### ABSTRACT WEYL-TYPE THEOREMS

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In memory of Professor Lucien Waelbroeck

Abstract. In this paper, we give a new approach to the study of Weyl-type theorems. Precisely, we introduce the concepts of spectral valued and spectral partitioning functions. Using two natural order relations on the set of spectral valued functions, we reduce the question of relationship between Weyl-type theorems to the study of the set difference between the parts of the spectrum that are involved. This study solves completely the question of relationship between two spectral valued functions, comparable for one or the other order relation. Then several known results about Weyl-type theorems become corollaries of the results obtained.

*Keywords*: spectral valued function; partitioning; spectrum; Weyl-type theorem *MSC 2010*: 47A53, 47A10, 47A11

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let X be a Banach space, and let L(X) be the Banach algebra of all bounded linear operators acting on X. For  $T \in L(X)$ , we will denote by N(T) the null space of T, by  $\alpha(T)$  the nullity of T, by R(T) the range of T, by  $\beta(T)$  its defect and by  $T^*$ the adjoint of T. We will also denote by  $\sigma(T)$  the spectrum of T and by  $\sigma_a(T)$  the approximate point spectrum of T. If the range R(T) of T is closed and  $\alpha(T) < \infty$ (or  $\beta(T) < \infty$ ), then T is called an upper semi-Fredholm (or a lower semi-Fredholm) operator. If  $T \in L(X)$  is either upper or lower semi-Fredholm, then T is called a semi-Fredholm operator, and the index of T is defined by  $\operatorname{ind}(T) = \alpha(T) - \beta(T)$ . If both of  $\alpha(T)$  and  $\beta(T)$  are finite, then T is called a Fredholm operator. An operator  $T \in L(X)$  is called a Weyl operator if it is a Fredholm operator of index zero. The

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Weyl spectrum  $\sigma_{W}(T)$  of T is defined by  $\sigma_{W}(T) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : T - \lambda I \text{ is not a Weyl operator}\}.$ 

For a bounded linear operator T and a nonnegative integer n, define  $T_{[n]}$  to be the restriction of T to  $R(T^n)$ , viewed as a map from  $R(T^n)$  into  $R(T^n)$  (in particular  $T_{[0]} = T$ ). If for some integer n, the range space  $R(T^n)$  is closed and  $T_{[n]}$  is an upper (lower) semi-Fredholm operator, then T is called an upper (lower) semi-B-Fredholm operator. A semi-B-Fredholm operator T is an upper or a lower semi-B-Fredholm operator, and in this case the index of T is defined as the index of the semi-Fredholm operator  $T_{[n]}$ , see [9]. Moreover, if  $T_{[n]}$  is a Fredholm operator, then T is called a B-Fredholm operator, see [4]. An operator  $T \in L(X)$  is said to be a B-Weyl operator (see [5]), if it is a B-Fredholm operator of index zero. The B-Weyl spectrum  $\sigma_{BW}(T)$  of T is defined by  $\sigma_{BW}(T) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \colon T - \lambda I \text{ is not a B-Weyl operator}\}.$ 

The ascent a(T) of an operator T is defined by  $a(T) = \inf\{n \in \mathbb{N}: N(T^n) = N(T^{n+1})\}$ , and the descent  $\delta(T)$  of T, is defined by  $\delta(T) = \inf\{n \in \mathbb{N}: R(T^n) = R(T^{n+1})\}$ , with  $\inf \emptyset = \infty$ .

According to [17], a complex number  $\lambda$  is a pole of the resolvent of T if and only if  $0 < \max(a(T - \lambda I), \delta(T - \lambda I)) < \infty$ . Moreover, if this is true, then

$$a(T - \lambda I) = \delta(T - \lambda I).$$

An operator T is called Drazin invertible if 0 is a pole of T. The Drazin spectrum  $\sigma_{\rm D}(T)$  of T is defined by

$$\sigma_{\mathrm{D}}(T) = \{ \lambda \in \mathbb{C} : T - \lambda I \text{ is not Drazin invertible} \}.$$

Define also the set LD(X) by  $LD(X) = \{T \in L(X) : a(T) < \infty \text{ and } R(T^{a(T)+1}) \text{ is closed}\}$  and let  $\sigma_{LD}(T) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : T - \lambda I \notin LD(X)\}$  be the left Drazin spectrum. Following [8], an operator  $T \in L(X)$  is said to be left Drazin invertible if  $T \in LD(X)$ . We say that  $\lambda \in \sigma_a(T)$  is a left pole of T if  $T - \lambda I \in LD(X)$ , and that  $\lambda \in \sigma_a(T)$  is a left pole of T of finite rank if  $\lambda$  is a left pole of T and  $\alpha(T - \lambda I) < \infty$ .

Let  $SF_+(X)$  be the class of all upper semi-Fredholm operators and  $SF_+(X) = \{T \in SF_+(X): \operatorname{ind}(T) \leq 0\}$ . The upper semi-Weyl spectrum  $\sigma_{SF_+}(T)$  of T is defined by  $\sigma_{SF_+}(T) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}: T - \lambda I \notin SF_+(X)\}$ . Similarly is defined the upper semi-B-Weyl spectrum  $\sigma_{SBF_+}(T)$  of T.

An operator  $T \in L(X)$  is called upper semi-Browder if it is an upper semi-Fredholm operator of finite ascent, and is called Browder if it is a Fredholm operator of finite ascent and descent. The upper semi-Browder spectrum  $\sigma_{uB}(T)$  of T is defined by  $\sigma_{uB}(T) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : T - \lambda I \text{ is not upper semi-Browder}\}$ , and the Browder spectrum  $\sigma_{B}(T)$  of T is defined by  $\sigma_{B}(T) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : T - \lambda I \text{ is not Browder}\}$ . Below, we give a list of symbols and notations we will use:

- E(T): eigenvalues of T that are isolated in the spectrum  $\sigma(T)$  of T,
- $E^0(T)$ : eigenvalues of T of finite multiplicity that are isolated in the spectrum  $\sigma(T)$  of T,
- $E_a(T)$ : eigenvalues of T that are isolated in the approximate point spectrum  $\sigma_a(T)$  of T,
- $E_a^0(T)$ : eigenvalues of T of finite multiplicity that are isolated in the approximate point spectrum  $\sigma_a(T)$  of T,
- $\Pi(T)$ : poles of T,
- $\Pi^0(T)$ : poles of T of finite rank,
- $\Pi_a(T)$ : left poles of T,
- $\Pi_a^0(T)$ : left poles of T of finite rank,
- $\sigma_{\rm B}(T)$ : Browder spectrum of T,
- $\sigma_{\rm D}(T)$ : Drazin spectrum of T,
- $\sigma_{\rm LD}(T)$ : left Drazin spectrum of T,
- $\sigma_{\rm uB}(T):$  upper semi-Browder spectrum of T,
- $\sigma_{\rm BW}(T)$ : B-Weyl spectrum of T,
- $\sigma_{\rm W}(T)$ : Weyl spectrum of T,
- $\sigma_{\rm SF^-}(T)$ : upper semi-Weyl spectrum of T,
- $\sigma_{\rm SBF^+}(T):$  upper semi-B-Weyl spectrum of T.

Hereafter, the symbol  $\sqcup$  stands for disjoint union, while iso(A) and acc(A) mean, respectively, isolated points and accumulation points of a given subset A of  $\mathbb{C}$ .

The paper is organised as follows: In Section 2 we define the concepts of spectral valued functions and spectral partitioning functions. They are functions defined on the Banach algebra L(X) and valued in  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{C}) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{C})$ , where  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{C})$  is the set of the subsets of  $\mathbb{C}$ . A spectral valued function  $\Phi = (\Phi_1, \Phi_2)$  is a spectral partitioning (a spectral *a*-partitioning) function for an operator  $T \in L(X)$  if  $\sigma(T) = \Phi_1(T) \sqcup \Phi_2(T)$ (if  $\sigma_a(T) = \Phi_1(T) \sqcup \Phi_2(T)$ ). Recall that from [19], if T is a normal operator acting on a Hilbert space, then  $\sigma(T) = \sigma_W(T) \sqcup E(T)$ . Thus a spectral valued function  $\Phi = (\Phi_1, \Phi_2)$  can be considered an "abstract Weyl-type theorem", and an operator  $T \in L(X)$  satisfies the abstract Weyl-type theorem  $\Phi$ , if  $\Phi$  is a spectral partitioning or *a*-partitioning function for T.

Our main goal here is the study of abstract Weyl-type theorems and their relationships. By the study of relationship between two given abstract Weyl-type theorems  $\Phi$ and  $\Psi$  we mean the answer to the following question: If an operator  $T \in L(X)$  satisfies one of the two abstract Weyl-type theorems  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$ , does T satisfy also the other one? Two abstract Weyl-type theorems  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$  are said to be equivalent if  $T \in L(X)$  satisfies one of  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$  if and only if T satisfies the other one. To study the relationship between abstract Weyl-type theorems, we introduce two order relations  $\leq$  and  $\subset$  on the set of spectral valued functions. Then the question of relationship between two comparable spectral valued functions for the order  $\leq$  is solved in terms of set difference between parts of the spectrum that are involved. In Section 3, following the same steps as in Section 2, we consider spectral *a*-partitioning functions and we obtain similar results to those of Section 2.

In Section 4, we give some crossed results by considering two spectral valued functions comparable for the order  $\leq$ , one partitioning the spectrum and the other one partitioning the approximate point spectrum. We obtain a new kind of results, where the set difference  $\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)$  plays a crucial role. At the end of Section 4, we study the case of two comparable spectral valued functions for the order relation  $\subset$ , and we answer in Theorem 4.8 and Theorem 4.9 the question of relationship between the two spectral valued functions.

Globally, this study solves completely the question of relationship between two comparable spectral valued functions, and several known results about Weyl-type theorems appearing in recent literature become corollaries of the results obtained. To illustrate this, we give several examples of the application of the results obtained, linking them to original references where they have been first established.

As mentioned before, the original idea leading to a partition of the spectrum goes back to the famous paper by Weyl [19]. More recently, several authors worldwide have worked in this direction, see for example [1], [8], [12], [13]–[16] and [18].

#### 2. Partitioning functions for the spectrum

In this section we study the relationship between two comparable spectral valued functions, when one of them is spectral partitioning and we state the conditions when the other one is also spectral partitioning.

**Definition 2.1.** A spectral valued function is a function  $\Phi = (\Phi_1, \Phi_2)$ :  $L(X) \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{C}) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{C})$  such that for all  $T \in L(X)$ ,  $\Phi(T) \subset \sigma(T) \times \sigma(T)$ , where  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{C})$  is the set of the subsets of  $\mathbb{C}$ .

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $\Phi$  be a spectral valued function. We say that  $\Phi = (\Phi_1, \Phi_2)$  is a spectral partitioning function for an operator  $T \in L(X)$ , if  $\sigma(T) = \Phi_1(T) \sqcup \Phi_2(T)$ .

A spectral valued function  $\Phi = (\Phi_1, \Phi_2)$  can be considered an "abstract Weyl-type theorem". An operator  $T \in L(X)$  satisfies the abstract Weyl-type theorem  $\Phi$  if  $\Phi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T.

Example 2.3.

- ▷ Let  $\Phi_W(T) = (\sigma_W(T), E^0(T))$  for all  $T \in L(X)$ . From [19] it follows that  $\Phi_W$  is a partitioning function for each normal operator acting on a Hilbert space.
- ▷ Let  $\Phi_{BW}(T) = (\sigma_{BW}(T), E(T))$  for all  $T \in L(X)$ . From [6] it follows that  $\Phi_{BW}$  is a partitioning function for each normal operator acting on a Hilbert space.

**Definition 2.4.** Let  $\Psi$  and  $\Phi$  be two spectral valued functions. We say that  $\Psi \leq \Phi$ , if for all  $T \in L(X)$ , we have  $\Phi_1(T) \subset \Psi_1(T)$  and  $\Psi_2(T) \subset \Phi_2(T)$ . We say that  $\Psi \subset \Phi$ , if for all  $T \in L(X)$ , we have  $\Psi_1(T) \subset \Phi_1(T)$  and  $\Psi_2(T) \subset \Phi_2(T)$ .

It is easily seen that both  $\leq$  and  $\subset$  are order relations on the set of spectral valued functions.

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $T \in L(X)$  and let  $\Phi$  be a spectral partitioning function for T. If  $\Psi$  is a spectral valued function such that  $\Psi \leq \Phi$ , then  $\Psi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T if and only if  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = \Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)$ .

Proof. Assume that  $\Psi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T, then  $\sigma(T) = \Psi_1(T) \sqcup \Psi_2(T) = \Phi_1(T) \sqcup \Phi_2(T)$ . Hence  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = \Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)$ .

Conversely, assume that  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = \Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)$ . Since  $\Phi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T, we have  $\sigma(T) = \Phi_1(T) \sqcup \Phi_2(T)$ . As  $\Psi \leq \Phi$ , we have  $\Phi_1(T) \subset \Psi_1(T)$  and so  $\sigma(T) = \Psi_1(T) \cup \Phi_2(T) = \Psi_1(T) \cup (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T)$ . As  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = \Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)$ , we have  $\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T) \subset \Psi_1(T)$ . Hence  $\sigma(T) \subset \Psi_1(T) \cup \Psi_2(T)$ . As we have always  $\Psi_1(T) \cup \Psi_2(T) \subset \sigma(T)$ , we conclude that  $\sigma(T) = \Psi_1(T) \cup \Psi_2(T)$ . Moreover, we have  $\Psi_1(T) \cap \Psi_2(T) = (\Phi_1(T) \cup (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T))) \cap \Psi_2(T) = (\Phi_1(T) \cap \Psi_2(T)) \cup ((\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \cap \Psi_2(T)) = (\Phi_1(T) \cap \Psi_2(T)) \cup ((\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \cap \Psi_2(T)) = \emptyset$ . Hence  $\sigma(T) = \Psi_1(T) \sqcup \Psi_2(T)$  and  $\Psi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T.

In the following corollary, as an application of Theorem 2.5, we give a direct proof of [8], Theorem 3.9.

**Corollary 2.6.** If  $\Phi_{BW}$  is a spectral partitioning function for T, then  $\Phi_W$  is also a spectral partitioning function for T.

Proof. Observe first that  $\Phi_{W} \leq \Phi_{BW}$ . Then if  $\Phi_{BW}$  is a spectral partitioning function for T, it is easily seen that  $\sigma_{W}(T) \setminus \sigma_{BW}(T) = E(T) \setminus E^{0}(T)$ . From Theorem 2.5 it follows that  $\Phi_{W}$  is also a spectral partitioning function for T.

Similarly to Theorem 2.5, we have the following theorem, which we give without proof.

**Theorem 2.7.** Let  $T \in L(X)$  and let  $\Psi$  be a spectral partitioning function for T. If  $\Phi$  is a spectral valued function such that  $\Psi \leq \Phi$ , then  $\Phi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T if and only if  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = \Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)$ .

R e m a r k 2.8 ([8], Example 3.12). There exist operators  $T \in L(X)$  such that  $\Phi_W$  is a spectral partitioning function for T but  $\Phi_{BW}$  is not a spectral partitioning function for T. Indeed, let us consider the operator Q defined for each  $x = (\xi_i) \in l^1$  by

$$Q(\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \dots, \xi_k, \dots) = (0, \alpha_1 \xi_1, \alpha_2 \xi_2, \dots, \alpha_{k-1} \xi_{k-1}, \dots),$$

where  $(\alpha_i)$  is a sequence of complex numbers such that  $0 < |\alpha_i| \leq 1$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |\alpha_i| < \infty$ . We observe that

$$\overline{R(Q^n)} \neq R(Q^n), \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Indeed, for a given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $x_k^{(n)} = (1, \ldots, 1, 0, 0, \ldots)$  (with n + k times 1). Then the limit  $y^{(n)} = \lim_{k \to \infty} Q^n x_k^{(n)}$  exists and lies in  $\overline{R(Q^n)}$ . However, there is no element  $x^{(n)} \in l^1$  satisfying the equation  $Q^n x^{(n)} = y^{(n)}$  as the algebraic solution to this equation is  $(1, 1, 1, \ldots) \notin l^1$ .

Define T on  $X = l^1 \oplus l^1$  by  $T = Q \oplus 0$ . Then  $N(T) = \{0\} \oplus l^1$ ,  $\sigma(T) = \{0\}$ ,  $E(T) = \{0\}$ ,  $E_0(T) = \emptyset$ . Since  $R(T^n) = R(Q^n) \oplus \{0\}$ ,  $R(T^n)$  is not closed for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ; so T is not a B-Weyl operator, and  $\sigma_{BW}(T) = \{0\}$ . Furthermore, T is not a Fredholm operator and  $\sigma_W(T) = \{0\}$ .

Hence  $\Phi_W$  is a spectral partitioning function for T but  $\Phi_{BW}$  is not a spectral partitioning function for T.

**Definition 2.9.** The Drazin spectral valued function  $\Phi_D$  and the Browder spectral valued function  $\Phi_B$  are defined by:

$$\Phi_D(T) = (\sigma_{\rm BW}(T), \Pi(T)), \quad \Phi_B(T) = (\sigma_{\rm W}(T), \Pi^0(T)), \quad T \in L(X).$$

**Theorem 2.10.** Let  $T \in L(X)$ . Then the Drazin spectral valued function  $\Phi_D$  is a spectral partitioning function for T if and only if the Browder spectral valued function  $\Phi_B$  is a spectral partitioning function for T.

Proof. Observe first that  $\Phi_B \leq \Phi_D$ . If  $\Phi_D$  is a spectral partitioning function for T, then  $\sigma_W(T) \setminus \sigma_{BW}(T) = \Pi(T) \setminus \Pi^0(T)$ . From Theorem 2.5, we conclude that  $\Phi_B$ is a spectral partitioning function for T. Conversely, assume that  $\Phi_B$  is a spectral partitioning function for T. Let us show that  $\sigma_W(T) \setminus \sigma_{BW}(T) = \Pi(T) \setminus \Pi^0(T)$ . The inclusion  $\Pi(T) \setminus \Pi^0(T) \subset \sigma_W(T) \setminus \sigma_{BW}(T)$  is obvious. For the reverse inclusion, let  $\lambda \in \sigma_W(T) \setminus \sigma_{BW}(T)$ . Then from [9], Corollary 3.2,  $\lambda$  is isolated in  $\sigma_W(T)$ . As  $\Phi_B$  is a spectral partitioning function for T, we have  $\sigma(T) = \sigma_W(T) \sqcup \Pi^0(T)$ . Hence  $\lambda$  is isolated in  $\sigma(T)$ . As  $\lambda \notin \sigma_{BW}(T)$ , we have from [5], Theorem 2.3,  $\lambda \in \Pi(T) \setminus \Pi_0(T)$ . From Theorem 2.7 it follows that  $\Phi_D$  is a spectral partitioning function for T.  $\Box$ 

The direct implication of Theorem 2.10 was proved in [8], Theorem 3.15, while the reverse implication was posed as a question in [8], page 374, and answered in [2], Theorem 2.1.

R e m a r k 2.11. If the Drazin spectral valued function  $\Phi_D$  is a spectral partitioning function for  $T \in L(X)$ , then  $\sigma_{BW}(T) = \sigma_D(T)$  and  $\sigma_W(T) = \sigma_B(T)$ .

E x a m p l e s 2.12. The following table summarizes some spectral valued functions considered recently as partitioning functions.

$\Phi_W(T) = (\sigma_W(T), E^0(T))$	$\Phi_B(T) = (\sigma_{\rm W}(T), \Pi^0(T))$
$\Phi_{\rm gW}(T) = (\sigma_{\rm BW}(T), E(T))$	$\Phi_{\rm gB}(T) = (\sigma_{\rm BW}(T), \Pi(T))$
$\Phi_{\rm Bw} = (\sigma_{\rm BW}(T), E^0(T))$	$\Phi_{\rm Bb}(T) = (\sigma_{\rm BW}(T), \Pi^0(T))$
$\Phi_{\rm aw}(T) = (\sigma_{\rm W}(T), E_a^0(T))$	$\Phi_{\rm ab}(T) = (\sigma_{\rm W}(T), \Pi^0_a(T))$
$\Phi_{\rm gaw}(T) = (\sigma_{\rm BW}(T), E_a(T))$	$\Phi_{\rm gab}(T) = (\sigma_{\rm BW}(T), \Pi_a(T))$
$\Phi_{\rm Baw}(T) = (\sigma_{\rm BW}(T), E_a^0(T))$	$\Phi_{\rm Bab}(T) = (\sigma_{\rm BW}(T), \Pi^0_a(T))$

Table 1. Spectral valued functions.

Among the spectral valued functions listed in Table 1, we consider the following cases to illustrate the use of Theorem 2.5 and Theorem 2.7:

- ▷ It is shown in [11], Theorem 3.5, that if  $\Phi_{\text{gaw}}$  is a spectral partitioning function for  $T \in L(X)$ , then  $\Phi_{\text{gab}}$  is also a partitioning function for T. As  $\Phi_{\text{gab}} \leq \Phi_{\text{gaw}}$ , to prove this result using Theorem 2.5, it is enough to prove that  $\emptyset = \sigma_{\text{BW}}(T) \setminus \sigma_{\text{BW}}(T) = E_a(T) \setminus \Pi_a(T)$ , which is the case from [8], Theorem 2.8.
- ▷ It is shown in [7], Theorem 2.9, that if  $\Phi_{\rm W}$  is a spectral partitioning function for  $T \in L(X)$ , then  $\Phi_{\rm gW}$  is a partitioning function for T if and only if  $E(T) = \Pi(T)$ . As  $\Phi_{\rm W} \leq \Phi_{\rm gW}$ , to prove this result using Theorem 2.7, it is enough to prove that  $\emptyset = \sigma_{\rm W}(T) \setminus \sigma_{\rm W}(T) = E(T) \setminus \Pi(T)$ , which is the case from [5], Corollary 2.6.
- ▷ It is shown in [3], Corollary 5, that if  $\Phi_{\rm W}$  is a spectral partitioning function for  $T \in L(X)$ , then  $\Phi_{\rm B}$  is also a spectral partitioning function for T. To see this using Theorem 2.5, as  $\Phi_{\rm B} \leq \Phi_{\rm W}$ , it is enough to prove that  $\emptyset = \sigma_{\rm W}(T) \setminus \sigma_{\rm W}(T) = E^0(T) \setminus \Pi^0(T)$ , which is the case from [5], Theorem 4.2.

## 3. PARTITIONING FUNCTIONS FOR THE APPROXIMATE SPECTRUM

In this section we study the relationship between two comparable spectral valued functions, when one of them is spectral *a*-partitioning and we state the conditions when the other one is also spectral *a*-partitioning.

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $\Phi$  be a spectral valued function and let  $T \in L(X)$ . We say that  $\Phi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T if  $\sigma_a(T) = \Phi_1(T) \sqcup \Phi_2(T)$ .

Example 3.2.

- ▷ Let  $\Phi_{aW}(T) = (\sigma_{SF^-_+}(T), E^0_a(T))$  for all  $T \in L(X)$ . From [18] it follows that  $\Phi_{aW}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for each normal operator acting on a Hilbert space.
- ▷ Let  $\Phi_{\text{gaW}}(T) = (\sigma_{\text{SBF}^-_+}(T), E_a(T))$  for all  $T \in L(X)$ . In the case of a normal operator T acting on a Hilbert space, we have  $\sigma(T) = \sigma_a(T)$  and  $\Phi_{\text{gaW}}(T) = \Phi_{\text{gW}}(T)$ . From [6], Theorem 4.5, it follows that  $\Phi_{\text{gaW}}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T.

**Theorem 3.3.** Let  $T \in L(X)$  and let  $\Phi$  be a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T*. If  $\Psi$  is a spectral valued function such that  $\Psi \leq \Phi$ , then  $\Psi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T* if and only if  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = \Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)$ .

Proof. Assume that  $\Psi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T*, then  $\sigma_a(T) = \Psi_1(T) \sqcup \Psi_2(T) = \Phi_1(T) \sqcup \Phi_2(T)$ . Hence  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = \Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)$ .

Conversely, if  $\Phi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T and  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = \Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)$ , then  $\Psi_1(T) \subset \sigma_a(T)$  and  $\Psi_2(T) \subset \sigma_a(T)$ . As  $\sigma_a(T) = \Phi_1(T) \sqcup \Phi_2(T)$ and  $\Psi \leqslant \Phi$ , we have  $\Phi_1(T) \subset \Psi_1(T)$  and so  $\sigma_a(T) = \Psi_1(T) \cup \Phi_2(T) = \Psi_1(T) \cup (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T) = \Psi_1(T) \cup (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T) = \Psi_1(T) \cup \Psi_2(T)$ . Moreover, we have  $\Psi_1(T) \cap \Psi_2(T) = (\Phi_1(T) \cup (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T))) \cap \Psi_2(T) = (\Phi_1(T) \cap \Psi_2(T)) \cup ((\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T))) \cap \Psi_2(T)) = (\Phi_1(T) \cap \Psi_2(T)) \cup ((\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \cap \Psi_2(T)) = \emptyset$ . Hence  $\sigma_a(T) = \Psi_1(T) \sqcup \Psi_2(T)$  and  $\Psi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T.  $\Box$ 

In the following corollary, as an application of Theorem 3.3, we give a direct proof of [8], Theorem 3.11.

**Corollary 3.4.** If  $\Phi_{gaW}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T*, then  $\Phi_{aW}$  is also a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T*.

Proof. If  $\Phi_{\text{gaW}}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T*, then it is easily seen that  $\sigma_{\text{SF}^+_+}(T) \setminus \sigma_{\text{SBF}^+_+}(T) = E_a(T) \setminus E_a^0(T)$ . From Theorem 3.3, it follows that  $\Phi_{aW}$  is also a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T*.

Similarly to Theorem 3.3, we have the following theorem, which we give without proof.

**Theorem 3.5.** Let  $T \in L(X)$  and let  $\Psi$  be a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T*. If  $\Phi$  is a spectral valued function such that  $\Psi \leq \Phi$ , then  $\Phi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T* if and only if  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = \Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)$ .

Remark 3.6. The spectral valued function  $\Phi_{aW}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for the operator *T* considered in Remark 2.8, but  $\Phi_{gaW}$  is not a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T*.

**Definition 3.7.** The left Drazin spectral valued function  $\Psi_{gaB}$  is defined by:

$$\Psi_{\mathrm{gaB}}(T) = (\sigma_{\mathrm{SBF}^-_+}(T), \Pi_a(T)), \quad \forall T \in L(X),$$

while the upper Browder spectral valued function  $\Psi_{aB}$  is defined on L(X) by:

$$\Psi_{\mathrm{aB}}(T) = (\sigma_{\mathrm{SF}^-_+}(T), \Pi^0_a(T)), \quad \forall T \in L(X).$$

**Theorem 3.8.** Let  $T \in L(X)$ . Then the left Drazin spectral valued function  $\Psi_{\text{gaB}}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T* if and only if the upper Browder spectral valued function  $\Psi_{\text{aB}}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T*.

Proof. Observe first that  $\Psi_{aB} \leq \Psi_{gaB}$ . If  $\Psi_{gaB}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T*, then  $\sigma_{SF_{+}^{-}}(T) \setminus \sigma_{SBF_{+}^{-}}(T) = \Pi_{a}(T) \setminus \Pi_{a}^{0}(T)$ . From Theorem 3.3, we conclude that  $\Psi_{aB}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T*. Conversely, assume that  $\Psi_{aB}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T*. Let us show that  $\sigma_{SF_{+}^{-}}(T) \setminus \sigma_{SBF_{+}^{-}}(T) = \Pi_{a}(T) \setminus \Pi_{a}^{0}(T)$ . The inclusion  $\Pi_{a}(T) \setminus \Pi_{a}^{0}(T) \subset \sigma_{SF_{+}^{-}}(T) \setminus \sigma_{SBF_{+}^{-}}(T)$ is obvious. For the reverse inclusion, let  $\lambda \in \sigma_{SF_{+}^{-}}(T) \setminus \sigma_{SBF_{+}^{-}}(T)$ . From [9], Corollary 3.2,  $\lambda$  is isolated in  $\sigma_{SF_{+}^{-}}(T)$ . As  $\Psi_{aB}$  is a spectral partitioning function for *T*, we have  $\sigma_{a}(T) = \sigma_{SF_{+}^{-}}(T) \sqcup \Pi_{a}^{0}(T)$ . Hence  $\lambda$  is isolated in  $\sigma_{a}(T)$ . From [8], Theorem 2.8, it follows that  $\lambda \in \Pi_{a}(T) \setminus \Pi_{a}^{0}(T)$ .

The direct implication of Theorem 3.8 was proved in [8], Theorem 3.8, while the reverse implication was posed as a question in [8], page 374, and answered in [12], Theorem 1.3, and [2], Theorem 2.2.

Remark 3.9. If the left Drazin spectral valued function  $\Psi_{\text{gaB}}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for  $T \in L(X)$ , then

$$\sigma_{\mathrm{SBF}^+}(T) = \sigma_{\mathrm{LD}}(T) \quad \mathrm{and} \quad \sigma_{\mathrm{SF}^+}(T) = \sigma_{\mathrm{uB}}(T).$$

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 $E \ge a \le 10$ . The following table summarizes some spectral valued functions considered recently as *a*-partitioning functions.

$\Psi_{\mathrm{aW}}(T) = (\sigma_{\mathrm{SF}^+}(T), E^0_a(T))$	$\Psi_{\mathrm{aB}}(T) = (\sigma_{\mathrm{SF}_{+}^{-}}(T), \Pi^{0}_{a}(T))$
$\Psi_{\rm gaW}(T) = (\sigma_{\rm SBF_+}(T), E_a(T))$	$\Psi_{\mathrm{gaB}}(T) = (\sigma_{\mathrm{SBF}_{+}}(T), \Pi_{a}(T))$
$\Psi_{\rm w}(T) = (\sigma_{{\rm SF}^+}(T), E^0(T))$	$\Psi_{\rm b}(T) = (\sigma_{{\rm SF}^+}(T), \Pi^0(T))$
$\Psi_{\rm gw}(T) = (\sigma_{\rm SBF_{\perp}^{-}}(T), E(T))$	$\Psi_{\rm gb}(T) = (\sigma_{\rm SBF_+}(T), \Pi(T))$
$\Psi_{\mathrm{SBw}}(T) = (\sigma_{\mathrm{SBF}_+}(T), E^0(T))$	$\Psi_{\rm SBb}(T) = (\sigma_{\rm SBF_+}(T), \Pi^0(T))$
$\Psi_{\mathrm{SBaw}}(T) = (\sigma_{\mathrm{SBF}^+}(T), E^0_a(T))$	$\Psi_{\mathrm{SBab}}(T) = (\sigma_{\mathrm{SBF}^+}(T), \Pi^0_a(T))$

Table 2. Spectral valued functions.

Among the spectral valued functions listed in Table 2, we consider the following cases to illustrate the use of Theorem 3.3 and Theorem 3.5:

▷ It is shown in [10], Theorem 2.15, that if Ψ<sub>gw</sub> is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T ∈ L(X), then Ψ<sub>gb</sub> is also a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T. Since Ψ<sub>gb</sub> ≤ Ψ<sub>gw</sub>, to prove this result using Theorem 3.3, it is enough to prove that Ø = σ<sub>SBF<sup>-</sup><sub>+</sub></sub>(T) \σ<sub>SBF<sup>-</sup><sub>+</sub></sub>(T) = E(T) \Π(T), which is the case from [6], Theorem 4.2.
▷ It is shown in [8], Corollary 3.3, that if Ψ<sub>gaW</sub> is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T. Since Ψ<sub>gaB</sub> ≤ Ψ<sub>gaW</sub>, to prove this result using Theorem 3.3, it is enough to prove that Ø = Φ<sub>gaW</sub>, to prove this result using Theorem 3.3, it is enough to prove that Ø = Ψ<sub>gaW</sub>, to prove this result using Theorem 3.3, it is enough to prove that Ø = Ψ<sub>gaW</sub>, to prove this result using Theorem 3.3, it is enough to prove that Ø = Ψ<sub>gaW</sub>, to prove this result using Theorem 3.3, it is enough to prove that Ø = Ψ<sub>gaW</sub>, to prove this result using Theorem 3.3, it is enough to prove that Ø = Ψ<sub>gaW</sub>.

 $\sigma_{\text{SBF}_{+}^{-}}(T) \setminus \sigma_{\text{SBF}_{+}^{-}}(T) = E_{a}(T) \setminus \Pi_{a}(T)$ , which is the case from [8], Theorem 2.8.

### 4. Crossed results

In this section we consider the situation of two comparable spectral valued functions. We look for the conditions, when the spectral valued function is spectral *a*-partitioning if the other is spectral partitioning, and vice versa.

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $T \in L(X)$  and let  $\Phi$  be a spectral partitioning function for T. If  $\Psi$  is a spectral valued function such that  $\Psi \leq \Phi$ , then  $\Psi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T if and only if  $\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T) = (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T))$ .

Proof. If  $\Psi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T*, then  $\sigma(T) = (\Psi_1(T) \cup \Psi_2(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)) = (\Phi_1(T) \cup (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T))$ . Hence  $\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T) = (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T))$ .

Conversely, assume that  $\Phi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T and  $\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T) = (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T))$ . Then  $\sigma(T) = \Phi_1(T) \sqcup \Phi_2(T) = \Phi_1(T) \cup (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T) = \Phi_1(T) \cup (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \cup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T) = \Psi_1(T) \cup \Psi_2(T) \cup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T))$ . Hence  $\sigma_a(T) \subset \Psi_1(T) \cup \Psi_2(T)$ .

Since  $\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T) = (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T))$ , we have  $\Psi_1(T) \cup \Psi_2(T) \subset \sigma_a(T)$ . Moreover, as  $\Psi_2(T) \subset \Phi_2(T)$ , we have  $\Psi_1(T) \cap \Psi_2(T) = (\Phi_1(T) \cup (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T))) \cap \Psi_2(T) = \emptyset$ . Then  $\sigma_a(T) = \Psi_1(T) \sqcup \Psi_2(T)$  and  $\Psi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T.

**Corollary 4.2.** Let  $T \in L(X)$  and let  $\Psi$  be a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T. If  $\Phi$  is a spectral valued function such that  $\Psi \leq \Phi$ , then  $\Phi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T if and only if  $\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T) = (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T))$ .

Proof. Assume that  $\Phi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T. As  $\Psi \leq \Phi$ , and  $\Psi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T, from Theorem 4.1 we have  $\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T) = (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)).$ 

Conversely, assume that  $\Psi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T and  $\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T) = (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T))$ . Then  $\sigma(T) = (\Psi_1(T) \cup \Psi_2(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)) = (\Phi_1(T) \cup (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)) = \Phi_1(T) \cup (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T) = \Phi_1(T) \cup \Phi_2(T).$ 

As  $\Phi_1(T) \subset \Psi_1(T)$ , we have  $\Phi_1(T) \cap \Phi_2(T) = \Phi_1(T) \cap ((\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T)) = \Phi_1(T) \cap ((\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \cup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T)) = \emptyset$ . Therefore  $\sigma(T) = \Phi_1(T) \sqcup \Phi_2(T)$  and  $\Phi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T.

Similarly to Theorem 4.1 and Corollary 4.2 we have the following two results.

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $T \in L(X)$  and let  $\Phi$  be a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T. If  $\Psi$  is a spectral valued function such that  $\Psi \leq \Phi$ , then  $\Psi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T if and only if  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T))$ .

Proof. If  $\Psi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T, then  $\sigma(T) = \Psi_1(T) \sqcup \Psi_2(T) = \Phi_1(T) \cup (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T)$ . Hence  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T))$ .

Conversely, assume that  $\Phi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T and  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T))$ . Then  $\sigma(T) = \Phi_1(T) \cup \Phi_2(T) \cup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)) = \Phi_1(T) \cup (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T) \cup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)) = \Phi_1(T) \cup (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T)$ . Hence  $\sigma(T) = \Psi_1(T) \cup \Psi_2(T)$ . Since  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T))$  and  $\Psi_2(T) \subset \Phi_2(T)$ , we have  $\Psi_1(T) \cap \Psi_2(T) = (\Phi_1(T) \cup (\Psi_1(T) \cup (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T))) \cap \Psi_2(T) = \emptyset$ . Hence  $\sigma(T) = \Psi_1(T) \sqcup \Psi_2(T)$  and  $\Psi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T.

**Corollary 4.4.** Let  $T \in L(X)$  and let  $\Psi$  be a spectral partitioning function for T. If  $\Phi$  is a spectral valued function such that  $\Psi \leq \Phi$ , then  $\Phi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T if and only if  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)).$  Proof. Assume that  $\Phi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T*. As  $\Psi \leq \Phi$ , and  $\Psi$  is a spectral partitioning function for *T*, from Theorem 4.3 we have  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)).$ 

Conversely, assume that  $\Psi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T and  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T))$ . Then  $\sigma(T) = \Psi_1(T) \cup \Psi_2(T) = \Phi_1(T) \cup (\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T) = \Phi_1(T) \cup (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \cup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T) = \Phi_1(T) \cup \Phi_2(T) \cup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)).$ 

Hence  $\sigma_a(T) \subset \Phi_1(T) \cup \Phi_2(T)$ . Since  $\Psi_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T) = (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T))$  and  $\Psi_2(T) \cap \Psi_1(T) = \emptyset$ , we have  $\Phi_1(T) \cup \Phi_2(T) \subset \sigma_a(T)$ . Moreover, we have  $\Phi_1(T) \cap \Phi_2(T) = \Phi_1(T) \cap ((\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T))$  and since  $\Phi_1(T) \subset \Psi_1(T)$ , we have  $\Phi_1(T) \cap \Phi_2(T) = \emptyset$ . Therefore  $\sigma_a(T) = \Phi_1(T) \sqcup \Phi_2(T)$  and  $\Phi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for *T*.

Among the spectral valued functions listed in Table 1 and Table 2, we consider the following case to illustrate the use of Theorem 4.1 and Theorem 4.3.

It is shown in [18], Corollary 2.5, that if  $\Psi_{aW}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for  $T \in L(X)$ , then  $\Phi_W$  is a partitioning function for T. When  $\Psi_{aW}$  is a spectral *a*partitioning function for T, then  $\sigma_W(T) \setminus \sigma_{SF^+_+}(T) = (E^0_a(T \setminus E^0(T))) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T))$ . Since  $\Phi_W \leq \Psi_{aW}$ , this result is a direct consequence of Theorem 4.3. Moreover, combining Theorem 4.3 and Corollary 4.4, we have the following theorem, characterizing the equivalence of the two properties.

**Theorem 4.5.** Let  $T \in L(X)$ . The spectral valued function  $\Psi_{aW}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T if and only if  $\Phi_W$  is a partitioning function for T and  $\sigma_W(T) \setminus \sigma_{SF_+}(T) = (E_a^0(T \setminus E^0(T))) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)).$ 

It is shown in [1], Theorem 2.6, that if  $\Psi_{w}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for  $T \in L(X)$ , then  $\Phi_{\rm B}$  is a spectral partitioning function for T. When  $\Psi_{w}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T, then  $\sigma_{W}(T) \setminus \sigma_{{\rm SF}^{-}_{+}}(T) = (E^{0}(T) \setminus \Pi^{0}(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_{a}(T))$ . As  $\Phi_{\rm B} \leq \Psi_{w}$ , this result is a direct consequence of Theorem 4.1. Moreover, as in Theorem 4.5, we have the following theorem characterizing the equivalence of the two properties.

**Theorem 4.6.** Let  $T \in L(X)$ . The spectral valued function  $\Psi_w$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T if and only if  $\Phi_B$  is a partitioning function for T and  $\sigma_W(T) \setminus \sigma_{SF_{\perp}^-}(T) = (E^0(T) \setminus \Pi^0(T)) \cup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)).$ 

Example 4.7. Let us consider the operator T of Remark 2.8, and the two spectral valued functions defined by  $\Phi_{\text{gaw}}(T) = (\Phi_1(T), \Phi_2(T)) = (\sigma_{\text{BW}}, E_a(T))$  and  $\Phi_{\text{Baw}}(T) = (\Phi'_1(T), \Phi'_2(T)) = (\sigma_{\text{BW}}(T), E^0_a(T))$ . Then  $\Phi_{\text{Baw}} \leq \Phi_{\text{gaw}}$  and  $\Phi_{\text{Baw}}$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T. Since we have  $\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Phi'_2(T) = \{0\}$ , and  $(\Phi'_1(T) \setminus \Phi_1(T)) \cup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)) = \emptyset$ , from Corollary 4.2 we have that  $\Phi_{\text{gaw}}$  is not a spectral partitioning function for T, which is readily verified.

For the study of spectral valued functions, we have considered comparable spectral valued functions for the order relation  $\leq$ . This not always the case, as shown by the spectral valued functions  $\Psi_{\rm gb}$  and  $\Phi_{\rm gab}$ , defined by  $\Psi_{\rm gb}(T) = (\sigma_{\rm SBF_+}(T), \Pi(T))$  and  $\Phi_{\rm gab}(T) = (\sigma_{\rm BW}(T), \Pi_a(T))$  for all  $T \in L(X)$ . We observe that in fact  $\Psi_{\rm gb}$  and  $\Phi_{\rm gab}$  are comparable for the order relation  $\subset$ , in the sense that  $\sigma_{\rm SBF_+}(T) \subset \sigma_{\rm BW}(T)$ , and  $\Pi(T) \subset \Pi_a(T)$ . To deal with such cases, we have the following two results.

**Theorem 4.8.** Let  $T \in L(X)$  and let  $\Phi$  be a spectral partitioning function for T. If  $\Psi$  is a spectral valued function such that  $\Psi \subset \Phi$ , then  $\Psi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T if and only if  $(\Phi_1(T) \setminus \Psi_1(T)) \sqcup (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) = \sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)$ .

Proof. Since  $\Phi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T, we have  $\sigma(T) = \Phi_1(T) \sqcup \Phi_2(T)$ . If  $\Psi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T, then  $\sigma(T) = \Phi_1(T) \sqcup \Phi_2(T) = (\Psi_1(T) \cup \Psi_2(T)) \sqcup (\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)) = \Psi_1(T) \cup (\Phi_1(T) \setminus \Psi_1(T)) \cup \Psi_2(T) \cup (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T))$ . As  $(\Phi_1(T) \setminus \Psi_1(T)) \cap (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T)) = \emptyset$ , we have  $\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T) = (\Phi_1(T) \setminus \Psi_1(T)) \sqcup (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T))$ .

Conversely, assume that  $\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T) = (\Phi_1(T) \setminus \Psi_1(T)) \sqcup (\Psi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T))$ . As  $\sigma(T) = \Phi_1(T) \sqcup \Phi_2(T)$ , we have  $\sigma_a(T) = \Psi_1(T) \cup \Psi_2(T)$ . As we have obviously  $\Psi_1(T) \cap \Psi_2(T) = \emptyset$ , then  $\sigma_a(T) = \Psi_1(T) \sqcup \Psi_2(T)$ , and  $\Psi$  is a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T.

Similarly to Theorem 4.8, we have the following result, which we give without proof.

**Theorem 4.9.** Let  $T \in L(X)$  and let  $\Psi$  be a spectral *a*-partitioning function for T. If  $\Phi$  is a spectral valued function such that  $\Psi \subset \Phi$ , then  $\Phi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T if and only if  $\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T) = (\Phi_1(T) \setminus \Psi_1(T)) \sqcup (\Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T))$ .

We observe that in Theorem 4.9,  $\Phi$  is a spectral partitioning function for T if and only if the function  $\Phi \setminus \Psi$  defined by  $(\Phi \setminus \Psi)(T) = (\Phi_1(T) \setminus \Psi_1(T), \Phi_2(T) \setminus \Psi_2(T))$ for all  $T \in L(X)$  is partitioning for the complement of the approximate spectrum  $\sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_a(T)$ .

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