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Asymptotic Decomposition of Smoothing Positive Operators

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A very mild criterion of asymptotic periodicity, established in [4] for Markov operators, is generalized for positive power bounded linear operators on L^1 .

Let P be linear operator on $L^1 = L^1(X, \Sigma, \mu)$ where μ is a σ -finite measure. Recall (cf. [5], [10], [7]) that P is said to be

- (i) *positive* if it preserves the cone $L^1_+ = \{f \in L^1 : f \geq 0\}$;
- (ii) *Markov* if it preserves the set of densities

$$D = \{f \in L^1_+ : \|f\| = 1\};$$

- (iii) *power bounded* if the inequality

$$(1) \quad \|P^n\| \leq M$$

holds for some $M \in \mathbb{R}$ and all $n \in \mathbb{N}$;

- (iv) *weakly almost periodic* if for every $a \in L^1$ the trajectory $\{P^n a\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is weakly precompact;
- (v) *asymptotically periodic* if there exists $r \in \mathbb{N}$ and a finite subset $E = \{g_1, \dots, g_r\} \subset L^1_+$ such that $P(E) = E$ and the convex envelope

$$(2) \quad F = \text{co}(E) = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i g_i : 0 \leq \lambda_i; \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i = 1 \right\}$$

satisfies

$$(3) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(P^n f, F) = 0 \quad \text{for all } f \in D,$$

where $d(h, F) = \inf \{\|h - g\| : g \in F\}$.

Note that the elements g_1, \dots, g_r satisfying (2) and (3) can be chosen as the vertices of the polygon F (that may be degenerated). Moreover, there obviously exist a per-

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mutation α of the set $\{1, \dots, r\}$ and a number $q \leq r!$ such that

$$(4) \quad P g_i = g_{\alpha(i)} \quad \text{and} \quad P^q g_i = g_i \quad \text{for} \quad i = 1, \dots, r.$$

This fact easily yields that for every $f \in L^1$ there exists a strong limit

$$(5) \quad Q(f) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P^{nq} f = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i(f) g_i$$

where $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r$ are uniquely determined positive linear functionals on L^1 .

The main result of [4], that is to be generalized in this paper, provides a very mild sufficient condition for asymptotic periodicity of Markov operators. It is so-called smoothing property that can be generalized for positive power bounded linear operators as follows.

Definition 1. A positive power bounded linear operator P on L^1 is called *smoothing* if there exist a set $K \subset \Sigma$, $\mu(K) < \infty$ and positive numbers ε and δ such that

$$(6) \quad \liminf \int_{K-B} P^n f \, d\mu > \varepsilon \quad \text{for all} \quad f \in D \quad \text{and} \quad B \in \Sigma, \quad \mu(B) < \delta.$$

Theorem. A smoothing positive power-bounded linear operator is asymptotically periodic.

Proof. First we prove that P is weakly almost periodic. Arguing in the same way as in [12] or [3] we deduce that for any $f \in D$ the sequence

$$(7) \quad A_n f = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} P^i f$$

is precompact in so-called w^* -topology of the second dual W of the space L^1 . Any cluster point z of this sequence determines an additive measure μ_z on Σ by

$$(8) \quad \mu_z = z(1_A)$$

that can be uniquely decomposed (cf. [3]) as a sum

$$(9) \quad \mu_z = \mu_g + \mu_a$$

where μ_g is a σ -additive measure, $\mu_g \ll \mu$, and μ_a is a purely additive measure. Moreover, the Radon-Nikodym derivative $g = d\mu_g/d\mu$ satisfies

$$(10) \quad P g \leq g \quad \text{and} \quad \|g\| \geq \varepsilon$$

where ε is a constant satisfying (6).

The sequence $P^n g$ is nonincreasing, hence it converges strongly to a P -invariant function $g_0 \leq g$.

Suppose that $c = \|g - g_0\| > 0$. The density

$$h = (g - g_0)/c$$

obviously satisfies

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|P^n h\| = 0,$$

which contradicts (6). Therefore, $g = g_0 = Pg$.

The function $g/\|g\|$ is a P -invariant density.

Repeating the arguments of [8] we get that there exists a set $G \in \Sigma$ that is a so-called maximal support of P -invariant densities. This means that there exists a P -invariant density g_0 such that

$$(11) \quad G = \text{supp } g_0 = \{x: g_0(x) > 0\}$$

and for any P -invariant density h the set difference

$$(\text{supp } h - G)$$

has measure 0.

Note that the subspace $L_G^1 = \{1_G h: h \in L^1\}$ is P -invariant and that the restriction P_G of the operator P to L_G^1 is weakly almost periodic. According to Mean Ergodic Theorem there exist strong limits

$$(12) \quad Ah = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n h, \quad h \in L_G^1.$$

It is straightforward to observe (cf. [3]) that for any $f \in L_+^1$ the sequence $A(1_G P^n f)$ is nondecreasing and thus it converges strongly to the limit

$$(13) \quad Af = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A(1_G P^n f).$$

Note that (12) and (13) define a positive power bounded linear operator on L^1 .

Now we are going to prove that for every $f \in D$ we have

$$(14) \quad Af = g,$$

where g is the function defined above and satisfying (9) and (10).

Let $f \in D$ and $h \in L^\infty$, $h \geq 0$ be given. Let z be a cluster point of the sequence (7). The properties of w^* -topology yield that there exists a subsequence $\{n_k\}$ such that

$$z(h) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (h, A_{n_k} f).$$

For any given n , and $k \in N$ the inequalities

$$(A_{n_k} 1_G P^n f, h) \leq (A_{n_k} P^n f, h) \leq (A_{n_k} f, h) + \frac{n}{n_k} M \|f\| \|h\|$$

clearly hold (where M is a constant satisfying (1)). Therefore, $(A(1_G P^n f), h) \leq (z, h)$ for every $n \in N$.

This, together with (13), clearly implies that $Af \leq z$ in W . However, μ_g is the maximal σ -additive measure that is not greater than z . Therefore, $Af \leq g$.

To prove the converse inequality consider the operator A' defined on

$$L_G^\infty = \{1_G f: f \in L^\infty\}$$

as the dual operator to the restriction of the operator A to the subspace L_G^1 . Let $f \in D$ and $h \in L_G^\infty$, $h \geq 0$ be given. Obviously, $A'h \in L_G^\infty$, thus there exists a subsequence $\{n_k\}$ satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} z(A'h) &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (A'h, A_{n_k}f) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (1_G A'h, A_{n_k}f) = \\ &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (h, A(1_G A_{n_k}f)) = (h, Af). \end{aligned}$$

However, $A'h \geq 0$, hence

$$z(A'h) \geq (A'h, g) = (h, Ag) = (h, g).$$

Therefore, $g \leq Af$, which completes the proof of (14).

From (10) and (14) we conclude that the operator A , defined by (12) and (13) satisfies

$$(15) \quad \|Ah\| \geq \varepsilon \|f\| \quad \text{for } f \in L_+^1,$$

(where ε is a constant satisfying (6)).

From (13) we obtain that

$$Af = AP^n f \quad \text{for } f \in L^1 \quad \text{and } n \in N$$

as well as that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|AP^n f - A(1_G P^n f)\| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|A(1_{X-G} P^n f)\| = 0.$$

Combining this with (15) we get that

$$(16) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|P^n f - 1_G P^n f\| = 0 \quad \text{for } f \in L_+^1,$$

which clearly implies that P is weakly almost periodic.

Now we can repeatedly use to reduction method that was successfully applied in [6], [9] and [4] and prove asymptotic periodicity of the operator P using the fact that its restriction P_G is isometrically isomorphic to the unity preserving operator P_g defined on $L^1(\mu_g)$ by

$$(17) \quad \bar{P}(f) = g^{-1} P_g(fg).$$

Therefore, it suffices to prove asymptotic periodicity of \bar{P} . The that \bar{P} is a smoothing operator can be obtained in the same simple way as the corresponding result of [8]. However, \bar{P} need not be a Markov on $L^1(\mu_g)$. Fortunately, it is a Markov operator on the space $L^1(\bar{\mu})$ that contains the same elements as $L^1(\mu_g)$ but its metric is determined by the measure $\bar{\mu} = \mu_{hg}$, where the function h is the strong limit (in $L^1(\mu_g)$) of the sequence

$$(18) \quad A'_n 1_G = 1/n \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{P}'(1_G),$$

where \bar{P}' is the dual to the operator \bar{P} , \bar{P}' is a power bounded operator on $L^\infty(\mu_g) \subset L^1(\mu_g)$. Hence it can be uniquely extended to a weakly almost periodic Markov operator on L^1_g , which ascertain that the sequence (18) has a strong limit h . Moreover, from (1) and (6) we obtain the inequalities

$$(19) \quad \varepsilon \leq h \leq M.$$

This immediately implies that \bar{P} is a smoothing Markov operator on $L^1(\bar{\mu})$. According to [4], \bar{P} is an asymptotically periodic operator on $L^1(\bar{\mu})$.

The repeated application of the inequality (19) yields that \bar{P} is an asymptotically periodic operator on $L^1(\mu_g)$.

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