

# REPRESENTATION OF A POINT OF A SET AS SUM OF TRANSFORMS OF BOUNDARY POINTS

T. S. MOTZKIN AND E. G. STRAUS

In a previous paper [1] we established a condition (Theorem I) for real numbers such that, in a linear space of dimension at least 2, every point of a 2-bounded set can always be represented as a sum of boundary points of the set, multiplied by these numbers. It is natural to ask for the corresponding condition in the case of complex numbers. Multiplication of a point by a real or complex number can be regarded as a special similarity. A more general theorem in which these similarities are replaced by linear transformations, or operators, will be proved in the present paper.

DEFINITION. Let  $B$  be a real Banach space with conjugate space  $B'$ . Let  $S \subset B$  and  $x' \in B'$ ,  $\|x'\| = 1$ . The  $x'$ -width of  $S$  is

$$w_{x'}(S) = \sup_{x, y \in S} (x - y)x', \quad w_{x'}(\phi) = -\infty.$$

The width of  $S$  is  $w(S) = \inf w_{x'}(S)$ .

Let  $\mathfrak{U}$  be a linear transformation of  $B$  and  $\mathfrak{U}^*$  the adjoint operation on  $B'$  defined by  $x(x'\mathfrak{U}^*) = (x'\mathfrak{U})x'$ . Then  $x'\mathfrak{U}^* = 0$  or we can define  $x'_{\mathfrak{U}} = x'\mathfrak{U}^* / \|x'\mathfrak{U}^*\|$ .

In the following all sets are assumed to be in a real Banach space.

LEMMA 1. (1) If  $S$  is bounded then  $w_{x'}(S)$  is a continuous function of  $x'$ .

(2)  $w_{x'}(S + T) = w_{x'}(S) + w_{x'}(T)$  (with the proviso that  $-\infty$  added to anything—even  $+\infty$ —is  $-\infty$ ).

(3) If  $S$  has interior points then  $w(S) > 0$ .

(4)  $w_{x'}(S\mathfrak{U}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x'\mathfrak{U}^* = 0; \\ w_{x'_{\mathfrak{U}}}(S) \cdot \|x'\mathfrak{U}^*\| & \text{if } x'\mathfrak{U}^* \neq 0. \end{cases}$

The proofs are all obvious.

LEMMA 2. Let  $T$  be a connected set so that no translate of  $-T$  is contained in the interior of  $S$ , then  $S + T \subset T + \text{bd } S$ .

*Proof.* Let  $s \in S$ ,  $t \in T$ ; then  $s + t - T$  contains  $s \in S$  but is not contained in the interior of  $S$ . Hence  $(s + t - T) \cap \text{bd } S$  is not empty and  $s + T \subset T + \text{bd } S$ .

---

Received January 1963. Presented to the American Mathematical Society (by title) October 26, 1962. Sponsored (in part) by the Office of Naval Research, U.S.A.

LEMMA 3. If  $S$  is bounded and  $-\text{cl} S \subset \text{int } T$  then no translate of  $-\text{cl} T$  is contained in  $\text{int } S$ .

*Proof.* For one-dimensional spaces this is obvious since the hypothesis implies  $\text{diam } S < \text{diam } T$ . If the lemma were false then  $a - \text{cl} T \subset \text{int } S$  for some point  $a$ . The mapping  $x \rightarrow a - x$  leaves the lines through  $a/2$  invariant and the contradiction follows from the fact that the inclusion is false for the intersection of the sets with such lines  $l$  for which  $l \cap \text{int } S \neq \phi$ .

LEMMA 4. Let  $w_x(S) < \infty$ , let  $T$  be a connected set, and let  $U = (S + T) \setminus (T + \text{bd } S)$ , then

$$w_x(U) \leq w_x(S) - w_x(T).$$

*Proof.* If  $w_x(T) = \infty$  then  $S + T \subset T + \text{bd } S$  by Lemma 2. If  $w_x(T) < \infty$  let  $a = \inf_{s \in S} sx'$ ,  $b = \sup_{s \in S} sx'$ ,  $c = \inf_{t \in T} tx'$ ,  $d = \sup_{t \in T} tx'$ . If  $s \in S$ ,  $t \in T$  so that  $(s + t)x' < a + d$  then  $s + t - T$  contains  $s$  in  $S$  and  $\inf_{t_1 \in T} (s + t - t_1)x' < a$  so that  $s + t - T$  contains points in the complement of  $S$ . Since  $s + t - T$  is connected it follows that  $(s + t - T) \cap \text{bd } S \neq \phi$  or  $s + t \in T + \text{bd } S$ . Thus  $\inf_{u \in U} ux' \geq a + d$ .

Similarly, if  $s \in S$ ,  $t \in T$  and  $(s + t)x' > b + c$  then  $s + t - T$  contains  $s \in S$  while  $\sup_{t_1 \in T} (s + t - t_1)x' > b$  so that  $s + t - T$  contains points in the complement of  $S$ . Hence  $(s + t - T) \cap \text{bd } S \neq \phi$  and  $s + t \in T + \text{bd } S$ . Thus  $\sup_{u \in U} ux' \leq b + c$ , and hence

$$\begin{aligned} w_x(U) &= \sup_{u \in U} ux' - \inf_{u \in U} ux' \leq (b + c) - (a + d) = (b - a) - (d - c) \\ &= w_x(S) - w_x(T). \end{aligned}$$

DEFINITION. Let  $S$  be a bounded connected set in  $B$ . The *outer set*,  $oS$ , of  $S$  is the complement of the unbounded component of the complement of  $S$  and the *outer boundary*,  $\text{obd } S$ , of  $S$  is the boundary of  $oS$ . Clearly  $\text{obd } S \subset \text{bd } S$  and if  $\dim B \geq 2$  then  $\text{obd } S$  is connected.

THEOREM 1. Let  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n$  be bounded connected sets in  $B$  with  $\dim B \geq 2$  so that no translate of  $-\text{cl } oS_1$  is contained in  $\text{int } oS_i$  ( $i = 2, \dots, n$ ). Then

$$\begin{aligned} &w_x((S_1 + S_2 + \dots + S_n) \setminus (\text{obd } S_1 + \text{obd } S_2 + \dots + \text{obd } S_n)) \\ &\leq w_x(S_1) - w_x(S_2) - \dots - w_x(S_n). \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* By repeated application of Lemma 2 we have  $S_1 + \dots + S_n \subset oS_1 + \dots + oS_n \subset oS_1 + \text{obd } S_2 + \dots + \text{obd } S_n$  and the theorem follows from Lemma 4 where  $oS_1$  plays the role of  $S$  and  $\text{obd } S_2 + \dots + \text{obd } S_n$  that of  $T$ .

COROLLARY. If  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  satisfy the conditions of Theorem 1 and in addition for each  $i$  there is an  $x'_i$  so that  $w_{x'_i}(S_i) < \sum_{j \neq i} w_{x'_i}(S_j)$  then  $S_1 + \dots + S_n \subset \text{obd } S_1 + \dots + \text{obd } S_n$ .

DEFINITION. Let  $B$  be a real Banach space with  $\dim B \geq 2$ . A set of bounded linear operators  $\mathfrak{A}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{A}_n$  is *admissible* if for every bounded set  $S \subset B$  and every point  $p \in S$  there exist outer boundary points  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \text{obd } S$  such that

$$p = x_1 \mathfrak{A}_1 + \dots + x_n \mathfrak{A}_n.$$

THEOREM 2. If a set  $\mathfrak{A}$  of operators  $\mathfrak{A}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{A}_n$  is admissible then

(i)  $\mathfrak{A}_1 + \dots + \mathfrak{A}_n = \mathcal{J}$ , the identity.

(ii) For each  $i$  there exists an  $x' \in B'$ ,  $x' \neq 0$  such that

$$\|x' \mathfrak{A}_i^*\| \leq \sum_{j \neq i} \|x' \mathfrak{A}_j^*\|.$$

If  $B$  is finite dimensional,  $\dim B \geq 2$ , and  $\mathfrak{A}$  satisfies (i) and

$$(ii') \quad \|x' \mathfrak{A}_i^*\| \leq \sum \|x' \mathfrak{A}_j^*\|, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

for all  $x' \in B'$  then  $\mathfrak{A}$  is admissible.

*Proof.* The necessity of (i) and (ii) is nearly obvious. If  $\mathfrak{A}_1 + \dots + \mathfrak{A}_n \neq \mathcal{J}$ , let  $p \in B$  be a point which is not invariant under  $\mathfrak{A}_1 + \dots + \mathfrak{A}_n$  and let  $S = \{p\}$ .

If  $S$  is the unit ball of  $B$  and

$$0 = x_1 \mathfrak{A}_1 + \dots + x_n \mathfrak{A}_n, \quad \|x_1\| = \dots = \|x_n\| = 1$$

then

$$\|x_i \mathfrak{A}_i x'\| \leq \sum_{j \neq i} \|x_j \mathfrak{A}_j x'\|$$

or

$$\|x_i x' \mathfrak{A}_i^*\| \leq \sum_{j \neq i} \|x_j x' \mathfrak{A}_j^*\|.$$

Now if  $\inf_{\|x\|=1} \|x \mathfrak{A}_i\| = 0$ , then for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists an  $x'$  with  $\|x'\| = 1$  and  $\|x' \mathfrak{A}_i^*\| < \varepsilon$  and (ii) is trivial. If  $\inf_{\|x\|=1} \|x \mathfrak{A}_i\| > 0$  then  $\mathfrak{A}_i^*$  is onto and we can pick  $x'$  so that  $\|x_i x' \mathfrak{A}_i^*\| = \|x' \mathfrak{A}_i^*\|$  and hence  $\|x' \mathfrak{A}_i^*\| \leq \sum_{j \neq i} \|x_j x' \mathfrak{A}_j^*\| \leq \sum_{j \neq i} \|x' \mathfrak{A}_j^*\|$ .

To prove the sufficiency of (i) and (ii') we may restrict attention to connected sets since we may consider the component of  $p$  in  $S$ . Let  $S_i = S \mathfrak{A}_i$ . If for each  $S_i$  there is an  $S_j$  so that  $j \neq i$  and no translate of  $-\text{cl } S_j$  is contained in  $\text{int } S_i$  then according to Lemma 2 we have

$$\begin{aligned}
S &\subset S_1 + \cdots + S_n \subset oS_1 + \cdots + oS_n \\
&\subset \text{obd } S_1 + (oS_2 + \cdots + oS_n) \\
&\subset \text{obd } S_1 + \text{obd } S_2 + (oS_3 + \cdots + oS_n) \subset \cdots \\
&\subset \text{obd } S_1 + \cdots + \text{obd } S_n .
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $B$  is finite dimensional we have  $\text{obd } S_i = (\text{obd } S)\mathfrak{A}_i$  so that

$$S \subset (\text{obd } S)\mathfrak{A}_1 + \cdots + (\text{obd } S)\mathfrak{A}_n$$

which was to be proved. We may therefore assume that  $-\text{cl } S_j$  has a translate in  $\text{int } S_1$  for each  $j = 2, \dots, n$ . Then according to Lemma 3 and Theorem 1

$$\begin{aligned}
(1) \quad &w_{x'}((S_1 + \cdots + S_n) \setminus (\text{obd } S_1 + \cdots + \text{obd } S_n)) \\
&\leq w_{x'}(S_1) - w_{x'}(S_2) - \cdots - w_{x'}(S_n) .
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $S_1$  has an interior  $\mathfrak{A}_1$ , and hence  $\mathfrak{A}_1^*$ , are regular and we can choose  $x'$  so that  $w_{x'}(S) = w(S)$  where  $x'_1 = x'\mathfrak{A}_1^*/\|x'\mathfrak{A}_1^*\|$ . By part (4) of Lemma 1 we have  $w_{x'}(S_j) \geq w(S) \cdot \|x'\mathfrak{A}_j\|$ . Thus (1) becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
w_{x'}((S_1 + \cdots + S_n) \setminus (\text{obd } S_1 + \cdots + \text{obd } S_n)) &\leq w(S)(\|x'\mathfrak{A}_1^*\| - \sum_{j \neq 1} \|x'\mathfrak{A}_j^*\|) \\
&\leq 0
\end{aligned}$$

so that  $(S_1 + \cdots + S_n) \setminus (\text{obd } S_1 + \cdots + \text{obd } S_n)$  has no interior points and is therefore empty since  $\text{obd } S_1 + \cdots + \text{obd } S_n$  is closed. So we have again

$$\begin{aligned}
S &\subset S_1 + \cdots + S_n \subset \text{obd } S_1 + \cdots + \text{obd } S_n \\
&= (\text{obd } S)\mathfrak{A}_1 + \cdots + (\text{obd } S)\mathfrak{A}_n .
\end{aligned}$$

REMARK. The hypothesis that  $B$  is finite dimensional can be dropped if we assume that the mappings  $\mathfrak{A}_i$  are onto. If the  $\mathfrak{A}_i$  are similarities of  $B$  onto itself then (ii) and (ii') have the same simple form

$$(ii'') \quad \|\mathfrak{A}_i\| \leq \sum_{j \neq i} \|\mathfrak{A}_j\| \quad i = 1, \dots, n .$$

We thus have the following:

**THEOREM 2'.** *A set of similarities  $\mathfrak{A}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{A}_n$  of a Banach space  $B$  of dimension at least 2 onto itself is admissible if and only if it satisfies conditions (i) and (ii'').*

In the manner analogous to that used in [1] we can generalize the validity of Theorem 2 to a class of linear spaces which we define as follows.

DEFINITIONS. Let  $B$  be a linear space and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a family of linear transformations of  $B$  onto itself so that  $\mathcal{F}$  is transitive on the nonzero elements of  $B$ . A  $B$ -space  $S$  is a linear subspace of a (finite or infinite) direct product of copies of  $B$  that is closed under simultaneous application of  $\mathcal{F}$  to the components of a point. If  $x, y \in S$  and  $y \neq 0$  then  $\{x + yF \mid F \in \mathcal{F}\}$  is a  $B$ -subspace of  $S$ . The  $B$ -subspaces can be given the topology of  $B$  by the association  $x + yF \mapsto zF$ ,  $z \in B$ ,  $z \neq 0$  where the choice of  $z$  is arbitrary due to the transitivity of  $\mathcal{F}$ . We can therefore define boundedness in  $B$ -subspaces (if boundedness is defined in  $B$ ) and a set in  $S$  is  $B$ -bounded if through every point of the set there is a  $B$ -subspace whose intersection with the set is bounded.

THEOREM 3. *Theorem 2 remains valid for  $B$ -bounded sets in a  $B$ -space where  $B$  satisfies the conditions stated in Theorem 2. If  $B$  is one-dimensional then the same theorem holds for sets which are 2-bounded (in the sense of [1]) and satisfy the other conditions of Theorem 2.*

This is an immediate consequence of Theorem 2 if we consider the bounded intersection of  $S$  with a  $B$ -subspace through a point  $p$  of  $S$ .

Theorem 3 applied to the conditions of Theorem 2' subsums the results of [1]. As one application we give the following:

THEOREM 4. *Let  $f(z)$  be analytic in a proper subdomain  $D$  of the Riemann sphere and continuous in  $\text{cl } D$ . Let  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  be complex numbers satisfying*

$$(i) \quad \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = 1$$

and

$$(ii) \quad |\alpha_i| \leq \sum_{j \neq i} |\alpha_j|.$$

*Then for every  $z_0 \in D$  there exist  $z_1, \dots, z_n$  in  $\text{bd } D$  such that*

$$f(z_0) = \alpha_1 f(z_1) + \dots + \alpha_n f(z_n).$$

## REFERENCE

1. T. S. Motzkin and E. G. Straus, *Representation of a point of a set as a linear combination of boundary points*, Proceedings of the Symposium on Convexity, Seattle 1961.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

