

## POSITIVE BLOCK MATRICES ON HILBERT AND KREIN $C^*$ -MODULES

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**Abstract.** Let  $\mathcal{H}_1$  and  $\mathcal{H}_2$  be Hilbert  $C^*$ -modules. In this paper we give some necessary and sufficient conditions for the positivity of a block matrix on the Hilbert  $C^*$ -module  $\mathcal{H}_1 \oplus \mathcal{H}_2$ . If  $(\mathcal{H}_1, J_1)$  and  $(\mathcal{H}_2, J_2)$  are two Krein  $C^*$ -modules, we study the  $\tilde{\mathbf{J}}$ -positivity of  $2 \times 2$  block matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & X \\ X^\sharp & B \end{pmatrix}$$

on the Krein  $C^*$ -module  $(\mathcal{H}_1 \oplus \mathcal{H}_2, \tilde{\mathbf{J}} = J_1 \oplus J_2)$ , where  $X^\sharp = J_2 X^* J_1$  is the  $(J_2, J_1)$ -adjoint of the operator  $X$ . We prove that if  $A$  is  $J_1$ -selfadjoint and  $B$  is  $J_2$ -selfadjoint and  $A$  is invertible, then the operator  $\begin{pmatrix} A & X \\ X^\sharp & B \end{pmatrix}$  is  $\tilde{\mathbf{J}}$ -positive if and only if  $A \geq^{J_1} 0$ ,  $B \geq^{J_2} 0$  and  $X^\sharp A^{-1} X \leq^{J_2} B$ . We also present more equivalent conditions for the  $\tilde{\mathbf{J}}$ -positivity of this operator.

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