

An Example on Compact linear Operators

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Let l^2 be the set $\{(\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots) \mid \xi_i \in \mathbb{C} \text{ for } i=1, 2, \dots \text{ and } \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |\xi_i|^2 < \infty\}$, where \mathbb{C} is the field of complex numbers. Then, as is well known l^2 is a complex Hilbert space. We define

$$T : l^2 \longrightarrow l^2 \quad (*)$$

by $T((\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots)) = (\xi_1, \frac{\xi_2}{2}, \dots)$. In this note, we shall prove some properties with respect to T (propositions 2, -3 and Theorem 5).

Let X and Y be normed spaces. An operator $S : X \rightarrow Y$ is called a compact linear operator if it satisfies the following conditions;

- (i) S is a linear operator.
- (ii) for every bounded subset M of X , $S(M)$ is relatively compact, i. e., $\overline{S(M)}$ is compact in Y .

Lemma 1. Let X and Y be normed spaces. For a linear operator $S : X \rightarrow Y$, if S is bounded and $\dim S(X) < \infty$, then S is compact.

Proof. Take a bounded sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X . Since $\|T\| = 1$ and

$$\|Tx_n\| \leq \|T\| \|x_n\|,$$

$\{Tx_n\}$ is bounded. Therefore $\{\overline{Tx_n}\}$ is bounded (and closed). By our assumption $\dim S(X) < \infty$, and thus $\{\overline{Tx_n}\}$ is compact. It follows that $\{Tx_n\}$ has a convergent subsequence. Since

S is compact \leftrightarrow for every bounded sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X , $\{Tx_n\}$ has a convergent subsequence ([1]),

S is compact.

Proposition 2. The linear operator T defined in (*) is compact.

Proof. Define

$$T_n : l^2 \longrightarrow l^2$$

by $T_n(x) = (\xi_1, \frac{\xi_2}{2}, \dots, \frac{\xi_n}{n}, 0, \dots)$ for $x = (\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n, \dots) \in l^2$. Then T_n

is bounded and linear. Moreover $\dim(T_n(\ell^2)) = n$. Hence by Lemma 1, T_n is compact. Further-more, for each $x = (\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots) \in \ell^2$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|(T - T_n)x\|^2 &= \sum_{j=n+1}^{\infty} \left| \frac{\xi_j}{j} \right|^2 = \sum_{j=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j} |\xi_j|^2 \leq \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} \sum_{j=n+1}^{\infty} |\xi_j|^2 \\ &\leq \frac{\|x\|^2}{(n+1)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Taking the supremum over all x with $\|x\| = 1$, we see that

$$\|T - T_n\| \leq \frac{1}{n+1}.$$

Therefore $\|T - T_n\| \rightarrow 0$ (i. e., $T_n \rightarrow T$), and thus T is compact ((2)). If we put

$$e_j = (0 \dots, 0 \overset{j}{1}, 0 \dots)$$

then $\{e_1, e_2, \dots\}$ is an orthonormal base of ℓ^2 . Therefore every $x \in \ell^2$ has a unique representation

$$x = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \xi_j e_j,$$

and

$$Tx = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j} \xi_j e_j.$$

We define an operator

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P_j : \ell^2 & \longrightarrow & \ell^2 \\ \Downarrow & & \Downarrow \\ x & \longmapsto & \xi_j e_j \end{array}$$

Proposition 3. Under the above situation we have following.

- (i) $\{1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots, \frac{1}{n}, \dots\}$ is the set of eigenvalues of T .
- (ii) $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n, \dots\}$ is an orthonormal set of eigenvectors of T .
- (iii) T is self-adjoint and positive.
- (iv) The following holds.

$$T = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j} P_j.$$

Proof. For each $x = (\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n, \dots) \in \ell^2$ if we put

$$Tx = (\xi_1, \frac{\xi_2}{2}, \dots, \frac{\xi_n}{n}, \dots) = \lambda x = (\lambda \xi_1, \lambda \xi_2, \dots, \lambda \xi_n, \dots),$$

we have

$$\xi_1 = \lambda \xi_1, \dots, \frac{\xi_n}{n} = \lambda \xi_n, \dots$$

Therefore, if $\lambda = \frac{1}{n}$, then $\xi_i = 0$ for $i \neq n$. Since $n = 1, 2, \dots$, we get $\{1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots\}$ as the set of eigenvalues of T . It is easy to see that

$$Te_j = \frac{1}{j} e_j,$$

and thus $e_1 = (1, 0, \dots)$, $e_2 = (0, 1, 0, \dots)$, $e_n = (0, \dots, 0, \frac{1}{n}, 0, \dots)$, \dots are eigenvectors of T . Moreover, since $e_i \perp e_j$ for $i \neq j$, we have $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n, \dots\}$ as an orthonormal set of eigenvector of T .

Therefore (i) and (ii) are proved.

For each $x = (\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n, \dots) \in \ell^2$

$$(Tx, x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j} \xi_j \bar{\xi}_j \geq 0,$$

and $(Tx, x) = 0 \iff x = 0$, where (\cdot, \cdot) is the inner product defined on ℓ^2 . Hence T is positive. For $y = (\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots, \eta_n, \dots) \in \ell^2$,

$$(Tx, y) = (x, Ty) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j} \xi_j \bar{\eta}_j.$$

So, it follows that T is self-adjoint.

For (iv) let $x = (\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n, \dots) \in \ell^2$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|(T - \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{1}{j} P_j)x\|^2 &= \|\sum_{j=m+1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j} \xi_j e_j\|^2 = \sum_{j=m+1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j^2} |\xi_j|^2 \leq \\ &= \frac{1}{(m+1)^2} \sum_{j=m+1}^{\infty} |\xi_j|^2 \leq \frac{\|x\|^2}{(m+1)^2}, \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\|T - \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{1}{j} P_j\| \leq \frac{1}{m+1} \rightarrow 0$$

as $m \rightarrow \infty$.

For any real λ we define

$$E_\lambda = \sum_{\lambda_j \leq \lambda} P_j \quad (\lambda \in \mathbb{R}), \quad (**)$$

which is an one-parameter family of projections, λ being the parameter.

Definition 4. A real *spectral family* is a one-parameter family $\xi = (E_\lambda)_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}$ of projections E_λ defined on a Hilbert space H which depends on a real parameter λ and is such that

- (a) $E_\lambda \leq E_\mu$ hence $E_\lambda E_\mu = E_\mu E_\lambda = E_\lambda$ for $\lambda < \mu$.
- (b) $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow -\infty} E_\lambda x = 0$ for $x \in H$.
- (c) $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} E_\lambda x = x$ for $x \in H$.

$$(d) E_{\lambda+0} x = \lim_{\mu \rightarrow \lambda+0} E_{\mu} x = E_{\lambda} x,$$

where $\mu \rightarrow \lambda+0$ means that we let μ approach λ from the right.

Then $\{E_{\lambda}\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}$ defined as (***) is a spectral family associated with the bounded self-adjoint linear operator T .

Theorem 5. T has the spectral representation

$$T = \int_{a-0}^b \lambda dE_{\lambda},$$

where $\xi = (E_{\lambda})_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}$ is the spectral family associated with T .

Proof. At first we have note that

$$0 = \inf_{\|x\|=1} (Tx, x), \quad 1 = \sup_{\|x\|=1} (Tx, x).$$

We choose a sequence $\{\mathfrak{J}_n\}$ of partitions of (a, b) , where $a < 0$ and $1 < b$.

That is, every \mathfrak{J}_n is a partition of (a, b) into intervals

$$\Delta_{n,j} = (\lambda_{n,j}, \mu_{n,j}), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

of length $\ell(\Delta_{n,j}) = \mu_{n,j} - \lambda_{n,j}$. Here $\mu_{n,j} = \lambda_{n,j+1}$ for $j = 1, \dots, n-1$.

In particular, the sequence $\{\mathfrak{J}_n\}$ is such that

$$\eta(\mathfrak{J}_n) = \max_j \ell(\Delta_{n,j}) \rightarrow 0 \quad (***)$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$. We put

$$E(\Delta_{n,j}) = E_{\mu_{n,j}} - E_{\lambda_{n,j}},$$

then we have

$$\lambda_{n,j} E(\Delta_{n,j}) \leq TE(\Delta_{n,j}) \leq \mu_{n,j} E(\Delta_{n,j})$$

([1]). By summation over j from 1 to n , for every n we get

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_{n,j} E(\Delta_{n,j}) \leq \sum_{j=1}^n TE(\Delta_{n,j}) \leq \sum_{j=1}^n \mu_{n,j} E(\Delta_{n,j}) \quad (***)$$

Since

- (i) $\mu_{n,j} = \lambda_{n,j+1}$ for $j = 1, \dots, n-1$.
- (ii) $\lambda < 0 \implies E_{\lambda} = 0$
- (iii) $n \geq 1 \implies E_{\lambda} = I$ (identity operator),

We simply have

$$T \sum_{j=1}^n E(\Delta_{n,j}) = T \sum_{j=1}^n (E_{\mu_{n,j}} - E_{\lambda_{n,j}}) = T(I - 0) = T.$$

Formula (***) implies that for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there is an n such that $\eta(\mathfrak{J}_n) < \varepsilon$, and thus in (***) we have

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \mu_{n,j} E(\Delta_{n,j}) - \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_{n,j} E(\Delta_{n,j}) = \sum_{j=1}^n (\mu_{n,j} - \lambda_{n,j}) E(\Delta_{n,j}) \leq \varepsilon I.$$

From this and (****), given any $\varepsilon > 0$ there is an N such that for every $n > N$ and every choice of $\hat{\lambda}_{n,j} \in \Delta_{n,j}$ we have

$$\| T - \sum_{j=1}^n \hat{\lambda}_{n,j} E(\Delta_{n,j}) \| < \varepsilon.$$

References

- [1]. E. Kreyszig : *Introductory Functional Analysis with Applications*. John Wiley and sons, New York. (1978).
- [2]. W. Rudin : *Functional Analysis*. McGraw-Hill, Inc. (1973).

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