

**HYPONORMAL OPERATORS  
 HAVING REAL PARTS WITH SIMPLE SPECTRA<sup>(1)</sup>**

BY

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ABSTRACT. Let  $T^*T - TT^* = D \geq 0$  and suppose that the real part of  $T$  has a simple spectrum. Then  $D$  is of trace class and  $\pi \text{trace}(D)$  is a lower bound for the measure of the spectrum of  $T$ . This latter set is specified in terms of the real and imaginary parts of  $T$ . In addition, the spectra are determined of self-adjoint singular integral operators on  $L^2(E)$  of the form  $A(x)f(x) + \sum b_j(x)H[f\bar{b}_j](x)$ , where  $E \neq (-\infty, \infty)$ ,  $A(x)$  is real and bounded,  $\sum |b_j(x)|^2$  is positive and bounded, and  $H$  denotes the Hilbert transform.

1. A bounded operator  $T$  on a Hilbert space  $\mathfrak{H}$  (which in this paper will be assumed to be separable) is said to be hyponormal if

$$(1.1) \quad T^*T - TT^* = D \geq 0,$$

or, equivalently, if  $T$  has the Cartesian form  $T = H + iJ$ ,

$$(1.2) \quad HJ - JH = -iC, \quad C = \frac{1}{2}D \geq 0.$$

In this case, the spectra of  $H$  and  $J$  are the (real) projections of the spectrum of  $T$  onto the coordinate axes, thus

$$(1.3) \quad \text{sp}(H) = \text{Re}(\text{sp}(T)) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{sp}(J) = \text{Im}(\text{sp}(T));$$

see Putnam [15, p. 46]. It was shown in Putnam [17] that if  $T$  is hyponormal then

$$(1.4) \quad \pi \|D\| \leq \text{meas}_2(\text{sp}(T));$$

in the particular case in which  $D$  is completely continuous, the inequality (1.4) was proved by Clancey [2]. If  $T$  is hyponormal and if its real part,  $H$ , satisfies

$$(1.5) \quad H = \frac{1}{\lambda}(T + T^*) \quad \text{has a simple spectrum,}$$

or, more generally, if  $H$  has finite spectral multiplicity, then  $C$  belongs to trace class; Kato [8]. In general, the inequality (1.4) is nontrivially optimal (e.g., equality holds if  $T$  is the unilateral shift). In certain instances, however, a sharpening of the inequality can be obtained as in the following

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**Theorem 1.** *Let  $T$  satisfy (1.1) and (1.5). Then*

$$(1.6) \quad \pi \operatorname{trace}(D) \leq \operatorname{meas}_2(\operatorname{sp}(T)).$$

An operator  $T$  satisfying (1.1) is said to be completely hyponormal if there is no (nontrivial) subspace reducing  $T$  and on which  $T$  is normal. In case  $T$  is completely hyponormal then its real and imaginary parts must be absolutely continuous; see [15, p. 42]. It is well known that if a bounded selfadjoint operator  $H$  has a simple spectrum and is absolutely continuous, then there is a set  $E$ , where

$$(1.7) \quad E \text{ is a bounded subset of } (-\infty, \infty) \text{ of positive measure,}$$

such that  $H$  is unitarily equivalent to the coordinate multiplication operator,  $x$ , on  $L^2(E)$ . The next theorem concerns completely hyponormal operators  $T = H + iJ$  for which (1.5) holds. Without loss of generality it can be supposed therefore that

$$(1.8) \quad (Hf)(x) = xf(x) \quad \text{and} \quad (Cf)(x) = \pi^{-1} \sum \lambda_j (f, \phi_j) \phi_j(x), \quad f \in L^2(E),$$

where

$$(1.9) \quad \{\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots\} \text{ is orthonormal on } L^2(E); \lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots > 0 \text{ and } \sum \lambda_j < \infty.$$

There will be proved the following

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $T$  of (1.1) be completely hyponormal and suppose that (1.7), (1.8) and (1.9) hold. Then*

$$(1.10) \quad 0 < b(x) \leq \operatorname{const} (< \infty) \quad \text{a.e. on } E, \quad \text{where } b(x) = \sum \lambda_j |\phi_j(x)|^2.$$

Further,  $J$  of (1.2) is given by

$$(1.11) \quad (Jf)(x) = -[a(x) + (i\pi)^{-1} \sum \lambda_j \phi_j(x) \int_E f(t) \overline{\phi_j(t)} (t-x)^{-1} dt],$$

$$a(x) \text{ real, } \in L^\infty(E),$$

where the summation operator is the strong limit of its partial sums. Also,  $z = s + it$  ( $s, t$  real) is in  $\operatorname{sp}(T)$  if and only if

$$(1.12) \quad \operatorname{meas}_1 \{x \in E \cap \Delta : -a(x) - b(x) - \epsilon < t < -a(x) + b(x) + \epsilon\} > 0$$

holds whenever  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $\Delta$  is any open interval containing  $s$ .

**Remark.** Conversely, if  $E$  is any set satisfying (1.7) and if the selfadjoint operators  $H$  and  $J$  are defined as above by (1.8)–(1.11), then it is easily verified that (1.2) holds with  $C$  defined by (1.8), so that  $T$  is hyponormal. (Cf. §4, below, and note that  $J = -a + J_0$ , where  $J_0$  is defined by (4.2).) That, in fact,  $T$  is completely hyponormal can be seen as follows. Let  $\mathfrak{H}_1 (\neq 0) \subset L^2(E)$  reduce  $T$ , hence also  $H$  and  $J$ , and suppose that  $T$  is normal on  $\mathfrak{H}_1$ . Then  $Cf = 0$  for

all  $f$  in  $\mathfrak{H}_1$ . But if  $f_1 \in \mathfrak{H}_1$  and  $f_1 \neq 0$ , then the set  $\{x: f_1(x) \neq 0\}$  has positive measure. Since  $\sum \lambda_j |\phi_j(x)|^2 > 0$  on  $E$  then there exists some  $\phi_k$  such that  $\{x: \phi_k \neq 0\} \cap \{x: f_1(x) \neq 0\}$  has positive measure. But  $p(x)f_1(x)$  also belongs to  $\mathfrak{H}_1$  for any polynomial  $p(x)$ , and it is clear from the Weierstrass approximation theorem that there must exist some  $g$  in  $\mathfrak{H}_1$  such that  $(g, \phi_k) \neq 0$ . Since  $Cg = 0$ , then  $\phi_k = \sum_{i \neq k} a_i \phi_i$  ( $\sum |a_i|^2 < \infty$ ), in contradiction to the supposed orthonormality of  $\{\phi_i\}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ .

As noted above, both operators  $H$  and  $J$  satisfying (1.8)–(1.11) are absolutely continuous. Also, concerning Theorem 2, see the Remark at the beginning of §7 below. In case  $\text{rank}(D)$  ( $= \text{rank}(C)$ )  $= 1$ , the assertion (1.11) concerning the form of  $J$  is due to Xa Dao-xeng [21]; for a simpler proof, using a result in [14], see Rosenblum [19, p. 326].

Some corollaries of Theorems 1, 2 together with a lemma and some remarks will be stated in §2. The proofs of Theorems 1, 2 will be given in §§3, 4 respectively. A connection between certain operators considered by Kato [8] and those in the present paper will be discussed in §5. In §6, some applications of Theorems 1, 2 will be made and the results stated as Theorems 3–5. §§7, 8 will deal with generalized selfadjoint singular integral operators.

2. If  $T = V$ , the unilateral shift, then  $\text{sp}(V)$  is the closed unit disk and (1.4) becomes an equality. Since  $V$  is isometric (hence hyponormal), so are its powers  $V^n$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . Further, it is easily verified that  $(V^n)^* V^n - V^n (V^n)^*$  has norm  $= 1$  and trace  $= n$ . Since  $\text{sp}(V^n) = \text{sp}(V)$  then (1.5), with  $T = V^n$ , holds only if  $n = 1$  (although even equality holds in (1.4) for all  $n$ ). It follows from Theorem 1 that  $\text{Re}(V^n) = \frac{1}{2}(V^n + V^{n*})$  does not have a simple spectrum for  $n \geq 2$ . That, incidentally,  $\frac{1}{2}(V + V^*)$  does have a simple spectrum is easily verified directly. In fact, on  $l^2 = \{(x_1, x_2, \dots): \sum |x_j|^2 < \infty\}$ ,  $V(x_1, x_2, \dots) = (0, x_1, x_2, \dots)$  and  $(1, 0, 0, \dots)$  is readily seen to be a cyclic vector of  $\frac{1}{2}(V + V^*)$ .

More generally, one has the following obvious

**Corollary of Theorem 1.** *If  $T$  satisfies (1.1), if equality holds in (1.4), and if (1.5) holds, then  $\text{rank}(D) \leq 1$ .*

An explicit formulation of Theorem 2 in the special case in which  $C$  of (1.8) has rank 1, so that  $Cf = \lambda_1(f, \phi_1)\phi_1$ , occurs in Clancey and Putnam [4]. Another way of giving the spectrum of  $T$ , somewhat different from that specified in Theorem 2 using (1.12), and involving a "determining set," appears in Clancey [3], where again  $C$  has rank 1 and  $H$  has a simple spectrum, and in Pincus [12], where  $C$  is of trace class and  $H$  has arbitrary (not necessarily simple) spectral multiplicity. These papers, as well as the present one, use a result obtained in

Putnam [18] for determining the “cross sections” of the spectrum of a hyponormal operator  $T$ , and which will be stated below as a lemma.

**Remark** (added November 6, 1971). Professor Pincus has pointed out to the author that Theorem 2 can be deduced from the general results of his papers [10] and [12]. The proof of Theorem 2 as given below will be used later (Theorem 6, below) along with [16] to yield corresponding results for singular integral operators in which the set  $E$  satisfies only  $E \neq (-\infty, \infty)$ .

First, let  $T$  be hyponormal on  $\mathfrak{H}$  and let  $H$  of (1.2) have the spectral resolution

$$(2.1) \quad H = \int \lambda dE_\lambda,$$

and, for any open interval  $\Delta$ , let  $E(\Delta)$  denote the associated projection operator. Then  $T_\Delta = E(\Delta)TE(\Delta)$  is hyponormal on  $E(\Delta)\mathfrak{H}$  and, as was shown in [17] (and in [2] in case  $C$  is completely continuous),

$$(2.2) \quad \text{sp}(T_\Delta) \subset \text{sp}(T).$$

Moreover, as was shown in [18],

$$(2.3) \quad \text{sp}(T_\Delta) \cap \{z : \text{Re}(z) = s\} = \text{sp}(T) \cap \{z : \text{Re}(z) = s\},$$

where  $s$  is any number in  $\Delta$ . In view of (1.3), one obtains [18] the following

**Lemma.** *If  $T$  is hyponormal then*

$$(2.4) \quad \text{Im}[\text{sp}(T) \cap \{z : \text{Re}(z) = s\}] = \bigcap_{\Delta} \text{sp}(E(\Delta)JE(\Delta)), \quad s \in \Delta,$$

where the intersection is taken over all open intervals  $\Delta$  containing  $s$ .

In [4], in which  $C$  of (1.8) was of rank 1, the spectrum of  $H + iJ$  ( $H = x$ ) was determined from (2.4) using a knowledge of the spectrum of  $J$ . This latter information could be determined from Pincus [9, p. 375], or Rosenblum [19, p. 323] (see also Pincus and Rovnyak [13, p. 620]). In the present paper certain general properties of hyponormal operators obtained in [17], [18] will be used to obtain the set on the right of (2.4) when  $H = \text{Re}(T)$  has a simple spectrum. From this information, relation (2.4) will then be used to determine the spectrum of  $T = H + iJ$ . As a consequence, the spectrum of  $J$  can then, if desired, be determined from the projection properties (1.3).

Thus, if  $H$  and  $J$  are defined by (1.8) and (1.11), where (1.9) and (1.10) are also assumed, then, by the remark following the statement of Theorem 2,  $T = H + iJ$  is completely hyponormal and satisfies (1.2) with  $C$  given by (1.8). In view of (1.12) and the second relation of (1.3), one obtains the following

**Corollary 1 of Theorem 2.** *If  $E$  satisfies (1.7) and if  $J$  is defined by (1.11) and (1.9) then a real number  $t$  is in  $\text{sp}(J)$  if and only if*

$$\text{meas}_1 \{x \in E: -a(x) - b(x) - \epsilon < t < -a(x) + b(x) + \epsilon\} > 0$$

holds for every  $\epsilon > 0$ .

For any measurable subset,  $E$ , of the real line define the (measurable) real set  $E^*$  by

$$(2.5) \quad E^* = \{x \in (-\infty, \infty) : \text{meas}_1(\Delta \cap E) > 0$$

for every open interval  $\Delta$  containing  $x\}$ .

Since all points of  $E$  having positive metric density are contained in  $E^*$ , the set  $E \cap E^*$  differs from  $E$  by a null set. Next, for any real-valued function  $c(x)$  defined on  $E$ , define  $c^*(x)$  on  $E^*$  by

$$(2.6) \quad c^*(x) = \text{ess lim sup}_{t \rightarrow x} c(t) = \lim_{|\Delta| \rightarrow 0} \text{ess sup}_{\Delta \cap E} c(t),$$

where  $\Delta$  is any open interval containing  $x$ .

**Corollary 2 of Theorem 2.** For all  $x$  in  $E^*$  ( $= \text{sp}(H)$ ) there exists a real number  $a_x$  such that

$$(2.7) \quad \{x + iy : a_x - b^*(x) \leq y \leq a_x + b^*(x)\} \subset \text{sp}(T).$$

It may be noted that  $E$  in Theorem 2 is determined to within a null set and that the spectrum of the multiplication operator,  $x$ , on  $L^2(E)$  is the set  $E^*$  of (2.5). The assertion of the corollary is that for any  $x$  in  $E^*$  ( $= \text{sp}(H) = \text{Re}(\text{sp}(T))$ ), the set  $\text{sp}(T)$  contains a vertical segment (possibly a point) of length  $2b^*(x)$ . One need only note that there exists a set  $F = F_x$  such that  $F \subset E$  with the property that  $\text{meas}_1(F \cap \Delta) > 0$  for every open interval containing  $x$ , and such that  $b(t) \rightarrow b^*(x)$  as  $t \rightarrow x$ ,  $t \in F$ . Then let  $a_x$  denote, say, the essential limit superior of  $-a(t)$  at  $x$  when  $t$  is restricted to the set  $F$ . The assertion (2.7) then follows from the criterion (1.12). (See also Theorem 2 and its proof in [4].)

**3. Proof of Theorem 1.** If  $\Delta$  is an open interval then relation (1.4) applied to  $T_\Delta = E(\Delta)TE(\Delta)$  (cf. (2.1)) yields  $\pi \|E(\Delta)DE(\Delta)\| \leq \text{meas}_2(\text{sp}(T_\Delta))$ . But, in view of (2.3) (or even (2.2)), one has

$$(3.1) \quad \pi \|E(\Delta)DE(\Delta)\| \leq \int_\Delta F(x) dx,$$

where

$$(3.2) \quad F(x) = \text{meas}_1 \{y : x + iy \in \text{sp}(T)\},$$

that is,  $F(x)$  is the measure of a vertical cross section of  $\text{sp}(T)$ . Hence,

$$(3.3) \quad 2\pi \limsup_{|\Delta| \rightarrow 0} \|C_\Delta\|/|\Delta| \leq F(x), \quad x \in \Delta \text{ (a.e.)},$$

where  $C_{\Delta} = E(\Delta)CE(\Delta)$ .

Now, it is clear that it is sufficient to establish (1.6) if  $T$  is completely hyponormal. As already noted in §1, it can therefore be assumed that  $H$  and  $C$  are of the form (1.8). Since, by (1.8),  $(C_{\Delta}f, f) = \pi^{-1} \sum \lambda_j |(E(\Delta)f, \phi_j)|^2$ , it is clear that

$$(3.4) \quad \|C_{\Delta}\| = \pi^{-1} \sup_{\|f\|=1} \sum \lambda_j \left| \int_{\Delta \cap E} f(t) \bar{\phi}_j(t) dt \right|^2.$$

Hence, if one defines  $f(t)$  on  $E$  (or, more precisely, on  $E^*$ , so that, in any case,  $f \in L^2(E)$ ) by  $f(t) = |\Delta \cap E|^{-1/2}$  or 0 according as  $t \in \Delta \cap E$  or  $t \notin \Delta \cap E$ , then  $\|f\| = 1$  and

$$(3.5) \quad \pi^{-1} \sum \lambda_j \left| \int_{\Delta \cap E} \bar{\phi}_j(t) dt \right|^2 / |\Delta| |\Delta \cap E| \leq \|C_{\Delta}\| / |\Delta|.$$

On letting  $|\Delta| \rightarrow 0$  and noting, by Lebesgue's metric density theorem, that  $|\Delta \cap E| / |\Delta| \rightarrow 1$  as  $|\Delta| \rightarrow 0$  holds a.e. on  $E$ , one obtains from (3.3) and (3.5),

$$(3.6) \quad 2 \sum \lambda_j |\phi_j(x)|^2 \leq F(x) \quad \text{a.e. on } E.$$

But

$$2 \int_E \left( \sum \lambda_j |\phi_j(x)|^2 \right) dx = 2 \sum \lambda_j \int_E |\phi_j|^2(x) dx = 2\pi \text{trace}(C),$$

and

$$\int_E F(x) dx \leq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(x) dx = \text{meas}_2(\text{sp}(T)),$$

and so (1.6) follows from (3.6).

It is clear that even

$$(3.7) \quad \pi \text{trace}(D) \leq \int_E F(x) dx \leq \int_{\text{sp}(H)} F(x) dx = \text{meas}_2(\text{sp}(T))$$

has been established. (Note that  $E^* = \text{sp}(H) = \text{Re}(\text{sp}(T))$ .) Thus, if the set  $\text{sp}(H) - E$  has positive measure and if  $F(x) > 0$  on a subset of  $\text{sp}(H) - E$  also having positive measure, then the first inequality of (3.7) is sharper than (1.6).

**4. Proof of Theorem 2.** In view of (2.3) (or (2.2)) one has  $\text{sp}(J_{\Delta_1}) \subset \text{sp}(J_{\Delta_2})$  if  $\Delta_1 \subset \Delta_2$  and hence, by (2.4),

$$(4.1) \quad F(x) = \lim_{|\Delta| \rightarrow 0} [\text{meas}_1(\text{sp}(E(\Delta)JE(\Delta)))],$$

where  $x \in \Delta$  and  $J$  is any solution of (1.2) with  $H$  and  $C$  defined by (1.8). Now, let  $J_0$  be defined by

$$(4.2) \quad (J_0 f)(x) = - \sum \lambda_j \phi_j(x) H[f \bar{\phi}_j](x), \quad f \in L^2(E),$$

where  $H[g]$  denotes the (unitary and selfadjoint) Hilbert transform on  $L^2(-\infty, \infty)$ ,

$$(4.3) \quad H[g](x) = (i\pi)^{-1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(t)(t-x)^{-1} dt.$$

It will next be shown that the summation of (4.2) is strongly convergent.

In view of (3.6), each  $\phi_j$  is (essentially) bounded on  $E$ , so that  $H[f\bar{\phi}_j]$  is defined for  $f \in L^2(E)$ . (As is customary we regard  $f = 0$  on  $(-\infty, \infty) - E$ .) Let  $m < n$ . Then

$$\left| \sum_m^n \lambda_j \phi_j H[f\bar{\phi}_j] \right|^2 \leq \sum_m^n \lambda_j |\phi_j|^2 \sum_m^n \lambda_j |H[f\bar{\phi}_j]|^2 \leq \text{const} \sum_m^n \lambda_j |H[f\bar{\phi}_j]|^2 \quad \text{a.e. on } E.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_m^n \lambda_j \phi_j H[f\bar{\phi}_j] \right\|^2 &\leq \text{const} \sum_m^n \lambda_j \|H[f\bar{\phi}_j]\|^2 \leq \text{const} \sum_m^n \lambda_j \|f\bar{\phi}_j\|^2 \\ &= \text{const} \int_E |f|^2 \left( \sum_m^n \lambda_j |\phi_j|^2 \right) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\sum_m^n \lambda_j |\phi_j|^2 \rightarrow 0$  a.e. on  $E$  as  $m, n \rightarrow \infty$ , it follows from (3.6) and Lebesgue's dominated convergence theorem that the last integral tends to 0 and hence that the summation defining  $J_0$  in (4.2), and which occurs also in (1.11), converges strongly. It is clear also from the above calculations that

$$(4.4) \quad \|J_0\| \leq \text{ess sup}_E b(x).$$

A straightforward calculation shows that  $HJ_0 - J_0H = -iC$  where  $H$  and  $C$  are defined by (1.8). If  $J$  is any solution of (1.2), then  $J_0 - J$  commutes with  $H$  and, since  $H = x$  has a simple spectrum,  $J_0 - J = a(x)$ , where  $a \in L^\infty(E)$ . (See Achieser and Glasmann [1, p. 220], also Rosenblum [19, p. 326].) This establishes (1.11). That  $b(x) \leq \text{const} < \infty$  a.e. follows from (3.6); since  $T$  is completely hyponormal,  $b(x) > 0$  a.e. on  $E$  and so (1.10) holds.

Next, let  $F_0(x)$  denote the measure of the vertical cross section of the spectrum of  $T_0 = H + iJ_0$ , where  $H$  and  $J_0$  are defined by (1.8) and (4.2), so that

$$(4.5) \quad F_0(x) = \text{meas}_1 \{y : x + iy \in \text{sp}(T_0)\}, \quad T_0 = x + iJ_0.$$

It follows from (4.4) applied to  $E(\Delta)J_0E(\Delta)$  that

$$(4.6) \quad \|E(\Delta)J_0E(\Delta)\| \leq \text{ess sup}_\Delta b(t).$$

Consequently, relation (2.4) implies that

$$(4.7) \quad \{y : x + iy \in \text{sp}(T_0)\} \subset [-b^*(x), b^*(x)],$$

where  $b^*(x) = \text{ess lim sup}_{t \rightarrow x} b(t)$  is defined on  $E^*$  by (2.6) with  $c(x) = b(x)$  on

$E$ . Since, by (3.6) with  $F$  replaced by  $F_0$ ,  $2b(x) \leq F_0(x)$  a.e. on  $E$ , then  $2b^*(x) \leq F_0^*(x)$  on  $E^*$ . By (4.7),  $F_0(x) \leq 2b^*(x)$  on  $E^*$ . But  $F_0(x)$  is upper semicontinuous and hence  $F_0^*(x) \leq F_0(x)$  for all  $x$  on  $(-\infty, \infty)$ . It then follows that

$$(4.8) \quad F_0(x) = 2b^*(x) \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } E^*.$$

Relations (4.7) and (4.8) now yield

$$(4.9) \quad \{y : x + iy \in \text{sp}(T_0)\} = [-b^*(x), b^*(x)], \quad x \in \text{Re}(\text{sp}(T_0)).$$

Next, we prove the last part of Theorem 2 concerning the spectrum of  $T$ . First, let  $z = s + it$  be a number for which the assertion of Theorem 2 concerning (1.12) fails to hold. It will be shown that  $z$  is not in  $\text{sp}(T)$ . There exist some open interval  $\Delta$  containing  $s$  and some number  $\epsilon > 0$  such that, for almost all  $x$  in  $E \cap \Delta$ , either  $b(x) + \epsilon \leq -a(x) - t$  or  $b(x) + \epsilon \leq a(x) + t$ , so that

$$(4.10) \quad 0 < b(x) + \epsilon \leq |a(x) + t| \quad \text{for a.a. } x \text{ on } \Delta \cap E.$$

Now, if  $s + it \in \text{sp}(T)$  then, by (2.4), there exist  $f_n = E(\Delta)f_n$  in  $L^2(E)$ , where  $\|f_n\| = 1$ , such that  $\|[E(\Delta)JE(\Delta) - t]f_n\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . But  $a(x) + t = J_0 - (J - t)$  and hence

$$\int_{\Delta} (a(x) + t)^2 |f_n(x)|^2 dx = \|E(\Delta)(J_0 - (J - t))f_n\|^2 = \|E(\Delta)J_0f_n\|^2 + o(1)$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . It follows from (4.6) and (4.10) that  $\text{ess sup}_{\Delta} b + \epsilon \leq \text{ess sup}_{\Delta} b$ , a contradiction. This proves the "only if" part of the assertion of Theorem 2 concerning (1.12).

Next, let  $z = s + it$  be a number for which (1.12) holds for any  $\epsilon > 0$  and every open interval  $\Delta$  containing  $s$ . It will be shown that  $z \in \text{sp}(T)$ . To this end, first note that there exists a set  $F \subset E$  such that  $\text{meas}_1(F \cap \Delta) > 0$  and  $-a(x) - b(x) - \epsilon < t < -a(x) + b(x) + \epsilon$  holds for a.a.  $x$  in  $F \cap \Delta$ , where  $\Delta$  is any open interval containing  $s$ . Clearly, for every  $\delta > 0$ , there exist a set  $G = G_{\delta} \subset F$  and a constant  $\lambda$  (e.g., with  $\lambda = \text{essential limit superior of } a(x) \text{ at } s \text{ where } x \text{ is restricted to } F$ ) such that

$$(4.11) \quad |a(x) - \lambda| < \delta \quad \text{on } G \cap \Delta \quad \text{and} \quad \text{meas}_1(G \cap \Delta) > 0.$$

Then  $-\lambda - \delta - b(x) - \epsilon < t < -\lambda + \delta + b(x) + \epsilon$  on  $G \cap \Delta$ , that is,

$$(4.12) \quad -b(x) - (\delta + \epsilon) < t + \lambda < b(x) + (\delta + \epsilon) \quad \text{on } G \cap \Delta.$$

Now, it follows from (4.9) and the projection properties of the spectra of hyponormal operators that

$$(4.13) \quad \text{sp}(J_0) = \left[ -\text{ess sup}_E b(x), \text{ess sup}_E b(x) \right].$$

If this result is applied to  $E(G \cap \Delta)J_0E(G \cap \Delta)$  it is seen that

$$(4.14) \quad \text{sp}(E(G \cap \Delta)J_0E(G \cap \Delta)) = \left[ -\text{ess sup}_{G \cap \Delta} b, \text{ess sup}_{G \cap \Delta} b \right].$$

Hence, by (4.12), there exist a real number  $\mu$  and unit vectors  $f_n = E(G \cap \Delta)f_n$  for which, as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$(4.15) \quad (E(G \cap \Delta)J_0E(G \cap \Delta) - \mu)f_n \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{where } |\mu - (t + \lambda)| \leq \delta + \epsilon.$$

It follows from (4.11) that, for large  $n$ ,

$$(4.16) \quad \|(a - \lambda)f_n\| = \left( \int (a(x) - \lambda)^2 |f_n|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} < \delta.$$

Since  $J = J_0 - a(x)$ , it follows from (4.15) and (4.16) that

$$(4.17) \quad \|[E(G \cap \Delta)JE(G \cap \Delta) - t]f_n\| \leq 2\delta + \epsilon + o(1) \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

It follows from (4.17) that

$$\|[E(G \cap \Delta)TE(G \cap \Delta) - (s + it)]f_n\| \leq |\Delta| + 2\delta + \epsilon + o(1), \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Now, it is clear from [17] that the relation (2.2) holds if  $\Delta$  is replaced by an  $E_\lambda$ -measurable (hence, in the present case, Lebesgue measurable) set, so that, in particular,

$$(4.18) \quad \text{sp}(E(G \cap \Delta)TE(G \cap \Delta)) \subset \text{sp}(T).$$

But, for an arbitrary hyponormal operator  $A$  on a Hilbert space,  $\|Ax\| \geq \text{dist}(0, \text{sp}(A))\|x\|$  for all  $x$  in the space. Therefore, there exists a number  $z_\Delta$  in  $\text{sp}(E(G \cap \Delta)TE(G \cap \Delta))$ , hence in  $\text{sp}(T)$ , such that  $|z_\Delta - (s + it)| \leq |\Delta| + 2\delta + \epsilon$ . Since  $|\Delta|$ ,  $\delta$  and  $\epsilon$  can be chosen arbitrarily small, there exist  $z_n$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ) in  $\text{sp}(T)$  for which  $z_n \rightarrow s + it$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Hence,  $s + it$  belongs to  $\text{sp}(T)$  as was to be shown.

5. **Remarks.** It may be noted that Kato has determined necessary and sufficient conditions that, for a given  $H$  and  $C$ , the equation (1.2) have a solution  $J$ ; see [7, p. 552] and [8, p. 537 ff]. In particular, when  $C \geq 0$  and  $H$  has a simple spectrum, his special solutions, corresponding to the "canonical"  $J_0$  in (4.2) above, are

$$M^\pm = - \int_0^{\pm\infty} e^{itx} C e^{-itx} dt$$

(the integrals converging strongly).

To see the connection with, say  $M^+$ , note that if  $C$  is given by (1.8) then a straightforward calculation shows that  $M^+ f = -2 \sum \lambda_j \phi_j (f \overline{\phi_j})^+$ , where, for  $g \in L^2(-\infty, \infty)$ ,

$$g^+(x) = (2\pi)^{-1/2} \int_0^\infty \hat{g}(y) e^{ixy} dy$$

and  $\hat{g}(y)$  is the Fourier transform of  $g$ . If

$$g^-(x) = (2\pi)^{-1/2} \int_{-\infty}^0 \hat{g}(y) e^{ixy} dy,$$

then  $g = g^+ + g^-$  and  $H[g] = g^+ - g^-$ . (See Titchmarsh [20], Hilgevoord [6]; for an application to commutators and singular integral operators, see Putnam [16].) Thus,  $g^+ = \frac{1}{2}(H + I)g$ . It is seen therefore that

$$M^+f = -\sum \lambda_j \phi_j (H + I)(f\bar{\phi}_j) = J_0f - \sum \lambda_j |\phi_j|^2 f = (J_0 - b(x))f.$$

It is easy to determine the spectra of the operators  $T_0 = H + iJ_0$  ( $H = x$ ) and  $T^+ = H + iM^+$  from Theorem 2. First, note that both  $T_0$  and  $T^+$  are completely hyponormal (cf. the remark after Theorem 2). If  $E^*$  is defined by (2.5) then

$$\text{sp}(T_0) = \{x + iy : x \in E^*, -b^*(x) \leq y \leq b^*(x)\}$$

and

$$\text{sp}(T^+) = \{x + iy : x \in E^*, -2b^*(x) \leq y \leq 0\}.$$

6. Some applications of Theorems 1, 2 will be obtained below. Consider the special case in which  $T$  satisfies (1.1) and (1.5) and in which the first inequality of (3.7) is an equality, so that

$$(6.1) \quad \pi \text{trace}(D) = \int_E F(x) dx.$$

Thus,  $\pi \text{trace}(D)$  equals the measure of that part of  $\text{sp}(T)$  lying over the set  $E$ . In addition, suppose that  $T$  is completely hyponormal, so that  $T$  is unitarily equivalent to (and will, up to but not including the statement of Theorem 5 below, simply be taken to be equal to)  $H + iJ$  on  $L^2(E)$  defined by (1.8)–(1.11).

It is clear that equality holds a.e. in (3.6), thus

$$(6.2) \quad 2b(x) = F(x) \quad \text{a.e. on } E,$$

where  $b(x)$  is defined in (1.10). Now, by Theorem 2 and Corollary 2 to Theorem 2, one has in general

$$(6.3) \quad 2b^*(x) = F_0(x) \leq F(x) \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } E^*,$$

where  $F(x)$  and  $F_0(x)$  are defined by (3.2) and (4.5). Hence, by (6.2) and (6.3),  $b^*(x) \leq b(x)$  a.e. on  $E$ . But  $b(x) \leq b^*(x)$  a.e. on  $E$ , so that

$$(6.4) \quad 2b^*(x) = F_0(x) = F(x) = 2b(x) \quad \text{a.e. on } E.$$

Since  $F(x)$  is upper semicontinuous, then  $F(x)$  is continuous except possibly on a set of the first category; cf. Goffman [5, p. 110]. It is possible of course that  $E$  itself is of the first category so that the continuity of  $b(x)$  at

a point of  $E$  cannot be inferred. In any case, suppose, in addition to (6.1), that

$$(6.5) \quad F(x) \text{ is continuous a.e. on } E.$$

Then it is easy to see that the function  $a(x)$  of (1.11) is (essentially) continuous a.e. on  $E$ , that is,

$$(6.6) \quad \text{ess lim sup}_{t=x} a(t) = \text{ess lim inf}_{t=x} a(t) \quad \text{a.e. on } E,$$

the second expression being defined by (2.6) with "sup" replaced by "inf." For, if (6.6) does not hold, then by (6.4) and (6.5), there exists a set  $P \subset E$  of positive measure such that, for  $c$  in  $P$ ,  $b(x)$  is continuous,  $F(c) = 2b(c) > 0$  and  $\alpha = \text{ess lim sup}_{t=c} a(t) > \beta = \text{ess lim inf}_{t=c} a(t)$ . It follows from the last part of Theorem 2, however, that each of the vertical segments  $\{x + iy: -\alpha - b(c) \leq y \leq -\alpha + b(c)\}$  and  $\{x + iy: -\beta - b(c) \leq y \leq -\beta + b(c)\}$  belongs to  $\text{sp}(T)$ , and hence, in particular,  $F(c) > 2b(c)$  on  $P$ , a contradiction to (6.4).

These results can be summarized as follows:

**Theorem 3.** *Suppose that  $T = H + iJ$  on  $L^2(E)$  is defined by (1.7)–(1.11). In addition, suppose that (6.1) and (6.5) hold. Then, in the definition (1.11) of  $J$ , both  $a(x)$  and  $b(x)$  can be assumed to be continuous a.e. on  $E$ . Further, at all points  $x$  in  $E$  where  $a(x)$  and  $b(x)$  are continuous,*

$$(6.7) \quad \text{sp}(T) \cap \{z : \text{Re}(z) = x\} = \{x + iy : -a(x) - b(x) \leq y \leq -a(x) + b(x)\}.$$

The assertion (6.7), which follows immediately from (1.12), is simply that the spectrum of  $T$  lying over any point  $x$  in  $E$  at which both  $a(x)$  and  $b(x)$  are continuous is a closed interval centered at  $x - ia(x)$  and of length  $2b(x)$ . The functions  $a(x)$  and  $b(x)$  are thus uniquely determined a.e. on  $E$  by  $\text{sp}(T)$ .

**Theorem 4.** *Suppose that  $T = H + iJ$  on  $L^2(E)$  is defined by (1.7)–(1.11) and that  $F(x)$  of (3.2) satisfies*

$$(6.8) \quad F(x) > 0 \text{ and is continuous for a.a. } x \text{ in } \text{sp}(H) (= \text{Re}(\text{sp}(T))).$$

*In addition, suppose that equality holds in (1.6), so that*

$$(6.9) \quad \pi \text{trace}(D) = \text{meas}_2(\text{sp}(T)).$$

*Then, in the definition (1.11) of  $J$ ,  $E = \text{sp}(H)$ , and both  $a(x)$  and  $b(x)$  can be assumed to be continuous a.e. on  $\text{sp}(H)$ . Also, for all  $x$  in  $\text{sp}(H)$  at which both  $a(x)$  and  $b(x)$  are continuous, relation (6.7) holds.*

It is clear that the hypotheses of Theorem 4 are stronger than those of Theorem 3. That  $\text{Re}(\text{sp}(T)) = \text{sp}(H)$  is simply the projection property (1.3). Since  $F(x) > 0$  on  $\text{sp}(H)$  it follows from (3.7) and (6.9) that  $E = \text{sp}(H)$  (to within a null set) and the proof of Theorem 4 is complete.

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $T = H + iJ$  satisfy (1.1) and (1.5) and suppose that  $T$  is completely hyponormal. In addition, suppose that equality holds in (1.4), that is,*

$$(6.10) \quad \pi \|D\| = \text{meas}_2(\text{sp}(T)),$$

*and, further, that (6.8) holds, where  $F(x)$  is defined by (3.2). Then  $T$  is unitarily equivalent to the operator  $T_1$  on  $L^2(\text{sp}(H))$  ( $\text{sp}(H) = \text{Re}(\text{sp}(T))$ ) defined by*

$$(6.11) \quad (T_1 f)(x) = x f(x) - i \left[ a(x) f(x) + (i\pi)^{-1} b^{1/2}(x) \int_{\text{sp}(H)} f(t) b^{1/2}(t) (t-x)^{-1} dt \right],$$

*where  $2b(x) = F(x)$  and  $a(x)$  are continuous a.e. on  $\text{sp}(H)$ . Also for all  $x$  in  $\text{sp}(H)$  at which both  $a(x)$  and  $b(x)$  are continuous, relation (6.7) holds.*

It follows from the Corollary of Theorem 1 and the complete hyponormality of  $T$  that  $\text{rank}(C) (= \text{rank}(D)) = 1$ . Thus (6.10) reduces to (6.9). It then follows from Theorem 4 that  $T$  is unitarily equivalent to  $T_2$  on  $L^2(\text{sp}(H))$  where

$$(6.12) \quad (T_2 f)(x) = x f(x) - i \left[ a(x) f(x) + (i\pi)^{-1} \int_{\text{sp}(H)} f(t) \bar{\phi}(t) (t-x)^{-1} dt \right],$$

where  $a, \phi \in L^\infty(\text{sp}(H))$  and  $b(x) = |\phi(x)|^2 > 0$  on  $\text{sp}(H)$ , and  $a(x), b(x)$  can be taken to be continuous a.e. on  $\text{sp}(H)$ . (Note that (6.2) holds.) But  $b^{1/2}(x) = m(x)\phi(x)$ , where  $m(x)$  is measurable on  $E$  and  $|m(x)| = 1$ . Since the unitary operator  $U: f(x) \rightarrow m(x) f(x)$  of  $L^2(E)$  onto itself obviously commutes with  $x$  and  $a(x)$ , it follows that  $T_2$ , hence also  $T$ , is unitarily equivalent to  $T_1$  of (6.11). That (6.7), with  $T$  replaced by  $T_1$ , holds is clear from Theorem 3 and the proof of Theorem 5 is now complete.

It is seen that  $\text{sp}(T)$  is a complete unitary invariant for operators  $T$  satisfying the hypotheses of Theorem 5. (Concerning complete unitary invariants for hyponormal operators under other hypotheses, see Pincus [11, Theorem 22]; also [12].) As a simple application, one has the following

**Corollary of Theorem 5.** *Let  $T$  be isometric and completely hyponormal, and suppose that  $\frac{1}{2}(T + T^*)$  has a simple spectrum. Then  $T$  is unitarily equivalent to the unilateral shift.*

Since the closed unit disk is the spectrum of both  $T$  and the unilateral shift, it is easily verified (see also the beginning of §2 above) that all hypotheses of Theorem 5 are satisfied by both operators.

7. The assertions concerning the singular integral operator  $J$  of (1.11) can be generalized to the case where  $E$  need not satisfy (1.7) but, more generally, is subject only to

(7.1)  $E$  measurable and  $E \neq (-\infty, \infty)$ ; that is,  $\text{meas}_1 [(-\infty, \infty) - E] > 0$ .

Further, it will no longer be supposed that  $\{\phi_j\}$  is an orthonormal system.

**Remark.** The above-mentioned orthonormality hypothesis was used in Theorem 1. It could have been omitted in Theorem 2 however (cf. below) if, say, relation (1.10) was simply hypothesized.

For  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , let  $b_k \in L^\infty(E)$ , where  $E$  satisfies (7.1). In addition, suppose that

(7.2)  $A(x)$  is a real-valued, measurable function on  $E$ ,

and that

(7.3)  $0 < B(x) \leq \text{const} (< \infty)$  a.e. on  $E$ , where  $B(x) = \sum |b_j(x)|^2$ .

Define the singular integral operator  $L$  on  $L^2(E)$  by

(7.4)  $(Lf)(x) = -\left[ A(x)f(x) + (i\pi)^{-1} \sum b_j(x) \int_E f(t) \bar{b}_j(t) (t-x)^{-1} dt \right]$ ,

that is,  $L = L_0 - A$ , where

(7.5)  $(L_0f)(x) = - \sum b_j(x) H[f\bar{b}_j](x), \quad f \in L^2(E)$ .

An argument similar to that used in the beginning of §4, but with  $\lambda_j^{1/2} \phi_j$  replaced by  $b_j$ , shows that the summation of (7.4) converges strongly. (Note however that the  $b_j$  are in  $L^\infty(E)$  but not necessarily in  $L^2(E)$ .) It follows that  $L_0$  of (7.5) is bounded and selfadjoint on  $L^2(E)$  and that (cf. (4.4))

(7.6)  $\|L_0\| \leq \text{ess sup}_E B(x)$ .

The multiplication operator  $A(x)$  is clearly selfadjoint (but not necessarily bounded) and so  $L$  of (7.4) is a selfadjoint, in general, unbounded operator on  $L^2(E)$ . It follows from [16] that  $L$  is absolutely continuous. (If  $A(x)$  is also bounded from below and if the summation of (7.4) reduces to a single term, this result, and, in fact, a complete spectral analysis, was obtained by Rosenblum [19]. He also treats the case, again for the single integral operator, where  $E = (-\infty, \infty)$  and in which eigenvalues may occur.) It will be shown below that the methods of [16] can be used, at least if

(7.7)  $A \in L^\infty(E)$ ,

to obtain for  $L$  an analogue (and generalization) of the assertion of Corollary 1 of Theorem 2 for  $J$ . It is clear that if (7.7) holds then  $L$  of (7.4) is bounded on  $L^2(E)$ . However, it is clear that if the set  $E$  is not (essentially) bounded, then the selfadjoint multiplication operator  $x$ , hence also the operator  $x + iL$ , is

unbounded on  $L^2(E)$ . It turns out however that  $x$  can be replaced by another multiplication operator  $c(x) \in L^\infty(E)$  and such that  $c + iL$  is hyponormal. This fact will be used to obtain the following

**Theorem 6.** *Assume conditions (7.1), (7.3) and (7.7) and define the (bounded) selfadjoint operator  $L$  on  $L^2(E)$  by (7.4). Then a real number  $t$  is in  $\text{sp}(L)$  if and only if*

$$\text{meas}_1 \{x \in E : -A(x) - B(x) - \epsilon < t < -A(x) + B(x) + \epsilon\} > 0$$

holds for every  $\epsilon > 0$ .

**Remark.** The minus sign in (7.4) is used, as in the definition of  $J$  in (1.11), for convenience in regarding  $L$  as the imaginary part of a certain hyponormal operator. Note that the spectrum of  $-L$  can be obtained from Theorem 6 simply by replacing  $-A(x)$  by  $A(x)$  in the measure condition.

**8. Proof of Theorem 6.** It was shown in [16, Lemma 2] that, for any set  $E$  satisfying (7.1), there exists a real-valued function  $\psi(x)$  on  $(-\infty, \infty)$ , depending on  $E$  but independent of  $L$  in (7.4), for which

$$\begin{aligned} 0 < \psi(x) &\leq \text{const} (< \infty) \quad \text{on } (-\infty, \infty) - E, \\ (8.1) \quad \psi(x) &= 0 \quad \text{on } E, \quad \psi \in L^2(-\infty, \infty) \text{ and} \\ |H[\psi](x)| &\leq \text{const} (< \infty) \quad \text{on } (-\infty, \infty), \end{aligned}$$

where  $H[g]$  denotes the Hilbert transform of (4.3). Further (cf. §3 of [16]), if  $c(x) = iH[\psi](x)$ , so that  $c(x)$  is real, then, regarding  $c$  as a selfadjoint operator on  $L^2(E)$ ,

$$(8.2) \quad cL - Lc = -iG, \quad G \geq 0$$

(that is,  $S = c + iL$  is hyponormal) and

$$(8.3) \quad 0 \notin \text{point spectrum of } G.$$

Since  $G \geq 0$  (for any  $L$ , in particular for  $b_1 = 1$  and  $b_k = 0$  for  $k = 2, 3, \dots$ ) then  $k(x, t) = \pi^{-1}[c(t) - c(x)](t - x)^{-1}$  is the kernel of a (bounded) nonnegative integral operator  $K$  on  $L^2(E)$ . In fact,  $(Kf)(x) = iH[cf](x) - ic(x)H[f](x)$ , where  $H$  is the Hilbert transform of (4.3) and  $f \in L^2(E)$ . That  $k(x, t)$  is (essentially) bounded on  $E \times E$  follows from the boundedness of the operator  $K$ . As noted in [16, p. 459], one has the representation

$$(8.4) \quad [c(t) - c(x)](t - x)^{-1} = \sum c_j(x) \bar{c}_j(t) \quad \text{for a.a. } x, t \ (x \neq t) \text{ in } E,$$

where  $\sum |c_j(x)|^2 \leq \text{const} (< \infty)$  a.e. on  $E$ .

In the end of the proof of Lemma 2 of [16], and in the notation of that paper, the following correction may be noted. The functions  $b(z)$  and  $k(z)$  satisfy  $k(z) \equiv b(z) + \text{const}$  (rather than  $k(z) \equiv h(z)$ ) and one may conclude that  $r(x) \equiv q(x) + \text{const}$  and hence  $H[p](x) = i[q(x) + \text{const}]$ . It is readily verified that, in fact,  $\text{const} = \frac{1}{2}$ .

It follows (cf. [16, pp. 456, 458]) that the function  $c(x) = iH[\psi](x)$  can then be chosen as

$$(8.5) \quad c(x) = (e^v \cos u + 1)/(e^{2v} + 2e^v \cos u + 1) - \frac{1}{2},$$

where

$$(8.6) \quad u(x) = \begin{cases} (\pi/4) \exp(-x^2) & \text{if } x \notin E \\ 0 & \text{if } x \in E \end{cases} \quad \text{and } v(x) = -iH[u](x).$$

Thus,

$$(8.7) \quad c(x) = (e^v + 1)^{-1} - \frac{1}{2}, \quad x \in E.$$

If one restricts the quantities of (8.4) only to those  $x, t$  in  $E$  for which the asserted relations hold (i.e. one avoids an exceptional null set), then  $c'(x) = \lim_{t \rightarrow x} [c(t) - c(x)](t - x)^{-1}$  ( $t \in E$ ) exists a.e. on  $E$ . It will next be shown that

$$(8.8) \quad c'(x) = \sum |c_j(x)|^2 \quad \text{a.e. on } E.$$

To this end, note that, for almost all  $x, c'(x) = \sum c_j(x) \bar{c}_j(t) + b_x(t)$ , where (for  $x$  fixed)  $b_x(t) \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow x$ . Let  $\delta$  be an open interval containing  $x$  and let  $Q = \delta \cap E$ . Then the Lebesgue density is 1 (that is,  $|Q| |\delta|^{-1} \rightarrow 1$  as  $|\delta| \rightarrow 0$ ) for almost all  $x \in E$ , and, in particular,  $|Q| > 0$ . Choose  $x$  to be such a point and for which  $c'(x)$  exists. Then

$$c'(x) = |Q|^{-1} \int_Q c'(x) dt = |Q|^{-1} \int_Q \sum c_j(x) \bar{c}_j(t) dt + |Q|^{-1} \int_Q b_x(t) dt.$$

The last term tends to 0 as  $|\delta| \rightarrow 0$  and so

$$c'(x) = \lim_{|\delta| \rightarrow 0} |Q|^{-1} \int_Q \sum c_j(x) \bar{c}_j(t) dt.$$

The Schwarz inequality and the boundedness of  $\sum |c_j(x)|^2$  on  $E$  make it clear that the integral and limit signs may be moved inside the summation, so that

$$c'(x) = \sum c_j(x) \left( \lim_{|\delta| \rightarrow 0} |Q|^{-1} \int_Q \bar{c}_j(t) dt \right),$$

and (8.8) follows.

Let  $c(x)$ , as an operator on  $L^2(E)$ , have the spectral resolution

$$(8.9) \quad c = \int \lambda dE_\lambda.$$

Then, for any open interval  $\Delta$  and any  $f \in L^2(E)$ ,  $E(\Delta)f = f(x)$  if  $x \in M(\Delta)$ , where  $M(\Delta) = \{t \in E: c(t) \in \Delta\}$ , and  $E(\Delta)f = 0$  otherwise. In view of (8.3), it follows from [15, p. 42], that the operator  $c$  of (8.6) (and (8.9)) is absolutely continuous on  $L^2(E)$  and hence  $c'(x) > 0$  a.e. on  $E$ . Since  $E$  has Lebesgue density 1 a.e. on  $E$  then clearly

$$(8.10) \quad \text{both } c'(x) > 0 \text{ and } E \text{ has density 1 at } x \text{ hold a.e. on } E.$$

Let  $x$  satisfy (8.10) and let  $\delta$  be any open interval containing  $x$ . By (8.10),  $\text{ess inf}_Q c(t) < \text{ess sup}_Q c(t)$ , where  $Q = \delta \cap E$ ; let  $\Delta = (\text{ess inf}_Q c, \text{ess sup}_Q c)$ . Clearly,  $0 < |Q| \rightarrow 0$  as  $|\delta| \rightarrow 0$ .

If  $f(t) = |Q|^{-1/2}$  or 0 according as  $t \in Q$  or  $t \in E - Q$ , then it is clear that

$$(8.11) \quad \frac{(G_\Delta f, f)}{|\Delta|} = \pi^{-1} |Q| |\Delta|^{-1} \sum_j \sum_k \left| |Q|^{-1} \int_Q b_j(t) c_k(t) dt \right|^2,$$

where  $G_\Delta = E(\Delta)GE(\Delta)$ . But  $|Q| |\Delta|^{-1} = |Q| |\delta|^{-1} |\delta| |\Delta|^{-1} \rightarrow 1/c'(x) > 0$  as  $|\delta| \rightarrow 0$ , and hence

$$(8.12) \quad \limsup_{|\Delta| \rightarrow 0} \|G_\Delta\|/|\Delta| \geq \pi^{-1} \sum |b_j(x)|^2 \text{ for a.a. } x \in E,$$

where  $c(x) \in \Delta$ . An argument similar to that used in §3 yields

$$(8.13) \quad 2B(x) \leq F(c(x)) \text{ a.e. on } E,$$

where

$$(8.14) \quad F(X) = \text{meas}_1 \{y: X + iy \in \text{sp}(S)\}, \quad S = c + iL.$$

For any function  $g(x)$  defined on  $E$  and any open interval  $\Delta$ , let  $g_\Delta = \text{ess sup}_{M(\Delta)} g(x)$ , where  $M(\Delta) = \{x \in E: c(x) \in \Delta\}$ . Then define  $g^*(X)$  on the essential range,  $R$ , of  $c$  on  $E$  by  $g^*(X) = \lim_{|\Delta| \rightarrow 0} g_\Delta$ ,  $X \in \Delta$ .

Next, let

$$(8.15) \quad F_0(X) = \text{meas}_1 \{y: X + iy \in \text{sp}(S_0)\}, \quad S_0 = c + iL_0,$$

where  $L_0$  is defined by (7.5). It follows from (7.6) applied to  $E(\Delta)L_0E(\Delta)$  that  $\|E(\Delta)L_0E(\Delta)\| \leq B_\Delta$ . It follows from the Lemma of §2 applied now to  $S_0 = c + iL_0$  that

$$(8.16) \quad \{y: X + iy \in \text{sp}(S_0)\} \subset [-B^*(X), B^*(X)].$$

(Note (cf. (1.3)) that  $\text{Re}(\text{sp}(S_0)) = \text{sp}(c) = R$ .)

By (8.13), with  $F$  replaced by  $F_0$ , we have  $2B^*(X) \leq F_0^*(X)$  on  $R$ . Since  $F_0(X)$  is upper semicontinuous, then  $F_0^*(X) \leq F_0(X)$  for all  $X$ . Also, by (8.16),  $F_0(X) \leq 2B^*(X)$  on  $R$ . Thus,  $F_0(X) = B^*(X)$  on  $R$ , and (8.16) now implies that

$$(8.17) \quad \{y : X + iy \in \text{sp}(S_0)\} = [-B^*(X), B^*(X)] \quad \text{for } X \in \text{Re}(\text{sp}(S_0)).$$

It follows from (1.3) that  $\text{sp}(L_0) = [-m, m]$ , where  $m = \text{ess sup}_E B(x)$ , so that Theorem 6 is proved in the special case when  $L = L_0$ . The proof for the general operator  $L = L_0 - A$  of (7.4) is similar to the argument given in §4 following (4.1) and will be omitted.

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