

# $S^1$ -BOUNDEDNESS OF TRIPLE OPERATOR INTEGRALS

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Joint work with Christian Le Merdy and Fedor Sukochev

Let  $H$  be a separable Hilbert space and let  $T \in \mathcal{K}(H)$ , where  $\mathcal{K}(H)$  is the set of compact operators on  $H$ . Then  $T^*T$  is compact, and so is  $|T| = \sqrt{T^*T}$ .  
Moreover,  $|T|$  is self-adjoint.

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There exists then a decreasing sequence of non-negative numbers  $(\lambda_n(T))_n$  and an orthonormal family  $(u_n)_n \in H$  such that

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By polar decomposition, there exists a partial isometry  $U \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  such that  $T = U|T|$ .

Setting  $v_n = U(u_n)$ , we obtain an orthonormal family  $(v_n)_n$  such that

$$T = \sum_n \lambda_n \langle \cdot, u_n \rangle v_n.$$

## DEFINITION

We define, for  $1 \leq p < \infty$ ,

$$S^p(H) = \{T \in \mathcal{K}(H) \mid (\lambda_n(T))_n \in \ell_p < \infty\}.$$

If  $T \in S_p(H)$ , we set  $\|T\|_p = \|(\lambda_n(T))_n\|_{\ell_p}$ . Notice that

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$(S_p(H), \|\cdot\|_p)$  is a Banach space.

The elements of the space  $S_2(H)$  are called Hilbert-Schmidt operators and the elements of  $S_1(H)$  the trace class operators. We have a contraction  $S_1(H) \subset S_2(H)$ .

**The case  $p=2$**  : let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\ell^2)$  and let  $(t_{i,j})_{i,j \geq 1}$  be the associated infinite matrix. Then  $T \in S_2(\ell^2)$  if and only if

$$\sum_{i,j \geq 1} |t_{i,j}|^2 < \infty.$$



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Let  $(h_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a hilbertian basis of  $\ell^2$ . Then  $T \in S_2(\ell^2)$  if and only if

$$\sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \|T(h_i)\|^2 < \infty.$$

Let  $H$  be a separable Hilbert space.

Let  $A, B$  be normal operators on  $H$  (possibly unbounded).

Let  $\lambda_A, \lambda_B$  be scalar valued spectral measures for  $A$  and  $B$ .

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For  $A$ , this means that  $\lambda_A$  is a finite measure on  $\sigma(A)$  such that if  $E_A$  denotes the spectral measure of  $A$ , then for any Borel subset  $\Delta \subset \sigma(A)$ ,

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Let

$$\Gamma^{A,B} : L^\infty(\lambda_A) \otimes L^\infty(\lambda_B) \longrightarrow \mathcal{B}(S_2(H), S_2(H))$$

defined by

$$\Gamma^{A,B}(f \otimes g)(X) = f(A)Xg(B)$$

for any  $f \in L^\infty(\lambda_A), g \in L^\infty(\lambda_B)$  and  $X \in S_2(H)$ .

Then  $\Gamma^{A,B}$  uniquely extends to a  $w^*$ -continuous isometry

$$\Gamma^{A,B} : L^\infty(\lambda_A \times \lambda_B) \longrightarrow \mathcal{B}(S_2(H), S_2(H)).$$

Operators of the form

$$\Gamma^{A,B}(\phi) : S_2(H) \longrightarrow S_2(H)$$

for  $\phi \in L^\infty(\lambda_A \times \lambda_B)$  are called double operator integrals.

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The theory of double operator integrals started with Birman-Solomyak, in a series of three papers in 1966, 1967, 1973. Outstanding developments and applications were obtained by Peller, and by Sukochev and his co-authors in the last 20 years.

Let  $M = (m_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq N}$  be a family of complex numbers.  
The associated **Schur multiplier** is the linear mapping  
 $T_M : M_N \rightarrow M_N$  defined by

$$T_M([a_{ij}]) = [m_{ij}a_{ij}]_{1 \leq i, j \leq N}, A = [a_{i,j}]_{1 \leq i, j \leq N} \in M_N.$$

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### THEOREM

We have  $\|T_M\| < 1$  if and only if there exist a Hilbert space  $K$  and two families  $\{a_j\}_{1 \leq j \leq N}$ ,  $\{b_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq N}$  of elements  $K$  such that

$$m_{ij} = \langle b_i, a_j \rangle, i, j = 1, \dots, N$$

with

$$\|a_j\| < 1, \|b_i\| < 1, i, j = 1, \dots, N.$$



Assume that  $H$  is finite dimensional, say of dimension  $N$ . Let

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i P_i \quad \text{and} \quad B = \sum_{j=1}^N \mu_j Q_j$$

be the spectral decompositions of  $A$  and  $B$ .

Meaning for  $A$  :  $(e_1, \dots, e_N)$  is a orthonormal basis of eigenvectors of  $A$ ,  $P_i$  are the corresponding orthogonal projections onto  $\mathbb{C}e_i$  and  $\lambda_i$  are the corresponding eigenvalues.

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Then, for any  $\phi : \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ,

$$[\Gamma^{A,B}(\phi)](X) = \sum_{i,j=1}^N \phi(\lambda_i, \mu_j) P_i X Q_j, \quad X \in M_N.$$

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Hence,  $\Gamma^{A,B}(\phi)$  behaves like the Schur multiplier associated with the family

$$(\phi(\lambda_i, \mu_j))_{1 \leq i, j \leq N}$$

Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a  $C^1$ -function such that  $f'$  is bounded.  
Let  $f^{[1]} : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by

$$f^{[1]}(x, y) := \begin{cases} \frac{f(x) - f(y)}{x - y}, & \text{if } x \neq y \\ f'(x), & \text{if } x = y \end{cases}, \quad x_0, x_1 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

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Then  $f^{[1]}$  is a bounded continuous function.

Let  $A, D$  be selfadjoint operators with  $D \in S_2(H)$ . Then  $f^{[1]} \in L^\infty(\lambda_{A+D} \times \lambda_A)$  and

$$[\Gamma^{A+D, A}(f^{[1]})](D) = f(A + D) - f(A).$$

It is as if we had

$$\Gamma^{A+D, A}(f^{[1]}) = \frac{f(A + D) - f(A)}{(A + D) - A}.$$

Let  $A, B$  be self-adjoint on  $H$ .

If  $f$  is Lipschitz on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $B \in S^1(H)$ , do we have

$$f(A + B) - f(A) \in S^1(H)?$$

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Counter-example by Farforovskaya (1972) : there exist  $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $A, B$  bounded self-adjoints operators with  $B \in S^1(H)$  such that

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V. Peller proved that the result is true when  $f$  to certain classes of functions (1985).

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**THEOREM (D. POTAPOV, F. SUKOCHEV, 2011)**

*Let  $1 < p < \infty$ . There exists a constant  $c_p > 0$  such that for any Lipschitz function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  and for all  $A, B$  self-adjoints with  $B \in S_p(H)$ ,*

$$\|f(A + B) - f(A)\|_p \leq c_p \|f\|_{Lip_1} \|B\|_p.$$



Let  $A, B$  be normal operators on a separable Hilbert space  $H$ .  
Let  $S_1(H)$  be the space of trace class operators on  $H$ .

### THEOREM (PELLER'S THEOREM)

For any  $\phi \in L^\infty(\lambda_A \times \lambda_B)$ , the following are equivalent :

- (i)  $\Gamma^{A,B}(\phi)$  restricts to a bounded map  $S_1(H) \rightarrow S_1(H)$ .
- (ii) There exist a Hilbert space  $K$  and two functions  $a \in L^\infty(\lambda_A; K)$  and  $b \in L^\infty(\lambda_B; K)$  such that, for a.e.  $(s, t)$ ,

$$\phi(s, t) = \langle a(s), b(t) \rangle .$$

In this case,  $\|\Gamma^{A,B}(\phi) : S_1(H) \rightarrow S_1(H)\| = \inf \|a\| \|b\|$ .

Recall the identification

$$L^\infty(\lambda_A \times \lambda_B) \simeq \mathcal{B}(L^1(\lambda_A), L^\infty(\lambda_B)).$$

To any  $\phi \in L^\infty(\lambda_A \times \lambda_B)$ , one associates  $u_\phi : L^1(\lambda_A) \rightarrow L^\infty(\lambda_B)$   
by

$$u_\phi(f) = \int_{\sigma(A)} \phi(s, \cdot) f(s) \, d\lambda_A(s).$$

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Then (ii) means that  $u_\phi$  factors through a Hilbert space. Indeed, associate  $\alpha : L^1(\lambda_A) \rightarrow K$  to  $a \in L^\infty(\lambda_A; K)$  by

$$\alpha(f) = \int_{\sigma(A)} a(s) f(s) \, d\lambda_A(s).$$

Similarly, associate  $\beta : K \rightarrow L^\infty(\lambda_B)$  to  $b \in L^\infty(\lambda_B; K)$ .

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Similarly, associate  $\beta : K \rightarrow L^\infty(\lambda_B)$  to  $b \in L^\infty(\lambda_B; K)$ .

Then, the identity

$$\phi(s, t) = \langle a(s), b(t) \rangle$$

says that

$$u_\phi = \beta\alpha.$$

A commutative diagram with three nodes:  $L^1(\lambda_A)$  at the bottom left,  $L^\infty(\lambda_B)$  at the top, and  $K$  at the bottom right. An arrow labeled  $\alpha$  points from  $L^1(\lambda_A)$  to  $K$ . An arrow labeled  $\beta$  points from  $K$  to  $L^\infty(\lambda_B)$ . An arrow labeled  $u_\phi$  points from  $L^1(\lambda_A)$  to  $L^\infty(\lambda_B)$ .

Let  $H$  be a separable Hilbert space.

Let  $A, B, C$  be three normal operators on  $H$ .

Let  $\lambda_A, \lambda_B, \lambda_C$  be scalar valued spectral measures for  $A, B, C$ .

Write  $S_2 = S_2(H)$  and let  $\mathcal{B}_2(S_2 \times S_2, S_2)$  be the space of bilinear maps from  $S_2 \times S_2$  into  $S_2$ .

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Let

$$\Gamma^{A,B,C} : L^\infty(\lambda_A) \otimes L^\infty(\lambda_B) \otimes L^\infty(\lambda_C) \longrightarrow \mathcal{B}_2(S_2 \times S_2, S_2)$$

defined by

$$\Gamma^{A,B,C}(f \otimes g \otimes h)(X) = f(A)Xg(B)Yh(C).$$

for any  $f \in L^\infty(\lambda_A), g \in L^\infty(\lambda_B), h \in L^\infty(\lambda_C)$  and  $X, Y \in S_2(H)$ .



## THEOREM

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Operators of the form

$$\Gamma^{A,B,C}(\phi) : S_2 \times S_2 \longrightarrow S_2$$

for  $\phi \in L^\infty(\lambda_A \times \lambda_B \times \lambda_C)$  are called **triple operator integrals**.

Alternative definitions of multiple operator integrals appear in important papers by Peller and also by Potapov-Skripka-Sukochev.

Let  $N \geq 1$  be an integer.

Let  $M = \{m_{ikj}\}_{1 \leq i, k, j \leq N}$  be a family of complex numbers.

The associated bilinear Schur multipliers

$$T_M : M_N \times M_N \rightarrow M_N$$

is the bilinear map defined by

$$T_M([x_{ij}], [y_{ij}]) = \left[ \sum_k m_{ikj} a_{ik} b_{kj} \right]_{1 \leq i, j \leq N} .$$

Let  $A, B, C$  be normal operators on  $H$ , and set  $N = \dim(H)$ .

Let

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i P_i \quad \text{and} \quad B = \sum_{k=1}^N \mu_k Q_k \quad \text{and} \quad C = \sum_{j=1}^N \nu_j R_j$$

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### PROPOSITION

For any  $\phi : \mathbb{C}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  and any matrices  $X$  and  $Y$ ,

$$[\Gamma^{A,B,C}(\phi)](X, Y) = \sum_{i,j,k=1}^N \phi(\lambda_i, \mu_k, \nu_j) P_i X Q_k Y R_j, \quad X \in M_N.$$

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Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a  $\mathcal{C}^2$ -function such that  $f''$  is bounded.  
Let  $f^{[2]} : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by

$$f^{[2]}(x, y, z) := \begin{cases} \frac{f^{[1]}(x, y) - f^{[1]}(y, z)}{x - z}, & \text{if } x \neq z \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f^{[1]}(x, y), & \text{if } x = z \end{cases}.$$

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Let  $A, D$  be selfadjoint operators with  $D \in S_2(H)$ . Assume that  $A$  is bounded, so that we can define separately

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### PROPOSITION

$$f(A + D) - f(A) - \frac{d}{dt}(f(A + tD))|_{t=0} = [\Gamma^{A+D, A, A}(f^{[2]})](D, D).$$

What are the functions  $\phi$  for which  $\Gamma^{A,B,C}(\phi)$  maps  $S_2 \times S_2$  into  $S_1$  ?

THEOREM (C., LE MERDY, POTAPOV, SUKOCHEV,  
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Then  $\|T_M\| < 1$  if and only if there exist a Hilbert space  $K$  and two families  $\{a_{ik}\}_{1 \leq i, k \leq N}$  and  $\{b_{jk}\}_{1 \leq j, k \leq N}$  of elements of  $K$  such that

$$m_{ikj} = \langle a_{ik}, b_{jk} \rangle, \quad i, k, j \geq 1$$

and

$$\|a_{ik}\| < 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \|b_{jk}\| < 1, \quad i, k, j \geq 1.$$

Let  $A, B, C$  be normal operators on a separable Hilbert space  $H$ .

### MAIN THEOREM

For any  $\phi \in L^\infty(\lambda_A \times \lambda_B \times \lambda_C)$ , the following are equivalent :

(i)  $\Gamma^{A,B,C}(\phi)$  is a bounded bilinear map  $S_2(H) \times S_2(H) \rightarrow S_1(H)$ .

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$$a \in L^\infty(\lambda_A \times \lambda_B; K) \quad \text{and} \quad b \in L^\infty(\lambda_B \times \lambda_C; K)$$

such that

$$\phi(r, s, t) = \langle a(r, s), b(s, t) \rangle \quad \text{for a.e. } (r, s, t).$$

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In this case,

$$\|\Gamma^{A,B,C}(\phi) : S_2(H) \times S_2(H) \rightarrow S_1(H)\| = \inf \|a\| \|b\|.$$

- Given Banach spaces  $E, F$ , we let  $\Gamma_2(E, F)$  to be the space of operators  $T : E \rightarrow F$  which factor through a Hilbert space, i.e. there exist a Hilbert space  $K$  and two operators  $\alpha : E \rightarrow K$  and  $\beta : K \rightarrow F$  such that  $T = \beta\alpha$ .

This is a Banach space for the norm

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When  $F$  is a dual space,  $\Gamma_2(E, F)$  is also a dual space.

- Let  $(\Sigma, \lambda)$  be a  $\sigma$ -finite measure space and let  $G$  be a separable Banach space. We let  $L^\infty_\sigma(\lambda; G^*)$  be the space of all essentially bounded  $w^*$ -measurable functions  $\psi : \Sigma \rightarrow G^*$ , and set

$$\|\psi\| = \text{ess sup}_{s \in \Sigma} \|\psi(s)\|$$

for such functions. Then after taking quotient by almost everywhere zero functions this is a Banach space and we have

$$L^\infty_\sigma(\lambda, G^*) = L^1(\lambda; G)^*.$$

### THEOREM (FACTORIZATION THEOREM)

Let  $(\Sigma, \lambda)$  be a  $\sigma$ -finite measure space, let  $E, F$  be separable Banach spaces. Let  $\psi \in L^\infty(\lambda, \Gamma_2(E, F^*))$ . Then there exist a Hilbert space  $K$ , and two functions

$$a \in L^\infty_\sigma(\lambda; \mathcal{B}(E, K)) \quad \text{and} \quad b \in L^\infty_\sigma(\lambda; \mathcal{B}(F, K))$$

such that  $\|a\| \|b\| \leq \|\psi\|$  and for any  $e \in E$  and  $f \in F$ ,

$$\langle [\psi(s)](e), f \rangle = \langle [a(s)](e), [b(s)](f) \rangle$$

almost everywhere.

Regard  $\phi \in L^\infty(\lambda_A \times \lambda_B \times \lambda_C)$  as an element of  $L^\infty_\sigma(\lambda_B; L^\infty(\lambda_A \times \lambda_C))$  and associate

$$\psi \in L^\infty_\sigma(\lambda_B; \mathcal{B}(L^1(\lambda_A); L^\infty(\lambda_C)))$$

by

$$[\psi(s)](f) = \int_{\sigma(A)} \phi(r, s, \cdot) f(r) \, d\lambda_A(r)$$

for any  $f \in L^1(\lambda_A)$ .

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$$[\psi(s)](f) = \int_{\sigma(A)} \phi(r, s, \cdot) f(r) \, d\lambda_A(r)$$

for any  $f \in L^1(\lambda_A)$ .

### MAIN THEOREM (SECOND FORMULATION)

*The following are equivalent :*

- (i)  $\Gamma^{A,B,C}(\phi)$  is a bounded bilinear map  $S_2(H) \times S_2(H) \rightarrow S_1(H)$ .
- (ii) The function  $\psi$  associated to  $\phi$  belongs to

$$L^\infty_\sigma(\lambda_B; \Gamma_2(L^1(\lambda_A); L^\infty(\lambda_C))).$$

Thank you for your attention !