

# THE SPECTRUM OF CONTRACTIVE OPERATORS ON $\pi_k$

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## Abstract

In this paper, it is shown that, for a contraction on  $\pi_k$ , the intersection of its spectrum with the exterior of the unit disk is a finite set of isolated eigenvalues, each of which has finite multiplicity. Furthermore some relations between its spectrum and the spectrum of its minimal unitary dilation are established.

Throughout this paper,  $\pi_k$  denotes a complete space with an indefinite metric  $(\cdot, \cdot)$ , which can be decomposed into  $\pi_k = H_- \oplus H_+$ , where  $(H_{\pm}, \pm(\cdot, \cdot))$  are Hilbert spaces and  $\dim H_- < \infty$ . As known, there are some basic facts on the spectrum of selfadjoint or unitary operators on  $\pi_k$ . For example, the spectrum of a selfadjoint operator on  $\pi_k$  is real axial symmetry. There are only finite points of the spectrum outside the real axis. In the case of Hilbert spaces, to study contractive operators, S. Nagy and C. Foias have developed the theory of harmonic analysis of operators<sup>[2]</sup>. One of the basic facts on contractive operators of Hilbert spaces is that its spectrum is contained in  $D$  where  $D$  denotes the unit disk.

In [2, 3], the concept of contractive operators on  $\pi_k$  was introduced, but only a few results were obtained. In [4], Yan Shaozong developed the theory of dilation of contractive operators on Krein spaces, found a necessary and sufficient condition for a contractive operator on Krein space to have a unitary dilation and, in particular, pointed out that any contractive operator on  $\pi_k$  has the minimal unitary dilation. For convenience, we give the following definition.

**Definition.** A bounded linear operator  $T$  on  $\pi_k$  is called a contraction, if  $(Tx, Tx) \leq (x, x)$  for any  $x \in \pi_k$ .

What can we say about the spectrum of a contractive operator on  $\pi_k$ ? What relations are there between the spectrum of a contraction and the spectrum of its unitary dilation? There is not any information in [1, 3, 4]. But such two problems are very important for us to develop the corresponding harmonic analysis theory on  $\pi_k$  spaces. The aims of the present paper are to study the spectrum of the contraction on  $\pi_k$  and find some relations between the spectrum of the contraction and the

spectrum of its unitary dilation.

### § 1. The Spectrum of Contractions on $\pi_k$

First, we construct a special model of contractions on  $\pi_k$ . This model is derived from the decomposition of contractions in [4]. Here, our decomposition is finer than before.

**Lemma 1.1.** *Let  $T$  be a contraction on  $\pi_k$  and  $\pi_k = H_- \oplus H_+$  is a regular decomposition. Then*

i)  $(TH_-) \oplus (TH_-)^\perp$  is also a regular decomposition of  $\pi_k$  and

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} T_{H_-} & T_1 \\ & T_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $T_{H_-} = P_{TH_-} T|_{PH_-}$ ,  $T_1 = P_{TH_-} T|_{PH_+}$  and  $T_2 = P_{(TH_-)^\perp} T|_{PH_+}$ .

ii) *There exist Hilbert spaces  $H_i$  ( $i=0, 1, 2$ ),  $\dim H_1 < \infty$ ,  $\dim H_2 < \infty$ , that  $H_+ = H_0 \oplus H_1$  and  $(TH_-)^\perp = H_0 \oplus H_2$ . Under these decompositions of spaces, of the following form:*

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} T_{H_-} & T_{11} & T_{12} \\ & T_0 & A \\ & B & C \end{pmatrix}$$

iii) *Set*

$$\tilde{T} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & T_0 & 0 \\ & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then  $\tilde{T}$  is a contraction on Hilbert space  $(\pi_k = H_- \oplus H_+, [\cdot, \cdot])$ , where  $[x_- + x_+, y_+] = -(x_-, y_-) + (x_+, y_+)$ .

*Proof* i) is a result in [4].

Let  $H_0 = H_+ \cap (TH_-)^\perp$ . Since  $(H_+ \ominus H_0) \cap (TH_-)^\perp = \{0\}$  and  $((TH_-)^\perp \cap H_+ = \{0\})$ ,  $\dim(H_+ \ominus H_0) \leq \dim TH_-$  and  $\dim((TH_-)^\perp \ominus H_0) \leq \dim H_-$ . Corollary I. 3.4 in [1]. This has proved ii).

From [4], we know that  $T_2$  in i) is a contraction on  $H_+$ . So, we have

$$(T_2 x, T_2 x) = \left( \begin{pmatrix} T_0 x \\ Bx \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} T_0 x \\ Bx \end{pmatrix} \right) = (T_0 x, T_0 x) + (Bx, Bx) \leq (x, x)$$

for any  $x \in H_0$ . It follows that  $(T_0 x, T_0 x) \leq (x, x)$ , since  $(Bx, Bx) \geq 0$ . That is, a contraction on  $H_0$ . Obviously,

$$\begin{aligned} [\tilde{T}(x_- + x_0 + x_1), \tilde{T}(x_- + x_0 + x_1)] &= [T_0 x_0, T_0 x_0] = (T_0 x_0, T_0 x_0) \leq (x_0, x_0) \\ &\leq [x_- + x_0 + x_1, x_- + x_0 + x_1]. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\tilde{T}$  is a contraction on Hilbert space  $(\pi_k = H_- \oplus H_+, [\cdot, \cdot])$ .

From the above lemma one can obtain easily the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.2.** *Suppose that  $T$  is a contraction on  $\pi_k$ , then  $\sigma_e(T) \subset D$ .*

Using Theorem 1.2, we know that the intersection of  $\sigma(T)$  with  $C \setminus D$  is a countable set of isolated eigen values of  $T$ , each of which has finite multiplicity. When  $\lambda \in (C \setminus D) \cap \sigma(T)$ , one sees that  $x$  must be a semi-negative vector for any  $x \in \ker(T - \lambda)$ . If  $\ker(T + \lambda) \perp \ker(T - \mu)$  for any  $\lambda \neq \mu$ , then we affirm that the intersection of  $\sigma(T)$  with  $C \setminus D$  is a finite set from the properties of  $\pi_k$  space. But it is not true that  $\ker(T - \lambda) \perp \ker(T - \mu)$  for a general contraction on  $\pi_k$ .

*Example 1.3.*  $\pi_2 = l_- + l_+$ , where both  $l_-$  and  $l_+$  are of  $C^2$ . Set

$$T = \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} \left( \begin{array}{cc} 2 & 1 \\ & 3 \end{array} \right) & 0 & l_- \\ \hline & & 0 / l_+ \end{array} \right).$$

Obviously,  $T$  is a contraction on  $\pi_2$ .  $\ker(T - 2)$  is not orthogonal with  $\ker(T - 3)$ .

Fortunately, we have still the following proposition.

**Theorem 1.4.** *Suppose  $T$  is a contraction. Then the intersection of  $\sigma(T)$  with  $D$  is a finite set of isolated eigenvalues of  $T$ , each of which has finite multiplicity.*

*Proof* If the statement of the theorem is not true, then we assume there is a countable set  $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots\}$  of  $\sigma_p(T)$  outside the unit disk. First, we show if there is a neutral vector  $x$  in  $\ker(T - \lambda)$ , then  $\lambda$  belongs to  $\sigma_p(U)$  and  $x$  belongs to  $\ker(U - \lambda)$  where  $U$  is a unitary dilation of  $T$ . In fact, because  $Tx = \lambda x$ , we have

$$(Ux, y) = (Tx, y) = (\lambda x, y)$$

for any  $y \in \pi_k$ . It implies that  $Ux - \lambda x = h \in H$ , where  $\pi'_k = \pi_k \oplus H$  is the space of definition of  $T$  and  $H$  is a Hilbert space<sup>[4]</sup>. By the hypothesis of  $(x, x) = 0$ , we have

$$(Ux, Ux) = (h + \lambda x, h + \lambda x) = (h, h) = 0.$$

Therefore,  $h = 0$ ,  $\lambda \in \sigma_p(U)$  and  $x \in \ker(U - \lambda)$ .

From the properties of unitary operators on  $\pi_k$ , it follows that the above eigenvalues, whose space of eigenvectors is degenerate, are at most finite. Hence, there are countable eigenvalues outside the unit disk, whose space of eigenvectors is 1-degenerate, that is, a complete subspace of  $\pi_k$ . Let  $\lambda_1 \in \sigma_p(T) \cap (C \setminus D)$  and  $\ker(T - \lambda_1)$  be a complete subspace of  $\pi_k$ , then

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & A_1 \\ & T_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} \ker(T - \lambda_1) \\ \ker(T - \lambda_1)^\perp \end{matrix}. \tag{1.1}$$

It is easy to see that  $T_1$  is also a contraction on  $\ker(T - \lambda_1)^\perp$ , which is also a  $\pi_k$  space.

Indeed, for any  $y \in \ker(T - \lambda_1)^\perp$  we set  $x = -\frac{1}{\lambda_1} A_1 y$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \left( T \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, T \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \right) &= \left( \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ T_1 y \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ T_1 y \end{pmatrix} \right) \\ &= (T_1 y, T_1 y) \leq (x, x) + (y, y) \leq (y, y). \end{aligned}$$

Here we have used the fact that  $(x, x) \leq 0$  for  $x \in \ker(T - \lambda_1)$ . On the other hand, for

any  $\lambda \in \sigma_p(T) \cap (C \setminus D)$ , where  $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda$ , we have

$$(T - \lambda) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (\lambda_1 - \lambda)x + Ay \\ (T_1 - \lambda)y \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

for any  $x + y \in \ker(T - \lambda)$ . Since  $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda$ , we obtain  $\lambda \in \sigma_p(T_1)$  and  $y \neq 0$ . That is, there is still a countable set  $\{\lambda_2, \lambda_3, \dots\}$  of  $\sigma_p(T_1)$  outside the unit disk. Consider  $T_1$  as a contraction on  $\ker(T - \lambda_1)^\perp$ . With no loss of generality, we assume the  $\ker(T_1 - \lambda_2)$  is a complete subspace of  $\ker(T - \lambda_1)^\perp$ . Naturally,  $\ker(T_1 - \lambda_2)^\perp \subset \ker(T - \lambda_1)$  on  $\sigma_k$  and  $T_1$  is of the following form:

$$T_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_2 & A_2 \\ & T_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} \ker(T_1 - \lambda_2) \\ \ker(T_1 - \lambda_2)^\perp \end{matrix}$$

By the hypothesis, the above step can be carried out infinitely. So we have the countable semi-negative subspaces  $\{\ker(T_i - \lambda_{i+1})\}_{i=1}^\infty$  of  $\sigma_k$ , which is orthogonal with each other. This is impossible for  $\sigma_k$  space.

## § 2. The Relations Between the Spectrum of the Contraction and the Spectrum of its Minimal Unitary Dilation

Again for convenience, we give the following definition<sup>[4]</sup>.

**Definition 2.1.** Suppose that  $T$  is a contraction on  $\sigma_k$  and  $H$  is a Hilbert space. If there exists a unitary operator  $U$  from  $\sigma_k \oplus H$  onto  $\sigma_k \oplus H$  such that  $T^n = PU^n$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , where  $P$  is the projection from  $\sigma_k \oplus H$  onto  $\sigma_k$ , then  $U$  is called unitary dilation of  $T$ . Denote it by  $T = pU$ .

The existence of a unitary dilation has been proved for any contraction on  $\sigma_k$ . One can prove easily the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.2.** For every contraction  $T$  on  $\sigma_k$ , there exists a unitary dilation  $U$  on  $\sigma_k \oplus H$ , which is minimal, i.e. such that

$$\sigma_k \oplus H = \bigvee_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} U^n \sigma_k.$$

This minimal unitary dilation is determined up to  $J$ -unitary transformation, thus can be called "the minimal unitary dilation" of  $T$ .

We only point that  $\bigvee_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} U^n \sigma_k \supset \sigma_k$  is a complete subspace of  $\sigma_k \oplus H$ , because  $\bigvee_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} U^n \sigma_k$  is non-degenerate.

Similar to the case of Hilbert spaces, subspaces  $\mathcal{D}_1 = (U - T)\sigma_k$  and  $\mathcal{D}_0^\dagger = (\bar{U} - T^\dagger)\sigma_k$  will play important roles below. It is obvious that  $\bar{U}^n \mathcal{D}_0 = \bar{U}^n \mathcal{D}_0$  and  $\bar{U}^{\dagger n} \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger = \bar{U}^{\dagger n} \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** Suppose that  $(U, \sigma_k \oplus H)$  is a minimal unitary dilation of contraction  $T$  on  $\sigma_k$ . Then the space can be decomposed into the orthogonal sum.

$$\pi_k \oplus H = \dots \oplus U^{\dagger 2} \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger \oplus U^\dagger \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger \oplus \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger \oplus \pi_k \oplus \mathcal{D}_0 \oplus U \mathcal{D}_0 \oplus \dots \tag{2.1}$$

**Remark 2.4.** In general, for a space with an indefinite metric, the orthogonal sum above is nonsense. Below we will show  $U^{\dagger n} \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger$  and  $U^n \mathcal{D}_0$ ,  $n=0, 1, 2, \dots$ , belong to  $H$ . In this case, the orthogonal sum of (2.1) is carried out in Hilbert space  $(H, (\cdot, \cdot))$  except the part of subspace  $\pi_k$ .

*Proof* Let us show first that

$$U^n \mathcal{D}_0 \perp U^m \mathcal{D}_0, U^{\dagger n} \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger \perp U^{\dagger m} \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger, \text{ for } m, n \geq 0, m \neq n \tag{2.2}$$

d

$$U^n \mathcal{D}_0 \perp U^{\dagger m} \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger, U^n \mathcal{D}_0 \perp \pi_k, U^{\dagger n} \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger \perp \pi_k \text{ for } m, n \geq 0; \tag{2.3}$$

even suffices to establish these relations for  $\mathcal{D}_0$  and  $\mathcal{D}_0^\dagger$  instead of  $\mathcal{D}_0$  and  $\mathcal{D}_0^\dagger$ . To prove (2.2), without loss of generality we assume  $m=0$ . We have

$$(U^n(U-T)h, (U-T)h') = (U^n h, h') - (U^{n-1}Th, h') - (U^{n+1}h, Th') + U^n Th, Th') = 0$$

for any  $h, h' \in \pi_k$ . Similarly, we have  $U^{\dagger m} \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger \perp \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger$ . Now, for  $h, h' \in \pi_k$ , we have also

$$\begin{aligned} & (U^n(U-T)h, U^{\dagger m}(U^\dagger - T^\dagger)h') \\ &= (U^{n+m+2}h, h') - (U^{n+m+1}h, T^\dagger h') - (U^{n+m+1}Th, h') + (U^{m+n}Th, T^\dagger h') = 0, \\ & (U^n(U-T)h, h') = (U^{n+1}h, h') - (U^n Th, h') = 0 \end{aligned}$$

d

$$(U^{\dagger m}(U^\dagger - T^\dagger)h, h') = (U^{\dagger m+1}h, h') - (U^{\dagger m}T^\dagger h, h') = 0.$$

the orthogonality relations of (2.2) and (2.3) are established,

Using above remark, we know that  $\overline{\mathcal{D}_0^\dagger \oplus U \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger \oplus U^{\dagger 2} \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger \oplus \dots}$  and  $\overline{\mathcal{D}_0 \oplus U \mathcal{D}_0 \oplus \mathcal{D}_0 \oplus \dots}$  are two closed subspaces of  $H$ . Hence they are also two closed positive subspaces of  $\pi_k \oplus H$ . Denote the orthogonal sum on the right hand side of (2.1) by  $\mathcal{D}$ . Applying  $U$  term by term we obtain

$$U \mathcal{D}' = \overline{\mathcal{D}_0^\dagger \oplus U \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger \oplus U \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger \oplus U \pi_k \oplus U \mathcal{D}_0 \oplus U^2 \mathcal{D}_0 \oplus \dots} \tag{2.4}$$

$U \overline{\mathcal{D}_0^\dagger \oplus U \pi_k} = \overline{\pi_k \oplus \mathcal{D}_0}$ , then  $U \mathcal{D}' = \mathcal{D}'$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{D}'$  is a subspace of  $\pi_k \oplus H$  reducing  $U$  and containing  $\pi_k$ , and this implies by the minimality of  $U$  that

$$\mathcal{D}' = \pi_k \oplus H.$$

Obviously, to complete the proof of Lemma 2.3, we need only to show that  $U \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger \oplus \pi_k = \pi_k \oplus \mathcal{D}_0$ . Let  $x = x_1 + (U-T)x_2$ , where  $x_i \in \pi_k$ ,  $i=1, 2$ . Set  $y_1 = T^\dagger x_1 + (1-T)x_2$  and  $y_2 = x_1 - Tx_2$ . We have

$$x = Uy_1 + U(U^\dagger - T^\dagger)y_2.$$

Conversely, let  $x = U(U^\dagger - T^\dagger)y_1 + Uy_2$ , where  $y_i \in \pi_k$ ,  $i=1, 2$ . Set  $x_1 = Ty_1 + (1-T^\dagger)y_2$  and  $x_2 = y_1 - T^\dagger y_2$ . Then we have

$$x = x_1 + (U-T)x_2.$$

Thus, we have proved that  $U \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger \oplus U \pi_k = \pi_k \oplus \mathcal{D}_0$ . (This implies that  $U^\dagger \pi_k \oplus U^\dagger \mathcal{D}_0 = \pi_k \oplus \mathcal{D}_0^\dagger$ .)

Using the above decomposition of space  $\pi_k \oplus H$ , we obtain

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $T$  be a contraction on  $\pi_k$  and  $U$  be a minimal unitary dilation.

Suppose  $|\lambda|=1$ . Then  $\lambda \in \sigma_p(T) \Leftrightarrow \lambda \in \sigma_p(U)$ . Moreover, the corresponding eigenvectors are the same for  $T$  and for  $U$ .

*Proof* Without loss of generality, we assume  $\lambda=1$ .

Let  $Tx=x$  for some  $x \in \pi_k$ . Because of the relation

$$(Ux-x, Ux-x) = 2(x, x) - 2\text{Re}(Tx, x) = 2\text{Re}(x-Tx, x) = 0,$$

$Ux-x$  is a neutral vector of  $\pi_k \oplus H$ . On the other hand, for any  $y \in \pi_k$ ,  $(Ux-x, y) = (Ux, y) - (x, y) = (Tx, y) - (x, y) = 0$ . Hence  $Ux-x \perp \pi_k$ , i.e.  $Ux-x \in H$ . Therefore  $Ux=x$ .

Conversely, let  $Ux=x$  for some  $x \in \pi_k \oplus H$ . We will show that  $x \in \pi_k$ . By use the decomposition of Lemma 2.3,  $x$  can be expressed uniquely as  $x_1+x_2+x_3$ , where

$$x_1 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} U^{\dagger n} g_n, \quad g_n \in \mathcal{D}_0^{\dagger}, \quad x_3 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} U^n f_n, \quad f_n \in \mathcal{D}_0$$

and  $x_2 \in \pi_k$ . Under the regular decomposition  $\pi_k \oplus H = H_- \oplus \{H_+ \oplus H\}$ , we take the norm  $\|\cdot\|$ . Consequently,  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \|g_n\|^2 < \infty$  and  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \|f_n\|^2 < \infty$ . Since  $U(x_1+x_2+x_3) = x_1+x_2+x_3$  and  $U\mathcal{D}_0^{\dagger} \oplus U\pi_k = \pi_k \oplus \mathcal{D}_0$ , it follows that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} U^{-n} g_n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} U^{\dagger n} g_{n+1}.$$

This is impossible unless  $g_0 = g_1 = g_2 = \dots = 0$ . Hence  $x_1=0$ . So we can assume that  $U^{\dagger}(x_2+x_3) = x_2+x_3$ . Using again the decomposition of Lemma 2.3 and  $U^{\dagger}\pi_k \oplus U^{\dagger}\mathcal{D}_0^{\dagger} = \mathcal{D}_0^{\dagger} \oplus \pi_k$  we obtain  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} U^n f_n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} U^n f_{n+1}$ . It follows immediately that  $x_3=0$ .

For  $|\lambda|>1$  and  $\lambda \in \sigma_p(T)$ , the above proposition does not hold. Indeed, if  $Ux = \lambda x$ ,  $|\lambda|>1$ , then  $x$  is a neutral vector. From Example 1.3, we know that  $x$  may be a negative vector for some  $x \in \ker(T-\lambda)$ . But we have the following proposition.

**Theorem 2.6.** *Let  $Tx = \lambda x$ ,  $|\lambda|>1$  and  $x$  be a neutral vector. Then,  $\lambda \in \sigma_p(T)$  and  $Ux = \lambda x$ .*

*Proof* In the proof of Theorem 1.4, we have proved this fact.

### References

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