

## STABILITY OF ISOMETRIES BETWEEN FINITE DIMENSIONAL HILBERT SPACES

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### 1. Introduction

It is a well-known classical result of Mazur and Ulam that an isometry  $T$  from a real Banach space  $X$  onto a real Banach space  $Y$  with  $T(0) = 0$  is automatically linear[5]. A map  $T$  between Banach spaces  $X$  and  $Y$  is called an  $\epsilon$ -bi-Lipschitz map if

$$(1 - \epsilon)\|x - y\| \leq \|Tx - Ty\| \leq (1 + \epsilon)\|x - y\| \text{ for } x, y \in X.$$

Jarosz[3] conjectured that if  $X, Y$  are real Banach spaces such that there is a surjective  $\epsilon$ -bi-Lipschitz map between  $X$  and  $Y$ , then  $X$  and  $Y$  are linearly isomorphic for sufficiently small  $\epsilon$ .

The above statement is known to be true for certain special classes of Banach spaces like uniform algebras [2]. It is also known that this is false, even for  $C(K)$  spaces, if we do not assume that  $\epsilon$  is close to zero[1]. Mankiewicz [4] proved that if there is a surjective  $\epsilon$ -bi-Lipschitz map between a Banach space  $X$  and a Hilbert space  $Y$ , then  $X$  and  $Y$  are linearly homeomorphic. In this note we show that if  $T$  is an  $\epsilon$ -bi-Lipschitz map from a Hilbert space  $X$  onto a Hilbert space  $Y$  with  $\dim X < \infty$ , then there is an isometry from  $X$  onto  $Y$  which is near  $T$ .

### 2. The result

**THEOREM.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be real Hilbert spaces with  $\dim X < \infty$ . If  $T$  is an  $\epsilon$ -bi-Lipschitz map from  $X$  onto  $Y$  with  $T(0) = 0$  and with  $\epsilon \leq \epsilon_0$ , then there is an isometry  $I$  from  $X$  onto  $Y$  for which  $\|Tx - Ix\| \leq$*

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$C(\epsilon)(\|x\|^{\frac{1}{2}} + \|x\|^{\frac{3}{2}})$  where  $\epsilon_0$  is an absolute constant and  $C(\epsilon) \rightarrow 0$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

*Proof.* We divide the proof into a number of simple steps and at various points of the proof we use inequalities involving  $\epsilon$  which are valid only if  $\epsilon$  is sufficiently small; in these circumstances we will merely assume that  $\epsilon$  is near zero. Let  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n$  be an orthonormal basis of  $X$ . We denote the inner product in  $X$  and  $Y$  by  $(\cdot, \cdot)$ .

STEP 1.

$$-6\sqrt{2}\epsilon - 18\epsilon^2 \leq \left( \frac{Te_i}{\|Te_i\|}, \frac{Te_j}{\|Te_j\|} \right) \leq 6\sqrt{2}\epsilon - 18\epsilon^2$$

for  $i \neq j, i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

*Proof.* Let  $i \neq j$  and  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Since  $T$  is an  $\epsilon$ -bi-Lipschitz map,  $1 - \epsilon \leq \|Te_i\| \leq 1 + \epsilon$  and

$$\sqrt{2}(1 - \epsilon) \leq \|Te_i - Te_j\| \leq \sqrt{2}(1 + \epsilon).$$

Thus we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \frac{Te_i}{\|Te_i\|} - \frac{Te_j}{\|Te_j\|} \right\| &\leq \frac{1}{\|Te_j\|} (2\epsilon + (1 + \epsilon)\sqrt{2}) \\ &\leq \sqrt{2} + \frac{(2 + 2\sqrt{2})\epsilon}{1 - \epsilon} \\ &\leq \sqrt{2} + 6\epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Also, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \frac{Te_i}{\|Te_i\|} - \frac{Te_j}{\|Te_j\|} \right\| &\geq \frac{1}{\|Te_j\|} \left| \|Te_i - Te_j\| - \left| \|Te_j\| - \|Te_i\| \right| \right| \\ &\geq \frac{1}{1 + \epsilon} ((1 - \epsilon)\sqrt{2} - 2\epsilon) \\ &\geq \sqrt{2} - 6\epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

By the above two inequalities, we have

$$\sqrt{2} - 6\epsilon \leq \left\| \frac{Te_i}{\|Te_i\|} - \frac{Te_j}{\|Te_j\|} \right\| \leq \sqrt{2} + 6\epsilon.$$

Hence

$$-6\sqrt{2}\epsilon - 18\epsilon^2 \leq \left( \frac{Te_i}{\|Te_i\|}, \frac{Te_j}{\|Te_j\|} \right) \leq 6\sqrt{2}\epsilon - 18\epsilon^2.$$

STEP 2. There is an orthonormal basis  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$  of  $Y$  for which

$$\left\| f_i - \frac{Te_i}{\|Te_i\|} \right\| \leq C_i(\epsilon), i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

where  $C_i(\epsilon) \rightarrow 0$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

*Proof.* Put  $f_1 = \frac{Te_1}{\|Te_1\|}$ . Then  $C_1(\epsilon) = 0$ . Suppose  $f_1, \dots, f_m$  ( $m < n$ ) are linearly independent such that  $\|f_i\| = 1, (f_i, f_j) = 0$  for  $i \neq j, i, j = 1, \dots, m$  and

$$\left\| f_i - \frac{Te_i}{\|Te_i\|} \right\| \leq C_i(\epsilon), i = 1, 2, \dots, m.$$

Let  $Se_{m+1} = \{f \in Y \mid \|f\| = 1, (f, f_1) = \dots = (f, f_m) = 0, \frac{Te_{m+1}}{\|Te_{m+1}\|} = \alpha_1 f_1 + \dots + \alpha_m f_m + \beta f, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m, \beta \text{ are real numbers}\}$ . Suppose that  $Se_{m+1}$  is empty. Without loss of generality we can assume that  $\frac{Te_{m+1}}{\|Te_{m+1}\|} = \alpha_1 f_1 + \dots + \alpha_m f_m$ . Then, by Schwarz inequality and Step 1,

$$\left| \left( \frac{Te_{m+1}}{\|Te_{m+1}\|}, f_j \right) \right| \leq 6\sqrt{2}\epsilon + 18\epsilon^2 + C_j(\epsilon).$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \frac{Te_{m+1}}{\|Te_{m+1}\|}, \frac{Te_{m+1}}{\|Te_{m+1}\|} \right) &\leq (|\alpha_1| + \dots + |\alpha_m|)(6\sqrt{2}\epsilon + 18\epsilon^2 + C_1(\epsilon)) \\ &\quad + \dots + C_m(\epsilon) \\ &< m(6\sqrt{2}\epsilon + 18\epsilon^2 + C_1(\epsilon) + \dots + C_m(\epsilon)) \\ &< 1. \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts that  $\left\| \frac{Te_{m+1}}{\|Te_{m+1}\|} \right\| = 1$ . Thus  $Se_{m+1} \neq \emptyset$ . We choose a  $f \in Se_{m+1}$  and let  $f_{m+1} = f$ . Thus  $\dim X \leq \dim Y$ . Since  $T$

is an  $\epsilon$ -bi-Lipschitz map,  $\dim Y \leq \dim X$ . Hence  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$  is an orthonormal basis of  $Y$ . Since  $\frac{Te_{m+1}}{\|Te_{m+1}\|} = \alpha_1 f_1 + \dots + \alpha_m f_m + \beta f_{m+1}$ ,

$$\left\| f_{m+1} - \frac{Te_{m+1}}{\|Te_{m+1}\|} \right\|^2 = 2 - 2\beta.$$

Since  $(\frac{Te_{m+1}}{\|Te_{m+1}\|}, f_i) = \alpha_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ , we have  $|\alpha_i| \leq 6\sqrt{2}\epsilon + 18\epsilon^2 + C_i(\epsilon)$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \beta^2 &= 1 - \alpha_1^2 - \alpha_2^2 - \dots - \alpha_m^2 \\ &\geq 1 - m(6\sqrt{2}\epsilon + 18\epsilon^2) - (C_1(\epsilon) + C_2(\epsilon) + \dots + C_m(\epsilon)). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} 2 - 2\beta &\leq 2 - 2\beta^2 \\ &\leq 2m(6\sqrt{2}\epsilon + 18\epsilon^2) + 2(C_1(\epsilon) + C_2(\epsilon) + \dots + C_m(\epsilon)). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $C_{m+1}(\epsilon) = \sqrt{2m(6\sqrt{2}\epsilon + 18\epsilon^2) + 2(C_1(\epsilon) + C_2(\epsilon) + \dots + C_m(\epsilon))}$ . Then  $C_{m+1}(\epsilon) \rightarrow 0$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

**STEP 3.**  $\|\lambda Tx - T\lambda x\| \leq 4\sqrt{\epsilon}(|\lambda|^{\frac{1}{2}} + |\lambda|^{\frac{3}{2}})\|x\|$  for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\|Tx + Ty - T(x+y)\| \leq 4\sqrt{\epsilon}(\|x\| + \|y\|)$ .

*Proof.* Since  $T$  is an  $\epsilon$ -bi-Lipschitz map,

$$(1 - \epsilon)|1 - \lambda|\|x\| \leq \|Tx - T\lambda x\| \leq (1 + \epsilon)|1 - \lambda|\|x\|.$$

A routine calculation shows that

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - \epsilon)^2(1 - \lambda)^2\|x\|^2 - \|Tx\|^2 - \|T\lambda x\|^2 \\ \leq -2(Tx, T\lambda x) \\ \leq (1 + \epsilon)^2(1 - \lambda)^2\|x\|^2 - \|Tx\|^2 - \|T\lambda x\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

So we have

$$\|\lambda Tx - T\lambda x\| \leq 4|\lambda|^{\frac{3}{2}}\sqrt{\epsilon}\|x\| \text{ for } \lambda \geq 1, \lambda \leq -1.$$

Hence for  $-1 < \lambda < 1$ , we get

$$\|\lambda Tx - T\lambda x\| \leq 4|\lambda|^{\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{\epsilon}\|x\|.$$

Thus for any real number  $\lambda$ , we get

$$\|\lambda Tx - T\lambda x\| \leq 4\sqrt{\epsilon}(|\lambda|^{\frac{1}{2}} + |\lambda|^{\frac{3}{2}})\|x\|.$$

It is easy to see that

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - \epsilon)^2\|y\|^2 - \|Tx\|^2 - \|T(x + y)\|^2 \\ \leq -2(Tx, T(x + y)) \\ \leq (1 + \epsilon)^2\|y\|^2 - \|Tx\|^2 - \|T(x + y)\|^2, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - \epsilon)^2\|x\|^2 - \|Ty\|^2 - \|T(x + y)\|^2 \\ \leq -2(Ty, T(x + y)) \\ \leq (1 + \epsilon)^2\|x\|^2 - \|Ty\|^2 - \|T(x + y)\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - \epsilon)^2\|x - y\|^2 - \|Tx\|^2 - \|Ty\|^2 \\ \leq -2(Tx, Ty) \\ \leq (1 + \epsilon)^2\|x - y\|^2 - \|Tx\|^2 - \|Ty\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

So we have

$$\|Tx + Ty - T(x + y)\| \leq 4\sqrt{\epsilon}(\|x\| + \|y\|).$$

STEP 4. There is an isometry  $I$  from  $X$  onto  $Y$  for which  $\|Ix - Tx\| \leq C(\epsilon)(\|x\|^{\frac{1}{2}} + \|x\|^{\frac{3}{2}})$  where  $C(\epsilon) \rightarrow 0$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

*Proof.* For  $x \in X$ , there are  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  such that  $x = \alpha_1 e_1 + \dots + \alpha_n e_n$ . We define  $I : X \rightarrow Y$  by  $Ix = \alpha_1 f_1 + \alpha_2 f_2 + \dots + \alpha_n f_n$ . Then  $I$  is an isometry. By Step 3, we have

$$(1) \quad \|T(\alpha_1 e_1 + \dots + \alpha_n e_n) - T(\alpha_1 e_1) - \dots - T(\alpha_n e_n)\| \leq 8n\sqrt{\epsilon}\|x\|.$$

By Step 2, we get

(2)

$$\|Te_i - f_i\| \leq \|Te_i - \frac{Te_i}{\|Te_i\|}\| + \|\frac{Te_i}{\|Te_i\|} - f_i\| \leq \epsilon + C_i(\epsilon) \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

By (1), (2) and Step 3, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|Tx - Ix\| &\leq 8n\sqrt{\epsilon}\|x\| + 4n\sqrt{\epsilon} \left( \|x\|^{\frac{1}{2}} + \|x\|^{\frac{3}{2}} \right) \\ &\quad + (n\epsilon + C_1(\epsilon) + \dots + C_n(\epsilon))n\|x\|. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we have

$$\|Tx - Ix\| \leq C(\epsilon)(\|x\|^{\frac{1}{2}} + \|x\|^{\frac{3}{2}})$$

where  $C(\epsilon) = 12n\sqrt{\epsilon} + n^2\epsilon + n(C_1(\epsilon) + \dots + C_n(\epsilon))$ . This completes the proof of Step 4.

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