

On Operator Equation $TA - AT^* = C$

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ABSTRACT

Let \mathcal{H} be a separable complex Hilbert space, and let $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be the algebra of bounded linear operators on \mathcal{H} . Let A, B, C be elements in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. The equation $AX - XB = C$, which is called Sylvester's equation or Rosenbium's equation has been studied extensively by many mathematicians (see for example Bhatia and Rosenthal, 1997).

More recently, equations of the form $TA - AT^* = C$, where T^* represents the adjoint of T , began to receive more and more attention (Molnár, 1996; Molnár, 1994; Molnár, 1996; Semrl, 1994; Semrl, 1999; Semrl, 1991).

In this paper, we give necessary conditions for equation of the form $TA - AT^* = f(A)$ to have a solution in case A is a normal operator.

Keywords: Normal Operator, The Equation $TA - AT^* = C$

INTRODUCTION

Let \mathcal{H} be a separable complex Hilbert space, and let $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be the algebra of bounded linear operators on \mathcal{H} . Let A, B, C be elements in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. The equation $AX - XB = C$, which is called Sylvester's equation or Rosenbium's equation, has been studied extensively by many mathematicians (Bhatia and Rosenthal, 1997).

More recently, equations of the form $TA - AT^* = C$ were studied by L. Molnár and P. Semrl (Molnár, 1996; Molnár, 1994; Molnár, 1996; Semrl, 1994; Semrl, 1999; Semrl, 1991)

In this paper, we give necessary conditions for equation of the form $TA - AT^* = f(A)$ to have a solution in case A is a normal operator.

1. PRELIMINARIES

Let A be a bounded linear operator on the separable complex Hilbert space \mathcal{H} . A is called a Hermitian operator if $A^* = A$ and A is skew-Hermitian if $A = -A^*$, where A^* is the adjoint of A . Recall that the spectrum of A , denoted by $\sigma(A)$, is defined by $\sigma(A) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : A - \lambda I \text{ is not invertible}\}$. It is known that if A is Hermitian, then $\sigma(A)$ consists of real numbers and if A is skew-Hermitian, then $\sigma(A)$ consists of pure imaginary numbers, i.e. $\sigma(A) \subseteq i\mathbb{R}$, where \mathbb{R} is the set of real numbers (Berberian, 1976; Halmos, 1957).

The following theorem shows that the equation $TA - AT^* = C$ for fixed A and C may not have a solution.

Theorem 1.1. *Let $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $A + A^*$ is not invertible. Then, the equation $TA - AT^* = iI$ has no solution in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$.*

Proof. Assume that $TA - AT^* = iI$ for some $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Then,

$$A^*T^* - TA^* = -iI \quad \text{Hence}$$

$$TA - AT^* - A^*T^* + TA^* = 2iI, \text{ therefore}$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(A + A^*) - (A^* + A)T^* &= 2iI \\ &= T(A + A^*) - (T(A + A^*))^* \end{aligned}$$

If we put $B = A + A^*$, then it is clear that B is

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Hermitian, $TB - (TB)^* = 2iI$, and $TB \neq 0$. This implies that $TB = (iI + (TB)^*) + iI$. If we put $C = iI + (TB)^*$, then $C = TB - iI$. Note that C is Hermitian, in fact,

$$C^* = (iI + (TB)^*)^* = -iI + TB = C.$$

Hence, as stated by Halmos (1957), the spectrum of C , $\sigma(C)$ consists of real numbers. On the other hand, since $A + A^*$ is Hermitian and not invertible, then it can be checked easily that TB is not invertible, and hence $0 \in \sigma(TB)$. But $C = TB - iI$, then by the spectral mapping theorem (Taylor and Lay, 1980), $-i \in \sigma(C)$; which is a contradiction.

In a similar way we prove the following:

Theorem 1.2. *Let $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $A - A^*$ is not invertible. Then, the equation $TA - AT^* = I$ has no solution in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$.*

The following proposition shows that if the assumptions of non-invertibility are dropped in Theorem 1.1 and Theorem 1.2; then the equations may have solutions.

Proposition 1.3. *Let A be an invertible Hermitian operator. Then the equation $TA - AT^* = C$ has a solution $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ if and only if C is skew-Hermitian.*

Proof. If the equation has a solution T , then, it is easily checked that C is skew-Hermitian. For the converse, if C is skew-Hermitian, and A is invertible, then it is easily seen that $T = \frac{1}{2}CA^{-1}$ is a solution for the equation $TA - AT^* = C$.

In a similar manner, one can prove the following:

Proposition 1.4. *Let A be an invertible skew-Hermitian operator. Then, the equation $TA - AT^* = C$ has a solution in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ if and only if C is Hermitian.*

2. NORMAL OPERATOR

Let $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, A is called normal if $AA^* = A^*A$, (Berberian, 1976). If $p(\lambda) = a_0 + a_1\lambda + \dots + a_n\lambda^n$ is a complex polynomial, where a_i a complex number, $i = 0, 1, \dots, n$, we define

$$p(A) = a_0I + a_1A + \dots + a_nA^n$$

Recall that an element $\lambda \in \sigma(A)$ is called an eigenvalue of A if there exists a non-zero vector $x \in \mathcal{H}$ such that $Ax = \lambda x$. And λ is called an approximate eigenvalue if there exists a sequence $\{u_n\}$ of unit vectors in \mathcal{H} such that $\|(A - \lambda I)u_n\| \rightarrow 0$.

Equivalently, for each $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a unit vector $x \in \mathcal{H}$ such that $\|Ax - \lambda x\| < \varepsilon$, (Halmos, 1982). It is known that if A is a normal operator, then every element in the spectrum is an approximate eigenvalue, (Halmos, 1957).

In this section, we study the equation $TA - AT^* = p(A)$ for normal operators A . Before we state our main result of this section, we need the following:

Lemma 2.1. *Let T be any element in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, and let p be any polynomial. If λ is any approximate eigenvalue for T , then $p(\lambda)$ is an approximate eigenvalue for $p(T)$.*

Proof. Suppose that p is a polynomial and λ is an approximate eigenvalue for T . Let $\varepsilon > 0$. There exists a unit vector $x \in \mathcal{H}$ such that $\|(T - \lambda)x\| < \varepsilon$. We show that

$$\|(p(T) - p(\lambda))x\| < \varepsilon t,$$

for some positive t in \mathbb{R} , where t does not depend on ε .

Suppose that p is the zero polynomial. Let $t = 1$. Then

$$\|(p(T) - p(\lambda))x\| < \varepsilon t.$$

Suppose that $T = 0$, Then $\lambda = 0$. Let $t = 1$, Then $(p(T) - p(\lambda))x = a_0I - a_0x$, and thus; $\|(p(T) - p(\lambda))x\| < \varepsilon t$.

So we can assume that p is a non-zero polynomial and $T \neq 0$. Note that for each $k \geq 1$,

$$a_k(T^k - \lambda^k I) = a_k(T - \lambda I)(T^{k-1} + \lambda T^{k-2} + \dots + \lambda^{k-1} I).$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \|(p(T) - p(\lambda))x\| &= \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n a_k(T^k - \lambda^k I)x \right\| \\ &\leq \sum_{k=1}^n \|a_k(T^k - \lambda^k I)x\| \\ &\leq \sum_{k=1}^n \|a_k(T^{k-1} + \lambda T^{k-2} + \dots + \lambda^{k-1} I)(T - \lambda I)x\| \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq \|(T - \lambda I)x\| \sum_{k=1}^n \|a_k(T^{k-1} + \lambda T^{k-2} + \dots + \lambda^{k-1}I)\|.$$

Since $\|a_k(T^{k-1} + \lambda T^{k-2} + \dots + \lambda^{k-1}I)\|$ is a constant, say b_k , then;

$$\|(p(T) - p(\lambda))x\| < \varepsilon t, \text{ where } t = \sum_{k=1}^n b_k.$$

Now, suppose that A is a normal operator. The following theorem shows that if the equation $TA - AT^* = p(A)$ has a solution and if $\lambda \in \sigma(A)$, $\lambda \neq 0$, then; $\frac{p(\lambda)}{\lambda}$ is a pure imaginary number.

Theorem 2.2. Let $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a normal operator, and let $p(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$ be a polynomial. Then;

(1) If the equation $TA - AT^* = p(A)$ has a solution T in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, then for each $\lambda \in \sigma(A)$, if $\lambda = 0$ then $p(\lambda) = 0$ and otherwise $\frac{p(\lambda)}{\lambda}$ is a pure imaginary number, i.e, an element in $i\mathcal{R}$.

(2) If the equation $TA^* - A^*T^* = p(A)$ has a solution T in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, then for each $\lambda \in \sigma(A)$, $\lambda p(\lambda)$ is a pure imaginary number.

Proof.

(1) Let $\varepsilon > 0$ and let $\lambda \in \sigma(A)$, Suppose that $T=0$, Then, $p(A) = TA - AT^* = 0$. By the Spectral Mapping Theorem $p(\sigma(A)) = \sigma(p(A)) = \sigma(0) = \{0\}$. It follows that $p(\lambda) = 0$. Hence, if $\lambda = 0$, then $p(\lambda) = 0$, and otherwise $\frac{p(\lambda)}{\lambda} = 0 = i0$ belongs to $i\mathcal{R}$. Suppose that $T \neq 0$. Since λ is an approximate eigenvalue for A , then there exists a unit vector x in H such that;

$$(2.1) \quad \|Ax - \lambda x\| \|T^*\| < \varepsilon, \|x\| = 1.$$

Hence by lemma 2.1 and its proof, $p(\lambda)$ is an approximate eigenvalue for $p(A)$. Thus; $\|p(A)x - p(\lambda)x\| \|x\| < \varepsilon t$, $t > 0$, $\|x\| = 1$, (see the proof of Lemma 2.1). By Schwarz inequality, $|\langle p(A)x - p(\lambda)x, x \rangle| < \varepsilon t$ and hence

$$(2.2) \quad |\langle p(A)x, x \rangle - p(\lambda)| < \varepsilon t.$$

On the other hand, $p(A) - (TA - AT^*) = 0$ implies $\langle p(A) - (TA - AT^*)x, x \rangle = 0$.

and hence

$$(2.3) \quad |\langle p(A)x, x \rangle - \langle Ax, T^*x \rangle + \langle T^*x, A^*x \rangle| = 0.$$

Now, the normality of A implies $\|Ay\| = \|A^*y\|$ for all $y \in \mathcal{H}$. Hence from equation (2.1) we get

$$(2.4) \quad \|T^*\| \|A^*x - \bar{\lambda}x\| < \varepsilon.$$

From equations (2.1), (2.4) we deduce, using Schwarz inequality, that

$$(2.5) \quad |\langle Ax, T^*x \rangle - \lambda \langle x, T^*x \rangle| < \varepsilon.$$

and

$$(2.6) \quad |\langle T^*x, A^*x \rangle + \lambda \langle T^*x, x \rangle| < \varepsilon$$

By adding equations (2.2), (2.3), (2.5), (2.6) we get

$$|p(\lambda) - \lambda \langle (T - T^*)x, x \rangle| < \varepsilon(t+2).$$

Since $T - T^*$ is skew-Hermitian, then it is easily seen that $|\langle (T - T^*)x, x \rangle|$ is pure imaginary number, say c . Thus;

$$|p(\lambda) - \lambda c| < \varepsilon(t+2), \quad c \in i\mathcal{R}.$$

Suppose that $\lambda = 0$, Then $|p(\lambda)| = |p(\lambda) - \lambda c| < \varepsilon(t+2)$. We have $|p(\lambda)| < \varepsilon(t+2)$ for each $\varepsilon > 0$, It follows that $p(\lambda) = 0$.

On the other hand, suppose that $\lambda \neq 0$, Then

$$d\left(\frac{p(\lambda)}{\lambda}, i\mathcal{R}\right) = \inf\left\{\left|\frac{p(\lambda)}{\lambda} - z\right| : z \in i\mathcal{R}\right\} \leq$$

$$\left|\frac{p(\lambda)}{\lambda} - c\right| = \frac{1}{|\lambda|} |p(\lambda) - \lambda c| < \frac{\varepsilon(t+2)}{\lambda}.$$

It follows that

$$d\left(\frac{p(\lambda)}{\lambda}, i\mathcal{R}\right) < \frac{\varepsilon(t+2)}{\lambda}, \text{ for each } \varepsilon > 0. \text{ Hence}$$

$$d\left(\frac{p(\lambda)}{\lambda}, i\mathcal{R}\right) = 0, \text{ and thus } \frac{p(\lambda)}{\lambda} \in i\mathcal{R}.$$

(2) Assume $p(A) = TA^* - A^*T^*$ for some $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. As in Part (1), we can assume that $T \neq 0$.

$$\|Ax - \lambda x\| \|T^*\| < \varepsilon, \|x\| = 1$$

$$|p(A)x - p(\lambda)x| < \varepsilon t$$

Thus, the equations (2.2), (2.3), (2.5), (2.6) become

$$|\langle p(A)x, x \rangle - p(\lambda)| < \varepsilon t$$

$$|\langle p(A)x, x \rangle - \langle A^*x, T^*x \rangle + \langle T^*x, Ax \rangle| = 0,$$

$$|\langle T^*x, Ax \rangle - \bar{\lambda} \langle T^*x, x \rangle| < \varepsilon,$$

$$|\langle A^*x, T^*x \rangle - \bar{\lambda} \langle x, T^*x \rangle| < \varepsilon.$$

By adding the last four equations we get

$$|p(\lambda) - \bar{\lambda} \langle (T - T^*)x, x \rangle| < \varepsilon(t+2).$$

We have $d(\lambda p(\lambda), i\mathbb{R}) = \inf\{|\lambda p(\lambda) - z| : z \in i\mathbb{R}\} \leq |\lambda p(\lambda) - |\lambda|^2 c| = |\lambda| |p(\lambda) - \bar{\lambda} c| \leq |\lambda| \varepsilon$ (t+2). It follows that $d(\lambda p(\lambda), i\mathbb{R}) \leq |\lambda| \varepsilon(t+2)$, for each $\varepsilon > 0$. Hence, $d(\lambda p(\lambda), i\mathbb{R}) = 0$, and, $\lambda p(\lambda) \in i\mathbb{R}$.

Because of the importance of the special case $p(\lambda) = \lambda^n$, we record it as a corollary.

Corollary 2.3. *Let $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a non-zero normal operator and the equation $TA - AT^* = A^n$ has a solution $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, when n is a positive integer. Then,*

(1) *If $n=1$, then $A=0$, i.e. the equation $TA - AT^* = A$ has no solution.*

(2) *If $n \geq 2$, then $(\sigma(A))^{n-1} \subseteq i\mathbb{R}$.*

Remark 2.4. If A is a normal operator, then so is A^n for each positive integer n . Hence, if the equation $TA - AT^* = A^n$ has a solution in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, then $\sigma(A^{n-1}) \subseteq i\mathbb{R}$. Hence A^{n-1} is skew-Hermitian operator (Halmos, 1957), In particular, if $TA - AT^* = A^2$ and A is normal, then A is skew-Hermitian. And if A^n is not skew-Hermitian, the equation $TA - AT^* = A^{n+1}$ has no solution in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$.

On the other hand, if A^{n-1} is skew-Hermitian, then $T = \frac{1}{2} A^{n-1}$ is a solution of the equation $TA - AT^* = A^n$.

Example 2.5. Let

$$\mathcal{H} = \left\{ x = (\dots, x_{-1}, x_0, x_1, \dots) : \|x\|^2 = \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} |x_i|^2 < \infty, x_i \in \mathbb{C} \right\}.$$

Let $A: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ be the shift operator defined on the basis $\{e_n\}$ by $Ae_n = e_{n+1}$, $-\infty < n < \infty$. It is easily checked that $A^*e_n = e_{n-1}$. Thus, $AA^* = A^*A$ and A is normal. Note that A is not skew-Hermitian for all $n \geq 1$.

Corollary 2.6. *Let A be an operator in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $A + A^*$ is not invertible. Let $p(\lambda)$ be any polynomial such that $p(A) - (p(A))^* = cI$, $c \neq 0$. Then, the equation $TA - AT^* = p(A)$ has no solution in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$.*

Proof. Assume that the equation $TA - AT^* = p(A)$ has a solution T in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Then, $A^*T^* - TA^* = (p(A))^*$. Thus, $T(A + A^*) - (A + A^*)T^* = p(A) - (p(A))^* = cI = q(A)$. Note that

$A + A^*$ is Hermitian, hence normal and $0 \in \sigma(A + A^*)$. Thus, by 2.2 $q(0) = 0$ which is a contradiction.

Note. Corollary 2.6 gives another proof for 1.1.

Before we state our next result, let us recall the following from the complex analysis (Nahari, 1968).

Lemma 2.7. *Let D be a bounded simply connected domain in the complex plane \mathbb{C} , with $\partial D = C$ is a simple closed contour. Let f be an analytic function in $D \cup C$. If $Re f = 0$ on C , then f is a constant function.*

Theorem 2.8. *Let A be a normal operator in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, and let p be a polynomial. Suppose that $\sigma(A)$ contains a simple closed contour C .*

(1) *Furthermore, assume that $\frac{p(\lambda)}{\lambda}$ is analytic at 0, if 0 belongs to the simple closed contour C union its interior. The equation $TA - AT^* = p(A)$ has a solution T in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ if and only if there exists c in $i\mathbb{R}$ such that $p(\lambda) = \lambda c$ for all λ in C .*

(2) *The equation $TA^* - A^*T^* = P(A)$ has a solution T in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ if and only if $p(\lambda) = 0$.*

Proof. (1) By theorem (2.2,i), for each $\lambda \in \sigma(A)$, $\frac{p(\lambda)}{\lambda} = c$, $c \in i\mathbb{R}$, and c depends on λ . Since p is analytic in the whole complex plane, it is analytic on $\sigma(A)$. Moreover, by assumption $\frac{p(\lambda)}{\lambda}$ is analytic on C and its interior. Thus, by Lemma 2.7, $\frac{p(\lambda)}{\lambda}$ is a constant function, say $c_0 \in i\mathbb{R}$, on the contour C union its interior, and hence $p(\lambda) = c_0 \lambda$ for each λ in C and $p(A) = c_0 A$.

(2) Suppose that $TA^* - A^*T^* = p(A)$ for some $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Then, for each $\lambda \in \sigma(A)$, $\lambda p(\lambda) = c$, and $c \in i\mathbb{R}$ may depend on λ . Since $\lambda p(\lambda)$ is analytic on $\sigma(A)$ and $\sigma(A)$ contains a closed contour, then by 2.7 $\lambda p(\lambda)$ is a constant function say c_0 , $c_0 \in i\mathbb{R}$. Obviously, this can happen only if $p(\lambda) = 0$.

The next example shows that theorem 2.8 is false in case $\frac{p(\lambda)}{\lambda}$ is not analytic in the domain bounded by C . Note that $\frac{p(\lambda)}{\lambda}$ is analytic at $\lambda = 0$ if and only if $p(0) = 0$.

Example 2.9. Let A be the bilateral shift operator, defined in example 2.5. A is unitary i.e. $AA^* = A^*A = I$, hence normal. Recall that the spectrum of A is the

boundary of the unit disk D (Halmos, 1982). If $p(\lambda)=1-\lambda^2$, then $TA-AT^*=I-A^*$ where $T=A^*$. Note that $0 \in D$ and $\frac{1-\lambda^2}{\lambda}$ is not analytic at 0.

3. ANALYTIC OPERATORS

Let f be a complex analytic function defined on the ball $B_r=\{z \in \mathbb{C}: |z| < r\}$ where $r > 0$. Let $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $\|A\| < r$. By Taylor theorem $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n$, and this series converges in $|z| < r$. It is known that $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n$ converges in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, (Rajavi and Rosenthal, 1973), and one can define

$$f(A) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n A^n .$$

Since $|\sigma(A)| \leq \|A\|$, where $|\sigma(A)|$ denotes the spectral radius of A , then $\sigma(A) \subset B_r$. In particular, if λ is an eigenvalue for A , then $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \lambda^n$ that converges to $f(\lambda)$ is defined. The operator $f(A)$ is called an analytic operator.

Before we give one of our main results in the paper, we need the following:

Lemma 3.1. *Let f and A be as above, and let λ be an eigenvalue for A , then $f(\lambda)$ is an eigenvalue for $f(A)$. And if $Ax=\lambda x$, then $f(A)x=f(\lambda)x$.*

Proof. For each non-negative integer n , let $p_n(\lambda) = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k \lambda^k$. It is easily checked that $p_n(A)x=p_n(\lambda)x$. But $p_n(A) \rightarrow f(A)$ and $p_n(\lambda) \rightarrow f(\lambda)$, hence $p_n(A)x \rightarrow f(A)x$ and $p_n(\lambda)x \rightarrow f(\lambda)x$, and thus $f(A)x=f(\lambda)x$.

The next theorem gives necessary conditions for the equation $TA-AT^*=f(A)$ to have a solution.

Theorem 3.2. *Let $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a normal operator, and let $f(\lambda) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \lambda^n$ be analytic function in the ball B_r such that $\|A\| < r$.*

(1) *If the equation $TA-AT^*=f(A)$ has a solution in*

$\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, then for each eigenvalue λ of A , if $\lambda=0$, $f(\lambda)=0$ and otherwise $\frac{f(\lambda)}{\lambda}$.

(2) *If the equation $TA^*-A^*T^*=f(A)$ has a solution in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, then, for each eigenvalue λ of A , $\lambda f(\lambda)$ is a pure imaginary number.*

Proof. (1) Let λ be an eigenvalue for A , and let x be the corresponding eigenvector. Thus, $Ax = \lambda x$, we may assume $\|x\|=1$. By 3.1 $f(A)x = f(\lambda)x$, hence $\langle f(A)x, x \rangle - f(\lambda)x = 0$. Moreover, $f(A) - (TA - AT^*) = 0$, hence $\langle f(A)x, x \rangle - \langle Ax, T^*x \rangle + \langle T^*x, A^*x \rangle = 0$. Since A is normal $A^*x = \bar{\lambda}x$, hence $\langle Ax - \lambda x, T^*x \rangle = 0$ and $\langle T^*x, A^*x - \bar{\lambda}x \rangle = 0$.

It follows now from these equations that

$$f(\lambda) - \lambda \left(\langle x, T^*x \rangle - \langle T^*x, x \rangle \right) = 0 .$$

Hence, $f(\lambda) - \lambda \left(\langle (T - T^*)x, x \rangle \right) = 0$, and thus $f(\lambda) = \lambda c$, where $c = \langle (T - T^*)x, x \rangle \in i\mathcal{R}$.

(2) We leave the proof of (2) to the reader.

The proof of the following theorem is similar to the proof 2.8, hence it is omitted.

Theorem 3.3. *Let A be a normal operator on \mathcal{H} . Suppose that $f(\lambda) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \lambda^n$ is analytic in some ball B_r such that $\|A\| < r$, and suppose that the set $\pi_0(A)$, the set of eigenvalues of A , contains a simple closed contour C .*

(1) Furthermore, assume that $\frac{f(\lambda)}{\lambda}$ is analytic at 0 if 0 belongs to the simple closed contour C union its interior. Then the equation $TA-AT^*=f(A)$ has a solution in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ if and only if there exists c in $i\mathcal{R}$ such that $f(\lambda)=c\lambda$ for all λ in B_r .

(2) The equation $TA^*-A^*T^*=f(A)$ has a solution T in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ if and only if $f \equiv 0$ on B_r .

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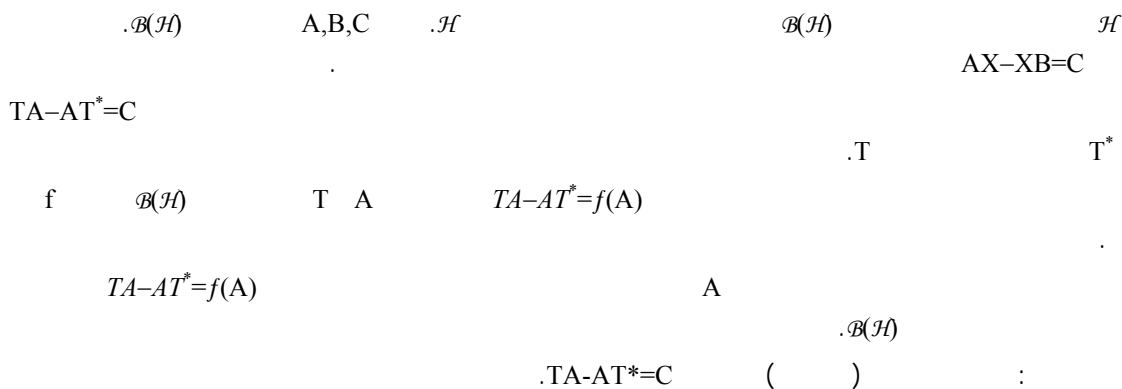
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$$TA-AT^*=C$$

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