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HARTWIG'S TRIPLE REVERSE ORDER LAW FOR THE CORE INVERSE IN C^* -ALGEBRAS

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Abstract. In this paper Hartwig's Triple reverse order law for the core inverses in C^* -algebras. Further we have the simply algebraic solution for the core inverse in C^* -algebras.

Keywords: generalized inverse; reverse order law; C^* -algebra; core inverse.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Let \mathcal{A} be a complex unital C^* -algebra. An element $a \in \mathcal{A}$ is said to be regular if there exists $b \in \mathcal{A}$ for which $aba = a$; any such b is called an inner inverse.

The core inverse for a complex matrix were introduced by Baksalary and Trenkler [1]. Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$, where $M_n(\mathbb{C})$ denotes the ring of all $n \times n$ complex matrices. A matrix $X \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ is called core inverse of A , if it satisfies $AX = P_A$ and $R(X) \subseteq R(A)$, where $R(A)$ denotes the column space of A , and P_A is the orthogonal projector onto $R(A)$. And if such a matrix exists, then it is unique and denoted by A^\oplus .

Suppose A, B and C are complex matrices for which ABC can be defined.

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We use notations

$$P = A^{\oplus}ABCC^{\oplus}, \quad Q = CC^{\oplus}B^{\oplus}A^{\oplus}A \quad (1)$$

2. PRELIMINARIES

Definition 2.1. [13] An element a is Hermitian if $a^* = a$, and a is called an idempotent if $a^2 = a$. A Hermitian idempotent is said to be a projection.

Definition 2.2. [1] Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$. A matrix $A^{\oplus} \in \mathbb{C}_{n,n}$ satisfying (i) $AA^{\oplus} = P_A$ and (ii) $R(A^{\oplus}) \subseteq R(A)$ is called core inverse of A .

Definition 2.3. [1] The core inverse of $a \in \mathcal{A}$ is the element $x \in \mathcal{A}$ which satisfies

$$(1) axa = a \quad (2) xax = x \quad (3) (ax)^* = ax \quad (6) xa^2 = a \quad (7) ax^2 = x$$

The element x is unique if it exist and is denoted by a^{\oplus} .

Definition 2.4. [12] Let \mathcal{A} be unital C^* -algebra. The element $a \in \mathcal{A}$ has the core inverse if there exists $x \in \mathcal{A}$ such that

$$(1) axa = a \quad (2) x\mathcal{A} = a\mathcal{A} \quad \text{and} \quad (3) \mathcal{A}x = \mathcal{A}a^*$$

The unique core inverse will be denoted by a^{\oplus} .

Definition 2.5. [13] An elements a is said to be normal $aa^{\oplus} = a^{\oplus}a$.

Definition 2.6. [13] An elements a is said to be invertible if $ab = ba = e$.

Theorem 2.7. [13] For any $a \in \mathcal{A}^{\oplus}$, the following is satisfied:

- (a) $(a^{\oplus})^{\oplus} = a$;
- (b) $(a^*)^{\oplus} = (a^{\oplus})^*$;
- (c) $(a^*a)^{\oplus} = a^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^*$;
- (d) $(aa^*)^{\oplus} = (a^{\oplus})^*a^{\oplus}$;
- (e) $a^* = a^{\oplus}aa^* = a^*aa^{\oplus}$;
- (f) $a^{\oplus} = (a^*a)^{\oplus}a^* = a^*(aa^*)^{\oplus}$;

$$(g) (a^*)^\oplus = a(a^*a)^\oplus = (aa^*)^\oplus a.$$

3. RESULT

For regular element a, b and c of C^* -algebra \mathcal{A} we use notations

$$p = a^\oplus abcc^\oplus, \quad q = cc^\oplus b^\oplus a^\oplus a.$$

analogously to (1).

Theorem 3.1. Let \mathcal{A} be a complex unital C^* -algebra and let $a, b, c \in \mathcal{A}$ be such that a, b, c and abc are regular. Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (i) $(abc)^\oplus = c^\oplus b^\oplus a^\oplus$;
- (ii) $q \in p\{3, 6, 7\}$ and both of a^*apq and $qpcc^*$ are hermitian;
- (iii) $q \in p\{3, 6, 7\}$ and both of a^*apq and $qpcc^*$ are EP;
- (iv) $q \in p\{3, 6, 7\}$, $a^*ap\mathcal{A} = q^*\mathcal{A}$ and $cc^*p^*\mathcal{A} = q\mathcal{A}$;
- (v) $pq = pqpq$, $a^*ap\mathcal{A} = q^*\mathcal{A}$ and $cc^*p^*\mathcal{A} = q\mathcal{A}$;

Proof: (i) \Leftrightarrow (ii) : The condition $xyx = x$ is easily seen to be equivalent to $pqp = p$, while $xyx = y$ holds precisely when $qpq = q$. Next, if xy is Hermitian, so is $a^*xya = a^*apq$.

The converse part, since $(a^*)^\oplus(a^*apq)a^\oplus = xy$. Lastly, yx is Hermitian, So is $c(yx)c^* = qpcc^*$.

Again the converse relation part from the condition $c^\oplus(qpcc^*)(c^*)^\oplus = yx$.

(ii) \Leftrightarrow (iii) : We show that a^*apq and $qpcc^*$ are regular.

Then $a^\oplus(a^\oplus)^* \in (a^*apq)\{3, 6, 7\}$ and $(c^\oplus)^*c^\oplus \in (qpcc^*)\{3, 6, 7\}$.

Let $x = a^*apq$, $y = a^\oplus(a^\oplus)^*$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} xyx &= a^*apqa^\oplus(a^\oplus)^*a^*apq \\ &= a^*apqa^\oplus(aa^\oplus)^*apq \\ &= a^*apqa^\oplus aa^\oplus apq && \text{(Since } a^\oplus aa^\oplus = a^\oplus) \\ &= a^*apqa^\oplus apq \\ &= a^*apqa^\oplus aa^\oplus abcc^\oplus cc^\oplus b^\oplus a^\oplus a \\ &= a^*apqa^\oplus abcc^\oplus b^\oplus a^\oplus a \\ &= a^*apqa^\oplus (abc)(abc)^\oplus a \\ &= a^*apq \\ &= x \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
yxy &= (a^\oplus)(a^\oplus)^* a^* apqa^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* \\
&= a^\oplus (aa^\oplus)^* apqa^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* && \text{(Since } (aa^\oplus)^* = aa^\oplus \text{)} \\
&= a^\oplus aa^\oplus apqa^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* && \text{(Since } a^\oplus aa^\oplus = a^\oplus \text{)} \\
&= a^\oplus apqa^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* \\
&= a^\oplus aa^\oplus abcc^\oplus cc^\oplus b^\oplus a^\oplus aa^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* \\
&= a^\oplus abcc^\oplus b^\oplus a^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* \\
&= a^\oplus abc(abc)^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* \\
&= a^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* \\
&= y
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
xy &= a^* apqa^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* \\
&= a^* aa^\oplus abcc^\oplus cc^\oplus b^\oplus a^\oplus aa^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* \\
&= a^* abcc^\oplus b^\oplus a^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* \\
&= a^* (abc)(abc)^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* \\
&= a^* (a^\oplus)^* \\
&= a^\oplus a
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(xy)^* &= (a^* apqa^\oplus (a^\oplus)^*)^* \\
&= (a^* aa^\oplus abcc^\oplus cc^\oplus b^\oplus a^\oplus aa^\oplus (a^\oplus)^*)^* \\
&= (a^* abcc^\oplus b^\oplus a^\oplus (a^\oplus)^*)^* \\
&= (a^* (abc)(abc)^\oplus (a^\oplus)^*)^* \\
&= (a^* (a^\oplus)^*)^* \\
&= a^\oplus a
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore $(xy)^* = xy$

$$\begin{aligned}
yx^2 &= (a^\oplus)(a^\oplus)^* (a^* apq)^2 \\
&= (a^\oplus)(a^\oplus)^* a^* apqa^* apq \\
&= (a^\oplus)(aa^\oplus)^* apqa^* apq \\
&= (a^\oplus)aa^\oplus apqa^* apq \\
&= a^\oplus apqa^* apq \\
&= a^\oplus aa^\oplus abcc^\oplus cc^\oplus b^\oplus a^\oplus aa^\oplus a^* apq && \text{(Since } a^\oplus aa^\oplus = a^\oplus \text{)} \\
&= a^\oplus abcc^\oplus b^\oplus a^\oplus aa^* apq
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= a^{\oplus}(abc)(abc)^{\oplus}a^*apq \\
&= a^{\oplus}aa^*apq \\
&= (a^{\oplus}a)^*a^*apq \\
&= a^*(a^{\oplus})^*a^*apq \\
&= (aa^{\oplus}a)^*apq \\
&= a^*apq \\
&= x \\
xy^2 &= a^*apq(a^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^*)^2 \\
&= a^*apqa^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^*a^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^* \\
&= a^*aa^{\oplus}abcc^{\oplus}cc^{\oplus}b^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^*a^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^* \\
&= a^*abcc^{\oplus}b^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^*a^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^* \\
&= a^*(abc)(abc)^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^*a^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^* \\
&= a^*(a^{\oplus})^*a^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^* \\
&= (a^{\oplus}a)^*a^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^* \\
&= a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^* \\
&= (a^{\oplus})(a^{\oplus})^* \\
&= y
\end{aligned}$$

Let $x = qpcc^*$, $y = (c^{\oplus})^*c^{\oplus}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
xyx &= qpcc^*(c^{\oplus})^*c^{\oplus}qpcc^* \\
&= qpc(c^{\oplus}c)^*c^{\oplus}qpcc^* \\
&= qpcc^{\oplus}cc^{\oplus}qpcc^* && \text{(Since } aa^{\oplus}a = a) \\
&= qpcc^{\oplus}qpcc^* \\
&= qpqpcc^* \\
&= qpcc^* \\
&= x \\
yxy &= (c^{\oplus})^*c^{\oplus}qpcc^*(c^{\oplus})^*c^{\oplus} \\
&= (c^{\oplus})^*c^{\oplus}qpc(c^{\oplus}c)^*c^{\oplus} \\
&= (c^{\oplus})^*c^{\oplus}qpcc^{\oplus}cc^{\oplus} \\
&= (c^{\oplus})^*c^{\oplus}qpcc^{\oplus}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (c^{\oplus})^* c^{\oplus} cc^{\oplus} b^{\oplus} a^{\oplus} aa^{\oplus} abcc^{\oplus} cc^{\oplus} && \text{(Since } a^{\oplus} aa^{\oplus} = a^{\oplus}\text{)} \\
&= (c^{\oplus})^* c^{\oplus} cc^{\oplus} b^{\oplus} a^{\oplus} abcc^{\oplus} \\
&= (c^{\oplus})^* (abc)^{\oplus} (abc) c^{\oplus} \\
&= (c^{\oplus})^* c^{\oplus} \\
&= y
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
xy &= qpcc^*(c^{\oplus})^* c^{\oplus} \\
&= qpc(c^{\oplus}c)^* c^{\oplus} \\
&= qpcc^{\oplus} cc^{\oplus} \\
&= qpcc^{\oplus} \\
&= cc^{\oplus} b^{\oplus} a^{\oplus} aa^{\oplus} abcc^{\oplus} \\
&= cc^{\oplus} b^{\oplus} a^{\oplus} abcc^{\oplus} \\
&= c(abc)^{\oplus} (abc) c^{\oplus} \\
&= cc^{\oplus}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(xy)^* &= (qpcc^*(c^{\oplus})^* c^{\oplus})^* \\
&= (qpc(c^{\oplus}c)^* c^{\oplus})^* \\
&= (qpcc^{\oplus} cc^{\oplus})^* \\
&= (qpcc^{\oplus})^* \\
&= (cc^{\oplus} b^{\oplus} a^{\oplus} aa^{\oplus} abcc^{\oplus})^* \\
&= (cc^{\oplus} b^{\oplus} a^{\oplus} abcc^{\oplus})^* \\
&= (c(abc)^{\oplus} (abc) c^{\oplus})^* \\
&= (cc^{\oplus})^* \\
&= cc^{\oplus}
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore $(xy)^* = xy$

$$\begin{aligned}
yx^2 &= (c^{\oplus})^* c^{\oplus} (qpcc^*)^2 \\
&= (c^{\oplus})^* c^{\oplus} qpcc^* qpcc^* \\
&= (c^{\oplus})^* c^{\oplus} cc^{\oplus} b^{\oplus} a^{\oplus} aa^{\oplus} abcc^{\oplus} cc^* cc^{\oplus} b^{\oplus} a^{\oplus} aa^{\oplus} abcc^{\oplus} cc^* \\
&= (c^{\oplus})^* c^{\oplus} b^{\oplus} a^{\oplus} abcc^* qpcc^* \\
&= (c^{\oplus})^* (abc)^{\oplus} (abc) c^* qpcc^* \\
&= (c^{\oplus})^* c^* qpcc^*
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (cc^\oplus)^* qpcc^* \\
&= qpcc^* \\
&= x \\
xy^2 &= qpcc^*((c^\oplus)^*c^\oplus)^2 \\
&= qpcc^*(c^\oplus)^*c^\oplus(c^\oplus)^*c^\oplus \\
&= qpc(c^\oplus c)^*c^\oplus(c^\oplus)^*c^\oplus \\
&= qpcc^\oplus cc^\oplus(c^\oplus)^*c^\oplus \\
&= qpcc^\oplus(c^\oplus)^*c^\oplus \\
&= cc^\oplus b^\oplus a^\oplus aa^\oplus abcc^\oplus cc^\oplus(c^\oplus)^*c^\oplus \\
&= c(abc)^\oplus(abc)c^\oplus(c^\oplus)^*c^\oplus \\
&= (ab)^\oplus(ab)(c^\oplus)^*c^\oplus \\
&= (c^\oplus)^*c^\oplus \\
&= y
\end{aligned}$$

(iii) \Rightarrow (iv) : Since $a^*ap\mathcal{A} = q^*\mathcal{A}$ is equivalent that $a^*ap \in q^*\mathcal{A}$ and $q^* \in a^*ap\mathcal{A}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
a^*ap &= a^*apqp \\
&= a^*apq(a^*apq)^\oplus a^*apqp && \text{(Using \{1\}-inverse)} \\
&= (a^*apq)^\oplus a^*apqa^*ap \\
&= q^*p^*a^*a((a^*apq)^\oplus)^*a^*ap \in q^*\mathcal{A}
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
q^* &= q^*p^*q^* \\
&= q^*p^*a^\oplus aq^* \\
&= q^*p^*(a^\oplus a)^*q^* && \text{(Since } (ax)^* = ax) \\
&= q^*p^*a^*(a^\oplus)^*q^* \\
&= q^*p^*a^*aa^\oplus(a^\oplus)^*q^* \\
&= (a^*apq(a^*apq)^\oplus a^*apq)^*a^\oplus(a^\oplus)^*q^* && \text{(Using \{1\}-inverse)} \\
&= a^*apq(a^*apq)^\oplus q^* \in a^*ap\mathcal{A}
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, $cc^*p^*\mathcal{A} = q\mathcal{A}$ is equivalent that cc^*p^* and $q \in cc^*p^*\mathcal{A}$. So, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
cc^*p^* &= cc^*p^*q^*p^* \\
&= (qpcc^*)^*p^*
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (qpcc^*(qpcc^*)^{\oplus}qpcc^*)^*p^* && \text{(Since } aa^{\oplus}a = a\text{)} \\
&= qpcc^*(qpcc^*)^{\oplus}cc^*p^* \in q\mathcal{A}
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
q &= qpq \\
&= qpcc^{\oplus}q \\
&= qpcc^*(c^{\oplus})^*c^{\oplus}q \\
&= qpcc^*(qpcc^*)^{\oplus}qpc^*(c^{\oplus})^*c^{\oplus}q \\
&= cc^*p^*q^*((qpcc^*)^{\oplus})^*q \in cc^*p^*\mathcal{A}
\end{aligned}$$

(iv) \Rightarrow (v) : Trivial.

(v) \Rightarrow (ii) : We show that pc and qa^{\oplus} are regular. Indeed, $pc = a^{\oplus}abc$ and

$$a^{\oplus}abc(abc)^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus}abc = a^{\oplus}abc$$

Also,

$$\begin{aligned}
cc^*p^*((pc)^{\oplus})^*c^{\oplus}cc^*p^* &= c(pc)^*((pc)^{\oplus})^*c^{\oplus}cc^*p^* \\
&= cc^{\oplus}cc^*p^* \\
&= cc^*p^*
\end{aligned}$$

So cc^*p^* is regular and then, since $qa^{\oplus} \in q\mathcal{A} = cc^*p^*\mathcal{A}$ and $cc^*p^*(cc^*p^*)^{\oplus} \in cc^*p^*\mathcal{A} = q\mathcal{A}$.

We have

$$\begin{aligned}
qa^{\oplus} &= cc^*p^*x && \text{(Since } x = a^{\oplus}\text{)} \\
&= cc^*p^*(cc^*p^*)^{\oplus}cc^*p^*x \\
&= qycc^*p^*x \\
&= qyqa^{\oplus} \\
&= qa^{\oplus}ayqa^{\oplus}.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence qa^{\oplus} is regular.

Now, analogously using $cc^*p^*\mathcal{A} = q\mathcal{A}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
p &= pcc^{\oplus} \\
&= pc(pc)^{\oplus}pcc^{\oplus} \\
&= pcc^*p^*((pc)^{\oplus})^*c^{\oplus} \\
&= pqu
\end{aligned}$$

and consequently $pqp = pqpqu = pqu = p$. This show that $q \in p\{1\}$ and $qpqp = qp$.

Also, using $a^*ap\mathcal{A} = q^*\mathcal{A}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 q &= qa^{\oplus}a \\
 &= qa^{\oplus}(qa^{\oplus})^{\oplus}qa^{\oplus}a \\
 &= qa^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^*q^*((qa^{\oplus})^{\oplus})^*a \\
 &= qa^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^*a^*apv \\
 &= qa^{\oplus}(aa^{\oplus})^*apv \\
 &= qa^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus}aapv && \text{(Since } aa^{\oplus}a = a) \\
 &= qa^{\oplus}apv \\
 &= qp v
 \end{aligned}$$

$$qpq = qpqp v = qp v = q.$$

Since, $a^*ap\mathcal{A} = q^*\mathcal{A}$ and $cc^*p^*\mathcal{A} = q\mathcal{A}$,

$$q^*p^*a^*apq = q^*p^*q^*t = q^*t = a^*apq$$

and

$$qpcc^*p^*q^* = qpqz = cc^*p^*q^*$$

Hence a^*apq and $qpcc^*$ are hermitian.

Remark 3.2. Let us mention for some special cases when triple reverse order law for the core inverse of products of three regular elements a, b and c of C^* algebra \mathcal{A} holds.

If a is unitary we get that

$$(abc)^{\oplus} = c^{\oplus}b^{\oplus}a^{\oplus} \Leftrightarrow (bc)^{\oplus} = c^{\oplus}b^{\oplus}.$$

Similarly, if c is unitary

$$(abc)^{\oplus} = c^{\oplus}b^{\oplus}a^{\oplus} \Leftrightarrow (ab)^{\oplus} = b^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}.$$

Theorem 3.3. Let \mathcal{A} be complex unital C^* -algebra, let $a, b, c \in \mathcal{A}$ be regular elements and let b be unitary. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) abc is regular and $(abc)^{\oplus} = c^{\oplus}b^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}$,
- (ii) $[bcc^{\oplus}b^{\oplus}, a^*a] = 0$ and $[b^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}ab, cc^*] = 0$.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The author(s) declare that there is no conflict of interests.

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