




On a Polyanalytic Approach to Noncommutative de Branges–Rovnyak Spaces and Schur Analysis

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Abstract. In this paper we begin the study of Schur analysis and of de Branges–Rovnyak spaces in the framework of Fueter hyperholomorphic functions. The difference with other approaches is that we consider the class of functions spanned by Appell-like polynomials. This approach is very efficient from various points of view, for example in operator theory, and allows us to make connections with the recently developed theory of slice polyanalytic functions. We tackle a number of problems: we describe a Hardy space, Schur multipliers and related results. We also discuss Blaschke functions, Herglotz multipliers and their associated kernels and Hilbert spaces. Finally, we consider the counterpart of the half-space case, and the corresponding Hardy space, Schur multipliers and Carathéodory multipliers.

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1. Introduction

Two important function theories that allow to extend complex analysis and operator theory results to higher dimensions are the so-called monogenic and slice monogenic functions with values in a Clifford algebra. In the case of quaternions these two theories are known as Fueter hyperholomorphic and slice regular or slice hyperholomorphic functions, respectively, see [32, 38, 39, 61, 63]. For the necessary preliminaries on quaternions, we refer the reader to Sect. 2. An interesting problem is to investigate the possible relations and intersections between these two different theories. We note that it is always possible to construct Fueter hyperholomorphic functions starting from slice regular ones using different techniques such as the Fueter mapping theorem [36, 37], or using the Radon and dual Radon transforms, see [35]. But in general, the slice monogenicity does not imply, nor is implied by monogenicity.

However, in [14, 15] the authors extended the notion of slice regular functions to higher order by considering the so-called slice polyanalytic functions. These functions can be considered from three different points of view. The first approach consists of viewing the space of quaternions \mathbb{H} as union of complex planes and to see these functions as a subclass of null solutions of the n -th power of the Cauchy-Riemann operator with respect to each complex plane. The second approach is based on the so-called poly-decomposition which allows us to consider such functions as sums of the form

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \bar{x}^k f_k(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{H}$$

with all the components f_k which are slice regular functions and n is the order of poly-analyticity. The third approach consists in considering slice polyanalytic functions as subclass of the null solutions of the n -th power of a global operator with non-constant coefficients, see [13]. The study in this paper is in the quaternionic context and it is based on some polynomials $(P_n(x))_{n \geq 0}$ where

$$P_n(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n L_{j,n} \bar{x}^j x^{n-j}, \quad n \geq 0,$$

that are at the same time Fueter hyperholomorphic and slice polyanalytic functions of order $n + 1$, for suitable real coefficients $L_{j,n}$ (see [34, 54] and Sect. 2). These polynomials are very special since they belong to the intersection of two different non-commutative function theories, namely the classical Fueter theory and the slice polyanalytic theory, moreover they have nice properties with respect to multiplication and derivation. Another important feature, see Theorem 3.10 in [12], is that any Fueter hyperholomorphic function f of axial type admits a power series expansion in terms of the polynomials P_n of the form

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(x) u_n, \quad u_n \in \mathbb{H}.$$

This fact allows to embed the space of Fueter hyperholomorphic functions of axial type, denoted by \mathcal{AR} , into a space consisting of series of slice polyanalytic functions that we denote here by

$$\mathcal{SP}_{\infty} := \mathcal{SP}_1 + \mathcal{SP}_2 + \cdots + \mathcal{SP}_{n+1} + \cdots,$$

where \mathcal{SP}_n denotes the set of slice polyanalytic functions of order n . More precisely we consider the subspaces of slice polyanalytic functions associated with the polynomials $(P_n)_{n \geq 0}$ defined by

$$\mathcal{P}_n := \{P_n(x)\lambda, \lambda \in \mathbb{H}\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{P}_{\infty} := \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{P}_n.$$

Then, since the P_n are the unique hyperholomorphic extensions of axial type of the real valued functions $(3x_0)^n$, it is possible to show that the space of hyperholomorphic functions of axial type \mathcal{AR} corresponds to the space \mathcal{P}_∞ , i.e.

$$\mathcal{AR} = \mathcal{P}_\infty.$$

The previous subspaces of slice polyanalytic functions \mathcal{P}_n were considered before from a different point of view and using a different terminology, namely they were called spaces of homogeneous special monogenic polynomials of degree n , see for example Lemma 1 in [3]. Using these ideas and identifications we show that it is always possible to embed this interesting subclass of special monogenic functions in a more general framework of slice polyanalytic functions. We use techniques from slice polyanalytic function theory to prove results on such special monogenic functions. In particular, in Proposition 2.18 we prove a Representation Formula in the monogenic setting using a slice polyanalytic approach.

Furthermore, we note that these slice polyanalytic (and Fueter hyperholomorphic) polynomials $(P_n)_{n \geq 0}$ are just a particular case of a more general interesting construction which makes use of the classical Cauchy-Kovalevskaya extension theorem as we explain here. Consider an entire real analytic and quaternionic-valued function h of the real variables x_1, x_2, x_3 . The Cauchy-Kovalevskaya theorem guarantees the existence of a hyperholomorphic function H , its CK -extension. We have, with $h_n = h^n$ and $H_n = H^{\odot n}$ (where \odot denotes the Cauchy-Kovalevskaya product)

$$CK(h_n) \odot CK(h_m) = CK(h_{m+n}) \tag{1.1}$$

and so

$$H_n = H_1^{n \odot}.$$

We can see already here that obstructions occur; if we take quaternions u and v , the CK -product $CK(h_n u) \odot CK(h_m v)$ will not be in general be equal to $CK(h_{n+m} uv)$ since h_m and u do not commute. As a consequence, the CK -product will not be, in general, translated into convolution of the coefficients of the expansions along the H_n . In spite of this, with this new variable H_1 it is possible to define a number of counterparts of the classical reproducing kernel Hilbert spaces, with reproducing kernel of the form

$$K(x, y) = \sum_{n \in I} \frac{H_n(x) \overline{H_n(y)}}{\alpha_n}, \quad \alpha_n > 0, \quad I \subset \mathbb{N}_0,$$

converging in some neighborhood of the origin in \mathbb{R}^4 . We already mention at this point that the CK -product is not a law of composition for the Hardy space (defined below), and more generally, for series in the functions H_n .

The choice $I = \mathbb{N}_0$ and $\alpha_n = 1$ for every $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ corresponds to the underlying Hardy space, consisting of functions of the form

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) f_n$$

where $f_0, f_1, \dots \in \mathbb{H}$ and satisfy $\sum_{n=0}^\infty |f_n|^2 < \infty$. These functions are hyperholomorphic in

$$\Omega = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^4; |H_1(x)| < 1\}$$

since the radius of convergence of Cauchy-Kovalevskaya product satisfies $\rho(H_n) \leq (\rho(H_1))^n$; see [23, Proposition 2.9, p. 131].

A corresponding Schur analysis would consist in particular of the following problems:

- Characterize the contractive multipliers of this Hardy space. The definition has to be adapted to the present situation, where we lack the convolution of the coefficients and the *CK*-product is not a law of composition.
- Study interpolation problems for these multipliers.
- Study the de Branges–Rovnyak spaces. These are families of Hilbert spaces of analytic functions, with reproducing kernels of various forms; see [40, 41, 43, 44, 51, 52, 57, 58]. Here we will focus on the counterpart of $\mathcal{H}(s)$ and $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ spaces, whose reproducing kernel are of the form

$$\frac{1 - s(z)\overline{s(w)}}{1 - z\overline{w}} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\Phi(z) + \overline{\Phi(w)}}{2(1 - z\overline{w})} \tag{1.2}$$

respectively.

These various definitions and corresponding results need to be adapted to the present case, where we do not have a law of composition. We note that the theory can be developed easily as in the classical way when the coefficients are real, but this is of course restrictive. On the other hand, the theory using Fueter variables works well because these variables are real when restricted to $x_0 = 0$ where x_0 denotes the real part of a quaternion.

There are important differences between the present treatment of Fueter hyperholomorphic functions and the treatment using Fueter variables; in the first case, the kernel functions are eigenvectors of the backward shift, in the case of Fueter variables the kernel functions are eigenvectors of the three underlying backward-shift operator. Here the kernel functions are not eigenvectors of the backward-shift operator.

However, the present approach allows to make connections with the theory of slice polyanalytic functions, in particular with slice hyperholomorphic functions, and will also allow a simpler functional calculus. Moreover, Toeplitz operators do appear in a natural way and play an important role.

In both cases, it is possible to develop a Schur type analysis. On the other hand, specific choices of the approach allow to make connections with slice hyperholomorphic functions. We here consider the cases

$$h(x) = x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3 \quad \text{and} \quad w(x) = (1 - h(x))(1 + h(x))^{-1} \tag{1.3}$$

and relate the underlying analysis with the Appell polynomials setting. Note that $w(0) = 1 \neq 0$.

A key fact used in the paper is that the hyperholomorphic functions considered are of axial type, and hence uniquely determined by their values on the real line.

We shall prove that the CK -extension of $x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3$ is

$$\begin{aligned} CK(x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3) &= x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3 + 3x_0 \\ &= \zeta_1(x)\mathbf{e}_1 + \zeta_2(x)\mathbf{e}_2 + \zeta_3(x)\mathbf{e}_3 \end{aligned} \tag{1.4}$$

where $\zeta_i = x_i - x_0\mathbf{e}_i$, $i = 1, 2, 3$ are the Fueter variables. Moreover we have

$$\begin{aligned} CK((x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3)^m) \odot CK((x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3)^n) \\ = CK((x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3)^{m+n}), \end{aligned}$$

so that we set

$$CK((x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3)^m) = \frac{Q_m(x)}{c_m} \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} P_m(x),$$

where Q_m denotes the m -th quaternionic Appell polynomial (see [12, (3.8)] and [49]). The coefficients c_m will be specified in Sect. 2. We are thus looking at a theory of hyperholomorphic functions of the variable

$$P_1(x) = \zeta_1(x)\mathbf{e}_1 + \zeta_2(x)\mathbf{e}_2 + \zeta_3(x)\mathbf{e}_3 = \frac{Q_1(x)}{c_1}, \tag{1.5}$$

equipped with the CK -product. In our discussion it is crucial that

$$P_1^{n\odot} = P_n. \tag{1.6}$$

We associate in a natural way to a Schur multiplier in the present setting a slice hyperholomorphic Schur multiplier; this allows to develop Schur analysis in the present setting.

The de Branges–Rovnyak space associated with a Schur multiplier S allows in the cases considered up to now to get a coisometric realization of the multiplier. In the complex setting, this is the celebrated backward-shift realization (see [60]). Here, the situation is a bit different. We can still associate to S a coisometric operator matrix, in the form (in the current setting) of the backward-shift realization, but the realization is on the level of the coefficients (like in [56] in the finite dimensional case).

We have given, or outlined, proofs of some classical results, for instance the extension result in Theorem 2.21 and the closely related Theorem 2.22. The reason is that the results play a key role in this paper and some of the arguments are not necessarily well known in the Clifford analysis community. We apply them in the quaternionic setting in particular in Theorem 4.21 and in Step 2 in the proof of Theorem 4.15.

The paper contains twelve sections, besides this Introduction. Section 2 contains some preliminary results. Section 3 contains results on reproducing kernel spaces and Toeplitz operators. In Sect. 4 we define the Hardy space in this framework, the backward-shift operator, Schur multipliers and their characterization. The Schur algorithm is presented in Sect. 5. Section 6 is focused on intrinsic functions, among which the polynomials P_n and a description of Fueter hyperholomorphic functions of axial type which are also intrinsic. In Sect. 7 we consider de Branges–Rovnyak spaces while in Sect. 8

we show how to define Blaschke functions, and the corresponding operator of multiplication which turns out to be an isometry. In Sect. 9 we consider the counterpart of Herglotz functions and multipliers and their associated kernels and Hilbert spaces. The next three sections concern the half-space case of Schur and Carathéodory multipliers. In Sect. 13 we summarize in a table a comparison between the various quaternionic settings.

2. Preliminaries

This section contains three subsections: the first one introduces the map χ ; the second one introduces the Fueter variables and the polynomials obtained via the Appell polynomials which will be the basis of our treatment. Finally, the third one shortly reviews positivity, analytic extensions and Toeplitz operators in the classical complex setting.

2.1. Quaternions and the Map χ

We will work in the skew field of quaternions, which is defined to be

$$\mathbb{H} = \{x = x_0 + x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3 \quad ; \quad x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3 \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

where the imaginary units satisfy the multiplication rules $\mathbf{e}_i^2 = -1, i = 1, 2, 3, \mathbf{e}_1\mathbf{e}_2 = -\mathbf{e}_2\mathbf{e}_1 = \mathbf{e}_3, \mathbf{e}_2\mathbf{e}_3 = -\mathbf{e}_3\mathbf{e}_2 = \mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_3\mathbf{e}_1 = -\mathbf{e}_1\mathbf{e}_3 = \mathbf{e}_2$. The conjugate and the modulus of $x \in \mathbb{H}$ are defined by

$$\bar{x} = \text{Re}(x) - \underline{x} \quad \text{where} \quad \text{Re}(x) = x_0, \quad \underline{x} = x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3$$

and

$$|x| = \sqrt{x\bar{x}} = \sqrt{x_0^2 + x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2},$$

respectively. The set of all imaginary units is given by $\mathbb{S} = \{q \in \mathbb{H}; q^2 = -1\}$. We note also that a domain Ω of \mathbb{H} is called a slice domain if $\Omega \cap \mathbb{R}$ is nonempty and for all $I \in \mathbb{S}$, the set $\Omega_I := \Omega \cap \mathbb{C}_I$ is a domain of the complex plane \mathbb{C}_I . If moreover, for every $x = u + Iv \in \Omega$, the whole sphere

$$[q] := \{u + Jv; J \in \mathbb{S}\},$$

is contained in Ω , we say that Ω is an axially symmetric slice domain.

We can write a quaternion as $x = z + w\mathbf{e}_2$ with $z = x_0 + x_1\mathbf{e}_1$ and $w = x_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_1 \in \mathbb{C}$. The map χ defined by

$$\chi(z + w\mathbf{e}_2) = \begin{pmatrix} z & w \\ -\bar{w} & \bar{z} \end{pmatrix}$$

allows to transfer a number of problems from the quaternions to matrices in $\mathbb{C}^{2 \times 2}$. We recall the following result, whose proof is immediate and will be omitted.

Lemma 2.1. *A matrix $M \in \mathbb{C}^{2 \times 2}$ belongs to the range of χ if and only if it satisfies the symmetry*

$$E^{-1}\overline{M}E = M, \tag{2.1}$$

where $E = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

For matrices and operators, there are various ways to define χ . Let $X = A + B\mathbf{e}_2 \in \mathbb{H}^{r \times s}$. We set

$$\chi(X) = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ -\overline{B} & \overline{A} \end{pmatrix}.$$

We define for a block matrix (X_{jk}) with $X_{jk} \in \mathbb{H}^{r \times s}$,

$$(\chi(X))_{jk} = \chi(X_{jk}).$$

For matrices M_1, M_2 possibly infinite, with block entries in $\mathbb{H}^{r \times s}$ and $\mathbb{H}^{s \times t}$, respectively, we have the property

$$\chi(M_1 M_2) = \chi(M_1) \chi(M_2). \tag{2.2}$$

We note that χ will not be compatible with the CK -product. An important tool in the paper consists of bounded block Toeplitz operators, with blocks in the range of χ :

$$T = (\chi(X_{j-k}))_{j,k=0}^\infty.$$

and we will need the following result, set for general operators.

Proposition 2.2. *The operator τ*

$$\tau = (X_{jk})_{j,k=0}^\infty \tag{2.3}$$

is bounded from $\ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{H}^s)$ into $\ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{H}^r)$ if and only if the operator T defined by

$$T = (\chi(X_{jk}))_{j,k=0}^\infty, \tag{2.4}$$

where the X_{jk} are matrices in $\mathbb{H}^{r \times s}$ is bounded from $\ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{C}^{2s})$ into $\ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{C}^{2r})$, and both operators have same norm.

Proof. One direction is clear: If τ is bounded, there is a constant $K > 0$ such that

$$\sum_{i,j,k=0}^\infty q_i^* X_{ij} X_{jk}^* q_k \leq K \sum_{i=0}^\infty q_i^* q_i, \quad \text{for any } q_i \in \mathbb{H}^r.$$

Applying χ we get

$$\sum_{i,j,k=0}^\infty \chi(q_i)^* \chi(X_{ij}) \chi(X_{jk})^* \chi(q_k) \leq K \chi \left(\sum_{i=0}^\infty q_i^* q_i I_2 \right), \tag{2.5}$$

where I_2 denotes the identity matrix of order 2. Multiplying this inequality by $(1 \ 0)$ on the left and by its transpose on the right, we get the result.

Conversely, if T is bounded there exists $K > 0$ such that for all $u_1, v_1, \dots \in \mathbb{C}^r$,

$$\sum_{i,j,k=0}^\infty (u_i^* \ v_i^*) \chi(X_{ij}) \chi(X_{jk})^* \begin{pmatrix} u_k \\ v_k \end{pmatrix} \leq K \left(\sum_{i=0}^\infty u_i^* u_i + v_i^* v_i \right) \tag{2.6}$$

and

$$\sum_{i,j,k=0}^\infty (-v_i^t \ u_i^t) \chi(X_{ij}) \chi(X_{jk})^* \begin{pmatrix} -\overline{v_k} \\ \overline{u_k} \end{pmatrix} \leq K \left(\sum_{i=0}^\infty u_i^* u_i + v_i^* v_i \right). \tag{2.7}$$

Set

$$\begin{aligned} e^* &= (u_1^* v_1^* u_2^* v_2^* \cdots) \\ f^* &= (-v_1^t u_1^t -v_2^t u_2^t \cdots) \end{aligned}$$

and denote by M the bounded linear operator with i, k block equal to $M_{ik} = \chi(Y_{ik})$, with $Y_{ik} = \sum_{j=1}^\infty X_{ij} X_{jk}^*$, $i, j = 1, \dots$. We have

$$\begin{pmatrix} e^* \\ f^* \end{pmatrix} M (e f) = \begin{pmatrix} e^* M e & e^* M f \\ f^* M e & f^* M f \end{pmatrix} \leq \|M\| (e^* e + f^* f) I_2. \tag{2.8}$$

On the other hand, setting

$$q_i^* = u_i^* + v_i^* \mathbf{e}_2, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots$$

we rewrite (2.6)–(2.7) as

$$\begin{pmatrix} e^* \\ f^* \end{pmatrix} M (e f) = (\chi(q_1)^* \chi(q_2)^* \cdots) \begin{pmatrix} \chi(Y_{11}) & \chi(Y_{12}) & \cdots \\ \chi(Y_{12})^* & \chi(Y_{22}) & \cdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \chi(q_1) \\ \chi(q_2) \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}.$$

Comparing with (2.8) we get

$$(\chi(q_1)^* \chi(q_2)^* \cdots) \begin{pmatrix} \chi(Y_{11}) & \chi(Y_{12}) & \cdots \\ \chi(Y_{12})^* & \chi(Y_{22}) & \cdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \chi(q_1) \\ \chi(q_2) \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} \leq \|M\| \chi(e^* e + f^* f)$$

and hence the result, since χ preserves order.

The claim on the norms being the same follows from the previous inequality and (2.5). □

2.2. Various Notions of Hyperholomorphy and Homogeneous Polynomials

In this section we briefly review the setting of Fueter variables and the Cauchy-Kovalevskaya product. We recall that left-hyperholomorphic functions (we will usually just say *hyperholomorphic* in the sequel) are solutions of the equation $Df = 0$, where D denotes the Cauchy-Fueter operator

$$D = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} + \mathbf{e}_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} + \mathbf{e}_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} + \mathbf{e}_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3}. \tag{2.9}$$

These functions are widely studied in the literature. They are, in particular, harmonic functions in four real variables. Unfortunately, the monomials x^n in the quaternionic variable x are not in the kernel of the Cauchy-Fueter operator, not even when $n = 1$. However, hyperholomorphic functions admit a series expansion in terms of the so-called Fueter variables, as we shall see below. We point out that, in this paper, we shall provide only the notions and results needed in the sequel, and for further information on this class of functions we refer the reader to [38, 63].

In view of the Cauchy–Kovalevskaya theorem, a linear system of first order differential equations satisfied by the real components of f has a unique solution when the function $\varphi(x_1, x_2, x_3) = f(0, x_1, x_2, x_3)$ is pre-assigned (and assumed real analytic). The function f with this initial condition and solution

of $Df = 0$ is called the Cauchy-Kovalevskaya extension of φ (here written as $CK(\varphi)$ and abbreviated as CK -extension).

Among the important solutions of the equation $Df = 0$ there are the Fueter variables

$$\zeta_j(x) = x_j - \mathbf{e}_j x_0, \quad j = 1, 2, 3, \tag{2.10}$$

corresponding respectively to $\varphi_j(x) = x_j, j = 1, 2, 3$, and their symmetric products

$$\zeta^\nu = \zeta_1^{\nu_1 \times} \times \zeta_2^{\nu_2 \times} \times \zeta_3^{\nu_3 \times}, \quad \nu = (\nu_1, \nu_2, \nu_3) \in \mathbb{N}_0^3, \tag{2.11}$$

with, for $a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{H}$

$$a_1 \times a_2 \times \dots \times a_n = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} a_{\sigma(1)} a_{\sigma(2)} \dots a_{\sigma(n)}.$$

We note that $\zeta^\nu = CK(x^\nu)$ with $x^\nu = x_1^{\nu_1} x_2^{\nu_2} x_3^{\nu_3}$. A direct proof that ζ^ν given by (2.11) is hyperholomorphic (and hence is the CK -extension of x^ν) is not trivial and can be found in [46, Sect. 3], [59]. The argument works also in the split quaternion setting. See [18, p. 333–334]. It is important to note that every function hyperholomorphic in a neighborhood of the origin can be written as a convergent power series in the form of a Fueter series

$$f(x) = \sum_{\nu \in \mathbb{N}_0^3} \zeta^\nu f_\nu \tag{2.12}$$

where the coefficients f_ν belong to \mathbb{H} . See [32]. A proof based on the Gleason problem can be found in [23].

Using the CK -extension one can define a product that preserves the hyperholomorphicity, the so-called CK -product denoted by \odot . The idea to compute the CK -product is the following: if f and g are two hyperholomorphic functions, we take their restriction to $x_0 = 0$, which are real analytic functions, and consider their pointwise multiplication. Then, we take the Cauchy-Kowalevskaya extension of this pointwise product, which exists and is unique, to define

$$f \odot g = CK(f(0, x_1, x_2, x_3)g(0, x_1, x_2, x_3)), \tag{2.13}$$

see [63]. Moreover, we note that the following formula holds

$$CK[\varphi(\underline{x})](x) = \exp(-x_0 \partial_{\underline{x}}) [\varphi(\underline{x})](x).$$

For power series of the form (2.12) the CK -product is a convolution on the coefficients along the basis ζ^ν , and in particular

$$\zeta^\nu p \odot \zeta^\mu q = \zeta^{\nu+\mu} pq, \quad p, q \in \mathbb{H}, \quad \mu, \nu \in \mathbb{N}_0^3, \tag{2.14}$$

where $\nu + \mu$ is defined componentwise, see [32, 82].

We now turn to a bound for the CK -product; see also [23, pp. 132–133].

Lemma 2.3. *Let $\rho > 0$. There exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that:*

$$x_0^2 + x_j^2 < \epsilon, \quad j = 1, 2, 3, \implies \sum_{\substack{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^3 \\ \alpha \neq (0,0,0)}} |\zeta(x)^\alpha| |f_\alpha| < \rho.$$

Then

$$\left| \left(\sum_{\substack{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^3 \\ \alpha \neq (0,0,0)}} \zeta(x)^\alpha f_\alpha \right)^{\odot n} \right| < \rho^n, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \tag{2.15}$$

Proof. We first note that for $\nu \in \mathbb{N}_0^3$

$$|\zeta^\nu(x)| \leq \epsilon^{|\nu|}, \quad \text{where } x_0^2 + x_j^2 < \epsilon, \quad j = 1, 2, 3. \tag{2.16}$$

The existence of ϵ follows from the dominated convergence theorem, and the first assertion follows. Then, setting $g(x) = \sum_{\beta \in \mathbb{N}_0^3} \zeta(x)^\beta g_\beta$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} |(f \odot g)(x)| &\leq \sum_{\gamma \in \mathbb{N}_0^3} |\zeta^\gamma(x)| \cdot \left| \sum_{\substack{\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{N}_0^3 \\ \alpha + \beta = \gamma}} f_\alpha g_\beta \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{N}_0^3} \epsilon^{|\alpha| + |\beta|} |f_\alpha| \cdot |g_\beta| \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^3} \epsilon^{|\alpha|} |f_\alpha| \right) \left(\sum_{\beta \in \mathbb{N}_0^3} \epsilon^{|\beta|} |g_\beta| \right), \end{aligned}$$

from which (2.15) follows. □

Lemma 2.4. *The CK-extension of $x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3$ to a Fueter hyperholomorphic function is*

$$x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3 + 3x_0 = \zeta_1(x)\mathbf{e}_1 + \zeta_2(x)\mathbf{e}_2 + \zeta_3(x)\mathbf{e}_3 \tag{2.17}$$

where $\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \zeta_3$ are the Fueter variables.

Proof. It suffices to note that the function

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_1(x)\mathbf{e}_1 + \zeta_2(x)\mathbf{e}_2 + \zeta_3(x)\mathbf{e}_3 &= (x_1 - \mathbf{e}_1x_0)\mathbf{e}_1 + (x_2 - \mathbf{e}_2x_0)\mathbf{e}_2 + (x_3 - \mathbf{e}_3x_0)\mathbf{e}_3 \\ &= x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3 + 3x_0 \end{aligned}$$

is Fueter hyperholomorphic and its restriction to $x_0 = 0$ is the given function. □

Let us now introduce another type of Fueter hyperholomorphic homogeneous polynomials, see [33, 49, 53]:

Definition 2.5. The polynomials

$$Q_m(x) = \sum_{j=0}^m T_j^m x^{m-j} \bar{x}^j \tag{2.18}$$

where

$$T_j^m = \frac{2(m-j+1)}{(m+1)(m+2)}, \quad m = 0, 1, \dots,$$

are called the m -th quaternionic Appell polynomials.

The polynomials $(Q_m)_{m \geq 0}$ are Fueter regular. Moreover, a generalized Fueter regular exponential function associated to these polynomials was considered in the literature, see for example [33]. Another interesting feature of the quaternionic Appell polynomials is that they can be obtained by applying the Fueter mapping applied to the standard quaternionic monomials x^m . In particular, in [49] the following formula is proved

$$Q_m(x) = -\frac{\Delta(x^{m+2})}{2(m+1)(m+2)}, \quad m = 0, 1, \dots \tag{2.19}$$

We then define another kind of Fueter hyperholomorphic polynomials by

$$P_m(x) \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \frac{Q_m(x)}{c_m},$$

where

$$c_m = \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j T_j^m.$$

We have the following relation between the polynomials P_m and the CK -extension of $x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3$ in (2.17):

Proposition 2.6. *The following equality holds:*

$$CK((x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3)^m) = P_m(x). \tag{2.20}$$

Proof. The proof is simple and it is based on the fact that at both hand sides there are monogenic functions which coincide on $x_0 = 0$:

$$(x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3)^m = \frac{1}{c_m} \sum_{j=0}^m T_j^m \underline{x}^{m-j} (-\underline{x})^j = \frac{1}{c_m} \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j T_j^m \underline{x}^m = \underline{x}^m. \tag{2.21}$$

□

Remark 2.7. The polynomials Q_m are called Appell since they satisfy the Appell property

$$\frac{1}{2} \overline{D}Q_m = mQ_{m-1}, \quad m \geq 1;$$

the P_m do not respect such a property, since

$$\frac{1}{2} \overline{D}P_m = m \frac{c_{m-1}}{c_m} P_{m-1}, \quad m \geq 1,$$

however, they behave better with respect to the CK -product, as we shall see below. In particular, for even indexes of the form $m = 2k$, the Appell property is still satisfied by the polynomials $(P_{2k})_{k \geq 0}$ since we have $c_{m-1} = c_m$ in this case.

In what follows, we are looking at a theory of hyperholomorphic functions of the variable

$$P_1(x) = \frac{Q_1(x)}{c_1} = \zeta_1(x)\mathbf{e}_1 + \zeta_2(x)\mathbf{e}_2 + \zeta_3(x)\mathbf{e}_3, \tag{2.21}$$

with the CK -product. Moreover, note that

$$P_1(x_0) = 3x_0. \tag{2.22}$$

The \odot -product is not a convolution on the coefficients of the P_n : in opposition to (2.14) we have, in general,

$$P_n p \odot P_m q \neq P_{n+m} p q, \quad n, m \in \mathbb{N}, \quad p, q \in \mathbb{H}. \tag{2.23}$$

In particular, in general

$$(1 - P_1 q)^{-\odot} \neq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n q^n \tag{2.24}$$

for $q \in \mathbb{H}$ in a neighborhood of the origin.

This obstruction is the source of the main difficulties and new results in the present paper. Still, we have the following simple result, which plays a key role in the computations [see in particular (3.11)].

Lemma 2.8. *It holds that*

$$(P_n \odot P_m)(x) = P_{n+m}(x), \tag{2.25}$$

and, in particular,

$$P_n(x) = (P_1(x))^{\odot n}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots \tag{2.26}$$

Furthermore, for $n, m, k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and $u \in \mathbb{H}^r$

$$(P_n \odot (P_m \odot P_k u)) = P_{n+m+k} u = P_{n+m} \odot P_k u. \tag{2.27}$$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & CK((x_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{e}_2 + x_3 \mathbf{e}_3)^n) \odot CK((x_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{e}_2 + x_3 \mathbf{e}_3)^m) \\ &= CK((x_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{e}_2 + x_3 \mathbf{e}_3)^{n+m}) \\ &= (\zeta_1(x) \mathbf{e}_1 + \zeta_2(x) \mathbf{e}_2 + \zeta_3(x) \mathbf{e}_3)^{\odot(n+m)}, \end{aligned}$$

where we used (2.20) in the last equality. In particular, by iteration, we obtain (2.26). The last claim follows from restricting the equalities for $x_0 = 0$, and checking that they are equal to $(x_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{e}_2 + x_3 \mathbf{e}_3)^{n+m+k} u$. \square

Corollary 2.9. *For every $\rho > 0$ there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that*

$$x_0^2 + x_j^2 < \epsilon, \quad j = 1, 2, 3, \implies |P_n(x)| < \rho^n.$$

Proof. This follows by induction from Lemma 2.3 with $f = P_1$ and $g = P_n$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. \square

We have (see e.g. [23, (2.19) p. 135] with $A_u = \mathbf{e}_u$, $u = 1, 2, 3$)

$$(\zeta_1(x) \mathbf{e}_1 + \zeta_2(x) \mathbf{e}_2 + \zeta_3(x) \mathbf{e}_3)^{m \odot} = \sum_{|\nu|=m} \zeta^\nu \mathbf{e}^\nu \frac{|\nu|!}{\nu!} \tag{2.28}$$

where ζ^ν is defined in (2.11).

Remark 2.10. One could take the CK -extension of another linear combination such as $t_1 x_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + t_2 x_2 \mathbf{e}_2 + t_3 x_3 \mathbf{e}_3$, namely

$$\begin{aligned} & t_1 \zeta_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + t_2 \zeta_2 \mathbf{e}_2 + t_3 \zeta_3 \mathbf{e}_3 \\ &= t_1 x_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + t_2 x_2 \mathbf{e}_2 + t_3 x_3 \mathbf{e}_3 + (t_1 + t_2 + t_3) x_0 \end{aligned} \tag{2.29}$$

and develop a similar theory.

Let $f(x_0) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_0^n a_n$ (with $a_0, a_1, \dots \in \mathbb{H}$) be a real analytic function near the origin. It does not have a unique hyperholomorphic extension of course, as seen by taking

$$\zeta_1(x)\mathbf{e}_1 \quad \text{and} \quad \zeta_2(x)\mathbf{e}_2,$$

in fact both functions are equal to x_0 on the real line. However the extension becomes unique by requiring that it is of a special form:

Lemma 2.11. *Let $f(x_0) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_0^n a_n$, $a_n \in \mathbb{H}$ be a real analytic function near the origin. It has a unique (left) hyperholomorphic extension of the form $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(x)b_n$, namely*

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(x) \frac{a_n}{3^n}. \tag{2.30}$$

Similarly, its unique right hyperholomorphic extension is

$$g(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{3^n} P_n(x).$$

Proof. The function $f(x)$ is indeed an extension of the required form. If there is another one, say $\tilde{f}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(x)d_n$ we get when setting $x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (3x_0)^n b_n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (3x_0)^n d_n$$

and so $b_n = d_n$, $n = 0, 1, \dots$. A similar reasoning works for g . □

Remark 2.12. We note that the polynomials P_m and Q_m are both left and right hyperholomorphic and in fact $P_m(x)$ corresponds to both the left and right CK-extension of $(x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3)^m$.

Actually, the previous result is a particular case of a more general result that holds for Fueter hyperholomorphic functions of axial type, whose definition which comes from the more general case of axially monogenic functions, see [47], is the following:

Definition 2.13. A Fueter hyperholomorphic function is of axial type (or axially hyperholomorphic) if it is of the form

$$A(x_0, |\underline{x}|) + \frac{\underline{x}}{|\underline{x}|} B(x_0, |\underline{x}|),$$

where A, B are quaternionic valued.

The condition that a function f of axial type is in the kernel of the Cauchy-Fueter operator D translates into the Vekua system

$$\partial_{x_0} A - \partial_{\rho} B = \frac{2}{\rho} B, \quad \partial_{x_0} B + \partial_{\rho} A = 0, \quad \rho = |\underline{x}|.$$

Starting from any real analytic function $A(x_0)$ it is possible to construct its unique Fueter hyperholomorphic extension of axial type.

We will say that a matrix-valued hyperholomorphic function is of *axial type* if all its entries, as matrix, are of axial type.

Remark 2.14. Functions of the form (2.30) are quaternionic special monogenic according to the terminology in [3]. Any quaternionic special monogenic function in a neighborhood of the origin is of axial type. In fact any polynomial $P_m(x)$ is the sum of terms of the form

$$(x_0^2 + |\underline{x}|^2)^k (x_0 \pm \underline{x})^h, \quad 2k + h = m, k \geq 0, h \geq 0$$

which are evidently of axial type. This fact was already noted in [33], Property 2. A Fueter regular function represented by a uniformly convergent series of the form (2.30) is such that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{m \geq 0} A_m(x_0, |\underline{x}|) + \frac{\underline{x}}{|\underline{x}|} B_m(x_0, |\underline{x}|) &= \sum_{m \geq 0} A_m(x_0, |\underline{x}|) + \frac{\underline{x}}{|\underline{x}|} \sum_{m \geq 0} B_m(x_0, |\underline{x}|) \\ &= A(x_0, |\underline{x}|) + \frac{\underline{x}}{|\underline{x}|} B(x_0, |\underline{x}|) \end{aligned}$$

where the pair A, B satisfy the Vekua system. Conversely, any function of axial type is of the form (2.30), by Theorem 3.10 in [12].

We recall the notion of slice polyanalytic functions, see [14].

Definition 2.15. A real differentiable function $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$ of the form

$$f(x) = \alpha(u, v) + I\beta(u, v), \quad x = u + Iv \in \Omega$$

with $\alpha(u, -v) = \alpha(u, v)$ and $\beta(u, -v) = -\beta(u, v)$ is called left slice polyanalytic of order N , if for all $I \in \mathbb{S}$, f_I is left polyanalytic of order N on Ω_I , namely if

$$\bar{\partial}_I^N f(u + Iv) := \frac{1}{2^N} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial u} + I \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \right)^N f_I(u + Iv) = 0.$$

When $N = 1$ the notion coincides with that one of slice hyperholomorphicity (slice regularity).

We have the following characterization, see [14, Proposition 3.6]:

Proposition 2.16. A function f defined on a domain $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{H}$ is slice polyanalytic of order N on Ω if and only if it can be written as

$$f(x) := \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \bar{x}^k f_k(x) \tag{2.31}$$

where f_0, \dots, f_{N-1} are slice regular functions in Ω .

As a consequence:

Corollary 2.17. The polynomial P_m is slice polyanalytic of order $m + 1$.

Proof. For all $0 \leq k \leq m$, we set $f_k(x) = \frac{T_k^m}{c_m} x^{m-k}$. It is clear that all f_k are slice regular functions on Ω , being polynomials in the variable x . Moreover, we note that

$$P_m(x) = \sum_{k=0}^m \bar{x}^k f_k(x), \forall x \in \Omega.$$

Hence, the thesis follows using Proposition 2.16. □

In the definition of the polynomials P_m we note that to write the monomials as $x^j \bar{x}^\ell$ or $\bar{x}^\ell x^j$ does not make any difference since $x\bar{x} = \bar{x}x$.

A Representation Formula for Fueter hyperholomorphic functions of axial type is immediately deduce from the fact that they are slice functions, see [62], so we have:

Proposition 2.18. *Let $f : \Omega \subset \mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$ be a Fueter hyperholomorphic function of axial type where Ω is an axially symmetric slice domain. Let $J \in \mathbb{S}$, then for any $x = u + I_x v \in \Omega$ the following equality holds :*

$$f(u + I_x v) = \frac{1}{2} [f_J(u + Jv) + f_J(u - Jv)] + \frac{I_x J}{2} [f_J(u - Jv) - f_J(u + Jv)].$$

Proof. We note that the Fueter hyperholomorphic polynomials $(P_m)_{m \geq 0}$ are slice polyanalytic of order $m + 1$ thanks to Corollary 2.17. Thus, the Representation Formula is an immediate consequence. \square

Remark 2.19. An alternative proof of the previous Representation Formula in the Fueter hyperholomorphic context consists to apply Proposition 3.13 in [14] to each polynomial P_m .

We conclude this part with a result which will be used in the sequel while dealing with kernels:

Proposition 2.20. *The polynomial $\overline{P_m(x)}$ is right anti-hyperholomorphic in x , namely it satisfies*

$$\overline{P_m(x)} \overline{D} = \frac{\partial \overline{P_m}}{\partial x_0} - \frac{\partial \overline{P_m}}{\partial x_1} \mathbf{e}_1 - \frac{\partial \overline{P_m}}{\partial x_2} \mathbf{e}_2 - \frac{\partial \overline{P_m}}{\partial x_3} \mathbf{e}_3 = 0.$$

More in general, if f, g are left hyperholomorphic, $\overline{f \odot g} = \overline{g} \odot_R \overline{f}$ is right anti-hyperholomorphic.

Proof. We immediately have:

$$\overline{P_m(x)} \overline{D} = \overline{DP_m(x)} = 0,$$

and the first assertion follows. Then we have

$$\overline{f \odot g} = \overline{CK(f|_{x_0=0} \odot g|_{x_0=0})} = CK(\overline{f|_{x_0=0}} \odot \overline{g|_{x_0=0}}).$$

We now note that

$$\begin{aligned} CK(\overline{f|_{x_0=0}} \odot \overline{g|_{x_0=0}}) &= CK(\overline{g|_{x_0=0}} \odot_R \overline{f|_{x_0=0}}) \\ &= CK(\overline{g|_{x_0=0}}) \odot_R CK(\overline{f|_{x_0=0}}) = \overline{g} \odot_R \overline{f} \end{aligned}$$

which concludes the proof. \square

2.3. Positivity, Analytic Extension and Toeplitz Operators

This section considers the complex variable setting. Recall first that a $\mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ -valued function $K(z, w)$ defined for z, w varying in some set Ω is called positive definite if for every choice of $N \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and $w_1, \dots, w_N \in \Omega$ the block matrix $(K(w_j, w_k))_{j,k=1}^N$ is non-negative. Associated to $K(z, w)$ is a uniquely defined Hilbert space of \mathbb{C}^n -valued functions defined on Ω , denoted here $\mathcal{H}(K)$, and with the properties:

- (1) For every $c \in \mathbb{C}^n$ and $w \in \Omega$, the function $K_w c : z \mapsto K(z, w)c$ belongs to $\mathcal{H}(K)$, and
- (2) For every $f \in \mathcal{H}(K)$ and w, c as above,

$$\langle f, K_w c \rangle = c^* f(w). \tag{2.32}$$

$\mathcal{H}(K)$ is called the reproducing kernel Hilbert space with reproducing kernel $K(z, w)$, and there is a one-to-one correspondence between reproducing kernel Hilbert spaces and positive definite functions; see [26, 75, 79]. We recall the following result, which originates with the work of Donoghue [50]. We take a real neighborhood of the origin, but it could be replaced by any other zero set in the open unit disk.

Theorem 2.21. *Let s be a $\mathbb{C}^{r \times t}$ -valued function defined in a neighborhood $(-\epsilon, \epsilon)$ of the origin, and such that the kernel*

$$\frac{I_r - s(a)s(b)^*}{1 - ab} \tag{2.33}$$

is positive definite in $(-\epsilon, \epsilon)$. Then s has a (uniquely defined) analytic and contractive extension to the open unit disk.

Proof. The proof can be found in e.g. [6, pp. 45–46]. For completeness we outline it. We set $r = s = 1$ to simplify the notation. Let $\rho_w(z) = 1 - z\bar{w}$. The function $1/\rho_w(z)$ is positive definite in the open unit disk \mathbb{D} , with reproducing kernel Hilbert space the Hardy space of the open unit disk, denoted $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{D})$, and consisting of the power series $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^\infty a_n z^n$ with complex coefficients satisfying $\|f\|_2^2 \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \sum_{n=0}^\infty |a_n|^2 < \infty$. The formula

$$T(1/\rho_x) = \frac{\overline{s(x)}}{\rho_x}, \quad x \in (-1/3, 1/3)$$

extends linearly to a densely defined operator T from $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{D})$ into itself. The positivity of the kernel (2.33) and the definition of the inner product in the Hardy space implies that T is a contraction, and hence extends to an everywhere defined contraction, still denoted by T , from $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{D})$ into itself. Let $f \in \mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{D})$. The adjoint of T satisfies:

$$(T^* f)(x) = \langle T^* f, \frac{1}{\rho_x} \rangle = \langle f, \frac{\overline{s(x)}}{\rho_x} \rangle = s(x)f(x), \quad x \in (-1/3, 1/3). \tag{2.34}$$

Take first $f(z) = 1$. Since T^*1 is analytic in the open unit disk, it is an analytic extension of $s(x)$, $x \in (-1/3, 1/3)$. It remains to check that T^*1 is contractive in \mathbb{D} . Equation (2.34) extends analytically to

$$(T^* f)(z) = (T^*1)(z)f(z), \quad z \in \mathbb{D}. \tag{2.35}$$

So T^* is the operator of multiplication by T^*1 . Since it is bounded, the formula for the adjoint of a multiplication operator acting in a reproducing kernel Hilbert space gives

$$T^*(1/\rho_w) = \frac{\overline{T^*1(w)}}{\rho_w}.$$

Since it is contractive, writing that $\|T^*1/\rho_w\| \leq \|1/\rho_w\|$ we get

$$\frac{|T^*1(w)|^2}{1 - |w|^2} \leq \frac{1}{1 - |w|^2}, \quad w \in \mathbb{D},$$

and hence T^*1 takes contractive values in the open unit disk. □

We also recall (we refer to [76] for more information on Toeplitz operators):

Theorem 2.22. *Let s be a $\mathbb{C}^{r \times t}$ -valued function analytic in the open unit disk, with power series expansion $s(z) = \sum_{n=0}^\infty s_n z^n$. Then, s is contractive in the open unit disk if and only if the lower triangular block-Toeplitz operator*

$$T_s = \begin{pmatrix} s_0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ s_1 & s_0 & 0 & \cdots \\ s_2 & s_1 & s_0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \tag{2.36}$$

is a contraction from $\ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{C}^t)$ into $\ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{C}^r)$.

Proof. We set $r = t = 1$ to simplify the arguments. Assume first that s is a contraction, and let P denote the orthogonal projection from $\mathbf{L}_2(\mathbb{T})$ onto $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{T})$. Then the Toeplitz operator $f \mapsto Ps^*f$ is a contraction from $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{T})$ into $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{T})$. It admits thus a matrix representation. Using the basis $1, z, z^2, \dots$ we see that

$$\langle Ps^*z^n, z^m \rangle_2 = \begin{cases} 0, & n < m, \\ s_{n-m}, & n \geq m \end{cases}$$

and hence the Toeplitz matrix representation. For the converse, we assume that T_s is a contraction. We compute $T_s^*e_z$ where $e_z = (1, z, z^2, \dots)^t$. We have [compare with (2.35)]

$$T_s^*e_z = \overline{s(z)}e_z \tag{2.37}$$

and hence the result. □

3. Positive Operators, Reproducing Kernel Spaces and Toeplitz Operators

We use various tools from quaternionic operator theory and in particular from the theory of linear relations and the theory of reproducing kernel spaces, as developed in [8]. We recall:

Definition 3.1. Given two right (or left, or two-sided) linear spaces \mathcal{V}, \mathcal{W} over the quaternions, a linear relation is a linear subspace of the Cartesian product $\mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{W}$.

The graph of a (possibly not everywhere defined) linear operator is a linear relation, but there are linear relations which are not graphs of operators.

We will define inner products on a quaternionic right vector space, say \mathcal{V} , with the following convention

$$\langle fu, gv \rangle = \bar{v} \langle f, g \rangle u, \quad f, g \in \mathcal{V}, \quad u, v \in \mathbb{H} \tag{3.1}$$

and satisfying moreover

$$\langle f, ug \rangle = \langle \bar{u}f, g \rangle, \quad f, g \in \mathcal{V}, \quad u \in \mathbb{H}, \tag{3.2}$$

when the quaternionic space under study is two-sided (for instance, $\ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{H})$).

Let $K(x, y)$ be a the $\mathbb{H}^{r \times r}$ -valued function, positive definite on Ω . We will denote by $\mathcal{H}(K)$ the reproducing kernel space of \mathbb{H}^r -valued functions with reproducing kernel K .

Let $K_1(z, w)$ and $K_2(z, w)$ be two $\mathbb{H}^{r \times r}$ -valued functions positive definite on a set Ω . We recall that $K_1 \leq K_2$ means that the difference $K_2 - K_1$ is still positive definite in Ω . This happens if and only if the space $\mathcal{H}(K_1)$ is contractively included in the space $\mathcal{H}(K_2)$.

The following result, relating operator ranges and reproducing kernel Hilbert spaces is well known. See [9] for a discussion in the quaternionic and indefinite inner product setting.

Proposition 3.2. *Let Γ be a positive bounded operator from the left quaternionic Hilbert space \mathcal{H} into itself. Let Ω be a set and let $z \mapsto f_z$ be a \mathcal{H} -valued function defined on Ω , and such that the closed left-linear span of the vectors f_w is equal to \mathcal{H} . The function*

$$K(z, w) = \langle \Gamma f_w, f_z \rangle \tag{3.3}$$

is positive definite on Ω and the associated reproducing kernel Hilbert space with reproducing kernel consists of the functions of the form

$$F(z) = \langle \sqrt{\Gamma} f, f_z \rangle, \quad f \in \mathcal{H},$$

with norm

$$\|F\| = \|(I - \pi)f\|$$

where π is the orthogonal projection onto the kernel of Γ .

Let us set $\mathcal{H} = \ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{H}^r)$ in the previous proposition. Since Γ is bounded, it has a block matrix representation $\Gamma = (\Gamma_{nm})$, where $\Gamma_{mn} \in \mathbb{H}^{r \times r}$. We can write

$$\langle \Gamma f, g \rangle = \sum_{n,m=0}^{\infty} g_n^* \Gamma_{nm} f_m, \tag{3.4}$$

and

$$K(z, w) = \sum_{n,m=0}^{\infty} f_n(z)^* \Gamma_{nm} f_m(w).$$

Cases of interest in the present work are:

$$\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^4 \cong \mathbb{H}, \quad \text{and denoting } z = p, \quad f_n(p) = \bar{p}^n I_r \tag{3.5}$$

and

$$\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^4 \cong \mathbb{H}, \quad \text{and denoting } z = x, \quad f_n(x) = \overline{P_n(x)} I_r. \tag{3.6}$$

Assume now Γ to be of the form

$$\Gamma = I - T_S T_S^* \tag{3.7}$$

with T_S as in (2.36) and where $S_i \in \mathbb{H}^{r \times t}$, $i = 0, 1, \dots$. In particular, the block Toeplitz operator T_S is a contraction. The kernel becomes in the first case

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p^n \bar{q}^n I_r - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{m=n}^{\infty} p^m S_{m-n} \right) \left(\sum_{m=n}^{\infty} q^m S_{m-n} \right)^*, \tag{3.8}$$

and

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(x) \overline{P_n(y)} I_r - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{m=n}^{\infty} P_m(x) S_{m-n} \right) \left(\sum_{m=n}^{\infty} P_m(y) S_{m-n} \right)^* \tag{3.9}$$

in the second case.

We note that, with the \star -product (see [8]):

$$\sum_{m=n}^{\infty} p^m S_{m-n} = p^n \star \left(\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} p^m S_m \right) \tag{3.10}$$

and similarly, with the CK -product, using (2.27) in Lemma 2.8,

$$\sum_{m=n}^{\infty} P_m(x) S_{m-n} = P_n(x) \odot \left(\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} P_m(x) S_m \right). \tag{3.11}$$

The functions

$$\sigma(p) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} p^m S_m$$

and

$$S(x) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} P_m(x) S_m$$

are Schur multipliers, for the slice hyperholomorphic and for the present case (called Appell-like case), respectively.

4. The Hardy Space and Schur Multipliers

In this section we will introduce and study the Hardy space in this framework. To start with, we denote by \mathcal{E} the ellipsoid

$$\mathcal{E} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^4 : 9x_0^2 + x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 < 1\} \tag{4.1}$$

and we prove the following:

Lemma 4.1. *The function*

$$k_{\mathcal{E}}(x, y) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} P_1^{m \odot}(x) \overline{P_1^{m \odot}(y)} \tag{4.2}$$

converges and is positive definite for $x, y \in \mathcal{E}$.

Proof. For $x \in \mathcal{E}$ we have $|P_1(x)| < 1$ and the result follows from Corollary 2.9. \square

We point out that using (2.28), we get

$$k_{\mathcal{E}}(x, y) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{|\nu|=m} \zeta(x)^{\nu} e^{\nu} \frac{|\nu|!}{\nu!} \right) \overline{\left(\sum_{|\mu|=m} \zeta(y)^{\mu} e^{\mu} \frac{|\mu|!}{\mu!} \right)}. \tag{4.3}$$

Remark 4.2. In [22–24] a different approach was used and a similar construction yields the Drury-Arveson kernel

$$\begin{aligned} K(x, y) &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sum_{|\nu|=m} \frac{|\nu|!}{\nu!} \zeta(x)^{\nu} \overline{\zeta(y)^{\nu}} \\ &= (1 - \zeta_1(x)\overline{\zeta_1(y)} - \zeta_2(x)\overline{\zeta_2(y)} - \zeta_3(x)\overline{\zeta_3(y)})^{-\odot}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.4}$$

Note that the formula (4.2) is easier to work with than formula (4.3). We also note that

$$k_{\mathcal{E}}(x_0, y_0) = \frac{1}{1 - 9x_0y_0}, \quad x_0, y_0 \in (-1/3, 1/3). \tag{4.5}$$

Using the polynomials Q_n one can define the kernel (see [12, Remark 5.3])

$$K_Q(x, y) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} Q_n(x)\overline{Q_n(y)}$$

whose restriction to the real axis is different, indeed it is

$$K_Q(x_0, y_0) = \frac{1}{1 - x_0y_0}, \quad x_0, y_0 \in (-1, 1).$$

Definition 4.3. The reproducing kernel Hilbert space associated with (4.2) will be called the Hardy space, and denoted by $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$.

Theorem 4.4. *The Hardy space $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$ consists of functions of the form*

$$f(x) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} (\zeta_1(x)\mathbf{e}_1 + \zeta_2(x)\mathbf{e}_2 + \zeta_3(x)\mathbf{e}_3)^{m\odot} f_m = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} P_m(x)f_m, \tag{4.6}$$

where the coefficients f_m belong to \mathbb{H} and are such that

$$\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} |f_m|^2 < \infty. \tag{4.7}$$

This expression is then the square of the norm of f in the Hardy space, i.e. $\|f\|^2 = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} |f_m|^2$.

Proof. The proofs follows standard arguments, see [12, 21]. \square

From the form of the elements of the Hardy space $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$ and using the fact that the polynomials P_m are Fueter hyperholomorphic of axial type, see Remark 3.9 in [12], we deduce:

Corollary 4.5. *Elements of $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$ are Fueter hyperholomorphic of axial type, in particular are uniquely determined by their restriction to $(-1/3, 1/3)$.*

Lemma 4.6. *The operator $S : f \mapsto P_1 \odot f$ is an isometry in the Hardy space, with adjoint given by*

$$S^* \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n f_n \right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n f_{n+1}. \tag{4.8}$$

Furthermore

$$SS^* f = f - f(0), \quad f \in \mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E}). \tag{4.9}$$

Proof. The proof is a consequence of

$$\begin{aligned} SS^* f &= P_1 \odot \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n f_{n+1} \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_{n+1} f_{n+1} \\ &= f - f_0 \\ &= f - f(0). \end{aligned}$$

□

Let $Cf = f(0)$ be the point evaluation in $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$. Then $C^*u = k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, 0)u = u$ and we get from the previous lemma

$$I - M_{P_1} M_{P_1}^* = C^*C. \tag{4.10}$$

This equation is really what makes the arguments work in the sequel, and in particular in the construction of a coisometric realization.

Definition 4.7. The operator (4.8) will be called the backward-shift operator and denoted by R_0 .

Example 4.8. Let $a \in \mathcal{E}$. The space of functions in the Hardy space such that $f(a) = 0$ need not be S -invariant. On the other hand, the space of functions $f \in \mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$ such that

$$(P_n \odot f)(a) = 0, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \tag{4.11}$$

is S -invariant, see Lemma 2.8. This suggests that the natural homogeneous interpolation condition is (4.11) and not merely $f(a) = 0$. See [23, p. 148] for a related remark.

We can consider hyperholomorphic functions operator-valued, in particular matrix or vector-valued. The definition of this class of functions is given by following the classical complex case, but we repeat it for the sake of completeness.

Definition 4.9. Let \mathcal{X} be a two-sided quaternionic Banach space, and \mathcal{X}^* be its dual. A function $f : U \subset \mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$, where U is open, is said to be weakly (left) hyperholomorphic in U if Λf satisfies $D(\Lambda f) = 0$ for every $\Lambda \in \mathcal{X}^*$.

We recall that a function is hyperholomorphic if and only if it is differentiable in a suitable sense, see [74, Theorem 3] and we follow this notion of differentiability to state the following definition, in which we identify \mathbb{H} with $\mathbb{H}_3 = \{ \vec{\zeta} = (\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \zeta_3) \mid \zeta_i = x_i - \mathbf{e}_i x_0, i = 1, 2, 3 \}$ as a real linear space via the map $(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \zeta_3) \mapsto \zeta_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + \zeta_2 \mathbf{e}_2 + \zeta_3 \mathbf{e}_3$:

Definition 4.10. Let $\vec{a} \in \mathbb{H}_3$, U be a neighborhood of \vec{a} and let $f : U \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ be a continuous function. Then f is called left (resp. right) strongly differentiable in \vec{a} in the quaternionic sense if there exists a left (resp. right) linear map $L : \mathbb{H}_3 \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ such that

$$\lim_{\Delta \vec{z} \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|f(\vec{a} + \Delta \vec{z}) - f(\vec{a}) - L(\Delta \vec{z})\|_{\mathcal{X}}}{\|\Delta \vec{z}\|} = 0 \tag{4.12}$$

where $\|\vec{z}\| = \sum_{i=1}^3 \overline{\zeta_i} \zeta_i$. A function is strongly differentiable in U if it is so at every point $\vec{a} \in U$.

The definition originally considered by Malonek in [74] can be obtained from the previous one when $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{H}$. Since, in the scalar case, the definition is also equivalent to that one of left (resp. right) hyperholomorphy, we will equivalently say that a function f as in Definition 4.12 is strongly hyperholomorphic. See also [19] for a theory of hyperholomorphic functions whose values are taken in a Banach algebra. Using the same arguments as in the complex case, see [77, Theorem VI.4], which are valid also in the quaternionic case, see [8], one can prove:

Theorem 4.11. *A function is weakly hyperholomorphic in U if and only if it is strongly hyperholomorphic in U .*

The validity of this result allows to simplify the terminology and we shall say, for short, that f is hyperholomorphic with values in \mathcal{X} . In the special case in which $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{H}^{r \times s}$, a function is weakly hyperholomorphic if and only if all its entries are left or right hyperholomorphic there.

The next result was proved in the quaternionic setting in the context of slice hyperholomorphic functions, see e.g. [8, Sect. 7]; here we prove its counterpart in the present framework.

Theorem 4.12. *Let \mathfrak{M} be a finite dimensional linear right-vector space of \mathbb{H}^r -valued functions, and hyperholomorphic of axial type in a neighborhood of the origin. Then \mathfrak{M} is R_0 -invariant if and only if there exists a pair of matrices $(C, A) \in \mathbb{H}^{r \times N} \times \mathbb{H}^{N \times N}$ such that $f \in \mathfrak{M}$ if and only if it can be written as*

$$f = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n C A^n \xi, \quad \xi \in \mathbb{H}^N. \tag{4.13}$$

We have $N \geq \dim \mathfrak{M}$, and there is equality if and only if the pair (C, A) is observable, meaning

$$\bigcap_{n=0}^{\infty} \ker C A^n = \{0\}. \tag{4.14}$$

Proof. Let f_1, \dots, f_N be a basis of \mathfrak{M} , and let $F = (f_1 \ f_2 \ \cdots \ f_N)$. Let $F = \sum_{n=0}^\infty P_n F_n$, with $F_n \in \mathbb{H}^{r \times N}$. In view of the R_0 -invariance there exists a matrix $A \in \mathbb{H}^{N \times N}$ such that

$$\sum_{n=0}^\infty P_n F_{n+1} = \left(\sum_{n=0}^\infty P_n F_n \right) A.$$

It follows that

$$F_{n+1} = F_n A, \quad n = 0, 1, \dots$$

and (4.13) follows with $F_0 = C$.

The last claim follows from the fact that,

$$f \equiv 0 \iff CA^n \xi = 0, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

□

Note that, for $x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$, we have

$$f(x_0) = C(I_N - 3x_0 A)^{-1} \xi.$$

Since the CK -product is not a law of composition we cannot, a priori, define Schur multipliers (see Definition 4.13) in terms of multiplication operators. We define them in terms of positive definite functions. The corresponding contractive operator, counterpart of the CK -multiplication by S , is given in Proposition 4.17 and Definition 4.20; see Eq. (4.23).

Definition 4.13. The $\mathbb{H}^{r \times s}$ -valued hyperholomorphic function S is called a Schur multiplier if the kernel

$$K_S(x, y) = \sum_{n=0}^\infty \left(P_n(x) \overline{P_n(y)} I_r - (P_n \odot S)(x) ((P_n \odot S)(y))^* \right) \quad (4.15)$$

is positive definite in $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^4 : 9x_0^2 + x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 < 1\}$.

Example 4.14. For instance $S = P_1 I_r$ is a Schur multiplier since

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^\infty \left(P_n(x) \overline{P_n(y)} I_r - (P_n \odot S)(x) ((P_n \odot S)(y))^* \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^\infty \left(P_n(x) \overline{P_n(y)} I_r - (P_n \odot P_1)(x) \overline{(P_n \odot P_1)(y)} I_r \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^\infty P_n(x) \overline{P_n(y)} I_r - \sum_{n=0}^\infty P_{n+1}(x) \overline{P_{n+1}(y)} I_r \\ &= I_r. \end{aligned}$$

This example is of course quite trivial. We will give in Sect. 8 a complete characterization of Schur multipliers, from which one can get numerous other examples.

The positivity of the kernel (4.15) is equivalent to the contractive inclusion of the reproducing kernel Hilbert space with reproducing kernel

$$\sum_{n=0}^\infty (P_n \odot S)(x) ((P_n \odot S)(y))^* \quad (4.16)$$

inside the Hardy space. In particular, if S is a Schur multiplier $P_n \odot S \in \mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$ for every n .

Theorem 4.15. *The $\mathbb{H}^{r \times s}$ -valued function S is a Schur multiplier if and only if the lower triangular Toeplitz operator*

$$\mathcal{T} = \begin{pmatrix} S_0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ S_1 & S_0 & 0 & \cdots \\ S_2 & S_1 & S_0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \tag{4.17}$$

is a contraction from $\ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{H}^s)$ into $\ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{H}^r)$.

Proof. Assume first that the kernel (4.15) is positive definite in \mathcal{E} . We divide the argument in a number of steps.

STEP 1: *There exist coefficients $S_0, S_1, \dots \in \mathbb{H}^{r \times s}$ such that*

$$S(x) = \sum_{u=0}^{\infty} P_u(x) S_u$$

and $\sum_{u=0}^{\infty} \|S_u\|^2 < \infty$.

Indeed, let $K_2(x, y) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(x) \overline{I_r P_n(y)}$ and $K_1(x, y) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (P_n \odot S)(x) ((P \odot S)(y))^*$. The inclusion operator

$$\mathcal{I} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (P_n \odot S) f_n \right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (P_n \odot S) f_n$$

is a contraction from $\mathcal{H}(K_1)$ inside $\mathcal{H}(K_2)$, and so in particular $S \in (\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E}))^{r \times s}$.

STEP 2: *The function*

$$s(a) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \chi(S_n) a^n, \quad a \in (-1, 1),$$

has an analytic contractive extension to the open unit disk of the complex plane.

We write for $x_0, y_0 \in (-1/3, 1/3)$

$$K_s(3x_0, 3y_0) = \frac{I_r - s(3x_0)s(3y_0)^*}{1 - 9x_0y_0}$$

(of course, $K_s(3x_0, 3y_0)$ does not characterize in a unique way $K_s(x, y)$). The kernel $K_s(3x_0, 3y_0)$ is positive definite for $x_0, y_0 \in (-1/3, 1/3)$. We set $a = 3x_0$ and $b = 3y_0$. The kernel

$$\frac{I_r - s(a)s(b)^*}{1 - ab}$$

is positive definite in $(-1, 1)$, and so is the kernel $\chi \left(\frac{I_r - s(a)s(b)^*}{1 - ab} \right)$, and we conclude by applying Theorem 2.21.

STEP 3: *The Toeplitz operator based on the sequence $\chi(S_u)$ is contractive from $\ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{C}^{2s})$ into $\ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{C}^2)$*

This follows from Theorem 2.22.

STEP 4: *The Toeplitz operator T_s is contractive.*

This follows from Proposition 2.2. We restrict the operator in Step 3 to sequences of matrices in the range of χ .

We now suppose that \mathcal{T} is a contractive operator. We write

$$\langle (I - \mathcal{T}\mathcal{T}^*)c, c \rangle_{\ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{H}^r)} \geq 0$$

with

$$c = \sum_i \begin{pmatrix} I_r \\ \overline{P_1(x^{(i)})} I_r \\ \overline{P_2(x^{(i)})} I_r \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} u_i \tag{4.18}$$

to get the positivity of the kernel K_S . □

Corollary 4.16. *In the above notation, the function*

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p^n S_n \tag{4.19}$$

is a slice hyperholomorphic Schur multiplier.

Given two multipliers, the bounded operator $M_{S_1}M_{S_2}$ will not be a multiplier in general.

Proposition 4.17. *Let S be a $\mathbb{H}^{r \times s}$ -valued Schur multiplier. The formula*

$$T \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n \overline{P_n(a)} u \right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n ((P_n \odot S)(a))^* u, \quad a \in \mathcal{E}, u \in \mathbb{H}^r, \tag{4.20}$$

defines a contraction from $(\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E}))^s$ into $(\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E}))^r$, with adjoint given by

$$T^* \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n u_n \right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (P_n \odot S) u_n, \quad u_n \in \mathbb{H}^s. \tag{4.21}$$

Proof. Let $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n u_n \in \mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$. We can write:

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle T^* \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n u_n \right), \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n \overline{P_n(b)} u \right\rangle &= \left\langle \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n u_n, T \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n \overline{P_n(b)} u \right) \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n u_n, \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n ((P_n \odot S)(b))^* u \right\rangle \\ &= u^* \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (P_n \odot S)(b) u_n. \end{aligned}$$

□

Remark 4.18. Formula (4.21) gives the adjoint of CK -multiplication for any (bounded) multiplier (i.e. functions for which the corresponding operator of CK -multiplication is bounded in the Hardy space), and not only for Schur multipliers.

Corollary 4.19. *Let $S(x) = \sum_{n=0}^\infty P_n S_n$ be a $\mathbb{H}^{r \times t}$ -valued Schur multiplier. Then,*

$$\tilde{S}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^\infty P_n(x) S_n^* \tag{4.22}$$

is a $\mathbb{H}^{t \times r}$ -valued Schur multiplier.

Proof. S is a Schur multiplier if and only if the function $\sum_{n=0}^\infty z^n \chi(S_n)$ is analytic and contractive in \mathbb{D} ; this will hold if and only if the function

$$\sum_{n=0}^\infty z^n \chi(S_n)^* = \sum_{n=0}^\infty z^n \chi(S_n^*)$$

is analytic and contractive in \mathbb{D} ; by the previous theorem this will hold if and only if \tilde{S} is a $\mathbb{H}^{t \times r}$ -valued Schur multiplier. □

The operator T^* cannot be written as $S \odot (\sum_{n=0}^\infty P_n u_n)$, i.e. it is not the \odot multiplication by S . We now introduce the counterpart of this latter operator here.

Definition 4.20. The operator T^* will be denoted by M_S :

$$M_S \left(\sum_{n=0}^\infty P_n(a) u_n \right) = \sum_{n=0}^\infty (P_n \odot S)(a) u_n, \quad a \in \mathcal{E}. \tag{4.23}$$

We have the following extension result, counterpart of Theorem 2.21. The proof is slightly different.

Theorem 4.21. *Assume the kernel (4.15) defined and positive definite in a neighborhood N of the origin of \mathbb{R}^4 . Then, S extends, in a unique way, to a Schur multiplier.*

Proof. We consider the scalar case to simplify the notation. The preceding argument still holds and, setting $a = 0$ and $b \in N$, we get

$$(T^* v)(b) = S(b)v, \quad b \in N.$$

But $T^* v \in \mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$ and in particular is hyperholomorphic in all of \mathcal{E} . More generally, still for $b \in N$, but for $f = \sum_{n=0}^\infty P_n f_n \in \mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} (T^* f)(b) &= \langle (T^* f)(\cdot), k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, b) \rangle_2 \\ &= \langle f(\cdot), T k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, v) \rangle_2 \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^\infty (P_n \odot S)(b) f_n. \end{aligned}$$

Writing $(T^*f)(b) = \sum_{n=0}^\infty P_n h_n$ and $S = \sum_{n=0}^\infty P_n s_n$, the previous equality is equivalent (since v varies in an open set; it would be enough to have an interval such that $x_0 \in (-\epsilon, \epsilon)$)

$$\begin{pmatrix} h_0 \\ h_1 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} = T_S \begin{pmatrix} f_0 \\ f_1 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix},$$

where T_S is the lower triangular Toeplitz operator based on the coefficients of S . So T_S is a contraction, and so $I - T_S T_S^* \geq 0$, and so $\langle (I - T_S T_S^* c, c) \rangle \geq 0$ for every $c \in \ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{H})$. The choice (4.18) allows to conclude that S is a Schur multiplier. □

Lemma 4.22. *The following equality holds for all $f \in \mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$:*

$$P_1 \odot (M_S f) = M_S (P_1 \odot f). \tag{4.24}$$

Proof. Let $f = \sum_{n=0}^\infty P_n u_n$. We can write:

$$\begin{aligned} P_1 \odot (M_S f) &= P_1 \odot \left(\sum_{n=0}^\infty (P_n \odot S) u_n \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^\infty (P_{1+n} \odot S) u_n \\ &= M_S \left(\sum_{n=0}^\infty P_{n+1} u_n \right) \\ &= M_S (P_1 \odot f) \\ &= M_S (M_{P_1} f). \end{aligned}$$

□

It is useful to rewrite (4.24) as

$$M_{P_1} M_S = M_S M_{P_1}. \tag{4.25}$$

5. Schur Algorithm

The Schur algorithm is based on Schwarz lemma and on the fact that if two numbers u and v are in the open unit disk so is $\frac{u - v}{1 - \bar{u}v}$. It reads (see [80, 81]):

Theorem 5.1. *Let f be analytic and contractive in the open unit disk (i.e. a Schur function), and assume $|f(0)| < 1$, and set $f^{(0)} = f$. Then the recursion*

$$f^{(n+1)}(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{f^{(n)}(z) - f^{(n)}(0)}{z(1 - \overline{f^{(n)}(0)}f^{(n)}(z))}, & 0 < |z| < 1, \\ \frac{(f^{(n)})'(0)}{1 - |f^{(n)}(0)|^2}, & z = 0, \end{cases} \tag{5.1}$$

defines a family of Schur functions; it stops at rank n_0 if $|f^{(n_0)}(0)| = 1$.

The numbers $\rho_n = f^{(n)}(0)$ are called the Schur parameters associated with the Schur function f .

This recursion cannot be considered directly in the matrix-valued case. One needs to take into account that if E_1 and E_2 are strictly contractive matrices, say in $\mathbb{C}^{p \times q}$, the matrix $(E_1 + E_2)(I_q + E_1^*E_2)^{-1}$ need not be contractive, but the matrix

$$(I_p - E_1E_1^*)^{1/2}(E_2 + E_1)(I_p + E_1^*E_2)^{-1}(I_q - E_1^*E_1)^{1/2} \tag{5.2}$$

is strictly contractive.

The matricial Schur algorithm was studied in [48] and, in the next result, we repeat the statement taking into account the matrix symmetry

$$E_p^{-1}\overline{M}E_q = M, \quad E_m = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I_m \\ -I_m & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad m = p, q \tag{5.3}$$

is in force.

Theorem 5.2. *Let s be a $\mathbb{C}^{p \times q}$ -valued Schur function satisfying (5.3). Assume s_0 strictly contractive. Then the function*

$$s^{(1)}(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{z}(I_p - s_0s_0^*)^{-1/2}(s - s_0)(I_q - s_0^*s)^{-1}(I_q - s_0^*s_0)^{1/2}, & 0 < |z| < 1, \\ (I_p - s_0s_0^*)^{-1/2}s'(0)(I_q - s_0^*s_0)^{-1/2}, & z = 0, \end{cases} \tag{5.4}$$

is a Schur function and satisfies the symmetry (5.3).

If $\|s_0\| < 1$ one can iterate, and one gets the matricial Schur algorithm. The condition $\|s(0)\| < 1$ is quite restrictive. A tangential Schur algorithm was developed in [16]. On the other hand, when $p = q = 2$ and $s(0)$ is in the range of χ both $(I_2 - s_0s_0^*)^{-1/2}$ and $(I_2 - s_0^*s_0)^{1/2}$ are scalar matrices and (5.4) reduces to

$$s^{(1)}(z) = \frac{1}{z}(s(z) - s_0)(I_2 - s_0^*s(z))^{-1}. \tag{5.5}$$

We now turn to the setting of hyperholomorphic functions of axial type. For simplicity of exposition we first consider scalar valued Schur multiplier. From the analysis in the previous sections, $S = \sum_{n=0}^\infty P_nS_n$ is a Schur multiplier if and only if the block Toeplitz operator

$$\begin{pmatrix} \chi(S_0) & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ \chi(S_1) & \chi(S_0) & 0 & \dots \\ \chi(S_2) & \chi(S_1) & \chi(S_0) & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{pmatrix} \tag{5.6}$$

is a contraction from $\ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{C}^2)$ into $\ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{C}^2)$. The function

$$s(z) = \sum_{n=0}^\infty \chi(S_n)z^n$$

takes then contractive values, and is in the range of χ ; see Lemma 2.1.

Theorem 5.3. *Let S be a quaternionic Schur multiplier such that $|S(0)| < 1$. Then the function*

$$S^{(1)}(3x_0) = \frac{1}{3x_0}(S(3x_0) - S(0))(1 - \overline{S(0)}S(3x_0))^{-1}$$

extends to a Schur multiplier.

In the matrix-valued case it is not true anymore that $I - \chi(S_0)\chi(S_0)^*$ is a scalar matrix.

Theorem 5.4. *Let S be a $\mathbb{H}^{r \times t}$ -valued Schur multiplier, and assume $\|S(0)\| < 1$. The function*

$$S^{(1)}(3x_0) = \frac{1}{3x_0}(I_r - S_0S_0^*)^{-1/2}(S(3x_0) - S_0)(I_t - S_0^*S(3x_0))^{-1}(I_t - S_0^*S_0)^{1/2},$$

with $x_0 \in (-1/3, 1/3)$ and $S_0 = S(0)$ extends to a Schur multiplier.

The question whether the tangential Schur algorithm developed in [16] can lead to functions satisfying the required symmetry property in the matrix-valued case remains to be considered.

6. Intrinsic Functions

In this section we study quaternionic intrinsic Fueter hyperholomorphic functions. Let us recall that, given an hyperholomorphic function f on some axially symmetric open set Ω , we say that f is quaternionic intrinsic if it satisfies the relation

$$f(\bar{x}) = \overline{f(x)}, \quad \forall x \in \Omega. \tag{6.1}$$

Proposition 6.1. *The family of polynomials $(P_n)_{n \geq 0}$ consists of axially hyperholomorphic quaternionic intrinsic functions on \mathbb{H} .*

Proof. We know that for all $n \geq 0$ the polynomials P_n are axially hyperholomorphic functions on \mathbb{H} . Furthermore, using the relation with the n -th quaternionic Appell polynomials Q_n , see [12, (3.8)], we have

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{P_n(x)} &= \frac{\overline{Q_n(x)}}{c_n} \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{T_j^n}{c_n} \bar{x}^{n-j} x^j \\ &= \frac{Q_n(\bar{x})}{c_n} \\ &= P_n(\bar{x}). \end{aligned}$$

□

Proposition 6.2. *Let f be a hyperholomorphic function of axial type on some axially symmetric open set Ω . Then, f is quaternionic intrinsic if and only if it admits a power series representation with real coefficients with respect to the polynomials $(P_n)_{n \geq 0}$.*

Proof. We know by Theorem 3.10 in [12] that f admits a power series with respect to $(P_n)_{n \geq 0}$. So, we can write $f = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n f_n$ with $f_n \in \mathbb{H}$ for all $n \geq 0$. We assume that f is intrinsic, thus the formula (6.1) and Proposition 6.1 imply that

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{f(x)} = f(\bar{x}), \forall x \in \Omega &\Leftrightarrow \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \overline{P_n(x) f_n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(\bar{x}) f_n, \forall x \in \Omega \\ &\Leftrightarrow \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \overline{f_n P_n(x)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \overline{P_n(x) f_n}, \forall x \in \Omega \\ &\Leftrightarrow \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \overline{f_n} (3x_0)^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (3x_0)^n f_n, \forall x_0 \in \mathbb{R} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \overline{f_n} = f_n, \forall n \geq 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow f_n \in \mathbb{R}, \forall n \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

The equivalence between the second and the third lines holds because P_n is the unique axially hyperholomorphic extension of $(3x_0)^n$. This ends the proof. \square

Proposition 6.3. *Let S_1 and S_2 be two hyperholomorphic functions of axial type, defined on some axially symmetric open set Ω . If S_1 is quaternionic intrinsic, then $S_1 \odot S_2$ admits a power series expansion with respect to the polynomials $(P_n)_{n \geq 0}$.*

Proof. We note that S_1 and S_2 have power series expansions in terms of $(P_n)_{n \geq 0}$ that we can write $S_1 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n a_n$ and $S_2 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n b_n$. Since S_1 is quaternionic intrinsic we know by Proposition 6.2 that the coefficients $(a_n)_{n \geq 0}$ are real. Thus, we apply also Lemma 2.8 to get

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 \odot S_2 &= \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n a_n \right) \odot \left(\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} P_m b_m \right) \\ &= \sum_{n,m=0}^{\infty} (P_n \odot P_m) a_n b_m \\ &= \sum_{n,m=0}^{\infty} P_{n+m} a_n b_m \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n \left(\sum_{k=0}^n a_k b_{n-k} \right). \end{aligned}$$

\square

Proposition 6.4. *Let S be a hyperholomorphic function of axial type. If S is quaternionic intrinsic, then the operator M_S coincides with the multiplication operator $f \mapsto S \odot f$.*

Proof. We note that since S is quaternionic intrinsic, it has real coefficients. Thus, we have $P_n \odot S = S \odot P_n$ for all $n \geq 0$. Then, starting from Definition 4.20, for any $f = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n u_n$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} M_S(f) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (P_n \odot S)u_n \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (S \odot P_n)u_n \\ &= S \odot \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n u_n \right) \\ &= S \odot f. \end{aligned}$$

□

Proposition 6.5. *Let S_1 and S_2 be two hyperholomorphic functions of axial type such that S_1 is quaternionic intrinsic. Then, we have*

$$M_{S_1} M_{S_2} = M_{S_1 \odot S_2}. \tag{6.2}$$

Proof. We know by Proposition 6.3 that $S_1 \odot S_2$ is well defined and admits a power series expansion in terms of $(P_n)_{n \geq 0}$ since S_1 is intrinsic. Therefore, using Proposition 6.4, we have

$$\begin{aligned} M_{S_1 \odot S_2}(f) &= (S_1 \odot S_2) \odot f \\ &= M_{S_1}(S_2 \odot f) \\ &= M_{S_1} M_{S_2}(f). \end{aligned}$$

□

7. de Branges–Rovnyak Spaces

The reproducing kernel Hilbert space with reproducing kernel (4.15) will be called the de Branges–Rovnyak space associated with the Schur multiplier S and denoted by $\mathcal{H}(S)$. The treatment using the Appell-like approach allows to prove results naturally extending the corresponding ones in the classical complex case. For example, we have the following characterization:

Theorem 7.1. *We have*

$$((I - M_S M_S^*)(k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a)u) (b) = K_S(b, a)u \tag{7.1}$$

and

$$\mathcal{H}(S) = \text{Ran } \sqrt{I - M_S M_S^*} \tag{7.2}$$

with inner product

$$\langle \sqrt{I - M_S M_S^*} f, \sqrt{I - M_S M_S^*} g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S)} = \langle (I - \pi)f, g \rangle_2 \tag{7.3}$$

where π is the orthogonal projection on the kernel of $\sqrt{I - M_S M_S^*}$.

Proof. The claims follow from [9]. □

We recall the following, valid for $f, g \in \mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$ (the first equality is a special case of the second one):

$$\langle \Gamma f, \Gamma g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S)} = \langle \Gamma f, g \rangle_2, \tag{7.4}$$

$$\langle \sqrt{\Gamma} f, \Gamma g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S)} = \langle \sqrt{\Gamma} f, \sqrt{\Gamma} g \rangle_2. \tag{7.5}$$

Using the quaternionic version of [44] or [55, Theorem 4.1] (we do not give proofs of these since we will have more general results than the theorems below in the next section) we have the following results, for matrix-valued Schur multipliers

Theorem 7.2. *Let S be a $\mathbb{H}^{r \times s}$ -valued Schur multiplier. An element f in $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$ belongs to $\mathcal{H}(S)$ if and only if*

$$\sup_{g \in \mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})} \|f + M_S g\|_2^2 - \|g\|_2^2 < \infty. \tag{7.6}$$

Using this characterization we can prove the following:

Theorem 7.3. *Let S be a $\mathbb{H}^{r \times s}$ -valued Schur multiplier. Let R_0 be defined by (4.8). Then:*

$$\|R_0 f\|_{\mathcal{H}(S)}^2 \leq \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}(S)}^2 - \|f(0)\|^2, \quad f \in \mathcal{H}(S). \tag{7.7}$$

Proof. Recall that S denotes the forward-shift operator, and that the latter is an isometry (see Lemma 4.6). Using (4.9) and (4.24) we can write for $f, g \in \mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$:

$$\begin{aligned} \|R_0 f + M_S g\|_2^2 - \|g\|_2^2 &= \|S(R_0 f + M_S g)\|_2^2 - \|Sg\|_2^2 \\ &= \|f - f(0) + M_S(P_1 \odot g)\|_2^2 - \|P_1 \odot g\|_2^2 \\ &= \|f + M_S(P_1 \odot g)\|_2^2 - 2\operatorname{Re} \langle f + M_S(P_1 \odot g), f(0) \rangle + \\ &\quad + \|f(0)\|^2 - \|P_1 \odot g\|_2^2 \\ &= \|f + M_S(P_1 \odot g)\|_2^2 - \|P_1 \odot g\|_2^2 - \|f(0)\|^2, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used, with $g = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n b_n$,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f + M_S(P_1 \odot g), f(0) \rangle_2 &= \langle f + P_1 \odot M_S g, f(0) \rangle_2 \\ &= \langle f, f(0) \rangle_2 + \langle P_1 \odot M_S g, f(0) \rangle_2 \\ &= \|f(0)\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

since $P_1 \odot M_S g$ has no constant term. □

Theorem 7.4. *Let R_0 be defined by (4.8). Then $R_0 S u \in \mathcal{H}(S)$ for every $u \in \mathbb{H}^s$ and*

$$\|R_0 S\|^2 \leq \|u\|^2 - \|S(0)u\|^2, \quad u \in \mathbb{H}^s. \tag{7.8}$$

Proof. We already know that $Su \in \mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$. We write

$$\begin{aligned} \|R_0S + M_Sg\|_2^2 - \|g\|_2^2 &= \|S(R_0S + M_Sg)\|_2^2 - \|Sg\|_2^2 \\ &= \| -S(0)u + M_S(u + P_1 \odot g)\|_2^2 - \|P_1 \odot g\|_2^2 \\ &= \|S(0)u\|^2 + \|M_S(u + P_1 \odot g)\|^2 \\ &\quad - 2\operatorname{Re} \langle S(0), M_S(u + P_1 \odot g) \rangle \\ &\leq \|S(0)\|_2 + \|u + P_1 \odot g\|_2^2 - \|P_1 \odot g\|_2^2 \\ &= \|u\|^2 - \|S(0)u\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

In the above, to go from the third to fourth line we used that

$$\|M_S(u + P_1 \odot g)\|_2 \leq \|u + P_1 \odot g\|_2$$

(since S is a Schur multiplier) and

$$\langle S(0), M_S(u + P_1 \odot g) \rangle = 0$$

since $M_S(u + P_1 \odot g)$ has no constant term in its expansion along the P_n . Similarly we used that $\langle u, P_1 \odot g \rangle_2 = 0$ to go from the fourth to the last line. \square

The operators defined in the previous theorems are part of a coisometric operator matrix. In [44] (see also [42]) it is obtained using the theory of complementation. In the next section we use a different method.

8. The Coisometric Colligation and Blaschke Functions

8.1. The Lurking Isometry

Let us denote by \odot_r the right CK -product. Using (2.27) we note that (4.15) can be rewritten as

$$K_S(x, y) - P_1(x) \odot K_S(x, y) \odot_r \overline{P_1(y)} = I_r - S(x)S(y)^*, \tag{8.1}$$

from which we get

$$K_S(x, y) + S(x)S(y)^* = P_1(x) \odot K_S(x, y) \odot_r \overline{P_1(y)} + I_r. \tag{8.2}$$

Write $K(x, y) = \langle f(x), f(y) \rangle_{\mathfrak{H}}$, where \mathfrak{H} is a Hilbert space and $x \mapsto f(x)$ is \mathfrak{H} -valued function. We rewrite (8.2) as

$$\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} S(y)^*h \\ f(y) \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} S(x)^*k \\ f(y) \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle_{\mathbb{H}^r \oplus \mathfrak{H}} = \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} h \\ f(y) \odot_\ell \overline{P_1(y)} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} k \\ f(x) \odot_\ell \overline{P_1(y)} \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle_{\mathbb{H}^s \oplus \mathfrak{H}}$$

where $h, k \in \mathbb{H}^s$ and $x, y \in \mathcal{E}$.

This last equality, called the lurking isometry (see [4, 28]), can be the tool to get a co-isometric realization of S (see [2] for an application in the quaternionic setting). We will choose a different (and closely related) avenue, namely the theory of relations, which originates with the work of Krein and Langer (the ϵ_z method; see e.g. [69, 70]) and was developed further in [11]. We will use the lurking isometry method in Sect. 11 to characterize Carathéodory and Schur multipliers in the setting of the counterpart of Hardy space of the right half plane.

8.2. The Co-isometric Realization

We use the method of isometric relations, as in [11], suitably adapted to the present setting, and follow [22, Sect. 2]. We set $\Gamma = I - M_S M_S^*$, and define w_a via

$$w_a q = \Gamma M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a) p \in \mathcal{H}(S), \quad q \in \mathbb{H}^r,$$

and introduce:

$$\widehat{V} \begin{pmatrix} w_a q \\ u \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (K_S(\cdot, a) - K_S(\cdot, 0))q + K_S(\cdot, 0)u \\ (S(a)^* - S(0)^*)q + S(0)^*u \end{pmatrix}, \quad q \in \mathbb{H}^r, \quad u \in \mathbb{H}^s.$$

Theorem 8.1. \widehat{V} is isometric from its domain $\text{Dom } \widehat{V} \subset \mathcal{H}(S) \oplus \mathbb{H}^r$ into $\mathcal{H}(S) \oplus \mathbb{H}^s$.

Proof. We want to check:

$$\left\langle \widehat{V} \begin{pmatrix} w_a q \\ u \end{pmatrix}, \widehat{V} \begin{pmatrix} w_b p \\ v \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S) \oplus \mathbb{H}^s} = \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} w_a q \\ u \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} w_b p \\ v \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S) \oplus \mathbb{H}^r} \tag{8.3}$$

where $p, q \in \mathbb{H}^r$, $u, v \in \mathbb{H}^s$, and $a, b \in \mathcal{E}$. We divide the proof into three steps. STEP 1: *Case* $u = v = 0$.

Then, only terms involving the directions p and q appear. In the following sequence of equality we use (4.25) to go from the second to the third line, and (4.10) to go from the fourth to the fifth line. We also note that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle w_a q, w_b p \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S)} &= \langle \Gamma M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a) q, M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, b) p \rangle_2 \\ &= \langle M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a) q, M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, b) p \rangle_2 \\ &\quad - \langle M_S^* M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a) q, M_S^* M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, b) p \rangle_2 \\ &= \langle M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a) q, M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, b) p \rangle_2 \\ &\quad - \langle M_{P_1}^* M_S^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a) q, M_{P_1}^* M_S^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, b) p \rangle_2 \\ &= \langle M_{P_1} M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a) q, k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, b) p \rangle_2 \\ &\quad - \langle M_{P_1} M_{P_1}^* M_S^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a) q, M_S^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, b) p \rangle_2 \\ &= \langle (I - C^* C) k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a) q, k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, b) p \rangle_2 \\ &\quad - \langle (I - C^* C) M_S^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a) q, M_S^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, b) p \rangle_2. \end{aligned}$$

To pursue we note that

$$C(k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a)q) = q$$

and, using the formula (4.20) for M_S^*

$$C M_S^* (k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a)q) = S(a)^* q.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \langle w_a q, w_b p \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S)} &= p^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(b, a) q - p^* q + p^* S(b) S(a)^* q - \langle M_S^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a) q, M_S^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, b) p \rangle_2 \\ &= \langle \Gamma k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a) q, k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, b) p \rangle_2 - p^* q + p^* S(b) S(a)^* q \\ &= \langle K_S(\cdot, a) q, K_S(\cdot, b) p \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S)} - q p^* + S(b) S(a)^* q. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \langle (K_S(\cdot, a) - K_S(\cdot, 0))q, (K_S(\cdot, b) - K_S(\cdot, 0))p \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S)} \\
 & \quad + p^*(S(b) - S(0))(S(a)^* - S(0)^*)p \\
 & = \langle K_S(\cdot, a)q, K_S(\cdot, b)p \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S)} - p^*K_S(0, a)q - p^*K_S(b, 0) + p^*K_S(0, 0)q + \\
 & \quad + p^*(S(b) - S(0))(S(a)^* - S(0)^*)p \\
 & = \langle K_S(\cdot, a)q, K_S(\cdot, b)p \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S)} - p^*(I - S(0)S(a)^*)q - p^*(I - S(b)S(0)^*)q + \\
 & \quad + p^*(I - S(0)S(0)^*)q + p^*(S(b) - S(0))(S(a)^* - S(0)^*)q \\
 & = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

STEP 2: Case $p = q = 0$.

We now need to check that

$$\langle K_S(\cdot, 0)u, K_S(\cdot, 0)v \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S)} + v^*S(0)S(0)^*u = v^*u,$$

but this is straightforward.

STEP 3: *Mixed terms.*

By symmetry it is enough to consider the case where p and u appears.

We need to verify that:

$$\langle K_S(\cdot, 0)u, (K_S(\cdot, b) - K_S(\cdot, 0))p \rangle + \langle S(0)^*u, (S(b)^* - S(0)^*)p \rangle = 0,$$

but this is equivalent to

$$K_S(b, 0) - K_S(0, 0) - S(0)S(0)^* + S(b)S(0)^* = 0,$$

i.e.

$$I_r - S(b)S(0)^* - (I_r - S(0)S(0)^*) - S(0)S(0)^* + S(b)S(0)^* = 0,$$

which clearly holds. □

We now compute the adjoint of the above isometric operator.

We write

$$\widehat{V} = \begin{pmatrix} \widehat{T} & \widehat{G} \\ \widehat{F} & \widehat{H} \end{pmatrix}. \tag{8.4}$$

Theorem 8.2. \widehat{V} is densely defined, extends to an everywhere defined isometry and its adjoint is given by

$$\widehat{T}^* = R_0. \tag{8.5}$$

Proof. By definition of the operator range inner product we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle \sqrt{\Gamma}f, \Gamma w_a p \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S)} & = \langle \sqrt{\Gamma}f, M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a)p \rangle_2 \\
 & = u^*(M_{P_1} \odot \sqrt{\Gamma}f)(a)
 \end{aligned}$$

and so $f = 0$ if the above vanishes for all u and a since M_{P_1} is an isometry.

Set $\widehat{T}^*(\sqrt{\Gamma}f) = \sqrt{\Gamma}g$. We have on the one hand

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle \widehat{T}^*F, \Gamma(M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a)u) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S)} & = \langle \sqrt{\Gamma}g, \Gamma(M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a)u) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S)} \\
 & = \langle \sqrt{\Gamma}g, M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a)u \rangle_2 \\
 & = u^*(P_1 \odot \sqrt{\Gamma}g)(a).
 \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \widehat{T}^*F, \Gamma(M_{P_1}^*k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a)u) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S)} &= \langle \sqrt{\Gamma}g, (K_S(\cdot, a) - K(S(\cdot, 0))u) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(S)} \\ &= u^*(\sqrt{\Gamma}g)(a) - \sqrt{\Gamma}g(0) \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$(P_1 \odot \widehat{T}^*(F))(b) = F(b) - F(0).$$

□

Proposition 8.3. *Let*

$$\widehat{V}^* = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}, \tag{8.6}$$

where V is as in (8.4). Then, for $f = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n f_n \in \mathcal{H}(S)$

$$f_n = CA^n f, \quad n = 0, 1, \dots \tag{8.7}$$

and

$$S(x) = D + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P_n(x)CA^{n-1}B. \tag{8.8}$$

Proof. Let $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(x)f_n \in \mathcal{H}(S)$. We have

$$R_0^m f = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_m f_{m+n}, \quad m = 0, 1, \dots$$

and so $CR_0^m f = f_m$ for $m = 0, 1, \dots$. To prove (8.8) we write

$$S = S(0) + P_1 \odot R_0 S.$$

Writing $S = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n S_n$ we conclude by applying (8.7) to $R_0 S u$ for $u \in \mathbb{H}^s$.
□

Remark 8.4. A deep difference with respect to the classical case is that the kernel functions of $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$ are not eigenvectors for R_0 .

Note that (8.8) is not equal to $D + C \odot (I - P_1 A)^{-\odot} \odot B$. But, for $x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$ we have

$$S(x_0) = D + 3x_0 C(I - 3x_0 A)^{-1} B.$$

Remark 8.5. Following linear system theory (see [31, 60, 67, 78]) we will call the representation (8.8) a realization of S . The associated matrix \widehat{V} will be called the realization matrix or the Rosenbrock matrix. The case where \widehat{V}^* is a matrix can be seen as the definition of rational functions. Unfortunately, the CK -product of two such functions will not be rational in this sense. The next section deals with an important example of rational functions.

8.3. Blaschke Functions

Equation (8.8) allows us to give a family of Schur multipliers, which we call Blaschke functions, namely those corresponding to the operator-matrix (8.6) to be a unitary matrix. The definition then extends the classical case, also in the matrix-valued and possibly indefinite case; see [17] for the latter. In general there will not be \odot -multiplicative decompositions of such a Blaschke “product” into elementary factors, hence the term *function* rather than *product*.

Proposition 8.6. *Let B be $\mathbb{H}^{r \times r}$ -valued Blaschke function, with corresponding realization matrix $\widehat{V}^* \in \mathbb{H}^{(N+r) \times (N+r)}$. The corresponding multiplication operator M_B is an isometry from $(\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E}))^r$ into itself and the corresponding space $\mathcal{H}(B)$ is finite dimensional.*

Proof. We first remark that the assumed unitarity is equivalent to the equations

$$A^*A + C^*C = I_N, \tag{8.9}$$

$$B^*B + D^*D = I_r, \tag{8.10}$$

$$D^*C + B^*A = 0. \tag{8.11}$$

Let now $n_0, m_0 \in \mathbb{N}_0$, and $u, v \in \mathbb{H}^r$. We have, with b_n given by (8.7),

$$b_n = \begin{cases} D, & \text{if } n = 0, \\ CA^{n-1}B, & \text{if } n > 0, \end{cases} \tag{8.12}$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} \langle M_B P_{n_0} u, M_B P_{m_0} v \rangle_2 &= \langle P_{n_0} \odot Bu, P_{m_0} \odot Bv \rangle_2 \\ &= \sum_{n,m=0}^{\infty} \langle P_{n_0+n} b_n u, P_{m_0+m} b_m v \rangle_2 \\ &= \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n_0+n=m_0+m}}^{\infty} v^* b_m^* b_n u. \end{aligned}$$

We now compute

$$\sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n_0+n=m_0+m}}^{\infty} b_m^* b_n$$

taking into account that the matrix \widehat{V} is unitary. When $n_0 = m_0$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n^* b_n &= D^* D + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B^* A^{*n} C^* C A^n B \\ &= D^* D + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B^* A^{*n} (I_N - A^* A) A^n B \\ &= D^* D + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B^* (A^{*n} A^n - A^{*(n+1)} A^{n+1}) B \\ &= D^* D + B^* B \\ &= I_r, \end{aligned}$$

where we first used (8.9) and then (8.10).

Assume now $n_0 < m_0$ (the case $n_0 > m_0$ is obtained by symmetry). We can write:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n_0+n=m_0+m}}^{\infty} b_m^* b_n &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} b_m^* b_{m_0-n_0+m} \\ &= D^* C A^{m_0-n_0} B + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} B^* A^{*m} C^* C A^m A^{m_0-n_0} B \\ &= D^* C A^{m_0-n_0} B + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} B^* A^{*m} (I_N - A^* A) A^m A^{m_0-n_0} B \\ &= D^* C A^{m_0-n_0} B + B^* A A^{m_0-n_0} B \\ &= (D^* C + B^* A) A^{m_0-n_0} B \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

in view of (8.11).

We thus have an isometry on the linear span of P_0, P_1, \dots and on the whole of $(\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E}))^r$ by continuity.

To show the finite dimensionality of the space we restrict $x = x_0, y = y_0 \in (-1/3, 1/3)$. We then have

$$K_S(3x_0, 3y_0) = \frac{I_r - S(x_0)S(y_0)^*}{1 - 9x_0y_0} = C(I_N - 3x_0A)^{-1}(I_N - 3y_0A)^{-1}C^*.$$

It follows that the linear span of the functions $x_0 \mapsto K_S(3x_0, 3y_0)h$ ($h \in \mathbb{H}^r$ and $y_0 \in (-1/3, 1/3)$) is finite dimensional. By the uniqueness of the axially hyperholomorphic extension the linear span of the functions $x \mapsto K_S(x, 3y_0)h$ is finite dimensional. We claim that they span $\mathcal{H}(S)$. Indeed, a function $f \in \mathcal{H}(S)$ orthogonal to these functions would satisfy $f(3y_0) = 0$ for $y_0 \in (-1/3, 1/3)$. Since f is of axial type we have that $f \equiv 0$. \square

The above computations show equivalently that:

Corollary 8.7. *Let \widehat{V}^* given by (8.6). Then the corresponding Toeplitz operator defined by the sequence (8.12) is unitary from $\ell_2(\mathbb{N}_0, \mathbb{H}^r)$ into itself.*

More generally, one can take \widehat{V}^* to be $\mathbb{C}^{(N+s)\times(N+s)}$ -valued and co-isometric. Then (8.9)–(8.11) still hold and the same proof as above leads to:

Theorem 8.8. *Let $S(x) = D + \sum_{n=1}^\infty P_n(x)CA^{n-1}B$, where the realization matrix (8.6) is coisometric. Then the corresponding operator M_S is an isometry from $(\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E}))^s$ into $(\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E}))^r$.*

Remark 8.9. Take S_1, \dots, S_N to be N Schur multipliers (say, \mathbb{H} -valued) with associated finite dimensional $\mathcal{H}(S_j)$ spaces, $j = 1, \dots, N$, and let t_1, \dots, t_N to be real numbers such that $\sum_{n=1}^N t_n^2 = 1$. The function

$$S(x) = (t_1 S_1(x) \cdots t_N S_N(x))$$

is a Schur multiplier from $(\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E}))^N$ into $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$, and the associated reproducing kernel space is finite dimensional, but will not be isometrically included in $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E})$ when $N > 1$; see [16, p. 71] for the complex setting. The argument is the same here.

Remark 8.10. In fact the results in the present section still hold when \widehat{V}^* is isometric, but not necessarily a matrix. Then the corresponding multiplier is called *inner*. The study of these multipliers will be considered elsewhere. Similarly, one could assume unitarity with respect to an indefinite metric. This aspect of the theory will also be treated in a separate publication.

8.4. Rational Functions

We now define rational functions in the present setting. We first recall that any $\mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$ -valued rational function, say $M(z)$, with no pole at the origin can be written in the form

$$M(z) = H + zG(I - zT)^{-1}F, \tag{8.13}$$

where H, G, T, F are matrices of appropriate sizes. Expression (8.13) is called a realization (centered at the origin). See Remark 8.5 above for references. We also recall the formulas for the product and inverse of rational functions. Note that, since we consider possibly non-square functions, the sum will be a special case of the product since

$$(M_1(z) \ I_n) \begin{pmatrix} I_m \\ M_2(z) \end{pmatrix} = M_1(z) + M_2(z)$$

where M_1 and M_2 are $\mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$ -valued.

Assuming in (8.13) that $n = m$ and H invertible, one has the formula

$$M(z)^{-1} = H^{-1} - zH^{-1}G(I - zT^\times)^{-1}FH^{-1}, \tag{8.14}$$

where $T^\times = T - GH^{-1}F$, and with $M_j(z) = H_j + zG_j(I - zT_j)^{-1}F_j$, $j = 1, 2$, two rational functions of compatible sizes,

$$M_1(z)M_2(z) = H + zG(I - zT)^{-1}F,$$

with $H = H_1H_2$ and

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} T_1 & G_1T_2 \\ 0 & T_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad G = \begin{pmatrix} G_1 \\ H_1G_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad F = (F_1H_2 \ F_2). \tag{8.15}$$

Definition 8.11. The $\mathbb{H}^{r \times s}$ -valued function $R(x)$ hyperholomorphic of axial type is called rational if its restriction to the real axis is a rational function of the real variable, with quaternionic coefficients.

Theorem 8.12. *The $\mathbb{H}^{r \times s}$ -valued function $R(x)$ hyperholomorphic of axial type, and defined at the origin, is rational if and only if $x_0 \mapsto R(3x_0)$ can be written as*

$$R(3x_0) = D + 3x_0 C(I - 3x_0 A)^{-1} B \tag{8.16}$$

where A, B, C, B are quaternionic matrices of appropriate sizes.

Equivalently:

Theorem 8.13. *The $\mathbb{H}^{r \times s}$ -valued function $R(x)$ hyperholomorphic of axial type, and defined at the origin, is rational if and only if it can be written as*

$$R(x) = D + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(x) C A^n B \tag{8.17}$$

where A, B, C, B are quaternionic matrices of appropriate sizes.

We will not give the proofs of the above results, which follow easily from the previous analysis in the paper. One still has the formulas (8.14) and (8.15) for a real variable x_0 , but not for the CK -product. So the product of rational hyperholomorphic functions of axial type is not compatible with the CK product. To emphasize this point, we now make the connection with rational functions of the Fueter variables, as studied in [10, 20, 23] (see also [71], and see [18] for the split quaternionic case). There, rational functions are characterized by the formula (we do not specify the sizes of the various quaternionic matrices)

$$\begin{aligned} R(x) &= D + C \odot (I - (\zeta_1 A_1 + \zeta_2 A_2 + \zeta_3 A_3))^{-\odot} \odot (\zeta_1 B_1 + \zeta_2 B_2 + \zeta_3 B_3) \\ &= D + C \odot (I - \zeta A)^{-\odot} \odot (\zeta B), \end{aligned} \tag{8.18}$$

with

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ A_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} B_1 \\ B_2 \\ B_3 \end{pmatrix},$$

and the variable here is

$$\zeta = (\zeta_1 \ \zeta_2 \ \zeta_3).$$

We look at the special case where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{e}_1 \mathcal{A} \\ \mathbf{e}_2 \mathcal{A} \\ \mathbf{e}_3 \mathcal{A} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{e}_1 \mathcal{B} \\ \mathbf{e}_2 \mathcal{B} \\ \mathbf{e}_3 \mathcal{B} \end{pmatrix},$$

where \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} are matrices of appropriate sizes and with quaternionic coefficients. Since $P_1(x) = \zeta_1(x)\mathbf{e}_1 + \zeta_2(x)\mathbf{e}_2 + \zeta_3(x)\mathbf{e}_3$ we can then rewrite (8.18) as

$$R(x) = \mathbf{D} + \mathbf{C} \odot (I - P_1(x)\mathcal{A})^{-\odot} \odot P_1(x)\mathcal{B},$$

which will not be in general a series in the P_n , but is a series in the ζ^α . We can define such elements as the rational functions associated with the polynomials P_n . Then, things make sense in terms of realizations, with the usual formulas, but we do not get power series in P_n , even when \mathcal{A} is nilpotent.

8.5. A Structure Theorem

In the classical, and scalar-valued, setting, Beurling’s theorem asserts that a closed subspace \mathcal{N} of the Hardy space $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{D})$ is invariant under multiplication by the complex variable if and only if it is of the form $\mathcal{N} = j\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{D})$, where j is an inner function. The space $\mathcal{M} = \mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{D}) \ominus \mathcal{N}$ is then isometrically included in $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{D})$, backward-shift invariant, and has reproducing kernel equal to $\frac{1-j(z)\overline{j(w)}}{1-z\overline{w}}$. One motivation for the theory of de Branges–Rovnyak is to characterize reproducing kernel Hilbert spaces of functions which are contractively included in $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{D})$, and R_0 -invariant. Rather than the latter, one assumes that the inequality

$$\|R_0f\|_{\mathcal{M}}^2 \leq \|f\|_{\mathcal{M}}^2 - |f(0)|^2 \tag{8.19}$$

holds. This inequality implies contractive inclusion in the Hardy space,

$$f \in \mathcal{M} \implies f \in \mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{D}) \quad \text{and} \quad \|f\|_{\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{D})} \leq \|f\|_{\mathcal{M}} \tag{8.20}$$

and that in particular the space is a reproducing kernel Hilbert space since

$$|f(w)| \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-|w|^2}} \|f\|_{\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{D})} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-|w|^2}} \|f\|_{\mathcal{M}}, \quad w \in \mathbb{D}.$$

Theorem 8.14. *Let \mathcal{M} be a Hilbert space of functions analytic in the open unit disk and such that (8.19) holds in \mathcal{M} . Then, \mathcal{M} is contractively included inside $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{D})$ and there is a (possibly ℓ_2 -valued) analytic function s such that the reproducing kernel of \mathcal{N} is $\frac{1-s(z)s(w)^*}{1-z\overline{w}}$.*

We refer to the notes in [11, p. 206] for some history on Theorem 8.14, but mention the papers [72]. Guyker characterized the spaces for which the inclusion is isometric; see [11, p. 187], [64,65]. For an illustration of the contractive inclusion, see Remark 8.9 above.

A general version of Theorem 8.14, in the operator-valued and Pontryagin space case, has been proved in [11, Theorem 3.1.2, p. 85]. We will present in a subsequent paper the general version of the result, in the Pontryagin and operator-valued function case. The purpose of this section is to illustrate the power of the methods used here on a simple case. Note that (8.21) is a weakening of (4.10).

Theorem 8.15. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space of \mathbb{H}^r -valued functions axially hyperholomorphic in \mathcal{E} , and R_0 -invariant and satisfying*

$$\|R_0f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \leq \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 - f(0)^*f(0), \quad f \in \mathcal{H}. \tag{8.21}$$

Then there exist a right quaternionic Hilbert space \mathcal{C} and a $\mathbf{L}(\mathcal{C}, \mathbb{H}^r)$ -valued function S hyperholomorphic of axial type such that $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}(S)$.

Proof. It follows from (8.21) that \mathcal{H} is contractively included in $(\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E}))^r$, and that the operator R_0 is bounded (another argument, still valid in the quaternionic Pontryagin space setting would be to prove that R_0 is closed, thanks to the reproducing kernel property, and use the closed graph theorem; see [8, Theorem 5.1.16, p. 74] for the latter). The point evaluation at the origin, which we will denote by C , is also bounded since the space is contractively included in the Hardy space and its norm is larger than the Hardy space norm. We can thus rewrite (8.21) as

$$R_0^*R_0 + C^*C \leq I.$$

Since the adjoint of a contraction between Hilbert space is still a contraction we have

$$I_{\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{H}^r} - \begin{pmatrix} R_0 \\ C \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_0 \\ C \end{pmatrix}^* \geq 0,$$

and we can factorize the quaternionic positive operator via a right quaternionic Hilbert space \mathcal{C} as

$$I_{\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{H}^r} - \begin{pmatrix} R_0 \\ C \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_0 \\ C \end{pmatrix}^* = \begin{pmatrix} B \\ D \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} B \\ D \end{pmatrix}^*,$$

with

$$\begin{pmatrix} B \\ D \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{L}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{H}^r).$$

The operator matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_0 & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} : \mathcal{H} \oplus \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \mathcal{H} \oplus \mathbb{H}^r$$

is co-isometric, and the $\mathbf{L}(\mathcal{C}, \mathbb{H}^r)$ -valued function S defined by

$$S(x) = D + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P^{\odot n}(x) C R_0^n B$$

is a Schur multiplier. To conclude we show that $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}(S)$. From the definition of S we have for $x_0, y_0 \in (-1/3, 1/3)$

$$K_S(3x_0, 3y_0) = C(I - 3x_0R_0)^{-1}(I - 3y_0R_0)^{-*}C^*.$$

We have

$$K_S(3x_0, 3y_0) - 3x_0K_S(3x_0, 3y_0)3y_0 = I_r - S(3x_0)S(3y_0)^*$$

and the result follows from axially hyperholomorphic extension on the left with respect to x and on the right with respect to y . □

9. Spaces $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$

We now consider the counterpart of $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ spaces, see (1.2), in the present setting, and first briefly review the classical case. Functions analytic in the open unit disk and with a positive real part there will be called here Herglotz functions (they are called Carathéodory functions in Akhiezer’s book [5, p. 116]). An Herglotz function, say Φ , is characterized by an integral representation of the form

$$\Phi(z) = im + \int_{[0,2\pi]} \frac{e^{it} + z}{e^{it} - z} d\sigma(t) \tag{9.1}$$

where $m \in \mathbb{R}$, σ is an increasing function, and (9.1) is a Stieltjes integral. They play an important role in the trigonometric moment problem, operators models for isometric and unitary operators in Hilbert spaces and in the theory of dissipative discrete systems, and have been extended to various more general frameworks; see e.g. [1, 27, 29, 30, 68, 69, 73].

In a way similar to Theorem 2.21, consider a function Φ defined in a real neighborhood $(-\epsilon, \epsilon)$ of the origin and such that the kernel

$$\frac{\Phi(a) + \overline{\Phi(b)}}{2(1 - ab)}$$

is positive definite there. Then it is the restriction to $(-\epsilon, \epsilon)$ of a uniquely defined Herglotz function, and the corresponding kernel

$$L_\Phi(z, w) = \frac{\Phi(z) + \overline{\Phi(w)}}{2(1 - z\bar{w})}$$

is positive definite in the open unit disk. The factor 2 in the kernels is to get nicer realization formulas (such as (9.2)) and follows basically from the Cayley transform $z \mapsto \frac{1 - z}{1 + z}$, which maps Herglotz functions into Schur functions.

The corresponding reproducing kernel Hilbert space and its applications to operator models was first characterized and studied by de Branges; see [41, 45]. It is important to note that a Herglotz function need not be bounded, and hence need not be a multiplier of the Hardy space.

Using the reproducing kernel space $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ associated with L_Φ (or directly from (9.1)), one can characterize Herglotz functions in terms of a realization of the form

$$\Phi(z) = ia + C(I + zV)(I - zV)^{-1}C^*, \tag{9.2}$$

where V is coisometric in some Hilbert space, and C^* is a continuous map from the coefficient space (the complex numbers when the functions are scalar) into that Hilbert space. Note that (9.2) can be rewritten as

$$\Phi(z) = ia + CC^* + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} z^n CV^n C^*, \quad z \in \mathbb{D}. \tag{9.3}$$

In this section we study the counterpart of the kernel L_Φ in our setting, and give the counterpart of the expansion (9.3), and study connections with Toeplitz operators. In the following definition (and also in Sect. 12 below) we

use the term *multiplier* although the operator of CK -multiplication by the given function need not be bounded in the Hardy space.

Definition 9.1. A $\mathbb{H}^{r \times r}$ -valued axially hyperholomorphic function Φ is called a Herglotz multiplier if the kernel

$$L_\Phi(x, y) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (P_n \odot \Phi)(x) P_n(y)^* + P_n(x) ((P_n \odot \Phi)(y))^* \tag{9.4}$$

is positive definite in \mathcal{E} .

When the operator of CK -multiplication by Φ is bounded in the Hardy space $(\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{E}))^r$, we can replace (9.4) by the condition (see Remark 4.18)

$$\Gamma \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \frac{M_\Phi + M_\Phi^*}{2} \geq 0. \tag{9.5}$$

Proposition 9.2. We note the following property of Γ :

$$M_{P_1} \Gamma M_{P_1}^* = \frac{1}{2} \{M_\Phi(I - C^*C) + (I - C^*C)M_\Phi^*\}. \tag{9.6}$$

Proof. Using the fundamental equality (4.10), we can write

$$\begin{aligned} M_{P_1} \Gamma M_{P_1}^* &= M_{P_1} \left(\frac{M_\Phi + M_\Phi^*}{2} \right) M_{P_1}^* \\ &= \frac{1}{2} M_\Phi M_{P_1} M_{P_1}^* + \frac{1}{2} M_{P_1} M_{P_1}^* M_\Phi^* \\ &= \frac{1}{2} M_\Phi(I - C^*C) + \frac{1}{2} (I - C^*C)M_\Phi^*. \end{aligned}$$

□

We make now some remarks on the above kernel. It seems difficult to find a direct counterpart of (9.2) [in view of (2.24)], let alone of (9.1). As for the case of Schur multiplier, we look for a characterization of the coefficients of Φ in its expansion along the P_n . When $x = x_0$ and $y = y_0$ belong to $(-1/3, 1/3)$ the kernel L_Φ becomes

$$L_\Phi(3x_0, 3y_0) = \frac{\Phi(3x_0) + \Phi(3y_0)^*}{1 - 9x_0y_0}. \tag{9.7}$$

As for the case of Schur multipliers, this restriction is enough to get back the kernel L_Φ in view of the axial symmetry of the functions.

Definition 9.3. We denote by $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ the reproducing kernel Hilbert space of axially hyperholomorphic functions with reproducing kernel (9.4).

The Hilbert space $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ is the completion of the linear span of functions of the form $L_\Phi(x, y)p$, $p \in \mathbb{H}^r$, thus it consists of hyperholomorphic functions of axial type.

Theorem 9.4. *Let $\Phi(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(x)\Phi_n$ be an axially hyperholomorphic function in \mathcal{E} . Then Φ is a Herglotz multiplier if and only if the coefficients Φ_n can be written as*

$$\Phi_n = \begin{cases} CC^*, & n = 0, \\ 2CV^{*n}C^*, & n = 1, 2, \dots \end{cases} \tag{9.8}$$

where V is an isometry in a Hilbert space, say \mathfrak{H} , and C is a continuous map from \mathfrak{H} into \mathbb{H}^r .

Proof. We first prove the sufficiency. We have for $a \in (-1, 1)$

$$\Phi(a) = CC^* + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a^n CV^{*n}C^* = C(I + aV^*)(I - aV^*)^{-1}C^*.$$

Thus, for $a, b \in (-1, 1)$,

$$\frac{\Phi(a) + \Phi(b)^*}{2(1 - ab)} = C(I - aV^*)^{-1}(I - bV^*)^{-*}C^*$$

and thus the corresponding function (9.7) is positive definite in $(-1/3, 1/3)$, and we get the result by hyperholomorphic extension on the left with respect to x and on the right with respect to y since the functions are assumed axially hyperholomorphic.

We now turn to the proof of the direct statement, and divide the proof in a number of steps. We follow [25, Proof of Theorem 5.2, p. 708]. We write $P_1(3y_0)$ rather than $3y_0$ to emphasize the axially symmetric hypercomplex extension to be used. At the end of section alternative steps 1 and 2 are given when M_Φ is bounded.

STEP 1: *The linear relation (see Definition 3.1) of $\mathcal{L}(\Phi) \times \mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ defined by the span of the functions*

$$\left(L_\Phi(\cdot, 3y_0)\overline{P_1(3y_0)q}, (L_\Phi(\cdot, 3y_0) - L_\Phi(\cdot, 0))q \right), \quad y_0 \in (-1/3, 1/3), \quad q \in \mathbb{H}^r, \tag{9.9}$$

is densely defined and isometric.

Let F be orthogonal to the domain of the relation, then $P_1(3y_0)F(3y_0) \equiv 0$ and so F is identically equal to 0 by axially hypercomplex extension.

Next, we need to show that, for $x_0, y_0, \in (-1/3, 1/3)$ and $p, q \in \mathbb{H}^r$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle L_\Phi(\cdot, 3y_0)\overline{P_1(3y_0)q}, L_\Phi(\cdot, 3x_0)\overline{P_1(3x_0)p} \rangle_{\mathcal{L}(\Phi)} \\ = \langle (L_\Phi(\cdot, 3y_0) - L_\Phi(\cdot, 0))q, (L_\Phi(\cdot, 3x_0) - L_\Phi(\cdot, 0))p \rangle_{\mathcal{L}(\Phi)}. \end{aligned}$$

This amounts to check that

$$P_1(3x_0)L_\Phi(3x_0, 3y_0)\overline{P_1(3y_0)} = L_\Phi(3x_0, 3y_0) - L_\Phi(3x_0, 0) - L_\Phi(0, 3y_0) + L_\Phi(0, 0)$$

but this is a direct consequence of the definition of L_Φ since

$$L_\Phi(3x_0, 0) + L_\Phi(0, 3y_0) - L_\Phi(0, 0) = \frac{\Phi(3x_0) + \Phi(3y_0)^*}{2}$$

and

$$L_\Phi(3x_0, 3y_0) - P_1(3x_0)L_\Phi(3x_0, 3y_0)\overline{P_1(3y_0)} = \frac{\Phi(3x_0) + \Phi(3y_0)^*}{2}.$$

There is thus an everywhere defined isometric operator such that, for $q \in \mathbb{H}^r$

$$V \left(L_\Phi(\cdot, 3y_0)\overline{P_1(3y_0)}q \right) = (L_\Phi(\cdot, 3y_0) - L_\Phi(\cdot, 0))q, \quad y_0 \in (-1/3, 1/3).$$

STEP 2: We have

$$V^* = R_0.$$

On the one hand

$$\begin{aligned} \langle V^*F, (L_\Phi(\cdot, 3y_0)\overline{P_1(3y_0)})q \rangle_{\mathcal{L}(\Phi)} &= \langle F, (L(\cdot, 3y_0) - L(\cdot, 0))q \rangle_{\mathcal{L}(\Phi)} \\ &= q^*(F(3y_0) - F(0)) \end{aligned}$$

and on the other hand

$$\begin{aligned} \langle V^*F, (L_\Phi(\cdot, 3y_0)\overline{P_1(3y_0)})q \rangle_{\mathcal{L}(\Phi)} &= \langle F, (L_\Phi(\cdot, 3y_0)\overline{P_1(3y_0)})q \rangle_{\mathcal{L}(\Phi)} \\ &= q^*P_1(3y_0)(V^*F)(3y_0). \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$P_1(3y_0)(V^*F)(3y_0) = F(3y_0) - F(0),$$

and hence the result by axially hypercomplex extension.

STEP 3: Let C denote the evaluation at the origin in $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$. It holds that

$$(C^*q)(x) = L_\Phi(x, 0)q = (\Phi(x) + \Phi(0)^*)q, \quad q \in \mathbb{H}^r.$$

We have, with $p, q \in \mathbb{H}^r$,

$$\langle C^*q, L_\Phi(\cdot, x)p \rangle_{\mathcal{L}(\Phi)} = \langle q, L(0, x)p \rangle_{\mathbb{H}^r} = \frac{1}{2}((\Phi(0) + \Phi(x)^*)p)^*q,$$

and hence the result.

STEP 4: We prove (9.8).

With $q \in \mathbb{H}^r$ we write

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(x)q &= (\Phi(x) + \Phi(0)^*)q - \Phi(0)^*q \\ &= 2(C^*q)(x) - \Phi(0)^*q \\ &= 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} CV^{*n}C^*q - \Phi(0)^*q \\ &= CC^* + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} CV^{*n}C^*q + CC^* - \Phi(0)^*q \\ &= CC^* + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} CV^{*n}C^*q + \frac{\Phi(0) - \Phi(0)^*}{2}q \end{aligned}$$

since $CC^* = \frac{\Phi(0) + \Phi(0)^*}{2}$. □

Corollary 9.5. *Let Φ be a Herglotz multiplier. The space $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ is R_0 invariant.*

As for Schur multiplier one has:

Theorem 9.6. *A space $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ is finite dimensional if and only if the operator V can be chosen to act in a finite dimensional space (and hence is unitary).*

In terms of Toeplitz matrices we have:

Theorem 9.7. *Φ is a $\mathbb{H}^{r \times r}$ -valued bounded Herglotz multiplier if and only if the infinite block matrix $(\Phi_{n-m})_{n,m=0}^\infty$ (with $\Phi_{-m} = \Phi_m^*$) defines a bounded positive operator.*

Proof. Let Φ be such that the kernel L_Φ is positive definite in \mathcal{E} (at this stage we do not assume yet that the associated operator M_Φ is bounded). Then, setting $x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$ and applying the map χ we see that the kernel

$$\frac{\chi(\Phi)(3x_0) + (\chi(\Phi)(3y_0))^*}{1 - 9x_0y_0}$$

is positive definite in $(-1/3, 1/3)$. Setting $a = 3x_0$ and $b = 3y_0$, and with $\varphi(a) = \chi(\Phi)(3x_0)$ we see that the kernel

$$\frac{\varphi(a) + \varphi(b)^*}{1 - ab}$$

is positive definite on $(-1, 1)$. Thus it extends to a positive definite function to the open unit disk, and the extended φ has a positive real part there. The block Toeplitz matrices

$$(\chi(\Phi_{n-m}))_{n,m=0}^N,$$

with $\Phi_{-m} = \Phi_m^*$, are thus non-negative. If M_Φ is bounded, the infinite Toeplitz matrix $(\chi(\Phi_{n-m}))_{n,m=0}^\infty$ defines a bounded positive operator, and so does $(\Phi_{n-m})_{n,m=0}^\infty$ by Proposition 2.2.

Conversely, if $(\Phi_{n-m})_{n,m=0}^\infty$ defines a bounded positive operator, the function

$$(I_r \ P_1(x) I_r \ \cdots) (\Phi_{n-m})_{n,m=0}^\infty \begin{pmatrix} I_r \\ I_r P_1(y) \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

is positive definite. It can be rewritten as the kernel L_Φ . Indeed

$$(I_r \ P_1(x) I_r \ \cdots) (\Phi_{n-m})_{n,m=0}^\infty \begin{pmatrix} I_r \\ I_r P_1(y) \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} = \sum_{n,m=0}^\infty P_n(x) \Phi_{n-m} \overline{P_m(y)}$$

while

$$\begin{aligned} L_\Phi(x, y) &= \sum_{n=0}^\infty \left(\sum_{m=0}^\infty P_{n+m}(x) \Phi_m \right) \overline{P_m(y)} + P_n(x) \left(\sum_{m=0}^\infty \Phi_m^* \overline{P_{m+n}(y)} \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^\infty \sum_{m=0}^\infty P_n(x) \Phi_{n-m} \overline{P_m(y)} \end{aligned}$$

with $\Phi_{-m} = \Phi_m^*$ for $m = 0, 1, \dots$ □

We conclude with a computation of the linear relation associated to Φ when M_Φ is a bounded operator. The computations are longer, but avoid axially symmetric extensions. The relation (9.9) becomes:

$$\left(\sum_j \Gamma(M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, a_j) q_j), \sum_j L_\Phi(\cdot, a_j) q_j - L_\Phi(\cdot, 0) \left(\sum_j q_j \right) \right), \quad (9.10)$$

where $u_1, v_1 \dots \in \mathcal{E}$ and $p_1, q_1, \dots \in \mathbb{H}^r$.

NEW STEP 1: *The linear relation spanned by the elements (9.10) is isometric and densely defined, and hence extends to the graph of an everywhere defined isometry.*

To prove this claim, we let $f = \sum_j k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, u_j) q_j$ and $g = \sum_\ell k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, v_\ell) p_\ell$. Using (9.6) we can write:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Gamma(M_{P_1}^* f), \Gamma(M_{P_1}^* g) \rangle_{\mathcal{L}(\Phi)} &= \langle M_{P_1}^* f, \Gamma(M_{P_1}^* g) \rangle_2 \\ &= \langle f, M_{P_1} \Gamma(M_{P_1}^* g) \rangle_2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \langle f, (M_\Phi(I - C^*C) + (I - C^*C)M_\Phi^*) g \rangle_2 \\ &= \langle f, \Gamma g \rangle - \frac{1}{2} (CM_\Phi^* g)^* C f - \frac{1}{2} (Cg)^* CM_\Phi^* f \\ &= \sum_{j,\ell} p_\ell^* L_\Phi(v_\ell, u_j) q_j - \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_\ell \Phi(v_\ell)^* p_\ell \right)^* \left(\sum_j q_j \right) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_\ell p_\ell \right)^* \left(\sum_j \Phi(u_j)^* q_j \right) \\ &= \sum_{j,\ell} p_\ell^* L_\Phi(v_\ell, u_j) q_j - \left(\sum_\ell L_\Phi(0, v_\ell)^* p_\ell \right)^* \left(\sum_j q_j \right) \\ &\quad - \left(\sum_\ell p_\ell \right)^* \left(\sum_j L_\Phi(0, u_j)^* q_j \right) \\ &\quad + \left(\sum_\ell p_\ell \right)^* L_\Phi(0, 0) \left(\sum_j L_\Phi(0, u_j)^* q_j \right) \\ &= \left\langle \sum_j L_\Phi(\cdot, u_j) q_j - L_\Phi(\cdot, 0) \left(\sum_j q_j \right), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \sum_\ell L_\Phi(\cdot, v_\ell) p_\ell - L_\Phi(\cdot, 0) \left(\sum_\ell p_\ell \right) \right\rangle_{\mathcal{L}(\Phi)}. \end{aligned}$$

There is thus an everywhere defined isometric operator such that

$$V(\Gamma M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, u) q) = L_\Phi(\cdot, u) q - L_\Phi(\cdot, 0) q, \quad u \in \mathcal{E}.$$

NEW STEP 2: *We have*

$$V^* = R_0.$$

Indeed, let $V^*F = \sqrt{\Gamma}f$. On the one hand,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle V^*F, \sqrt{\Gamma} (M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, u)) q \rangle_{\mathcal{L}(\Phi)} &= \langle \sqrt{\Gamma}f, M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, u) q \rangle_2 \\ &= \langle M_{P_1} V^*F, k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, u) q \rangle_2 \\ &= q^*(P_1 \odot V^*F)(u). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle V^*F, \sqrt{\Gamma} (M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, u)) q \rangle_{\mathcal{L}(\Phi)} &= \langle F, V (\sqrt{\Gamma} (M_{P_1}^* k_{\mathcal{E}}(\cdot, u)) q) \rangle_{\mathcal{L}(\Phi)} \\ &= \langle F, L_{\Phi}(\cdot, u)q - L_{\Phi}(\cdot, 0)q \rangle_{\mathcal{L}(\Phi)} \\ &= q^*(F(u) - F(0)). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, using the formulas (7.4)–(7.5) for the operator range inner product, we have

$$(P_1 \odot V^*F)(u) = F(u) - F(0).$$

10. The Half-Space Case

We first recall that the classical Hardy space of the open right half-plane \mathbb{C}_r is the reproducing kernel Hilbert space with reproducing kernel equal to $\frac{1}{2\pi(z + \bar{w})}$ (the factor 2π appears because of Cauchy’s formula), and can be characterized as the space of power series of the form

$$b(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - z)^n}{(1 + z)^{n+1}} b_n \tag{10.1}$$

where the complex numbers b_n satisfy $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |b_n|^2 < \infty$; see for instance [66]. We will denote this space by $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{C}_r)$. The purpose of this section is to define and begin a study of the counterpart of the space $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{C}_r)$ in the present setting. A more detailed analysis will be presented in a sequel to the present work. We give three equivalent characterizations of the new space, respectively in terms of a reproducing kernel, restriction to the positive real axis and series expansion analogous to (10.1). We first define what will be the counterpart of \mathbb{C}_r . To that purpose, consider the function $w(x)$ defined in (1.3); it has for (unique) CK -extension

$$W_1(x) = (1 - P_1(x)) \odot (1 + P_1(x))^{-\odot}. \tag{10.2}$$

This function is intrinsic hyperholomorphic of axial type by Remark 2.14, in fact in a neighborhood of the origin we can write it as

$$\begin{aligned} W_1(x) &= (1 - P_1(x)) \odot \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n P_1(x)^{\odot n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n P_1(x)^{\odot n} \\ &\quad + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} P_1(x)^{\odot n+1} \\ &= 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n P_1(x)^{\odot n}. \end{aligned}$$

We define $W_n(x) = W_1^{\odot n}(x)$ and we set

$$K_W(x, y) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} W_n(x) \overline{W_n(y)}.$$

Note that $W_n(0) = 1$ and also that $W_n(x)$ is hyperholomorphic of axial type, being a finite CK -product of intrinsic series in $P_1(x)$. On the other hand for $x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$ and $x_0 > 0$,

$$|W_n(x_0)| = \left| \frac{1 - 3x_0}{1 + 3x_0} \right| < 1.$$

Using the arguments in Lemma 2.3 we can prove the following:

Lemma 10.1. *The series*

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |W_n(x)|^2 \tag{10.3}$$

converges in a neighborhood of $x = 1/3$.

Proof. The function $W_1(x)$ is hyperholomorphic by its definition. Since we have $W_1(1/3) = 0$ we consider the variable $\tilde{x} = x - \frac{1}{3}$. The composed function $W_1(1/3 + \tilde{x}) = \tilde{W}_1(\tilde{x})$ is still hyperholomorphic, $\tilde{W}_1(0) = 0$ and we can consider its expansion at the origin

$$\tilde{W}_1(\tilde{x}) = \sum_{\substack{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^3 \\ \alpha \neq (0,0,0)}} \zeta(\tilde{x})^\alpha f_\alpha.$$

By Lemma 2.3 we have that for any $\rho > 0$ there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that for $\tilde{x}_0^2 + \tilde{x}_j^2 < \epsilon$, $j = 1, 2, 3$, one has

$$\left| \left(\tilde{W}_1(\tilde{x}) \right)^{\odot n} \right| < \rho^n, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Since $\tilde{W}_n(\tilde{x}) = W_n(1/3 + x) = (W_1(1/3 + x))^{\odot n} = (\tilde{W}_1(\tilde{x}))^{\odot n}$ we deduce that $|W_n(\tilde{x})| < \rho^n$ for $\tilde{x}_0^2 + \tilde{x}_j^2 < \epsilon$, $j = 1, 2, 3$. Thus, for any $0 < \rho < 1$ there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |W_n(x)|^2 < \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \rho^{2n}$$

for $(x_0 - 1/3)^2 + x_j^2 < \epsilon$, $j = 1, 2, 3$ and the statement follows. □

Definition 10.2. We denote by \mathcal{P} the subset of \mathbb{H} for which the series

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |W_n(x)|^2 \tag{10.4}$$

converges.

The set \mathcal{P} is nonempty as the previous lemma shows, moreover we have:

Proposition 10.3. *The \mathcal{P} contains all the points of the positive real axis \mathbb{R}^+ and for any $\tilde{x}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+$ there exists a neighborhood of \tilde{x}_0 in which the series converges.*

Proof. Let us consider a point $\tilde{x}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then $W_1(\tilde{x}_0) = w_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ with $|w_1| < 1$. Let $\tilde{x} = x - \tilde{x}_0$ and set $W_1(\tilde{x} + \tilde{x}_0) = \check{W}_1(\tilde{x})$. Since $\check{W}_1(0) = w_1$ we write $\check{W}_1(\tilde{x}) = w_1 + \check{W}_1(x)$ with $\check{W}_1(0) = 0$. Let us set $\check{W}_n(\tilde{x}) = (\check{W}_1(\tilde{x}))^{\odot n}$ then

$$\check{W}_n(\tilde{x}) = (\check{W}_1(\tilde{x}))^{\odot n} = (w_1 + \check{W}_1(\tilde{x}))^{\odot n} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \check{W}_1(\tilde{x})^{\odot k} w_1^{n-k},$$

so that

$$|\check{W}_n(\tilde{x})| \leq \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} |\check{W}_1(\tilde{x})|^k |w_1|^{n-k}.$$

The proof of Lemma 10.1 shows that for any $0 < \rho < 1$ there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that $|\check{W}_1(\tilde{x})|^k < \rho^k$ for $(x - \tilde{x}_0)^2 + x_j^2 < \epsilon$, $j = 1, 2, 3$. Setting $\eta = 1 - |w_1| > 0$, we take $\rho = \eta/2$ so that we have

$$|\check{W}_n(\tilde{x})| \leq (|w_1| + \rho)^n = (1 - \eta/2)^n$$

and $|W_n(x)|^2 < (1 - \eta/2)^n$ in a neighborhood of \tilde{x}_0 . The assertion follows. \square

As in Sect. 2, $K_W(x, y)$ solves the Eq. (8.1), with W_1 replacing P_1 , namely

$$K_W(x, y) - W_1(x) \odot K_W(x, y) \odot_r \overline{W_1(y)} = 1. \tag{10.5}$$

We set (note that we do not put a factor 2π):

$$K_{\mathcal{P}}(x, y) = (1 + P_1(x))^{-\odot} \odot K_W(x, y) \odot_r (1 + \overline{P_1(y)})^{-\odot_r}. \tag{10.6}$$

Theorem 10.4. *The kernel $K_{\mathcal{P}}(x, y)$ is positive definite in \mathcal{P} and is the unique solution of the Lyapunov equation*

$$2(P_1(x) \odot K_{\mathcal{P}}(x, y) + K_{\mathcal{P}}(x, y) \odot_r \overline{P_1(y)}) = 1. \tag{10.7}$$

Proof. The first claim follows from the formula

$$K_{\mathcal{P}}(x, y) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (1 + P_1(x))^{-\odot} \odot W_n(x) (1 + P_1(y))^{-\odot_r} \odot_r W_n(y))^* \tag{10.8}$$

where we have used Proposition 2.20 relating the left and right CK -products.

We have from (10.6)

$$K_W(x, y) = (1 + P_1(x)) \odot K_{\mathcal{P}}(x, y) \odot_r (1 + \overline{P_1(y)}). \tag{10.9}$$

Moreover, we have

$$(1 + P_1(x)) \odot (1 - P_1(x)) \odot (1 + P_1(x))^{-\odot} = (1 - P_1(x)). \tag{10.10}$$

Using these equations we rewrite (10.5) as

$$\begin{aligned} (1 + P_1(x)) \odot K_{\mathcal{P}}(x, y) \odot_r (1 + \overline{P_1(y)}) \\ - (1 - P_1(x)) \odot K_{\mathcal{P}}(x, y) \odot_r (1 + \overline{P_1(y)}) = 1 \end{aligned} \tag{10.11}$$

from which we get (10.7). \square

We denote by $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{P})$ the reproducing kernel Hilbert space with reproducing kernel equal to $K_{\mathcal{P}}(x, y)$. We also note that (10.7) and (10.11) are equivalent, but (10.11) is better adapted to use the lurking isometry method or the linear relation method, when one considers multipliers (see Sect. 11). The counterpart of the expansion (10.1) is presented in the following theorem.

Theorem 10.5. *The reproducing kernel Hilbert space associated with the kernel $K_{\mathcal{P}}(x, y)$ consists of the power series*

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (1 + P_1(x))^{-\odot} \odot W_n(x) f_n, \tag{10.12}$$

where the coefficients f_n are in \mathbb{H} and satisfy $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |f_n|^2 < \infty$. The latter is then the square of the norm of f .

Proof. This follows from (10.8). □

We now turn to the characterization of $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{P})$ in terms of restrictions to the real positive axis.

Theorem 10.6. *$f \in \mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{P})$ if and only if $x_0 \mapsto \chi(f(3x_0))$ is the restriction to $x_0 > 0$ of an element in $(\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{C}_r))^{2 \times 2}$. The map which to $f \in \mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{P})$ associates the map $x_0 \mapsto \sqrt{\pi} \chi(f(x_0))$ is then unitary.*

Proof. Setting $x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$ we get

$$f(x_0) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - 3x_0)^n}{(1 + 3x_0)^{n+1}} f_n.$$

Applying the map χ and comparing with (10.1) we get the statement. The function is uniquely determined since $(0, \infty)$ is a zero set. The converse follows from the fact that $x_0 \mapsto \frac{(1 - 3x_0)^n}{(1 + 3x_0)^{n+1}}$ has as unique axially hyperholomorphic extension the function $(1 + P_1(x))^{-\odot} \odot W_n(x)$ (which is evidently of axial type), being the CK -product of series in $P_1(x)$. □

11. Schur Multipliers in the Half-Plane Setting

In the classical case of the complex numbers, a $\mathbb{C}^{r \times r}$ -valued function is contractive in \mathbb{C}_r if and only if the kernel

$$\frac{I_r - s(z)s(w)^*}{z + \bar{w}} \tag{11.1}$$

is positive definite in \mathbb{C}_r . More generally, if a function s is defined in a zero set, say \mathcal{Z} , of the open right half-plane and the kernel (11.1) is positive definite on \mathcal{Z} , then s is the restriction to \mathcal{Z} of a uniquely defined function analytic and contractive in \mathbb{C}_r . This can be seen from the disk case (see Theorem 2.21) using a Cayley transform. In the present section we study the counterpart of the Schur multipliers for the space $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{P})$, and characterize them in three equivalent ways:

- (1) In terms of a positive definite kernel.

- (2) In terms of an appropriately defined multiplication operator.
- (3) In terms of a realization.

Definition 11.1. A $\mathbb{H}^{r \times r}$ -valued S function is called a Schur multiplier if there is a kernel $K_S(x, y)$ positive definite in \mathcal{P} , left-hyperholomorphic in x and right-hyperholomorphic in y , and such that

$$2(P_1(x) \odot K_S(x, y) + K_S(x, y) \odot_r \overline{P_1(y)}) = I_r - S(x)S(y)^*, \quad x, y \in \mathcal{P}. \tag{11.2}$$

We will get a description of all such multipliers in terms of a realization, but already mention a very easy example, namely $S(x) = W_1(x)$. Then, with

$$K_S(x, y) = (1 + P_1(x))^{-\odot} (1 + \overline{P_1(y)})^{-\odot_r}$$

we have

$$2(P_1(x) \odot K_S(x, y) + K_S(x, y) \odot_r \overline{P_1(y)}) = 1 - W_1(x)\overline{W_1(y)}, \quad x, y \in \mathcal{P}.$$

In view of the lurking isometry method, it is better to write (11.2) as

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 + P_1(x)) \odot K_S(x, y) \odot_r (1 + \overline{P_1(y)}) \\ & - (1 - P_1(x)) \odot K_S(x, y) \odot_r (1 - \overline{P_1(y)}) \\ & = I_r - S(x)S(y)^* \end{aligned} \tag{11.3}$$

or as

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 + P_1(x)) \odot K_S(x, y) \odot_r (1 + \overline{P_1(y)}) + S(x)S(y)^* \\ & = (1 - P_1(x)) \odot K_S(x, y) \odot_r (1 - \overline{P_1(y)}) + I_r. \end{aligned} \tag{11.4}$$

Theorem 11.2. *The $\mathbb{H}^{r \times s}$ -valued function S is a Schur multiplier if and only if there exist a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} and a co-isometry*

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & C \\ B & D \end{pmatrix} \tag{11.5}$$

such that

$$S(3x_0) = D + \frac{1 - 3x_0}{1 + 3x_0} C \left(I - \frac{1 - 3x_0}{1 + 3x_0} A \right)^{-1} B, \quad x_0 \in (-1/3, 1/3), \tag{11.6}$$

with unique hyperholomorphic extension (of axial type) to \mathcal{P} given by

$$S(x) = D + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} W_n(x) C A^n B. \tag{11.7}$$

Proof. Write

$$K_S(x, y) = X(x)X(y)^*$$

where X is operator-valued and hyperholomorphic of axial type (for instance, via the associated reproducing kernel Hilbert space; one takes $X(x)$ to be the

point evaluation at x). We get the isometric relation (the lurking isometry) spanned by the pairs

$$\left(\begin{pmatrix} X(3y_0)^*(1 - \overline{P_1(3y_0)})h \\ h \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} X(3y_0)^*(1 + \overline{P_1(3y_0)})h \\ S(3y_0)^*h \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

with $y_0 \in (-1/3, 1/3)$ and $h \in \mathbb{H}^s$. Write the isometry as

$$\begin{pmatrix} A^* & B^* \\ C^* & D^* \end{pmatrix}. \tag{11.8}$$

We get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1 - 3y_0}{1 + 3y_0} A^* X(y_0)^* h + \frac{1}{1 + 3y_0} C^* h &= X(y_0)^* h \\ (1 - 3y_0) B^* h + \sqrt{2} D^* h &= S(y_0)^* h \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$S(3y_0)^* = D^* + \frac{1 - 3y_0}{1 + 3y_0} B^* \left(I - \frac{1 - 3y_0}{1 + 3y_0} A^* \right)^{-1} C^*$$

and hence the result, since $W_n(x)$ is the unique hyperholomorphic extension of axial type. □

In the complex setting case, a function, say s , analytic and contractive in \mathbb{C}_r does not need belong to $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{C}_r)$, but $z \mapsto s(z)/(1 + z)$ does belong to $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{C}_r)$. Here, at least in the present analysis, we need a supplementary condition to get the counterpart of this result. We have (the notion of spectral radius is defined for a quaternionic operator A as in the classical case by the formula $\rho(A) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|A^n\|^{1/n}$):

Corollary 11.3. *In the notation of Theorem 11.2, assume $\rho(A) < 1$. Then, the entries of the function $(1 + P_1(x))^{-\odot} \odot S(x)$ belong to $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{P})$.*

Proof. This follows from the fact that

$$\|CA^n B\| \leq \|C\| \cdot \|B\| \cdot \|A^n\|,$$

and the series $\sum_{n=1}^\infty \|A^n\|$ converges since $\rho(A) < 1$. □

Theorem 11.4. *S is a Schur multiplier if and only if the operator defined by*

$$M_S f = \sum_{n=0}^\infty (1 + P_1(x))^{-\odot} (W_n \odot S)(x) f_n$$

is a contraction from $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{P})$ into itself, and K_S is given by

$$\begin{aligned} K_S(x, y) &= (1 + P_1(x))^{-\odot} \odot \\ &\odot \left(\sum_{n=0}^\infty W_n(x) \overline{W_n(y)} - \sum_{n=0}^\infty (W_n \odot S)(x) \overline{(W_n \odot S)(y)} \right) \\ &\odot_r (1 + \overline{P_1(y)})^{-\odot_r}. \end{aligned} \tag{11.9}$$

Proof. We consider the scalar case to ease the notation and first remark that, if S is a Schur multiplier we have

$$K_S(3x_0, 3y_0) = \frac{1 - S(3x_0)\overline{S(3y_0)}}{3(x_0 + y_0)}$$

with axially hyperholomorphic extension (11.9), and the positivity of (11.9) expresses that the operator M_S is a contraction. The converse is proved by defining a contractive relation from the positivity of the kernel, and show that the relation extends to the graph of M_S^* . \square

As in the \mathcal{E} setting, the case where the isometry in the above realizations is unitary in a finite dimensional space corresponds to finite dimensional $\mathcal{H}(S)$ spaces isometrically included in the Hardy space $(\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{P}))^r$. When the space has dimension 1 the function S is the counterpart of a Blaschke factor of the half-plane.

Theorem 11.5. *The space $\mathcal{H}(S)$ is finite dimensional if and only if the space \mathfrak{H} can be chosen finite dimensional. When $r = s$, the space $\mathcal{H}(S)$ is isometrically included inside $(\mathbf{H}_2(\mathcal{P}))^r$.*

Proof. We set

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}$$

the matrix of the underlying unitary map. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} & M_S \left((1 + P_1(x))^{-\odot} \odot W_m(x)h \right) \\ &= (1 + P_1(x))^{-\odot} \odot W_m(x)Dh + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (1 + P_1(x))^{-\odot} \odot W_{m+n}(x)CA^nBh. \end{aligned}$$

The same computations as in the proof of Proposition 8.6 show that

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle M_S \left((1 + P_1(x))^{-\odot} \odot W_{n_1}h(x) \right), M_S \left((1 + P_1(x))^{-\odot} \odot W_{n_2}(x)k \right) \rangle \\ &= \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n_1+n=n_2+m}}^{\infty} k^*B^*A^{*n}AC^mBh \\ &= \delta_{n,m}k^*h, \quad h, k \in \mathbb{H}^s, \end{aligned}$$

and this allows to end the proof. \square

12. Carathéodory Multipliers in the Half-Plane Setting

A function Φ analytic and with a positive real part in the open right-half plane is called a Carathéodory function, and is characterized by the positivity of the kernel

$$\frac{\Phi(z) + \overline{\Phi(w)}}{z + \overline{w}}$$

in \mathbb{C}_r . As for Herglotz functions, a Carathéodory function need not be a multiplier of the Hardy space $\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbb{C}_r)$. We now introduce the counterpart

of this class of functions in the present setting. As in Sect. 9 we use the term *multiplier* (rather than, for instance *pseudo-multiplier*) although the *CK*-multiplication by the function Φ is not assumed bounded.

Definition 12.1. An $\mathbb{H}^{r \times r}$ -valued function Φ is called a Carathéodory pseudo-multiplier if there is a kernel $K_\Phi(x, y)$ positive definite in \mathcal{P} , left-hyperholomorphic in x and right-hyperholomorphic in y , and such that

$$2(P_1(x) \odot K_\Phi(x, y) + K_\Phi(x, y) \odot_r \overline{P_1(y)}) = \Phi(x) + \Phi(y)^*. \tag{12.1}$$

A first example is given by $\Phi(x) = aP_1(x)$ with $a > 0$ and $K_\Phi(x, y) = a/2$. It follows from the definition that a sum of Carathéodory multipliers is a Carathéodory multiplier, and so is $\Phi^{-\odot}$ and $a\Phi$ with $a > 0$. Therefore, any sum of the form

$$\Phi(x) = a_0P_1(x) + \sum_{n=1}^N b_n(a_n + P_1(x))^{-\odot}$$

is a Carathéodory multiplier for every choice of $a_0 \geq 0$, $a_1, \dots, a_N > 0$ and $b_1, \dots, b_N \geq 0$.

It is more convenient to rewrite (12.1) as

$$\begin{aligned} (1 + P_1(x)) \odot K_\Phi(x, y) \odot_r (1 + \overline{P_1(y)}) - (1 - P_1(x)) \odot K_\Phi(x, y) \odot (1 - \overline{P_1(y)}) \\ = (I_r + \Phi(x))(I_r + \Phi(y)^*) - (I_r - \Phi(x))(I_r - \Phi(y)^*). \end{aligned} \tag{12.2}$$

Theorem 12.2. Φ is a Carathéodory multiplier if and only if it can be written as

$$\Phi(3y_0) = (I_r - S(3y_0))(I_r + S(3y_0))^{-1} \tag{12.3}$$

with S as in (11.6).

Proof. Write

$$K_\Phi(x, y) = X(x)X(y)^*$$

where $X(x)$ is the point evaluation in the reproducing kernel Hilbert space with reproducing kernel K_Φ . We get the isometric relation (the lurking isometry) defined by the right linear span of the pairs

$$\left(\left(\begin{array}{c} X(3y_0)^*(1 - \overline{P_1(3y_0)})h \\ (I_r + \Phi(3y_0)^*)h \end{array} \right), \left(\begin{array}{c} X(3y_0)^*(1 + \overline{P_1(3y_0)})h \\ (I_r - \Phi(3y_0)^*)h \end{array} \right) \right),$$

with $y_0 \in (-1/3, 1/3)$ and $h \in \mathbb{H}^r$. Furthermore, with the same notation as (11.8),

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1 - 3y_0}{1 + 3y_0} A^* X(3y_0)^* h + \frac{1}{1 + 3y_0} C^* (I_r + \Phi(3y_0)^*) h &= X^*(3y_0) h, \\ (1 - 3y_0) B^* X^*(3y_0) h + D^* ((I_r + \Phi(3y_0)^*) h) &= (I - \Phi(3y_0)^*) h, \end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$\begin{aligned} (I_r - \Phi(3y_0)^*) h - D^* (I_r + \Phi(3y_0)^*)^* h &= \frac{1 - 3y_0}{1 + 3y_0} B^* \left(I - \frac{1 - 3y_0}{1 + 3y_0} A^* \right)^{-1} \\ &\times C^* (I_r + \Phi(3y_0)^*)^* h, \end{aligned}$$

so that, with $S(3y_0)$ as in the previous theorem,

$$I_r - \Phi(3y_0)^* = S(3y_0)^*(I_r + \Phi(3y_0)^*)$$

and hence the result. □

Here too, the space $\mathcal{L}(\Phi)$ will be finite dimensional if and only if the space \mathfrak{H} can be chosen finite dimensional.

13. A Table

We conclude this paper with a table comparing the slice hyperholomorphic case, the case of Fueter variables and the present setting.

	Slice setting	Appell setting	General CK -setting
variable	$p \in \mathbb{H}$	$P_1(x) = CK(x_1\mathbf{e}_1 + x_2\mathbf{e}_2 + x_3\mathbf{e}_3)$ $= \zeta_1(x)\mathbf{e}_1 + \zeta_2(x)\mathbf{e}_2 + \zeta_3(x)\mathbf{e}_3$	$\zeta(x) =$ $= (\zeta_1(x) \zeta_2(x) \zeta_3(x))$
“unit disk”	$x_0^2 + x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 < 1$	$9x_0^2 + x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 < 1$	$3x_0^2 + x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 < 1$
product	\star -product	CK -product	CK -product
properties	stays inside the space	<i>outside the space</i> <i>Not a power series in P_n</i>	stays inside the space
inverse	$(I - pA)^{-\star} =$ $= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p^n A^n$	$(I - P_1A)^{-\odot}$ <i>outside the space</i> <i>Not a power series in P_n</i>	$(I - \zeta A)^{-\odot} =$ $= \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_3^{\infty}} \frac{ \alpha !}{\alpha!} \zeta^\alpha A^\alpha$
Hardy or Drury-Arveson reproducing kernel	$k(p, q) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p^n \bar{q}^n$	$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(x) \overline{P_n(y)}$	$k_y(x) =$ $= \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_3^{\infty}} \frac{ \alpha !}{\alpha!} \zeta^\alpha(x) \overline{\zeta^\alpha(y)}$
structural identity	$I - M_p M_p^* = C^*C$	$I - M_{P_1} M_{P_1}^* = C^*C$ (but does not hold in Q_n setting)	$I - M_\zeta \mathcal{M}_\zeta^* = C^*C$
multiplication operator	Cauchy product on coefficients	$M_S (\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n u_n) =$ $= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (P_n \odot S) u_n$	\odot -multiplication
adjoint of multiplication operator	$M_S^* k(p, q) =$ $= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p^n \overline{S(q)} \bar{q}^n$	$M_S^* (\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n \overline{P_n(a)} u) =$ $= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n \overline{(P_n \odot S)(a)} u$	$M_S^* k_y(x) =$ $= \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_3^{\infty}} \frac{ \alpha !}{\alpha!} \zeta^\alpha(x) \cdot$ $\cdot (\overline{S \odot \zeta^\alpha(y)})$
backward shift operator	kernel eigenvector	<i>kernel not eigenvector</i>	kernel common eigenvector of the shifts
rational functions	ring	group	ring

Remark 13.1. For the formulas for the adjoint operator, see e.g. [7, (3.9), p. 160] for the slice hyperholomorphic case and [24, Proposition 2.2. p. 34] for the Fueter series setting.

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