

## QUASI-SIMILARITY ORBIT OF A SUBCLASS OF COMPACT OPERATORS ON A HILBERT SPACE

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In this note we study certain properties of quasi-similarity orbit of a subclass of compact operators defined on a separable Hilbert space. This class and its quasi-similarity orbit were introduced and studied by Fialkow in *Pacific J. Math.* 70 (1977), 151-161.

### Preliminaries and notations

We start with some notations and definitions.  $B(H)$  will denote the Banach algebra of all bounded linear operators on a Hilbert space  $H$  which is taken to be separable. For  $T \in B(H)$ ,  $\sigma(T)$  is its spectrum,  $\sigma_p(T)$  its point spectrum,  $r(T)$  its spectral radius,  $N(T)$  its null space,  $R(T)$  its range and  $T^*$  is its adjoint. For a complex number  $\lambda$ ,  $\lambda^*$  is its complex conjugate. The closed linear span of a family  $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  of

subspaces of  $H$  will be denoted by  $\bigvee_{i=1}^{\infty} M_i$ .

A sequence  $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  of subspaces of  $H$  is said to be a basic sequence if  $M_i$  and  $\bigvee_{k \neq i} M_k$  are complementary for each  $i$ .

A subspace  $M$  of  $H$  is called hyperinvariant under  $T$  if it is invariant under any operator which commutes with  $T$ .

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An invariant subspace  $M$  for  $T$  is called a spectral maximal subspace for  $T$  if the following condition is satisfied:

If  $N$  is another subspace invariant under  $T$  such that  $\sigma(T/N) \subseteq \sigma(T/M)$ , then  $N \subseteq M$ . Note that a spectral maximal subspace for  $T$  is hyperinvariant for  $T$  ([2], Proposition 3.2, p. 18).

For the properties of spectral and scalar type operators we refer to [4]. We note here that  $T \in B(H)$  is spectral if and only if  $T = S + Q$  where  $S$  is a scalar type operator and  $Q$  is a quasi-nilpotent operator which commutes with  $S$  ([4], Theorem 5, p. 1939). Also, any scalar type operator on a Hilbert space is of the form  $BNB^{-1}$  where  $N$  is a normal operator ([4], Theorem 4, p. 1947). Thus, any spectral operator on a Hilbert space is similar to an operator of the form normal plus a commuting quasi-nilpotent.

For the ideas of single valued extension property of operators, decomposable operators, quasi-nilpotent equivalence of operators and other related topics we refer to [2]. We note that compact and spectral operators are decomposable operators ([2], p. 33).

For an operator  $T \in B(H)$  with single valued extension property, consider the subset  $\zeta_T(x)$  of elements  $\lambda_0$  of complex plane such that there exists an analytic function  $\lambda \rightarrow x(\lambda)$  defined on a neighbourhood of  $\lambda_0$  with values in  $H$ , which satisfies  $(\lambda I - T)x(\lambda) = x$  for all  $\lambda$  in the neighbourhood.

Take  $\sigma_T(x)$  to be the complement of  $\zeta_T(x)$  in the complex plane and define

$$\chi_T(\delta) = \{x \in H \mid \sigma_T(x) \subseteq \delta\}$$

for any  $\delta$  in complex plane.

For the properties of  $\chi_T(\delta)$  and  $\sigma_T(x)$  we again refer to [2].

If  $\lambda$  is an isolated point of  $\sigma(T)$ , then there is a projection (not necessarily self adjoint) associated with  $\{\lambda\}$  ([2], p. 26). We denote this projection by  $P_T(\{\lambda\})$ . If  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  are two Hilbert spaces, then  $A : H_1 \rightarrow H_2$  is called quasi-invertible if it is one to one and has

dense range.

An operator  $T_1 \in B(H_1)$  is called quasi-similar to  $T_2 \in B(H_2)$  if there exist two quasi-invertible operators  $A : H_1 \rightarrow H_2$ ,  $B : H_2 \rightarrow H_1$  such that  $T_2 A = A T_1$  and  $T_1 B = B T_2$ .

If  $K$  is the ideal of compact operators on  $H$  then  $B(H)/K$  is called the Calkin algebra and for  $T \in B(H)$ ,  $\hat{T}$  denotes the canonical image of  $T$  in  $B(H)/K$ . Define

$$\sigma_3(T) = \sigma(\hat{T}),$$

$$\sigma_4(T) = \cap \{ \sigma(T+K) \mid K \text{ is compact and commutes with } T \}$$

and

$$\sigma_\gamma(T) = \sigma_4(T) \cup \{ \lambda \mid \lambda \text{ is a limit point of } \sigma(T) \}.$$

Note that  $\sigma_3(T) \subseteq \sigma_4(T) \subseteq \sigma_\gamma(T)$  and  $\sigma_3(T) = \sigma_4(T) = \sigma_\gamma(T) = \{0\}$  for a compact operator.

We reproduce below the definition of the subclass of compact operators defined by Fialkow.

Let  $K$  be a compact operator in  $B(H)$  and  $\lambda$  be a nonzero scalar in  $\sigma(K)$ . Define

$$R(K, \lambda) = \{ x \in H \mid (K-\lambda)^n x = 0 \text{ for some } n \geq 1 \}.$$

Let  $C$  be the set of all compact operators  $K$  in  $B(H)$  which satisfy the following properties:

(i)  $\bigvee_{i=1}^{\infty} R_i^K = H$  (where  $\{\lambda_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  is the sequence of distinct nonzero members of  $\sigma(K)$  and  $R_i^K = R(K, \lambda_i)$ );

(ii)  $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \bigvee_{k \geq i} R_k^K \right\} = \{0\}.$

A compact normal injective operator is in  $C$  and is  $C$  closed under similarity [5].

The class of operators quasi-similar to operators in  $C$  is called

quasi-similarity orbit of  $C$ . We shall denote it by  $C_{qs}$

In [5] the following characterization of class  $C_{qs}$  appears.

**THEOREM A** ([5], Theorem 5.1). *An operator  $T \in B(H)$  is quasi-similar to an operator in  $C$  if and only if  $T$  satisfies the following properties:*

- (i) *there exists a basic sequence  $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  of finite dimensional hyperinvariant subspaces of  $T$ ;*
- (ii)  $\sigma(T/M_i) = \{\lambda_i\}$ ,  $\lambda_i \neq 0$  and  $\lambda_i \rightarrow 0$ ;
- (iii)  $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \bigvee_{k \geq i} M_k \right\} = \{0\}$ .

We first give an alternative proof of the necessary part of Theorem A. Then we prove that the family  $\{M_i\}$  obtained in the above theorem is in fact unique. Also we give a simple characterization of spectral operators in  $C_{qs}$ . We also study as consequences some other properties of operators in the orbit.

### Main results

We first observe that for a compact operator  $K$ ,  $R_{\lambda}^K = N \left[ (K - \lambda I)^n \right]$  for some  $n$ . Also  $R_{\lambda}^K = R(P_K\{\lambda\})$  ([3], p. 579) which implies that  $R_{\lambda}^K = X_K(\{\lambda\})$  ([2], Proposition 3.10, p. 26 and Theorem 1.5, p. 31).

We start with a lemma which will be useful in our work.

**LEMMA 1.** *If  $T$  has single valued extension property and  $TA = AT_1$  with  $A$  injective, then  $T_1$  has single valued extension property and  $AX_{T_1}(\delta) \subseteq X_T(\delta)$  for any subset  $\delta$  of the complex plane.*

The proof of Lemma 1 is routine.

**THEOREM 1.** *If  $T \in C_{qs}$ , then there exists a family  $\{M_i\}_i^{\infty}$  of finite dimensional spectral maximal subspaces of  $T$  which form a basic*

sequence such that

$$\sigma(T/M_i) = \{\lambda_i\}, \quad \lambda_i \neq 0, \quad \lambda_i \rightarrow 0$$

and

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \bigvee_{k \geq i} M_k \right\} = \{0\}.$$

Proof. Suppose  $T$  is quasi-similar to  $K \in C$  so that

$$TA = AK$$

and

$$BT = KB$$

for some quasi-invertible operators  $A$  and  $B$ .

Observe that  $\sigma_p(T) = \sigma_p(K)$  and  $\sigma_p(K)$  is countable, so that  $T$  has single valued extension property ([2], p. 22). Take  $\lambda_i \neq 0$  in  $\sigma(K)$ .

Then, by Lemma 1,

$$(1) \quad \begin{cases} AX_K(\{\lambda_i\}) \subseteq X_T(\{\lambda_i\}) \\ \text{and} \\ BX_T(\{\lambda_i\}) \subseteq X_K(\{\lambda_i\}). \end{cases}$$

Since  $X_K(\{\lambda_i\}) = R(P_K(\{\lambda_i\}))$ , which is finite dimensional and  $A$  and  $B$  are injective, we note that  $X_T(\{\lambda_i\})$  is also finite dimensional and we actually have equality in the above two inclusions. Thus we have the family

$$\{X_T(\{\lambda_i\}) \mid 0 \neq \lambda_i \in \sigma_p(T)\}$$

of finite dimensional subspaces.

By applying Proposition 3.8 on p. 23 of [2], it can be seen that this is a family of spectral maximal subspaces of  $T$  (hence hyperinvariant subspaces of  $T$ ). Further, this proposition states that

$$\sigma(T/X_T(\{\lambda_i\})) \subseteq \sigma(T) \cap \{\lambda_i\} = \{\lambda_i\}.$$

As  $X_K(\{\lambda_i\}) \neq \{0\}$  (being the range of a nonzero projection),

$X_T(\{\lambda_i\}) \neq \{0\}$  by (1). Hence

$$\sigma(T/X_T(\{\lambda_i\})) = \{\lambda_i\} .$$

To complete the proof, it remains to be shown that the family

$$\{X_T(\{\lambda_i\}) \mid 0 \neq \lambda_i \in \sigma_p(T)\}$$

is basic and

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \left( \bigvee_{k \geq i} X_T(\{\lambda_k\}) \right) = \{0\} .$$

Using the facts  $X_T\{\lambda_i\} = AX_K(\{\lambda_i\})$ ,  $\bigvee_{i=1}^{\infty} R_i^K = H$  and  $A$  has dense range,

it can be easily checked that

$$X_T(\{\lambda_i\}) + \bigvee_{k \neq i} X_T(\{\lambda_k\}) = H$$

(note that this also gives us  $\bigvee_{i=1}^{\infty} X_T(\{\lambda_i\}) = H$ ). If

$$x \in X_T(\{\lambda_i\}) \cap \left( \bigvee_{k \neq i} X_T(\{\lambda_k\}) \right) ,$$

then

$$Bx \in BX_T(\{\lambda_i\}) = X_k(\{\lambda_i\})$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} Bx \in B\left(\bigvee_{k \neq i} X_T(\{\lambda_k\})\right) &\subseteq \bigvee_{k \neq i} BX_T(\{\lambda_k\}) \\ &= \bigvee_{k \neq i} X_K(\{\lambda_k\}) . \end{aligned}$$

Define

$$\delta = \{0\} \cup \left\{ \bigcup_{k \neq i} \{\lambda_k\} \right\} .$$

It is easily seen that  $\delta$  is closed and  $X_K(\{\lambda_k\}) \subseteq X_K(\delta)$  if  $k \neq i$ .

Thus

$$\bigvee_{k \neq i} X_K(\{\lambda_k\}) \subseteq X_K(\delta)$$

so that

$$\sigma_K(Bx) \subset \delta \cap (\{\lambda_i\}) = \emptyset$$

which implies that  $x = 0$ ,  $B$  being injective. Thus the family  $\{X_T(\{\lambda_i\}) \mid 0 \neq \lambda_i \in \sigma_p(T)\}$  is a basic family. Finally suppose

$$x \in \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \left( \bigvee_{k \geq i} X_T(\{\lambda_k\}) \right).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} Bx &\in \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \left( \bigvee_{k \geq i} BX_T(\{\lambda_k\}) \right) \\ &= \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \left( \bigvee_{k \geq i} X_K(\{\lambda_k\}) \right). \end{aligned}$$

But  $X_K(\{\lambda_k\}) = R_k^K$  and

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \left( \bigvee_{k \geq i} R_k^K \right) = \{0\}.$$

Hence  $x = 0$ . This completes the proof.

**COROLLARY 1.** *If  $T$  is a compact operator in  $C_{qs}$  then  $T$  is in  $C$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $T$  is quasi-similar to  $K$  in  $C$ . As in the proof of the theorem above,

$$\bigvee_{i=1}^{\infty} X_T(\{\lambda_i\}) = H$$

and

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \left( \bigvee_{k \geq i} X_T(\{\lambda_k\}) \right) = 0,$$

where  $\{\lambda_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  is the set of nonzero points of  $\sigma_p(T)$ . This set is the same as the set of nonzero points of  $\sigma(T)$ ,  $T$  being compact. Also  $X_T(\{\lambda_k\}) = R_k^T$ ,  $T$  being compact. This implies  $T$  is in  $C$ .

**COROLLARY 2.** *Suppose  $T$  is in  $C_{qs}$ ,  $T_1$  has single valued*

extension property and  $\chi_T(\{\lambda\}) = \chi_{T_1}(\{\lambda\})$  for all scalars  $\lambda$ . Then  $T_1$  is in  $C_{qs}$ .

Proof. As  $T$  is in  $C_{qs}$ , the family  $\{\chi_T(\{\lambda_i\}) \mid 0 \neq \lambda_i \in \sigma_p(T)\}$  satisfies the conditions of Theorem 5.3 of [5] (by Theorem 1). Now consider the family  $\{\chi_{T_1}(\{\lambda_i\}) \mid 0 \neq \lambda_i \in \sigma_p(T)\}$ . This is a family of finite dimensional subspaces. As  $T_1$  has single valued extension property, (by [2], Proposition 3.8, p. 23) all these subspaces are spectral maximal, hence hyperinvariant, for  $T$  and

$$\sigma(T_1/\chi_{T_1}(\{\lambda_i\})) = \{\lambda_i\}$$

(as in Theorem 1). As  $\chi_{T_1}(\{\lambda_i\}) = \chi_T(\{\lambda_i\})$  for all  $\lambda_i$ , all the other requirements of Theorem A are satisfied. Thus  $T_1$  is in  $C_{qs}$ .

**COROLLARY 3.** *Suppose  $T$  is in  $C_{qs}$  and  $T$  is quasi-nilpotent equivalent to  $T$ . Then  $T$  is also in  $C_{qs}$ .*

Proof. We have only to observe that  $T_1$  has single valued extension property as  $T$  has and

$$\chi_T(\{\lambda\}) = \chi_{T_1}(\{\lambda\})$$

for all scalars  $\lambda$  ([2], Theorem 2.3, p. 14 and Theorem 2.4, p. 16).

Let us note that if  $T$  is in  $C_{qs}$ , then there exists a basic sequence  $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$  of hyperinvariant finite dimensional subspaces such that  $\sigma(T/M_i) = \{\lambda_i\}$ . Hence  $T/M_i = \lambda_i I + N_i$  where  $N_i$  is a nilpotent operator. Hence  $T/M_i$  is spectral. By applying Theorem 5.7 of [5], we get that  $T$  is quasi-similar to a spectral operator. Without any loss of generality we can take this spectral operator to be of the form normal plus a commuting quasi-nilpotent. This motivates the study of spectral operators in  $C_{qs}$ . First we start with a general result.

**THEOREM 2.** *Suppose  $T$  is a spectral operator quasi-similar to a*

compact operator  $K$ . Then the scalar part  $S$  of  $T$  is compact.

Proof. As both  $T$  and  $K$  are decomposable,  $\sigma(T) = \sigma(K)$  ([2], Theorem 4.4, p. 55). Hence  $\sigma_2(T) = \sigma_2(K)$  ([1], Corollary 2). But  $\sigma_2(K) = \{0\}$ ,  $K$  being compact, which implies that  $\sigma_3(T) = \{0\}$ . Let  $T = S + Q$  be canonical decomposition of  $T$ . Then taking the canonical image in the Calkin algebra,  $\hat{T} = \hat{S} + \hat{Q}$ . As  $\hat{S}$  commutes with  $\hat{Q}$ ,  $\sigma(\hat{T}) = \sigma(\hat{S})$ . But  $\sigma(\hat{T}) = \sigma_3(T) = \{0\}$ . Hence  $\sigma(\hat{S}) = \{0\}$ . Let  $S = BNB^{-1}$  where  $N$  is normal. Then  $\hat{N}$  is a normal element of Calkin algebra with  $\{0\}$  as spectrum. Since  $r(\hat{N}) = |\hat{N}|$  ([6], Theorem 11.28 (b)),  $\hat{N} = 0$ . Thus  $N$  is compact, which implies that  $S$  is also compact.

We note that if  $S$  is the scalar part of a spectral operator  $T$ , then  $S$  and  $T$  are quasi-nilpotent equivalent to each other ([2], Corollary 2.4, p. 43). Hence we obtain the following

**THEOREM 3.** *A spectral operator  $T$  is in  $C_{qs}$  if and only if its scalar part  $S$  is in  $C$ .*

Proof. Sufficiency is obvious by Corollary 3. To prove necessity, note that  $S$  is in  $C_{qs}$  but  $S$  is compact by Theorem 2. Hence by using Corollary 1, we get that  $S$  is in  $C$ .

**THEOREM 4.** *Every operator in  $C_{qs}$  is injective.*

Proof. Suppose  $T \in C_{qs}$ . Let  $T_1$  be the spectral operator which is quasi-similar to  $T$ . We take  $T_1 = N_1 + Q$  where  $N_1$  is normal. By Theorem 3,  $N_1$  is in  $C$ . Now  $N(N_1) \perp N(N_1 - \lambda_i)$  for all nonzero  $\lambda_i$  in  $\sigma(N_1)$ . But as  $N_1$  is normal operator

$$N(N_1 - \lambda_i) = R_i^N.$$

Hence  $N(N_1) \perp \bigvee_{i=1}^{\infty} R_i^N$ . As  $N_1 \in C$ ,  $\bigvee_{i=1}^{\infty} R_i^N = H$ . Thus it follows that  $N(N_1) = \{0\}$ . Hence  $N_1$  is injective. Now  $T_1$  is also injective (by [4], Corollary 4, p. 1956). Hence quasi-similarity between  $T$  and  $T_1$

implies that  $T$  is also one to one.

Now we are in a position to give another simple characterization of spectral operators in  $C_{qs}$ , the proof of which we omit.

**COROLLARY 4.** *If  $T$  is a spectral operator, then  $T$  is in  $C_{qs}$  if and only if its scalar part  $S$  is compact, injective with countably infinite spectrum.*

Next we prove the uniqueness of the family  $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$  of hyperinvariant subspaces, obtained in Theorem A.

**THEOREM 5.** *Suppose  $T \in C_{qs}$ . Then there exists one and only one family  $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$  of finite dimensional hyperinvariant subspaces for  $T$  which form a basic sequence, such that*

$$\sigma(T/M_i) = \{\lambda_i\}, \quad \lambda_i \neq 0, \quad \lambda_i \rightarrow 0$$

and

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^\infty \left( \bigvee_{k \geq i} M_k \right) = \{0\}.$$

**Proof.** Suppose  $T \in C_{qs}$ . By Theorem 1, one such family, with the properties stated in the theorem is

$$\{X_T(\{\theta\}) \mid 0 \neq \theta \in \sigma_p(T)\}.$$

Let  $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$  be any other family with these properties. Then we will show that this family coincides with the family

$$\{X_T(\{\theta\}) \mid 0 \neq \theta \in \sigma_p(T)\}.$$

If  $x \in M_i$ , then

$$\sigma_T(x) \subseteq \sigma_{T/M_i}(x) \subseteq \sigma(T/M_i) = \{\lambda_i\}.$$

Thus  $M_i \subseteq X_T(\{\lambda_i\})$ . Suppose  $K$  is an operator in  $C$  which is quasi-similar to  $T$  and let  $KA = AT$  for some quasi-invertible operator  $A$ . Then, by Lemma 1,

$$AX_T(\{\lambda_i\}) \subseteq X_K\{\lambda_i\}$$

so that

$$AM_i \subseteq X_K(\{\lambda_i\}) .$$

As  $M_i \neq \{0\}$  and  $A$  is one to one,  $X_K(\{\lambda_i\}) \neq \{0\}$ . Hence  $\lambda_i \in \sigma(K)$ . Being nonzero,  $\lambda_i$  is in  $\sigma_p(K) = \sigma_p(T)$ . Thus we have  $M_i \subseteq X_T(\{\lambda_i\})$  for some  $0 \neq \lambda_i \in \sigma_p(T)$ . Also since  $X_K(\{\lambda_i\})$  is finite dimensional, so is  $X_T(\{\lambda_i\})$ . As  $T$  is in  $C_{qs}$ , it is quasi-similar to a spectral operator  $T_1 = N_1 + Q_1$  where  $N_1$  is normal, compact and injective. Suppose  $T_1 B = BT$  and  $CT_1 = TC$ , for some quasi-invertible operators  $B$  and  $C$ . Then, as before,

$$BX_T(\{\lambda_i\}) = X_{T_1}(\{\lambda_i\}) ,$$

$$CX_{T_1}(\{\lambda_i\}) = X_T(\{\lambda_i\}) .$$

If  $M_i$  is properly contained in  $X_T(\{\lambda_i\})$ , then  $BM_i$  is properly contained in  $BX_T(\{\lambda_i\}) = X_{T_1}(\{\lambda_i\})$ . As  $N_1$  is quasi-nilpotent equivalent to  $T_1$ ,  $X_{T_1}(\{\lambda_i\}) = X_{N_1}(\{\lambda_i\})$  ([2], Theorem 2.1, p. 40). But as  $N_1$  is normal

$$X_{N_1}(\{\lambda_i\}) = N(N_1 - \lambda_i) .$$

Thus  $BM_i \subseteq N(N_1 - \lambda_i)$  (containment is proper). Therefore there exists a nonzero  $x \in N(N_1 - \lambda_i)$  such that  $x \perp BM_i$ . Similarly  $BM_j \subseteq N(N_1 - \lambda_j)$  ( $j = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ). As  $x \in N(N_1 - \lambda_i)$  and  $N(N_1 - \lambda_i) \perp N(N_1 - \lambda_j)$  for  $j \neq i$  ( $N_1$  being normal),  $x \perp BM_j$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots$ ). Thus

$$x \perp \bigvee_{j=1}^{\infty} BM_j .$$

$\{M_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  being a basic sequence,

$$\bigvee_{j=1}^{\infty} M_j = H .$$

This gives us that  $x = 0$  . This contradiction proves that  $M_i = X_T(\{\lambda_i\})$  ,  $0 \neq \lambda_i \in \sigma_p(T)$  . Thus

$$\{M_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty} \subseteq \{X_T(\{\theta\}) \mid 0 \neq \theta \in \sigma_p(T)\} .$$

To complete the proof, we must show that the above two families are in fact the same. Again we show this by contradiction.

Suppose that  $X_T(\{\theta\})$  , for some  $0 \neq \theta \in \sigma_p(T)$  , is not a member of the family  $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  . Since  $X_T(\{\theta\}) \neq \{0\}$  , we can choose a nonzero  $x$  in  $X_T(\{\theta\})$  . As  $\{X_T(\{\theta\}) \mid 0 \neq \theta \in \sigma_p(T)\}$  forms a basic sequence,

$$x \notin \bigvee \{X_T(\{\theta_i\}) \mid 0 \neq \theta_i \in \sigma_p(T) \text{ and } \theta_i \neq \theta\} .$$

But the family  $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  is contained in the family

$$\{X_T(\{\theta_i\}) \mid 0 \neq \theta_i \in \sigma_p(T) \text{ and } \theta_i \neq \theta\}$$

and  $\bigvee_{i=1}^{\infty} M_i = H$  ,  $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  being a basic sequence. Thus we arrive at the contradiction that  $x \notin H$  . This completes the proof.

We close this paper by making one more observation on the operators of class  $C_{qs}$  .

**THEOREM 6.** *If  $K$  is in  $C$  , then  $K^*$  is also in  $C$  .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $KB = BT_1$  and  $AK = T_1A$  for some quasi-invertible operators  $A$  and  $B$  where  $T_1$  is a spectral operator whose scalar part  $N_1$  is normal compact and injective (such  $T_1$  exists as  $K \in C$  ). If  $0 \neq \lambda_i \in \sigma_p(K^*)$  then  $R_i^{K^*} = X_{K^*}(\{\lambda_i\})$  and  $K^*A^* = A^*T_1^*$  ,  $B^*K^* = T_1^*B^*$  imply that  $R_i^{K^*} = A^*X_{T_1^*}(\{\lambda_i\})$  (note that  $A, B$  are also quasi-invertible). Now

$$\begin{aligned} X_{T_1^*}(\{\lambda_i\}) &= X_{N_1^*}(\{\lambda_i\}) \\ &= N(N_1^* - \lambda_i) \\ &= N(N_1 - \lambda_i^*) \\ &= X_{N_1}(\{\lambda_i^*\}) \\ &= X_{T_1}(\{\lambda_i^*\}) . \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $R_i^{K^*} = A^* X_{T_1}(\{\lambda_i^*\})$  .

As  $\{X_{T_1}(\{\lambda_i^*\}) \mid 0 \neq \lambda_i \in \sigma_P(K^*)\}$  forms a basic sequence, we can show that

$$\bigvee_{i=1}^{\infty} R_i^{K^*} = H .$$

If  $x \in \bigvee_{k=i}^{\infty} R_k^{K^*}$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ) , then

$$\begin{aligned} B^*x \in \bigvee_{k=i}^{\infty} B^*R_k^{K^*} &= \bigvee_{k=i}^{\infty} B^*A^*X_{T_1^*}(\{\lambda_k\}) \\ &\subseteq \bigvee_{k=i}^{\infty} X_{T_1^*}(\{\lambda_k\}) \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots) \end{aligned}$$

as  $B^*A^*$  commutes with  $T_1^*$  and  $X_{T_1^*}(\{\lambda_k\})$  is hyperinvariant subspace for  $T_1^*$  .

Now

$$X_{T_1^*}(\{\lambda_k\}) = X_{T_1}(\{\lambda_k^*\}) .$$

So

$$B^*x \in \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \left( \bigvee_{k=i}^{\infty} X_{T_1}(\{\lambda_k^*\}) \right) .$$

This last intersection is  $\{0\}$  as in Theorem 1. Hence  $x = 0$  . Therefore  $K^* \in \mathbb{C}$  .

COROLLARY 5. If  $T \in C_{qs}$ , then  $T^*$  also belongs to  $C_{qs}$ .

Proof. Since  $T$  is quasi-similar to  $K \in C$ ,  $T^*$  is quasi-similar to  $K^*$  but by Theorem 6,  $K^* \in C$ . This completes the proof.

### References

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