

## On the Entropy Numbers of a Bounded Linear Operator and Its Conjugate

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### Abstract

We recall the problem of existence of some positive constant  $L$  such that the inequalities  $e_n(T^*) \leq L e_n(T)$  and  $e_n(T) \leq L e_n(T^*)$  hold. We show that if  $\|I - A\| < 1$  then  $e_n(T^*) \leq 4\|T\|\|T^{-1}\|e_n(T)$  and  $e_n(T) \leq 4e_n\|T\|\|T^{-1}\|e_n(T^*)$ .

### INTRODUCTION

Recall that for  $T$  a bounded linear operator on the Banach space  $X$  to the Banach space  $Y$ ,  $n$  a natural number, the  $n$ th entropy number of  $T$  is defined by  $e_n(T) = \inf\{\varepsilon > 0 : \exists y_i, i = 1, \dots, 2^{n-1}, T(B_X) \subset \cup\{y_i + \varepsilon B_Y : 1 \leq i \leq 2^{n-1}\}\}$ . Here,  $B_X$  stands for the closed unit ball of  $X$  and analogously for  $B_Y$ . We consider Banach spaces  $X, Y$  and we write  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  for  $T$  a (bounded linear) operator on  $X$  to  $Y$ . In this paper we obtain the inequality in the Abstract.

### Preliminaries

The entropy numbers of  $T$  give information about the compactness of the operator. In fact,  $X$  being a Banach space it follows that  $T$  is compact if and only if it is totally bounded that is, if and only if  $e_n(T) \rightarrow 0$ .

Also recall that in the Banach space setting, the conjugate of  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  is the operator  $T^* : Y^* \rightarrow X^*$  defined by  $\langle T^* y^*, x \rangle = \langle y^*, Tx \rangle, y^* \in Y^*, x \in X$ .  $\langle x^*, x \rangle$  for the duality. A problem that has been considered for long is the connection between

$e_n(T)$  and  $e_n(T^*)$  namely, if there exist constants  $C$  and  $L$  such that  $e_m(T^*) \leq Ce_n(T)$  and  $e_n(T) \leq Le_n(T^*)$ . You can find in (2) that for  $T$  a compact operator on the Hilbert space  $H$  to  $H$  it holds that  $e_n(T) = e_n(T^*)$ .

We own to Kuratowski the concepts

The ball measure of non-compactness of the bounded subset  $A$  of the Banach space  $X$  is  $\psi_X(A) = \inf\{\delta > 0 : \exists x_i, i = 1, \dots, n, A \subset \cup\{B(x_i, \delta) : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ . Clearly that  $A$  is compact if and only if  $\psi_X(A) = 0$ . For  $X$  and  $Y$  Banach spaces and an operator  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  we say that  $T$  is a  $k$ -ball contraction if and only if for every bounded subset  $B$  of  $X$  we have

$(k(T)) \equiv \psi_Y(T(B)) \leq k\psi_X(B)$ . We say that  $\beta(T) = \inf\{k > 0 : k(T)\}$  is the ball measure of non compactness of  $T$ . Clearly that  $T$  is compact if and only if  $\beta(T) = 0$ .

### Remark 1.1

For  $X$  and  $Y$  Banach spaces,  $T$  a bounded linear operator on  $X$  to  $Y$  it holds that  $\lim e_n(T) = \beta(T)$ .

**Proof:** This follows easily from the definitions.

### Remark 1.2

$H$  being a Hilbert space and  $T$  a bounded linear operator on  $H$  to  $H$  it holds that  $\beta(T) = \beta(T^*)$ .

Following Edmunds and Evans in (1) for  $X$  a Banach space,  $X$  real with  $\dim X = m$  and  $I : X \rightarrow X$  the identity operator it holds that  $1 \leq 2^{(n-1)/m} e_n(I) \leq 4$ .

Following these authors, Gordon, König and Schütt (3) have proved, using work by Carl that for  $X$  and  $Y$  of type 2, there exist constants  $c$  and  $d$  depending only on  $X$  and  $Y$  such that for all  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ,

$$d^{-1}e_{[nc]}(T) \leq e_n(T^*) \leq de_{[nc]}(T), \text{ where } [nc] \text{ stands for the integer part of } nc.$$

Edmunds and Tylli have shown in (2) that for general Banach spaces and all natural numbers  $k$  and  $n$ ,

$$e_n(T^*) \leq 2(1 + c(k, 2^n))e_n(T) + \|T\|c(k, 2^n) \text{ and}$$

$$e_n(T) \leq 4(1 + c(k, 2^n))e_n(T^*) + 2\|T\|c(k, 2^n) \text{ where}$$

$$c(k, m) = \min\{1, 2(2^{(k-1)/m} - 1)^{-1}\}.$$

Also recall in (5) that we say the sequence  $(x_n)$  in the real Banach space  $X$  is a Schauder basis (a basis) of  $X$  if and only if there exists a scalar sequence  $(\lambda_n)$  for each  $x$  in  $X$  such that,  $x = \sum_n \lambda_n x_n$  in the sense that  $\|x - \sum_{n=1}^N \lambda_n x_n\| \rightarrow_{N \rightarrow \infty} 0$ .

**Remark 1.3**

The natural projections  $P_N \sum_n \lambda_n x_n = \sum_{n=1}^N \lambda_n x_n$  are bounded with  $\sup\{\|P_N\| : N = 1, 2, \dots\} = \|P\|$ .

**The Results**

In what follows we consider first the case where  $T$  is an invertible bounded linear operator on the Banach space  $X$  to itself.

**Theorem 2.1**

Letting  $X$  be a real  $N$ -dimensional Banach space and  $T : X \rightarrow X$  be an invertible operator it holds that  $e_n(T^*) \leq 4\|T\|\|T^{-1}\|e_n(T)$  and  $e_n(T) \leq 4\|T\|\|T^{-1}\|e_n(T^*)$ .

**Proof:** We have that  $T^*$  is invertible with  $(T^*)^{-1} = (T^{-1})^*$  by (6) (p. 227). Using the above inequalities we find that  $2^{(1-n)/m} e_n(T^{-1}T) \leq 4\|T^{-1}\|e_m(T)$ . Also letting  $I$  stand for the identity operator on  $X$  to  $X$  we have

$$e_n(T^*) = e_n(T^* I^*) \leq \|T^*\|e_n(I^*) \leq \|T^*\|4.2^{-(n-1)/m} \text{ thus}$$

$$e_n(T^*) \leq 4\|T^*\|\|T^{-1}\|e_n(T) = 4\|T^{-1}\|\|T\|e_n(T) \text{ where we apply Theorem 8.2, p. 230 in}$$

(6). Analogously, we obtain that  $e_n(T) \leq 4\|T\|\|T^{-1}\|e_n(T^*)$  and the theorem follows as wished.

Also recall in (6) that for an operator  $T : X \rightarrow X$  such that  $\|I - T\| < 1$ ,  $X$  a Banach space it holds that there exists the bounded linear inverse operator  $T^{-1} : X \rightarrow X$ .

**Lemma 2.2**

For  $T$  and  $S$  bounded linear operators on  $X$  to  $X$  it holds that  $|e_n(T) - e_n(S)| \leq \|T - S\|$ .

**Proof:** This follows easily from the definitions.

$X$  having a basis  $(x_n)$  and given an operator  $T: X \rightarrow X$  it holds that  $\|P_N Tx - Tx\| \geq \|T\| \|(I - P_N)x\| \rightarrow_{N \rightarrow \infty} 0$  for each  $x$  in  $X$ . Also,  $TP_N = P_N T$  and  $\|T(I - P_N)\| \leq \|T\| \|(I - P_N)\| \rightarrow_{N \rightarrow \infty} 0$ . This follows by (6), just after Theorem 1.2, pp. 190-1.

### Theorem 2.3

For  $T$  a bounded linear operator on the real infinite dimensional Banach space  $X$  to  $X$  such that  $\|I - T\| < 1$  it holds that

$$e_n(T^*) \leq 4\|T\| \|T^{-1}\| e_n(T) \text{ and } e_n(T) \leq 4\|T\| \|T^{-1}\| e_n(T^*), n = 1, 2, \dots$$

**Proof:** This follows from theorem 2.1 and the above, since we find that  $e_n(T^* : X \rightarrow X) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} e_n(T : R(P_N) \rightarrow X) \leq \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} 4\|T\| \|T^{-1}\| e_n(T : X \rightarrow X)$  and analogously interchanging  $T$  and  $T^*$ .

### ACCKNOWLEDGEMENT

Este trabalho é financiado por Fundos Nacionais através da FCT-Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia no âmbito do projecto PEst-OE/MAT/UIO117/2014.

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