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# On equivalent conditions of two sequences to be R-dual

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## Abstract

The concept of R-duals was introduced by Casazza, Kutyniok, and Lammers in 2004. In this paper, we give a condition when a Parseval frame can be dilated to an orthonormal basis of a given separable Hilbert space  $H$ . This is advantageous for deriving a condition for a sequence  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  to be an R-dual of a given frame  $\{f_j\}_{j \in J}$ .

## 1 Introduction

The concept of R-duals was first introduced by Casazza *et al.* in [1]. Although it is defined in general frame theory, there is a natural connection with Gabor frame theory. And it is still an open problem whether the duality principle in Gabor analysis actually can be derived from the theory of the R-dual. Lots of scholars have done much research in this area. Reference [2] introduces various alternative R-duals and shows their relations with Gabor frames. References [3] and [4] consider R-dual in Banach space. In [5], the authors give an equivalent condition for a sequence  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  to be an R-dual of a given frame  $\{f_j\}_{j \in J}$ . However, we think there is a mistake in their proof. The correction of it will be discussed in Section 3.

The dilation viewpoint on frames is introduced by Larson and Han in [6], which has a natural relation with the R-dual. They point out that any Parseval frame can be dilated to an orthonormal basis. But given a Hilbert space  $H$  and a Parseval frame of a subspace of  $H$ , can the Parseval frame be dilated to an orthonormal basis for  $H$ ? This will be discussed in Section 2.

In the entire paper, we let  $H$  denote a separable Hilbert space, with the inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ , and  $J$  be a countable index set.

**Definition 1** A sequence  $\{f_j\}_{j \in J}$  of elements in  $H$  is a frame for  $H$  if there exist constants  $A, B > 0$  such that

$$A\|f\|^2 \leq \sum_{j \in J} |\langle f, f_j \rangle|^2 \leq B\|f\|^2, \quad f \in H.$$

The constants  $A, B$  are called a lower and upper frame bounds for the frame. A frame is A-tight, if  $A = B$ . If  $A = B = 1$ , it is called a Parseval frame (a normalized tight frame in [6]).

**Definition 2** A sequence  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  in  $H$  is a Riesz sequence if there exist constants  $C, D > 0$  such that

$$C \sum_{j \in J} |c_j|^2 \leq \left\| \sum_{j \in J} c_j \omega_j \right\|^2 \leq D \sum_{j \in J} |c_j|^2$$

for all finite sequence  $\{c_j\}_{j \in J}$ . The numbers  $C, D$  are called Riesz bounds. A Riesz sequence is a Riesz basis for  $H$  if it is complete in  $H$ .

For more information as regards frames and Riesz bases we refer to the monograph [7]. We now state the definition of the R-dual sequence.

**Definition 3** [1] Let  $\{e_i\}_{i \in J}$  and  $\{h_i\}_{i \in J}$  denote two orthonormal bases for  $H$ , and let  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  be any sequence in  $H$  for which

$$\sum_{i \in J} |\langle f_i, e_j \rangle|^2 < \infty, \quad \forall j \in J.$$

The R-dual of  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  with respect to the orthonormal bases  $\{e_i\}_{i \in J}$  and  $\{h_i\}_{i \in J}$  is the sequence  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  given by

$$\omega_j = \sum_{i \in J} \langle f_i, e_j \rangle h_i, \quad j \in J. \quad (1.1)$$

It is well known from [1] that  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  is a frame for  $H$  with bounds  $A, B$  if and only if  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  is a Riesz sequence in  $H$  with bounds  $A, B$ . But given two sequence  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  and  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$ , under what conditions can we find orthonormal bases  $\{e_i\}_{i \in J}$  and  $\{h_i\}_{i \in J}$  for  $H$  such that (1.1) holds? This is the main question we want to answer in this paper. It will be discussed in Section 3 explicitly. Assume that  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  is a frame for  $H$ . Define a sequence  $\{n_i\}_{i \in J}$  by

$$n_i = \sum_{k \in J} \langle e_k, f_i \rangle \tilde{\omega}_k, \quad i \in J, \quad (1.2)$$

where  $\{\tilde{\omega}_j\}_{j \in J}$  is the canonical dual Riesz sequence of  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$ . The construction of  $\{n_i\}_{i \in J}$  comes from [5]. It plays an important role in this paper.

**Proposition 1** [5] Let  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  be a Riesz basis for the subspace  $W$  of  $H$ , with dual Riesz basis  $\{\tilde{\omega}_k\}_{k \in J}$ . Let  $\{e_i\}_{i \in J}$  be an orthonormal basis for  $H$ . Given any sequence  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  in  $H$ , the following hold:

(i) There exists a sequence  $\{h_i\}_{i \in J}$  in  $H$  such that

$$f_i = \sum_{j \in J} \langle \omega_j, h_i \rangle e_j, \quad \forall i \in J. \quad (1.3)$$

(ii) The sequence  $\{h_i\}_{i \in J}$  satisfying (1.3) is characterized as

$$h_i = m_i + n_i, \quad (1.4)$$

where  $n_i$  is given by (1.2) and  $m_i \in W^\perp$ .

(iii) If  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  is a Riesz basis for  $H$ , then (1.3) has the unique solution

$$h_i = n_i, \quad i \in J.$$

In [5], Christensen *et al.* give a solution to the main question.

**Theorem 1** [5] *Let  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  be a Riesz sequence spanning a proper subspace  $W$  of  $H$  and  $\{e_i\}_{i \in J}$  an orthonormal basis for  $H$ . Given any frame  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  for  $H$ , the following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  is an  $R$ -dual of  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  w.r.t.  $\{e_i\}_{i \in J}$  and some orthonormal basis  $\{h_i\}_{i \in J}$ .
- (ii) There exists an orthonormal basis  $\{h_i\}_{i \in J}$  for  $H$  satisfying (1.3).
- (iii) The sequence  $\{n_i\}_{i \in J}$  in (1.2) is a Parseval frame.

We point out that, in fact, (iii) is not equivalent to the other items in Theorem 1. In order to clarify this, we need the following proposition from [6].

**Proposition 2** [6] *Let  $J$  be a countable (or finite) index set. Suppose that  $\{x_n : n \in J\}$  is a Parseval frame for  $W$ . Then there exist a Hilbert space  $K \supseteq W$  and an orthonormal basis  $\{e_n : n \in J\}$  for  $K$  such that  $Pe_n = x_n$ , where  $P$  is the orthogonal projection from  $K$  onto  $W$ .*

## 2 A dilation theorem

In this section, a dilation theorem is given, which will be used in Section 3. Firstly, we give an example to show that Theorem 1 is not strictly right.

**Example 1** In this example, we choose the index set  $J = \mathbb{N}$ , the natural number set. Suppose  $\{z_i\}_{i \in J}$  is an orthonormal basis for  $H$ . Define  $f_i = 2z_i$  and  $\omega_i = 2z_{2i}$  for all  $i \in J$ . Then the sequence  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  is a Parseval frame with frame bounds 2 and  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  is a Riesz sequence with bounds 2 as well. The canonical dual  $\{\tilde{\omega}_j\}_{j \in J}$  of  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  equals  $\{\frac{1}{2}z_{2j}\}_{j \in J}$ . Let

$$n_i = \sum_{k \in J} \langle z_k, f_i \rangle \tilde{\omega}_k = \sum_{k \in J} \langle z_k, 2z_i \rangle \frac{1}{2} z_{2k} = z_{2i}.$$

Obviously,  $\{n_i\}_{i \in J}$  is a Parseval frame, but  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  cannot be an  $R$ -dual of  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$ . If not, by (ii) of Proposition 1, an orthonormal basis  $\{h_i\}_{i \in J}$  for  $H$  can be characterized by

$$h_i = m_i + n_i,$$

where  $m_i \in W^\perp$  for all  $i \in J$ . Since  $n_i \in W$ , we have

$$1 = \|h_i\|^2 = \|m_i + n_i\|^2 = \|m_i\|^2 + \|n_i\|^2 = \|m_i\|^2 + \|z_{2i}\|^2.$$

Since  $\|z_{2i}\| = 1$ , one has  $m_i = 0$  for all  $i \in J$ . Therefore  $h_i = n_i = z_{2i}$ . This contradicts  $\{h_i\}_{i \in J}$  being an orthonormal basis for  $H$ . Thus (iii) of Proposition 1 is not right.

In fact, given any orthonormal sequence (of course a Parseval frame), it cannot be dilated to any orthonormal basis but itself. Generally, we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 2** *Given two separable Hilbert spaces  $H \supseteq M$ , suppose that  $\{x_n\}_{n \in J}$  is a Parseval frame for  $W$ . Then there exists an orthonormal basis  $\{e_n\}_{n \in J}$  for  $H$  s.t.  $Pe_n = x_n$  if and only if*

$$\dim(\ker T) = \dim(W^\perp), \quad (2.1)$$

where  $P$  is an orthogonal projection from  $H$  onto  $W$ ,  $T$  is the synthesis operator of  $\{x_i\}_{i \in J}$ .

*Proof* First we treat sufficiency. Since

$$\sum_{i \in J} c_i x_i = \sum_{i \in J} c_i P e_i = P \sum_{i \in J} c_i e_i,$$

for any  $\{c_i\}_{i \in J} \in \ell^2(J)$ , a sequence  $\{c_i\}_{i \in J} \in \ker T$  if and only if  $\sum_{i \in J} c_i e_i \in W^\perp$ . So (2.1) holds.

Now we treat necessity. Suppose (2.1) holds, from the proof of the Proposition 2, there exist a Hilbert space  $K = \ell^2(J)$ , an orthogonal projection  $P$ , and an orthonormal basis  $\{e_i\}_{i \in J}$  for  $K$ , such that

$$P e_i = \theta(x_i), \quad (2.2)$$

where  $\theta$  is the analysis operator of  $\{x_i\}$ . Since  $\theta$  is injective, it has inverse restricted to  $\theta(W)$ . For simplicity, we just denote it by  $\theta^{-1}$ .

For any  $\{c_i\}_{i \in J} \in \ell^2(J)$ , since

$$\sum_{i \in J} c_i \langle x, x_i \rangle = \left\langle x, \sum_{i \in J} \bar{c}_i x_i \right\rangle,$$

we have

$$\dim \ker T = \dim(\theta(W))^\perp. \quad (2.3)$$

Together with (2.1), we have

$$\dim W^\perp = \dim(\ker T) = \dim(\theta(W))^\perp.$$

Therefore, there is a unitary operator  $\eta$  from  $W^\perp$  onto  $(\theta(W))^\perp$ . Combining with  $\theta$ , we can define a unitary operator  $U$  from  $H$  onto  $K$ :

$$U t = U(t_1 + t_2) = \theta t_1 + \eta t_2, \quad t_1 \in W, t_2 \in W^\perp.$$

One can easily get

$$U^{-1} y = U^{-1}(y_1 + y_2) = \theta^{-1} y_1 + \eta^{-1} y_2, \quad y_1 \in \theta(W), y_2 \in (\theta(W))^\perp.$$

Therefore,  $U^* = U^{-1}$ . In fact, for  $t \in H$  and  $y \in K$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle U t, y \rangle &= \langle U(t_1 + t_2), y_1 + y_2 \rangle \\ &= \langle \theta t_1, y_1 \rangle + \langle \eta t_2, y_2 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \langle t_1, \theta^{-1}y_1 \rangle + \langle t_2, \eta^{-1}y_2 \rangle \\
&= \langle t, \theta^{-1}y_1 + \eta^{-1}y_2 \rangle \\
&= \langle t, U^{-1}y \rangle \\
&= \langle t, U^*y \rangle,
\end{aligned}$$

where the third equation is due to the Parseval frame property of  $\{x_n\}_{n \in J}$  and unitarity of  $\eta$ . Because of the unitarity of  $U$ , also  $\epsilon_i = U^{-1}e_i$  is an orthonormal basis for  $H$ .

Now, taking  $U^{-1}$  on the two sides of (2.2), we have

$$U^{-1}Pe_i = U^{-1}PUU^{-1}e_i = U^{-1}PU\epsilon_i = x_i.$$

We claim that  $U^{-1}PU$  is also an orthogonal projection. In fact, by the properties of  $U$  and  $P$ , we have

$$(U^{-1}PU)^2 = U^{-1}P^2U = U^{-1}PU$$

and

$$(U^{-1}PU)^* = (U^*PU)^* = U^*PU = U^{-1}PU.$$

Thus we get as desired the complete proof.  $\square$

### 3 Conditions of R-dual

In this section, we discuss under what conditions  $\{\omega_i\}_{i \in J}$  can be an R-dual of  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$ . At first, we give two lemmata which will be used later.

**Lemma 1** *Let  $\{n_i\}_{i \in J}$  be defined as (1.2),  $W$  the close span of  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$ , then  $\overline{\text{span}}\{n_i\}_{i \in J} = W$ .*

*Proof* Since  $n_i = \sum_{k \in J} \langle e_k, f_i \rangle \tilde{\omega}_k$ , we have

$$\overline{\text{span}}\{n_i\}_{i \in J} \subseteq \overline{\text{span}}\{\tilde{\omega}_i\}_{i \in J} = W.$$

In the opposite direction, since  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  is a frame for  $H$ , there exists a sequence  $\{c_\ell\}_{\ell \in J} \in \ell^2(J)$  such that  $e_m = \sum_{\ell \in J} c_\ell f_\ell$  for  $m \in J$ . Then one has

$$\sum_{\ell \in J} \bar{c}_\ell n_\ell = \sum_{\ell \in J} \bar{c}_\ell \sum_{k \in J} \langle e_k, f_\ell \rangle \tilde{\omega}_k = \sum_{k \in J} \left\langle e_k, \sum_{\ell \in J} c_\ell f_\ell \right\rangle \tilde{\omega}_k = \sum_{k \in J} \langle e_k, e_m \rangle \tilde{\omega}_k = \tilde{\omega}_m.$$

Thus  $W \subseteq \overline{\text{span}}\{n_i\}_{i \in J}$ . We have the desired result.  $\square$

Define  $S_\omega f = \sum_{k \in J} \langle f, \omega_k \rangle \omega_k$  and  $S_{\tilde{\omega}} f = \sum_{k \in J} \langle f, \tilde{\omega}_k \rangle \tilde{\omega}_k$ , for  $f \in W$ . Then  $S_\omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \tilde{\omega}_k$  is an orthonormal basis for  $W$ . Since  $\langle \omega_k, S_\omega^{-1} \omega_\ell \rangle = \delta_{k,\ell}$  by [7], one has  $\tilde{\omega}_k = S_\omega^{-1} \omega_k$ . Furthermore, we have

$$S_{\tilde{\omega}} f = \sum_{k \in J} \langle f, S_\omega^{-1} \omega_k \rangle S_\omega^{-1} \omega_k = S_\omega^{-1} S_\omega S_\omega^{-1} f = S_\omega^{-1} f, \quad \forall f \in W.$$

This means the operator equation  $S_{\tilde{\omega}} = S_\omega^{-1}$  holds.

Let  $\epsilon_k = S_{\omega}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \tilde{\omega}$ , then  $\tilde{\omega}_k = S_{\omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} \epsilon_k$ . Let  $\{e_k\}_{k \in J}$  be an orthonormal basis for  $H$ , define an antiunitary operator  $\Lambda : H \rightarrow W$  by

$$\Lambda f = \Lambda \left( \sum_{k \in J} c_k e_k \right) = \sum_{k \in J} \bar{c}_k \epsilon_k, \quad \text{for } f = \sum_{k \in J} c_k e_k \in H.$$

Obviously, the inverse of  $\Lambda$  is also an antiunitary operator and

$$\Lambda^{-1} g = \Lambda^{-1} \left( \sum_{k \in J} c_k \epsilon_k \right) = \sum_{k \in J} \bar{c}_k e_k, \quad \forall g \in W.$$

Furthermore, the antiunitary operator  $\Lambda$  has the following property.

**Lemma 2** *Let  $\Lambda$  be defined as above, then  $\langle \Lambda f, g \rangle = \langle \Lambda^{-1} g, f \rangle$  for any  $f \in H$  and  $g \in W$ .*

*Proof* By the definition of  $\Lambda$ , one has

$$\langle \Lambda f, g \rangle = \left\langle \sum_{k \in J} \langle e_k, f \rangle \epsilon_k, g \right\rangle = \sum_{k \in J} \langle e_k, f \rangle \langle \epsilon_k, g \rangle = \left\langle \sum_{k \in J} \langle \epsilon_k, g \rangle e_k, f \right\rangle = \langle \Lambda^{-1} g, f \rangle. \quad \square$$

**Theorem 3** *There exists an orthonormal basis  $\{e_i\}_{i \in J}$  such that  $\{n_i\}_{i \in J}$  is a Parseval frame if and only if there exists an antiunitary operator  $\Lambda$  such that  $S_{\omega} = \Lambda S \Lambda^{-1}$ , where  $S$  is the frame operator of  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$ .*

*Proof* By the definition of  $\{n_i\}_{i \in J}$  and Lemma 2, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i \in J} |\langle f, n_i \rangle|^2 &= \sum_{i \in J} \left| \left\langle f, \sum_{k \in J} \langle e_k, f_i \rangle \tilde{\omega}_k \right\rangle \right|^2 \\ &= \sum_{i \in J} \left| \sum_{k \in J} \langle f_i, e_k \rangle \langle f, \tilde{\omega}_k \rangle \right|^2 \\ &= \sum_{k \in J} \sum_{\ell \in J} \left( \sum_{i \in J} \langle f_i, e_k \rangle \langle e_{\ell}, f_i \rangle \right) \langle f, \tilde{\omega}_k \rangle \langle \tilde{\omega}_{\ell}, f \rangle \\ &= \sum_{k \in J} \sum_{\ell \in J} \langle e_{\ell}, S e_k \rangle \langle f, S_{\omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} \Lambda e_k \rangle \langle S_{\omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} \Lambda e_{\ell}, f \rangle \\ &= \sum_{k \in J} \sum_{\ell \in J} \langle e_{\ell}, S e_k \rangle \langle e_k, \Lambda^{-1} S_{\omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} f \rangle \langle \Lambda^{-1} S_{\omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} f, e_{\ell} \rangle \\ &= \sum_{k \in J} \langle e_k, \Lambda^{-1} S_{\omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} f \rangle \langle \Lambda^{-1} S_{\omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} f, S e_k \rangle \\ &= \left\langle \sum_{k \in J} \langle \Lambda^{-1} S_{\omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} f, S e_k \rangle e_k, \Lambda^{-1} S_{\omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} f \right\rangle \\ &= \langle S \Lambda^{-1} S_{\omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} f, \Lambda^{-1} S_{\omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} f \rangle \\ &= \langle f, S_{\omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} \Lambda S \Lambda^{-1} S_{\omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} f \rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

Suppose  $\{n_i\}_{i \in J}$  is a Parseval frame; then we have

$$\sum_{i \in J} |\langle f, n_i \rangle|^2 = \|f\|^2, \quad \forall f \in W. \quad (3.2)$$

By (3.1), it becomes

$$\sum_{i \in J} |\langle f, n_i \rangle|^2 = \langle f, S_\omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \Lambda S \Lambda^{-1} S_\omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} f \rangle = \langle f, f \rangle. \quad (3.3)$$

For arbitrary complex numbers  $a$  and  $b$ , we have

$$\Lambda S \Lambda^{-1} (af + bg) = \Lambda S (\bar{a} \Lambda^{-1} f + \bar{b} \Lambda^{-1} g) = a \Lambda S \Lambda^{-1} f + b \Lambda S \Lambda^{-1} g.$$

Thus  $\Lambda S \Lambda^{-1}$  is a linear operator, so is the operator  $S_\omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \Lambda S \Lambda^{-1} S_\omega^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ . This means  $S_\omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \Lambda S \Lambda^{-1} S_\omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} = I$  by (3.3), i.e.

$$S_\omega = \Lambda S \Lambda^{-1}.$$

On the other hand, assume there exists an antiunitary operator  $\Lambda$  such that  $S_\omega = \Lambda S \Lambda^{-1}$ . Define  $e_j = \Lambda^{-1} \epsilon_j = \Lambda^{-1} S_\omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \tilde{\omega}_k$ , then (3.1) means

$$n_i = \sum_{k \in J} \langle e_k, f_i \rangle \tilde{\omega}_k$$

is a Parseval frame. □

**Theorem 4** Suppose  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  is a frame for a separable Hilbert space  $H$  and  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  is a Riesz sequence in  $H$ .  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  is an R-dual of  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  if and only if the following two conditions hold:

- (i) there exists an antiunitary operator  $\Lambda$  s.t.  $S_\omega = \Lambda S \Lambda^{-1}$ ;
- (ii)  $\dim(\ker T) = \dim(W^\perp)$ .

*Proof* By Proposition 1,  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  is an R-dual of  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  if and only if  $\{n_i\}_{i \in J}$  can be dilated to an orthonormal basis for  $H$ . By Theorem 2, this is equivalent to  $\{n_i\}_{i \in J}$  being a Parseval frame and (ii) holding. Using Theorem 3, we see that  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  is an R-dual of  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  if and only (i) and (ii) hold. □

We appreciate one reviewer having pointed out that Theorem 4 is of exactly the same type as the characterizations of type II/III in [2]. In the special case, if  $\{f_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  is an A-tight frame for a separable Hilbert space  $H$  with infinite dimension and  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$  is an A-tight Riesz sequence where  $\mathbb{N}$  denotes the natural number set, then there must be an antiunitary operator  $\Lambda$  from  $H$  onto  $W$ . So we have  $S = AI_H$ ,  $S_W = AI_W$ , and

$$S_W = AI_W = \Lambda AI_H \Lambda^{-1} = \Lambda S \Lambda^{-1}.$$

Thus the condition (i) of Theorem 4 holds automatically. And we get the following corollary, first given in [2].

**Corollary 1** [2] *Let  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  be a tight frame for  $H$  and let  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  be a tight Riesz sequence in  $H$  with the same bound. Denote the synthesis operator for  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  by  $T$ . Then  $\{\omega_j\}_{j \in J}$  is an  $R$ -dual of  $\{f_i\}_{i \in J}$  if and only if  $\dim(\ker T) = \dim(W^\perp)$  holds.*

**Remark 1** Since  $S_W f = \sum_{j \in J} \langle f, \omega_j \rangle \omega_j$  and

$$\Lambda S \Lambda^{-1} f = \sum_{j \in J} \langle f, \Lambda^{-1} f \rangle \Lambda f_j = \sum_{j \in J} \langle f, \Lambda f_j \rangle \Lambda f_j,$$

(i) of Theorem 4 is equivalent to there existing an antiunitary operator such that

$$\sum_{j \in J} \langle f, \omega_j \rangle \omega_j = \sum_{j \in J} \langle f, \Lambda f_j \rangle \Lambda f_j.$$

**Remark 2** For parameters  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ , define the operators  $T_a$  and  $E_b$  on  $L_2(\mathbb{R})$  by  $T_a f(x) = f(x - a)$  and  $E_b f(x) = e^{2\pi i b x} f(x)$ , respectively. From [8], we know that if  $ab < 1$  and  $\{E_{mb} T_{na} g\}_{m,n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is a frame, then  $\{E_{mb} T_{na} g\}_{m,n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  has an infinite excess. If  $ab > 1$ , then  $\{E_{mb} T_{na} g\}_{m,n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  has an infinite deficit. This demonstrates that, if we want to solve the open problem, we only need (i) of Theorem 4 to hold. By Remark 1, this is equivalent to finding an antiunitary operator  $\Lambda$  such that

$$\sum_{m,n} \langle f, \Lambda E_{mb} T_{na} g \rangle \Lambda E_{mb} T_{na} g = \sum_{m,n} \left\langle f, \frac{1}{\sqrt{ab}} E_{m/a} T_{n/bg} \right\rangle \frac{1}{\sqrt{ab}} E_{m/a} T_{n/bg} g.$$

#### Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

#### Authors' contributions

All authors contributed to each part of this work equally and read and approved the final manuscript.

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