

**ON THE DECOMPOSITION OF CONTRACTIONS AND
ISOMETRIES**

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ABSTRACT. It is proved (with given different proofs) that the von Neumann-Wold and the Nagy-Foias-Langer decompositions are valid in more general classes than the classical W^* -algebras.

Key words and phrases. Locally W^* -algebras, von Neumann algebras, Decomposition theory for C^* -algebras .