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1. Introduction

Let  $L^2$  be the Hilbert space of all square Lebesgue integrable functions defined on the unit circle, and  $L^\infty$  the Banach algebra of all essentially bounded functions defined on the unit circle. We denote the Hardy spaces corresponding to  $L^2$  and  $L^\infty$  by  $H^2$  and  $H^\infty$  respectively. If  $h$  is a function in some Hardy space, then by the Poisson integral formula  $h$  is extended to an analytic function in the open unit disc.

Given  $\phi$  in  $L^\infty$ , let  $M_\phi$  be the operator on  $L^2$  defined by

$$M_\phi h = \phi h \quad \text{for } h \text{ in } L^2.$$

Let  $P'$  be the projection from  $L^2$  onto  $H^2$ . Then an operator on  $H^2$  defined by

$$T_\phi = P' M_\phi |_{H^2}$$

is called a Toeplitz operator with symbol  $\phi$ . In particular, if  $\phi$  is the identity function, then  $T_\phi$  is called the shift operator. From Beurling's theorem, each invariant subspace for the shift operator is of the form  $\psi H^2$  with some inner function  $\psi$  (i.e.,  $\psi$  is in  $H^\infty$  and  $|\psi(e^{it})| = 1$  a.e.)

For an inner function well known Hilbert space  $H(\psi)$  is determined by

$$H(\psi) = H^2 \ominus \psi H^2.$$

From now we fix an inner function  $\psi$  and hence Hilbert space  $H(\psi)$ .

We denote the projection from  $H^2$  onto  $H(\psi)$  by  $P$ .

Definition. For  $\phi$  in  $L^\infty$ , we define the general Toeplitz operator  $\phi(S(\psi))$  in the sense of [1] by  $\phi(S(\psi)) = PT_\phi|_{H(\psi)}$ .

If  $\phi$  belongs to  $H^\infty$ , then  $\phi(S(\psi))$  was defined in [3] and [4], and its properties are well known. Sarason showed that if  $\phi$  is in  $H^\infty$ , then  $\phi(S(\psi))$  is compact if and only if  $\bar{\psi}\phi$  belongs to  $H^\infty + C$ , where  $C$  is the Banach algebra of all continuous functions defined on the unit circle. In this paper we extend this result to  $\phi$  in  $H^\infty + C$ .

## 2. Trivial Results

We denote the inner product in  $H(\psi)$ ,  $H^2$  and  $L^2$  by  $(\cdot, \cdot)$ ,  $(\cdot, \cdot)'$  and  $(\cdot, \cdot)''$  respectively. Let  $B(H(\psi))$  be the Banach algebra of all bounded operators on  $H(\psi)$ , and  $x$  a mapping from  $L^\infty$  to  $B(H(\psi))$  defined by  $x(\phi) = \phi(S(\psi))$ .

Proposition 1.  $x$  is a contractive star linear mapping.

Proof. For  $f$  and  $g$  in  $H(\psi)$ , we have

$$(\bar{\phi}(S(\psi))f, g) = (PT_\phi f, g) = (T_\phi f, g)' = (f, T_\phi g)' = (f, PT_\phi g)' = (f, \phi(S(\psi))g).$$

Thus  $x(\bar{\phi}) = \phi(S(\psi))^*$ . The rest is trivial.

Proposition 2. If  $\phi$  is an invertible function in  $L^\infty$  whose essential range is contained in the open right half plane, then  $\phi(S(\psi))$  is invertible.

Proof. There exists an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $\|\epsilon\phi - 1\| < 1$  (c.f. [2]). From proposition 1, it follows that

$$\|\epsilon\phi(S(\psi)) - I\| < 1,$$

which implies that  $\phi(S(\psi))$  is invertible.

From this proposition, we can obtain the next proposition by the same techniques as the proof of 7.19 of [2]. Therefore we omit the proof.

Proposition 3.  $\sigma(\phi(S(\psi)))$  is included in the closed convex hull of essential range of  $\phi$ .

Proposition 4. If  $\phi$  is a real valued function in  $L^\infty$ , then  

$$\sigma(\phi(S(\psi))) \subset \sigma(T_\phi).$$

Proof. Hartmann-Wintner showed that

$$\sigma(T_\phi) = [\text{ess inf } \phi, \text{ess sup } \phi],$$

which is a closed convex hull of the essential range of  $\phi$ . Thus the assertion follows from proposition 3.

### 3. Main Results

We denote the identity operators on  $H(\psi)$ ,  $H^2$  and  $L^2$  by  $I$ ,  $I'$  and  $I''$ .

Lemma 1. For  $\phi$  in  $H^\infty + C$ ,  $(I'' - P')M_\phi P'$  is a compact operator on  $L^2$ .

Proof. Let  $\phi = \phi^1 + \phi^2$  be a decomposition of  $\phi$  such that  $\phi^1$  is in  $H^\infty$  and  $\phi^2$  is in  $C$ . Then it follows that

$$(I'' - P')M_\phi P' = (I'' - P')M_{\phi^2} P'.$$

Take trigonometric polynomials  $q_n$  ( $n=1, 2, \dots$ ) whose sequence uniformly converges to  $\phi^2$ . Then, since

$$\| (I'' - P')M_{q_n} P' - (I'' - P')M_{\phi^2} P' \| \leq \| M_{q_n} - M_{\phi^2} \| \leq \| q_n - \phi^2 \| \rightarrow 0 \quad (n \rightarrow \infty),$$

finiteness of the rank of  $(I'' - P')M_{q_n} P'$  implies that  $(I'' - P')M_{\phi^2} P'$  is compact.

Lemma 2. For  $\phi$  in  $H^\infty + C$ ,  $PT_\phi(I'-P)$  is a compact operator.

Proof. This lemma follows from Lemma 1 and next relations;

$$\begin{aligned} PT_\phi(I'-P) &= PP'M_\phi(I'-P) = PP'M_\phi M_\psi M_{\bar{\psi}}(I'-P) = PP'M_\psi M_\phi M_{\bar{\psi}}(I'-P) = \\ &= PP'M_\psi(I'-P')M_\phi P'M_{\bar{\psi}}(I'-P). \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 5. If  $\phi$  is in  $C$  and  $\eta$  is in  $L^\infty$ , then

$$\phi(S(\psi))\eta(S(\psi)) - (\phi\eta)(S(\psi))$$

$$\text{and } \eta(S(\psi))\phi(S(\psi)) - (\phi\eta)(S(\psi))$$

are compact.

Proof. Since  $T_\phi T_\eta - T_{\phi\eta}$  is compact, we have

$$\begin{aligned} PT_\phi PT_\eta P - PT_{\phi\eta} P &= PT_\phi PT_\eta P - PT_\phi T_\eta P + \text{compact} = \\ &= PT_\phi(I'-P)T_\eta P + \text{compact}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, by Lemma 2,  $\phi(S(\psi))\eta(S(\psi)) - (\phi\eta)(S(\psi))$  is compact. Since

$$[\eta(S(\psi))\phi(S(\psi)) - (\eta\phi)(S(\psi))]^* = \overline{\phi(S(\psi))\eta(S(\psi))} - \overline{(\eta\phi)(S(\psi))},$$

we can conclude the proof.

Set  $H_0^p = \{ f \in H^p; f(0)=0 \}$ . It is well known that if  $f$  belongs to  $H_0^1$  then there exist  $f_1$  in  $H^2$  and  $f_2$  in  $H_0^2$  such that  $f=f_1 f_2$  and  $|f| = |f_1|^2 = |f_2|^2$  a.e. .

Lemma 3. If  $\phi$  is in  $H^\infty + C$ , then there exists a compact operator  $K$  from  $H^2$  to  $\bar{H}_0^2$  (conjugate space of  $H_0^2$ ) such that

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \phi \bar{\psi} f dt = (Kf_1, f_2) + (\phi(S(\psi))Pf_1, P'\psi \bar{f}_2)$$

for every  $f$  in  $H_0^1$ ,  $f_1$  in  $H^2$  and  $f_2$  in  $H_0^2$  such that  $f = f_1 f_2$ .

Remark. It is not assumed that  $|f| = |f_1|^2 = |f_2|^2$ .

Proof. Since  $\psi \bar{f}_2$  is orthogonal to  $\psi H^2$ ,  $P'\psi \bar{f}_2$  belongs to  $H(\psi)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \phi \bar{\psi} f dt &= (\phi f_1, \psi \bar{f}_2)'' = (P' \phi P f_1, \psi \bar{f}_2)'' + \\
&+ (P' \phi (I' - P) f_1, \psi \bar{f}_2)'' + ((I'' - P') \phi f_1, \psi \bar{f}_2)'' \\
&= (P' \phi P f_1, P' \psi \bar{f}_2)'' + (\bar{\psi} P P' \phi (I' - P) f_1, \bar{f}_2)'' + (\bar{\psi} (I'' - P') \phi f_1, \bar{f}_2)'' \\
&= (\phi (S(\psi)) P f_1, P' \psi \bar{f}_2)'' + (\bar{\psi} P T_\phi (I' - P) f_1, \bar{f}_2)'' + (\bar{\psi} (I'' - P') M_\phi f_1, \bar{f}_2)''
\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $K = M_{\bar{\psi}} P T_\phi (I' - P) + M_{\bar{\psi}} (I'' - P') M_\phi |H^2$  satisfies the conditions of this lemma.

The proof of next theorem is deeply depend to [3].

**Theorem 1.** Let  $\phi$  be a function in  $H^\infty + C$ . Then  $\phi(S(\psi))$  is compact if and only if  $\bar{\psi}\phi$  belongs to  $H^\infty + C$ .

*Proof.* Suppose first that  $\bar{\psi}\phi$  is in  $H^\infty + C$ . Then there exist  $\eta$  in  $H^\infty$  and  $\zeta$  in  $C$  such that  $\phi = \psi(\eta + \zeta)$ . Since  $(\psi\eta)(S(\psi)) = 0$ , it follows that  $\phi(S(\psi)) = (\psi\zeta)(S(\psi))$ , which is compact [3].

Suppose next that  $\phi(S(\psi))$  is compact. We wish to show that the kernel of functional of  $\bar{\psi}\phi + H^\infty$  on  $H_0^1$  is sequentially weak star closed. Let  $f_n$  be a sequence in the kernel of it which converges weak star to  $f$ . Let  $f_n = f_{1n} f_{2n}$  be the factorization of  $f_n$  such that  $f_{1n}$  and  $f_{2n}$  belong to  $H^2$  and  $H_0^2$ , respectively, and that  $|f_n| = |f_{1n}|^2 = |f_{2n}|^2$ . Then, since each of sequences of  $\{f_{1n}\}$  and  $\{f_{2n}\}$  is bounded in  $L^2$ , we may assume that each of sequences above weakly converges to  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  respectively in  $L^2$ , and  $f = f_1 f_2$  [3]. It is clear that  $f_1$  is in  $H^2$  and  $f_2$  is in  $H_0^2$ . From lemma 3, there is a compact operator  $K$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \phi \bar{\psi} f_n dt &= (K f_{1n}, \bar{f}_{2n})'' + (\phi(S(\psi)) P f_{1n}, P' \psi \bar{f}_{2n})'' \\
\text{and } \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \phi \bar{\psi} f dt &= (K f_1, \bar{f}_2)'' + (\phi(S(\psi)) P f_1, P' \psi \bar{f}_2)'' .
\end{aligned}$$

Since both  $K$  and  $\phi(S(\psi))$  are compact, it follows that

$$(K f_{1n}, \bar{f}_{2n})'' \longrightarrow (K f_1, \bar{f}_2)'' \text{ as } n \longrightarrow \infty$$

and  $(\phi(S(\psi))_{Pf_{1n}, P'\psi\bar{f}_{2n}}) \rightarrow (\phi(S(\psi))_{Pf_1, P'\psi\bar{f}_2})$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Thus we have

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \phi\bar{\psi} f dt = 0.$$

Thus we can conclude the proof.

#### 4. Miscellaneous Results

Let  $\underline{K}$  be the ideal of all compact operators of  $B(H(\psi))$ .

Corollary 1.  $\{\phi(S(\psi)) + \underline{K}; \phi \text{ in } H^\infty + C\}$  is an algebra and the natural mapping from it onto  $\{\phi + \psi(H^\infty + C); \phi \text{ in } H^\infty + C\}$  is an isomorphism.

Proof. From Proposition 5,  $\{\phi(S(\psi)) + \underline{K}\}$  is an algebra. From Theorem 1, the natural mapping is well defined and one to one.

Corollary 2. If  $\phi$  is in  $H^\infty + C$  and  $\phi(H^\infty + C) + \psi(H^\infty + C) = H^\infty + C$ , then  $\phi(S(\psi))$  is a Fredholm operator.

Proof. There exists  $\eta$  in  $H^\infty + C$  such that  $\phi\eta + \psi(H^\infty + C) = 1 + \psi(H^\infty + C)$ . Therefore we have

$$\phi(S(\psi))\eta(S(\psi)) + \underline{K} = (\phi\eta)(S(\psi)) + \underline{K} = I + \underline{K}.$$

Consequently  $\phi(S(\psi))$  is a Fredholm operator.

Corollary 3. If  $\phi$  is in  $H^\infty + C$  and  $T_\phi$  is a Fredholm operator, then  $\phi(S(\psi))$  is a Fredholm operator.

Proof. Since  $\phi$  is invertible in  $H^\infty + C$  [2], this corollary follows from Corollary 2.

If  $\phi$  is in  $H^\infty$ , then we show that  $\phi(S(\psi))$  is a Fredholm operator

if and only if there is a factorization  $\phi = \phi^1 \phi^2$ , where  $\phi^1(S(\psi))$  is invertible and  $\phi^2$  is a finite Blaschke function [5].

Theorem 2. If  $\phi$  is in  $H^\infty$ , then next conditions are equivalent ;

- (a)  $\phi(S(\psi))$  is a Fredholm operator,
- (b) there are  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $1 > \delta \geq 0$  such that  $|\phi(z)| + |\psi(z)| \geq \epsilon$  for  $1 > |z| \geq \delta$ ,
- (c)  $\phi(H^\infty + C) + \psi(H^\infty + C) = H^\infty + C$ .

Proof. First assume (a). Let  $\phi = \phi^1 \phi^2$  be the factorization given above. Then there is an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that

$$|\phi^1(z)| + |\psi(z)| \geq \epsilon \quad \text{for } |z| < 1,$$

because  $\phi^1(S(\psi))$  is invertible. And there are  $\epsilon' > 0$  and  $1 > \delta \geq 0$

such that  $|\phi^2(z)| \geq \epsilon'$  for  $1 > |z| \geq \delta$ ,

because  $\phi^2$  is a finite Blaschke function. Therefore we have

$$|\phi(z)| + |\psi(z)| \geq |\phi^2(z)| \{ |\phi^1(z)| + |\psi(z)| \} \geq \epsilon \epsilon' \quad \text{for } 1 > |z| \geq \delta.$$

Thus we have (b).

Next assume (b). Let  $\eta$  be the greatest common inner divisor of  $\phi$  and  $\psi$ . Then it is obvious that there is an  $\epsilon' \geq 0$  such that

$$|\eta(z)| \geq \epsilon' \quad \text{for } 1 > |z| \geq \delta.$$

Consequently  $1/\eta$  belongs to  $H^\infty + C$  [2]. Set  $\phi' = \phi/\eta$  and  $\psi' = \psi/\eta$ . Then

it is clear that there is an  $\epsilon'' > 0$  such that

$$|\phi'(z)| + |\psi'(z)| \geq \epsilon'' \quad \text{for } |z| < 1.$$

Hence, by corona theorem, we have  $\phi' H^\infty + \psi' H^\infty = H^\infty$ , which yields

$$\phi(H^\infty + C) + \psi(H^\infty + C) = H^\infty + C.$$

Last, by Corollary 2, (c) implies (a).

#### References

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