

**SPECTRAL ESTIMATES FOR THE COMMUTATOR  
OF TWO-DIMENSIONAL HILBERT  
TRANSFORMATION AND THE OPERATOR OF  
MULTIPLICATION WITH A  $C^1$  FUNCTION**

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**1. Introduction and notation.** Let  $\Gamma$  be a set of simple non-intersecting closed contours of Lyapunov type and  $S_\Gamma$  be the singular integral along  $\Gamma$ :

$$(S_\Gamma\varphi)(t) = \frac{1}{\pi i} \int_\Gamma \frac{\varphi(s)}{s-t} ds, \quad t \in \Gamma;$$

the contour  $\Gamma$  is considered oriented in some manner. It is well known that the operator  $S_\Gamma$  is bounded in each of the spaces  $L^p(\Gamma)$ ,  $1 < p < \infty$ .

Also, it is known that if a function  $t \mapsto a(t)$  satisfies a Hölder condition on  $\Gamma$  or if  $a \in C(\Gamma)$ , then the operator  $aS_\Gamma - S_\Gamma a$  is compact on  $L^p(\Gamma)$ , see [6]. In the special case, when  $\Gamma$  is an interval on the real axis,  $S_\Gamma$  is the Hilbert transformation.

Instead of  $S_\Gamma$  it is possible to consider some other singular integral operator and study its spectral properties.

Let  $\Omega$  be a domain in  $\mathbf{C}$ . Denote by  $L^2(\Omega)$  the space of complex-valued functions on  $\Omega$  such that the norm

$$\|f\| = \left( \int_\Omega |f(\xi)|^2 dA(\xi) \right)^{1/2}$$

is finite. Here  $dA$  denotes Lebesgue measure on  $\Omega$ .

It is known (see [8]) that the formula

$$H_\Omega f(z) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{p.v.} \int_\Omega \frac{f(\xi)}{(\xi - z)^2} dA(\xi)$$

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defines a bounded operator on  $L^2(\Omega)$ . (Moreover, it is bounded on  $L^p(\Omega)$  for all  $1 < p < \infty$ .) In the case  $\Omega = \mathbf{C}$ ,  $H_\Omega$  is unitary and is called the two-dimensional Hilbert transformation.

In this paper we consider spectral characteristics of the operator  $aH_\Omega - H_\Omega a$ .

For an arbitrary compact operator  $A$  on a Hilbert space, denote by  $s_n(A)$  the sequence of eigenvalues of the operator  $(A^*A)^{1/2}$ , in decreasing order (taking into account multiplicity). We shall call the numbers  $s_n(A)$  singular values of the operator  $A$ . Denote by  $c_p$  Schatten-von Neumann class of operators.

For a compact operator  $A$  we shall use  $\mathbf{N}_t(A)$  to denote the singular values distribution function, that is,

$$\mathbf{N}_t(A) = \sum_{s_n(A) \geq t} 1, \quad t > 0.$$

By  $a_n \sim b_n$ ,  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , we denote the fact that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n/b_n = 1$ . By  $\text{Lip}_\alpha(\Omega)$ ,  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ , we denote the class of all complex-valued functions defined on  $\Omega$  for which there exists a constant  $M$  such that

$$|f(z) - f(\xi)| \leq M|z - \xi|^\alpha$$

for all  $z, \xi \in \Omega$ .

By  $|\Omega|$  we denote the area of  $\Omega$ . In the rest of the paper, by  $\int_S R(z, \xi) \cdot dA(\xi)$  we shall denote the integral operator on the space  $L^2(S)$  (where  $S \subset \mathbf{C}$ ) whose kernel is the function  $R(\cdot, \cdot)$ .

## 2. Main result.

**Theorem 1.** a) *If  $a \in \text{Lip}_\alpha(\Omega)$  ( $\Omega$  is a bounded domain  $\mathbf{C}$ ) then  $aH_\Omega - H_\Omega a \in c_p$  for every  $p > 2/\alpha$ .*

b) *If  $a \in C^1(\overline{\Omega})$ , where  $\Omega$  is a bounded domain with a rectifiable boundary, then*

$$s_n(cH_\Omega - H_\Omega a) \sim \left( \frac{1}{\pi n} \int_\Omega \left( \left| \frac{\partial a}{\partial \bar{\xi}} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{\partial a}{\partial \xi} \right|^2 \right) dA(\xi) \right)^{1/2}, \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

**Corollaries.** 1' If  $a \in C^1(\overline{\Omega})$ , then  $aH_\Omega - H_\Omega a \in c_2$  if and only if  $a \equiv \text{const}$ .

2' If  $a$  is univalent analytic function on  $\overline{\Omega}$ , then

$$s_n(aH_\Omega - H_\Omega a) \sim \sqrt{\frac{|a(\Omega)|}{\pi n}}$$

where  $a(\Omega)$  is the image of  $\Omega$  under mapping  $a$ .

For the proof of Theorem 1 we need several lemmas.

**Lemma 1 [3].** Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded domain in  $\mathbf{R}^N$ ,  $L \in L^\infty(\Omega \times \Omega)$ ,  $k > 0$ ,  $k \in L^1(0 + \infty)$  and  $k \in L^2(d, +\infty)$  for all  $d > 0$ . Then for the operator  $T : L^2(\Omega) \rightarrow L^2(\Omega)$  defined by

$$Tf(x) = \int_{\Omega} L(x, y)k(\|x - y\|^N)f(y) dy$$

there holds

$$s_n(T) \leq c\|L\|_\infty \left( \int_0^d k(t) dt + n^{-1/2} \left( \int_d^\infty k^2(t) dt \right)^{1/2} \right)$$

for every  $d > 0$ , where  $c$  depends only on  $\Omega$ .

**Lemma 2 [4].** a) If  $T'$  and  $T''$  are compact operators and  $T = T' + T''$ ,  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^\gamma \mathbf{N}_t(T') = c(T')$  and  $s_n(T'') = o(n^{-1/\gamma})$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ , then there exists the limit  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^\gamma \mathbf{N}_t(T)$  and it is equal to  $c(T')$ .

b) Let  $T$  be a compact operator, and suppose that, for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a decomposition  $T = T'_\varepsilon + T''_\varepsilon$  where  $T'_\varepsilon, T''_\varepsilon$  are compact operators such that

(i) There exists  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^\gamma \mathbf{N}_t(T'_\varepsilon) = c(T'_\varepsilon)$ ,  $c(T'_\varepsilon)$  being a bounded function in the neighborhood of  $\varepsilon = 0$ .

(ii)  $\overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n(T''_\varepsilon) \cdot n^{1/\gamma} \leq \varepsilon$ .

Then there exists  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} c(T'_\varepsilon) = c(T)$  and

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^\gamma \mathbf{N}_t(T) = c(T).$$

**Lemma 3.** *If  $\Omega_1, \Omega_2 \subset \mathbf{C}$  are bounded measurable sets,  $\Omega_1 \subset \Omega_2$  and  $B_i : L^2(\Omega_i) \rightarrow L^2(\Omega_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , are the linear operators defined by*

$$B_i f(z) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Omega_i} \frac{p(\xi)(z - \xi) + q(\xi)(\bar{z} - \bar{\xi})}{(z - \xi)^2} f(\xi) dA(\xi),$$

$$p, q \in C(\overline{\Omega_2})$$

then

$$\mathbf{N}_t(B_1) \leq \mathbf{N}_t(B_2).$$

*Proof.* Let  $P : L^2(\Omega_2) \rightarrow L^2(\Omega_1)$  be the orthoprojector. From  $B_1 = PB_2P$  we have  $s_n(B_1) \leq s_n(B_2)$ . The statement of the lemma follows.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.** *If  $\Omega$  is a bounded Jordan measurable set in  $\mathbf{C}$  and  $a, b$  some complex constants, then when  $n \rightarrow \infty$*

$$(1) \quad s_n \left( -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Omega} \frac{a \cdot (z - \xi) + b \cdot (\bar{z} - \bar{\xi})}{(z - \xi)^2} \cdot dA(\xi) \right) \sim \sqrt{\frac{|\Omega|(|a|^2 + |b|^2)}{\pi n}}$$

*Proof.* Let  $T = -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Omega} \frac{a(z - \xi) + b(\bar{z} - \bar{\xi})}{(z - \xi)^2} \cdot dA(\xi)$ . The function  $k(z) = -(1/\pi)(a \cdot z + b \cdot \bar{z})/z^2$ ,  $z = x_1 + ix_2$  is homogeneous of order  $-1$  and

$$T = \int_{\Omega} k(z - \xi) \cdot dA(\xi).$$

Let  $\tilde{k}$  be the Fourier transform of  $k$ , which is understood, for example, in the sense of Riesz summation:

$$\tilde{k}(x) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int_{|t| \leq r} \left(1 - \frac{|t|^2}{r^2}\right)^s k(t) e^{-i\langle x, t \rangle} dt.$$

(Here  $x = (x_1, x_2)$ ,  $t = (t_1, t_2)$ ,  $\langle x, t \rangle = x_1 t_1 + x_2 t_2$ ,  $dt = dt_1 dt_2$ .)

After calculation we obtain

$$(2) \quad \tilde{k}(x) = -\frac{2i}{(x_1 + ix_2)^2} ((b - a)x_1 - i(a + b)x_2).$$

According to the result of Birman-Solomjak [2, pp. 75–76], we get

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(T) = \gamma(k) \cdot |\Omega|$$

where  $\gamma(k) = (2\pi)^{-2} \text{mes} \{x \in \mathbf{R}^2 : |\tilde{k}(x)| > 1\}$ . Having in mind (2) we can write

$$\gamma(k) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \text{mes} \left\{ z : \frac{2|b\bar{z} - az|}{|z|^2} > 1 \right\}, \quad z = x_1 + ix_2.$$

Putting  $z = re^{i\theta}$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{mes} \{z : 2|b\bar{z} - az| > |z|^2\} \\ &= \text{mes} \{re^{i\theta} : 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi, 0 < r < 2|be^{-i\theta} - ae^{i\theta}|\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} (2|be^{-i\theta} - ae^{i\theta}|)^2 d\theta \\ &= 4\pi(|a|^2 + |b|^2). \end{aligned}$$

So  $\gamma(k) = \frac{1}{\pi}(|a|^2 + |b|^2)$  and we have

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(T) = \frac{|\Omega|}{\pi} (|a|^2 + |b|^2)$$

whence, putting  $t = s_n(T)$ , we get (1).  $\square$

**Lemma 5.** *If  $\Omega$  is a bounded domain in  $\mathbf{C}$  with the rectifiable boundary,  $p, q \in C(\bar{\Omega})$ , then when  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned} s_n \left( -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Omega} \frac{p(\xi)(z - \xi) + q(\xi)(\bar{z} - \bar{\xi})}{(z - \xi)^2} \cdot dA(\xi) \right) \\ \sim \left( \frac{1}{n\pi} \int_{\Omega} (|p(\xi)|^2 + |q(\xi)|^2) dA(\xi) \right)^{1/2}. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Consider first the case when  $\Omega$  is a square the sides of which are parallel to the coordinate axes. Divide  $\Omega$  into  $N$  squares  $\Delta_i$  of equal sides and denote their centers by  $\xi_i$ . Let

$$\begin{aligned} T &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Omega} \frac{p(\xi)(z - \xi) + q(\xi)(\bar{z} - \bar{\xi})}{(z - \xi)^2} \cdot dA(\xi) \\ T_i &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Delta_i} \frac{p(\xi_i)(z - \xi) + q(\xi_i)(\bar{z} - \bar{\xi})}{(z - \xi)^2} \cdot dA(\xi) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$P_i f(z) = \chi_{\Delta_i}(z) f(z), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N.$$

(Here  $\chi_S(\cdot)$  denotes the characteristic function of  $S$ .)

Then

$$T = \sum_{i=1}^N P_i T_i P_i + \sum_{\substack{i,j=1 \\ i \neq j}}^N P_i T P_j + \sum_{i=1}^N P_i (T - T_i) P_i.$$

It can be shown directly that  $P_i T P_j \in c_2$  for  $i \neq j$  and therefore

$$(3) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{1/2} s_n \left( \sum_{\substack{i,j=1 \\ i \neq j}}^N P_i T P_j \right) = 0.$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Choose  $N$  large enough so that  $|p(\xi) - p(\xi_i)| < \varepsilon$  and  $|q(\xi) - q(\xi_i)| < \varepsilon$  for all  $\xi \in \Delta_i$  and  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ . (This is possible because  $p, q \in C(\overline{\Omega})$ .)

Then, according to Lemma 4, we have

$$(4) \quad \sqrt{n} s_n (P_i (T - T_i) P_i) \leq C \cdot \varepsilon \sqrt{|\Delta_i|}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

where  $C$  is independent of  $\varepsilon, i$ .

From (4) it follows that

$$(5) \quad \mathbf{N}_t (P_i (T - T_i) P_i) \leq \frac{(C\varepsilon)^2}{t^2} |\Delta_i|, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N.$$

Since the operators  $P_i (T - T_i) P_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ , are mutually orthogonal, we have

$$\mathbf{N}_t \left( \sum_{i=1}^N P_i (T - T_i) P_i \right) = \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{N}_t (P_i (T - T_i) P_i)$$

and thus, from (5) we get

$$t^2 \mathbf{N}_t \left( \sum_{i=1}^N P_i (T - T_i) P_i \right) \leq \sum_{i=1}^N (C\varepsilon)^2 |\Delta_i| = (C\varepsilon)^2 |\Omega|.$$

From this it follows that

$$s_n \left( \sum_{i=1}^N P_i (T - T_i) P_i \right) \leq \frac{C \cdot \varepsilon \sqrt{|\Omega|}}{\sqrt{n}}$$

which together with (3) shows that for the operator

$$E_N = \sum_{\substack{i,j=1 \\ i \neq j}}^N P_i T P_j + \sum_{i=1}^N P_i (T - T_i) P_i$$

there holds

$$(6) \quad \overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{n} s_n(E_N) \leq C \varepsilon \sqrt{|\Omega|}.$$

Since, by Lemma 4,

$$s_n(P_i T_i P_i) \sim \sqrt{\frac{|\Delta_i| \cdot (|p(\xi_i)|^2 + |q(\xi_i)|^2)}{n\pi}}, \quad n \rightarrow \infty,$$

we get

$$\mathbf{N}_t(P_i T_i P_i) \sim \frac{|\Delta_i|}{\pi t^2} (|p(\xi_i)|^2 + |q(\xi_i)|^2), \quad t \rightarrow 0^+$$

whence, because of the orthogonality of the summands in the sum  $\sum_{i=1}^N P_i T_i P_i$  it follows that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t \left( \sum_{i=1}^N P_i T_i P_i \right) = \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{i=1}^N |\Delta_i| \cdot (|p(\xi_i)|^2 + |q(\xi_i)|^2).$$

Having in mind that  $T = \sum_{i=1}^N P_i T_i P_i + E_N$ , the previous equality (6) and Lemma 2 b) yield

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(T) &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{i=1}^N |\Delta_i| \cdot (|p(\xi_i)|^2 + |q(\xi_i)|^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Omega} (|p(\xi)|^2 + |q(\xi)|^2) dA. \end{aligned}$$

Putting  $t = s_n(T)$  in (7) we get the statement of the lemma in the case when  $\Omega$  is square.

Now let  $\Omega = \cup_{i=1}^S K_i$ , where  $K_i$  are (equal) squares with sides parallel to the axes and with disjoint interiors. Let

$$P_i f(z) = \mathcal{X}_{K_i}(z) f(z), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, S$$

$$T = -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Omega} \frac{p(\xi)(z - \xi) + q(\xi)(\bar{z} - \bar{\xi})}{(z - \xi)^2} \cdot dA(\xi).$$

Then

$$T = \sum_{i=1}^S P_i T P_i + \sum_{\substack{i,j=1 \\ i \neq j}}^S P_i T P_j.$$

For  $i \neq j$ , we have  $P_i T P_j \in c_2$  and therefore

$$\sum_{\substack{i,j=1 \\ i \neq j}}^S P_i T P_j \in c_2.$$

Hence

$$(8) \quad s_n \left( \sum_{\substack{i,j=1 \\ i \neq j}}^S P_i T P_j \right) = o(n^{-1/2}).$$

Since

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(P_i T P_i) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{K_i} (|p(\xi)|^2 + |q(\xi)|^2) dA$$

because of (7), and the summands in  $\sum_{i=1}^S P_i T P_i$  are orthogonal, we get

$$\mathbf{N}_t \left( \sum_{i=1}^S P_i T P_i \right) = \sum_{i=1}^S \mathbf{N}_t(P_i T P_i)$$

and hence

$$(9) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t \left( \sum_{i=1}^S P_i T P_i \right) = \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{i=1}^S \int_{K_i} (|p(\xi)|^2 + |q(\xi)|^2) dA$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Omega} (|p(\xi)|^2 + |q(\xi)|^2) dA$$

From (8), (9) and Lemma 2a) we get

$$(10) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(T) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Omega} (|p(\xi)|^2 + |q(\xi)|^2) dA$$

and hence, putting  $t = s_n(T)$ , we get the statement in the case when  $\Omega$  is a disjoint union of squares.

Now consider the general case, i.e., let  $\Omega$  be a bounded domain with rectifiable boundary. Since  $p, q \in C(\bar{\Omega})$  we can extend  $p, q$  to continuous functions  $\tilde{p}, \tilde{q}$ , respectively, on some neighborhood of  $\bar{\Omega}$ . The set  $\Omega$  is Jordan measurable. Denote by  $\underline{\Omega}_N$  and  $\bar{\Omega}_N$  finite disjoint unions of equal squares such that

$$\underline{\Omega}_N \subset \Omega \subset \bar{\Omega}_N$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} |\underline{\Omega}_N| &\longrightarrow |\Omega| \\ |\bar{\Omega}_N| &\longrightarrow |\Omega|, \quad N \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\underline{T}_N$  and  $\bar{T}_N$  be linear operators on  $L^2(\underline{\Omega}_N)$  and  $L^2(\bar{\Omega}_N)$ , respectively, defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{T}_N &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\underline{\Omega}_N} \frac{p(\xi)(z - \xi) + q(\xi)(\bar{z} - \bar{\xi})}{(z - \xi)^2} \cdot dA(\xi) \\ \bar{T}_N &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\bar{\Omega}_N} \frac{\tilde{p}(\xi)(z - \xi) + \tilde{q}(\xi)(\bar{z} - \bar{\xi})}{(z - \xi)^2} \cdot dA(\xi). \end{aligned}$$

According to Lemma 3, we have

$$\mathbf{N}_t(\underline{T}_N) \leq \mathbf{N}_t(T) \leq \mathbf{N}_t(\bar{T}_N)$$

whence

$$t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(\underline{T}_N) \leq t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(T) \leq t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(\bar{T}_N),$$

i.e.,

(11)

$$\underline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(\underline{T}_N) \leq \underline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(T) \leq \overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(T) \leq \overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(\bar{T}_N).$$

Since, by (10),

$$\underline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(\underline{T}_N) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(\underline{T}_N) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Omega_N} (|p(\xi)|^2 + |q(\xi)|^2) dA$$

and

$$\overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(\overline{T}_N) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(\overline{T}_N) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Omega_N} (|\tilde{p}(\xi)|^2 + |\tilde{q}(\xi)|^2) dA.$$

Equation (11) implies

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Omega_N} (|p(\xi)|^2 + |q(\xi)|^2) dA &\leq \underline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(T) \\ &\leq \overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(T) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Omega_N} (|\tilde{p}(\xi)|^2 + |\tilde{q}(\xi)|^2) dA. \end{aligned}$$

From the last relation for  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain

$$(12) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^2 \mathbf{N}_t(T) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Omega} (|p(\xi)|^2 + |q(\xi)|^2) dA.$$

Putting  $t = s_n(T)$  in (12), we get

$$ns_n^2(T) \sim \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Omega} (|p(\xi)|^2 + |q(\xi)|^2) dA(\xi),$$

i.e.,

$$s_n(T) \sim \left( \frac{1}{\pi n} \int_{\Omega} (|p(\xi)|^2 + |q(\xi)|^2) dA(\xi) \right)^{1/2}, \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Lemma 5 is proved.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.* a) Let  $0 < \alpha < 1$  and  $|a(z) - a(\xi)| \leq M|z - \xi|^\alpha$ ,  $z, \xi \in \Omega$ . The kernel of the operator  $aH_\Omega - H_\Omega a$  is equal to the function

$$\frac{a(z) - a(\xi)}{(z - \xi)^2}.$$

Let  $\delta$  be the diameter of  $\Omega$ . Applying Lemma 1 with

$$L(z, \xi) = \frac{a(z) - a(\xi)}{|z - \xi|^\alpha} \left( \frac{|z - \xi|}{z - \xi} \right)^2; \quad k(t) = \begin{cases} t^{\alpha/2-1} & 0 < t < \delta, \\ 1/1+t^2 & t > \delta, \end{cases}$$

and  $d = 1/n$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} & s_n(aH_\Omega - H_\Omega a) \\ & \leq c \|L\|_\infty \left( \int_0^{1/n} t^{\alpha/2-1} dt + n^{-1/2} \left( \int_{1/n}^\delta t^{\alpha-2} dt + \int_\delta^\infty \frac{dt}{1+t^2} \right)^{1/2} \right) \\ & = O(n^{-\alpha/2}). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $s_n(aH_\Omega - H_\Omega a) = O(n^{-\alpha/2})$  and hence  $aH_\Omega - H_\Omega a \in c_p$  for all  $p > 2/\alpha$ .

If  $\alpha = 1$ , then  $aH_\Omega - H_\Omega a \in c_p$  for all  $p > 2$  which can be obtained by direct application of the Russo theorem [7].

b) Let  $a \in C^1(\overline{\Omega})$ . Then

$$(13) \quad \begin{cases} a(z) - a(\xi) = (\partial a / \partial \xi)(z - \xi) + (\partial a / \partial \bar{\xi})(\bar{z} - \bar{\xi}) + R(z, \xi) \\ \lim_{z \rightarrow \xi} (R(z, \xi) / |z - \xi|) = 0, (\partial a / \partial \xi), (\partial a / \partial \bar{\xi}) \in C(\overline{\Omega}). \end{cases}$$

Thus

$$(14) \quad aH_\Omega - H_\Omega a = V + S$$

where the operators  $V$  and  $S$  act on  $L^2(\Omega)$  and are defined in the following way

$$\begin{aligned} Vf(z) &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_\Omega \frac{(\partial a / \partial \xi)(z - \xi) + (\partial a / \partial \bar{\xi})(\bar{z} - \bar{\xi})}{(z - \xi)^2} f(\xi) dA(\xi) \\ Sf(z) &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_\Omega \frac{R(z, \xi)}{(z - \xi)^2} f(\xi) dA(\xi). \end{aligned}$$

According to Lemma 5 we get

$$(15) \quad s_n(V) \sim \left( \frac{1}{\pi n} \int_\Omega \left( \left| \frac{\partial a}{\partial \xi} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{\partial a}{\partial \bar{\xi}} \right|^2 \right) dA(\xi) \right)^{1/2}, \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Let us prove that

$$(16) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{1/2} s_n(S) = 0.$$

From (13) it follows that  $S$  can be written in the form

$$\begin{aligned} Sf(z) &= \int_{\Omega} \frac{\omega(z, \xi)}{|z - \xi|} f(\xi) dA(\xi), \\ \omega &\in C(\overline{\Omega} \times \overline{\Omega}), \\ \omega(\xi, \xi) &= 0 \quad \text{for every } \xi \in \Omega. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $|\omega(z, \xi)| < \varepsilon$  when  $|z - \xi| < \delta$ ,  $z, \xi \in \Omega$ . Let

$$\begin{aligned} K'_\delta(z, \xi) &= \begin{cases} \frac{\omega(z, \xi)}{|z - \xi|}; & |z - \xi| < \delta, z, \xi \in \Omega, \\ 0; & |z - \xi| \geq \delta, z, \xi \in \Omega, \end{cases} \\ K''_\delta(z, \xi) &= \begin{cases} 0; & |z - \xi| < \delta, z, \xi \in \Omega, \\ \frac{\omega(z, \xi)}{|z - \xi|}; & |z - \xi| \geq \delta, z, \xi \in \Omega, \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} T'_\delta f(z) &= \int_{\Omega} K'_\delta(z, \xi) f(\xi) dA(\xi) \\ T''_\delta f(z) &= \int_{\Omega} K''_\delta(z, \xi) f(\xi) dA(\xi). \end{aligned}$$

Then  $S = T'_\delta + T''_\delta$ . By [1, Lemma 4], there holds

$$(17) \quad s_n(T'_\delta) \leq C\varepsilon n^{-1/2}$$

where  $C$  is independent of  $\varepsilon, \delta$ .

Since  $\int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} |K''_\delta(z, \xi)|^2 dA(z) dA(\xi) < \infty$ , we have  $T''_\delta \in c_2$ , so

$$(18) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{1/2} s_n(T''_\delta) = 0.$$

Since

$$s_{2n}(S) \leq s_n(T'_\delta) + s_n(T''_\delta),$$

from (17) and (18) it follows that

$$\overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{2n} s_{2n}(S) \leq C \cdot \varepsilon$$

and since  $\varepsilon$  is arbitrary, we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{2n} s_{2n}(S) = 0$$

which implies (16).

Now the statement of Theorem 1 follows from (14), (15), (16) and the Ky-Fan theorem [5].

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