

226. A Note on Nuclear Operators in Hilbert Space

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(Comm. by Kinjirô KUNUGI, M. J. A., Nov. 12, 1971)

1. Introduction. Let \mathfrak{H} be a separable Hilbert space and T a (bounded linear) operator on \mathfrak{H} . Then T is said to be *nuclear* (or of *trace class*) if there is an orthonormal basis (e_n) in \mathfrak{H} such that

$$(1) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (|T| e_n | e_n) < +\infty,$$

where $|T|$ is the absolute of T . Let \mathfrak{N} be the set of all nuclear operators. Then \mathfrak{N} is an algebraical ideal of $\mathfrak{B}(\mathfrak{H})$ which is the algebra of all operators on \mathfrak{H} . If $T \in \mathfrak{N}$, then there are orthonormal sets (e_n) and (f_n) such that

$$(2) \quad T = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n e_n \otimes f_n,$$

where (a_n) is a sequence of positive numbers such as

$$(3) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n < +\infty$$

and

$$(4) \quad (e \otimes f)g = (g | f)e,$$

in the notation of Schatten [2].

According to [1], K. Maurin conjectured that an operator T in nuclear if and only if T satisfies

$$(5) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|Te_n\| < +\infty$$

for any orthonormal set (e_n) . The conjecture is recently disproved by J. R. Holub [1]:

Theorem 1. *There is a nuclear operator T which does not satisfy (5) for an orthonormal basis (e_n) .*

Moreover, Holub [1] proves by virtue of a result of J. Lindenstrauss and A. Pelczynski on absolutely summing operators.

Theorem 2. *An operator T is nuclear if and only if there is an orthonormal basis (e_n) which satisfies (5).*

In the present note, we shall give simplified proofs of the above theorems in §§ 2–3. Incidentally, we shall characterize operators which satisfy Maurin's conjecture in § 4.

2. Proof of Theorem 2. It seems to us that Theorem 2 is already known, e.g. [3, Ex. 3–B, No. 30, p. 69]. However, for the sake of

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