

The eigenvalues of M_q can be characterized as follows:

$\lambda \in P\sigma(M_q)$ if and only if the set $\{x \in X : q(x) = \lambda\}$ has non empty interior (analogously for $P\sigma(T(t))$). For example, it follows that $P\sigma(M_q) = \emptyset$ for $E = C_0(\mathbb{R}_+)$ and $q(x) = -x$, $x \in \mathbb{R}_+$.

On $E = L^p(X, \Sigma, \mu)$ analogous results are valid, but their exact formulation - using the notion 'essential range', see Goldstein (1985a) - is left to the reader.

2.4 The Spectrum of Translation Semigroups.

First we consider the translation semigroup

$$T(t)f(x) := f(x+t)$$

on $E = C_0(\mathbb{R}_+)$ (or $L^p(\mathbb{R}_+)$, see A-I, 2.4). Its generator A is the first derivative and for every $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$, $\operatorname{Re} \lambda < 0$, the function $\varepsilon_\lambda : x \rightarrow e^{\lambda x}$ belongs to $D(A)$ and satisfies

$$A\varepsilon_\lambda = \lambda\varepsilon_\lambda,$$

hence $\lambda \in P\sigma(A)$. Since $T = (T(t))_{t \geq 0}$ is a contraction semigroup it follows that $\sigma(A) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Re} \lambda \leq 0\}$ and $i\mathbb{R} \subset A\sigma(A)$ (use Prop. 2.2.(i) or show directly that $f_n(x) = e^{i\alpha x} \cdot e^{-x/n}$ defines an approximate eigenvector for $i\alpha$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$). Using the same functions one obtains

$$P\sigma(T(t)) = \{e^{\lambda t} : \operatorname{Re} \lambda < 0\} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$$

and $\sigma(T(t)) = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| \leq 1\}$ for every $t > 0$.

In the case of the translation group on $E = C_0(\mathbb{R})$ one has that $\sigma(A) \subset i\mathbb{R}$. As above one obtains approximate eigenvectors for every $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ from $f_n(x) = e^{i\alpha x} \cdot e^{-|x|/n}$, hence

$$\sigma(A) = A\sigma(A) = i\mathbb{R}.$$

The generator A of the nilpotent translation semigroup A-I, 2.6 has empty spectrum by A-I, Prop. 1.11. The resolvent is given by

$$R(\lambda, A)f(x) = e^{\lambda x} \int_x^\tau e^{-\lambda s} f(s) ds \quad (f \in L^p([0, \tau]), \lambda \in \mathbb{C}).$$

Finally the generator of the periodic translation group from A-I, 2.5 on $E = \{f \in C[0, 1] : f(0) = f(1)\}$ has point spectrum

$$P\sigma(A) = 2\pi i\mathbb{Z}$$

with eigenfunctions $\varepsilon_n(x) := \exp(2\pi i n x)$. In Section 5 we show that

$$\sigma(A) = 2\pi i\mathbb{Z}.$$

We now return to the general theory and recall from Corollary 1.2 that it is very useful (e.g., for stability theory) to be able to convert