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**Linear operators as measure preserving transformations**

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We consider first some notions from the theory of m.p.t. If  $h$  is a m.p.t. in a probability space its eigenvalues are the complex numbers  $\{c\}$  for which the equation  $f(h(\cdot))=cf(\cdot)$  has non-trivial complex-valued measurable solutions  $f(\cdot)$ . We note that the eigenvalues of a m.p.t.  $h$  form always a subgroup of the unit circle group and they coincide with the eigenvalues of the isometry  $V$  induced by  $h$  in each of the (complex)  $L_p$  spaces,  $1 < p < \infty$ , over the probability space, defined by  $Vf(\cdot)=f(h(\cdot))$ . We say that  $h$  has complete point spectrum, if  $L_2$  is spanned by the eigenvectors of  $V:L_2 \rightarrow L_2$ . These are in a sense the simplest m.p.t. being completely characterized by the spectrum of  $V:L_2 \rightarrow L_2$ . We will need the following result whose proof we omit as it is similar to a corresponding result in [4.p214].

Lemma 1.  $h$  is a m.p.t. in a probability space. If a collection of eigenfunctions of  $h$  generates the  $\sigma$ -algebra of the space then  $h$  has complete point spectrum. Also the eigenvalues of  $h$  are given by the subgroup of the unit circle group generated by the eigenvalues of the collection.

Considering now the case where  $B$  is finite dimensional we have:

Theorem 1.  $B$  is a finite dimensional complex Banach space and  $T:B \rightarrow B$  a linear operator. Then

- (i)  $T$  accepts an invariant  $m$  as above iff  $B$

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is spanned by eigenvectors of  $T$  having eigenvalues of norm 1.

(ii) If  $T$  accepts an invariant  $m$  then the m.p.t. defined by  $T$  has complete point spectrum given by the subgroup of the unit circle group generated by the eigenvalues of  $T$ .

Proof: (i+)  $T$  preserves the Haar measure on the torus defined by the cartesian product of the unit circle group in each one-dimensional eigenspace. (i+) Assuming the existence of an invariant  $m$  whose support spans  $B$  we consider also the duals  $B^*, T^*$ . Any eigenvalue of  $T^*$  must have norm 1 because it is also an eigenvalue of the m.p.t. defined by  $T$ . Assume now that an eigenvalue  $c$  of  $T^*$  does not have index 1. Then there exist  $x^*, y^*$  in  $B^*$  such that  $T^*x^* = cx^*$  and  $T^*y^* = cy^* + x^*$ . It follows that  $T^{*n}y^* = c^n y^* + nc^{n-1}x^*$ , or considering the elements of  $B^*$  as functions on  $B$  that  $y^*(T^n(\cdot)) = c^n y^*(\cdot) + nc^{n-1}x^*(\cdot)$  and in particular that

$$(*) \quad n|x^*(\cdot)| < |y^*(T^n(\cdot))| + |y^*(\cdot)|, \quad n=1, 2, \dots$$

We can find  $\epsilon > 0$  so that for  $A = \{z: |x^*(z)| \geq \epsilon\}$  we have  $m(A) > 0$  because of the assumption on the support of  $m$ . We can also find  $M > 0$  so that for  $A' = \{z: |y^*(z)| \leq M\}$  we have  $m(A' \cap A) > 0$ . Setting  $A = A' \cap A$  it follows from the measure preserving property of  $h$  that for some integer  $n > 2M/\epsilon$  we have  $m(T^{-n}A \cap A) > 0$  and then the inequality (\*) above is contradicted for each  $z \in T^{-n}A \cap A$ . Indeed for the expression on the left side we have  $z \in A \rightarrow z \in A' \rightarrow n|x^*(z)| \geq n\epsilon > 2M$  while for that on the right side we have  $z \in A \rightarrow z \in A_2$  and  $T^n z \in A_1 \rightarrow z \in A_2$  and

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$T^n z \in A_2 \Rightarrow |y^*(z)| \leq M$  and  $|y^*(T^n z)| \leq M$ . It follows that  $T^*$  has a spanning set of eigenvectors having eigenvalues of norm 1. Hence so does  $T$ , which proves (i). As for part (ii) we note that the functions  $\{x^*(.): x^* \in B^*\}$  generate the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra of  $B$ . By above so do the functions  $\{x^*(.): x^* \text{ an eigenvector of } T^*\}$  which are also eigenfunctions of the m.p.t.  $T$  having the same eigenvalues. The result then follows from Lemma 1. Q.E.D.

§2. In infinite dimensions the problem considered above with  $T$  assumed to be a linear contraction appears in [1] in the following form: "Solve the equation  $X(h(.)) = TX(.)$  where  $h$  is an ergodic m.p.t. in a probability space  $(S, \Sigma, \mu)$ ,  $T: B \rightarrow B$  is a linear contraction and  $X: S \rightarrow B$  is Borel measurable." Using this setting we can construct m.p.t.  $(B, T, m)$  of various types as follows:

Example.  $T$  is taken to have the property that there exists a sequence  $\{x_i: i=0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  with  $Tx_0 = 0$ ,  $Tx_{i+1} = x_i$  and  $\sum |x_i| < \infty$ . Let also  $h$  be any m.p.t. on a probability space  $(S, \Sigma, \mu)$  and  $f \in L_1(S, \Sigma, \mu)$ . We define

$$X(.) = \sum f(h^2(.)) x_i$$

Then  $X(h(.)) = TX(.)$  and therefore  $m(.) = \mu(X^{-1}(.))$  defines a Borel probability measure on  $B$ , invariant under  $T$ . The m.p.t. so defined inherits many of the properties of  $h$ . In particular it does not have any eigen-

values if  $h$  does not, so that Theorem 1 does not hold generally in infinite dimensions. We do note however that all of the unit circle group belongs to the point spectrum of the operator  $T$ .

Next we extend Theorem 1 to a class of operators in infinite dimensions, considering however only invariant probability measures for which the norm function on  $B$  is integrable, as is also the case in the example above. We mention that if  $B$  is a Banach space then a set of functionals  $\{x^*\} \subset B^*$  is called total if  $x^*(x) = 0$  for every  $x^* \in \{x^*\}$  implies  $x = 0$ , or equivalently if  $\{x^*\}$  spans  $B^*$  in its  $B$ -topology.

Theorem 2.  $B$  is a separable complex Banach space and  $T: B \rightarrow B$  a continuous linear operator with the property that a total set of functionals has bounded orbits under  $T^*$ . Then:

(i)  $T$  accepts an invariant  $m$  of integrable norm iff  $B$  is spanned by eigenvectors of  $T$  having eigenvalues of norm 1.

(ii) If  $T$  leaves  $m$  of integrable norm invariant, then the m.p.t. defined by  $T$  has complete point spectrum given by the subgroup of the unit circle group generated by the eigenvalues of  $T$ . Concerning the structure of  $T$  we add:

(iii) If  $T$  leaves  $m$  of integrable norm invariant then the eigenvalues of the operators  $T, T^*$  are countable, they coincide and they all have norm 1. Also the eigenvectors of  $T^*$  span  $B^*$  in its  $B$ -topology.

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Proof: (i+) Let  $\{x_i : i \in I\}$  be a countable collection of eigenvectors of  $T$  spanning  $B$  with eigenvalues  $\{c_i : i \in I\}$  of norm 1. We consider the torus group  $S = \prod C_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , where  $C_i$  is the unit circle group, equipped with the Haar measure, and the m.p.t.  $h: S \rightarrow S$  given by multiplication by the element  $(c_i : i \in I) \in S$ . The projection functions  $\varphi_i: S \rightarrow C_i$  are eigenfunctions of  $h$  with eigenvalues  $c_i$  correspondingly. The function  $X: S \rightarrow B$  defined by  $X(\cdot) = \sum \varphi_i(\cdot) x_i / 2^{|i|}$  is strongly integrable and satisfies  $X(h(\cdot)) = TX(\cdot)$ . Also the essential range of  $X$  spans  $B$ . Clearly the measure induced in  $B$  by  $X$  satisfies all the requirements.

For the rest of the proof we use the following construction. Assuming that  $T$  accepts an invariant  $m$  of integrable norm we consider the bounded linear operator  $K: L_\infty(B, m) \rightarrow B$  defined by the strong integral  $Kf = \int zf(z) dm$ . The adjoint  $K^*: B^* \rightarrow L_1 L_\infty^*$  is defined by  $K^*x^* = x^*(\cdot) \in L_1$ . We have

$$(*) \quad K^*T^* = VK^*$$

where  $V: L_1 \rightarrow L_1$  is the isometry induced by the m.p.t.  $T$ . We take now  $x^* \in B^*$  for which the orbit  $\{x^*, T^*x^*, T^{*2}x^*, \dots\}$  under  $T^*$  is norm bounded. Considering  $B^*$  with its  $B$ -topology we have that the closure  $C(x^*)$  of the orbit is compact and the restriction of  $K^*$  to  $C(x^*)$  is injective and continuous. Indeed  $K^*$  is injective because the support of  $m$  spans  $B$ . Also from [5] we have that  $K$  is compact and therefore the restriction of  $K^*$  to the norm bounded subset  $C(x^*)$  of  $B^*$  equipped with the  $B$ -topology is continuous [2, p.486]. Denoting by  $S$  the image of  $C(x^*)$  we have : (a)  $S$  is compact in the norm

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topology of  $L_1$  as the continuous image of a compact set.  
 (b)  $S$  is invariant under the isometry  $V$  by (\*) and the fact that  $C(x^*)$  is invariant under  $T^*$ , (c)  $X=K^{*-1}: S \rightarrow B^*$  is norm bounded and continuous in the  $B$ -topology because  $K^*: C(x^*) \rightarrow S$  is a homeomorphism. Also we have

$$(**) \quad X(V(.))=T^*X(.)$$

Having a compact metric space  $S$  and an isometry  $V: S \rightarrow S$  it is well known that there exists a Borel probability measure  $\mu$  with support  $S$  which is invariant under  $V$  and such that the measure preserving transformation so defined has complete point spectrum. In fact it is also ergodic because  $V: S \rightarrow S$  has a dense orbit by construction [1]. Let now  $\{c_i\}$  be the collection of eigenvalues of the m.p.t.  $V$  and  $\{f_i\}$  the corresponding collection of eigenfunctions with  $|f_i|=1$  a.e. The weak integrals

$$x_i^* = \int \bar{f}_i X d\mu$$

are well defined as elements of  $B^*$  in the sense that  $x_i^*(x) = \int \bar{f}_i X(x) d\mu$  for every  $x \in B$ . Also we have

$$T^*x_i^* = c_i x_i^* \quad \text{by } (**)$$

and finally we note that  $x^*$  lies in the subspace of  $B^*$  spanned by the collection  $\{x_i^*\}$ , in the  $B$ -topology. In particular we have, by the assumption on  $T^*$ , that  $B^*$  is spanned in the  $B$ -topology by the eigenvectors of  $T^*$ , which proves the last part of (iii). Let now  $\{x_j^*\}$  be the collection of eigenvectors of  $T^*$ . It is a total set of functionals by above and therefore their images under  $K^*$  form a spanning set for  $K^*B^* = \{x^*(.): x^* \in B^*\} \subset L_1$ . From the separability of  $B$  it follows that the collection  $K^*B^* \subset L_1$

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generates the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra of  $B$  [6,p.74]. Therefore so does the collection  $\{x_j(.):x_j \text{ eigenvector of } T^*\}$  which consists of eigenfunctions of the m.p.t.  $T$ . It follows now from Lemma 1 that the m.p.t.  $T$  has complete point spectrum generated by the eigenvalues of  $T^*$  which in particular must all have norm 1. This proves the first part of (ii).

(i $\rightarrow$ ) Assuming that  $T$  accepts an invariant  $m$  of integrable norm we have shown above that the m.p.t.  $T$  has c.p.s. Let  $\{\varphi_i(.)\}$  be the eigenfunctions of the m.p.t.  $T$  in  $L_\infty(B,m)$ . We define the strong integrals

$$x_i = \int \bar{\varphi}(z) z dm \quad (=K\bar{\varphi}_i)$$

We have that  $\{x_i\}$  are eigenvectors of  $T$  having eigenvalues of norm 1. Also they span  $B$  because the functions  $\{\varphi_i(.)\}$   $L_\infty$  form a total set of functionals for  $L_1$  and  $x^*(x_i)=0$  for all  $x_i$  implies  $x^*(.)=0$   $\mu$ -a.e. which implies  $x^*=0$  by the injectivity of  $K^*$ .

(iii) Since the eigenvectors of  $T$  span  $B$  and those of  $T^*$  span  $B^*$  in the  $B$ -topology it follows easily that the eigenvalues of  $T, T^*$  must coincide, and also they are all of norm 1 because those of  $T^*$  are so. This also proves the last part of (ii). Q.E.D.

Corollary If  $T:B \rightarrow B$  has the property that all  $x^* \in B^*$  have bounded orbits under  $T^*$  then Theorem 2 holds without the condition of integrability on the norm.

Proof: The assumption is equivalent to the assumption that the norms  $\|T^i\|$ ,  $i=0,1,2,\dots$ , are uniformly bounded. In this case we can assume w.l.o.g. that

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$T$  is a contraction by considering if necessary the equivalent norm  $\|x\|' = \sup\{\|T^i x\| : i=0,1,2,\dots\}$ . If now  $T$  is a contraction and it accepts an invariant measure then the closed balls  $B_a = \{x : \|x\| \leq a\}$  are  $m$ -invariant under  $T$  in the sense that  $m(T^{-1}(B_a) \Delta B_a) = 0$ . Indeed assume that for some  $A \subset B_a$  with positive measure we have  $m(T^{-1}A \cap B) = 0$ . Then we have  $m(T^{-i}A \cap A) = 0$  for all  $i=1,2,\dots$ , which contradicts the measure preserving property of  $T$ . It follows that we can consider the restriction of  $m$  to the sets  $B_a$  which give measures of integrable norm in the subspaces spanned by  $B_a$ , and we can apply Theorem 2. Q.E.D.

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§3. In this section we apply Theorem 2 to an example and we pose a problem related to the condition of norm integrability:

We consider a probability space  $(S, \Sigma, \mu)$  and a non-singular transition probability  $P(\cdot, E)$  with the property  $P\mu(E) \leq c\mu(E)$  for some  $c > 0$  and all  $E \in \Sigma$ , where  $P\mu(E) = \int P(\cdot, E) d\mu(\cdot)$ . We note that we always have a measure equivalent to  $\mu$  for which this happens, e.g. the measure  $\mu' = \sum_0^\infty P^n \mu / 2^n$  where  $P^n \mu = P(P^{n-1} \mu)$ . If this condition is satisfied then  $P$  induces in each complex  $L_p(S, \Sigma, \mu)$ ,  $1 \leq p < \infty$ , a bounded linear operator denoted also by  $P$ , where  $Pf(\cdot) = \int f(s) dP(\cdot, ds)$ . Then every essentially bounded  $f \in L_p$  has bounded orbit under  $P$  in  $L_p$ , because  $P$  is a contraction in  $L_\infty$ . We can therefore apply Theorem 2 to the adjoint  $T = P^*: L_q \rightarrow L_q$ , for  $1/p + 1/q = 1$ . For simplicity we will apply Theorem 2 to the case where the transition probability is induced by a nonsingular point transformation  $h: S \rightarrow S$  in the sense that  $P(\cdot, E) = 1_E(h(\cdot))$  where  $1_E$  is the characteristic function. We note however that solutions obtained would be the same for the general case of a transition probability. For convenience we assume also that  $h$  is invertible as a m.p.t. and ergodic. The operator  $T = P^*$  is now given by  $Tf = f(h^{-1}(\cdot))\varphi(\cdot)$  where the R-N derivative  $\varphi(\cdot) = d\mu h^{-1} / d\mu$  is essentially bounded by assumption. Assume now that  $T = P^*$  accepts an invariant  $m$  of integrable norm whose support spans  $BCL_q$  for a fixed  $q$ ,  $1 \leq q < \infty$  where  $B$  is also assumed separable if  $q = \infty$ . Then  $B$  is spanned by  $\{f_i\} \subset L_q$ , where

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$$f_i(h^{-1}(\cdot))\varphi(\cdot) = c_i f_i(\cdot), \quad |c_i| = 1, \quad i=0,1,2,\dots$$

In particular we have  $|f_i|(h^{-1}(\cdot))\varphi(\cdot) = |f_i|(\cdot)$ . We set  $\chi(\cdot) = |f_0|(\cdot)$  and  $d\mu' = \chi(\cdot)d\mu$ . By nonsingularity of  $h$  we have  $\varphi(\cdot) > 0$   $\mu$ -a.e. and then by the ergodicity of  $h$  we have  $\chi(\cdot) > 0$   $\mu$ -a.e. Assuming also  $\chi(\cdot)$  properly normalized we have that  $\mu'$  is a probability measure equivalent to  $\mu$  and clearly invariant under  $h$ . We also have that  $\bar{f}_i/\chi$  are eigenfunctions of  $h$  having eigenvalues  $c_i$ . It is now clear how we can construct all solutions  $(B,T)$  for our example. We start with an ergodic invertible m.p.t.  $h: (S, \Sigma, \mu') \rightarrow (S, \Sigma, \mu')$  and we choose a positive function  $\chi(\cdot)$  such that

$$(*) \quad \int \chi^{-1}(\cdot) d\mu' = 1 \text{ and } \chi(h(\cdot))/\chi(\cdot) = \varphi(\cdot) \text{ is ess. bd.}$$

We then set  $d\mu = \chi^{-1}d\mu'$ . If  $\{g_i\}$  are the eigenfunctions of  $h$  we set  $f_i = g_i\chi$ . These are the eigenfunctions of  $T=P^*$ . The solutions  $(B,T)$  are now given by the invariant subspaces of the space spanned by  $\{f_i\}$  in  $L_q$ . Naturally even if the collection  $\{g_i\}$  is nonempty, solutions exist iff  $\{f_i\} \subset L_q$ , which since  $|g_i|(\cdot) = \text{constant a.e.}$  is equivalent to the condition  $\chi \in L_q(\mu)$ , where  $\chi(\cdot)$  satisfies (\*). This condition is always satisfied if  $q=1$  because of (\*) while for  $q>1$  it becomes

$$(**) \quad \begin{cases} \int \chi^{q-1} d\mu' < \infty & \text{for } q>1 \\ \chi \text{ is ess. bd.} & \text{for } q=\infty \end{cases}$$

Thus the solution depends on the eigenvalues of  $h$  and also on the integrability properties (\*\*) of functions  $\chi(\cdot)$  satisfying (\*).

Remark. The interest in the conditions above stems mainly from the following observation. Calling an ergodic

m.p.t.  $h$  of type A if the condition  $\chi(h(\cdot))/\chi(\cdot)$  ess. bd. implies  $\chi d\mu' < \infty$ , where  $\chi(\cdot) > 0$ , we have: "If  $h$  is of type A then any solution  $X(\cdot): S \rightarrow B$  of the eigenoperator equation  $X(h(\cdot)) = TX(\cdot)$  is integrable". While we can construct ergodic m.p.t. that are not of type A, e.g. cartesian product of a Bernoulli shift with irrational rotation on the circle, we do not know if any type A transformations exist. An equivalent condition is the following: "For  $A \in \mathcal{E}$  with  $\mu'(A) > 0$  we construct the sets  $A_n = \{s: s, \dots, h^{n-1}(s) \notin A, h^n(s) \in A\}$ . Then  $h$  is of type A iff  $\mu'(A_n) \rightarrow 0$  faster than any power". We do not know whether this is true even for irrational rotations on the unit circle. At any rate for ergodic m.p.t. of type A that are defined by linear operators we can use the constructions in the proof of Theorem 2, because the norm function is necessarily integrable.

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