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Bonus exercises

1 Let $\lambda : [0, T] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ be measurable. Let

$$A_n = \bigcup_{k=0}^{n-1} [kT/n, (k+1)T/n) \cap \{t : \lambda(t) \geq 1/2\}.$$

Show that for any $\phi \in L_1[0, T]$,

$$\int_0^t \chi_{A_n}(\tau) \phi(\tau) d\tau \rightarrow \int_0^t \lambda(\tau) \phi(\tau) d\tau,$$

uniformly on $[0, T]$.

Proof. We first consider the case $\phi = \chi_{(a,b)}$. Pick nonnegative integers $k_a, k_b \leq n$ such that $|k_a T/n - a| < T/n$ and $|b - k_b T/n| < T/n$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_0^t (\lambda(\tau) - \chi_{A_n}(\tau)) \phi(\tau) d\tau \right| &= \left| \int_a^b (\lambda(\tau) - \chi_{A_n}(\tau)) d\tau \right| \\ &= \left| \left(\int_a^{k_a T/n} + \int_{k_a T/n}^{k_b T/n} + \int_{k_b T/n}^b \right) (\lambda(\tau) - \chi_{A_n}(\tau)) d\tau \right| \\ &\leq |k_a T/n - a|(2) + |b - k_b T/n|(2) + 0 \\ &\leq 4T/n, \end{aligned}$$

which goes to 0 uniformly in t .

By linearity, we get the same result for step functions.

Let $\epsilon > 0$ and $\phi \in L_1[0, T]$ be arbitrary. We can pick a step function h such that $\|\phi - h\|_{L_1[0, T]} < \epsilon/(2T)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_0^t (\lambda(\tau) - \chi_{A_n}(\tau)) \phi(\tau) d\tau \right| &\leq \left| \int_0^t (\lambda(\tau) - \chi_{A_n}(\tau)) h(\tau) d\tau \right| + \left| \int_0^t (\lambda(\tau) - \chi_{A_n}(\tau)) (h - \phi)(\tau) d\tau \right| \\ &\leq \left| \int_0^t (\lambda(\tau) - \chi_{A_n}(\tau)) h(\tau) d\tau \right| + 2t\epsilon/(2T) \\ &\leq \left| \int_0^t (\lambda(\tau) - \chi_{A_n}(\tau)) h(\tau) d\tau \right| + \epsilon. \\ &\leq 2\epsilon, \end{aligned}$$

uniformly in t for n sufficiently large by the step function case. \square

2 Let V be a finite dimensional complex vector space and $T : V \rightarrow V$ be a linear transformation. Let $p(x)$ denote the characteristic polynomial of T , and $m(x)$ denote the minimal polynomial of T . Find a necessary and sufficient condition on the Jordan Normal Form of T for $p(x) = m(x)$.

Proof. I claim that $p = m$ if and only if the geometric multiplicity of each eigenvalue of T is 1. This means that each Jordan block has a distinct eigenvalue.

Let (λ_j) be an enumeration of the eigenvalues of T without multiplicity. Let s_j denote the size of the largest Jordan block corresponding to each eigenvalue λ_j . Then $(T - \lambda_j I)^{s_j}$ kills the generalized eigenspace V_j for λ_j . Thus $m(x)$ divides $\prod_j (x - \lambda_j)^{s_j}$. Moreover, each $(x - \lambda_j)^{s_j}$ generates the T -annihilator for the basis vector acted on by the last column of the largest Jordan block for λ_j . Thus, each $(x - \lambda_j)^{s_j}$ divides $m(x)$. Hence $m(x) = \prod_j (x - \lambda_j)^{s_j}$. It follows that $p = m$ iff each λ_j corresponds to exactly one Jordan block. \square