Cotauberian operators on $L_1(0,1)$ obtained by lifting

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Abstract. We show that the set $\mathcal{T}^d(L_1(0,1))$ of cotauberian operators acting on $L_1(0,1)$ is not open, and $T \in \mathcal{T}^d(L_1(0,1))$ does not imply T^{**} cotauberian. As a consequence, the derive that set $\mathcal{T}(L_{\infty}(0,1))$ of tauberian operators acting on $L_{\infty}(0,1)$ is not open, and that $T \in$ $\mathcal{T}(L_{\infty}(0,1))$ does not imply T^{**} tauberian.

1. Introduction

Tauberian operators were introduced in [13] as those operators $T: X \to Y$ such that the second conjugate satisfies $T^{**-1}(Y) = X$. They have found many applications in Banach space theory like factorization of operators [5], preservation of isomorphic properties [16], equivalence between the Radon-Nikodym property and the Krein-Milman property [18], and refinements of James' characterization of reflexive spaces [17]. The cotauberian operators were introduced by Tacon [19] as those operators T such that T^* is tauberian, and they have found applications in factorization of operators and preservation of isomorphic properties of Banach spaces (see [8]). The classes \mathcal{T} of tauberian operators and \mathcal{T}^d of cotauberian operators are semigroups in the sense of [1] associated to the weakly compact operators [10, Theorem 2]. We refer to [8] for additional information on the subject.

Let $\mathcal{L}(X, Y)$ denote the set of all (bounded) operators acting between X and Y. Given a class \mathcal{A} of operators, $\mathcal{A}(X,Y) := \mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{L}(X,Y)$ is the component of \mathcal{A} in $\mathcal{L}(X,Y)$. It was proved in [2] that, in general, $\mathcal{T}(X,Y)$ and $\mathcal{T}^d(X,Y)$ are not open subsets of $\mathcal{L}(X,Y)$, and that $T \in \mathcal{T} \not\Rightarrow T^{**} \in \mathcal{T}$ and $T \in \mathcal{T}^d \not\Rightarrow T^{**} \in \mathcal{T}^d$ (see Sections 2.1 and 3.1 in [8]). The corresponding counterexamples were obtained as operators $T: X \to X$ acting on certain Banach spaces X constructed ad hoc. So it was interesting to know if there

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are counterexamples among the operators acting between classical Banach spaces. Applying some properties of the push-out construction for a pair of operators and a technical result on the gap between subspaces, it was proved in [9] that the counterexamples for \mathcal{T} can be obtained among the operators acting on C[0, 1].

In this paper we obtain some results on the pull-back construction for a pair of operators, and applying a technical result on the gap between subspaces we show that the counterexamples for \mathcal{T}^d can be obtained among the operators acting on $L_1(0, 1)$, ℓ_1 , or any Banach space Z admitting a quotient isomorphic to ℓ_1 . From these results we derive that set $\mathcal{T}(Z^*)$ of tauberian operators acting on the dual Z^* of the mentioned space Z is not open, and that $T \in \mathcal{T}(Z^*)$ does not imply T^{**} tauberian. We observe that the results on tauberian operators acting on Z^* cannot be derived from the construction given in [9], because we cannot guarantee that a quotient of Z^* is isomorphic to a subspace of Z^* . Indeed, taking as Z the space ℓ_1 , it follows from the main result in [3] that the quotient ℓ_{∞}/c_0 is not isomorphic to a subspace of ℓ_{∞} .

Our notation is standard. Capital letters X, Y, Z denote Banach spaces, and given a subspace Y of X, the annihilator of Y in X^* is Y^{\perp} . The second dual of X is denoted X^{**} , we identify X with a subspace of X^{**} , and we denote by X^{co} the quotient X^{**}/X . We refer to [4, Section 1.3] for a description of the push-out construction for a pair of operators.

Given two closed subspaces M and N of Z, we consider the quantity

$$\delta(M,N) := \sup_{y \in S_M} \operatorname{dist}(y,N),$$

where $S_M := \{y \in M : ||y|| = 1\}$ is the unit sphere of M. The gap between Mand N is defined by $\hat{\delta}(M, N) := \max\{\delta(M, N), \delta(N, M)\}$. Basic results on the gap between subspaces can be found in [15, Section 10], and for Banach space theory we refer to [14].

Operators are always continuous linear maps. The range and the kernel of an operator $T: X \to Y$ are denoted by $\operatorname{ran}(T)$ and $\ker(T)$ respectively, $T^*: Y^* \to X^*$ is the conjugate of $T, T^{**}: X^{**} \to Y^{**}$ is the second conjugate of T, and the *residuum operator of* T (studied in [11]) is the operator $T^{co}: X^{co} \to Y^{co}$ that maps $x^{**} + X$ to $T^{**}x^{**} + Y$.

An operator $T: X \to Y$ is said to be *tauberian* if $T^{**}(X^{**} \setminus X) \subset Y^{**} \setminus Y$; equivalently, if T^{co} is injective [8, Proposition 3.1.8], and T is said to be cotauberian if T^* is tauberian; equivalently, if T^{co} has dense range [8, Corollary 3.1.12]. The class of all tauberian operators will be denoted by \mathcal{T} . Therefore, given Banach spaces X and Y, the component $\mathcal{T}(X,Y)$ consists of all tauberian operators in $\mathcal{L}(X,Y)$. In the case X = Y we write $\mathcal{T}(X)$ instead of $\mathcal{T}(X,X)$. The class of all cotauberian operators will be denoted by \mathcal{T}^d .

Surjective operators belong to \mathcal{T}^d , and given operators $S: X \to Y$ and $T: Y \longrightarrow Z$, the following assertions are satisfied (see [8, Section 3.1]):

(i) if $T \in \mathcal{T}^d$ and $S \in \mathcal{T}^d$ then $TS \in \mathcal{T}^d$;

(ii) if $TS \in \mathcal{T}^d$ then $T \in \mathcal{T}^d$.

2. The pull-back of a pair of operators

Let X, Y and Z be Banach spaces. Given a pair of operators $A: Y \to X$ and $B: Z \to X$, we consider the operator

$$A - B : (y, z) \in Y \oplus_{\infty} Z \longrightarrow Ay - Bz \in X,$$

and denote by PB(A, B) (or simply PB if the operators are clear) the space

$$PB(A,B) := \ker(A-B) = \{(y,z) \in Y \oplus_{\infty} Z : Ay = Bz\}.$$

Since A - B is continuous, PB(A, B) is a Banach space. It is called the *pull-back space of the pair* (A, B).

The operators $\pi_A \colon PB \to Z$ and $\pi_B \colon PB \to Y$ that take $(y, z) \in PB$ to z and y respectively have norm less or equal than 1, and satisfy the identity $A\pi_B = B\pi_A$. So we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
PB \xrightarrow{\pi_A} Z \\
\pi_B & \downarrow B \\
Y \xrightarrow{A} X
\end{array}$$
(1)

which is called the *pull-back diagram of the pair* (A, B). Note that the roles played by A and B in the construction are symmetric.

The following universal property of the pull-back diagram guarantees that it is unique up to isomorphisms. Its proof is straightforward.

Proposition 2.1 (Universal property). Let $A: Y \to X$ and $B: Z \to X$ be a pair of operators. Then for any Banach space U and any pair of operators $p_B: U \to Y$ and $p_A: U \to Z$ such that $Ap_B = Bp_A$ there exists a unique operator $\pi: U \to PB$ such that $p_A = \pi_A \pi$ and $p_B = \pi_B \pi$.

The operator π is given by $\pi(u) = (p_B(u), p_A(u)).$

We will need the following properties of the pull-back diagram.

Proposition 2.2. Let $A: Y \to X$ and $B: Z \to X$ be a pair of operators and suppose that B is surjective. Then the following assertions are satisfied:

(i) π_B is surjective.

(ii) A has dense range if and only if so does π_A .

Proof. (i) Let $y \in Y$. Since B is surjective, there exists $z \in Z$ such that Ay = Bz. Thus $(y, z) \in PB$, and $\pi_B(y, z) = y$.

(ii) Suppose that A has dense range; equivalently that the conjugate A^* is injective. Since B is surjective, so is the operator A - B. In particular its range ran(A - B) is closed. Thus

$$PB^* = \frac{Y^* \oplus_1 Z^*}{\ker(A - B)^{\perp}} = \frac{Y^* \oplus_1 Z^*}{\operatorname{ran}((A - B)^*)},$$

where $(A - B)^* : X^* \to Y^* \oplus_1 Z^*$ is given by $(A - B)^* x^* = (A^* x^*, -B^* x^*)$. Note also that $\pi_A^* : Z^* \to PB^*$ is given by $\pi_A^* z^* = (0, z^*) + \operatorname{ran}((A - B)^*)$. So suppose that $\pi_A^* z^* = 0$. Then $(0, z^*) = (A^* x^*, -B^* x^*)$ for some x^* . Since A^* is injective we get $x^* = 0$, hence $z^* = -B^* x^* = 0$. Thus π_A^* injective, hence π_A has dense range.

Conversely, if the range of π_A is dense, then $A\pi_B = B\pi_A$ has dense range; hence so does A.

Remark 2.3. By Proposition 2.2, if *B* is surjective then π_B is also surjective. In this case we can see the operator π_A as a lifting of *A*. This is the interpretation in which we are interested in this paper.

From now on, when we say that we can identify two operators or two diagrams, we mean that we identify them up to bijective isomorphisms.

The following result shows that the action of taking biconjugates and that of forming pull-backs commute in some cases.

Proposition 2.4. Let $A: Y \to X$ and $B: Z \to X$ be a pair of operators with B surjective. Then the second conjugate of the pull-back diagram of (A, B) can be identified with the pull-back diagram of (A^{**}, B^{**}) .

Proof. We have to identify the following diagrams:

where, since A - B has closed range,

 $\begin{aligned} PB(A,B)^{**} &= \ker\left((A-B)^{**}\right) = \{(y^{**},z^{**}) \in Y^{**} \oplus_{\infty} Z^{**} : A^{**}y^{**} = B^{**}z^{**}\},\\ \text{and } \pi_A^{**} : PB(A,B)^{**} \to Z^{**} \text{ and } \pi_B^{**} : PB(A,B)^{**} \to Y^{**} \text{ take } (y^{**},z^{**}) \in PB(A,B)^{**} \text{ to } z^{**} \text{ and } y^{**} \text{ respectively.} \end{aligned}$

The universal property of the pull-back diagram (Proposition 2.1) provides an operator

$$\pi: PB(A, B)^{**} \longrightarrow PB(A^{**}, B^{**})$$

given by

$$\pi(y^{**}, z^{**}) = \left(\pi_B^{**}(y^{**}, z^{**}), \pi_A^{**}(y^{**}, z^{**})\right) = (y^{**}, z^{**}).$$

Since obviously π is a bijective isomorphism, the result is proved.

The following result shows that the action of passing to residuum operators and that of forming pull-backs commute in some cases.

Proposition 2.5. Let $A: Y \to X$ and $B: Z \to X$ be a pair of operators with B surjective. Then the residuum of the pull-back diagram of (A, B) can be identified with the pull-back diagram of (A^{co}, B^{co}) .

Proof. The proof is formally similar to that of Proposition 2.4. We have to show that we can identify the following diagrams:

where, since A - B has closed range, we have (see [8, Proposition 3.1.13]) $PB(A, B)^{co} = \ker ((A-B)^{co}) = \{(y^{co}, z^{co}) \in Y^{co} \oplus_{\infty} Z^{co} : A^{co}y^{co} = B^{co}z^{co}\},\$ and $\pi_A^{co} : PB(A, B)^{co} \to Z^{co}$ and $\pi_B^{co} : PB(A, B)^{co} \to Y^{co}$ take $(y^{co}, z^{co}) \in PB(A, B)^{co}$ to z^{co} and y^{co} respectively.

The universal property of the pull-back diagram (Proposition 2.1) provides an operator

$$\pi: PB(A,B)^{co} \longrightarrow PB(A^{co},B^{co})$$

given by

$$\pi(y^{co}, z^{co}) = \left(\pi^{co}_B(y^{co}, z^{co}), \pi^{co}_A(y^{co}, z^{co})\right) = (y^{co}, z^{co})$$

Since obviously π is a bijective isomorphism, the result is proved.

The following result is an application of the previous identifications.

Proposition 2.6. Consider the pull-back diagram of (A, B) given in (1) and assume B is surjective. Then the following assertions are satisfied:

(i) A is cotauberian if and only if so is π_A .

(ii) A^{**} is cotauberian if and only if so is π_A^{**} .

Proof. (i) Assume that A is cotauberian; equivalently, that A^{co} has dense range. By Proposition 2.5, the space $PB(A, B)^{co}$ can be identified with $PB(A^{co}, B^{co})$. The operator B^{co} is surjective because so is B [8, Proposition 3.1.15]. Thus using Proposition 2.2 we get that π_A^{co} has dense range, hence π_A is cotauberian.

For the converse, assume that π_A is cotauberian. As B is surjective, $B\pi_A = A\pi_B$ is cotauberian, hence A is cotauberian too.

(ii) Since Proposition 2.4 identifies π_A^{**} with $\pi_{A^{**}}$, the result follows from (i).

3. Applications

Here we apply the results of the previous section to show that some counterexamples in the theory of tauberian operators obtained in [2] can be realized as operators acting on $L_1(0, 1)$ or ℓ_1 , or in any Banach space Z admitting a quotient isomorphic to ℓ_1 . We will give the results for $Z = L_1(0, 1)$, but the proofs in the general case are identical.

Theorem 3.1. There exists a cotauberian operator $S: L_1(0,1) \to L_1(0,1)$ such that S^{**} is not cotauberian.

Proof. It is proved in [2] (see also Theorem 3.1.18 in [8]) that there exists a separable Banach space Y such that Y^{co} is isomorphic to ℓ_1 , and an operator $T: Y \to Y$ such that T^{co} can be identified to the operator $A: \ell_1 \to \ell_1$ given by $A(x_n) = (x_n/n)$.

The operator A has dense range, hence so does T^{co} , and T is cotauberian. Moreover, since A is compact, the range of A^{**} is separable, so it is not dense. Taking into account that we can identify $(T^{co})^{**}$ and $(T^{**})^{co}$ [8, Proposition 3.1.11], we conclude that T^{**} is not cotauberian.

Since Y is separable, there is a surjective operator $B: L_1(0,1) \to Y$, and the space PB(T,B) is separable. So there exists a surjective operator $Q: L_1(0,1) \to PB(T,B)$, and we have the following commutative diagram:

$$L_{1}(0,1) \xrightarrow{Q} PB(T,B) \xrightarrow{\pi_{T}} L_{1}(0,1)$$

$$\pi_{B} \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow B$$

$$Y \xrightarrow{T} Y$$

The remaining of the proof is a repeated application of the properties of the class \mathcal{T}^d of cotauberian operators given at the end of the introduction.

On the one hand, by Proposition 2.6, π_T is cotauberian. Since Q is surjective, the operator $S: \pi_T Q: L_1(0,1) \to L_1(0,1)$ is also cotauberian.

On the other hand, by Propositions 2.4 and 2.6, π_T^{**} is not cotauberian. Therefore $S^{**} = \pi_T^{**}Q^{**}$ is not cotauberian.

Corollary 3.2. There exists a tauberian operator $T: L_{\infty}(0,1) \to L_{\infty}(0,1)$ such that T^{**} is not tauberian.

Proof. It is enough to take $T = S^*$, where S is the operator obtained in Theorem 3.1.

Remark 3.3. There exist separable Banach spaces X such that the set $\mathcal{T}^d(X)$ is not open in $\mathcal{L}(X)$.

Indeed, let Z be a non-reflexive separable Banach space. We consider the space

$$\ell_2(Z) := \{ (x_n) \subset Z \, : \, \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|x_n\|^2 < \infty \}$$

which endowed with the ℓ_2 -norm is a Banach space.

We consider the operator $T: \ell_2(Z) \to \ell_2(Z)$ that maps (x_n) to (x_n/n) , and for every positive integer n, we consider the operator $T_n: \ell_2(Z) \to \ell_2(Z)$ that sends each (x_n) to

$$(x_1, \frac{x_2}{2}, \ldots, \frac{x_n}{n}, 0, 0, \ldots).$$

It is not difficult to show (see [8, Example 2.1.7]) that $\ell_2(Z)^{co}$ can be identified with $\ell_2(Z^{co})$, that the operators T_n are not cotauberian, that $T_n \xrightarrow{n} T$, and that T is cotauberian. It turns out that $\mathcal{T}^d(\ell_2(Z))$ is not open in $\mathcal{L}(\ell_2(Z))$.

Let X be a Banach space. We denote by B_X and S_X the closed unit ball and the unit sphere of X respectively. Moreover, given a nonempty subset S of X and $\delta > 0$, a subset C of S is called a δ -net in S if for every $x \in S$ there exists $y \in C$ such that $||x - y|| \leq \delta$.

Later we will need the following technical result. It is known, but we give a proof for the convenience of the reader.

Lemma 3.4. Let (x_n) be a (1/2)-net in the unit sphere S_X of a Banach space X, and let $T \in \mathcal{L}(\ell_1, X)$ the operator defined by $Te_n := x_n \ (n \in \mathbb{N})$, where (e_n) is the unit vector basis of ℓ_1 . Then $T(B_{\ell_1})$ contains $(1/2)B_X$. In particular T is surjective.

Proof. Note that for every r > 0, (rx_n) is a (r/2)-net in rS_X .

Let $x \in X$ with ||x|| = 1/2, and set $t_1 = 1/2$. We select x_{n_1} in the (1/2)-net such that $||x - t_1x_{n_1}|| \le 1/4$, and set $t_2 = ||x - x_{n_1}||$. Then we select x_{n_2} such that $||x - t_1x_{n_1} - t_2x_{n_2}|| \le 1/8$, and set $t_3 = ||x - x_{n_1} - x_{n_2}||$.

Proceeding in this way we obtain $0 \le t_k \le 1/2^k$ $(k \in \mathbb{N})$ and a subsequence (x_{n_k}) of the (1/2)-net. Taking $a = (a_n)$ with $a_{n_k} = t_k$ and $a_n = 0$ otherwise, we obtain $a \in B_{\ell_1}$ such that Ta = x, and the result is proved. \Box

Let us show that $\mathcal{T}^d(L_1(0,1))$ is not open in $\mathcal{L}(L_1(0,1))$.

Theorem 3.5. There exists a cotauberian operator in the boundary of $\mathcal{T}^d(L_1(0,1))$.

Proof. We write L_1 instead of $L_1(0, 1)$. Applying the arguments in the proof of Theorem 3.1 to the operators T_n and T given in Remark 3.3, we obtain the following push-out diagrams:

$$L_{1} \xrightarrow{Q} PB(T,B) \xrightarrow{\pi_{T}} L_{1} \qquad \qquad L_{1} \xrightarrow{Q_{n}} PB(T_{n},B_{n}) \xrightarrow{\pi_{T_{n}}} L_{1}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \pi_{B} \downarrow & \downarrow B \\ \ell_{2}(Z) \xrightarrow{T} \ell_{2}(Z) \end{array} \qquad \qquad L_{1} \xrightarrow{Q_{n}} PB(T_{n},B_{n}) \xrightarrow{\pi_{T_{n}}} L_{1}$$

The operators $S_n := \pi_{T_n} Q_n$ are not cotauberian, $S := \pi_T Q$ is cotauberian, and S_n, S belong to $\mathcal{L}(L_1(0, 1))$. It remains to show that we can arrange the constructions so that $||S_n - S|| \xrightarrow{n} 0$.

To shorten the arguments, we denote PB := PB(T, B) and $PB_n := PB(T_n, B_n)$, and take $B_n = B$ for all n. So $PB = \ker(T - B)$ and $PB_n = \ker(T_n - B)$ are closed subspaces of $\ell_2(Z) \oplus_{\infty} L_1$.

We fix a surjective operator $p: L_1 \to \ell_1$, select a dense sequence (u_k) in the unit sphere S_{PB} , and define $q: \ell_1 \to PB$ by $qe_k := u_k \ (k \in \mathbb{N})$, where (e_k) is the unit vector basis of ℓ_1 . The operator $Q := qp \colon L_1 \to PB$ is surjective (Lemma 3.4).

Since the operators T-B and T_n-B are surjective and $||T_n-T|| \xrightarrow{n} 0$, it follows from [15, Theorem 10.17] that the gap between the kernels satisfy

$$\hat{\delta}(\ker(T_n-B), \ker(T-B)) \xrightarrow[n]{} 0.$$

Let us denote $\delta_n := \hat{\delta}(\ker(T_n - B), \ker(T - B))$. Given M and N closed subspaces of a Banach space, for each $x \in S_M$ we have $\operatorname{dist}(x, S_N) \leq 2\operatorname{dist}(x, N)$ [9, Lemma 3.2]. Therefore, for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we can select a sequence $(u_{n,k})_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ in S_{PB_n} such that $||u_k - u_{n,k}|| \leq 3\delta_n$ for each k.

We define $q_n \colon \ell_1 \to PB_n$ by $q_n e_k := u_{n,k}$ $(k \in \mathbb{N})$, and $Q_n := q_n p \colon L_1 \to PB$.



We claim that the operator Q_n is surjective for n big enough. Indeed, for each v in S_{PB_n} we can find u in S_{PB} such that $||v - u|| \leq 3\delta_n$. Since (u_k) is dense in S_{PB} , we can find $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $||v - u_{n,k}|| \leq 7\delta_n$. Thus $(u_{n,k})_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a $7\delta_n$ -net in S_{PB_n} , and the claim follows from Lemma 3.4.

Let $f \in L_1(0,1)$. Then

$$||S_n f - Sf|| = ||\pi_{T_n} Q_n f - \pi_T Qf \le ||Q_n f - Qf|| \le ||q_n - q|| \, ||f||.$$

Hence $||S_n - S|| \le ||q_n - q|| = \sup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} ||u_k - u_{n,k}|| \le 3\delta_n \xrightarrow{n} 0$. Thus S is a cotauberian operator in the boundary of $\mathcal{T}^d(L_1(0,1))$.

Corollary 3.6. There exists a tauberian operator in the boundary of $\mathcal{T}(L_{\infty}(0,1))$.

Proof. It is enough to take the conjugate operator of the operator obtained in Theorem 3.5. $\hfill \Box$

Remark 3.7. (a) It was proved in [7] that $\mathcal{T}(L_1(0,1))$ is open in $\mathcal{L}(L_1(0,1))$, and that $T \in \mathcal{T}(L_1(0,1))$ implies T^{**} tauberian.

(b) Since reflexive quotients of $L_{\infty}(0, 1)$ are superreflexive [12], it follows from Proposition 20 and Theorem 22 in [6] that $\mathcal{T}^d(L_{\infty}(0, 1))$ is open in $\mathcal{L}(L_{\infty}(0, 1))$, and applying [8, Proposition 6.6.5] we get that $T \in \mathcal{T}^d(L_1(0, 1))$ implies T^{**} cotauberian.

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