

The first operators we'll consider will be quite friendly. They're the compact operators. (K+F calls them "completely continuous")

defn: Let E and E_1 be Banach spaces.

$A: E \rightarrow E_1$ a bounded linear functional.

Then A is compact if $[AB_1]$ is compact in E_1 . (B_1 is the unit ball around $\vec{0}$). Equivalently,

$[AB]$ is compact for every bounded set B .

ex: if A has finite rank (range A finite dim.)

Then A is a compact operator.

lemma: Assume $\{A_n\} \in \mathcal{L}(E, E_1)$ are compact and $\|A_n - A\|_{\mathcal{L}(E, E_1)} \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Then

A is compact.

Note this theorem will be very valuable because a standard way to prove that a particular operator is compact is to show it's the limit of a sequence of (well-chosen) compact operators.

proof: to show $[AB_1]$ is compact, we show that AB_1 is totally bounded.

(Recall that a set is compact in a metric space if it is totally bounded & complete. So AB_1 totally bounded $\Rightarrow [AB_1]$ compact.)

i.e. we need to construct an ε -net for AB_1 .

fix $\varepsilon > 0$ and $x, y \in B_1$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|Ax - Ay\|_{E_1} &\leq \|Ax - A_n x\|_{E_1} + \|A_n x - A_n y\|_{E_1} + \|A_n y - Ay\|_{E_1} \\ &\leq \|A - A_n\|_{\mathcal{L}(E, E_1)} + \|A_n x - A_n y\|_{E_1} \\ &\quad + \|A - A_n\|_{\mathcal{L}(E, E_1)} \text{ since } \|x\|_E, \|y\|_E \leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

take n suff large that $\|A - A_n\|_{\mathcal{L}(E, E_1)} < \varepsilon/3$.

Then for this n , choose a finite $\varepsilon/3$ net for $A_n B_1$
 $\{A_n x_1, A_n x_2, \dots, A_n x_r\}$.

then $\{Ax_1, \dots, Ax_r\}$ is a finite ε -net for A .

corollary: Let E be a Hilbert space w/
 orthonormal basis $\{e_n\}_1^\infty$. Define $A: E \rightarrow E$
 by $Ae_n = \lambda_n e_n$. Then A is compact
 if and only if $\lambda_n \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

proof:

(\Leftarrow) assume $\lambda_n \rightarrow 0$. Then for each n we define

$$A_n: E \rightarrow E \text{ by } A_n\left(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha_i e_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \lambda_i e_i$$

A_n has finite rank $\Rightarrow A_n$ is compact.

Now further, $\|A_n - A\|_{\mathcal{L}(E; E)} = \sup \{|\lambda_i| \mid i > n\}$

$\Rightarrow A_n \rightarrow A \Rightarrow A$ is compact.

(\Rightarrow) Assume $\lambda_i \not\rightarrow 0$. Then $\exists \varepsilon > 0$ s.t. that

$S = \{i \mid |\lambda_i| > \varepsilon\}$ is infinite set.

$$\Rightarrow \text{if } i, j \in S \text{ then } \|Ae_i - Ae_j\|_E^2 = |\lambda_i|^2 + |\lambda_j|^2 \geq 2\varepsilon^2$$

$\Rightarrow \{Ae_i\}_{i \in S}$ is an infinite set w/ no convergent
 subsequence $\Rightarrow [AB_i]$ is not compact.

Theorem: Let X be a compact space with a finite measure μ . If K is continuous on $X \times X$ then the integral operator

$$T_K f(x) := \int_X K(x,y) f(y) d\mu(y)$$

defines a compact operator $T_K: L^2(X) \rightarrow L^2(X)$.

Okay... we haven't done measure theory yet. And I haven't defined $L^2(X)$ yet. So for the

moment read "d y " instead of "d $\mu(y)$ " and

for $L^2(X)$ read "the completion of the space of continuous functions on $[0,1]$, where the completion is taken with respect to the L^2 -metric."

Lemma: The set of linear combinations of separable functions is dense in $C(X \times X)$. i.e. given $K \in C(X \times X)$ and

$\epsilon > 0$, $\exists \{\phi_i\}_{i=1}^n, \{\psi_i\}_{i=1}^n \in C(X)$ so that

$$|K(x,y) - \sum_{i=1}^n \phi_i(x) \psi_i(y)| < \epsilon$$

proof: Mimic proof of Stone-Weierstrass.

Proof of theorem: First, assume K is of the form $K(x,y) = \sum_i \phi_i(x) \psi_i(y)$ $\phi_i, \psi_i \in C(X)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } T_K f(x) &= \int_X \left(\sum_i \phi_i(x) \psi_i(y) \right) f(y) d\mu(y) \\ &= \sum_i \phi_i(x) \int_X \psi_i(y) f(y) d\mu(y) \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow range (T_K) is finite dimensional.

$\Rightarrow T_K$ is a compact operator.

Now, by lemma, given $K \in C(X, X) \ni \{K_n\}$ of the above form so that $\|K - K_n\|_{L^\infty(X, X)} \rightarrow 0$.

We want to show this implies

$$\|T_K - T_{K_n}\|_{\mathcal{L}(E, E)} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{since then}$$

T_K is the limit of compact operators and is then compact.

$$\|T_K f - T_{K_n} f\|_{L^2}^2 = \int_X |T_K f(x) - T_{K_n} f(x)|^2 d\mu(x)$$

$$= \int_X \int_X (K(x,y) - K_n(x,y)) f(y) d\mu(y) d\mu(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \|T_K f - T_{K_n} f\|_{L^2}^2 &\leq \|K - K_n\|_{L^\infty}^2 \int_X \int_X |f(y)|^2 d\mu(y) d\mu(x) \\ &= \|K - K_n\|_{L^\infty}^2 \text{mass}(X) \int_X |f(y)|^2 d\mu(y) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|T_K f - T_{K_n} f\|_{L^2} \leq \sqrt{\text{mass}(X)} \|K - K_n\|_{L^\infty} \|f\|_{L^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|T_K - T_{K_n}\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^2, L^2)} \leq \sqrt{\text{mass}(X)} \|K - K_n\|_{L^\infty}$$

and since $\|K - K_n\|_{L^\infty} \rightarrow 0$ we have $T_{K_n} \rightarrow T_K \Rightarrow T_K$ compact. //

The above proof works for any $L^p(X)$ $1 \leq p < \infty$.

Defn: Let E be a Hilbert space w/ orthonormal basis $\{e_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$. If $A \in \mathcal{L}(E, E)$ then A is a Hilbert-Schmidt operator if

$$\sum_{i=1}^\infty \sum_{j=1}^\infty |\langle Ae_j, e_i \rangle|^2 < \infty$$

Yikes! That definition depends on the basis $\{e_n\}_1^\infty$. We don't like coordinate-dependent properties. Can A be H-S wrt one basis and not Hilbert-Schmidt with respect to another?

No.

Lemma: Let $\{e_n\}_1^\infty$ and $\{f_n\}_1^\infty$ be two orthonormal bases for E . Then

$$\sum_{i,j} |\langle Ae_j, e_i \rangle|^2 = \sum_{i,j} |\langle Af_j, f_i \rangle|^2$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_j \sum_i |\langle Ae_j, e_i \rangle|^2 &= \sum_j \left(\sum_i |\langle Ae_j, e_i \rangle|^2 \right) \\ &= \sum_j \|Ae_j\|^2 \\ &= \sum_j \left(\sum_i |\langle Ae_j, f_i \rangle|^2 \right) \\ &= \sum_j \left(\sum_i |\langle e_j, A^* f_i \rangle|^2 \right) \\ &= \sum_i \left(\sum_j |\langle e_j, A^* f_i \rangle|^2 \right) = \sum_i \|A^* f_i\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i,j} |\langle Ae_j, e_i \rangle|^2 = \sum_i \|A^* f_i\|^2$$

the LHS is indep of $\{f_n\} \Rightarrow$ RHS indep of $\{f_n\}$

the RHS is indep of $\{e_n\} \Rightarrow$ LHS indep of $\{e_n\}$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \sum_{i,j} |\langle Ae_j, e_i \rangle|^2 &= \text{same \# (or } \infty) \\ &= \sum_{i,j} |\langle Af_j, f_i \rangle|^2 \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

defn: if A is Hilbert-Schmidt then we define the Hilbert-Schmidt norm of A :

$$\|A\|_2 = \sqrt{\sum_{i,j} |\langle Ae_j, e_i \rangle|^2}$$

We've just shown that A Hilbert-Schmidt $\Rightarrow A^*$ is Hilbert-Schmidt. and $\|A\|_2 = \|A^*\|_2$.

Q: How does the H-S norm relate to the operator norm?

lemma: if A is Hilbert-Schmidt then

$$\|A\|_{\mathcal{L}(E,E)} \leq \|A\|_2$$

proof: Let $\{e_n\}$ be an orthonormal basis of E .

$$\text{Let } x \in E. \Rightarrow x = \sum_1^{\infty} c_n e_n$$

$$\Rightarrow \|Ax\|_E^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |\langle Ax, e_i \rangle|^2$$

$$= \sum_i |\langle A \sum_j c_j e_j, e_i \rangle|^2$$

$$= \sum_i |\sum_j c_j \langle Ae_j, e_i \rangle|^2$$

$$\leq \sum_i \left(\sum_j |c_j| |\langle Ae_j, e_i \rangle| \right)^2$$

$$\leq \sum_i \left(\sum_j |c_j|^2 \right) \left(\sum_j |\langle Ae_j, e_i \rangle|^2 \right)$$

$$= \sum_j |c_j|^2 \sum_i \sum_j |\langle Ae_j, e_i \rangle|^2$$

$$= \|x\|_E^2 \|A\|_2^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \|Ax\|_E \leq \|A\|_2 \|x\|_E$$

$$\Rightarrow \|A\|_{\mathcal{L}(E,E)} \leq \|A\|_2 //$$

Theorem: $A: E \rightarrow E$, E Banach spaces.

If A is Hilbert-Schmidt then A is compact.

Proof: Let $\{e_n\}$ be an orthonormal basis

For each n , define $A_n \in \mathcal{L}(E, E)$ by

$$A_n(x) = \sum_1^n c_j A e_j.$$

As before, $\text{range } A_n = \text{finite dimensional}$.

$\Rightarrow A_n$ is compact operator. Also,

$A - A_n$ is Hilbert-Schmidt and

$$\|A - A_n\|_2^2 = \sum_{n+1}^{\infty} \|A e_i\|^2 < \infty$$

Since $\sum_1^{\infty} \|A e_i\|^2 < \infty$ we know the tail $\rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$

$\Rightarrow \|A - A_n\|_2 \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ And since

$$\|A - A_n\|_{\mathcal{L}(E, E)} \leq \|A - A_n\|_2 \quad \text{we know}$$

$A_n \rightarrow A$ as operators $\Rightarrow A$ is compact. //

Proposition: Let X be a measure space and $K \in L^2(X \times X)$. Then $T_K: L^2(X) \rightarrow L^2(X)$ defined by

$$T_K f(x) = \int_X K(x,y) f(y) d\mu(y)$$

is Hilbert-Schmidt, hence compact.

Proof: trivial once we know that $L^2(X)$ is a Hilbert space. Which it is...

Proposition: Let E, E_1 , and E_2 be Banach spaces and

$$A: E \rightarrow E_1, \quad B: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$$

be bounded linear operators. Then

$B \circ A$ is compact if A is compact or

B is compact.

proof: simple exercise from defn of compact.

Recall that if E is finite dimensional

then $A: E \rightarrow E$ self adjoint

$\Rightarrow A$ has an orthonormal basis of eigenvectors

Note: in infinite dimensions, \exists self adjoint

bounded operators that have no eigenvalues.

For example, take

$E = L^2([0,1]) =$ completion of continuous functions on $[0,1]$ with respect to L^2 metric

define $M_x: E \rightarrow E$ by

$$(M_x f)(x) = x f(x) \quad (\text{multiply } f(x) \text{ by } x.)$$

M_x is self adjoint. And if $\lambda \neq 0$ is an eigenvalue

then $M_x f(x) = x f(x) = \lambda f(x)$ almost all $x \in [0,1]$

$$\Rightarrow (x - \lambda) f(x) = 0 \quad \& \text{ almost all } x \in [0,1]$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) = 0 \quad \text{almost all } x \in [0,1]$$

$$\Rightarrow f = \vec{0} \quad \Rightarrow \lambda \text{ not an eigenvalue}$$

Spectral Theorem for Compact operators:

Let E be a Hilbert space and $A \in \mathcal{L}(E, E)$ be compact and self-adjoint. Then E has an orthonormal basis consisting of eigenvectors of A . Furthermore, for each nonzero eigenvalue λ , the subspace

$$E_\lambda = \{x \in E \mid Ax = \lambda x\}$$

is finite-dimensional and and for each $\epsilon > 0$ $\{\lambda \mid |\lambda| \geq \epsilon \text{ and } \dim E_\lambda > 0\}$ is finite.

transl: if you fix a ball around $0 \in \mathbb{C}$ and ask how many eigenvalues are outside this ball, the answer is: finitely many.

transl: if $\{\lambda_n\}_1^\infty$ is the collection of eigenvalues then the only limit point of this set is $0 \in \mathbb{C}$.