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ISOMETRIES AND HERMITIAN OPERATORS ON SPACES OF VECTOR-VALUED LIPSCHITZ MAPS

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Abstract We study hermitian operators and isometries on spaces of vector-valued Lipschitz maps with the sum norm. There are two main theorems in this paper. Firstly, we prove that every hermitian operator on $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$, where E is a complex Banach space, is a generalized composition operator. Secondly, we give a complete description of unital surjective complex linear isometries on $\mathrm{Lip}(X,\mathcal{A})$, where $\mathcal{A}$ is a unital factor C^*-algebra. These results improve previous results stated by the author.

1. Introduction and Main results

Given a compact metric space X and a complex Banach space $(E,\|\cdot\|_E)$, a map $F : X \to E$ is said to be Lipschitz if

$$L(F) := \sup_{x \neq y \in X} \left\{ \frac{\|F(x) - F(y)\|_E}{d(x,y)} \right\} < \infty.$$

We denote a space of all E-valued Lipschitz maps on X by $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$. In the case $E = \mathbb{C}$, we simply write $\mathrm{Lip}(X)$. The Lipschitz space $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ is a Banach space with the sum norm

$$\|F\|_L = \sup_{x \in X} \|F(x)\|_E + L(F), \quad F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E).$$

In particular, $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ endowed with $\|\cdot\|_L$ is a Banach algebra if E is a Banach algebra.

1.1. Surjective linear isometries

Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a unital C^*-algebra. We study unital surjective linear isometries on $\mathrm{Lip}(X,\mathcal{A})$ with $\|\cdot\|_L$. We explain the motivation for our study. Kadison in [10] obtained the following characterization of surjective complex linear isometries between unital C^*-algebras. Let $\mathcal{A}_i$ be unital C^*-algebras for $i = 1,2$. Let $U : \mathcal{A}_1 \to \mathcal{A}_2$ be a surjective linear isometry. Then there are a unitary element $u \in \mathcal{A}_2$ and a Jordan $*$-isomorphism $\psi : \mathcal{A}_1 \to \mathcal{A}_2$ such that $U(a) = u\psi(a)$ for any $a \in \mathcal{A}$. This has a remarkable and beautiful consequence such that the unital surjective linear isometries between unital C^*-algebras are Jordan $*$-isomorphisms. Many researchers have been interested in considering whether every surjective linear isometry on algebras is closely related to an isomorphism on the algebras. We deal with surjective linear isometries on Banach algebras of continuous maps taking values in a unital C^*-algebra. For any unital C^*-algebra $\mathcal{A}$, we denote by $C(K,\mathcal{A})$ the Banach algebra, with the supremum norm, of all continuous maps on a compact Hausdorff space K taking values in $\mathcal{A}$. Let us consider surjective linear isometries between $C(K,\mathcal{A})$-spaces. Since $C(K,\mathcal{A})$ is a unital C^*-algebra, the celebrated theorem due to Kadison tells that every unital surjective linear isometry is a Jordan $*$-isomorphism. In particular, if $\mathcal{A}_i$ are unital factor C^*-algebras for $i = 1,2$, in [8, Corollary 5] they showed that every surjective linear isometry $U : C(K_1,\mathcal{A}_1) \to C(K_2,\mathcal{A}_2)$ is a weighted composition operator of the form

$$U(F)(y) = u\psi_y(F(\varphi(y))), \tag{1}$$

where $\varphi : K_2 \to K_1$ is a homeomorphism, $\{\psi_y\}_{y \in K_2}$ is a strongly continuous family of Jordan $*$-isomorphisms from $\mathcal{A}_1$ onto $\mathcal{A}_2$, and $u \in C(K_2,\mathcal{A}_2)$ is a unitary element. One may wonder whether any surjective linear isometries from $\mathrm{Lip}(X_1,\mathcal{A}_1)$ onto $\mathrm{Lip}(X_2,\mathcal{A}_2)$ are also a weighted composition operator similar to (1). First, we introduce the results by the author in [14]. We showed every hermitian operator on $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ is a generalized composition operator under the more restrictive condition that E is of finite dimension. Furthermore, we obtained the following theorem by using the notion of hermitian operators. We denote the Banach algebra of complex matrices of order n by $M_n(\mathbb{C})$.

Theorem 1.1 (Theorem 3.3 in [14]). *Let X_i be compact metric spaces for $i = 1,2$. The map $U : (\mathrm{Lip}(X_1,M_n(\mathbb{C})), \|\cdot\|_L) \to (\mathrm{Lip}(X_2,M_n(\mathbb{C})), \|\cdot\|_L)$ is a linear surjective isometry such that $U(1) = 1$ if and only if there exist a unitary matrix $V \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ and a surjective isometry $\varphi : X_2 \to X_1$ such that*

$$U(F)(x) = VF(\varphi(x))V^{-1}, \quad F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_1,M_n(\mathbb{C})), x \in X_2$$

or

$$U(F)(x) = VF^t(\varphi(x))V^{-1}, \quad F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_1,M_n(\mathbb{C})), x \in X_2,$$

where $F^t(y)$ denotes transpose of $F(y)$ for $y \in X_1$.

Although the arguments of the proof have remained limited to the case that E is finite dimensional, this is the first result on surjective linear isometries on $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$, where E is a non-commutative Banach algebra. In this framework, it seems natural to ask

questions about further developments. The aim of this paper is to develop our knowledge on hermitian operators and isometries on $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$ and establish an infinite dimensional version of [14]. More precisely, we prove the next theorem.

Theorem 1.2. *Let X_i be compact metric spaces and $\mathcal{A}_i$ unital factor C^*-algebras for $i = 1, 2$. The map $U : (\mathrm{Lip}(X_1, \mathcal{A}_1), \|\cdot\|_L) \to (\mathrm{Lip}(X_2, \mathcal{A}_2), \|\cdot\|_L)$ is a surjective complex linear isometry such that $U(1) = 1$ if and only if there exist a unital surjective complex linear isometry $\psi : \mathcal{A}_1 \to \mathcal{A}_2$ and a surjective isometry $\varphi : X_2 \to X_1$ such that*

$$U(F)(y) = \psi(F(\varphi(y))), \quad F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_1, \mathcal{A}_1), y \in X_2.$$

Indeed, Theorem 1.2 also gives an answer to the above question (that is, whether any surjective linear isometry from $\mathrm{Lip}(X_1, \mathcal{A}_1)$ onto $\mathrm{Lip}(X_2, \mathcal{A}_2)$ is also a weighted composition operator similar to (1)).

In case that E is a finite dimensional Banach space, it follows from [14, Lemma 2.1] that $\mathrm{Lip}(X) \otimes E = \mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$. If E is of infinite dimension, $\mathrm{Lip}(X) \otimes E$ does not coincide with $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$. Moreover, it is not known whether $\mathrm{Lip}(X) \otimes E$ is dense in $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$ with $\|\cdot\|_L$ or not. When E is of infinite dimension, the representation of $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$ is more complicated. Thus, to describe isometries and hermitian operators on $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$, where E is of infinite dimension, is much more difficult than the case where E is of finite dimension. In order to achieve any further progress, we need to make several improvements and extensions compared to the paper [14].

The paper is organized as follows. In the rest of the introduction, we provide basic background on the study of hermitian operators. In section 2, we study hermitian operators on $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$. The main theorem of section 2 is Theorem 2.3. For any a complex Banach space E, we prove that every hermitian operator on $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$ is a generalized composition operator. This is a generalization of the characterization of hermitian operators on $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$ for finite dimensional Banach spaces E in [14]. In section 3, we introduce the concept of T-sets due to Myers. By the notion of T-sets, we present properties of the unit ball of the dual space of $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$. Indeed, the extreme points of the unit ball of the dual space of $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$ are quite complicated. Thus, we study T-sets instead of extreme points. The main statement in section 3 is Proposition 3.6. We show that if a surjective linear isometry between $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$-spaces is a weighted composition operator when restricted to $\mathrm{Lip}(X) \otimes E$, then it is a weighted composition operator. Since the representation of $\mathrm{Lip}(X) \otimes E$ is much easier than that of $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$, Proposition 3.6 is successful in describing the surjective linear isometries on $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$. In section 4, we present the proof of Theorem 1.2.

1.2. Hermitian operators

A bounded operator T on a complex normed space $(V, \|\cdot\|_V)$ is hermitian if $[Tv, v]_V \in \mathbb{R}$ for any $v \in V$, where $[\cdot, \cdot]_V$ is a semi-inner product on V that is compatible with the norm $\|\cdot\|_V$. The definition does not depend on the choice of semi-inner products (see [1]). A complete description of hermitian operators on Banach spaces has been studied for a long period of time. We refer the reader to [6, 7] for further information about hermitian operators.

Fleming and Jamison in [4] turned their attention to the vector-valued case. Let E be a complex Banach space. They obtained the first characterization for hermitian operators between Banach spaces of E-valued continuous functions as follows:

Let T be a hermitian operator on $C(K,E)$, where K is a compact Hausdorff space. Then for each $t \in K$, there is a hermitian operator $\phi(t)$ on E such that

$$T(F)(t) = \phi(t)(F(t)), \quad t \in K.$$

What is the general form of hermitian operators between Banach spaces of E-valued Lipschitz maps? Botelho, Jamison, Jiménez-Vargas and Villegas-Vallecillos in [2] obtained a characterization for hermitian operators on $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ with the max norm.

Let X be a compact and 2-connected metric space and E a complex Banach space. Then $T : (\mathrm{Lip}(X,E), \|\cdot\|_M), \to (\mathrm{Lip}(X,E), \|\cdot\|_M)$ is a hermitian operator if and only if there exists a hermitian operator $\phi : E \to E$ such that

$$T(F)(x) = \phi(F(x)), \quad F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E), \quad x \in X.$$

How about the case $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ with $\|\cdot\|_L$? One may think that each feature of the two norms does not make a big difference, but this is not the case. The studies of the classes of operators on $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ depend heavily on the properties of the norm. The standard approach to the studies of isometries or related operators on Banach spaces relies on a characterization of the extreme points of the closed unit ball of the corresponding dual spaces. But the extreme points of the closed unit ball of the dual space of $(\mathrm{Lip}(X,E), \|\cdot\|_L)$ are completely different from those of $(\mathrm{Lip}(X,E), \|\cdot\|_M)$. The former is much complicated. For operators on $(\mathrm{Lip}(X,E), \|\cdot\|_L)$, it is nontrivial to derive a representation from the action of their adjoints, so we have to work quite hard to give a representation. Actually, in the case of hermitian operators on $(\mathrm{Lip}(X,E), \|\cdot\|_L)$, difficulties to give a representation remain even if we have a representation of hermitian operators on $(\mathrm{Lip}(X,E), \|\cdot\|_M)$. Indeed, Botelho, Jamison, Jiménez-Vargas and Villegas-Vallecillos proved that hermitian operators between $\mathrm{Lip}(X)$-spaces with $\|\cdot\|_L$ in [3] are composition operators. Recently, the author of this paper generalized to $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$, where E is a finite dimensional complex Banach space in [14]. But it has not been solved in general. In this paper, we give a complete representation for any complex Banach space E.

1.3. Notations and Remarks

Throughout this paper, X, X_1 and X_2 are compact metric spaces, and E, E_1 and E_2 are complex Banach spaces. In addition, $\mathcal{A}$, $\mathcal{A}_1$ and $\mathcal{A}_2$ are unital C^*-algebras. For a unital C^*-algebra $\mathcal{A}$, if its center is trivial (i.e., $\{b \in \mathcal{A} : ab = ba \text{ for all } a \in \mathcal{A}\} = \mathbb{C}1$), we call it a unital factor C^*-algebra. For Banach space E, we denote the closed unit ball of E by $\mathbb{B}(E)$, and the closed unit ball of the dual space E^* by $\mathbb{B}(E^*)$. We also denote the unit sphere of E by $\mathbb{S}(E)$. For any $f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X)$ and $e \in E$, we define $f \otimes e : X \to E$ by

$$(f \otimes e)(x) = f(x)e.$$

We have $f \otimes e \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ such that $\|f \otimes e\|_\infty = \|f\|_\infty \|e\|_E$ and $L(f \otimes e) = L(f)\|e\|_E$. This implies that $\|f \otimes e\|_L = \|f\|_L \|e\|_E$. We see that $f \otimes e$ is an element of the algebraic tensor product space $\mathrm{Lip}(X) \otimes E$ with the crossnorm $\|\cdot\|_L$.

Recall that the purpose of this paper is to generalize the theorems in [14]. Although we need new approaches and additional arguments, some arguments remain valid. Similar arguments may be found in [14], but we adapt these to our setting and give proofs as accurately as possible.

2. A characterization of hermitian operators on $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$

Firstly, we would like to consider hermitian operators on $(\mathrm{Lip}(X,E), \|\cdot\|_L)$. We write $\widetilde{X} = \{(x,y) \in X^2 \mid x \neq y\}$. Let $\beta(\widetilde{X} \times \mathbb{B}(E^*))$ be the Stone–Čech compactification of $\widetilde{X} \times \mathbb{B}(E^*)$. For any $F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$, we denote by $\widetilde{F} : \beta(\widetilde{X} \times \mathbb{B}(E^*)) \to \mathbb{C}$ the unique continuous extension of the bounded continuous function

$$((x,y),e^*) \mapsto e^*\left(\frac{F(x)-F(y)}{d(x,y)}\right)$$

on $\widetilde{X} \times \mathbb{B}(E^*)$. Since we have $\|\widetilde{F}\|_\infty = L(F)$ for any $F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$, we can define a linear isometric embedding $\Gamma : (\mathrm{Lip}(X,E), \|\cdot\|_L) \to (C(X \times \beta(\widetilde{X} \times \mathbb{B}(E^*)) \times \mathbb{B}(E), E), \|\cdot\|_\infty)$ by $\Gamma(F)(x,\xi,e) = F(x) + \widetilde{F}(\xi)e$. Moreover, for any $G \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$, we define the set P_G by

$$P_G = \{t \in X \times \beta(\widetilde{X} \times \mathbb{B}(E^*)) \times \mathbb{B}(E) : \|\Gamma(G)(t)\|_E = \|\Gamma(G)\|_\infty = \|G\|_L\}.$$

Lemma 2.1. *For any $G \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$, we have $P_G \neq \emptyset$.*

Proof. If $G = 0$, we have $(x_0,\xi,e) \in P_G$ for any $(x_0,\xi,e) \in X \times \beta(\widetilde{X} \times \mathbb{B}(E^*)) \times \mathbb{B}(E)$. Thus, let $G \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ with $G \neq 0$. Since $\beta(\widetilde{X} \times \mathbb{B}(E^*))$ is compact, there exists $\xi \in \beta(\widetilde{X} \times \mathbb{B}(E^*))$ such that $|\widetilde{G}(\xi)| = \|\widetilde{G}\|_\infty = L(G)$. There are $x_0 \in X$ such that $\|G(x_0)\|_E = \|G\|_\infty$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ with $|\alpha| = 1$ such that $\alpha\widetilde{G}(\xi) = \|\widetilde{G}\|_\infty = L(G)$. We get

$$\|\Gamma(G)(x_0,\xi,\frac{\alpha}{\|G(x_0)\|_E}G(x_0))\|_E = \|G(x_0) + \widetilde{G}(\xi)\frac{\alpha}{\|G(x_0)\|_E}G(x_0)\|_E$$

$$= (1 + L(G)\frac{1}{\|G\|_\infty})\|G\|_\infty = \|G\|_\infty + L(G) = \|G\|_L.$$

This implies that $(x_0,\xi,\frac{\alpha}{\|G(x_0)\|_E}G(x_0)) \in P_G$. $\qquad\square$

By Lemma 2.1 and the axiom of choice, there exists a choice function

$$\Psi : \mathrm{Lip}(X,E) \to X \times \beta(\widetilde{X} \times \mathbb{B}(E^*)) \times \mathbb{B}(E)$$

such that $\Psi(G) \in P_G$ for every $G \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$. Let $[\cdot,\cdot]_E$ on E be a semi-inner product which is compatible with the norm of E. Define a map $[\cdot,\cdot]_{\Psi L} : \mathrm{Lip}(X,E) \times \mathrm{Lip}(X,E) \to \mathbb{C}$ given by

$$[F,G]_{\Psi L} = [\Gamma(F)(\Psi(G)), \Gamma(G)(\Psi(G))]_E, \quad F,G \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E). \qquad (2)$$

It is easy to check that $[\cdot,\cdot]_{\Psi L}$ is a semi-inner product on $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ compatible with the norm $\|\cdot\|_L$. Now we get the following lemma. The basic idea of the proof is the same as [14, Lemma 2.3].

Lemma 2.2. *Let T be a hermitian operator on $(\mathrm{Lip}(X,E), \|\cdot\|_L)$. Then*

$$T(1 \otimes e) \in 1 \otimes E$$

for any $e \in E$.

Proof. Let $e \in E$. If $e = 0$, then $T(1 \otimes e) = T(0) = 0 = 1 \otimes 0 \in 1 \otimes E$. Thus, we assume that $0 \neq e \in \mathbb{B}(E)$. Fix $x' \in X$, $(x,y) \in \widetilde{X}$ and $e^* \in \mathbb{B}(E^*)$. Let $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$. We obtain

$$\Gamma(1 \otimes e)(x', ((x,y), e^{i\theta}e^*), e)$$
$$= (1 \otimes e)(x') + e^{i\theta}e^*\left(\frac{(1 \otimes e)(x) - (1 \otimes e)(y)}{d(x,y)}\right)e = e + 0e = e. \qquad (3)$$

This implies that

$$\|\Gamma(1 \otimes e)(x', ((x,y), e^{i\theta}e^*), e)\|_E = \|1 \otimes e\|_L.$$

Thus, we get $(x', ((x,y), e^{i\theta}e^*), e) \in P_{1 \otimes e}$. Choose a choice function $\Psi_\theta : \mathrm{Lip}(X,E) \to X \times \beta(\widetilde{X} \times \mathbb{B}(E^*)) \times \mathbb{B}(E)$ such that

$$\Psi_\theta(1 \otimes e) = (x', ((x,y), e^{i\theta}e^*), e)$$

and define a semi-inner product $[\cdot,\cdot]_{\Psi_\theta L}$ on $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ in the manner as in (2). Since T is a hermitian operator, we have $[T(1 \otimes e), 1 \otimes e]_{\Psi_\theta L} \in \mathbb{R}$. By (3), it follows that

$$\mathbb{R} \ni [T(1 \otimes e), 1 \otimes e]_{\Psi_\theta L}$$
$$= [\Gamma(T(1 \otimes e))(\Psi_\theta(1 \otimes e)), \Gamma(1 \otimes e)(\Psi_\theta(1 \otimes e))]_E$$
$$= [T(1 \otimes e)(x') + e^{i\theta}e^*\left(\frac{T(1 \otimes e)(x) - T(1 \otimes e)(y)}{d(x,y)}\right)e, e]_E$$
$$= [T(1 \otimes e)(x'), e]_E + e^{i\theta}e^*\left(\frac{T(1 \otimes e)(x) - T(1 \otimes e)(y)}{d(x,y)}\right)\|e\|_E^2. \qquad (4)$$

As $e \neq 0$, we see that $\|e\|_E^2 > 0$. Since $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$ is arbitrary, it must be

$$e^*\left(\frac{T(1 \otimes e)(x) - T(1 \otimes e)(y)}{d(x,y)}\right) = 0 \qquad (5)$$

for any $e^* \in \mathbb{B}(E^*)$. This implies

$$\frac{T(1 \otimes e)(x) - T(1 \otimes e)(y)}{d(x,y)} = 0$$

for any $(x,y) \in \widetilde{X}$. Thus, we deduce $L(T(1 \otimes e)) = 0$. Therefore, there exists $e_0 \in E$ such that $T(1 \otimes e) = 1 \otimes e_0$. $\qquad \square$

Applying Lemma 2.2, we define a map $\phi : E \to E$ by

$$T(1 \otimes e) = 1 \otimes \phi(e) \qquad (6)$$

for each $e \in E$. By (4) and (5), we have $\mathbb{R} \ni [T(1 \otimes e), 1 \otimes e]_{\Psi_\theta L} = [T(1 \otimes e)(x'), e]_E$. This implies that $[\phi(e), e]_E \in \mathbb{R}$ for any $e \in E$. Since T is a bounded linear operator, we get ϕ is a hermitian operator on E.

We give a complete description of hermitian operators on $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ with $\|\cdot\|_L$, where E is any complex Banach space (without assuming that E is of a finite dimension).

Theorem 2.3. *Let X be a compact metric space and E a complex Banach space. Then $T : (\mathrm{Lip}(X,E), \|\cdot\|_L), \to (\mathrm{Lip}(X,E), \|\cdot\|_L)$ is a hermitian operator if and only if there exists a hermitian operator $\phi : E \to E$ such that*

$$T(F)(x) = \phi(F(x)), \quad F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E), \quad x \in X. \tag{7}$$

Proof of Theorem 2.3. Suppose that T is of the form described as (7) in the statement of Theorem 2.3. To prove that T is a hermitian operator, we apply the fact that T is a hermitian if and only if e^{itT} is a surjective isometry for every $t \in \mathbb{R}$; see [6, Theorem 5.2.6]. Let $t \in \mathbb{R}$. By the definition of T, we have

$$e^{itT}(F)(x) = e^{it\phi}(F(x))$$

for any $F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ and $x \in X$. Since ϕ is a hermitian on E, $e^{it\phi}$ is a surjective isometry. This implies that $\|e^{itT}(F)\|_\infty = \|F\|_\infty$ and $L(e^{itT}(F)) = L(F)$. Thus, we deduce $\|e^{itT}(F)\|_L = \|F\|_L$ for any $F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$. Since e^{itT} is a surjective isometry for every $t \in \mathbb{R}$, we conclude T is a hermitian operator. We prove the converse. Suppose that $T : \mathrm{Lip}(X,E) \to \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ is a hermitian operator. Let ϕ be the operator defined by (6). A similar argument as above yields an operator from $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ into itself given by $F \mapsto \phi \circ F$ is a hermitian operator. Hence, we define a hermitian operator $T_0 : \mathrm{Lip}(X,E) \to \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ by

$$T_0(F)(x) = T(F)(x) - \phi(F(x))$$

for all $F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ and $x \in X$. We shall prove that $T_0 = 0$ on $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ in two steps.

Step 1. For any $f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X)$ and $e \in E$, we have $T_0(f \otimes e) = 0$.

Note that the same idea with [14, Theorem 2.2] is valid even if we replace a finite dimensional Banach space E with a Banach space E.

By [6, p. 10], there is a semi-inner product $[\cdot,\cdot]_E$ on E compatible with the norm such that $[e_1, \lambda e_2]_E = \bar{\lambda}[e_1, e_2]_E$ for any $e_i \in E$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$. Let $e \in \mathbb{S}(E)$. We define a map $S_e : \mathrm{Lip}(X) \to \mathrm{Lip}(X)$ by

$$S_e(f)(x) = [T_0(f \otimes e)(x), e]_E, \quad f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X), x \in X.$$

By simple calculations, we have that S_e is a bounded linear operator with $\|S_e\| \le \|T_0\|$. Moreover, we shall prove that S_e is a hermitian operator. Let $t \in \mathbb{R}$. By the definition of S_e, we get $(I + itS_e)(1)(x) = 1$ for any $x \in X$. This implies that

$$1 \le \|I + itS_e\|. \tag{8}$$

However, let $f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X)$. We obtain for any $x, y \in X$,

$$|(I + itS_e)(f)(x)| \le \|(I + itT_0)(f \otimes e)\|_\infty$$

and

$$|(I + itS_e)(f)(x) - (I + itS_e)(f)(y)| \le L((I + itT_0)(f \otimes e))d(x,y).$$

Therefore, we get

$$\|(I+itS_e)(f)\|_L \le \|(I+itT_0)(f\otimes e)\|_\infty + L((I+itT_0)(f\otimes e))$$
$$\le \|I+itT_0\|\|f\otimes e\|_L = \|I+itT_0\|\|f\|_L$$

for any $f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X)$. We conclude that

$$\|I+itS_e\| \le \|I+itT_0\|. \tag{9}$$

Since T_0 is a hermitian operator on $\mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$, we have $\|I+itT_0\| = 1+o(t)$ by [6, Theorem 5.2.6]. By (8) and (9), we see that

$$1 \le \|I+itS_e\| \le \|I+itT_0\| = 1+o(t).$$

This implies that $S_e : \mathrm{Lip}(X) \to \mathrm{Lip}(X)$ is a hermitian operator. By [3, Theorem 3.1.], we have that S_e is a real multiple of the identity. Since $S_e(1)(x) = [T_0(1\otimes e)(x),e] = 0$, we deduce $S_e(f)(x) = 0f(x) = 0$ for any $f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X)$ and $x \in X$. This implies that $[T_0(f\otimes e)(x),e]_E = 0$ for all $f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X)$ and $x \in X$. As $e \in \mathbb{S}(E)$ is arbitrary, we obtain

$$[T_0(f\otimes e)(x),e]_E = 0, \quad e \in E, \quad f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X), \quad x \in X. \tag{10}$$

Let $f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X)$ and $x \in X$. Then we define a map $S_{fx} : E \to E$ by $S_{fx}(e) = T_0(f\otimes e)(x)$ for any $e \in E$. Since T_0 is a bounded linear operator, S_{fx} is also a bounded linear operator with $\|S_{fx}\| \le \|T_0\|\|f\|_L$. By (10), we have $[S_{fx}(e),e]_E = [T_0(f\otimes e)(x),e]_E = 0$ for all $e \in E$. Applying [11, Theorem 5], we have $T_0(f\otimes e)(x) = S_{fx}(e) = 0$ for any $e \in E$. As $f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X)$ and $x \in X$ are arbitrary, we conclude step 1.

Step 2. For any $F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$, we have $T_0(F) = 0$.

If $F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X)\otimes E$, step 1 yields that $T_0(F) = 0$ by the linearity of T_0. Thus, it suffices to show $T_0(F) = 0$ holds for any $F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)\setminus \mathrm{Lip}(X)\otimes E$. Let $F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)\setminus \mathrm{Lip}(X)\otimes E$ with $F(x_0) = 0$. For any $e \in \mathbb{S}(E)$, put

$$G_e = (\|F\|_\infty - |F|)\otimes e + F,$$

where $|F|(x) := \|F(x)\|_E$ and $|F| \in \mathrm{Lip}(X)$. Then we have

$$G_e(x_0) = \|F\|_\infty e$$

and

$$\|G_e(x)\|_E = \|(\|F\|_\infty - \|F(x)\|_E)\otimes e + F(x)\|_E$$
$$\le \|F\|_\infty - \|F(x)\|_E + \|F(x)\|_E = \|F\|_\infty$$

for any $x \in X$. Thus, we obtain $\|G_e(x_0)\|_E = \|F\|_\infty = \|G_e\|_\infty$. As $\beta(\widetilde{X}\times\mathbb{B}(E^*))$ is compact, there are $\xi \in \beta(\widetilde{X}\times\mathbb{B}(E^*))$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ with $|\alpha| = 1$ such that $\alpha\widetilde{G_e}(\xi) = L(G_e)$. This implies that $(x_0,\xi,\alpha e) \in P_{G_e}$. We choose a choice function $\Psi_e : \mathrm{Lip}(X,E) \to X \times \beta(\widetilde{X}\times\mathbb{B}(E^*))\times\mathbb{B}(E)$ such that $\Psi_e(G_e) = (x_0,\xi,\alpha e)$ and define a semi-inner product $[\cdot,\cdot]_{\Psi_e L}$ in the manner as in (2). Since $T_0 : \mathrm{Lip}(X,E) \to \mathrm{Lip}(X,E)$ is a hermitian operator,

we get

$$\mathbb{R} \ni [T_0(G_e), G_e]_{\Psi_e L} = [T_0(F), G_e]_{\Psi_e L}$$
$$= [T_0(F)(x_0) + \alpha \widetilde{T_0(F)}(\xi)e, \|F\|_\infty e + L(G_e)e]_E$$
$$= (e^*(T_0(F)(x_0)) + \alpha \widetilde{T_0(F)}(\xi))\|G_e\|_L,$$

where $e^* \in \mathbb{B}(E^*)$ with $e^*(e) = 1$ for any $e \in \mathbb{S}(E)$. We have

$$e^*(T_0(F)(x_0)) + \alpha \widetilde{T_0(F)}(\xi) \in \mathbb{R}. \tag{11}$$

However, there exists $y_0 \in X$ such that $\|F(y_0)\|_E = \|F\|_\infty \neq 0$, and there is $f_{y_0} \in \mathbb{S}(E)$ such that $F(y_0) = \|F\|_\infty f_{y_0}$. We get

$$G_e(y_0) = F(y_0) = \|F\|_\infty f_{y_0}.$$

This implies that $\|G_e(y_0)\|_E = \|F(y_0)\|_E = \|F\|_\infty = \|G_e\|_\infty$. We have

$$\|\Gamma(G_e)(y_0, \xi, \alpha f_{y_0})\|_E = \|G_e(y_0) + \alpha \widetilde{G_e}(\xi) f_{y_0}\|_E$$
$$= \|\|F\|_\infty f_{y_0} + L(G_e) f_{y_0}\|_E = \|F\|_\infty + L(G_e) = \|G_e\|_L.$$

Thus, we get $(y_0, \xi, \alpha f_{y_0}) \in P_{G_e}$. In the same manner, there is a choice function $\Psi_{f_{y_0}}$: $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E) \to X \times \beta(\widetilde{X} \times \mathbb{B}(E^*)) \times \mathbb{B}(E)$ such that $\Psi_{f_{y_0}}(G_e) = (y_0, \xi, \alpha f_{y_0})$, and we can define a semi-inner product $[\cdot, \cdot]_{\Psi_{f_{y_0}} L}$ on $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$. It follows that

$$\mathbb{R} \ni [T_0(G_e), G_e]_{\Psi_{f_{y_0}} L} = [T_0(F), G_e]_{\Psi_{f_{y_0}} L}$$
$$= [T_0(F)(y_0) + \alpha \widetilde{T_0(F)}(\xi) f_{y_0}, \|G_e\|_L f_{y_0}]_E$$
$$= (f_{y_0}^*(T_0(F)(y_0)) + \alpha \widetilde{T_0(F)}(\xi))\|G_e\|_L,$$

where $f_{y_0}^* \in \mathbb{B}(E^*)$ with $f_{y_0}^*(f_{y_0}) = 1$. We obtain

$$f_{y_0}^*(T_0(F)(y_0)) + \alpha \widetilde{T_0(F)}(\xi) \in \mathbb{R}. \tag{12}$$

By (11) and (12), we get $e^*(T_0(F)(x_0)) - f_{y_0}^*(T_0(F)(y_0)) \in \mathbb{R}$. Since $e \in \mathbb{S}(E)$ is arbitrary, it follows that $T_0(F)(x_0) = 0$. Let $F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X, E) \setminus \mathrm{Lip}(X) \otimes E$ and $x \in X$. We define $F_x = F - 1 \otimes F(x)$. Since $F_x(x) = 0$, we get

$$0 = T_0(F_x)(x) = T_0(F)(x) - T_0(1 \otimes F(x))(x) = T_0(F)(x).$$

Thus, we have $T_0(F) = 0$ for any $F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$ and conclude step 2.

Therefore, we obtain $T(F)(x) = \phi(F(x))$ for any $F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$. This completes the proof. □

3. An extension of isometries on $\mathrm{Lip}(X) \otimes E$

We define the notation of T-sets which is introduced by Myers in [13].

Definition 3.1. Let $(A, \|\cdot\|_A)$ be a semi-normed space. For a subset $\mathbb{U}$ of A, we call $\mathbb{U}$ a T-set of A with respect to $\|\cdot\|_A$ if $\mathbb{U}$ satisfies the property that for any finite collection

$a_1, \cdots, a_n \in \mathbb{U}$, $\|\Sigma_{i=1}^n a_i\|_A = \Sigma_{i=1}^n \|a_i\|_A$ and such that $\mathbb{U}$ is a maximal with respect to the property. If no confusion is possible, we will refer to T-set of A with respect to $\|\cdot\|_A$ as T-set of A.

Lemma 3.2. *Let* $(A, \|\cdot\|_A)$ *be a Banach space and* $\mathbb{U}$ *a T-set of A with respect to* $\|\cdot\|_A$. *If* $a \in \mathbb{U}$, *then* $\lambda a \in \mathbb{U}$ *for any* $\lambda \geq 0$.

Proof. We conclude this Lemma by the Hahn−Banach theorem immediately. □

Lemma 3.3. *Let* N_i *be normed spaces for* $i = 1, 2$. *Suppose that* $U : N_1 \to N_2$ *is a surjective isometry with* $U(0) = 0$. *Then* U *maps T-sets of* N_1 *to T-sets of* N_2.

Proof. It follows from the Mazur−Ulam theorem that every surjective isometry U between two normed spaces with $U(0) = 0$ is a real linear isometry. By the maximality of T-sets and surjectivity of U, we conclude that U preserves T-sets. □

Let $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$ be a Banach space. Let $x \in X$, $\mathbb{U}$ be a T-set of E with respect to $\|\cdot\|_E$ and $\mathbb{T}$ be a T-set of $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$ with respect to $L(\cdot)$. We write

$$S(x, \mathbb{U}, \mathbb{T}) = \{F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X, E) : F(x) \in \mathbb{U}, \|F(x)\|_E = \|F\|_\infty, F \in \mathbb{T}\}.$$

Lemma 3.4. *Let* $x \in X$, $\mathbb{U}$ *be a T-set of E and* $\mathbb{T}$ *be a T-set of* $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$ *with respect to* $L(\cdot)$. *Then for any finite collection* $F_1, \cdots, F_n \in S(x, \mathbb{U}, \mathbb{T})$, *we have* $\|\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i\|_L = \Sigma_{i=1}^n \|F_i\|_L$.

Proof. For any $F_1, \cdots, F_n \in S(x, \mathbb{U}, \mathbb{T})$, we have $F_i(x) \in \mathbb{U}$ and $\|F_i(x)\|_E = \|F_i\|_\infty$ for any $i = 1, \cdots, n$. We get

$$\|\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i\|_\infty \leq \Sigma_{i=1}^n \|F_i\|_\infty = \Sigma_{i=1}^n \|F_i(x)\|_E = \|\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i(x)\|_E \leq \|\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i\|_\infty.$$

This implies that $\|\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i\|_\infty = \Sigma_{i=1}^n \|F_i\|_\infty$. Since $F_i \in \mathbb{T}$ for any $i = 1, \cdots, n$, we also get $L(\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i) = \Sigma_{i=1}^n L(F_i)$. This implies that $\|\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i\|_L = \Sigma_{i=1}^n \|F_i\|_L$. □

Proposition 3.5. *Let* $\mathcal{S}$ *be a T-set of* $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$ *with respect to* $\|\cdot\|_L$. *Then there is* $x \in X$ *and there are* $\mathbb{U}$ *and* $\mathbb{T}$, *where* $\mathbb{U}$ *is a T-set of E and* $\mathbb{T}$ *is a T-set of* $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$ *with respect to* $L(\cdot)$, *such that* $\mathcal{S} = S(x, \mathbb{U}, \mathbb{T})$.

Proof. For any $F \in \mathcal{S}$, we write $P(F) := \{x \in X : \|F(x)\|_E = \|F\|_\infty\}$. We shall show that $\bigcap_{F \in \mathcal{S}} P(F) \neq \emptyset$. For any finite collection $F_1, \cdots, F_n \in \mathcal{S}$, we get $\|\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i\|_L = \Sigma_{i=1}^n \|F_i\|_L$. As $\|\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i\|_\infty \leq \Sigma_{i=1}^n \|F_i\|_\infty$ and $L(\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i) \leq \Sigma_{i=1}^n L(F_i)$, we have $\|\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i\|_\infty = \Sigma_{i=1}^n \|F_i\|_\infty$. Since $\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i \in \mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$, there is $x \in X$ such that $\|(\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i)(x)\|_E = \|\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i\|_\infty$. Thus, we get

$$\Sigma_{i=1}^n \|F_i\|_\infty = \|\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i\|_\infty = \|(\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i)(x)\|_E \leq \Sigma_{i=1}^n \|F_i(x)\|_E \leq \Sigma_{i=1}^n \|F_i\|_\infty.$$

This implies that $\|F_i\|_\infty = \|F_i(x)\|_E$ for any $i = 1, \cdots, n$ and $x \in \bigcap_{i=1}^n P(F_i)$. Since X is compact and $P(F)$ is a closed set for each $F \in \mathcal{S}$, we have $\bigcap_{F \in \mathcal{S}} P(F) \neq \emptyset$ by the finite intersection property.

Let $x \in \bigcap_{F \in \mathcal{S}} P(F)$. We consider the set

$$R_x(\mathcal{S}) := \{F(x) \in E : F \in \mathcal{S}\}.$$

Choose any finite collection $F_1(x), \cdots, F_n(x) \in R_x(\mathcal{S})$. Since $\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i \in \mathcal{S}$, we have $x \in P(\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i)$. This implies

$$\Sigma_{i=1}^n \|F_i\|_\infty = \|\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i\|_\infty = \|\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i(x)\|_E \le \Sigma_{i=1}^n \|F_i(x)\|_E = \Sigma_{i=1}^n \|F_i\|_\infty.$$

Thus, we have $\|\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i(x)\|_E = \Sigma_{i=1}^n \|F_i(x)\|_E$, which means that there is a T-set $\mathbb{U}$ of E such that $R_x(\mathcal{S}) \subset \mathbb{U}$. Therefore, for any $F \in \mathcal{S}$, we have $F(x) \in \mathbb{U}$ and $\|F(x)\|_E = \|F\|_\infty$.

Since $L(\Sigma_{i=1}^n F_i) = \Sigma_{i=1}^n L(F_i)$ for any finite collection $F_1, \cdots, F_n \in \mathcal{S}$, there exists a T-set $\mathbb{T}$ of $\mathrm{Lip}(X, E)$ with respect to $L(\cdot)$ such that $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathbb{T}$. This implies that $\mathcal{S} \subset S(x, \mathbb{U}, \mathbb{T})$. By Lemma 3.4 and maximality of $\mathcal{S}$, we conclude that $\mathcal{S} = S(x, \mathbb{U}, \mathbb{T})$. $\qquad\square$

Proposition 3.6. *Let X_i be a compact metric space and E_i be a Banach space for $i = 1, 2$. Let $U : \mathrm{Lip}(X_1, E_1) \to \mathrm{Lip}(X_2, E_2)$ be a surjective complex linear isometry. Suppose that there is a surjective complex linear isometry $\psi : E_1 \to E_2$ and there is a surjective isometry $\varphi : X_2 \to X_1$ such that $U(f \otimes e)(y) = \psi(f(\varphi(y))e)$ for any $f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_1)$ and $e \in E_1$. Then*

$$U(F)(y) = \psi(F(\varphi(y)))$$

for any $F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_1, E_1)$ and $y \in X_2$.

In the rest of this section, we assume that a surjective complex linear isometry $U : \mathrm{Lip}(X_1, E_1) \to \mathrm{Lip}(X_2, E_2)$ satisfies the assumption of Proposition 3.6. To prove Proposition 3.6 we first show the following lemma.

Lemma 3.7. *Let $x_0 \in X_1$ and $F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_1, E_1)$ with $\|F\|_\infty = 1$ and $F(x_0) = 0$. Then $U(F)(y_0) = 0$, where $y_0 = \varphi^{-1}(x_0)$.*

Proof. Suppose that $U(F)(y_0) \ne 0$. Put $a = U(F)(y_0)/\|U(F)(y_0)\|_{E_2}$. The map from $\mathbb{S}(E_2)$ to $\mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$e \mapsto \|U(F)(y_0) + (\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)e\|_{E_2}$$

is continuous. Since $\|U(F)(y_0)\|_{E_2} \ne 0$, we have

$$\|U(F)(y_0) + (\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)a\|_{E_2} = \left\| \frac{U(F)(y_0)}{\|U(F)(y_0)\|_{E_2}}(\|U(F)(y_0)\|_{E_2} + \|U(F)\|_\infty + 1) \right\|_{E_2}$$

$$= \|U(F)(y_0)\|_{E_2} + \|U(F)\|_\infty + 1 > \|U(F)\|_\infty + 1.$$

There exists $\delta > 0$ such that if $e \in \mathbb{S}(E_2)$ with $\|a - e\|_{E_2} < \delta$, then $\|U(F)(y_0) + (\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)e\|_{E_2} > \|U(F)\|_\infty + 1$. We choose $\theta \in (0, 2\pi)$ such that $|e^{i\theta} - 1| < \delta$. We write $e_\theta := \psi^{-1}(e^{i\theta}a)$. This implies that

$$\|U(F)(y_0) + (\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)\psi(e_\theta)\|_{E_2} > \|U(F)\|_\infty + 1. \tag{13}$$

For any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we define $g_n \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_1)$ by

$$g_n(x) = (\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)\max\{1 - nL(F)d(x, x_0), 0\}, \quad x \in X_1.$$

By Zorn's lemma, there is $\mathcal{S}_n$ which is a T-set of $\mathrm{Lip}(X_1, E_1)$ with respect to $\|\cdot\|_L$ such that $F + g_n \otimes e_\theta \in \mathcal{S}_n$. We have

$$(F + g_n \otimes e_\theta)(x_0) = (\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)e_\theta.$$

When $x \neq x_0$ and $1 - nL(F)d(x,x_0) \geq 0$, we have

$$\|(F + g_n \otimes e_\theta)(x)\|_{E_1} = \|F(x) - F(x_0) + (g_n \otimes e_\theta)(x)\|_{E_1}$$
$$\leq L(F)d(x,x_0) + (\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)(1 - nL(F)d(x,x_0))$$
$$= (1 - n(\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1))L(F)d(x,x_0) + \|U(F)\|_\infty + 1 < \|U(F)\|_\infty + 1.$$

When $1 - nL(F)d(x,x_0) \leq 0$, we have

$$\|(F + g_n \otimes e_\theta)(x)\|_{E_1} = \|F(x)\|_{E_1} \leq 1 < \|U(F)\|_\infty + 1.$$

Thus, we obtain $P(F + g_n \otimes e_\theta) = \{x_0\}$. By Proposition 3.5, there are T-set $\mathbb{U}_n \subset E_1$ and T-set $\mathbb{T}_n \subset \mathrm{Lip}(X_1, E_1)$ such that $F + g_n \otimes e_\theta \in \mathcal{S}_n = S(x_0, \mathbb{U}_n, \mathbb{T}_n)$. In particular, we have

$$(\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)e_\theta = (F + g_n \otimes e_\theta)(x_0) \in \mathbb{U}_n.$$

By Lemma 3.2, $e_\theta \in \mathbb{U}_n$. Since U is a surjective isometry with $U(0) = 0$, Lemma 3.3 shows that there are $y_n \in X_2$, T-set $\mathbb{V}_n \subset E_2$ and T-set $\mathbb{T}'_n \subset \mathrm{Lip}(X_2, E_2)$ with respect to $L(\cdot)$ such that $U(S(x_0, \mathbb{U}_n, \mathbb{T}_n)) = S(y_n, \mathbb{V}_n, \mathbb{T}'_n)$. Since $e_\theta \in \mathbb{U}_n$, we have $1 \otimes e_\theta \in S(x_0, \mathbb{U}_n, \mathbb{T}_n)$. By the assumption, we have $U(1 \otimes e_\theta) = 1 \otimes \psi(e_\theta) \in S(y_n, \mathbb{V}_n, \mathbb{T}'_n)$. It implies that $\psi(e_\theta) \in \mathbb{V}_n$ for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$. For any $y \in X_2$,

$$U(F + g_n \otimes e_\theta)(y) = U(F)(y) + \psi(g_n(\varphi(y))e_\theta)$$
$$= U(F)(y) + (\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)\max\{1 - nL(F)d(\varphi(y), x_0), 0\}\psi(e_\theta).$$

We shall show that the sequence $\{y_n\}$ converges y_0 as $n \to \infty$. Suppose that there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $1 - nL(F)d(\varphi(y_n), x_0) < 0$. Since $U(F + g_n \otimes e_\theta) \in S(y_n, \mathbb{V}_n, \mathbb{T}'_n)$, we have

$$\|U(F)\|_\infty \geq \|U(F)(y_n)\|_{E_2}$$
$$= \|(U(F) + U(g_n \otimes e_\theta))(y_n)\|_{E_2} = \|U(F) + U(g_n \otimes e_\theta)\|_\infty. \tag{14}$$

Moreover, we get $g_n(x_0) = (\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)\max\{1 - nL(F)d(x_0, x_0), 0\} = \|U(F)\|_\infty + 1$. Since $\varphi(y_0) = x_0$, we have $U(g_n \otimes e_\theta)(y_0) = \psi(g_n(\varphi(y_0))e_\theta) = (\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)\psi(e_\theta)$. This implies that

$$\|U(F) + U(g_n \otimes e_\theta)\|_\infty \geq \|U(F)(y_0) + (\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)\psi(e_\theta)\|_{E_2}$$
$$> \|U(F)\|_\infty + 1, \tag{15}$$

where the last inequality follows by (13). By (14) and (15), we have $\|U(F)\|_\infty > \|U(F)\|_\infty + 1$. This is a contradiction. Thus, for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have

$$1 - nL(F)d(\varphi(y_n), x_0) \geq 0.$$

Thus, we get $1/nL(F) > d(\varphi(y_n), x_0) = d(\varphi(y_n), \varphi(y_0)) = d(y_n, y_0)$. This implies that $y_n \to y_0$ as $n \to \infty$. Since $U(F) \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_2, E_2)$, we get $U(F)(y_n) \to U(F)(y_0)$.

Because we obtain $0 \leq 1 - nL(F)d(\varphi(y_n), x_0) \leq 1$, the sequence $\{1 - nL(F)d(\varphi(y_n), x_0)\}$ has a convergent subsequence. Without loss of generality, we can assume that the sequence converges to $\beta \in [0,1]$ as $n \to \infty$. We write

$$c_n := U(F + g_n \otimes e_\theta)(y_n) = U(F)(y_n) + (\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)(1 - nL(F)d(\varphi(y_n), x_0))\psi(e_\theta)$$

and

$$c_0 := U(F)(y_0) + (\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)\beta\psi(e_\theta). \tag{16}$$

We obtain that

$$\|c_n - c_0\|_{E_2} \to 0 \quad \text{if} \quad n \to \infty. \tag{17}$$

As $U(F + g_n \otimes e_\theta) \in S(y_n, \mathbb{V}_n, \mathbb{T}'_n)$, we get $c_n \in \mathbb{V}_n$. Since $\psi(e_\theta) \in \mathbb{V}_n$, we have $\|c_n + \psi(e_\theta)\|_{E_2} = \|c_n\|_{E_2} + \|\psi(e_\theta)\|_{E_2}$. By (17), we get $\|c_0 + \psi(e_\theta)\|_{E_2} = \|c_0\|_{E_2} + \|\psi(e_\theta)\|_{E_2}$. As $\psi(e_\theta) = e^{i\theta}a$, we obtain

$$\|e^{-i\theta}c_0 + a\|_{E_2} = \|e^{-i\theta}c_0\|_{E_2} + \|a\|_{E_2}.$$

Thus, there is $\tau \in E_2^*$ such that $\|\tau\| = 1$, $\tau(e^{-i\theta}c_0) = \|c_0\|_{E_2}$ and $\tau(a) = \|a\|_{E_2} = 1$. By (16) and $a = U(F)(y_0)/\|U(F)(y_0)\|_{E_2}$, we have

$$e^{i\theta}\|c_0\|_{E_2} = \tau(c_0) = \tau(U(F)(y_0)) + \tau((\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)\beta e^{i\theta}a)$$
$$= \|U(F)(y_0)\|_{E_2} + e^{i\theta}(\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)\beta.$$

We obtain that $\|U(F)(y_0)\|_{E_2} = e^{i\theta}(\|c_0\|_{E_2} - (\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)\beta)$. As $\theta \in (0, 2\pi)$ and $\|c_0\|_{E_2} - (\|U(F)\|_\infty + 1)\beta \in \mathbb{R}$, we conclude $U(F)(y_0) = 0$. □

Proof of Proposition 3.6. By the assumption, it suffices to show that $U(F)(y) = \psi(F(\varphi(y)))$ holds for any $F \in \text{Lip}(X_1, E_1)$ in which F is not a constant map. For any $x \in X_1$, we define $G := F - 1 \otimes F(x)$. Then we have $G(x) = 0$. As $G \neq 0$, without loss of generality, we assume that $\|G\|_\infty = 1$. By Lemma 3.7, we obtain $U(G)(\varphi^{-1}(x)) = 0$. This implies that $U(F)(\varphi^{-1}(x)) = U(1 \otimes F(x))(\varphi^{-1}(x)) = \psi(1(x)F(x)) = \psi(F(x))$. □

4. Proof of Theorem 1.2

Let $\mathcal{A}_i$ be unital C^*-algebras for $i = 1, 2$. In this section, we consider unital surjective complex isometries with respect to the norm $\|\cdot\|_L$ from $\text{Lip}(X_1, \mathcal{A}_1)$ onto $\text{Lip}(X_2, \mathcal{A}_2)$. Although we apply similar arguments as [14], we show a proof without omitting it because this is a generalization for [14, Theorem 3.3]. We say that a bounded operator D on a unital C^*-algebra $\mathcal{A}$ is a $*$-derivation if

$$D(ab) = D(a)b + aD(b),$$
$$D(a^*) = D(a)^* \tag{18}$$

for every pair $a, b \in \mathcal{A}$. By the definition, it is easy to see that $D(1) = 0$ for any $*$-derivation on $\mathcal{A}$. For each $a \in \mathcal{A}$, a left multiplication operator $M_a : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}$ is defined by $M_a b = ab$ for every $b \in \mathcal{A}$. We denote the set of all hermitian elements of $\mathcal{A}$ by $H(\mathcal{A})$.

The following is the characterization of hermitian operators on a unital C^*-algebra.

Theorem 4.1 (Sinclair [15]). *Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a unital C^*-algebra. A bounded operator T on $\mathcal{A}$ is a hermitian operator if and only if there exist $h \in H(\mathcal{A})$ and a $*$-derivation D on $\mathcal{A}$ such that $T = M_h + iD$.*

We introduce the notation to characterize hermitian operators on $\text{Lip}(X, \mathcal{A})$.

Definition 4.2. For any $h \in H(\mathcal{A})$, we define a multiplication operator $M_{1 \otimes h}$: $\mathrm{Lip}(X, \mathcal{A}) \to \mathrm{Lip}(X, \mathcal{A})$ by

$$M_{1 \otimes h}(F) = (1 \otimes h)F, \quad F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X, \mathcal{A}).$$

For any $*$-derivation $D : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}$, we define a map $\widehat{D} : \mathrm{Lip}(X, \mathcal{A}) \to \mathrm{Lip}(X, \mathcal{A})$ by

$$\widehat{D}(F)(x) = D(F(x)), \quad F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X, \mathcal{A}), \quad x \in X.$$

Combining Theorem 4.1 and Theorem 2.3, we obtain the following.

Proposition 4.3. *Suppose that* $T : \mathrm{Lip}(X, \mathcal{A}) \to \mathrm{Lip}(X, \mathcal{A})$ *is a map. Then* T *is a hermitian operator if and only if there exist* $h \in H(\mathcal{A})$ *and a* $*$-*derivation* D *on* $\mathcal{A}$ *such that*

$$T = M_{1 \otimes h} + i\widehat{D}. \tag{19}$$

The following proposition is a well-known fact.

Proposition 4.4. *Let* $\mathcal{B}_j$ *be Banach algebras for* $j = 1, 2$. *Suppose that* U *is a surjective complex linear isometry from* $\mathcal{B}_1$ *onto* $\mathcal{B}_2$ *and* T *is a hermitian operator on* $\mathcal{B}_1$. *Then the map* UTU^{-1} *is a hermitian operator on* $\mathcal{B}_2$.

In the rest of this section, we consider a surjective complex linear isometry U : $(\mathrm{Lip}(X_1, \mathcal{A}_1), \|\cdot\|_L) \to (\mathrm{Lip}(X_2, \mathcal{A}_2), \|\cdot\|_L)$ with $U(1) = 1$.

Lemma 4.5. *For any* $h \in H(\mathcal{A}_1)$, *there exists* $h' \in H(\mathcal{A}_2)$ *such that*

$$U(1 \otimes h) = 1 \otimes h'.$$

Proof. Let $h \in H(\mathcal{A}_1)$. We apply Proposition 4.3 to obtain $M_{1 \otimes h}$ is a hermitian operator on $\mathrm{Lip}(X_1, \mathcal{A}_1)$. It follows from Proposition 4.4 that $UM_{1 \otimes h}U^{-1}$ is a hermitian operator on $\mathrm{Lip}(X_2, \mathcal{A}_2)$. By applying Proposition 4.3 again, there exists $h' \in H(\mathcal{A}_2)$ and a $*$-derivation D on $\mathcal{A}_2$ such that

$$UM_{1 \otimes h}U^{-1} = M_{1 \otimes h'} + i\widehat{D}. \tag{20}$$

For any $y \in X_2$, we have

$$(UM_{1 \otimes h}U^{-1})(1)(y) = UM_{1 \otimes h}(1)(y) = U(1 \otimes h)(y)$$

and

$$M_{1 \otimes h'}(1)(y) + i\widehat{D}(1)(y) = (1 \otimes h')(y) + iD(1(y)) = h' + i0 = h'.$$

This implies that $U(1 \otimes h) = 1 \otimes h'$. $\qquad\qquad \square$

By Lemma 4.5, we define a map $\psi_0 : H(\mathcal{A}_1) \to H(\mathcal{A}_2)$ by

$$U(1 \otimes h) = 1 \otimes \psi_0(h).$$

By using ψ_0, the equation (20) of the above proof can be written as

$$UM_{1 \otimes h}U^{-1} = M_{1 \otimes \psi_0(h)} + i\widehat{D}. \tag{21}$$

Lemma 4.6. *The map ψ_0 is a real linear isometry from $H(\mathcal{A}_1)$ onto $H(\mathcal{A}_2)$ such that $\psi_0(1) = 1$.*

Proof. For any $h_2 \in H(\mathcal{A}_2)$, by Proposition 4.4, we have that $U^{-1} M_{1 \otimes h_2} U$ is a hermitian operator on $\mathrm{Lip}(X_1, \mathcal{A}_1)$. By Proposition 4.3, there are $h_1 \in H(\mathcal{A}_1)$ and a $*$-derivation D_1 on $\mathcal{A}_1$ such that

$$U^{-1} M_{1 \otimes h_2} U = M_{1 \otimes h_1} + i \widehat{D_1}.$$

Since we have $M_{1 \otimes h_1} = U^{-1} M_{1 \otimes h_2} U - i \widehat{D_1}$, we get

$$U M_{1 \otimes h_1} U^{-1}(1) = U(U^{-1} M_{1 \otimes h_2} U - i \widehat{D_1}) U^{-1}(1)$$
$$= M_{1 \otimes h_2}(1) - U(i \widehat{D_1}(1)) = 1 \otimes h_2 - iU(0) = 1 \otimes h_2.$$

We obtain $U(1 \otimes h_1) = 1 \otimes h_2$ and $\psi_0(h_1) = h_2$. It follows that ψ_0 is surjective. For any $h \in H(\mathcal{A}_1)$, we get $\|\psi_0(h)\|_{\mathcal{A}_2} = \|1 \otimes \psi_0(h)\|_L = \|U(1 \otimes h)\|_L = \|1 \otimes h\|_L = \|h\|_{\mathcal{A}_1}$. Thus, we have ψ_0 is an isometry. Since U is a linear map, it is easy to see that ψ_0 is real linear. Moreover, $U(1) = 1$; we get $\psi_0(1) = 1$. $\qquad\square$

For any $a \in \mathcal{A}_1$, there are $h_1, h_2 \in H(\mathcal{A}_1)$ such that $a = h_1 + ih_2$. Thus, we define a map $\psi : \mathcal{A}_1 \to \mathcal{A}_2$ by

$$\psi(a) = \psi(h_1 + ih_2) := \psi_0(h_1) + i\psi_0(h_2).$$

By a simple calculation, we have

$$U(1 \otimes a) = 1 \otimes \psi(a) \tag{22}$$

for any $a \in \mathcal{A}_1$.

Lemma 4.7. *The map ψ is a surjective complex linear isometry from $\mathcal{A}_1$ onto $\mathcal{A}_2$ such that $\psi(1) = 1$.*

Proof. By (22), we have ψ is a complex linear isometry with $\psi(1) = 1$. Therefore, it suffices to show ψ is surjective. For any $a \in \mathcal{A}_2$, there exists $h_1, h_2 \in H(\mathcal{A}_2)$ such that $a = h_1 + ih_2$. Since Lemma 4.6 shows that $\psi_0 : H(\mathcal{A}_1) \to H(\mathcal{A}_2)$ is surjective, there are $h_1', h_2' \in H(\mathcal{A}_1)$ such that $\psi_0(h_1') = h_1$ and $\psi_0(h_2') = h_2$. Then we get $a' = h_1' + ih_2' \in \mathcal{A}_1$. This implies that

$$\psi(a') = \psi_0(h_1') + i\psi_0(h_2') = h_1 + ih_2 = a.$$

This completes the proof. $\qquad\square$

Lemma 4.8. *Suppose that $\mathcal{A}_i$ is a unital factor C^*-algebra for $i = 1, 2$. Then there exists a surjective isometry $\varphi : X_2 \to X_1$ such that*

$$U(f \otimes 1)(y) = f(\varphi(y)) \otimes 1$$

for all $f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_1)$ and $y \in X_2$.

Proof. For any $b \in \mathcal{A}_2$ with $b^* = -b$, we define a $*$-derivation D on $\mathcal{A}_2$ by

$$D(a) = ba - ab, \quad a \in \mathcal{A}_2.$$

Note that Proposition 4.3 shows that the map $i\widehat{D} : \mathrm{Lip}(X_2, \mathcal{A}_2) \to \mathrm{Lip}(X_2, \mathcal{A}_2)$ defined by

$$(i\widehat{D})(F)(y) = iD(F(y)) \quad F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_2, \mathcal{A}_2), \quad y \in X_2$$

is a hermitian operator on $\mathrm{Lip}(X_2, \mathcal{A}_2)$. Since the map U is an isometry, $U^{-1} i\widehat{D} U$ is a hermitian operator on $\mathrm{Lip}(X_1, \mathcal{A}_1)$. By Proposition 4.3, there exists $h \in H(\mathcal{A}_1)$ and $*$-derivation D' on $\mathcal{A}_1$ such that

$$U^{-1} i\widehat{D} U = M_{1 \otimes h} + i\widehat{D'}.$$

As $U(1) = 1$, we get

$$(U^{-1} i\widehat{D} U)(1) = i(U^{-1}\widehat{D}U)(1) = iU^{-1}\widehat{D}(1) = iU^{-1}(0) = 0.$$

This implies that

$$0 = (U^{-1} i\widehat{D} U)(1) = (M_{1 \otimes h} + i\widehat{D'})(1)$$
$$= 1 \otimes h + i\widehat{D'}(1) = 1 \otimes h + i0 = 1 \otimes h.$$

Thus, we have $U^{-1} i\widehat{D} U = i\widehat{D'}$. This implies that for any $f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_1)$, we have $(U^{-1} i\widehat{D} U)(f \otimes 1)(x) = i\widehat{D'}(f \otimes 1)(x) = 0$ for all $x \in X_1$. In addition, by the definition of D, we get

$$(U^{-1} i\widehat{D} U)(f \otimes 1) = U^{-1}(i\widehat{D}U(f \otimes 1))$$
$$= iU^{-1}(1 \otimes bU(f \otimes 1) - U(f \otimes 1)1 \otimes b). \tag{23}$$

Therefore, we have

$$U^{-1}(1 \otimes bU(f \otimes 1) - U(f \otimes 1)1 \otimes b) = 0.$$

Since U is surjective, we have

$$1 \otimes bU(f \otimes 1) = U(f \otimes 1)1 \otimes b. \tag{24}$$

Note we choose $b \in \mathcal{A}_2$ with $b^* = -b$ arbitrary. For each $a \in \mathcal{A}_2$, there exist unique elements $b_1, b_2 \in \mathcal{A}_2$ such that $b_i^* = -b_i$ for $i = 1, 2$ and $a = -ib_1 + b_2$. By applying (24), we have

$$aU(f \otimes 1)(y) = U(f \otimes 1)(y)a$$

for any $a \in \mathcal{A}_2$ and $y \in X_2$. We get $U(f \otimes 1)(y) \in \{b \in \mathcal{A}_2 \mid ab = ba \text{ for all } a \in \mathcal{A}_2\} = \mathbb{C}1$. Thus, there is $g(y) \in \mathbb{C}$ such that $U(f \otimes 1)(y) = g(y)1$. Since $U(f \otimes 1) \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_2, \mathcal{A}_2)$, we get $g \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_2)$ and

$$U(f \otimes 1) = g \otimes 1.$$

Thus, we can define a map $P_U : \mathrm{Lip}(X_1) \to \mathrm{Lip}(X_2)$ by

$$U(f \otimes 1) = P_U(f) \otimes 1, \quad f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_1).$$

It is easy to see that P_U is a surjective complex linear isometry. Applying [9, Corollary 15], there is a surjective isometry $\varphi : X_2 \to X_1$ such that

$$U(f \otimes 1)(y) = P_U(f)(y) \otimes 1 = f(\varphi(y)) \otimes 1, \quad f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_1),\, y \in X_2. \qquad \square$$

Proof of Theorem 1.2. A simple calculation shows that the map U from $\mathrm{Lip}(X_1, \mathcal{A}_1)$ onto $\mathrm{Lip}(X_2, \mathcal{A}_2)$, which has the form of the theorem, is a unital surjective linear isometry. We show the converse. Let us recall (21). Thus, for any $h \in H(\mathcal{A}_1)$, there exists $\psi_0(h) \in H(\mathcal{A}_2)$ and $*$-derivation D on $\mathcal{A}_2$ such that

$$U M_{1 \otimes h} U^{-1} = M_{1 \otimes \psi_0(h)} + i\widehat{D}.$$

Let $f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_1)$. By Lemma 4.8, there is a surjective isometry $\varphi : X_2 \to X_1$ such that $U(f \otimes 1) = (f \circ \varphi) \otimes 1$. Thus, for any $y \in X_2$, we obtain

$$U(f \otimes 1)(y) = f(\varphi(y)) 1$$

and

$$\widehat{D}(U(f \otimes 1))(y) = D(U(f \otimes 1)(y)) = D(f(\varphi(y)) 1) = 0.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} U(f \otimes h)(y) &= U(M_{1 \otimes h}(f \otimes 1))(y) = U M_{1 \otimes h} U^{-1} U(f \otimes 1)(y) \\ &= (M_{1 \otimes \psi_0(h)} + i\widehat{D})(U(f \otimes 1))(y) \\ &= M_{1 \otimes \psi_0(h)}(U(f \otimes 1))(y) + i\widehat{D}(U(f \otimes 1))(y) \\ &= \psi_0(h) U(f \otimes 1)(y) + 0 = f(\varphi(y)) \psi_0(h). \end{aligned}$$

For any $a \in \mathcal{A}_1$, there exist $h_1, h_2 \in H(\mathcal{A}_1)$ such that $a = h_1 + ih_2$. Let us note that we define $\psi : \mathcal{A}_1 \to \mathcal{A}_2$ by $\psi(a) = \psi_0(h_1) + i\psi(h_2)$. We get

$$\begin{aligned} U(f \otimes a)(y) &= U(f \otimes (h_1 + ih_2))(y) = U(f \otimes h_1)(y) + iU(f \otimes h_2)(y) \\ &= f(\varphi(y)) \psi_0(h_1) + if(\varphi(y)) \psi_0(h_2) \\ &= f(\varphi(y)) \psi(a) = \psi((f \otimes a)(\varphi(y))) = \psi(f(\varphi(y)) a) \end{aligned}$$

for any $f \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_1)$ and $a \in \mathcal{A}_1$. By Lemma 4.7, we recall that $\psi : \mathcal{A}_1 \to \mathcal{A}_2$ is a surjective complex linear isometry. Applying Proposition 3.6, we obtain

$$U(F)(y) = \psi(F(\varphi(y))), \quad F \in \mathrm{Lip}(X_1, \mathcal{A}_1),\, y \in X_2. \qquad \square$$

5. Concluding comments and remarks

Let us look at further problems related to Theorem 1.2. It is natural to investigate the following questions: What is the general form of unital surjective linear isometries between $\mathrm{Lip}(X, \mathcal{A})$-spaces, where $\mathcal{A}$ is a unital C^*-algebra? What is a complete description of surjective linear isometries on $\mathrm{Lip}(X, \mathcal{A})$ without the assumption that isometries preserve the identity? In fact, less is known about surjective linear isometries on Banach spaces of all vector-valued Lipschitz maps with $\|\cdot\|_L$. The author suspects the reason relies on a lack of a complete characterization of the extreme points of $\mathbb{B}((\mathrm{Lip}(X, E))^*)$. Thus, we

believe Theorem 2.3 is one of crucial tools in investigating our questions. This might be an interesting direction for further research. These questions are left as research problems in the future.

Competing Interests. None.

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