

SPECTRAL OPERATORS IN SPACES OF DISTRIBUTIONS

BY H. H. SCHAEFER AND B. J. WALSH¹

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The purposes of this note are to complement the results of [4] by citing examples of spectral operators (in the sense of that paper) on non-normable locally convex spaces and to announce a result on the structure of spectral operators which indicates that these examples exhibit rather typical behavior for spectral operators on a large class of locally convex spaces of interest to analysts.

We retain the notions of [4] and refer to it for proofs. Let E be a locally convex space (always assumed Hausdorff), $\mathfrak{L}(E)$ the algebra of continuous linear transformations of E into itself (the identity being denoted by e), $\mathfrak{L}_s(E)$ the algebra $\mathfrak{L}(E)$ under the topology of pointwise convergence, and let $\mathfrak{L}_\sigma(E)$ be $\mathfrak{L}(E)$ under the weak topology associated with $\mathfrak{L}_s(E)$. If u is a linear transformation defined on a dense vector subspace D_u of E with values in E , the *resolvent set* of u (denoted by $\rho(u)$) is the set of all complex numbers λ possessing neighborhoods N_λ such that for each $\mu \in N_\lambda$, the operator $\mu e - u$ is 1-1 and has range dense in E , $(\mu e - u)^{-1}$ has a (necessarily unique) extension $R(\mu) \in \mathfrak{L}(E)$ and $R(\cdot)$ is holomorphic in N_λ —to these we adjoin the point ∞ if $R(\cdot)$ is holomorphic in a neighborhood of ∞ . The *spectrum* of u (denoted by $\sigma(u)$) is the complement of $\rho(u)$ in the Riemann sphere; the *point spectrum* $\pi(u)$ is the set of complex numbers λ for which $\lambda e - u$ is not 1-1.

Given a compact Hausdorff space X , let $\mathfrak{C}(X)$ denote its algebra of continuous complex-valued functions and $\mathfrak{B}(X)$ its algebra of complex-valued bounded Baire functions, both under the supremum norm. A *spectral measure* is a mapping $\delta \rightarrow \mu(\delta)$ from the σ -algebra of Baire subsets of X to $\mathfrak{L}(E)$, countably additive in $\mathfrak{L}_\sigma(E)$ and satisfying $\mu(X) = e$, $\mu(\delta_1 \cap \delta_2) = \mu(\delta_1) \cdot \mu(\delta_2)$ for any two Baire sets δ_1 and δ_2 . Under suitable hypotheses (e.g., E weakly semi-complete [= weakly sequentially complete] and tonnellé) every spectral measure μ defines a continuous homomorphism ϕ of $\mathfrak{B}(X)$ into $\mathfrak{L}_s(E)$; conversely, any continuous homomorphism ϕ of $\mathfrak{C}(X)$ into $\mathfrak{L}_\sigma(E)$ has associated with it a spectral measure μ (and thus an extension to $\mathfrak{B}(X)$). The connection between the measure and the homomorphism is given by

$$\phi(f) = \int f d\mu.$$

¹ National Science Foundation Cooperative Graduate Fellow.

An operator of the form $\int f d\mu$ for some spectral measure μ , compact Hausdorff space X and bounded Baire function f on X will be called a *spectral operator (with bounded spectrum)* in $\mathcal{L}(E)$. If $u = \int f d\mu$ is a spectral operator with bounded spectrum, then $\sigma(u) \subset [f(X)]^-$ and there exists a unique spectral measure ν on $\sigma(u)$ for which $u = \int \lambda d\nu(\lambda)$: specifically, $\nu = \mu \circ f^{-1}$.

Spectral operators with unbounded spectrum are defined similarly; these are operators $v: x \rightarrow \int f d\mu(x)$ where f is a Baire function not μ -essentially bounded, and have as domain the vector subspace D_v of E for whose elements x the function f is $\mu(\cdot)x$ -integrable. D_v is always dense in E and v is always closed. In this case also $\sigma(v) \subset [f(X)]^-$, and there exists a spectral measure ν on $\sigma(v)$ for which $vx = \int \lambda d\nu(\lambda)x$ for all $x \in D_v$. (Here ν is known to be unique if $\rho(v)$ is nonempty or if E is a Hilbert space: whether ν is unique in other cases remains an open problem.) When E is a Banach space, spectral operators with unbounded spectrum are never defined on all of E and never elements of $\mathcal{L}(E)$; however, they can have both these properties in the non-normable case (see Theorem 1 below). For Banach spaces, these notions of spectral operators agree with Dunford's concept of spectral operators of scalar type. (For an account of the intensive research on spectral operators on Banach spaces carried on by Dunford, Badé and J. Schwartz inter alii, see [1].)

THEOREM 1. *The following operators are spectral on the spaces indicated:*

(a) $x \rightarrow f * x$ on the spaces \mathcal{D}_T^n and \mathcal{D}'_T^n of C^∞ functions and distributions respectively on the n -dimensional torus T^n [5, Tome 2, p. 80]. Here $*$ denotes convolution and f may be any element of \mathcal{D}'_T^n ; in particular, differential operators with constant coefficients are spectral on \mathcal{D}_T^n and \mathcal{D}'_T^n .

(b) $x \rightarrow d(p \cdot dx/dt)/dt + q \cdot x$ on \mathcal{D}_T^1 and \mathcal{D}'_T^1 : here p and q are real-valued C^∞ functions on the 1-dimensional torus T^1 .

(c) $x \rightarrow -d^2x/dt^2 + t^2 \cdot x$ on the spaces \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{S}' of rapidly decreasing C^∞ functions and temperate distributions (respectively) on the real line; thus the Fourier transform $x(t) \rightarrow \int e^{-2\pi i ut} x(u) du$ (considered as an automorphism of \mathcal{S}) and its adjoint (considered as an automorphism of \mathcal{S}') are spectral.

(d) Any operator on ω_d or ϕ_d which possesses a diagonal matrix with respect to the coördinates (ω_d and ϕ_d being the product and locally convex direct sum respectively of d copies of the scalar field).

In each of the cases (a), (b) and (c), the spectrality of the operator is a corollary of the fact that the eigenfunctions of a classical boundary-value problem associated with the operator form absolute bases

in \mathfrak{D}_T^n or \mathfrak{S} respectively: in these spaces, an operator possessing a diagonal matrix with respect to some absolute basis is always spectral (see [4, pp. 161, 170]). The reasoning in case (d) is similar.²

THEOREM 2. *Let E be a reflexive nuclear space and u be a spectral operator on E . Then $\pi(u)$ is nonempty, and in fact dense in $\sigma(u)$. Moreover,*

$$ux = \sum_{\lambda \in \pi(u)} \lambda v(\{\lambda\})x, \quad x \in D_u,$$

where v is the spectral measure on $\sigma(u)$, unique except possibly when $\sigma(u)$ is the entire Riemann sphere, for which

$$ux = \int \lambda d\nu(\lambda)x, \quad x \in D_u.$$

This class of spaces includes the spaces \mathfrak{D} , \mathfrak{D}' , \mathfrak{E} , \mathfrak{E}' , \mathfrak{D}_T^n , \mathfrak{D}'_T^n , \mathfrak{S} and \mathfrak{S}' of L. Schwartz ([5]; see [2, Chapter 2, p. 54 ff.] for proof that these spaces are nuclear), as well as the spaces $H(G)$ of holomorphic functions on domains G of the complex plane (see e.g. [3, p. 375 ff.]). Thus the spectral operators on these spaces are of a more severely restricted variety than might at first be supposed. For example, Theorem 2 implies that the operators $x \rightarrow f * x$ and $x \rightarrow g \cdot x$ on \mathfrak{S} , where $f \in \mathcal{O}'_C$ and $g \in \mathcal{O}_M$, are spectral only in the trivial cases where $f = \lambda \delta_0$ or $g = \lambda$, i.e., when the operator is a scalar multiple of the identity. These stringent conditions on the spectrum also rule out spectrality for a large number of differential operators on the spaces \mathfrak{S} and \mathfrak{S}' . Proofs of these results will appear elsewhere.

REFERENCES

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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN AND
UNIVERSITÄT TÜBINGEN

² It can be shown that all spectral operators on the spaces ω_d and ϕ_d are similar to those of case (d): given a spectral operator u on ω_d , there exists an automorphism v of ω_d for which $vu v^{-1}$ has a diagonal matrix with respect to the coordinates of ω_d , and similarly for ϕ_d . Thus the structure of spectral operators on these spaces for $d \geq \aleph_0$ agrees with that obtained in the familiar case when d is finite.