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## Abstract of the doctoral thesis Properties of asymmetric truncated Toeplitz operators

Let  $\mathbb{D}$  denote the unit disc, and let  $\mathbb{T}$  denote the unit circle. By  $L^2 := L^2(\mathbb{T}, \frac{d\theta}{2\pi})$ we will be denote the space of all Lebesgue measurable functions  $f : \mathbb{T} \to \mathbb{C}$  such that

$$||f||_{L^2} = \left(\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{0}^{2\pi} |f(e^{i\theta})|^2 d\theta\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} < \infty.$$

 $H^2$  is the usual Hardy space, the subspace of  $L^2$  of normalized Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{T}$  whose negative indexed Fourier coefficients are all zero.  $H^2$  will interchangably refer to both the boundary functions and the functions on  $\mathbb{D}$ . Let P denote the projection from  $L^2$  to  $H^2$ . Let S denote the shift operator  $f \mapsto zf$  on  $H^2$ . Its adjoint (the backwards shift) is the operator

$$(S^*f)(z) = \frac{f(z) - f(0)}{z}.$$

A Toeplitz operator is the compression of a multiplication operator on  $L^2$  to  $H^2$ . In other words, given  $\varphi \in L^2$  (called the symbol of the operator),

$$T_{\varphi}f = P(\varphi f)$$

is the operator that sends f to  $P(\varphi f)$  for all  $f \in H^2$ . This operator is bounded if and only if  $\varphi \in L^{\infty}$  (the space of all essentially bounded measurable functions on  $\mathbb{T}$ ).

Chapter 1 of this dissertation has an introductory character. Moreover, we present basic properties of Hardy spaces and Toeplitz operators. In [2] A. Brown and P. R. Halmos describe the algebraic properties of Toeplitz operators. Among other things, they found necessary and sufficient conditions for a bounded operator on  $H^2$  be a Toeplitz operator, namely a bounded operator  $T: H^2 \to H^2$  is a Toeplitz operator if and only if  $S^*TS = T$ .

Let  $H^{\infty}$  be the algebra of bounded analytic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$  and let  $\alpha \in H^{\infty}$  be an arbitrary inner function, that is,  $|\alpha| = 1$  a.e. on  $\mathbb{T}$ . By the theorem of A. Beurling (see, for example, [10, Thm. 17.21]), every nontrivial, closed *S*-invariant subspace of  $H^2$  can be expressed as  $\alpha H^2$  for some inner function  $\alpha$ . Consequently, every nontrivial, closed *S*<sup>\*</sup>-invariant subspace of  $H^2$  is of the form

$$K_{\alpha} = H^2 \ominus \alpha H^2$$

with  $\alpha$  inner. The space  $K_{\alpha}$  is called the model space corresponding to  $\alpha$ .

In Chapter 2 we deal with the so-called truncated Toeplitz operators. Let  $P_{\alpha}$  denote the orthogonal projection of  $L^2$  onto  $K_{\alpha}$ . Truncated Toeplitz operators are operators  $A^{\alpha}_{\varphi}, \varphi \in L^2$ , densly defined on the model spaces  $K_{\alpha}$ , by the formula

$$A^{\alpha}_{\varphi}f = P_{\alpha}(\varphi f).$$

The operator  $A^{\alpha}_{\varphi}$  can be seen as a compression to  $K_{\alpha}$  of the classical Toeplitz operator  $T_{\varphi}$ .

The study of truncated Toeplitz operators as a class began in 2007 with D. Sarason's paper [11]. In spite of similar definitions (for example,  $(A^{\alpha}_{\varphi})^* = A^{\alpha}_{\overline{\varphi}}$ ), there are many differences between truncated Toeplitz operators and the classical ones. One of the first results from [11] states that, unlike in the classical case, a truncated Toeplitz operator is not uniquely determined by its symbol. More precisely,  $A^{\alpha}_{\varphi} = 0$ if and only if  $\varphi \in \overline{\alpha H^2} + \alpha H^2$  ([11, Thm. 3.1]). Moreover, unlike in the classical case, unbounded symbols can produce bounded truncated Toeplitz operators and there are bounded truncated Toeplitz operators for which no bounded symbol exists (see [1]).

The compression of S to  $K_{\alpha}$  will be denoted by  $S_{\alpha}$ . Its adjoint,  $S_{\alpha}^*$ , is the restriction of  $S^*$  to  $K_{\alpha}$ . The operators  $S_{\alpha}$  and  $S_{\alpha}^*$  are the truncated Toeplitz operators with symbols z and  $\overline{z}$ , respectively. The bounded operator  $A: K_{\alpha} \to K_{\alpha}$  is a truncated Toeplitz operator if and only if there are functions  $\chi, \psi \in K_{\alpha}$  such that

$$A - S^*_{\alpha} A S_{\alpha} = \psi \otimes \widetilde{k}^{\alpha}_0 + \widetilde{k}^{\alpha}_0 \otimes \chi,$$

where  $\widetilde{k}_0^{\alpha}(z) = \frac{\alpha(z) - \alpha(0)}{z}$  ( $\otimes$  is rank one operator on Hilbert space,  $f \otimes g(h) = \langle h, g \rangle f$ , for f, g and h from this space) (see [11, 4.1]). More background about model spaces and truncated Toeplitz operators can be found in Chapter 2.

If  $\alpha$  has distinct zeros  $\{a_1, \ldots, a_m\}$  and

$$k_w^{\alpha}(z) = \frac{1 - \overline{\alpha(w)}\alpha(z)}{1 - \overline{w}z}, \qquad \widetilde{k}_w^{\alpha}(z) = \frac{\alpha(z) - \alpha(w)}{z - w}, \ w \in \mathbb{D}$$

then the set  $\mathcal{R}_m^{\alpha} = \{k_{a_1}^{\alpha}, \ldots, k_{a_m}^{\alpha}\}$  as well as  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}_m^{\alpha} = \{\widetilde{k}_{a_1}^{\alpha}, \ldots, \widetilde{k}_{a_m}^{\alpha}\}$  is a (nonorthonormal) basis for  $K_{\alpha}$ . In 2008 [6] J.A. Cima, W.T. Ross and W.R. Wogen considered truncated Toeplitz operators on finite-dimensional model spaces. The authors in [6] characterized truncated Toeplitz operators in terms of the matrix representations with respect to each of these bases. They showed that a matrix representing a truncated Toeplitz operator on *m*-dimensional model space is completely determined by 2m - 1 of its entries, those along the main diagonal and the first row (and the first row can be replaced by any other row or column). They also proved a similar result for the so-called Clark bases. Matrix representations of truncated Toeplitz operators on infinite-dimensional model spaces were considered in [9].

Recently, the authors in [3, 4, 5] introduced a generalization of truncated Toeplitz operators, the so-called asymmetric truncated Toeplitz operators. Let  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  be two inner functions and let  $\varphi \in L^2$ . An asymmetric truncated Toeplitz operator  $A_{\varphi}^{\alpha,\beta}$  is the operator from  $K_{\alpha}$  into  $K_{\beta}$  given by

$$A^{\alpha,\beta}_{\varphi}f = P_{\beta}(\varphi f), \quad f \in K_{\alpha}.$$

The operator  $A^{\alpha,\beta}_{\varphi}$  is densely defined. Clearly,  $A^{\alpha,\alpha}_{\varphi} = A^{\alpha}_{\varphi}$ . Let

$$\mathscr{T}(\alpha,\beta) = \{A^{\alpha,\beta}_{\varphi} : \varphi \in L^2(\partial \mathbb{D}) \text{ and } A^{\alpha,\beta}_{\varphi} \text{ is bounded} \}$$

and  $\mathscr{T}(\alpha) = \mathscr{T}(\alpha, \alpha)$ .

Chapter 3 describes properties of so-called asymmetric truncated Toeplitz operators. We describe when an operator from  $\mathcal{T}(\alpha, \beta)$  is equal to the zero operator. The description is given in terms of the symbol of the operator. This was done in [3] and [4] for the case when  $\beta$  divides  $\alpha$ , that is, when  $\alpha/\beta$  is an inner function. It was proved in [3] and [4] that  $A_{\varphi}^{\alpha,\beta} = 0$  if and only if  $\varphi \in \overline{\alpha H^2} + \beta H^2$ . Here we show that this is true for all inner functions  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .

We note that if  $\alpha$  is a finite Blaschke product of degree m, then  $K_{\alpha}$  has dimension m. By elementary linear algebra, the complex vector space of all linear transformations on  $K_{\alpha}$  has dimension  $m^2$ . D. Sarason [11, Thm. 3.1] proved that if  $\alpha$  is a finite Blaschke product of degree m > 0, then the dimension of  $\mathscr{T}(\alpha)$  is 2m - 1. We show that if  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are finite Blachke products of degree m > 0 and n > 0, respectively, then the dimension of  $\mathscr{T}(\alpha, \beta)$  is m + n - 1. We also give some examples of rank-one asymmetric truncated Toeplitz operators.

In chapter 4 we generalize the results from [6] concerning matrix representations. We characterize matrix representations of asymmetric truncated Toeplitz operators acting between finite-dimensional model spaces. We prove theorem

**Theorem.** Let the function  $\alpha$  be a finite Blaschke product with m distinct zeros  $a_1, \ldots, a_m$ , let  $\beta$  be a finite Blaschke product with n distinct zeros  $b_1, \ldots, b_n$  and assume that  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  have precisely l zeros in common:  $a_i = b_i$  for  $i \leq l$  (l = 0 if there are no zeros in common). Let A be any linear transformation from  $K_{\alpha}$  into  $K_{\beta}$ . If  $M_A = (r_{s,p})$  is the matrix representation of A with respect to the bases  $\mathcal{R}_m^{\alpha} = \{k_{a_1}^{\alpha}, \ldots, k_{a_m}^{\alpha}\}$  and  $\mathcal{R}_n^{\beta} = \{k_{b_1}^{\beta}, \ldots, k_{b_n}^{\beta}\}$ , and

(a) 
$$l = 0$$
, then  $A \in \mathscr{T}(\alpha, \beta)$  if and only if

(1) 
$$r_{s,p} = \frac{\overline{\beta'(b_s)}(\overline{a}_1 - \overline{b}_s)r_{s,1} + \overline{\beta'(b_1)}(\overline{b}_1 - \overline{a}_1)r_{1,1} + \overline{\beta'(b_1)}(\overline{a}_p - \overline{b}_1)r_{1,p}}{\overline{\beta'(b_s)}(\overline{a}_p - \overline{b}_s)}$$

for all  $1 \le p \le m$  and  $1 \le s \le n$ ;

(b) 
$$l > 0$$
, then  $A \in \mathscr{T}(\alpha, \beta)$  if and only if  
(2)  $r_{s,p} = \frac{\overline{\beta'(b_1)}(\overline{a}_1 - \overline{b}_s)r_{1,s} + \overline{\beta'(b_1)}(\overline{a}_p - \overline{b}_1)r_{1,p}}{\overline{\beta'(b_s)}(\overline{a}_p - \overline{b}_s)}$ 

for all p, s such that  $1 \le p \le m, 1 \le s \le l, s \ne p$ , and

(3) 
$$r_{s,p} = \frac{\beta'(b_s)(\overline{a}_1 - \overline{b}_s)r_{s,1} + \beta'(b_1)(\overline{a}_p - \overline{b}_1)r_{1,p}}{\overline{\beta'(b_s)}(\overline{a}_p - \overline{b}_s)}$$

for all p, s such that  $1 \le p \le m, l < s \le n$ .

We also consider matrix representations with respect to bases:  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}_{m}^{\alpha}$  and  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}_{n}^{\beta}$ , Clark bases  $\mathcal{V}_{m}^{\alpha}$  and  $\mathcal{V}_{n}^{\beta}$ , modified Clark bases  $\mathcal{E}_{m}^{\alpha}$  and  $\mathcal{E}_{n}^{\beta}$ ,  $\mathcal{R}_{m}^{\alpha}$  and  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}_{n}^{\beta}$ ,  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}_{m}^{\alpha}$  and  $\mathcal{R}_{n}^{\beta}$ , Clark base  $\mathcal{V}_{m}^{\alpha}$  and  $\mathcal{R}_{n}^{\beta}$ , Clark base  $\mathcal{V}_{m}^{\alpha}$  and  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}_{n}^{\beta}$ ,  $\widetilde{\mathcal{R}}_{m}^{\alpha}$  and Clark base  $\mathcal{V}_{n}^{\beta}$ , and base  $\mathcal{R}_{m}^{\alpha}$  and Clark base  $\mathcal{V}_{n}^{\beta}$ .

We also characterize matrix representations of asymmetric truncated Toeplitz operators acting between infinite-dimensional model spaces.

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