

COMMON FIXED POINTS OF COMMUTING HOLOMORPHIC MAPPINGS

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Abstract

Let B_k be a unit open ball in a k -dimensional complex Hilbert space. If T_μ is a commuting family of continuous functions mapping B_k^n into itself and holomorphic in B_k^n , then there exists a common fixed point for all functions of this family.

Introduction. Let us consider a family \mathcal{A} of mappings of some set into itself. If $Tx=x$ for all T in \mathcal{A} and some x we say that x is a common fixed point for \mathcal{A} (or for the mapping T in \mathcal{A}). In this paper we are concerned with the existence of common fixed points for families of mappings.

For many years it was unknown whether two commuting continuous mappings of a compact convex set into itself necessarily have a common fixed point. In 1969 Boyce ([2]) and Huneke ([13]) independently gave counterexamples: there exist two commuting continuous mappings of $[0, 1]$ into itself without a common fixed point. In view of this it is not surprising that the positive results must involve some additional restrictions on the family \mathcal{A} . Throughout this paper \mathcal{A} denotes a subfamily of a family of all mappings from \bar{B}^n into \bar{B}^n (B^n is a cartesian product of n open unit balls B of a Hilbert space H). The mappings in \mathcal{A} are holomorphic on B^n and continuous on \bar{B}^n .

In [21] (see also [3] and [4]) Shields proved that if \mathcal{A} is a family of commuting functions which are continuous on the closed disc $\bar{\Delta}$ of the complex plane and are holomorphic on the open disc Δ and map the closed disc into itself, then there exists a common fixed point for all the functions of the family \mathcal{A} . This result was extended to polydiscs in \mathbb{C}^n by Eustice ([6]) (see also [24]) and to the unit ball of a finite dimensional inner product space by Suffridge ([23]). In [11] Heath and Suffridge gave the following theorem. If T_1 and T_2 are continuous mappings of a polydisc $\bar{\Delta}^n$ into itself that are holomorphic on Δ^n and $T_1 \circ T_2 = T_2 \circ T_1$, then they have a common fixed point in $\bar{\Delta}^n$. However we think that the proof in [11] is not complete.

In each mentioned above paper the proof is based on the fact that if a closure of the iterates of T (denoted by $I(T)$) is a compact topological semi-group then it contains a unique idempotent. Because of this our problem reduces

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to a study of idempotents in \mathcal{A} . The absolutely different methods allow us to prove the following two facts. If B is an open unit ball of a Hilbert space and \mathcal{A} is a commuting family of continuous functions mapping \bar{B} into itself and holomorphic in B , then there exists a common fixed point for \mathcal{A} ([14], [17]) and if $T_1, \dots, T_m: B^n \rightarrow B^n$ are commuting and holomorphic and every mapping has a fixed point, then they have a common fixed point ([16], [17]).

Basic notations and facts. We shall use the following notations:

(i) H (H_k) is a complex Hilbert space (a complex Hilbert space with $\dim H_k = k$) with an inner product (\cdot, \cdot) and a norm $\|\cdot\|$.

(ii) B (B_k) is a unit open ball in H (in H_k) and \bar{B} (\bar{B}_k) is a closure of B (B_k) in H (H_k).

(iii) In B^n we introduce the following CRF metric ρ_n ([7], [8], [9], [10], [26]):

$$\rho_n(x, y) = \tanh^{-1} \left(1 - \frac{(1 - \|x\|^2)(1 - \|y\|^2)}{|1 - (x, y)|^2} \right)^{1/2}$$

for $x, y \in B^1 = B$ and

$$\rho_n((x_1, \dots, x_n), (y_1, \dots, y_n)) = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \rho_1(x_i, y_i)$$

for $(x_1, \dots, x_n), (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in B^n$.

(iv) $\mathcal{A}(B^n)$ ($\mathcal{A}(B_k^n)$) is the set of holomorphic mappings of B^n into B^n (of B_k^n into B_k^n). $\mathcal{A}(B_k^n, H_k^n)$ is the set of holomorphic mappings of B_k^n into H_k^n .

(v) For $T \in \mathcal{A}(B_k^n)$ $\Gamma(T)$ denotes the closure in $\mathcal{A}(B_k^n, H_k^n)$ of the iterates of T in the topology of the uniform convergence on compact subsets of B_k^n . $\Gamma(T)$ is a compact set in this topology.

(vi) For $T \in \mathcal{A}(B_k^n)$ $\Gamma'(T)$ denotes the set ($\subset \mathcal{A}(B_k^n, H_k^n)$) of all subsequential limits of $\{T^p\}$ in the topology of the uniform convergence on compact subsets of B_k^n .

If $\Gamma(T) \subset \mathcal{A}(B_k^n)$, then it forms a compact topological semigroup. Let us notice that this topological semigroup $\Gamma(T)$ contains exactly one idempotent R_T ([12], [28]). This holomorphic idempotent in $\Gamma(T)$ is a holomorphic retraction of B_k^n . In [1], [6], [11], [16], [23] and [27] it is shown what such a retraction looks like.

Every holomorphic mapping $T \in \mathcal{A}(B^n)$ is nonexpansive in (B^n, ρ_n) and has a fixed point if and only if there exists $x \in B^n$ such that a sequence of its iterates $\{T^p x\}$ is bounded in (B^n, ρ_n) ([8], [26]).

Common fixed points. First we require the following results concerning $\Gamma(T)$ and $\Gamma'(T)$.

THEOREM 1. *Let $T: B_k^n \rightarrow B_k^n$ be a holomorphic mapping. The following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) T has a fixed point,
- (ii) $\Gamma(T) \subset \mathcal{A}(B_k^n)$,
- (iii) $\Gamma(T)$ contains a holomorphic retraction $R_T \in \mathcal{A}(B_k^n)$,
- (iv) $\Gamma'(T)$ contains $F \in \mathcal{A}(B_k^n)$,
- (v) there exist x_0 and $\{p_i\}$ such that $\sup_i \|T^{p_i}(x_0)\| < 1$.

Proof.

(i) \Rightarrow (ii). If T has a fixed point, then for every $x \in B_k^n$ the sequence $\{T^p x\}$ is ρ_n -bounded and it gives $\Gamma(T) \subset \mathcal{A}(B_k^n)$.

(ii) \Rightarrow (iii). If $\Gamma(T) \subset \mathcal{A}(B_k^n)$ then $\Gamma(T)$ is a compact abelian semigroup and therefore $\Gamma(T)$ contains a holomorphic idempotent which is a holomorphic retraction.

(iii) \Rightarrow (iv). Obvious.

(iv) \Rightarrow (v). Obvious.

(v) \Rightarrow (i). If for $x_0 \in B_k^n$ there exists $\{p_i\}$ such that $\sup_i \|T^{p_i}(x_0)\| < 1$ then the sequence $\{T^{p_i}(x_0)\}$ is ρ_n -bounded. By the theorem of Całka ([5]) this subsequence $\{T^{p_i}(x_0)\}$ of $\{T^p(x_0)\}$ guarantees the ρ_n -boundedness of $\{T^p(x_0)\}$ and hence T has a fixed point.

Remark 1. It is worth noticing that if $B \subset H$ and $\dim H = +\infty$ the implication (v) \Rightarrow (i) is not true ([22]).

Directly from the above proof we get

THEOREM 2. Let $T: B_k^n \rightarrow B_k^n$ be a holomorphic mapping. T is fixed point free if and only if for every $F \in \Gamma'(T)$ the image $F(B_k^n)$ is contained in the boundary of B_k^n .

Theorem 1 allows us to prove the main theorem about the existence of common fixed points.

THEOREM 3. Let $\{T_\mu\}$ be a commuting family of continuous functions mapping \bar{B}_k^n into itself and holomorphic in B_k^n . Then there is a common fixed point for all functions of the family.

Proof. It is sufficient to prove this theorem for a finite family $\{T_1, \dots, T_m\}$.

Case 1. Every $T_{i|B_k^n}$ has a fixed point in B_k^n . Here the existence of a common fixed points is proved in [14] and [15]. For the reader's convenience we give a sketch of the proof of this fact.

Every $\text{Fix}(T_{i|B_k^n})$ is a holomorphic retract of B_k^n ([16], [27]). Since $\{T_1, \dots, T_m\}$ is a commuting family of functions we have

$$T_j(\text{Fix}(T_{i|B_k^n})) \subset \text{Fix}(T_{i|B_k^n})$$

for $1 \leq i, j \leq m$.

Next if $R: B_k^n - A \subset B_k^n$ is a holomorphic retraction and $T: B_k^n - B_k^n$ is a holomorphic mapping with $\text{Fix}(T) \neq \emptyset$ and $T(A) \subset A$, then $A \cap \text{Fix}(T)$ is a nonempty holomorphic retract of B_k^n . Indeed $T \circ R$ has a fixed point (see (v) in Theorem 1) and every such a point lies in A . It is easy to observe that $\text{Fix}(T \circ R) = A \cap \text{Fix}(T)$.

Now it is sufficient to apply a mathematical induction with respect to m to obtain a common fixed point of $\{T_1, \dots, T_m\}$.

In the next two cases we proceed by induction with respect to n . For $n=1$ see [14] and [23].

Case 2. $T_{1|B_k^n} \in \mathcal{A}(B_k^n)$ and $\Gamma(T_{1|B_k^n}) \notin \mathcal{A}(B_k^n)$. Then there exists $T \in \Gamma(T_{1|B_k^n})$ such that (after applying of an appropriate linear mapping L that permutes coordinates)

$$T(B_k^n) \subset \{e_1\} \times \dots \times \{e_q\} \times B_k^{n-q}$$

($1 \leq q \leq n$) and T, T_1, \dots, T_m commute. It is clear that

$$T_i(\{e_1\} \times \dots \times \{e_q\} \times B_k^{n-q}) \subset \{e_1\} \times \dots \times \{e_q\} \times \bar{B}_k^{n-q}$$

($1 \leq i \leq m$) and therefore T_1, \dots, T_m have a common fixed point in $\{e_1\} \times \dots \times \{e_q\} \times \bar{B}_k^{n-q}$ by the induction hypothesis.

Case 3. $T_{1|B_k^n} \notin \mathcal{A}(B_k^n)$. By the induction hypothesis T_1, \dots, T_m have a common fixed point (see Case 2).

Remark 2. A continuous mapping $T: \bar{B}^n \rightarrow \bar{B}^n$ which satisfies the following condition

$$\rho_n(tTx, tTy) \leq \rho_n(x, y)$$

for all $x, y \in \bar{B}^n$ and every $0 \leq t < 1$ is called a nonexpansive mapping in \bar{B}^n . Theorem 1 and 2 are still true if we replace the assumption of holomorphy of mappings in B_k^n by nonexpansiveness in \bar{B}_k^n .

Open problem. If we have a mapping $T: \bar{B}^n \rightarrow \bar{B}^n$ which is nonexpansive in \bar{B}^n , then T has a fixed point ([8], [9], [10], [15], [19], [20]). Is Theorem 2 true if we replace \bar{B}_k^n by \bar{B}^n ? If either $n=1$ or every T_μ is a ρ_n -isometry it is known that the answer is positive ([14], [17], [18]).

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