

## Commuting Well bounded Operators on Hilbert Space

**Ms. Rajeshree Nanaware**

*Pratibha College of Commerce & Computer Studies,  
Chinchwad, Pune-411019, India.  
Email:rajeshreenanaware.aug1@gmail.com*

**Dr. S. M. Padhye**

*Head Of the Department, RLT College, Akola-444001, India.  
Email: rltmaths@rediffmail.com*

### Abstract

The sum & the product of two commuting well-bounded operators on a Hilbert space is not well-bounded. On the other hand, it is shown in a positive direction that, if one of the two well bounded operators is in fact a scalar-type spectral operator, then their sum and product are well-bounded.

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### Introduction

The theory of scalar-type spectral operators was initiated by N. Dunford[1] in order to generalize the theory of self-adjoint operators to the operators on general Banach spaces..These operators are those which admit an integral representation with respect to a countably additive spectral measure and therefore a functional calculus for bounded measurable functions on their spectrum. In particular the spectral expansion of such an operator converges unconditionally.

Well-bounded operators, introduced by D. R. Smart[2] A bounded linear operator  $T$  on a complex reflexive Banach space is said to be well-bounded if it is possible to choose a compact interval  $J = [a, b]$  and a positive constant  $M$  such that

$$\|p(T)\| \leq M\{\|p\|_J + \text{var}_J p\} \quad (1)$$

for every complex polynomial  $p$ , where  $\|p\|_J$  denotes  $\sup\{|p(t)| : t \in J\}$ .

The distinction between these classes is that the spectral expansions for a scalar type operator are of an unconditional nature while those for well-bounded operators corresponds to conditional decomposition of the Banach space. They are of interest principally because they admit (and in fact are characterised by) an integral representation similar to, but in general weaker than, the integral representation of a self-adjoint operator on a Hilbert space.  $T$  is well-bounded if it is a scalar type spectral operator with real spectrum.

The sum & the product of two commuting well-bounded operators on a Hilbert space is not well-bounded but, if one of the two well bounded operators is in fact a scalar-type spectral operator, then their sum and product are well-bounded.

**Notation:**

Given a complex Hilbert space  $H$ ,  $B(H)$  denotes the set of all bounded linear operators on  $H$ ,  $I$  is the identity operator on  $H$ , and  $\sigma(T)$  is the spectrum of an element  $T$  of  $B(H)$ . The strong operator topology on  $B(H)$  is denoted by  $s$  and, given a sequence  $\{T_n\}$  in  $B(H)$ , we write

$$T = s\text{-}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T_n$$

to mean that the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T_n$  is  $s$ -convergent in  $B(H)$ , with sum  $T$ .  $\mathbb{R}$  is the set of real numbers and  $P$  is the set of all polynomials in a single variable with complex coefficients.

**An example**

The example of two commuting well-bounded operators  $S$  and  $T$  on a Hilbert space such that neither  $S+T$  nor  $ST$  is well-bounded is based on Example in (4) which sequences  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  in the space  $l_2$  are constructed having the following properties:

- (a)  $\{x_n\}$  is a (conditional) basis of  $l_2$  ;
- (b)  $(x_n, y_m) = \delta_{nm}$  for  $n, m = 1, 2, \dots$ ,
- (c)  $(e_{2n-1}, y_{2m-1}) = \delta_{nm}$  for  $n, m = 1, 2, \dots$ ;
- (d)  $\|\sum_{j=1}^n n^{-1/2} x_{2j-1}\| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

where  $e_1, e_2, \dots$  is the usual orthonormal basis of  $l_2$  and  $\delta_{nm}$  is the Kronecker delta.

It follows from (b) that the coefficient functional associated with the element  $x_m$  of the basis  $\{x_n\}$  is given by  $x \rightarrow (x, y_m)$  ( $x \in l_2$ ).

Defining  $P_n \in B(l_2)$  by  $P_n x = (x, y_n)x_n$  ( $x \in l_2$ ). for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ,

it is thus seen that each  $P_n$  is a projection, as  $P_n^2x = P_n(P_n(x)) =$

$$\begin{aligned} &= P_n(x, y_n)x_n \\ &= (x, y_n) P_n x_n \\ &= (x, y_n)x_n \\ &= P_n \end{aligned}$$

and  $P_n P_m = P_n(x, y_m)x_m$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (x, y_m) P_n x_m \\ &= 0 \quad \text{for } (n \neq m), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$I = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P_n \tag{2}$$

Also, if  $z_n = n^{-1/2} (e_1 + e_2 + \dots + e_{2n-1})$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \|z_n\|^2 &= n^{-1} (e_1 + e_2 + \dots + e_{2n-1})^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \cdot n \\ &= 1, \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $z_n$  is a unit vector and so, using (c)

$$\begin{aligned} \|\sum_{j=1}^n P_{2j-1}\| &\geq \|\sum_{j=1}^n P_{2j-1} z_n\| = \\ &= \|(z_n, y_{2j-1}) x_{2j-1}\| \\ &= \|n^{-1/2} (e_1 + e_2 + \dots + e_{2n-1}), y_{2j-1} x_{2j-1}\| \\ &= \|\sum_{j=1}^n n^{-1/2} x_{2j-1}\| \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by (d),

$$\|\sum_{j=1}^n P_{2j-1}\| \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

By (2) and the principle of uniform boundedness, the partial sums of the series  $\sum_{j=1}^n P_n$  are bounded in norm, and so (3) implies that

$$\|\sum_{j=1}^n P_{2j}\| \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

We will use the following lemmas from [3] in the proof of the theorem.

**Lemma 1:** Let  $\{\lambda_n\}$  be a monotonic bounded sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n P_n$  converges strongly in  $B(l_2)$  and its sum is a well-bounded operator.

**Lemma 2:** Let  $T$  be a well-bounded operator on  $H$  implemented by  $(M, J)$ , let  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , and let  $K$  be a compact interval such that  $\lambda + t, \lambda t \in K$  for all  $t \in J$ . Then  $\lambda I + T$  and  $\lambda T$  are well-bounded operators, and are implemented by  $(M, K)$ .

**Lemma 3:** Let  $T$  be a well-bounded operator on  $H$  implemented by  $(M, J)$ , let  $S$  be a self-adjoint operator on  $H$  with finite spectrum such that  $ST = TS$ , and let  $K$  be a compact interval such that  $\lambda + t, \lambda t \in K$  whenever  $t \in J$  and  $\lambda \in \sigma(S)$ . Then  $S+T$  and  $ST$  are well-bounded operators, and are implemented by  $(M, K)$ .

**Theorem A :** If  $T$  is well-bounded then for any real number  $\mu$  there is a unique bounded projection  $P_\mu$  such that  $P_\mu(\beta)$  is the space of eigenvectors of  $\mu$ . where  $\beta$  is reflexive banach space.

Define the sequences  $\{\lambda_n\}$  and  $\{\mu_n\}$  by putting  $\lambda_n = (n+1)/n$ ,  $\mu_{2n-1} = \mu_{2n} = (2n-1)/2n$

For  $n=1,2,\dots$  and let  $S = s - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n P_n$ ,  $T = s - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu_n P_n$

Then  $S$  and  $T$  are well-bounded operators on  $l_2$  by lemma 1, and clearly  $ST=TS$ . We show that neither  $S+T$  nor  $ST$  is well-bounded.

Suppose that  $S+T$  is well-bounded. Then, by THEOREM A there is a unique bounded projection  $Q$  mapping  $l_2$  onto the eigenspace

$$\{ x \in l_2 (S+T)x = 2x \}$$

such that  $Q$  belongs to the bicommutant of  $S+T$ . In particular,  $QP_n = P_n Q$  for all  $n$  &

$$\lambda_n + \mu_n = 2 \text{ (n even)}, \lambda_n + \mu_n > 2 \text{ (n odd)},$$

It is easily verified that  $QP_n = P_n$  (n even),  $QP_n = 0$  (n odd).

Since  $I = s - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} QP_n = s - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P_{2n}$

Therefore the partial sums of the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P_{2n}$  are bounded in norm by the principle of uniform boundedness, contradicting (4). Hence  $S+T$  is not well-bounded.

Since  $\lambda_n \mu_n = 1$  (n odd) and  $\lambda_n \mu_n < 1$  (n even), a similar argument shows that  $ST$  is not well-bounded, for otherwise (3) would be contradicted.

Throughout this section, let  $H$  be a complex Hilbert space. Given a well bounded operator  $T$  on  $H$ , we say that  $T$  is implemented by  $(M, J)$  if  $M$  is a positive constant and a compact interval such that (1) holds for all  $p$ .

**Theorem.** Let  $T$  be a well-bounded operator on  $H$ , and let  $S$  be a scalar-type spectral operator on  $H$  with real spectrum such that  $ST = TS$ . Then  $S+T$  and  $ST$  is well-bounded.

**Proof.** Since  $S$  has real spectrum, then  $S$  is similar to a self-adjoint operator. Furthermore, it is easily seen that the property of well-boundedness is invariant under a similarity transformation. Consequently, we may assume without loss of generality that  $S$  is self-adjoint.

Let  $T$  be implemented by  $(M, J)$  and let  $K$  be a compact interval such that  $\lambda + t, \lambda - t \in K$  whenever  $t \in J$  and  $\lambda \in \sigma(S)$ . By the spectral theorem,

$$S = \int \lambda F(d\lambda)$$

for some spectral measure  $F(\cdot)$  on  $H$  with support  $\sigma(S)$ , and  $T$  commutes  $F(\cdot)$  since it commutes with  $S$ . By approximating the integrand in this integral by step functions, a standard argument gives the existence of a sequence  $\{S_n\}$  of self-adjoint operators, each with finite spectrum contained in  $\sigma(S)$  and each commuting with  $T$ , such that

$$\|S - S_n\| \rightarrow 0.$$

Let  $p \in P$ , By Lemma 3,

$$\|p(S_n + T)\| \leq \{\|p\|_k + \text{var}_K p\} \text{ for all } n.$$

$$\text{Letting } n \rightarrow \infty, \text{ we obtain } \|p(S+T)\| \leq M \{\|p\|_k + \text{var}_K p\},$$

This shows that  $S+T$  is well-bounded. The well-boundedness of  $ST$  is obtained similarly.

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