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**Research Article** 

# On the product of dilation of truncated Toeplitz operators

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**Abstract:** In this paper we study when the product of two dilations of truncated Toeplitz operators gives a dilation of a truncated Toeplitz operator. We will use an approach established in a recent paper written by Ko and Lee. This approach allows us to represent the dilation of the truncated Toeplitz operator via a  $2 \times 2$  block operator.

Key words: Model space, truncated Toeplitz operator, dilation of truncated Toeplitz operator

# 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathbb{T}$  be the unit circle in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ . We start by recalling that the Hilbert space  $L^2 = L^2(\mathbb{T})$  is the space of all square-integrable functions on the unit circle  $\mathbb{T}$  equipped with the normalized Lebesgue measure  $dm(e^{i\theta}) = \frac{d\theta}{2\pi}$ . This space is endowed with the scalar product  $\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{T}} f\bar{g}dm$ .

An orthonormal basis of  $L^2$  is given by the set  $\{e_n(\theta) : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ , where  $e_n(\theta) = e^{in\theta}$  for  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ . The following orthonormal expansions are the classical Fourier series:

$$f = \sum_{n = -\infty}^{+\infty} f_n e_n = \sum_{n = -\infty}^{+\infty} f_n e^{in\theta},$$
$$f_n = \langle f, e_n \rangle = \int_0^{2\pi} f(e^{i\theta}) e^{-in\theta} \frac{d\theta}{2\pi}, n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

For all  $f, g \in L^2$ , the tensor product  $f \otimes g$  is the rank one operator in  $L^2$  and is defined by

$$(f \otimes g) h = \langle h, g \rangle f$$

for  $h \in L^2$ . Let  $L^{\infty}$  be the Banach space of essentially bounded functions on  $\mathbb{T}$ . For any  $\varphi \in L^{\infty}$ , the bounded multiplication operator  $M_{\varphi}$  is defined by the formula

$$M_{\varphi}f = \varphi f, f \in L^2.$$

An operator A is a multiplication operator if and only if  $AM_z = M_z A$ . It is well known that, for all  $\varphi \in L^{\infty}$ , the multiplication operator  $M_{\varphi}$  is invertible if and only if  $\varphi$  is invertible in  $L^{\infty}$ . Moreover,  $(M_{\varphi})^{-1} = M_{\varphi^{-1}}$ . The Hardy space of the circle  $H^2$  is the set of functions  $f \in L^2$  such that  $f_n = 0$  for all n < 0, and let

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 $H^{\infty}$  be the set of functions  $f \in L^{\infty}$  such that  $f_n = 0$  for all n < 0. We introduce now an important class of operators on spaces of analytic functions, which is the class of Toeplitz operators. Let P and Q = I - Pindicate the orthogonal projections that map  $L^2$  onto  $H^2$  and  $(H^2)^{\perp} = \overline{zH^2}$ , respectively. Given that  $\varphi \in L^{\infty}$ , the Toeplitz operator  $T_{\varphi}: H^2 \to H^2$  is defined by

$$T_{\varphi}f = P(\varphi f), f \in H^2$$

and the Hankel operator  $H_{\varphi}: H^2 \to (H^2)^{\perp}$  is defined by

$$H_{\varphi}f = Q(\varphi f), f \in H^2$$

Hankel operators play an important role in the study of Toeplitz operators, and vice versa. Note that the Toeplitz operator becomes bounded if and only if  $\varphi \in L^{\infty}$ . In this case, we have  $||T_{\varphi}|| = ||\varphi||_{\infty}$  (see [1]). For any  $\varphi, \psi \in L^{\infty}$ , the singular integral operator  $S_{\varphi,\psi} : L^2 \to L^2$  is defined by

$$S_{\varphi,\psi}(f) = \varphi P(f) + \psi Q(f), f \in L^2$$

With respect to the decomposition  $L^2 = H^2 \oplus (H^2)^{\perp}$ , the operator  $S_{\varphi,\psi}$  can be represented as follows:

$$S_{\varphi,\psi} = \begin{pmatrix} T_{\varphi} & \widetilde{H_{\psi}} \\ H_{\varphi} & \widetilde{T_{\psi}} \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $T_{\varphi}$  and  $H_{\varphi}$  are the Toeplitz operator and Hankel operator, respectively. For more information about the operators  $\widetilde{T_{\psi}}$  and  $\widetilde{H_{\psi}}$ , see [6]. Ko and Lee concluded that the operator  $S_{\varphi,\psi}$  is the dilation of a Toeplitz operator on  $L^2$  [5].

An inner function is an  $H^{\infty}$  function that has unit modulus almost everywhere on  $\mathbb{T}$ . For a nonconstant inner function u, the model space  $K_u^2$  is defined by

$$K_u^2 = H^2 \ominus uH^2 = \{f \in H^2 : \langle f, ug \rangle = 0, \forall g \in H^2\}.$$

The space  $K_u^{\infty}$  is defined by  $K_u^{\infty} = K_u^2 \cap L^{\infty}$ , which is dense in  $K_u^2$ . For any  $\varphi \in L^{\infty}$  and an inner function u, the truncated Toeplitz operator  $A_{\varphi}^u$  on  $K_u^2$  is defined by

$$A^u_{\varphi}f = P_u(\varphi f), f \in K^2_u, \tag{1.1}$$

where  $P_u = P - M_u P M_{\overline{u}}$  denotes the orthogonal projection that maps  $L^2$  onto  $K_u^2$ .

For any  $\varphi \in L^{\infty}$  and an inner function u, the dual of truncated Toeplitz operator  $\widetilde{A}_{\varphi}^{u}$  is the operator on  $(K_{u}^{2})^{\perp}$  defined as follows:

$$\widetilde{A_{\varphi}^{u}} = Q_{u}(\varphi f), f \in (K_{u}^{2})^{\perp},$$
(1.2)

where  $Q_u = I - P_u$  refers to the orthogonal projection that maps  $L^2$  onto  $(K_u^2)^{\perp} = L^2 \ominus K_u^2 = \overline{zH^2} \oplus uH^2$ . The truncated Hankel operator  $\Gamma_{\varphi}^u : K_u^2 \to (K_u^2)^{\perp}$  is defined by

$$\Gamma^u_{\varphi}f = Q_u(\varphi f), f \in K^2_u. \tag{1.3}$$

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Let  $\widetilde{\Gamma_{\varphi}^{u}}$  be the operator of  $(K_{u}^{2})^{\perp}$  to  $K_{u}^{2}$  such that

$$\widetilde{\Gamma_{\varphi}^{u}}f = P_{u}(\varphi f), f \in (K_{u}^{2})^{\perp}.$$
(1.4)

From [5], we will use what can be helpful to us in our following work, notably the following identity:

$$\widetilde{\Gamma_{\varphi}^{u}} = (\Gamma_{\overline{\varphi}}^{u})^{*}. \tag{1.5}$$

In 1963, in a famous paper on algebraic properties of Toeplitz operators [1], Brown and Halmos studied when the product of two Toeplitz operators itself becomes a Toeplitz operator. The same issue about truncated Toeplitz operators was solved by Sedlock in 2010 [8]. In 2015, Gu in [3] proved that the product  $S_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S_{\varphi_2,\psi_2}$ on  $L^2$  is a singular integral operator if and only if  $\varphi_2 \in H^{\infty}, \psi_2 \in \overline{H^{\infty}}$ .

**Definition 1.1** [5] For  $\varphi, \psi \in L^{\infty}$  and an inner function u, the dilation of truncated Toeplitz operator  $S^{u}_{\varphi,\psi}: L^{2} \to L^{2}$  is defined by the formula

$$S^{u}_{\varphi,\psi}(f) = \varphi P_{u}(f) + \psi Q_{u}(f), f \in L^{2}.$$

Obviously, the operator  $S^u_{\varphi,\psi}$  is a bounded operator if and only if  $\varphi, \psi \in L^{\infty}$ , such that

$$||S_{\varphi,\psi}^{u}(f)|| \leq ||\varphi P_{u}(f)|| + ||\psi Q_{u}(f)|| \leq (||\varphi||_{\infty} + ||\psi||_{\infty})||f||.$$

Note that for  $f \in L^2$ , we have

$$S^{u}_{\varphi,\psi}f = \varphi P_{u}f + \psi Q_{u}f = \varphi P_{u}f + \psi [f - P_{u}f] = (\varphi - \psi)P_{u}f + \psi f.$$

Hence, it is easy to see that  $S^u_{\varphi,\psi} = M_\psi + S^u_{\varphi-\psi,0}$  and  $S^u_{\varphi,\varphi} = M_\varphi$ .

The class of dilation of truncated Toeplitz operators was introduced in 2015 by Ko and Lee. For further details of the introduction of this class of operators, see [5]. Moreover, relying on the decomposition  $L^2 = K_u^2 \oplus (K_u^2)^{\perp}$ , they proved that the operator  $S_{\varphi,\psi}^u$  has the following matrix representation:

$$S^{u}_{\varphi,\psi} = \begin{pmatrix} A^{u}_{\varphi} & \widetilde{\Gamma^{u}_{\psi}} \\ \Gamma^{u}_{\varphi} & \widetilde{A^{u}_{\psi}} \end{pmatrix}, \tag{1.6}$$

where  $A^{u}_{\varphi}, \widetilde{A^{u}_{\psi}}, \Gamma^{u}_{\varphi}$ , and  $\widetilde{\Gamma^{u}_{\psi}}$  are defined by equations (1.1), (1.2), (1.3), and (1.4), respectively. We refer to [5, Lemma 3.2] for more details about this representation.

Recently, Gu and Kang gave in [4] a complete characterization when  $S^{u}_{\varphi,\psi}$  is a self-adjoint, isometric, coisometric, and normal operator using their important key observation where  $S^{u}_{\varphi,\psi}$  and  $M_z$  are almost commuting. As shown in [4, lemma 3.1], Gu and Kang proved that the operator  $S^{u}_{\varphi,\psi}$  satisfies the following equation:

$$S^{u}_{\varphi,\psi} - M_z S^{u}_{\varphi,\psi} M^*_z = (\varphi - \psi) \otimes e_0 - (\varphi - \psi) u \otimes u e_0.$$

$$(1.7)$$

In this work, we study the product of two dilations of truncated Toeplitz operators  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}$  and  $S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2}$ .

# 2. Characterization

Let  $B(L^2)$  be the algebra of all bounded linear operators on  $L^2$ . For an operator  $A \in B(L^2)$ , the operator  $A^*$  is called the adjoint of A. For an inner function  $u \in H^2$ ,  $D_u$  denotes the set of all dilations of truncated Toeplitz operators on  $L^2$ :

$$D_u = \{ S^u_{\varphi,\psi} \in B(L^2), \varphi, \psi, \in L^\infty \}.$$

In [4] Gu and Kang gave a full characterization of the class of operators  $D_u$  as described in the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.1** [4] Let  $A \in B(L^2)$ . Then  $A \in D_u$  if and only if there exists a  $\chi \in L^{\infty}$  such that

$$A - M_z A M_z^* = \chi \otimes e_0 - \chi u \otimes u e_0.$$

$$\tag{2.1}$$

In this case,  $A = S^u_{\chi+\theta,\theta}$  for some  $\theta \in L^{\infty}$ .

**Remark 2.2** [4] Let  $\varphi, \psi$  be in  $L^{\infty}$ . Then for all  $f, g \in L^2$  we have

$$\langle S^{u}_{\varphi,\psi}f,g\rangle = \langle \varphi P_{u}(f) + \psi Q_{u}(f),g\rangle = \langle f, P_{u}(\overline{\varphi}g)\rangle + \langle f, Q_{u}(\overline{\psi}g)\rangle$$

Therefore,

$$(S^u_{\omega,\psi})^* f = P_u(\overline{\varphi}f) + Q_u(\overline{\psi}f), f \in L^2$$

**Proposition 2.3** Let  $\varphi \in L^{\infty}$  and let  $S_{1,0}^u, S_{\varphi,0}^u \in D_u$ . Then

$$(S_{1,0}^u S_{\varphi,0}^u)^* = S_{1,0}^u S_{\overline{\varphi},0}^u$$

**Proof** Since  $S_{\varphi,0}^u = M_{\varphi}S_{1,0}^u$  and  $(S_{1,0}^u)^* = S_{1,0}^u$ , we obtain

$$(S_{1,0}^u S_{\varphi,0}^u)^* = (S_{1,0}^u M_{\varphi} S_{1,0}^u)^* = (S_{1,0}^u)^* M_{\varphi}^* (S_{1,0}^u)^* = S_{1,0}^u M_{\overline{\varphi}} S_{1,0}^u = S_{1,0}^u S_{\overline{\varphi},0}^u.$$

### 3. Product of dilation of truncated Toeplitz operators

To arrive at the main result of this work, we need the following lemma and proposition.

**Lemma 3.1** Letting  $\varphi \in L^{\infty}$ , the following statements hold:

- 1.  $A^u_{\varphi} = 0$  if and only if  $\varphi \in uH^{\infty} + \overline{uH^{\infty}}$ .
- 2.  $\widetilde{A^u_{\varphi}} = 0$  if and only if  $\varphi = 0$ .
- 3.  $\Gamma_{\varphi}^{u} = 0$  if and only if  $\varphi \in K_{u}^{\infty}$ .
- 4.  $\widetilde{\Gamma_{\omega}^{u}} = 0$  if and only if  $\varphi \in \overline{K_{u}^{\infty}}$ .

# Proof

- 1. This statement is an important result in Sarason's paper; see [7, Theorem 3.1].
- 2. Since  $\varphi \in L^{\infty}$ , it follows from Property 2.1 in [2] that  $\widetilde{A}^{u}_{\varphi}$  is a bounded operator and  $\|\widetilde{A}^{u}_{\varphi}\| = \|\varphi\|_{\infty}$ . Then  $\widetilde{A}^{u}_{\varphi} = 0$  if and only if  $\varphi = 0$ .

According to the proof of Theorem 3.14 in [5, p. 15] and equation (1.5), we deduce statements 3) and 4).

**Proposition 3.2** Let u be an inner function,  $\varphi_1, \psi_1, \varphi_2, \psi_2 \in L^{\infty}$ . Let  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}, S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in D_u$ , and then the following statements hold:

- 1.  $S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}} \in D_{u}$  if and only if  $M_{\varphi_{1}-\psi_{1}}S^{u}_{1,0}S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}} \in D_{u}$ .
- 2. If  $\varphi_1 \psi_1$  is invertible in  $L^{\infty}$  then  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in D_u$  if and only if  $S^u_{1,0}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in D_u$ .

# Proof

1. It is clear that

$$S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}} = M_{\psi_{1}} + S^{u}_{\varphi_{1}-\psi_{1},0} = M_{\psi_{1}} + M_{\varphi_{1}-\psi_{1}}S^{u}_{1,0}$$

Therefore,

$$S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}} = \left(M_{\psi_{1}} + M_{\varphi_{1}-\psi_{1}}S^{u}_{1,0}\right)S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}} = S^{u}_{\varphi_{2}\psi_{1},\psi_{2}\psi_{1}} + M_{\varphi_{1}-\psi_{1}}S^{u}_{1,0}S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}}.$$

We deduce that  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in D_u$  if and only if  $M_{\varphi_1-\psi_1}S^u_{1,0}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in D_u$ .

2. From the above, we obtain that

$$M_{\varphi_1-\psi_1}S^u_{1,0}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} = S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} - S^u_{\varphi_2\psi_1,\psi_2\psi_1}$$

If  $\varphi_1 - \psi_1$  is invertible, then

$$S_{1,0}^{u}S_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}}^{u} = M_{(\varphi_{1}-\psi_{1})^{-1}}(S_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}^{u}S_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}}^{u} - S_{\varphi_{2}\psi_{1},\psi_{2}\psi_{1}}^{u}).$$

Thus, we conclude that  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in D_u$  if and only if  $S^u_{1,0}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in D_u$ .

The main result of this paper is the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.3** Let  $\varphi, \psi \in L^{\infty}$  and let u be a nonconstant inner function. Then  $S_{1,0}^{u}S_{\varphi,\psi}^{u} \in D_{u}$  if and only if  $\varphi \in K_{u}^{\infty} + uH^{\infty} + \overline{uH^{\infty}}, \ \psi \in \overline{K_{u}^{\infty}}$ . In this case,

$$S^u_{1,0}S^u_{\varphi,\psi} = S^u_{P_u\varphi,0}.$$

**Proof** By the representation (1.6), we have

$$S^{u}_{\varphi,\psi} = \begin{pmatrix} A^{u}_{\varphi} & \widetilde{\Gamma^{u}_{\psi}} \\ \Gamma^{u}_{\varphi} & \widetilde{A^{u}_{\psi}} \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$S_{1,0}^{u} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{1}^{u} & \widetilde{\Gamma_{0}^{u}} \\ \Gamma_{1}^{u} & \widetilde{A_{0}^{u}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

This means that

$$S_{1,0}^{u}S_{\varphi,\psi}^{u} = \begin{pmatrix} I & 0\\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_{\varphi}^{u} & \widetilde{\Gamma_{\psi}^{u}}\\ \Gamma_{\varphi}^{u} & \widetilde{A_{\psi}^{u}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{\varphi}^{u} & \widetilde{\Gamma_{\psi}^{u}}\\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

For each  $\Phi, \Psi \in L^{\infty}$ , we put

$$S^{u}_{1,0}S^{u}_{\varphi,\psi} = S^{u}_{\Phi,\Psi} = \begin{pmatrix} A^{u}_{\Phi} & \widetilde{\Gamma^{u}_{\Psi}} \\ \Gamma^{u}_{\Phi} & \widetilde{A^{u}_{\Psi}} \end{pmatrix}$$

Then

$$\begin{pmatrix} A^u_{\Phi-\varphi} & \widetilde{\Gamma^u_{\Psi-\psi}} \\ \Gamma^u_{\Phi} & \widetilde{A^u_{\Psi}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Hence,

$$A^{u}_{\Phi-\varphi} = 0, \widetilde{A^{u}_{\Psi}} = 0, \Gamma^{u}_{\Phi} = 0, \widetilde{\Gamma^{u}_{\Psi-\psi}} = 0.$$

Since  $A^{u}_{\Phi-\varphi} = 0$  and  $\widetilde{A^{u}_{\Psi}} = 0$ , it follows from Lemma 3.1 that  $\Phi - \varphi \in uH^{\infty} + \overline{uH^{\infty}}$  and  $\Psi = 0$ . In the same way, since  $\Gamma^{u}_{\Phi} = 0$  and  $\widetilde{\Gamma^{u}_{\Psi-\psi}} = 0$  and seeing that

$$0 = \widetilde{\Gamma^u_{\Psi-\psi}} = (\Gamma^u_{\overline{\Psi-\psi}})^*$$

is equivalent to  $\Gamma^{u}_{\overline{\Psi}-\psi} = 0$ , it results from Lemma 3.1 that  $\Phi \in K^{\infty}_{u}$  and  $\overline{\Psi-\psi} \in K^{\infty}_{u}$ . From the above, we conclude that

$$\varphi = \Phi + \varphi_1$$

for  $\Phi \in K_u^{\infty}$  and  $\varphi_1 \in uH^{\infty} + \overline{uH^{\infty}}$ , and

 $\psi \in \overline{K_u^{\infty}}.$ 

At last, we have

$$\varphi \in K_u^\infty + uH^\infty + \overline{uH^\infty}$$

and

$$\psi\in\overline{K^\infty_u}$$

Observe that  $\Phi = P_u \varphi$  and  $\Psi = Q_u(\overline{\psi})$ . In light of this,

$$S^{u}_{1,0}S^{u}_{\varphi,\psi} \quad = \quad S^{u}_{\Phi,\Psi} = S^{u}_{P_{u}\varphi,Q_{u}}(\overline{\psi}) = S^{u}_{P_{u}\varphi,0}.$$

This finishes the proof of the theorem.

**Corollary 3.4** Let  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \psi_1, \psi_2 \in L^{\infty}$  such that  $\varphi_1 - \psi_1$  is invertible in  $L^{\infty}$ . Let  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}, S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in D_u$ , and then  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in D_u$  if and only if  $\varphi_2 \in K^{\infty}_u + uH^{\infty} + \overline{uH^{\infty}}$  and  $\psi_2 \in \overline{K^{\infty}_u}$ . In this case,

$$S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}} = S^{u}_{S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}\varphi_{2},\psi_{1}\psi_{2}}$$

**Proof** The result easily follows from Proposition 3.2 and Theorem 3.3, and we also have

$$S_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}^{u}S_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}}^{u}$$

$$= S_{\varphi_{2}\psi_{1},\psi_{2}\psi_{1}}^{u} + M_{\varphi_{1}-\psi_{1}}S_{1,0}^{u}S_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}}^{u}$$

$$= S_{\varphi_{2}\psi_{1}+(\varphi_{1}-\psi_{1})P_{u}(\varphi_{2}),\psi_{2}\psi_{1}+(\varphi_{1}-\psi_{1})Q_{u}(\overline{\psi_{2}})}$$

$$= S_{\varphi_{1}P_{u}\varphi_{2}+\psi_{1}Q_{u}\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}\psi_{1}}^{u}$$

$$= S_{\varphi_{1}P_{u}\varphi_{2}+\psi_{1}Q_{u}\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}\psi_{1}}^{u}.$$

- **Remark 3.5** 1) If  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}$  is a multiplication operator  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1} = M_{\varphi_1}$ , then  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in D_u$  for all  $S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2}$  and  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} = S^u_{\varphi_1\varphi_2,\varphi_1\psi_2}$ .
  - 2) Let  $\varphi_1, \psi_1 \in L^{\infty}$  such that  $\varphi_1 \psi_1$  is invertible in  $L^{\infty}$ . If  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}$  is not a multiplication operator and  $S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} = M_{\varphi_2}$ , and if  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in D_u$ , then, by Theorem 3.3, we have the following two cases:
    - (a) If u(0) = 0, then  $\lambda \in K_u^{\infty} \cap \overline{K_u^{\infty}}$  for some complex number  $\lambda$ . Therefore,  $\varphi_2 = \lambda$  and  $S_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}^u M_{\varphi_2} = S_{\lambda\varphi_1,\lambda\psi_1}^u$ .
    - (b) If  $u(0) \neq 0$ , then  $\lambda \notin K_u^{\infty}$  and  $\lambda \notin \overline{K_u^{\infty}}$  for some complex number  $\lambda$ . Therefore,  $\varphi_2 = 0$ .

To study particular cases of the product of dilation of truncated Toeplitz operators, we need to construct the subsets  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  described below:

$$K_1 = \{ S^u_{\varphi,\psi} \in D_u, \varphi \in K^\infty_u, \psi \in \overline{K^\infty_u} \}$$
$$K_2 = \{ S^u_{\varphi,\psi} \in D_u, \varphi \in uH^\infty + \overline{uH^\infty}, \psi \in \overline{K^\infty_u} \}.$$

**Proposition 3.6** Let  $\varphi_1, \psi_1 \in L^{\infty}$  such that  $\varphi_1 - \psi_1$  is invertible in  $L^{\infty}$ . For  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1} \in D_u$ , we have the following cases:

(a) If  $S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in K_1$  then

$$S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} = S^u_{\varphi_1\varphi_2,\psi_1\psi_2}$$

(b) If  $S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in K_2$  then

$$S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}} = S^{u}_{\psi_{1}\varphi_{2},\psi_{1}\psi_{2}}.$$

### Proof

(a) If  $\varphi_2 \in K_u^{\infty}$  and  $\psi_2 \in \overline{K_u^{\infty}}$ , then by theorem 3.3 we have

$$S^{u}_{1,0}S^{u}_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} = S^{u}_{P_u\varphi_2,0} = S^{u}_{\varphi_2,0}$$

Therefore,

$$S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}} = S_{\psi_{1}\varphi_{2}+(\varphi_{1}-\psi_{1})\varphi_{2},\psi_{1}\psi_{2}} = S^{u}_{\varphi_{1}\varphi_{2},\psi_{1}\psi_{2}}.$$

We are now able to give a sufficient condition under which the operator  $S^u_{\varphi,\psi} \in D_u$  becomes invertible and whose inverse is also in  $D_u$ .

In all the following results we will assume that  $\varphi_1 - \psi_1$  is invertible in  $L^{\infty}$ .

**Corollary 3.7** Assume that  $S_{\varphi,\psi}^u$  is not a multiplication operator. If  $S_{\varphi,\psi}^u \in K_1$  and  $\varphi, \overline{\psi}$  are invertible in  $K_u^\infty$ , then  $S_{\varphi,\psi}^u$  is invertible operator. In this case,

$$(S^u_{\varphi,\psi})^{-1} = S^u_{\varphi^{-1},\psi^{-1}}.$$

**Proof** Let  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1} \in D_u$  be the inverse of  $S^u_{\varphi,\psi}$ . Then  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi,\psi} = S^u_{1,1}$ . Supposing that  $\varphi, \overline{\psi} \in K^\infty_u$  are invertible functions, then by Proposition 3.6 we have

$$S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi,\psi} = S^u_{\varphi_1\varphi,\psi_1\psi} = S^u_{1,1}.$$

Therefore,  $\varphi_1 = \varphi^{-1}$  and  $\psi_1 = \psi^{-1}$ .

According to Proposition 3.6, we get the following results.

**Corollary 3.8** Assuming that  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1} \in D_u$  is not a multiplication operator, we have the following two cases:

1) If  $S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}} \in K_{1}$  then the operator  $S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}}$  is a multiplication operator if and only if  $\varphi_{1}\varphi_{2} = \psi_{1}\psi_{2}$ . In this case,

$$S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} = M_{\varphi_1\varphi_2} = M_{\psi_1\psi_2}$$

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2) If  $S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}} \in K_{2}$  then the operator  $S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}}$  is a multiplication operator if and only if  $\psi_{1}\varphi_{2} = \psi_{1}\psi_{2}$ . In this case,

$$S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}} = M_{\psi_{1}\varphi_{2}} = M_{\psi_{1}\psi_{2}}.$$

The next corollary tells us when  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2}=0$ .

**Corollary 3.9** Assuming that  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1} \in D_u$  is not a multiplication operator, we have the following:

1) If  $S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in K_1$  and  $S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \neq 0$  then

$$S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2}=0$$

if and only if one of the following two assertions holds:

- (a)  $\varphi_1 \neq 0, \psi_1 = 0, \varphi_2 = 0, \psi_2 \in \overline{K_u^{\infty}},$
- (b)  $\psi_1 \neq 0, \varphi_1 = 0, \psi_2 = 0, \varphi_2 \in K_u^{\infty}$ .
- 2) If  $S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in K_2$  and  $S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \neq 0$  then

$$S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2}=0$$

if and only if one of the following two assertions holds

(a)  $\psi_1 = 0, \varphi_2 \neq 0, \psi_2 \neq 0,$ (b)  $\psi_1 \neq 0, \varphi_2 = 0, \psi_2 = 0.$ 

### Proof

- 1) Since  $S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} \in K_1$ , it follows from Proposition 3.6 that  $\varphi_2 \in K^{\infty}_u$  and  $\psi_2 \in \overline{K^{\infty}_u}$  and the equation  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} = 0$  is equivalent to  $\varphi_1\varphi_2 = \psi_1\psi_2 = 0$ .
- 2) Again using Proposition 3.6, we obtain that the equation  $S^{u}_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}S^{u}_{\varphi_2,\psi_2} = 0$  is equivalent to  $\psi_1\varphi_2 = \psi_1\psi_2 = 0$ .

The following corollary shows when  $S^u_{\varphi_1,\psi_1}$  commutes with  $S^u_{\varphi_2,\psi_2}$ .

Corollary 3.10 The following statements hold:

- 1) Let  $S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}, S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}} \in K_{1}$ . Then  $S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}} = S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}}S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}$ .
- 2) Let  $S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}, S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}} \in K_{2}$ . Then  $S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}} = S^{u}_{\varphi_{2},\psi_{2}}S^{u}_{\varphi_{1},\psi_{1}}$  if and only if  $\psi_{1}\varphi_{2} = \varphi_{1}\psi_{2}$ .

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