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Spectrum of bounded operators in Hilbert spaces

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Abstract

This paper makes an attempt to study the spectrum operators by emphasising on condition of commuting operators so as to expose more properties in the classes of operators. Here, study of various classes of bounded operators on a Hilbert space H is one of the most important topics in the preparation of the study of the Hilbert spaces. In case a bounded operator A commutes at least with its own adjoint A^* it forms important classes of operators on H , eg normal, unitary, self-adjoint etc. The operators under the study are bounded operators operating in a complete space called Hilbert spaces.

Key words: Bounded operators, commuting operators, Hilbert spaces, Spectrum, unitary.



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INTRODUCTION

In the study, the spectrum in various classes of bounded operators on a Hilbert space H is one of the most important topics in the preparation of the study of the Hilbert spaces. One of the striking features of the collection of bounded operators on H is that very few of them commute with each other; i.e. AB does not generally equal to BA for $A, B \in B(H)$. In case a bounded operator A commutes at least with its own adjoint A^* and it forms important classes of operators on H , eg normal, unitary, self adjoint etc.

Definition 1

Let $A \in B(H)$

A is called normal if $A^*A = AA^*$

unitary if $A^*A = I = AA^*$ ie $A^* = A^{-1}$

Self adjoint if $A^* = A$

Hyponormal if $A^*A \geq AA^*$

Remark 1

We first give various results on normal operators in relation to the spectrum.

Lamma 1

Let $A \in B(H)$ be a normal operator. Then

a) If $\lambda \neq \mu$ $\ker(\lambda I - A) \perp \ker(\mu I - A)$

b) For every $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ $\ker(\lambda I - A)$ and $\ker((\lambda I - A)^*)$ are invariant under both.

A and A^* (Douglas, 1969).

Proof

a) If $Ax = \lambda x$ and $Ay = \mu y$ then

$A^*y = \mu y$ because $\ker A = \ker A^*$

Hence we have;

$y \in \ker(\mu I - A) = \ker(\mu I - A^*)$

Therefore,

$\lambda \langle x, y \rangle = \langle Ax, y \rangle = \langle x, A^*y \rangle = \langle x, \mu y \rangle = \mu \langle x, y \rangle$

$\lambda \neq \mu$

and so $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$

b) as $\lambda I - A$ commutes with A and A^*

$\ker(\lambda I - A)$ is invariant under both A and A^* for all

$y \in \ker(\lambda I - A)$ we have

$\langle Ax, y \rangle = \langle x, A^*y \rangle = 0$

Hence, $Ax \in (\ker(\lambda I - A))^\perp$

Similarly

$\langle A^*x, y \rangle = \langle x, Ty \rangle = 0$

for every $y \in \ker(\lambda I - A)$ and so

$T^*x \in \ker(\lambda I - A)^\perp$

Theorem 1

Let $A \in B(H)$ be normal

a) if λ is an eigenvalue of A and x is corresponding eigenvector, then λ is an eigenvalue of A^* and the same x is an eigenvector of A^* corresponding to λ .

b) Eigenvectors of A corresponding to distinct eigenvalues are orthogonal.

c) Every spectral value of A is an approximate eigenvalue of A (Boullobas, 1990).

Proof

a) Let $Ax = \lambda x$ for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ and $0 \neq x \in H$. Then by some results ie A is normal iff

$\|A(x)\| = \|A^*x\|$ for all $x \in H$

then;

$\|A^*x - \lambda x\| = \|(A - \lambda I)^*x\|$

$= \|(A - \lambda I)x\| = 0$

Hence, $A^*x = \lambda x$

This proves (a)

b) Let $Ax_1 = \lambda_1 x_1$ and

$Ax_2 = \lambda_2 x_2$ for some $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$

$\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ and $x_1, x_2 \in H$

Then by (a) above

$A^*x_2 = \lambda_2 x_2$ so that

$$\lambda_1 \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle = \langle \lambda_1 x_1, x_2 \rangle \\ = \langle Ax_1, x_2 \rangle$$

$$= \langle x_1, A^* x_2 \rangle$$

$$= \langle x_1, \lambda_2 x_2 \rangle$$

$$= \lambda_2 \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$$

Since $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ we see that

$$\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle = 0$$

This proves (b)

c) Let $\lambda \in \sigma(A)$

Then we know that

$$\sigma(A) = \{\lambda: \lambda \in \sigma_p(A)\} \cup \{\lambda: \lambda \in \sigma_p(A^*)\}$$

$$= \{\lambda: \lambda \in \sigma_{ap}(A)\} \cup \{\lambda: \lambda \in \sigma_p(A^*)\}$$

then either $\lambda \in \sigma_p(A^*)$ or $\lambda \in \sigma_{ap}(A)$

if $\lambda \in \sigma_p(A^*)$ then by (a)

above, $\lambda \in \sigma_p(A) \subset \sigma_{ap}(A)$

Thus, in any case, λ is

An approximate eigenvalue of A.

Thus in any case, λ is an approximate eigenvalues of A.

Q.E.D.

Remark 2

We had considered $A \in (B)H$ being normal and so the prove of (c) above clearly shows that in any case, λ is an approximate eigenvalue of A, which is a very important result and so we state the following theorem.

Theorem 2

If $A \in B(H)$ is normal then $R\sigma(A) = \emptyset$ (Boullobas, 1990).

Proof

Now, $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$, belongs to $R\sigma(A)$ if $(\lambda I - A)^{-1}$ exist as a map but $R(\lambda I - A) \neq H$

Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$, be such that;

$$R(\lambda I - A) \neq H$$

We show that this condition implies that;

$\lambda \in \sigma_p(A)$ when A is normal

Which in turn implies; $R\sigma(A) = \emptyset$

Since $R(\lambda I - A) \neq H$ it follows that $R(\lambda I - A)^\perp \neq \{0\}$
 $\Rightarrow N(\lambda I - A^*) \neq \emptyset$ where N is the Null set. By use of $R(A)^\perp = N(A^*)$ i.e. $\exists x \in H$

such that $(\lambda I - A^*)x = 0$ -----(*)

Since A normal, so is $\lambda I - A$.

This is \equiv to the condition that;

$$\|(\lambda I - A)y\| = \|(\lambda I - A^*)y\| \text{ for all } y \in H$$

By (*) and (**) we have that $\|(\lambda I - A)x\| = 0$ for some $x \neq 0 \rightarrow (\lambda I - A)x = 0$ for some $x \neq 0$.

i.e. $Ax = \lambda x$ has non-trivial roots in x.

i.e. $\lambda \in \sigma_p(A)$

Hence, $R\sigma(A) = \emptyset$

Q.E.D

Remark 3

Let us now turn to exhibit some results on self-adjoint operators and so we state the following theorem; which is very important.

Theorem 3

Let $A \in B(H)$ be self – adjoint. Then $\sigma(A) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. (Rimaye, 1981).

Proof

Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$, with $\text{im } \lambda \neq 0$. Then for any $x \in H$ such that $x \neq 0$, we have that;

$$0 < \|\lambda - \bar{\lambda}\| \|x\|^2 \\ = \|(A - \lambda I)x, x\rangle - \langle (A - \lambda I)x, x\rangle \\ = \|(A - \lambda I)x, x\rangle - \langle x, (A - \lambda I)x\rangle \\ \leq 2\|(A - \lambda I)x\| \|x\|$$

if $\lambda \in \sigma(A) = \sigma_{ap}(A)$ then there exists a sequence of vector (x_n)

with $\|x_n\| = 1$ such that

$$(A - \lambda I)x_n \rightarrow 0 \text{ --- (a)}$$

since $2\|(A - \lambda I)x_n\|$ must be greater than or equal to

$$\|\lambda - \bar{\lambda}\| \text{ we have that}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|(A - \lambda I)x_n\| \geq \|\lambda - \bar{\lambda}\| > 0 \text{ --- (b)}$$

$$n \rightarrow \infty$$

if $\text{im } \lambda \neq 0$

Thus, (a) and (b) are compatible

If λ is such that

$$\lambda = \bar{\lambda}$$

$$\operatorname{im} \lambda = 0$$

Therefore, for λ to belong to

$\sigma_{\text{ap}}(A)$ we have that

$$\operatorname{im} \lambda = 0$$

$$\therefore \sigma_{\text{ap}}(A) \subseteq \mathbb{R} \quad *$$

$$\text{Or } \sigma_{\text{ap}}(A) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$$

Remark 4

We now exhibit results of unitary operators.

Theorem 4

A is unitary iff $\|A(x)\| = \|x\|$ for all $x \in H$ and A is onto (Rimaye, 1981).

Proof

If A is unitary, then for $x \in H$;

$$\langle Ax, Ax \rangle = \langle A^*Ax, x \rangle = \langle x, x \rangle = \|x\|^2$$

Also, since A is invertible, the range of A is the whole of H. Conversely, assume that $\|Ax\| = \|x\|$ for all $x \in H$ and A is onto for $x \in H$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle (A^*A - I)x, x \rangle &= \langle Ax, Ax \rangle - \langle x, x \rangle \\ &= \|Ax\|^2 - \|x\|^2 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Since $(A^*A - I) = A^*A - I$. To prove $AA^* = I$ we show that A is invertible in $B(H)$ if $A(x) = 0$ then $\|x\| = \|A(x)\| = 0$, so that A is onto, $A^{-1}: H \rightarrow H$; Is a well defined map and it is linear.

Also for $y \in H$, if $A(x) = y$

$$\text{then } \|A^{-1}(y)\| = \|A^{-1}A(x)\| = \|x\|$$

Hence, A^{-1} is bounded and belongs to $B(H)$ ie A is invertible in $B(H)$.

$$\text{Now } AA^* = (AA^*)(AA^{-1}) = A(A^*A)^{-1} = I$$

and hence A is unitary.

Q.E.D.

Theorem 5

The spectrum of unitary operator U lies entirely on the unit circle (Boullobas, 1990).

Proof

i) Since $\|U\| = 1$, it follows that if $\|\lambda\| > \|A\|$, the operator $\lambda I - A$ is invertible, then the spectrum of U is confined to the closed unit disc, $\{\lambda \mid \|\lambda\| \leq 1\}$.

ii) Let $\|\mu\| < 1$. Then for any non-zero vector g, we have

$$\|\mu g\| = \|\mu\| \|g\| < \|g\|, \text{ and so}$$

$$(\mu I - U)g \neq 0$$

Thus, $\mu I - U$ is one-to-one.

iii) Assuming as in (ii), that $\|\mu\| < 1$, we shall show that the range of $(\mu I - U)$ is dense in H. If this were not so, there would exist a non-zero vector h such that $\langle (\mu I - U)g, h \rangle = 0$ for every vector g. Choosing g the vector U^*h , we would obtain,

$$\langle \mu U^*h, h \rangle = \langle U U^*h, h \rangle = \langle h, h \rangle$$

and by the Schwartz inequality we obtain

$$\|h\|^2 \leq \|\mu\| \|U^*h\| \|h\|^2. \text{ Dividing by } \|h\|^2$$

and recalling that $\|U^*\| = 1$,

We would obtain $\|\mu\| \geq 1$, contradicting our hypothesis.

iv) Continuing to assume that $\|\mu\| < 1$, we can extend the result (of) (iii) to show that the range of $\mu I - U$ consists of all of H.

Hence, $\mu I - U$ is invertible, and so the spectrum is confined entirely to the circumference of the unit disc.

Q.E.D.

RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

The spectrum of unitary operator U lies entirely on the unit circle.

A is unitary iff $\|A(x)\| = \|x\|$ for all $x \in H$ and A is onto mapping.

Since $\|U\| = 1$, it follows that if $\|\lambda\| > \|A\|$, the operator $\lambda I - A$ is invertible, then the spectrum of U is confined to the closed unit disc, $\{\lambda \mid \|\lambda\| \leq 1\}$. Also If $A \in B(H)$ is normal then $R\sigma(A) = \emptyset$.

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