

Reproducing kernels and symmetric operators

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Lille 2013

Main question

When are two densely defined unbounded symmetric operators on a Hilbert space unitarily equivalent?

Note about the examples

Usually when one talks about unbounded symmetric operators, one talks about

- $Tf = -(pf')' + qf$ (Sturm-Liouville)
- $Tf = -f'' + Vf$ (Schrödinger)

We want unbounded symmetric Toeplitz operators T_φ on H^2 .

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Bounded Toeplitz operators

- H^2 Hardy space of the open unit disk \mathbb{D}
- H^∞ bounded analytic functions on \mathbb{D}
- For $\varphi \in H^\infty$,

$$T_\varphi : H^2 \rightarrow H^2, \quad T_\varphi f = \varphi f.$$

- When is $T_{\varphi_1} \cong T_{\varphi_2}$?
- When is $T_{\varphi_1} \sim T_{\varphi_2}$?

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Cowen's work

First observation: Suppose that

$$B(z) = \frac{z - a}{1 - \bar{a}z}, \quad a \in \mathbb{D}.$$

Then

$$T_{\varphi \circ B} \cong T_{\varphi}.$$

Proof: Let

$$U : H^2 \rightarrow H^2, \quad Ug := (g \circ B)\sqrt{B'}.$$

Then $UT_{\varphi}U^* = T_{\varphi \circ B}$

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Proposition (C. Cowen)

Suppose B is any inner function with degree $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ and $\varphi \in H^\infty$. Then

$$T_{\varphi \circ B} \cong T_\varphi \oplus T_\varphi \oplus \cdots \oplus T_\varphi.$$

Corollary

If B_1, B_2 are inner with same degree and $\varphi \in H^\infty$, then $T_{\varphi \circ B_1} \cong T_{\varphi \circ B_2}$.

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Theorem (Cowen)

Suppose $\varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in H^\infty$ and rational. Then TFAE:

- 1 $T_{\varphi_1} \cong T_{\varphi_2}$;
- 2 $T_{\varphi_1} \sim T_{\varphi_2}$;
- 3 There is a (rational) $\psi \in H^\infty$ and BP B_1, B_2 of degree $n \in \mathbb{N}$ so that

$$\varphi_1 = \psi \circ B_1, \quad \varphi_2 = \psi \circ B_2.$$

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Unbounded Toeplitz operators

For $\varphi \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{D})$ define

$$T_\varphi : \mathcal{D}(T_\varphi) \subset H^2 \rightarrow H^2, \quad T_\varphi f = \varphi f.$$

$$\mathcal{D}(T_\varphi) := \{f \in H^2 : \varphi f \in H^2\}$$

Proposition (Sarason)

$\mathcal{D}(T_\varphi) \neq \{0\} \Leftrightarrow \varphi \in N$ (Nevanlinna class).

Proposition

$\mathcal{D}(T_\varphi)$ is dense in $H^2 \Leftrightarrow \varphi \in N^+$ (Smirnov class).

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If $\varphi \in N^+ \setminus \{0\}$, then there are unique $a, b \in \text{ball}(H^\infty)$ with

- 1 a outer and $a(0) > 0$;
- 2 $|a(\zeta)|^2 + |b(\zeta)|^2 = 1$ for m -almost every $\zeta \in \mathbb{T}$.
- 3 $\varphi = \frac{b}{a}$

Corollary

If $\varphi \in N^+ \setminus \{0\}$, then T_φ is a closed densely defined operator on H^2 with $\mathcal{D}(T_\varphi) = aH^2$ and $\mathcal{D}(T_\varphi^*) = \mathcal{H}(b)$.

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Real Smirnov functions

If p, q are inner with $p - q$ outer, then

$$\varphi := i \frac{p + q}{p - q} \in N^+$$

and $\varphi(\zeta) \in \mathbb{R}$ for m -almost every $\zeta \in \mathbb{T}$.

Definition

$N_{\mathbb{R}}^+$ is the set of N^+ functions with real boundary values.

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Sarason v. Helson

Note that if

$$\varphi = \frac{b}{a} \in N_{\mathbb{R}}^+$$

then

$p = b + ia$ and $q = b - ia$ are inner.

$p + q = 2b$ and $p - q = 2ia$ is outer.

Finally

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Mapping properties

Proposition

If $\varphi \in N_{\mathbb{R}}^+$ and $\text{def}(T_{\varphi}) = (n, n)$, $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$, then $\varphi(\mathbb{D}) \supset \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}$ and $\varphi(\mathbb{D})$ is a connected slit domain with slits along the real axis.

Example

If

$$\varphi = i \frac{z + b_{1/2}}{z - b_{1/2}},$$

$$\varphi(\mathbb{D}) = \mathbb{C} \setminus \{(-\infty, -\sqrt{3}) \cup (\sqrt{3}, \infty)\}.$$

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Symmetric Toeplitz operators

Note that

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{T}} f \bar{g} dm, \quad f, g \in H^2.$$

Definition

T_φ is *symmetric* if

$$\langle T_\varphi f, g \rangle = \langle f, T_\varphi g \rangle, \quad f, g \in \mathcal{D}(T_\varphi).$$

Proposition

For $\varphi \in N^+$, T_φ is symmetric $\Leftrightarrow \varphi \in N_{\mathbb{R}}^+$.

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Proposition

For $\varphi \in N_{\mathbb{R}}^+$,

- $n_+(T_\varphi) := \dim \text{Rng}(T_\varphi - \lambda I)^\perp = \dim \ker(T_\varphi^* - \bar{\lambda}I)$ is constant on \mathbb{C}_+
- $n_-(T_\varphi) := \dim \text{Rng}(T_\varphi - \lambda I)^\perp = \dim \ker(T_\varphi^* - \bar{\lambda}I)$ is constant on \mathbb{C}_-

Definition

The pair $\text{def}(T_\varphi) := (n_+, n_-)$ is called the *deficiency indices* for T_φ

Proposition

When $n_+ = n_- = 0$, then T_φ is self-adjoint. When $n_+ = n_-$, then T_φ has self-adjoint extensions.

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Model spaces

If

$$\varphi = i \frac{p+q}{p-q},$$

note that

$$\varphi - i = q \frac{2i}{p-q}, \quad \varphi + i = p \frac{2i}{p-q}$$

Thus

$$\text{Rng}(T_\varphi - iI)^\perp = (qH^2)^\perp, \quad \text{Rng}(T_\varphi + iI)^\perp = (pH^2)^\perp.$$

Corollary

For

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Model spaces

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(n, n) Symmetric Toeplitz operators

Suppose that $T_\varphi, g \in N_{\mathbb{R}}^+$, with $\text{def}(T_\varphi) = (n, n)$, $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$. Note that

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Let \mathcal{K} be any Hilbert space of dimension n .

We say that Γ is a *model* for T if

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Every closed, densely defined, symmetric, simple T with $\text{def}(T) = (n, n)$ has a model.

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Example

Suppose $\varphi \in N_{\mathbb{R}}^+$ with $\text{def}(T_{\varphi}) = (1, 1)$. Then φ is univalent.

$$\ker(T_{\varphi}^* - \bar{\lambda}I) = \mathbb{C}k_{\varphi^{-1}(\lambda)}.$$

$$\gamma(\lambda) = \frac{1}{1 - \varphi^{-1}(\lambda)z}, \quad \Gamma(\lambda) = \gamma(\bar{\lambda}) \otimes 1$$

Example

- $\varphi \in N_{\mathbb{R}}^+$ and univalent with $\text{def}(T_{\varphi}) = (1, 1)$.
- Consider T_{φ^2} (which is $(2, 2)$)
- $\ker(T_{\varphi^2}^* - \bar{\lambda}I) = \vee \{k_{\varphi^{-1}(\sqrt{\lambda})}, k_{\varphi^{-1}(-\sqrt{\lambda})}\}, \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}$
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Let

$$\{z_1(\lambda), \dots, z_n(\lambda)\}$$

be the solutions to $\varphi(\eta) = \lambda$.

By Grauert's theorem, there are locally analytic $a_{i,j}(\lambda)$ so that

$$\gamma_j(\lambda) = \sum_{i=1}^n \overline{a_{i,j}(\lambda)} k_{z_i(\lambda)}$$

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- T symmetric with $\text{def}(T) = (n, n)$
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Proposition

If Γ_1 and Γ_2 are two models for T . Then there is a $B(\mathcal{K})$ -valued analytic function W on $\mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}$ to that

$$f \mapsto Wf$$

is an isometric multiplier from $\mathcal{H}(\Gamma_1)$ onto $\mathcal{H}(\Gamma_2)$.

Example

- $\varphi \in N_{\mathbb{R}}^+$ with $\text{def}(T_{\varphi}) = (1, 1)$
- $\ker(T_{\varphi}^* - \bar{\lambda}I) = \mathbb{C}k_{\varphi^{-1}(\lambda)}, \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}$
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Then

$$K_\lambda(z) = \Phi(z) \left(\frac{1 - V(z)V(\lambda)^*}{1 - b(z)\bar{b}(\lambda)} \right) \Phi(\lambda)^*.$$

where

- $b(z) = (z - i)(z + i)^{-1}$
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Example

Recall if T_φ , $\varphi \in N_{\mathbb{R}}^+$, and $\text{def}(T_\varphi) = (1, 1)$

$$K_\lambda(z) = \frac{1}{1 - \overline{\varphi^{-1}(\lambda)}\varphi^{-1}(z)}$$

and

$$V(z) = \frac{z - i}{z + i} \sqrt{\frac{1 - |\varphi^{-1}(-i)|^2}{1 - |\varphi^{-1}(i)|^2}} \frac{1 - \overline{\varphi^{-1}(i)}\varphi^{-1}(z)}{1 - \overline{\varphi^{-1}(-i)}\varphi^{-1}(z)}.$$

Theorem

Suppose $\varphi_j \in N_{\mathbb{R}}^+$ and $\text{def}(T_{\varphi_j}) = (1, 1), j = 1, 2$. Then

$$T_{\varphi_1} \cong T_{\varphi_2} \Leftrightarrow \varphi_1 = \varphi_2 \circ \omega$$

for some $\omega \in \text{Aut}(\mathbb{D})$.

Conjecture

For $\varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in N_{\mathbb{R}}^+$ with $\text{def}(T_{\varphi_1}) = \text{def}(T_{\varphi_2}) = (n, n)$, $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$,

$$T_{\varphi_1} \cong T_{\varphi_2}$$

if and only if there is a $\psi \in N_{\mathbb{R}}^+$ and a inner functions ω_1, ω_2 of order n so that

$$\varphi_1 = \psi \circ \omega_1, \quad \varphi_2 = \psi \circ \omega_2.$$

Theorem (Livsic (1960))

Let T be symmetric with $\text{def}(T) = (n, n)$, T' be any SA extension of T , and $\{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$ be an ON basis for $\ker(T^* - iI)$. Define

$$w_T(z) = \frac{z - i}{z + i} B(z)^{-1} A(z), \quad z \in \mathbb{C}_+$$

$$A(z) = [\langle (T' + iI)(T' - zI)^{-1} u_j, u_k \rangle],$$

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$$T_1 \cong T_2 \Leftrightarrow w_{T_1}(z) = Q w_{T_2}(z) R, \quad z \in \mathbb{C}_+, \quad Q, R \in \mathcal{U}(n).$$

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deBranges-Rovnyak spaces

Suppose that T is symmetric with $\text{def}(T) = (n, n)$. Recall

- $\Gamma : \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C}^n, \mathcal{H})$
- $\mathcal{H}(\Gamma) := \{\widehat{f}(\lambda) = \Gamma(\lambda)^* f : f \in \mathcal{H}\}$
- $T \cong M = M_z$ on $\mathcal{H}(\Gamma)$

$$\begin{aligned} K_\lambda(z) &= \Phi(z) \left(\frac{1 - V(z)V(\lambda)^*}{1 - b(z)\overline{b(\lambda)}} \right) \Phi(\lambda)^* \\ &= \Phi_1(z) \left(\frac{i}{2\pi} \frac{I - V(z)V(\lambda)^*}{z - \bar{\lambda}} \right) \Phi_1(\lambda)^* \end{aligned}$$

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If $V \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{C}^n}$ is extreme then $T \cong M$ on $\mathcal{H}(V)$.

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If $V \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{C}^n}$ is extreme then $T \cong M$ on $\mathcal{H}(V)$.

One can show that V is analytic on \mathbb{C}_+ and meromorphic on \mathbb{C}_- and

$$V(z)V(\bar{z})^* = I$$

Corollary

If V has an analytic continuation across an arc $I \subset \mathbb{R}$, then V is extreme and so $T \cong M$ on $\mathcal{K}(V)$.

Corollary

If $\varphi \in N_{\mathbb{R}}^+$ with $\text{def}(T_\varphi) = (1, 1)$, then

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Herglotz spaces

Theorem

$$K_\lambda(z) = \Phi_2(z) \left(\frac{\Omega(z) + \Omega(\lambda)^*}{\pi i(\bar{\lambda} - z)} \right) \Phi_2(\lambda)^*,$$

$$\Omega(z) = (I + iV(z))(I - iV(z))^{-1}.$$

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$T \cong M$ on $\mathcal{H}(\Omega)$.

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