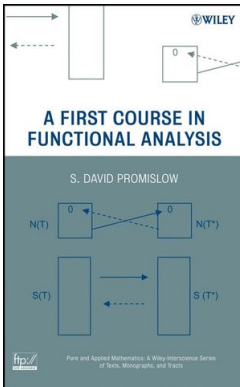


# Introduction to Functional Analysis

## Chapter 8. The Spectrum

### 8.6. Functions of Operators—Proofs of Theorems



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## 1 Proposition 8.26

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**Proposition 8.26.** Let  $T$  be a bounded, self adjoint operator on a Hilbert space  $H$ . Then the mapping that sends polynomials  $p \in C(\sigma(T))$  (continuous functions on the spectrum of  $T$ ) with the sup norm into  $p(T) \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ , sending  $f \in C(\sigma(T))$  to  $f(T)$  such that the following properties hold. For all  $f, g \in C(\sigma(T))$  and any  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ ,

- (i)  $(f + g)(T) = f(T) + g(T)$  and  $(\alpha f)(T) = \alpha f(T)$ ,
- (ii)  $\overline{f}(T) = (f(T))^*$  where  $\overline{f}$  is the conjugate of function  $f$ ,
- (iii)  $(fg)(T) = f(T)g(T)$ , and
- (iv) for any  $S \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  such that  $ST = TS$  we have  $Sf(T) = f(T)S$ .

**Proof.** Since  $C(\sigma(T))$  has the sup norm then the norm of  $p \in C(\sigma(T))$  is  $\|p\| = \sup\{|p(\lambda)| \mid \lambda \in \sigma(T)\}$ . By the Spectral Mapping Theorem (Theorem 8.5),  $\mu = p(\lambda)$  for some  $\lambda \in \sigma(T)$  if and only if  $\mu \in \sigma(p(T))$ , so we also have  $\|p\| = \sup\{|\mu| \mid \mu \in \sigma(p(T))\} = r(p(T))$  (where  $r(p(T))$  is the spectral radius of  $p(T)$ ; the equality holds by the definition of spectral radius).

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## Proposition 8.26 (continued 1)

**Proof (continued).** Since  $T$  is a normal operator, by Theorem 8.23,  $\|p\| = r(p(T)) = \|p(T)\|$ . Therefore the mapping of  $p$  to  $p(T)$  is an isometry.

The set of polynomials in  $C(\sigma(T))$  form a dense subset of  $C(\sigma(T))$  by the Stone-Weierstrass Theorem (see Appendix B of Promislow or Section 12.3 of Royden and Fitzpatrick). By Theorem 2.20, the mapping of the set of polynomials in  $C(r(T))$  to  $\mathcal{B}(H)$  (notice  $\mathcal{B}(H)$  is a Banach space by Theorem 2.15) can be extended to an isometry defined on all of  $X(\sigma(T))$ . We now prove each of the four claims.

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Let  $f, g \in C(\sigma(T))$ . Then, since the set of polynomials is dense in  $C(\sigma(T))$  then there are sequence of polynomials  $(p_n)$  and  $(q_n)$  with  $(p_n) \rightarrow f$  and  $(q_n) \rightarrow g$  (the convergence is uniform since  $C(\sigma(T))$  is equipped with the sup norm).

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## Proposition 8.26 (continued 2)

**Proof (continued).** (i) Now  $p_n + q_n = f + g$  and so

$$\begin{aligned}(f + g)(T) &= \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (p_n + q_n)(T) \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (p_n(T) + q_n(T)) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n(T) + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} q_n(T) = f(T) + g(T).\end{aligned}$$

For  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ ,

$$(\alpha f)(T) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\alpha p_n)(T) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha p_n(T) = \alpha \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n(T) = \alpha f(T).$$



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(ii) We have

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{f}(T) &= \left( \overline{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n} \right) (T) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\bar{p}_n(T)) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\bar{p}_n(T^*)) \text{ since } T = T^* \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (p_n(T))^* \text{ by Theorem 4.26 (consider } p_n \text{ in terms of its} \\ &\quad \text{coefficients and the fact that } T = T^* \\ &= \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n(T) \right)^* = (f(T))^*.\end{aligned}$$

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**Proof (continued).** (iii) We have

$$\begin{aligned}(fg)(T) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (p_n q_n)(T) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (p_n(T) q_n(T)) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n(T) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} q_n(T) = f(T)g(T).\end{aligned}$$

(iv) Let  $X \in \mathcal{B}(H)$  such that  $ST = TS$ . Notice that

$$S(a_i T^i + a_j T^j) = a_i S(T^i) + a_j S(T^j) = a_i T^i S + a_j T^j S = (a_i T^i + a_j T^j)S.$$

So for a polynomial  $p$ ,  $Sp(T) = p(T)S$ .

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$$\begin{aligned} Sf(T) &= S\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n(T)\right) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Sp_n(T) \text{ since } S \text{ is continuous} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (p_n(T)S) \text{ as argued above} \\ &= \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n(T)\right) S \text{ since } S \text{ is continuous} \\ &= f(T)S. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

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