

NONLINEAR EIGENVALUE PROBLEMS

BY

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Contents

Introduction	77
CHAPTER 1. Preliminary results on the spectrum	80
CHAPTER 2. The case of A self-adjoint	83
2. Fundamental lemmas	83
3. Completeness theorems in case $p > q$	90
4. Completeness theorems for general p	96
5. Linearization and its consequences	103
CHAPTER 3. The case of general A	111
6. The completeness theorem	111
7. Proof of Theorem 6.2	115
CHAPTER 4. Some applications	119
8. Generalizations and applications of the results of Chapter 2	119
9. Applications of the results of Chapter 3	123
References	124

Introduction

Let A, B_0, \dots, B_n be compact linear operators on a Hilbert space H and let p and q be integers, $p \geq 0$ and $q > 0$. Consider the operator

$$C(\lambda) = \lambda^q I - A - \sum_{k=0}^n \lambda^{p+k} B_k, \quad (0.1)$$

where I is the identity operator and λ is any complex number. If for some λ there is a non-zero element u such that $C(\lambda)u = 0$ then we say that λ is an *eigenvalue* and u an *eigenvector* of $C(\lambda)$. In case $C(\lambda) = \lambda I - A$ and A is self-adjoint, a classical result asserts that the eigenvectors of $C(\lambda)$ (or of A) are complete. There is also a completeness theorem in case A is not

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