

On the essential norms of Toeplitz operators

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Fredholm operators and the essential spectrum

For Banach spaces X and Y , let $\mathcal{B}(X, Y)$ and $\mathcal{K}(X, Y)$ denote the sets of bounded linear and compact linear operators from X to Y , respectively.

For $A \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y)$, let

$$\text{Ker } A := \{x \in X \mid Ax = 0\}, \quad \text{Ran } A := \{Ax \mid x \in X\}.$$

The operator A is called **Fredholm** if

$$\dim \text{Ker } A < +\infty, \quad \dim (X/\text{Ran } A) < +\infty.$$

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The **essential spectrum** of $A \in \mathcal{B}(X) := \mathcal{B}(X, X)$ is the set

$$\text{Spec}_e(A) := \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : A - \lambda I \text{ is not Fredholm}\}.$$

The **essential norm** of $A \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y)$ is defined as follows

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$$r_e(A) := \sup\{|\lambda| : \lambda \in \text{Spec}_e(A)\} \leq \|A\|_e.$$

Toeplitz operators

Hardy space:

$$H^p(\mathbb{T}) := \{f \in L^p(\mathbb{T}) \mid f_n = 0 \text{ for } n < 0\}, \quad 1 \leq p \leq \infty,$$

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Toeplitz operator generated by a function $a \in L^\infty(\mathbb{T})$:

$$\begin{aligned} T(a) : H^p(\mathbb{T}) &\rightarrow H^p(\mathbb{T}), \quad 1 < p < \infty, \\ T(a)f &= P(af), \quad f \in H^p(\mathbb{T}), \end{aligned}$$

where P is the **Riesz projection**:

$$P \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} g_n \zeta^n \right) = \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} g_n \zeta^n, \quad \zeta \in \mathbb{T}.$$

$$T(a) : H^p(\mathbb{T}) \rightarrow H^p(\mathbb{T})$$

P. Hartman and A. Wintner (1954, $p = 2$),
I.B. Simonenko (1968)

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On the other hand,

$$\|T(\mathbf{a})\|_e \leq \|T(\mathbf{a})\| = \|P\mathbf{a}I\| \leq \|P\| \|\mathbf{a}\|_{L^\infty}$$

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This is considerably more difficult to prove than the result (essentially) due to S.K. Pichorides (1972)

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Putting together:

$$\|a\|_{L^\infty} \leq \|T(a)\|_c \leq \frac{1}{\sin \frac{\pi}{p}} \|a\|_{L^\infty}$$

Example. Let

$$a_0 \left(e^{i\vartheta} \right) := \frac{1}{\sin \frac{\pi}{p}} - \cot \left(\frac{\pi}{p} \right) e^{\pm i\pi/p}, \quad \pm\vartheta \in (0, \pi).$$

Then $\|a_0\|_{L^\infty} = 1$.

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$$\frac{1}{\sin \frac{\pi}{p}} \in \text{Spec}_e(T(a_0)) \implies \|T(a_0)\|_e \geq \frac{1}{\sin \frac{\pi}{p}}$$

Hence the constant $\frac{1}{\sin \frac{\pi}{p}}$ is **optimal** in

$$\|a\|_{L^\infty} \leq \|T(a)\|_e \leq \frac{1}{\sin \frac{\pi}{p}} \|a\|_{L^\infty}, \quad \forall a \in L^\infty(\mathbb{T}).$$

Toeplitz operators with continuous symbols

Consider $T(a) : H^p(\mathbb{T}) \rightarrow H^p(\mathbb{T})$, $1 < p < \infty$ with $a \in C(\mathbb{T})$.

I. Gohberg (1952), ...

$$\text{Spec}_e(T(a)) = a(\mathbb{T}).$$

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In particular, $\text{Spec}_e(T(a))$ **does not** depend on p .

A. Böttcher, N. Krupnik, and B. Silbermann (1988): Does $\|T(a)\|_e$ depend on p if $a \in C(\mathbb{T})$? Is it true that

$$\|T(a)\|_e = \|a\|_{L^\infty}, \quad \forall a \in C(\mathbb{T})?$$

Notation

$$\mathbf{e}_m(z) := z^m, \quad z \in \mathbb{C}, \quad m \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \|T(\mathbf{a})\|_e &= \|\mathbf{a}\|_{L^\infty}, \quad \forall \mathbf{a} \in (C + H^\infty)(\mathbb{T}) \\ \iff \|T(\mathbf{e}_{-1})\|_e &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

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So, the question is whether or not the last equality holds.

$$T(a) : H^p(\mathbb{T}) \rightarrow H^p(\mathbb{T})$$

Theorem 1

$$\|T(\mathbf{e}_{-1})\|_e = \|T(\mathbf{e}_{-1})\|, \quad \forall p \in (1, \infty).$$

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Theorem 2

$$\|T(a)\|_e \leq 2^{\left|1 - \frac{2}{p}\right|} \|a\|_{L^\infty} \leq 2 \|a\|_{L^\infty}, \quad \forall a \in (C + H^\infty)(\mathbb{T}), \\ \forall p \in (1, \infty).$$

Measures of noncompactness of a linear operator

Let Y be a Banach space. For a bounded subset Ω of Y , we denote by $\chi(\Omega)$ the greatest lower bound of the set of numbers r such that Ω can be covered by a finite family of open balls of radius r .

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For $A \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y)$, set

$$\|A\|_X := \chi(A(B_X)),$$

where B_X denotes the unit ball in X .

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$$\|A\|_X := \chi(A(B_X)),$$

where B_X denotes the unit ball in X .

Let $\|A\|_m$ denote the greatest lower bound of all numbers η having the property that there exists a subspace M of X having **finite codimension** and such that

$$\|Ax\| \leq \eta\|x\|, \quad \forall x \in M.$$

A. Lebow and M. Schechter (1971):

$$\|\mathbf{A}\|_{\chi}/2 \leq \|\mathbf{A}\|_m \leq 2\|\mathbf{A}\|_{\chi}$$

and

$$\|\mathbf{A}\|_{\chi} \leq \|\mathbf{A}\|_e, \quad \|\mathbf{A}\|_m \leq \|\mathbf{A}\|_e$$

Approximation properties of Banach spaces

A Banach space Y is said to have the **bounded compact approximation property (BCAP)** if there exists a constant $M \in (0, +\infty)$ such that given any $\varepsilon > 0$ and any finite set $F \subset Y$, there exists an operator $T \in \mathcal{K}(Y)$ such that $\|I - T\| \leq M$ and

$$\|y - Ty\| < \varepsilon, \quad \forall y \in F.$$

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We say that Y has the **dual compact approximation property (DCAP)** if there exists a constant $M^* \in (0, +\infty)$ such that given any $\varepsilon > 0$ and any finite set $G \subset Y^*$, there exists an operator $T \in \mathcal{K}(Y)$ such that $\|I - T\| \leq M^*$ and

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We denote by $M(Y)$ and $M^*(Y)$ the infima of the constants M and M^* for which the above conditions are satisfied.

A. Lebow and M. Schechter (1971): If Y has the BCAP, then

$$\|A\|_e \leq M(Y)\|A\|_X, \quad \forall A \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y)$$

and hence

$$\|A\|_e \leq 2M(Y)\|A\|_m, \quad \forall A \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y).$$

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(K. Astala and H.-O. Tylli (1987): If $\|A\|_e < M\|A\|_X$ for every $A \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y) \setminus \mathcal{K}(X, Y)$ and every Banach space X , then Y has the BCAP and $M(Y) \leq M$.)

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Theorem

If X has the DCAP, then

$$\|A\|_e \leq M^*(X)\|A\|_m, \quad \forall A \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y).$$

Approximation properties of Hardy spaces

Theorem

The Hardy space $H^p = H^p(\mathbb{T})$, $1 < p < \infty$ has the bounded compact approximation and the dual compact approximation properties with

$$M(H^p), M^*(H^p) \leq 2^{\left|1 - \frac{2}{p}\right|}.$$

Approximation properties of Hardy spaces

The proof of the above theorem uses the Fejér means

$$(\mathbf{K}_n f)(e^{i\vartheta}) := (K_n * f)(e^{i\vartheta}) = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} K_n(e^{i\vartheta-i\theta}) f(e^{i\theta}) d\theta,$$

$$K_n(e^{i\theta}) := \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{k=-n}^n \left(1 - \frac{|k|}{n+1}\right) e^{ik\theta}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi(n+1)} \left(\frac{\sin \frac{(n+1)\theta}{2}}{\sin \frac{\theta}{2}} \right)^2,$$

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$$\text{Parseval's theorem} \implies \|\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K}_n\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2} = 1.$$

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$$\text{Interpolation} \implies \|\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K}_n\|_{L^p \rightarrow L^p} \leq 2 \left|1 - \frac{2}{p}\right|.$$

Reminder:

Theorem 2

$$\|T(a)\|_e \leq 2^{\left|1 - \frac{2}{p}\right|} \|a\|_{L^\infty} \leq 2 \|a\|_{L^\infty}, \quad \forall a \in (C + H^\infty)(\mathbb{T}),$$
$$\forall p \in (1, \infty).$$

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According to the above results, it is sufficient to show that

$$\|T(\mathbf{a})\|_m = \|\mathbf{a}\|_{L^\infty}.$$

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According to the above results, it is sufficient to show that

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The latter is easy to prove if $a = \mathbf{e}_{-n}h$, $h \in H^\infty(\mathbb{T})$.

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Such functions are dense in $(C + H^\infty)(\mathbb{T})$.

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For any $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $q \in H^p(\mathbb{T})$, such that $\|q\|_{H^p} = 1$ and $\|T(\mathbf{e}_{-1})q\|_{H^p} \geq \|T(\mathbf{e}_{-1})\| - \varepsilon$.

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Take any finite set $\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_m\} \subset H^p(\mathbb{T})$.

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Take any finite set $\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_m\} \subset H^p(\mathbb{T})$. If $N \in \mathbb{N}$ is sufficiently large, then

$$\|T(\mathbf{e}_{-1})(q \circ \mathbf{e}_N) - \varphi_j\|_{H^p} \geq \|T(\mathbf{e}_{-1})\| - 2\varepsilon, \quad j = 1, \dots, m.$$

Open problems and related results

What is the norm of the **backward shift operator**

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$$\|T(\mathbf{e}_{-1})\| = \|\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K}_0\|_{H^p \rightarrow H^p} \leq \|\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K}_0\|_{L^p \rightarrow L^p} \leq 2 \left| 1 - \frac{2}{p} \right| \leq 2.$$

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$$\|T(\mathbf{e}_{-1})\|_{H^\infty \rightarrow H^\infty} = 2 \quad \text{and} \quad \|T(\mathbf{e}_{-1})\|_{H^p \rightarrow H^p} \rightarrow 2 \quad \text{as} \quad p \rightarrow \infty.$$

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$$T(\mathbf{e}_{-1}) : H^p(\mathbb{T}) \rightarrow H^p(\mathbb{T}), \quad 1 \leq p \leq \infty?$$

Reminder: $\mathbf{K}_0 f = f(0)$.

$$\|T(\mathbf{e}_{-1})\| = \|\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K}_0\|_{H^p \rightarrow H^p} \leq \|\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K}_0\|_{L^p \rightarrow L^p} \leq 2 \left|1 - \frac{2}{p}\right| \leq 2.$$

$\|T(\mathbf{e}_{-1})\|_{H^\infty \rightarrow H^\infty} = 2$ and $\|T(\mathbf{e}_{-1})\|_{H^p \rightarrow H^p} \rightarrow 2$ as $p \rightarrow \infty$.

T. Ferguson (arXiv, 2017): $\|T(\mathbf{e}_{-1})\|_{H^1 \rightarrow H^1} < 1.7047$.

It follows from the proof that $\|T(\mathbf{e}_{-1})\|_{H^p \rightarrow H^p} < 1.7047$ if p is sufficiently close to 1.

T.F. Móri, *Sharp inequalities between centered moments*, 2009
+ complexification (not entirely trivial)

$$\|I - \mathbf{K}_0\|_{L^p \rightarrow L^p} = c_p, \quad 1 \leq p \leq \infty,$$

where

$$c_p := \max_{0 < \alpha < 1} \left(\alpha^{p-1} + (1 - \alpha)^{p-1} \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \left(\alpha^{\frac{1}{p-1}} + (1 - \alpha)^{\frac{1}{p-1}} \right)^{1 - \frac{1}{p}},$$
$$1 < p < \infty,$$

$$c_1 := \lim_{p \rightarrow 1+0} c_p = 2, \quad c_\infty := \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} c_p = 2.$$

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$c_2 = 1$, $c_{p'} = c_p$ for $p' = \frac{p}{p-1}$, and

$$1 \leq c_p \leq 2^{\left|1-\frac{2}{p}\right|},$$

where the left inequality is strict unless $p = 2$, while the right one is strict unless $p = 1, 2$ or ∞ . Further,

$$c_p \geq 2^{1-\frac{2}{p}} \left(\frac{2}{ep} \right)^{\frac{1}{2p}}, \quad \forall p > 2.$$

What are the values of

$$\|I - \mathbf{K}_n\|_{H^p \rightarrow H^p}, \quad \|I - \mathbf{K}_n\|_{L^p \rightarrow L^p}, \\ M(H^p), \quad M^*(H^p), \quad 1 < p < \infty?$$

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$$\|I - \mathbf{K}_n\|_{H^p \rightarrow H^p} \geq \|I - \mathbf{K}_0\|_{H^p \rightarrow H^p}, \\ \|I - \mathbf{K}_n\|_{L^p \rightarrow L^p} \geq \|I - \mathbf{K}_0\|_{L^p \rightarrow L^p}, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Theorem

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T. Oikhberg (2011): Let X be a separable rearrangement invariant non-atomic Banach function space not isometric to L^2 . Then $M(X) > 1$.

Theorem

Let $1 \leq p < \infty$ and $T \in \mathcal{K}(L^p)$ be such that $I - T$ is not invertible. Then

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Corollary

Let $1 \leq p < \infty$ and let $Q : L^p \rightarrow L^p$, $Q \neq I$ be a projection onto a finite-codimensional subspace. Then

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B. Randrianantoanina (1995): Let X be a separable rearrangement invariant non-atomic Banach function space not isometric to L^2 . Then $\|Q\| > 1$ for every projection $Q : X \rightarrow X$, $Q \neq I$ onto a finite-codimensional subspace of X .

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but not isometric (for $p \neq 2$) to $L^p(\mathbb{T})$.

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Leo Tolstoy, *Anna Karenina*

"All Hilbert spaces are alike; each Banach space is unhappy in its own way."

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