ . This implies that  $V^*K = KV^2$  and hence  $K$  is a slant Hankel operator by Theorem 2.2. Therefore, the set of all slant Hankel operators is weakly closed and hence strongly closed [5, Problem 13]. This completes the proof.  $\square$

### 3. Compressions of slant Hankel operators

We denote the compression of a slant Hankel operator  $K_\varphi$  to  $H^2$  by  $L_\varphi$ . By the definition of compression, we have  $L_\varphi = PK_\varphi|_{H^2}$ , equivalently,  $L_\varphi P = PK_\varphi P$ , where  $P$  is the orthogonal projection of  $L^2$  onto  $H^2$ . We have the following.

**THEOREM 3.1.**  *$L_\varphi = WH_\varphi$ , where  $H_\varphi$  is a Hankel operator on  $H^2$ . (Note that  $H_\varphi = PS_\varphi|_{H^2}$ )*

**PROOF.**  $L_\varphi = PK_\varphi|_{H^2} = PJA_\varphi|_{H^2} = PJWM_\varphi|_{H^2} = WPJM_\varphi|_{H^2} = WH_\varphi$ .  $\square$

**REMARK 3.2.** (a) If  $\varphi - \psi$  is in  $zH^\infty$ , then for  $f$  in  $H^2$ , we have  $L_{\varphi-\psi}(f) = WH_{\varphi-\psi}(f) = WPJ((\varphi - \psi)f) = 0$ , since  $J((\varphi - \psi)f) = (\varphi - \psi)f(\bar{z})$  is in  $H^{2^\perp}$ . Therefore,  $L_\varphi = L_\psi$ . This implies that the mapping  $\varphi \rightarrow L_\varphi$  is not one-one and hence  $\varphi$  is not unique.

(b) If  $\varphi(z) = 1$ , then, for  $f$  in  $H^2$ , we have  $L_1(f) = WH_1(f) = WPJ(f) = WP(f(\bar{z})) = \langle f, z^0 \rangle z^0$ . Hence  $L_1$  is the projection of  $H^2$  onto the subspace spanned by  $z^0$ .

(c) For  $f$  in  $H^2$ , we have, by Theorem 2 [12],  $H_\varphi W(f) = PJM_\varphi W(f) = PJWM_\varphi|_{H^2}(f) = PJA_{\varphi(z^2)}(f) = PK_{\varphi(z^2)}(f)$ . Therefore,  $H_\varphi W = L_{\varphi(z^2)}$ .

Z. Nehari [8] proved that an operator  $B$  on  $H^2$  is a Hankel operator on  $H^2$  if and only if  $U^*B = BU$ , where  $U$  is the unilateral shift. We state and prove a similar result for the compression of a slant Hankel operator. To achieve this we

need the ‘lifting theorem’ of Sz-Nagy and Foias [3], [4], [9] and [11]. One version of the theorem is as follows:

LIFTING THEOREM. For  $i = 1, 2$ , let  $B_i$  be a contraction on a Hilbert space  $H_i$ , and let  $A_i$ , acting on the Hilbert space  $K_i$ , be the minimal unitary dilation of  $B_i$ . Let  $P_i$  be the orthogonal projection of  $K_i$  onto  $H_i$ . Then an operator  $X$  from  $H_1$  to  $H_2$  satisfies  $B_2X = XB_1$  only if there exists an operator  $Y$  from  $K_1$  to  $K_2$  such that (i)  $A_2Y = YA_1$ , (ii)  $\|X\| = \|Y\|$ , (iii)  $P_2YP_1 = XP_1$ .

THEOREM 3.3. An operator  $L$  on  $H^2$  is the compression of a slant Hankel operator if and only if  $U^*L = LU^2$ , where  $U$  is the unilateral shift. In that case  $\|L\| = \|K\|$ , where  $L = PK|_{H^2}$ .

PROOF. Since  $P(\bar{z}Wf) = PW(\bar{z}^2f) = WP(\bar{z}^2f)$ , for  $f$  in  $H^2$ , we have  $U^*W = WU^{*2}$ . Now, suppose  $L = L_\varphi$ , the compression of a slant Hankel operator. Then  $L_\varphi = WH_\varphi$  and  $U^*L_\varphi = U^*WH_\varphi = WU^{*2}H_\varphi = WH_\varphi U^2 = L_\varphi U^2$ .

For the converse, we first note that  $V$ , the bilateral shift, is the minimal unitary dilation of  $U$ , the unilateral shift; and  $V^*$  is the minimal unitary dilation of  $U^*$  [5, Problem 155]. Suppose  $U^*L = LU^2$ . Then by the lifting theorem, there is an operator  $K$  on  $L^2$  such that  $V^*K = KV^2$ ,  $\|K\| = \|L\|$  and  $LP = PKP$ . By Theorem 2.2, we get  $K = K_\varphi$ , for some  $\varphi$  in  $L^\infty$ . Therefore,  $PK_\varphi P = L_\varphi P$ . Consequently,  $L = L_\varphi$ , the compression of  $K_\varphi$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

We give another proof of Theorem 3.2 by using S. Parrott’s observation [10] which is as follows.

PARROTT’S OBSERVATION. The smallest norm of an operator matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} X & C \\ B & A \end{pmatrix}$ , as  $X$  varies, is given as the maximum of the norms of  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ B & A \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & C \\ 0 & A \end{pmatrix}$ . Now, suppose that  $L$  is an operator such that  $U^*L = LU^2$ . Then  $L = (a_{-2i-j})_{i,j=0}^\infty$ . Let

$$K_{2,1} = \left( \begin{array}{cc|ccc} a_2 & a_1 & a_0 & a_{-1} & a_{-2} & \bullet \\ a_0 & a_{-1} & a_{-2} & a_{-3} & a_{-4} & \bullet \\ a_{-2} & a_{-3} & a_{-4} & a_{-5} & a_{-6} & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \end{array} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} X & C \\ B & A \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ B & A \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & C \\ 0 & A \end{pmatrix} = K_{2,1}$$

Therefore, by Parrott’s observation, we have  $\|K_{2,1}\| = \|L\|$ . Consequently  $K_{2,1}$  is bounded. Continuing this construction, let

$$K_{4,3} = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} a_4 & a_3 & a_2 & a_1 & a_0 & \bullet \\ a_2 & a_1 & a_0 & a_{-1} & a_{-2} & \bullet \\ a_0 & a_{-1} & a_{-2} & a_{-3} & a_{-4} & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \end{array} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} X & C \\ B & A \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ B & A \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & C \\ 0 & A \end{pmatrix} = K_{2,1}$$

Therefore, by Parrott's observation again, we have  $\|K_{4,3}\| = \|K_{2,1}\| = \|L\|$ . Consequently  $K_{4,3}$  is bounded. Continuing this construction, at the  $n$ -th step, a bounded linear transformation  $K_{2n,2n-1}$  is constructed with  $\|K_{2n,2n-1}\| = \|L\|$ . It follows that  $K = (a_{-2i-j})_{i,j=-\infty}^{\infty}$  and  $K$  is an operator on  $L^2$ . Moreover,  $V^*K = KV^2$ . Therefore, by Theorem 2.2,  $K = K_\varphi$ , for some  $\varphi$  in  $L^\infty$  and  $L = PK_\varphi|_{H^2}$ . Therefore,  $L = L_\varphi$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

REMARK 3.4. According to the construction above it is also apparent that  $\varphi$  is not unique. In fact, as remarked earlier, if  $\varphi - \psi$  is in  $zH^\infty$ , then  $L = L_\varphi = L_\psi$ .

We observe that  $\|A_\varphi\| = \|W|\varphi|^2\|_\infty^{1/2}$  [7, Proposition 5] and  $\|K_\varphi\| = \|A_\varphi\|$  by Remark 2.1. Hence  $\|K_\varphi\| = \|W|\varphi|^2\|_\infty^{1/2}$ .

THEOREM 3.5. *We have  $\|L_\varphi\| = \inf\{\|W|\varphi - \phi|^2\|_\infty^{1/2} : \phi \in zH^\infty\}$ .*

PROOF. By Theorem 3.2, we know that there is a  $\varphi$  in  $L^\infty$  and  $\varphi - \psi$  in  $zH^\infty$  such that  $\|L_\varphi\| = \|K_\psi\| = \|W|\psi|^2\|_\infty^{1/2}$ . This implies that

$$\inf\{\|W|\varphi - \phi|^2\|_\infty^{1/2} : \phi \in zH^\infty\} \leq \|W|\psi|^2\|_\infty^{1/2} = \|K_\psi\| = \|L_\varphi\|.$$

On the other hand,  $\|L_\varphi\| = \|L_{\varphi-\phi}\| \leq \|K_{\varphi-\phi}\| = \|W|\varphi - \phi|^2\|_\infty^{1/2}$ . This implies that  $\|L_\varphi\| \leq \inf\{\|W|\varphi - \phi|^2\|_\infty^{1/2} : \phi \in zH^\infty\}$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

For  $f, g$  in  $H^2$ , we have  $\langle H_\varphi^* f, g \rangle = \langle f, H_\varphi g \rangle = \langle f, PJ(\varphi g) \rangle = \langle \bar{\varphi}(z)f(\bar{z}), g \rangle$ . This implies that  $H_\varphi^* f = P(\bar{\varphi}(z)f(\bar{z})) = PJ(\bar{\varphi}(\bar{z})f(z)) = H_{\bar{\varphi}(\bar{z})} f$ . Therefore,  $H_\varphi^* = H_{\bar{\varphi}(\bar{z})}$ . Since  $L_\varphi = WH_\varphi$ , we have  $L_\varphi^* = H_{\bar{\varphi}(\bar{z})} W^*$ .

THEOREM 3.6.  *$0 \neq L_\varphi$  is self-adjoint if and only if  $\varphi(z) =$  non-zero real constant.*

PROOF. If  $\sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} a_i z^i$  is the Fourier expansion of  $\varphi$ , then the  $(i, j)$ -th entry of the matrix of  $L_\varphi$  is given by  $\langle L_\varphi z^j, z^i \rangle = \langle WH_\varphi z^j, z^i \rangle = \langle PJ(\varphi z^j), z^{2i} \rangle = \langle \varphi, z^{-2i-j} \rangle = a_{-2i-j}$ .

Now, suppose  $L_\varphi$  is self-adjoint. Then, for  $i, j \geq 0$ ,  $a_{-2i-j} = \bar{a}_{-2j-i}$ . Put  $i = 0$ . Then we have  $a_{-j} = \bar{a}_{-2j}$ . This implies that for each  $k \geq 0$  and for all  $n \geq 0$   $|a_{-k}| = |a_{-k-2n}|$ . This in turn implies that  $a_{-k} = 0$ , for all  $k > 0$ , because  $a_{-k} \rightarrow 0$ , as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Therefore,  $\varphi(z) = a_0$ .

Conversely, if  $\varphi(z) = a_0$ , then  $L_\varphi(f) = WPJ(\varphi f) = a_0 \langle f, z^0 \rangle z^0$  and  $L_\varphi^*(f) = H_{\bar{\varphi}(\bar{z})} W^*(f) = PJ(\bar{\varphi}(\bar{z})f(z^2)) = \bar{a}_0 \langle f(z^2), z^0 \rangle z^0 = \bar{a}_0 \langle f, z^0 \rangle z^0$ . Since  $\bar{a}_0 = a_0$ , we have the desired result.  $\square$

REMARK 3.7. If  $\varphi \in zH^\infty$ , then  $L_\varphi = 0$ . Therefore,  $L_\varphi$  is self-adjoint.

By making the same type of calculations as in the proof of Theorem 3.5, we can prove the following.

THEOREM 3.8.  *$L_\varphi$  is hyponormal if and only if  $\varphi$  is in  $H^\infty$ .*

PROOF. Suppose  $L_\varphi$  is hyponormal. Then  $L_\varphi = WH_\varphi$  and for  $f$  in  $H^2$ ,  $\|WH_\varphi f\| \geq \|H_\varphi^* W^* f\|$ . Equivalently,  $\|WPJ(\varphi f)\| \geq \|PJ(\bar{\varphi}(\bar{z})f(z^2))\|$ . Putting  $f(z) = 1$ , we get  $\|WPJ(\varphi)\|^2 \geq \|PJ(\bar{\varphi}(\bar{z}))\|^2$ . Equivalently,

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |a_{-2i}|^2 \geq \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |\bar{a}_{-i}|^2,$$

where  $\sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} a_i z^i$  is the Fourier expansion of  $\varphi$ . This implies that  $a_{-2i-1} = 0$ , for  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Again putting  $f(z) = z$ , we get  $\|WPJ(\varphi z)\|^2 \geq \|PJ(z^2 \bar{\varphi}(\bar{z}))\|^2$ .

Equivalently,

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |a_{-2i-1}|^2 \geq \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |\bar{a}_{-i-2}|^2.$$

But the left-hand side is equal to 0. Therefore  $a_{-i-2} = 0$ , for  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Consequently,  $a_{-i} = 0$ , for  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , which means  $\varphi$  is in  $H^\infty$ .

Conversely, let  $\varphi$  be in  $H^\infty$ . Then  $L_\varphi = 0$  if  $\varphi \in zH^\infty$ , and  $L_\varphi$  is a multiple of the projection on the subspace of  $H^2$  spanned by  $z^0$  if  $\varphi(z) = \text{constant}$ . In other words, if  $\varphi(z) = a_0$ , then  $L_\varphi(f) = L_{a_0}(f) = a_0 \langle f, z^0 \rangle z^0$  and its adjoint  $L_\varphi^*(f) = L_{a_0}^*(f) = \bar{a}_0 \langle f, z^0 \rangle z^0$ . Therefore,  $L_\varphi$  is normal and hence hyponormal. This completes the proof.  $\square$

REMARK 3.9. (a) The non-zero hyponormal  $L_\varphi$  are the scalar multiples of the projection of  $H^2$  onto the subspace spanned by  $z^0$ .

(b) A hyponormal  $L_\varphi$  is necessarily normal.

THEOREM 3.10.  $L_\varphi$  can not be an isometry.

PROOF. Suppose  $L_\varphi$  is an isometry. Then, for  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , we have  $\|L_\varphi z^j\| = \|z^j\| = 1$ . Equivalently,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |a_{-2k-j}|^2 = 1,$$

where  $\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k z^k$  is the Fourier expansion of  $\varphi$ . Putting  $j = 0$  and  $j = 2$ , we get

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |a_{-2k}|^2 = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |a_{-2k-2}|^2 = 1.$$

This implies that  $a_0 = 0$ . In general, by putting  $j = 2n$  and  $j = 2n + 2$ , we get  $a_{-2n} = 0$ , for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Similarly by putting  $j = 2n + 1$  and  $j = 2n + 3$ , we get  $a_{-2n-1} = 0$ , for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Therefore,  $\varphi(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k z^k$ , but this  $\varphi$  induces the zero operator, that is,  $L_\varphi = 0$ . This is a contradiction. Hence  $L_\varphi$  cannot be an isometry.  $\square$

THEOREM 3.11.  $L_\varphi$  is never a Fredholm operator.

PROOF. Suppose  $L_\varphi$  is a Fredholm operator. Then: (i)  $\text{ran}(L_\varphi)$  is closed, (ii)  $\dim \ker(L_\varphi)$  and  $\dim \ker(L_\varphi^*)$  are finite.

If  $\ker(L_\varphi) = \ker(L_\varphi^*) = \{0\}$ , then  $L_\varphi$  would be invertible, and hence  $U^* = L_\varphi U^2 L_\varphi^{-1}$ , as  $U^* L_\varphi = L_\varphi U^2$  by Theorem 3.2. But this is not true, because  $U^*$  is not similar to  $U^2$ . Therefore, either  $\ker(L_\varphi) \neq \{0\}$  or  $\ker(L_\varphi^*) \neq \{0\}$ . Suppose  $\ker(L_\varphi) \neq \{0\}$ . Then there is a non-zero  $f$  in  $H^2$  such that  $L_\varphi f = 0$ . Since  $U^{*n} L_\varphi = L_\varphi U^{2n}$ , by repeated use of Theorem 3.2, it follows that  $U^{2n} f$  is in  $\ker(L_\varphi)$ , for all  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ . Since  $U^{2n} f$  are linearly independent for different  $n$ 's, we have  $\dim \ker(L_\varphi)$  is equal to infinity, and hence  $L_\varphi$  is not Fredholm. Similarly, if  $\ker(L_\varphi^*) \neq \{0\}$ , then there is a non-zero  $g$  in  $H^2$  such that  $L_\varphi g = 0$ . Since  $L_\varphi^* U^n = U^{*2n} L_\varphi^*$  by Theorem 3.2, it follows that  $U^n g$  is in  $\ker(L_\varphi^*)$  and  $\dim \ker(L_\varphi^*) = \infty$ . Therefore,  $L_\varphi$  is not Fredholm. This completes the proof.  $\square$

Consider the matrix of  $L_\varphi^*$ , the adjoint of  $L_\varphi$ , given below

$$\begin{pmatrix} \bar{a}_0 & \bar{a}_{-2} & \bar{a}_{-4} & \bullet \\ \bar{a}_{-1} & \bar{a}_{-3} & \bar{a}_{-5} & \bullet \\ \bar{a}_{-2} & \bar{a}_{-4} & \bar{a}_{-6} & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \end{pmatrix}$$

Since  $W$  eliminates every odd row of the matrix of  $L_\varphi^*$ , it follows that the matrix of  $W L_\varphi^*$  is a matrix of a Hankel operator as shown below

$$\begin{pmatrix} \bar{a}_0 & \bar{a}_{-2} & \bar{a}_{-4} & \bullet \\ \bar{a}_{-2} & \bar{a}_{-4} & \bar{a}_{-6} & \bullet \\ \bar{a}_{-4} & \bar{a}_{-6} & \bar{a}_{-8} & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \end{pmatrix}$$

If  $\sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} a_i z^i$  is the Fourier expansion of  $\varphi$ , then the matrix above defines the Hankel operator induced by the function  $W(\bar{\varphi}(\bar{z}))$ . Therefore,  $W L_\varphi^* = H_\psi$ , where  $\psi = W(\bar{\varphi}(\bar{z}))$ .

REMARK 3.12. (a) If  $L_\varphi$  is compact, then  $L_\varphi^*$  is also compact. By the above relation  $W L_\varphi^* = H_\psi$ , and hence  $H_\psi$  is compact. By Hartman's theorem [2] and [6], we have that  $\psi$  belongs to  $H^\infty + C(T)$ .

(b) If  $\varphi$  is in  $H^\infty + C(T)$ , then  $L_\varphi$  is also compact, since  $L_\varphi = W H_\varphi$ .

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