

Another example of an invariant subspace of H^∞ with index \mathfrak{c}

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Abstract. A. Borichev gave an example of an invariant subspace \mathcal{M} of H^∞ with $\dim \mathcal{M}/z\mathcal{M} = \text{card}[0, 1] = \mathfrak{c}$, which is generated by an uncountable family of Blaschke products. In this paper, we construct singular inner functions which generate an invariant subspace \mathcal{M} with $\dim \mathcal{M}/z\mathcal{M} = \text{card}[0, 1]$.

Key words: invariant subspace, index, singular inner function.

1. Introduction

Let $L_a^2(D)$ be the Bergman space of all analytic functions on the open unit disc D in the complex plane that satisfy the following condition:

$$\int_D |f(z)|^2 dA(z) < +\infty,$$

where dA is the normalized area measure in D . A closed subspace \mathcal{M} of $L_a^2(D)$ is said to be $(z-)$ invariant if $zf \in \mathcal{M}$ whenever $f \in \mathcal{M}$. Here, z is the coordinate function. The dimension of the quotient space $\mathcal{M}/z\mathcal{M}$ is called the index of \mathcal{M} .

In 1993, Hedenmalm [3] proved the existence of invariant subspaces of $L_a^2(D)$ with index n , $2 \leq n < +\infty$, constructively. In the Hardy space $H^2(D)$, every invariant subspace, except $\{0\}$, has index 1. After Hedenmalm's work, many people have been interested in the structure of invariant subspaces of $L_a^2(D)$, see [4]. In 1996, by Hedenmalm, Richter and Seip [5], invariant subspaces of $L_a^2(D)$ with infinite index were constructed. So, in this paper, we study an invariant subspace of $H^\infty(D)$ with infinite index.

Let $H^\infty = H^\infty(D)$ be the Banach algebra of bounded analytic functions on D . Let $\mathfrak{M} = \mathfrak{M}(H^\infty)$ be the maximal ideal space of H^∞ endowed with the weak-* topology. By natural identification, we may consider that $D \subset \mathfrak{M}$. It is known that \mathfrak{M} is a compact Hausdorff space. We identify a function in H^∞ with its Gelfand transform, so we view H^∞ as a closed subalgebra of

$C(\mathfrak{M})$, the space of complex valued continuous functions on \mathfrak{M} . A function $\varphi(z) \in H^\infty$ satisfying $|\varphi(e^{i\theta})| = 1$ almost everywhere on the unit circle ∂D is said to be inner. We know that every inner function $\varphi(z)$ has the form

$$\varphi(z) = e^{ic} b(z) \psi(z),$$

where c is a real constant, b is a Blaschke product, and ψ is a singular inner function. [2, 6] are nice references for the study of H^∞ . A sup norm closed subspace \mathcal{M} of H^∞ is called (z -) invariant if $z\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{M}$. The dimension of $\mathcal{M}/z\mathcal{M}$ is also called the index of \mathcal{M} .

In [1], Borichev gave an example of an invariant subspace of H^∞ with index \mathfrak{c} ($= \text{card}[0, 1]$), which is generated by Blaschke products. Our purpose of this paper is to construct an invariant subspace of H^∞ with index \mathfrak{c} which is generated by singular inner functions. This construction is interesting in its own right in the study of singular inner functions.

2. Preliminaries

A singular inner function is of the form

$$\psi_\mu(z) = \exp \left(- \int_{\partial D} \frac{e^{i\theta} + z}{e^{i\theta} - z} d\mu(e^{i\theta}) \right), \quad z \in D,$$

where μ is a finite positive measure on ∂D and singular with respect to the Lebesgue measure on ∂D . We note that

$$|\psi_\mu(z)| = \exp \left(- \int_{\partial D} P_z(e^{i\theta}) d\mu(e^{i\theta}) \right), \quad z \in D,$$

where $P_z(e^{i\theta}) = (1 - |z|^2)/(|1 - e^{-i\theta}z|^2)$ is the Poisson kernel. This implies that if μ and ν are singular measures and if $0 \leq \nu \leq \mu$, then

$$|\psi_\mu| \leq |\psi_\nu| \quad \text{on } \mathfrak{M}. \quad (2.1)$$

We often use the following notations and facts. For a function $f \in H^\infty$, we put

$$\{|f| < 1\} = \{x \in \mathfrak{M} \setminus D : |f(x)| < 1\}$$

and

$$Z(f) = \{x \in \mathfrak{M} \setminus D : f(x) = 0\}.$$

For a point $\lambda \in \partial D$, let $\mathfrak{M}_\lambda = \{x \in \mathfrak{M} : z(x) = \lambda\}$, where z is the identity function on D . It is known that $\mathfrak{M} \setminus D = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \partial D} \mathfrak{M}_\lambda$. We call \mathfrak{M}_λ the fiber of \mathfrak{M} over λ . We denote by $S(\mu)$ the closed support set of a singular measure μ on ∂D . It is well known ([6], p. 69) that

$$Z(\psi_\mu) \subset \{|\psi_\mu| < 1\} \subset \bigcup_{\lambda \in S(\mu)} \mathfrak{M}_\lambda, \quad (2.2)$$

and that

$$|\psi_\mu| = 1 \quad \text{on} \quad \bigcup_{\lambda \notin S(\mu)} \mathfrak{M}_\lambda. \quad (2.3)$$

For a positive constant c , it is easy to see that

$$Z(\psi_\mu) = Z(\psi_{c\mu}) \quad \text{and} \quad \{|\psi_\mu| < 1\} = \{|\psi_{c\mu}| < 1\}. \quad (2.4)$$

Let $\delta_{e^{i\theta}}$ denote the unit point measure at $e^{i\theta}$. In this paper, we deal with discrete singular measures. Let

$$\mu = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \delta_{e^{i\theta_k}},$$

where $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k < \infty$, $a_k > 0$ for all k , and $e^{i\theta_k} \neq e^{i\theta_n}$ if $k \neq n$. Then

$$|\psi_\mu(z)| = \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} |\psi_{\delta_{e^{i\theta_k}}}(z)|^{a_k}, \quad z \in D.$$

Let l_+^∞ be the set of sequences of bounded positive numbers. For $p = (p_1, p_2, \dots) \in l_+^\infty$, we define μ^p as $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_k a_k \delta_{e^{i\theta_k}}$, and we put $\|p\|_\infty = \sup\{p_k : k \in \mathbb{N}\}$. Then $\mu^p \leq \|p\|_\infty \cdot \mu$. Thus by (2.1) and (2.4), we have

$$Z(\psi_{\mu^p}) \subset Z(\psi_\mu) \quad \text{and} \quad \{|\psi_{\mu^p}| < 1\} \subset \{|\psi_\mu| < 1\}. \quad (2.5)$$

Singular inner functions defined by μ^p , $p \in l_+^\infty$, were studied by K. Izuchi in [7].

We use the following theorem.

Theorem 2.1 ([7]) *Let μ and ν be positive singular measures on ∂D that are sums of infinitely many point measures, respectively. Then $\mu \perp \nu$ if and only if*

$$\bigcap_{p \in l_+^\infty} \{|\psi_{\mu^p}| < 1\} \cap \bigcap_{q \in l_+^\infty} \{|\psi_{\nu^q}| < 1\} = \emptyset.$$

By the above theorem, we obtain the following lemma, which is one of key lemmas for constructing the desired singular inner functions.

Lemma 2.2 *Let μ and ν be positive singular measures on ∂D that are sums of infinitely many point measures, respectively. If $\mu \perp \nu$, then there exist $p \in l_+^\infty$ and $q \in l_+^\infty$ such that $\|p\|_\infty \leq 1$, $\|q\|_\infty \leq 1$, and*

$$Z(\psi_{\mu^p}) \cap Z(\psi_{\nu^q}) = \emptyset.$$

Proof. By Theorem 2.1,

$$\bigcap_{p \in l_+^\infty} Z(\psi_{\mu^p}) \cap \bigcap_{q \in l_+^\infty} Z(\psi_{\nu^q}) = \emptyset. \quad (2.6)$$

For each $p \in l_+^\infty$, $Z(\psi_{\mu^p})$ is a closed subset of $\mathfrak{M} \setminus D$. Since $\mathfrak{M} \setminus D$ is compact, $\bigcap_{p \in l_+^\infty} Z(\psi_{\mu^p})$ is a compact subset of $\mathfrak{M} \setminus D$. By (2.6), we have

$$\bigcap_{p \in l_+^\infty} Z(\psi_{\mu^p}) \subset \bigcup_{q \in l_+^\infty} (Z(\psi_{\nu^q}))^c,$$

where $(Z(\psi_{\nu^q}))^c$ is the complement of $Z(\psi_{\nu^q})$ in $\mathfrak{M} \setminus D$. Then there exist $q^{(j)} = (q_1^{(j)}, q_2^{(j)}, \dots) \in l_+^\infty$, $1 \leq j \leq m$, such that

$$\bigcap_{p \in l_+^\infty} Z(\psi_{\mu^p}) \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^m (Z(\psi_{\nu^{q^{(j)}}}))^c.$$

Therefore

$$\bigcap_{p \in l_+^\infty} Z(\psi_{\mu^p}) \cap \bigcap_{j=1}^m Z(\psi_{\nu^{q^{(j)}}}) = \emptyset.$$

In the same way, there exist $p^{(i)} \in l_+^\infty$, $1 \leq i \leq n$, such that

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^n Z(\psi_{\mu^{p^{(i)}}}) \cap \bigcap_{j=1}^m Z(\psi_{\nu^{q^{(j)}}}) = \emptyset.$$

We put $p_k = \min\{1, p_k^{(1)}, p_k^{(2)}, \dots, p_k^{(n)}\}$ for each k . Then we have a new sequence $p = (p_1, p_2, \dots) \in l_+^\infty$ with $\|p\|_\infty \leq 1$. It is clear that $\mu^p \leq \mu^{p^{(i)}}$ for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Hence $Z(\psi_{\mu^p}) \subset Z(\psi_{\mu^{p^{(i)}}})$ for all i . A similar consideration gives us a singular measure ν^q . Therefore we obtain $Z(\psi_{\mu^p}) \cap Z(\psi_{\nu^q}) = \emptyset$. This completes the proof. \square

3. An invariant subspace with index \mathfrak{c}

In this section, we prove the following theorem.

Theorem 3.1 *There exists an invariant subspace of H^∞ with index \mathfrak{c} which is generated by singular inner functions.*

To prove our theorem, we need the following fact, which was used in Borichev [1, p. 42] without proof. We denote by \mathbb{N} the set of positive integers.

Lemma 3.2 *There exists a family $\{N_\alpha : \alpha \in [0, 1]\}$ such that $N_\alpha \subset \mathbb{N}$ for each $\alpha \in [0, 1]$, and such that for every finite family $\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in [0, 1]$, $\alpha_0 \neq \alpha_i$, $1 \leq i \leq n$,*

$$\text{card} \left(N_{\alpha_0} \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^n N_{\alpha_i} \right) = \infty. \quad (3.1)$$

For the convenience of the reader, we include a proof.

Proof. Take a countable dense subset $\{a_k : k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ in the open square $(0, 1) \times (0, 1)$. For $\alpha \in [0, 1]$, let $A_\alpha = \{(x, y) : |x - \alpha| < y\}$ be the angular domain at vertex α , and put $N_\alpha = \{k : a_k \in A_\alpha\}$, which gives the desired family. \square

Proof of Theorem 3.1. Let $\{e^{i\theta_k} : k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ be a dense subset of distinct points in ∂D . For each k , let

$$\{\lambda_{k,j}\}_j \text{ be a sequence of distinct points in } \partial D \quad (3.2)$$

such that

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_{k,j} = e^{i\theta_k}. \quad (3.3)$$

Furthermore, we may assume that

$$\{\lambda_{k,j} : j \in \mathbb{N}\} \cap \{\lambda_{l,j} : j \in \mathbb{N}\} = \emptyset \quad \text{if } k \neq l, \quad (3.4)$$

and

$$\{\lambda_{k,j} : j, k \in \mathbb{N}\} \cap \{e^{i\theta_k} : k \in \mathbb{N}\} = \emptyset. \quad (3.5)$$

First, we set up a singular measure

$$\nu = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} c_{k,j} \delta_{\lambda_{k,j}},$$

where $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} c_{k,j} < \infty$ and $c_{k,j} > 0$ for every k, j . Put

$$\nu_k = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} c_{k,j} \delta_{\lambda_{k,j}}.$$

By induction, we show the existence of singular measures μ_k , $k = 1, 2, \dots$, satisfying the following conditions:

$$\mu_k = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} a_{k,j} \delta_{\lambda_{k,j}}, \quad (3.6)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} a_{k,j} < \infty, \quad a_{k,j} > 0 \quad \text{for all } k, j,$$

and

$$Z(\psi_{\mu_k}) \cap Z(\psi_{\sum_{i=k+1}^{\infty} \mu_i}) = \emptyset \quad \text{for every } k = 1, 2, \dots. \quad (3.7)$$

Apply Lemma 2.2 for singular measures ν_1 and $\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \nu_k$, then there exist $p \in l_+^{\infty}$ and $q \in l_+^{\infty}$ such that $\|p\|_{\infty} \leq 1$, $\|q\|_{\infty} \leq 1$, and

$$Z(\psi_{\nu_1^p}) \cap Z(\psi_{(\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \nu_k)^q}) = \emptyset.$$

Put $\mu_1 = \nu_1^p$. Then $0 \leq \mu_1 \leq \nu_1$, $0 \leq (\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \nu_k)^q \leq \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \nu_k$, and

$$Z(\psi_{\mu_1}) \cap Z(\psi_{(\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \nu_k)^q}) = \emptyset. \quad (3.8)$$

We write $(\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \nu_k)^q$ as $\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} d_{k,j} \delta_{\lambda_{k,j}}$. For each $k \geq 2$, put $\nu'_k = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} d_{k,j} \delta_{\lambda_{k,j}}$. And, apply Lemma 2.2 for measures ν'_2 and $\sum_{k=3}^{\infty} \nu'_k$, then

$$Z(\psi_{(\nu'_2)^r}) \cap Z(\psi_{(\sum_{k=3}^{\infty} \nu'_k)^s}) = \emptyset$$

holds for some $r \in l_+^{\infty}$ and $s \in l_+^{\infty}$ with $\|r\|_{\infty} \leq 1$, $\|s\|_{\infty} \leq 1$. Put $\mu_2 = (\nu'_2)^r$. Then we have

$$Z(\psi_{\mu_2}) \cap Z(\psi_{(\sum_{k=3}^{\infty} \nu'_k)^s}) = \emptyset,$$

$0 \leq \mu_2 \leq \nu_2$, and $0 \leq (\sum_{k=3}^{\infty} \nu'_k)^s \leq \sum_{k=3}^{\infty} \nu_k$.

Repeating the same argument, we obtain the desired singular measures μ_k , $k = 1, 2, \dots$.

By (2.4) and (3.7), multiplying the measure $\sum_{i=k+1}^\infty \mu_i$ by a suitable positive constant less than 1 if necessary, we may assume that

$$|\psi_{\sum_{i=k+1}^\infty \mu_i}| \geq \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{on } Z(\psi_{\mu_k}) \quad (3.9)$$

for each k .

Let $\{N_\alpha : \alpha \in [0, 1]\}$ be the family given in Lemma 3.2. For each $\alpha \in [0, 1]$, put

$$\sigma_\alpha = \sum_{k=1}^\infty \sum_{j \in \mathbb{N} \setminus N_\alpha} a_{k,j} \delta_{\lambda_{k,j}} \quad (3.10)$$

and

$$\sigma_{k,\alpha} = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{N} \setminus N_\alpha} a_{k,j} \delta_{\lambda_{k,j}}. \quad (3.11)$$

Then $\sigma_\alpha = \sum_{k=1}^\infty \sigma_{k,\alpha}$, and by (3.6)

$$\sigma_{k,\alpha} \leq \sigma_\alpha \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_{k,\alpha} \leq \mu_k \quad \text{for every } k. \quad (3.12)$$

Let \mathcal{M} be the invariant subspace of H^∞ generated by singular inner functions ψ_{σ_α} , $\alpha \in [0, 1]$. Let $\alpha_0 \in [0, 1]$. We claim that the vector $\psi_{\sigma_{\alpha_0}} + z\mathcal{M}$ does not belong to the closure of the linear span of $\{\psi_{\sigma_\alpha} + z\mathcal{M} : \alpha \in [0, 1], \alpha \neq \alpha_0\}$ in $\mathcal{M}/z\mathcal{M}$. This implies that $\dim \mathcal{M}/z\mathcal{M} = \text{card}[0, 1]$, that is, the index of \mathcal{M} equals \mathfrak{c} .

To prove the above, suppose not. Then we have

$$\left\| \psi_{\sigma_{\alpha_0}} + p_0 \psi_{\sigma_{\alpha_0}} + \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \psi_{\sigma_{\alpha_i}} \right\|_{H^\infty} < \frac{1}{2} \quad (3.13)$$

for some finite set of elements $\alpha_i \in [0, 1]$, $\alpha_i \neq \alpha_0$, $1 \leq i \leq n$, and polynomials p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n . Here $p_0(0) = 0$.

For each k, j , there exists a point $x_{k,j} \in \mathfrak{M}_{\lambda_{k,j}}$ such that

$$\psi_{\delta_{\lambda_{k,j}}}(x_{k,j}) = 0. \quad (3.14)$$

Then by (2.1) and (3.6), $|\psi_{\mu_k}(x_{k,j})| \leq |\psi_{\delta_{\lambda_{k,j}}}(x_{k,j})|^{a_{k,j}} = 0$ for each k, j . Hence

$$x_{k,j} \in Z(\psi_{\mu_k}) \quad \text{for every } k, j. \quad (3.15)$$

Take $t \in (N_{\alpha_0} \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^n N_{\alpha_i})$ arbitrary. Then by using (2.1), for $1 \leq i \leq n$

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi_{\sigma_{\alpha_i}}(x_{k,t})| &\leq |\psi_{\sigma_{k,\alpha_i}}(x_{k,t})| && \text{by (3.12)} \\ &\leq |\psi_{\delta_{\lambda_{k,t}}}(x_{k,t})|^{a_{k,t}} && \text{by (3.11)} \\ &= 0 && \text{by (3.14).} \end{aligned}$$

Thus we get

$$\psi_{\sigma_{\alpha_i}}(x_{k,t}) = 0 \quad (3.16)$$

for every $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $1 \leq i \leq n$, and $t \in (N_{\alpha_0} \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^n N_{\alpha_i})$.

Let y_k be one of cluster points of $\{x_{k,t} : t \in N_{\alpha_0} \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^n N_{\alpha_i}\}$. Since $\psi_{\sigma_{\alpha_i}}$ is continuous on \mathfrak{M} , by (3.16)

$$\psi_{\sigma_{\alpha_i}}(y_k) = 0 \quad (3.17)$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, and for $k = 1, 2, \dots$.

Let π denote the fiber projection from $\mathfrak{M} \setminus D$ onto ∂D . By (2.2) and (3.14),

$$\pi(x_{k,j}) = \lambda_{k,j} \quad \text{and} \quad x_{k,j} \in \mathfrak{M}_{\lambda_{k,j}}. \quad (3.18)$$

By (3.1), there is a sequence $\{t_m\}_m \subset (N_{\alpha_0} \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^n N_{\alpha_i})$ such that $t_m \rightarrow \infty$ as $m \rightarrow \infty$. Then by (3.3),

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \pi(x_{k,t_m}) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_{k,t_m} = e^{i\theta_k}.$$

Since π is continuous on $\mathfrak{M} \setminus D$ ([6], p. 160), it follows that

$$\pi(y_k) = e^{i\theta_k} \quad \text{and} \quad y_k \in \mathfrak{M}_{e^{i\theta_k}}. \quad (3.19)$$

For every $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $t \in (N_{\alpha_0} \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^n N_{\alpha_i})$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi_{\sigma_{\alpha_0}}(x_{k,t})| &= \left(\prod_{i=1}^k |\psi_{\sigma_{i,\alpha_0}}(x_{k,t})| \right) \cdot |\psi_{\sum_{i=k+1}^{\infty} \sigma_{i,\alpha_0}}(x_{k,t})| && \text{by (3.10) and (3.11)} \\ &\geq \left(\prod_{i=1}^k |\psi_{\sigma_{i,\alpha_0}}(x_{k,t})| \right) \cdot |\psi_{\sum_{i=k+1}^{\infty} \mu_i}(x_{k,t})| && \text{by (3.12)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\geq \frac{1}{2} \prod_{i=1}^k |\psi_{\sigma_{i,\alpha_0}}(x_{k,t})| \quad \text{by (3.9) and (3.15)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The proof of the last equality is the following. For each i , $1 \leq i \leq k$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 S(\sigma_{i,\alpha_0}) &= \overline{\{\lambda_{i,j} : j \in \mathbb{N} \setminus N_{\alpha_0}\}} \quad \text{by (3.11)} \\
 &= \{e^{i\theta_i}\} \cup \{\lambda_{i,j} : j \in \mathbb{N} \setminus N_{\alpha_0}\} \quad \text{by (3.3)} \\
 &\not\supseteq \lambda_{k,t} \quad \text{by (3.2), (3.4) and (3.5).}
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence by (2.3) and (3.18), $|\psi_{\sigma_{i,\alpha_0}}(x_{k,t})| = 1$ for every i , $1 \leq i \leq k$.

Since y_k is one of cluster points of $\{x_{k,t} : t \in N_{\alpha_0} \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^n N_{\alpha_i}\}$, by the above inequalities, we have

$$|\psi_{\sigma_{\alpha_0}}(y_k)| \geq \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{for every } k. \quad (3.20)$$

By (3.13) and (3.17), we have

$$|(1 + p_0(y_k))\psi_{\sigma_{\alpha_0}}(y_k)| < \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{for every } k.$$

Therefore by (3.20), we obtain

$$|1 + p_0(y_k)| < 1 \quad \text{for all } k \in \mathbb{N}.$$

By (3.19) and p_0 is a polynomial, we have $p_0(y_k) = p_0(e^{i\theta_k})$. Hence

$$|1 + p_0(e^{i\theta_k})| < 1 \quad \text{for all } k \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (3.21)$$

By the starting assumption, $\{e^{i\theta_k} : k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is dense in ∂D , so that we obtain $\|1 + p_0\|_{H^\infty} \leq 1$. Since $1 + p_0(0) = 1$, by the maximality we have $1 + p_0 \equiv 1$. This implies that $p_0 \equiv 0$. By (3.21), we get $1 < 1$. This is the desired contradiction. \square

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