

Isolated points of the Taylor spectrum¹

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(Received August 8, 1994; Revised November 29, 1994)

Abstract. In this paper we show that if $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ is a doubly commuting n -tuple of dominant operators satisfying the property (α) , then non-isolated points of the Taylor spectrum must be points of the Taylor essential spectrum. We also show that doubly commuting n -tuples such that T_i and T_i^* ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) are dominant operators satisfy this property and then give applications related with Weyl's theorem and the finite fiber property.

Key words: Taylor spectrum, Taylor essential spectrum, dominant operators.

1. Introduction

Suppose H is a complex Hilbert space and write $\mathcal{L}(H)$ for the set of all bounded linear operators acting on H . Let $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ be a commuting n -tuple of operators in $\mathcal{L}(H)$, let $\Lambda[e] = \{\Lambda^k[e_1, \dots, e_n]\}_{k=0}^n$ be the exterior algebra on n generators ($e_i \wedge e_j = -e_j \wedge e_i$ for all $i, j = 1, \dots, n$) and write $\Lambda(H) = \Lambda[e] \otimes H$. Let $\Lambda(T) : \Lambda(H) \longrightarrow \Lambda(H)$ be given by ([5, 10, 11, 15])

$$\Lambda(T)(\omega \otimes x) = \sum_{i=1}^n (e_i \wedge \omega) \otimes T_i x. \quad (1.1)$$

The operator (1.1) can be represented by the *Koszul complex* for T :

$$0 \longrightarrow \Lambda^0(H) \xrightarrow{\Lambda^0(T)} \Lambda^1(H) \xrightarrow{\Lambda^1(T)} \dots \xrightarrow{\Lambda^{n-1}(T)} \Lambda^n(H) \longrightarrow 0, \quad (1.2)$$

where $\Lambda^k(H)$ is the collection of k -forms and $\Lambda^k(T) = \Lambda(T)|_{\Lambda^k(H)}$. Evidently, $\Lambda(T)^2 = 0$, so that $\text{ran } \Lambda(T) \subseteq \ker \Lambda(T)$. We recall ([5, 11, 15]) that T is said to be (*Taylor invertible*) if $\ker \Lambda(T) = \text{ran } \Lambda(T)$ (i.e., the Koszul complex (1.2) is exact at every stage) and is said to be (*Taylor Fredholm*) if $\ker \Lambda(T)/\text{ran } \Lambda(T)$ is finite dimensional (i.e., all cohomologies of (1.2) are finite dimensional). We shall write $\sigma_T(T)$ and $\sigma_{T_e}(T)$ for the *Taylor spec-*

¹The present study was supported by the Basic Science Research Institute Program, Ministry of Education, 1994, Project No. BSRI-94-1420.

1991 Mathematics Subject Classification : 47A13, 47B20.

trum and the Taylor essential spectrum of T , respectively : namely,

$$\sigma_T(T) = \{\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbf{C}^n : T - \lambda \text{ is not invertible}\}$$

and

$$\sigma_{Te}(T) = \{\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbf{C}^n : T - \lambda \text{ is not Fredholm}\}.$$

Curto ([5, Corollary 3.8]) has shown that if $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ is a doubly commuting n -tuple ($[T_i, T_j^*] = 0$ for all $i \neq j$) of hyponormal operators, then

$$\begin{aligned} T \text{ is invertible (resp. Fredholm) if and only if} \\ \sum_{i=1}^n T_i T_i^* \text{ is invertible (resp. Fredholm).} \end{aligned} \quad (1.3)$$

Fialkow ([8, Lemma 2.5]) has shown that if $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ is a commuting n -tuple of normal operators, then

$$\sigma_T(T) \setminus \sigma_{Te}(T) \subseteq \text{iso } \sigma_T(T), \quad (1.4)$$

where $\text{iso } K$ denotes the isolated points of K . But, in general, (1.4) is not true for a doubly commuting n -tuple of hyponormal operators. In fact, (1.4) is not true even for a single hyponormal operators, although hyponormal operators satisfy Weyl's theorem ([4]), which says that every point in the Weyl (Fredholm of index zero) domain must be an isolated eigenvalue of finite multiplicity. For example, consider the unilateral shift on ℓ_2 .

In this paper we shall find a class of n -tuples satisfying (1.4) in the middle of commuting normal n -tuples and doubly commuting n -tuples of dominant operators.

2. Property (α)

We recall ([1, 6]) that a point $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbf{C}^n$ is called a *joint eigenvalue* of $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ if there exists a nonzero vector x in H for which

$$(T_i - \lambda_i) x = 0 \quad \text{for each } i = 1, \dots, n. \quad (2.1)$$

In this case, the set of vectors satisfying (2.1) is called the *joint eigenspace* corresponding to the joint eigenvalue. We shall write $\sigma_p(T)$ for the set of all joint eigenvalues of T and $\pi_0(T)$ for the set of all joint eigenvalues of T

of finite multiplicity.

We now consider the following property that $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ may satisfy:

$$(\alpha) \quad \pi_0(T) = \overline{\pi_0(T^*)} \text{ and the corresponding joint eigenspaces of } \lambda \in \pi_0(T) \text{ and } \bar{\lambda} \in \pi_0(T^*) \text{ are all equal.}$$

Here $T^* = (T_1^*, \dots, T_n^*)$ and \bar{K} denotes the set of complex conjugates of elements in K . Evidently, normal n -tuples satisfy (α) . But doubly commuting hyponormal n -tuples may not satisfy (α) : for example, if U is the unilateral shift on ℓ_2 and $T = (U, 0)$, then $\pi_0(T) = \emptyset$ and $\pi_0(T^*) = \{(\lambda, 0) : |\lambda| < 1\}$.

We recall ([14]) that an operator $S \in \mathcal{L}(H)$ is said to be *dominant* if for every $\lambda \in \mathbf{C}$ there is a constant M_λ such that

$$(S - \lambda)(S - \lambda)^* \leq M_\lambda(S - \lambda)^*(S - \lambda).$$

In this case, if $\sup_{\lambda \in \mathbf{C}} M_\lambda < \infty$, S is said to be M -hyponormal ([13], [16]). Evidently,

$$S \text{ is hyponormal} \implies S \text{ is } M\text{-hyponormal} \implies S \text{ is dominant.}$$

Our first observation is that the equivalence (1.3) remains valid for “dominant” in place of “hyponormal”:

Lemma 2.1 *If $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ is a doubly commuting n -tuple of dominant operators, then*

$$T \text{ is invertible (resp. Fredholm) if and only if } \sum_{i=1}^n T_i T_i^* \text{ is invertible (resp. Fredholm).} \tag{2.2}$$

Proof. If T is a doubly commuting n -tuple then by an argument of Curto ([5, Corollary 3.7]), T is invertible (resp. Fredholm) if and only if $\sum_{i=1}^n f T_i$ is invertible (resp. Fredholm) for every function $f : \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \longrightarrow \{0, 1\}$, where

$$f T_i = \begin{cases} T_i^* T_i, & f(i) = 0 \\ T_i T_i^*, & f(i) = 1 \end{cases}$$

Suppose for each i , there is a constant M_i such that

$$T_i T_i^* \leq M_i (T_i^* T_i)$$

Put $M = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \{1, M_i\}$. Then

$$M^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n T_i T_i^* \leq \sum_{i=1}^n f T_i,$$

which gives the result. \square

We are ready for:

Theorem 2.2 *If $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ is a doubly commuting n -tuple of dominant operators and satisfies (α) , then*

$$\sigma_T(T) \setminus \sigma_{T_e}(T) \subseteq \text{iso } \sigma_T(T). \quad (2.3)$$

Proof. We may assume without loss of generality that $0 \in \sigma_T(T) \setminus \sigma_{T_e}(T)$; thus T is Fredholm, but not invertible. Then, by (2.2), $\sum_{i=1}^n T_i T_i^*$ is Fredholm but not invertible. Since T satisfies (α) , we have

$$Z := \ker \left(\sum_{i=1}^n T_i T_i^* \right) = \bigcap_{i=1}^n \ker T_i^* = \bigcap_{i=1}^n \ker T_i. \quad (2.4)$$

Then $\sum_{i=1}^n T_i T_i^*$ is reduced by the decomposition $H = Z \oplus Z^\perp$. Since $\sum_{i=1}^n T_i T_i^*$ is positive and hence Fredholm of index zero, it follows that $0 \in \text{iso } \sigma \left(\sum_{i=1}^n T_i T_i^* \right)$ (by Weyl's theorem [4]) and $\left(\sum_{i=1}^n T_i T_i^* \right)|_{Z^\perp}$ is positive and invertible, so that ([9, Theorem V.2.1])

$$\inf_{\substack{\|w\|=1 \\ w \in Z^\perp}} \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n T_i T_i^* w, w \right\rangle > c \quad \text{for some } c > 0. \quad (2.5)$$

In view of (2.2), we must show that there is $\epsilon > 0$ for which

$$\Gamma_\lambda := \sum_{i=1}^n (T_i - \lambda_i)(T_i - \lambda_i)^* \quad \text{is invertible for}$$

$$\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \quad \text{with } 0 < \sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|^2 < \epsilon.$$

But since Γ_λ is also positive, it suffices to show that

$$\inf_{\substack{\|x\|=1 \\ x \in H}} \langle \Gamma_\lambda x, x \rangle > 0 \quad \text{for } 0 < \sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|^2 < \epsilon.$$

For brevity, we write

$$\Gamma_\lambda = S - U_\lambda + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|^2 \right) I,$$

where $S := \sum_{i=1}^n T_i T_i^*$ and $U_\lambda := \sum_{i=1}^n (\bar{\lambda}_i T_i + \lambda_i T_i^*)$. Let P be the projection to $\ker S$ and $Q = I - P$. Then (2.5) is written in the form

$$QSQ \geq cQ \quad \text{for some } c > 0.$$

We will prove that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|^2 \leq c^2 / (4 \sum_{i=1}^n \|T_i\|^2) \implies \Gamma_\lambda \geq \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|^2 \right) I.$$

To see this we will use (2.4) and (2.5) in the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_\lambda &= (P + Q)\Gamma_\lambda(P + Q) \\ &= QSQ - QU_\lambda Q + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|^2 \right) I \\ &\geq cQ - \left(2\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|^2} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \|T_i\|^2} \right) Q + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|^2 \right) I \\ &\geq \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|^2 \right) I. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof. □

Example 2.3 Let U be the unilateral shift on ℓ_2 and $V = U \otimes 1$. If $T = (V \otimes 1, 1 \otimes V)$, then T is a doubly commuting hyponormal pair, but not a normal pair. A simple calculation shows that $\pi_0(T) = \pi_0(T^*) = \emptyset$, so that T satisfies (α) . In fact, if \mathbf{D} is the closed unit disk then

$$\sigma_T(T) = \sigma_T(V) \times \sigma_T(V) = \sigma(U) \times \sigma(U) = \mathbf{D} \times \mathbf{D}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{Te}(T) &= \{\sigma_T(V) \times \sigma_{Te}(V)\} \cup \{\sigma_{Te}(V) \times \sigma_T(V)\} \\ &= \{\sigma(U) \times \sigma(U)\} \cup \{\sigma(U) \times \sigma(U)\} \\ &= \mathbf{D} \times \mathbf{D}, \end{aligned}$$

which satisfies (2.3).

We have a concrete class of n -tuples of operators satisfying (2.3):

Theorem 2.4 *If $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ is a doubly commuting n -tuple such that T_i and T_i^* ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) are dominant operators, then*

$$\sigma_T(T) \setminus \sigma_{Te}(T) \subseteq \text{iso } \sigma_T(T).$$

Proof. In the view of Theorem 2.2 it suffices to show that T satisfies (α) . We observe that if $S \in \mathcal{L}(H)$ is dominant then an argument of Douglas ([7]) gives that for every $\lambda \in \mathbf{C}$, there is an operator $W_\lambda \in \mathcal{L}(H)$ such that $S - \lambda = (S - \lambda)^* W_\lambda$, and hence $(S - \lambda)^* = W_\lambda^*(S - \lambda)$. Thus we have

$$\ker(S - \lambda) \subseteq \ker(S - \lambda)^*. \quad (2.6)$$

Applying (2.6) with T_i and T_i^* ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) in place of S gives

$$\ker(T_i - \lambda_i) = \ker(T_i - \lambda_i)^* \quad \text{for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, n,$$

which says that T satisfies (α) . □

Example 2.5 (a) For the validity of Theorem 2.4, we must show that an operator V need not be normal when V and V^* are both dominant (even M -hyponormal). To see this, consider the operator

$$V = \begin{bmatrix} U & K \\ 0 & U^* \end{bmatrix} : \ell_2 \oplus \ell_2 \rightarrow \ell_2 \oplus \ell_2, \quad (2.7)$$

where U is the unilateral shift on ℓ_2 and $K : \ell_2 \rightarrow \ell_2$ is given by

$$K(\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \dots) = (2\xi_1, 0, 0, 0, \dots).$$

Then a direct calculation shows that

$$\frac{1}{2} \|(V - \lambda)x\| \leq \|(V - \lambda)^*x\| \leq 2\|(V - \lambda)x\|$$

for all $\lambda \in \mathbf{C}$ and for all $x \in \ell_2 \oplus \ell_2$,

which says that V and V^* is M -hyponormal. But since

$$\begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & I + \frac{3}{2}K \end{bmatrix} = V^*V \neq VV^* = \begin{bmatrix} I + \frac{3}{2}K & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix},$$

V is not normal (even hyponormal).

(b) If S, S^*, T and T^* are dominant operators and if $\text{iso } \sigma(S) = \emptyset$ or $\text{iso } \sigma(T) = \emptyset$ then Theorem 2.4 gives

$$\sigma_T(S \otimes 1, 1 \otimes T) = \sigma_{T_e}(S \otimes 1, 1 \otimes T).$$

For example, if V is defined as in (2.7) then since it is a compactly perturbed bilateral shift, we have $\sigma(V) = \mathbf{T}$ (\mathbf{T} is the unit circle). Thus if W and W^* are any dominant operators, then

$$\sigma_{T_e}(V \otimes 1, 1 \otimes W) = \sigma(V) \times \sigma(W) = \mathbf{T} \times \sigma(W).$$

3. Applications

(a) We say ([11, 12]) that $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ is (*Taylor*) *Weyl* if T is Fredholm and $\text{index}(T) = 0$. The *Taylor Weyl spectrum*, $\sigma_{T_w}(T)$, of T is defined by

$$\sigma_{T_w}(T) = \{\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbf{C}^n : T - \lambda \text{ is not Weyl}\}.$$

Then the joint version of Weyl's theorem may be written by

$$\sigma_T(T) \setminus \sigma_{T_w}(T) = \pi_{00}(T),$$

where $\pi_{00}(T) = \{\text{iso } \sigma_T(T)\} \cap \pi_0(T)$. It was known ([2, 3, 12]) that Weyl's theorem holds for commuting normal n -tuples. But Weyl's theorem need not hold for doubly commuting hyponormal n -tuples. For example, if $T = (U, 0)$ (U is the unilateral shift on ℓ_2), then $\sigma_T(T) = \mathbf{D} \times \{0\}$, $\sigma_{T_e}(T) = \mathbf{T} \times \{0\}$ and since (cf. [5])

$$\begin{aligned} \text{index}(U - \lambda_1, -\lambda_2) &= \text{index} \begin{bmatrix} U - \lambda_1 & -\overline{\lambda_2} \\ -\lambda_2 & U^* - \overline{\lambda_1} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= 0 \text{ for all } (\lambda_1, \lambda_2) \notin \sigma_{T_e}(T) \end{aligned}$$

it follows that $\sigma_{T_w}(T) = \sigma_{T_e}(T)$; therefore $\sigma_T(T) \setminus \sigma_{T_w}(T) \not\subseteq \text{iso } \sigma_T(T)$. However, if $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ is a doubly commuting n -tuple of dominant operators and satisfies (α) , then by (2.3),

$$\sigma_T(T) \setminus \sigma_{T_w}(T) \subseteq \text{iso } \sigma_T(T).$$

But since $\sigma_T(T) \setminus \sigma_{T_w}(T) \subseteq \pi_0(T)$, it follows that

$$\sigma_T(T) \setminus \sigma_{T_w}(T) \subseteq \pi_{00}(T). \tag{3.1}$$

Also, an argument of Chō ([3, Theorem 4]) gives the backward inclusion of (3.1). Therefore Weyl's theorem holds for doubly commuting n -tuples of dominant operators satisfying (α) .

(b) If $S = (S_1, \dots, S_n)$ and $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ are commuting n -tuples, the elementary operator \mathcal{R}_{ST} is defined by

$$\mathcal{R}_{ST}(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n S_i X T_i \quad (X \in \mathcal{L}(H)).$$

Then we say that \mathcal{R}_{ST} possesses the *finite fiber property* if for $\lambda \in \sigma(\mathcal{R}_{ST}) \setminus \sigma_e(\mathcal{R}_{ST})$,

$$X_\lambda = \{(\alpha, \beta) \in \sigma_T(S) \times \sigma_T(T) : \alpha \circ \beta = \alpha_1 \beta_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \beta_n = \lambda\}$$

is finite, and if $(\alpha, \beta) \in X_\lambda$ then α is isolated in $\sigma_T(S)$ or β is isolated in $\sigma_T(T)$. Fialkow ([8]) gave a formula for $\text{index}(\mathcal{R}_{ST} - \lambda)$ in the case that \mathcal{R}_{ST} possesses the finite fiber property and showed that if S and T are both a normal or an analytic n -tuple, then \mathcal{R}_{ST} possesses the finite fiber property. Now, if S and T are both a doubly commuting n -tuples of dominant operators and satisfy (α) , then since

$$\sigma(\mathcal{R}_{ST}) = \sigma_T(S) \circ \sigma_T(T)$$

and

$$\sigma_e(\mathcal{R}_{ST}) = \{\sigma_{T_e}(S) \circ \sigma_T(T)\} \cup \{\sigma_T(S) \circ \sigma_{T_e}(T)\},$$

it follows from (2.3) that

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda \in \sigma(\mathcal{R}_{ST}) \setminus \sigma_e(\mathcal{R}_{ST}) \\ \implies \lambda \in [\{\text{iso } \sigma_T(S)\} \circ \sigma_T(T)] \cup [\sigma_T(S) \circ \{\text{iso } \sigma_T(T)\}], \end{aligned}$$

which implies that \mathcal{R}_{ST} possesses the finite fiber property. Thus we can see that the finite fiber property holds for doubly commuting n -tuples of dominant operators satisfying (α) .

Acknowledgments The authors would like to express their thanks to the referee whose suggestions led to an improvement of the paper.

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