

A SPECTRAL MAPPING THEOREM FOR THE WEYL SPECTRUM

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(Received 15 August, 1994; revised 1 February, 1995)

Introduction. Suppose H is a Hilbert space and write $\mathcal{L}(H)$ for the set of all bounded linear operators on H . If $T \in \mathcal{L}(H)$ we write $\sigma(T)$ for the spectrum of T ; $\pi_0(T)$ for the set of eigenvalues of T ; and $\pi_{00}(T)$ for the isolated points of $\sigma(T)$ that are eigenvalues of finite multiplicity. If K is a subset of \mathbf{C} , we write $\text{iso } K$ for the set of isolated points of K . An operator $T \in \mathcal{L}(H)$ is said to be *Fredholm* if both $T^{-1}(0)$ and $T(H)^\perp$ are finite dimensional. The *index* of a Fredholm operator T , denoted by $\text{index}(T)$, is defined by

$$\text{index}(T) = \dim T^{-1}(0) - \dim T(H)^\perp.$$

The *essential spectrum* of T , denoted by $\sigma_e(T)$, is defined by

$$\sigma_e(T) = \{\lambda \in \mathbf{C} : T - \lambda I \text{ is not Fredholm}\}$$

A Fredholm operator of index zero is called a *Weyl operator* (cf. [7], [8]). The *Weyl spectrum* of T , denoted by $w(T)$, is defined by

$$w(T) = \{\lambda \in \mathbf{C} : T - \lambda I \text{ is not Weyl}\}.$$

Recall ([12]) that an operator $T \in \mathcal{L}(H)$ is said to be *hyponormal* if

$$T^*T \geq TT^*. \quad (0.1)$$

If T is Fredholm then, by (0.1),

$$T \text{ hyponormal} \Rightarrow \text{index}(T) \leq 0. \quad (0.2)$$

It was shown in [10] that the mapping $T \rightarrow w(T)$ is upper semi-continuous, but not continuous, at T and that if $T_n \rightarrow T$ with $T_n T = T T_n$ for all $n \in \mathbf{N}$ then

$$\lim w(T_n) = w(T). \quad (0.3)$$

It was also shown ([5, Theorem 2(b)]) that $w(T)$ satisfies the one-way spectral mapping theorem for analytic functions: if f is analytic on a neighborhood of $\sigma(T)$ then

$$w(f(T)) \subset f(w(T)). \quad (0.4)$$

The inclusion (0.4) may be proper (see [2, Example 3.3]). If T is normal then $\sigma_e(T)$ and $w(T)$ coincide. Thus if T is normal then, since $f(T)$ is also normal, it follows that $w(T)$ satisfies the spectral mapping theorem for analytic functions.

In this note we show that the Weyl spectrum of a hyponormal operator satisfies the spectral mapping theorem for analytic functions and then answer an old question of Oberai ([11]).

Our main result is as follows.

Glasgow Math. J. **38** (1996) 61–64.

THEOREM 1. *If S and T are commuting hyponormal operators then*

$$S, T \text{ Weyl} \Leftrightarrow ST \text{ Weyl} \tag{1.1}$$

and hence if f is analytic on a neighborhood of $\sigma(T)$ then

$$w(f(T)) = f(w(T)). \tag{1.2}$$

Proof. The forward implication of (1.1) uses the Index Product Theorem ([8, Theorem 6.5.4]). For the backward implication of (1.1), we observe that if $ST = TS$ then

$$S^{-1}(0) \cup T^{-1}(0) \subseteq (ST)^{-1}(0) \quad \text{and} \quad (S^*)^{-1}(0) \cup (T^*)^{-1}(0) \subseteq ((ST)^*)^{-1}(0),$$

which yields

$$ST \text{ Fredholm} \Rightarrow S, T \text{ Fredholm},$$

which together with (0.2) gives

$$\text{index}(ST) = 0 \Rightarrow \text{index}(S) = \text{index}(T) = 0.$$

This gives (1.1). Now suppose p is any polynomial. Let

$$p(T) - \lambda I = a_0(T - \mu_1 I) \dots (T - \mu_n I).$$

If T is hyponormal then $T - \mu_i I$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$) are commuting hyponormal operators. It thus follows from (1.1) that

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda \notin w(p(T)) &\Leftrightarrow a_0(T - \mu_1 I) \dots (T - \mu_n I) \text{ Weyl} \\ &\Leftrightarrow T - \mu_i I \text{ Weyl} \quad \text{for each } i = 1, \dots, n \\ &\Leftrightarrow \mu_i \notin w(T) \quad \text{for each } i = 1, \dots, n \\ &\Leftrightarrow \lambda \notin p(w(T)), \end{aligned}$$

which says that

$$w(p(T)) = p(w(T)). \tag{1.3}$$

Next suppose r is any rational function with no poles in $\sigma(T)$. Write $r = \frac{p}{q}$, where p and q are polynomials and q has no zeros in $\sigma(T)$. Then

$$r(T) - \lambda I = (p - \lambda q)(T)(q(T))^{-1}.$$

By (1.3)

$$(p - \lambda q)(T) \text{ Weyl} \Leftrightarrow p - \lambda q \text{ has no zeros in } w(T).$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda \notin w(r(T)) &\Leftrightarrow (p - \lambda q)(T) \text{ Weyl} \\ &\Leftrightarrow p - \lambda q \text{ has no zeros in } w(T) \\ &\Leftrightarrow ((p - \lambda q)(x))q(x)^{-1} \neq 0 \quad \text{for any } x \in w(T) \\ &\Leftrightarrow \lambda \notin r(w(T)), \end{aligned}$$

which says that $w(r(T)) = r(w(T))$. If f is an analytic function on a neighborhood of $\sigma(T)$ then by Runge's theorem (cf. [3]), there is a sequence (r_n) of rational functions with no

poles in $\sigma(T)$ such that $r_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly on $\sigma(T)$. Since $r_n(T)$ commutes with $f(T)$, (1.2) follows from (0.3).

If the ‘‘hyponormal’’ condition is dropped in (1.1) then the backward implication may fail even though T_1 and T_2 commute: for example, if U is the unilateral shift on ℓ_2 , consider the following operators on $\ell_2 \oplus \ell_2$: $T_1 = U \oplus I$ and $T_2 = I \oplus U^*$.

We say ([1], [4], [10]) that *Weyl’s theorem holds for T* if

$$w(T) = \sigma(T) - \pi_{00}(T).$$

There are several classes of operators including hyponormal operators (cf. [1], [2], [4], [9], [11]) for which Weyl’s theorem holds. Oberai ([11]) has raised the following question: does there exist a hyponormal operator T such that Weyl’s theorem does not hold for T^2 ? Note that T^2 may not be hyponormal even if T is hyponormal ([6, Problem 209]). We will show that Weyl’s theorem holds for $f(T)$ when T is hyponormal.

Recall ([2], [10]) that $T \in \mathcal{L}(H)$ is said to be *isoloid* if $\text{iso}(\sigma(T)) \subseteq \pi_0(T)$.

We have a modification of [11, Lemma 1 and Proposition 1].

LEMMA. *If $T \in \mathcal{L}(H)$ is isoloid and if f is analytic on a neighborhood of $\sigma(T)$, then*

$$f(\sigma(T) - \pi_{00}(T)) = \sigma(f(T)) - \pi_{00}(f(T)). \quad (2.1)$$

Proof. The proof of (2.1) is taken straight from a slight modification of the proofs of [11, Lemma 1 and Proposition 1], which work with polynomials.

We conclude with the following result.

THEOREM 2. *If $T \in \mathcal{L}(H)$ is hyponormal, then for any function f analytic on a neighborhood of $\sigma(T)$, Weyl’s theorem holds for $f(T)$.*

Proof. Since hyponormal operators are isoloid ([12]) and Weyl’s theorem holds for hyponormal operators, it follows from (1.2) and (2.1) that

$$\sigma(f(T)) - \pi_{00}(f(T)) = f(\sigma(T) - \pi_{00}(T)) = f(w(T)) = w(f(T)).$$

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS. The present study was partially supported by the Basic Science Research Institute Program, Ministry of Education, 1994, Project No. BSRI-94-1420 and KOSEF Grant No. 94-1400-02-01-3.

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