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A Classification of *n*-tuples of Commuting Isometries

Let  $\mathbb{V}$  denote an *n*-tuple of shifts of finite multiplicity, and denote by Ann ( $\mathbb{V}$ ) the ideal consisting of polynomials p in n complex variables such that  $p(\mathbb{V}) = 0$ . If  $\mathbb{W}$  on  $\mathfrak{K}$  is another *n*-tuple of shifts of finite multiplicity, and there is a  $\mathbb{W}$ -invariant subspace  $\mathfrak{K}'$  of finite codimension in  $\mathfrak{K}$  so that  $\mathbb{W}|\mathfrak{K}'$  is similar to  $\mathbb{V}$ , then we write  $\mathbb{V} \leq \mathbb{W}$ . If  $\mathbb{W} \leq \mathbb{V}$  as well, then we write  $\mathbb{W} \approx \mathbb{V}$ .

In the case that  $\operatorname{Ann}(\mathbb{V})$  is a prime ideal we show that the equivalence class of  $\mathbb{V}$  is determined by  $\operatorname{Ann}(\mathbb{V})$  and a positive integer k. More generally, the equivalence class of  $\mathbb{V}$  is determined by  $\operatorname{Ann}(\mathbb{V})$  and an *m*-tuple of positive integers, where *m* is the number of irreducible components of the zero set of  $\operatorname{Ann}(\mathbb{V})$ .