

## On unbounded subnormal operators

ARVIND B PATEL and SUBHASH J BHATT

Department of Mathematics Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar 388 120 India

MS received 28 May 1987; revised to April 1988

**Abstract.** A minimal normal extension of unbounded subnormal operators is established and characterized and spectral inclusion theorem is proved. An inverse Cayley transform is constructed to obtain a closed unbounded subnormal operator from a bounded one. Two classes of unbounded subnormals viz analytic Toeplitz operators and Bergman operators are exhibited.

**Keywords.** Unbounded subnormal operator; Cayley transform; Toeplitz and Bergman operators; minimal normal extension.

### 1. Introduction

Recently there has been some interest in unbounded operators that admit normal extensions viz unbounded subnormal operators defined as follows:

#### DEFINITION 1.1

Let  $S$  be a linear operator (not necessarily bounded) defined in  $D(S)$ , a dense subspace of a Hilbert space  $H$ .  $S$  is called a *subnormal operator* if it admits a normal extension  $(N, D(N), K)$  in the sense that there exists a Hilbert space  $K$ , containing  $H$  as a closed subspace (the norm induced by  $K$  on  $H$  is the given norm on  $H$ ) and a normal operator  $N$  with domain  $D(N)$  in  $K$  such that  $Sh = Nh$  for all  $h \in D(S)$ .

These operators appear to have been introduced in [12] following Foias [4]. An operator could be subnormal internally admitting a normal extension in  $H$ ; or it could admit a normal extension in a larger space. As is well known, a symmetric operator always admits a self-adjoint extension in a larger space, contrarily a formally normal operator may fail to be subnormal ([2], [11]). Recently Stochel and Szafraniec ([12], [13]) obtained a Halmos–Bram type characterization of unbounded subnormal operators.

Here we discuss the existence and characterization of minimal normal extension  $N$  of an unbounded subnormal  $S$ . This is followed by the spectral inclusion theorem  $\sigma(N) \subset \sigma(S)$ . In §3, we set up a Cayley transform between a bounded subnormal and an unbounded one. We also exhibit two large classes of unbounded subnormals viz Bergman operators and analytic Toeplitz operators.

Let us recall [16, Ex. 5.39 p. 127] that given an operator  $T$  with domain  $D(T)$  in a Hilbert space  $H$ , a closed subspace  $M$  of  $H$  is *invariant under  $T$*  if  $T(D(T) \cap M) \subset M$ .  $M$  is *reducing under  $T$*  if  $T(M \cap D(T)) \subset M$ ,  $T(M^\perp \cap D(T)) \subset M^\perp$  and  $D(T) =$

$[M \cap D(T)] + [M^\perp \cap D(T)]$ . Note that restriction of a normal operator to a reducing subspace is normal.

## 2. Minimal normal extension

### DEFINITION 2.1

A normal extension  $(N, D(N), K)$  of a subnormal operator  $(S, D(S), H)$  is a *minimal normal extension* (MNE) if for any normal extension  $(N_1, D(N_1), K_1)$  of  $S$ ,  $S \subset N_1 \subset N$  and  $K_1$  is reducing under  $N$  implies  $K_1 = K$  and  $N_1 = N$ .

In [13, p. 51] a normal extension  $N$  in  $K$  of  $S$  ( $SD(S) \subset D(S)$ ) is called 'minimal' if  $D = \{N^{*j}N^i x: x \in D(S), i, j = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  is linearly dense in  $K$ . The second half of the following theorem shows that it is in fact a MNE. The class of  $C^\infty$ -vectors for an operator  $T$  in  $H$  is  $C^\infty(T) = \bigcap_{n=1}^\infty D(T^n)$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** (a) *A subnormal operator admits a minimal normal extension.*

(b) *Let  $S$  be a subnormal operator with dense domain  $D(S)$  in a Hilbert space  $H$ . Let  $(N, D(N), K)$  be a normal extension of  $S$ . Let  $D$  be the linear span of  $\{N^{*i}N^j x: i, j = 1, 2, \dots; x \in C^\infty(S)\}$ .*

(i) *If  $D$  is dense in  $K$ , then  $N$  is a MNE*

(ii) *If  $N$  is a MNE and  $D(N) = D + (D(N) \cap D^\perp)$ , then  $D$  is dense in  $K$ .*

*Proof.* (a) Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be the class of all normal extensions  $\alpha = (N_\alpha, D(N_\alpha), K_\alpha)$  of a subnormal operator  $S$  in a Hilbert space  $H$  with domain  $D(S)$ .  $\mathcal{E}$  is partially ordered by  $\alpha \leq \beta = (N_\beta, D(N_\beta), K_\beta)$  if  $N_\alpha \subset N_\beta$  and  $K_\alpha$  is a reducing subspace for  $N_\beta$ . Note that for  $\alpha \leq \beta$ , the restriction  $N_\beta|_{K_\alpha}$  of  $N_\beta$  on  $K_\alpha$  with domain  $D(N_\beta|_{K_\alpha}) = K_\alpha \cap D(N_\beta)$  is a normal operator in  $K_\alpha$  which is an extension in  $K_\alpha$  itself of the normal operator  $N_\alpha$ . Since a normal operator is maximally normal [10, p. 350],  $N_\alpha = N_\beta|_{K_\alpha}$  so that  $D(N_\alpha) = K_\alpha \cap D(N_\beta)$ . We shall apply Zorn's lemma to  $\mathcal{E}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a chain in  $\mathcal{E}$ . Let  $K = \bigcap \{K_\alpha | \alpha \in \mathcal{C}\}$ ,  $D = \bigcap \{D(N_\alpha) | \alpha \in \mathcal{C}\}$ . For  $\alpha \in \mathcal{C}$ , let  $P_K^\alpha: K_\alpha \rightarrow K$  and for  $\gamma \leq \alpha$ ,  $P_\gamma^\alpha: K_\alpha \rightarrow K_\gamma$  be orthogonal projections. Now, let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{C}$  be fixed. Since  $\mathcal{C}$  is a chain,  $K = \bigcap \{K_\gamma | \gamma \leq \alpha, \gamma \in \mathcal{C}\}$  and  $D = \bigcap \{D(N_\gamma) | \gamma \leq \alpha, \gamma \in \mathcal{C}\}$ .

*Claim.*  $K$  is a reducing subspace for the normal operator  $N_\alpha$ . For this, note that  $P_K^\alpha = \text{glb} \{P_\gamma^\alpha | \gamma \in \mathcal{C}\} = \text{glb} \{P_\gamma^\alpha | \gamma \in \mathcal{C}, \gamma \leq \alpha\}$ , as in [15, p. 124]. Now consider the weak bounded commutant of  $N_\alpha$  viz  $\{N_\alpha\}' = \{S \in B(K_\alpha) | SN_\alpha \subset N_\alpha S\}$ ,  $B(K_\alpha)$  denoting the set of all bounded linear operators on  $K_\alpha$ . By Fuglede–Putnam theorem for unbounded normal operators [10, p. 365],  $\{N_\alpha\}' = \{S \in B(K_\alpha) | SN_\alpha \subset N_\alpha S, SN_\alpha^* \subset N_\alpha^* S\} = \{N_\alpha, N_\alpha^*\}'$ . Let  $E$  be the spectral measure for the bounded normal operator  $(1 + N_\alpha^* N_\alpha)^{-1}$ . For  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  let  $w_0(0)$ ,  $w_k = (1/k + 1, 1/k]$ , and  $N_{\alpha,k} = N_\alpha E(w_k)$  which are bounded normal operators. Then as shown in the proof of Theorem 2.1 in [8],  $\{N_\alpha\}' = \{N_{\alpha,k} | k = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}'$  (usual commutant in  $B(K_\alpha)$  of a collection of bounded operators) which is a von Neumann algebra. Now by [16, p. 128], reducing subspaces of  $N_\alpha$  correspond (via usual way of range projections) to projections in  $\{N_\alpha\}'$ . Hence for  $\gamma \leq \alpha$ ,  $P_\gamma^\alpha \in \{N_\alpha\}'$ . Since projections in a von Neumann algebra form a complete lattice [15, p. 124],  $P_K^\alpha \in \{N_\alpha\}'$ ; and hence  $K$  is a reducing subspace for  $N_\alpha$ .

Now for  $\gamma \leq \alpha$ ,  $P_K^\alpha(D(N_\alpha)) = K \cap D(N_\alpha)$  since  $D(N_\alpha) = [K \cap D(N_\alpha)] + [K^\perp \cap D(N_\alpha)]$ .

Hence  $P_K^\alpha(D(N_\alpha)) \subset K_\gamma \cap D(N_\alpha) = D(N_\gamma)$ . Thus  $P_K^\alpha(D(N_\alpha)) \subset \cap \{D(N_\gamma) | \gamma \in \mathcal{C}, \gamma \leq \alpha\} = D$ . This implies that  $D$  is dense in  $K$ . For, given  $x \in D^\perp$  ( $\perp$  in  $K$ ), for all  $y \in D(N_\alpha)$ ,  $\langle x, y \rangle = \langle P_K^\alpha x, y \rangle = \langle x, P_K^\alpha y \rangle = 0$ , hence  $x = 0$ . Define an operator  $N$  in  $K$  with domain  $D(N) = D$  as  $Nx = N_\alpha x$ . Then  $N$  is a well defined closed operator. To show that  $N$  is normal, consider an operator  $C$  in  $K$  with domain  $D(C) = D$  as  $Cx = N_\alpha^* x$  (adjoint in  $K_\alpha$ ). Then  $C \subset N^*$  (adjoint in  $K$ ). Now given  $x \in D(N^*N)$ , the functional  $y \in D \rightarrow \langle N^*x, N^*y \rangle = \langle Cx, Cy \rangle = \langle N_\alpha^* x, N_\alpha^* y \rangle = \langle N_\alpha x, N_\alpha y \rangle = \langle Nx, Ny \rangle$  is continuous on  $D$  as  $Nx \in D(N^*)$ . Thus  $N^*x \in D(N^{**}) = D(N)$  as  $N$  is closed. Thus  $x \in D(NN^*)$  and  $D(N^*N) \subset D(NN^*)$ . In fact,  $N^*N \subset NN^*$ ; and so  $N^*N = NN^*$  both being self-adjoint (as  $N$  is closed). (Note that normality of  $N$  also implies  $N = N_\alpha|_K$ .)

The normal extension  $(N, D(N), K)$  is a lower bound of  $\mathcal{C}$ . Now Zorn's lemma completes the proof.

(b) (i) Let the linear span  $D$  of  $\{N^{*j}N^i x | x \in C^\infty(S); i, j = 1, 2, \dots\}$  be dense in  $K$ . Let  $(N_0, D(N_0), K_0)$  be a normal extension of  $S$  such that  $(N_0, D(N_0), K_0) \leq (N, D(N), K)$  (partial order as in the proof of (a)). Let  $x \in C^\infty(S)$ . Then for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, SC^\infty(S) \subset C^\infty(S)$  gives that  $N^i x = S^i x \in C^\infty(S) \subset C^\infty(N) \cap K_0$ . Now for any positive integer  $k$ , by the normality of  $N^k$ ,  $D(N^k) = D((N^k)^*) = D((N^*)^k)$  which implies that  $C^\infty(N) = C^\infty(N^*)$ . Thus  $N^{*j}N^i$  are defined for all  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots$ . Further, since  $K_0$  is invariant under  $N^*$ ,  $N^{*j}N^i x \in K_0$ . Thus  $D \subset K_0$ . Hence  $K_0 = K$ ,  $N_0 = N$  showing that  $N$  is MNE.

(ii) Let  $(N, D(N), K)$  be a MNE of  $S$  satisfying the given condition. Let  $K_0 = \bar{D}$  (closure in  $K$ ). By definition of  $D$ ,  $N^*D \subset D$ ,  $ND \subset D$ . These give  $N(D(N) \cap K_0^\perp) \subset K_0^\perp$ ,  $N^*(D(N) \cap K_0^\perp) \subset K_0^\perp$ . Further, the given condition is equivalent to  $D(N) = [D(N) \cap K_0] + [D(N) \cap K_0^\perp]$ . We show that  $N(D(N) \cap K_0) \subset K_0$ . Let  $x \in D(N) \cap K_0$ . Then for all  $y \in D(N) \cap K_0^\perp$ ,  $\langle Nx, y \rangle = \langle x, N^*y \rangle = 0$ . As  $D(N) \cap K_0^\perp$  is dense in  $K_0^\perp$ ,  $Nx \in K_0$ . Thus  $K_0$  is reducing for  $N$ . Then  $N|_{K_0}$  is a normal extension of  $S$  contained in  $N$ . By the minimality of  $N$ ,  $K_0 = K$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.

The following is a spectral inclusion theorem analogous to the one for bounded subnormal. Its proof is patterned along Halmos [5, p. 157].

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $S$  be a subnormal operator in a Hilbert space  $H$  with domain  $D(S)$  and a minimal normal extension  $N$ . Then  $\sigma(N) \subset \sigma(S)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\lambda \notin \sigma(S)$ . Then  $(\lambda - S)^{-1}$  is a bounded operator on  $H$ . We can assume  $\lambda = 0$  and  $\|S^{-1}\| = 1$ . Now for  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ , consider  $E_\varepsilon = \{x \in C^\infty(N) | \|N^n x\| < \varepsilon^n \|x\| \text{ for } n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ . For  $x \in E_\varepsilon, y \in H$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle x, y \rangle| &= |\langle x, S^n S^{-n} y \rangle| \\ &= |\langle N^{*n} x, S^{-n} y \rangle| \\ &\leq \varepsilon^n \|x\| \|y\| \text{ for all } n. \end{aligned}$$

As  $\varepsilon < 1$ ,  $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$ . Thus  $H \subset E_\varepsilon^\perp$  ( $\perp$  in  $K$ ). Let  $N = \int z dE(z)$  be the spectral theorem for  $N$ . Then  $E_\varepsilon = E(\Delta_\varepsilon)K$  where  $\Delta_\varepsilon = \{z \in \mathcal{C} : |z| \leq \varepsilon\}$ . Hence  $E_\varepsilon$ , and so  $E_\varepsilon^\perp$  is a reducing subspace of  $N$ . Now  $N|_{E_\varepsilon^\perp}$  being normal, the minimality of  $N$  implies that  $E_\varepsilon = K$ . Hence  $E(\Delta_\varepsilon)K = E_\varepsilon = \{0\}$ . Thus  $\phi = \Delta_\varepsilon \cap \text{supp } E = \Delta_\varepsilon \cap \sigma(N)$ ; and so  $0 \notin \sigma(N)$ .

Notice that, in above notations,  $\text{bdry } \sigma(S) \subset \sigma_\pi(S) \subset \sigma_\pi(N) = \sigma(N)$  ( $\sigma_\pi$  denotes the approximate point spectrum) and component of  $\mathcal{C} \setminus \sigma(N)$  is either contained in  $\sigma(S)$  or is disjoint from  $\sigma(S)$ .

### COROLLARY 1

Let  $S$  be a subnormal operator. Then

- (i)  $\sigma(S) \neq \phi$ .
- (ii)  $S$  is bounded iff  $\sigma(S)$  is bounded.
- (iii)  $S$  is essentially self-adjoint iff  $\sigma(S)$  is real.

### COROLLARY 2

A symmetric operator has nonempty spectrum.

*Remarks 2.4.* (i) Let  $S$  be an operator in a Hilbert space  $H$ . A vector  $x \in C^\infty(S)$  is an analytic vector for  $S$  if there exists a  $t > 0$  such that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\|S^n x\| t^n}{n!} < \infty.$$

Let  $A(S)$  be the collection of all analytic vectors for  $S$ . If  $S$  is subnormal admitting a normal extension  $N$  such that  $D(S) = D(N) \cap H$ , then  $A(S)$  is dense in  $H$ . Indeed, in this case,  $A(S) = A(N) \cap H$ . Hence taking the orthogonal complement in  $K$ ,  $A(S)^\perp = H^\perp$  as  $A(N)$  is dense in  $K$ .

(ii) A symmetric operator in  $H$  admitting a normal extension  $N$  in (possibly a larger space)  $K$  satisfying  $D(S) = D(N) \cap H$  is essentially self-adjoint. For, in view of (i), the well-known Nelson theorem [16, p. 261] applies.

(iii) Normal extensions of an unbounded subnormal operator satisfying the above spectral inclusion (distinguished normal extensions) have been discussed recently in [6]. Thus a MNE is distinguished, though a distinguished extension need not be minimal. For example let  $N_1$  be a MNE of  $S$  in  $K_1$ . Let  $N_2$  be a normal operator in  $K_2$  with  $\sigma(N_2) \subset \sigma(N_1)$ . Take  $N = N_1 \oplus N_2$  a normal extension of  $S$  in  $K_1 \oplus K_2 = K$ . Then  $N_0 = N|_{E(\sigma(S))K}$ , (where  $E$  is the spectral measure of  $N$ ) is distinguished normal extension as in [6] which is not minimal.

(iv) Ôta [7] showed that if  $T$  is a densely defined closed operator in a Hilbert space  $H$  such that  $TD(T) \subset D(T^*)$ , then  $T$  is bounded. This has the following implication.

### PROPOSITION

Let  $S$  be a closed subnormal operator in  $H$  with dense domain  $D(S)$  such that  $SD(S) \subset D(S)$ . Then  $S$  is bounded.

This follows from  $D(S) \subset D(S^*)$  [14].

We are thankful to Prof. Ôta for bringing this to our notice.

(v) Ôta [7] has also another interesting result, viz if  $T$  is a densely defined closed operator in a Hilbert space  $H$  such that the range of  $T$  is contained in its domain and if  $T$  is unbounded, then the numerical range  $W(T) = \{ \langle Tx, x \rangle \mid x \in \mathcal{D}(T), \|x\| = 1 \}$  is the entire complex plane. The following is an analogous result for spectrum.

**PROPOSITION**

Let  $T$  be a densely defined closed operator in a Hilbert space  $H$  such that  $TD(T) \subset D(T)$ . If  $\sigma(T)$  is not the whole of complex plane, then  $T$  is bounded.

*Proof.* If  $\lambda \notin \sigma(T)$ , then  $S = (T - \lambda 1)^{-1}$  is a bounded operator satisfying  $S(T - \lambda 1) \subset (T - \lambda 1)S = 1$ . Thus  $(T - \lambda 1)D(T) \subset D(T) = H$ . Closed graph theorem shows that  $T$  is bounded.

**3. A Cayley transform**

The problem of self-adjoint extension (within the space) of a symmetric operator is discussed via Cayley transform [15, Ch. 8] which provides a correspondence between certain partial isometries and symmetric operators that admit self-adjoint extensions. We extend this so as to associate an unbounded subnormal operator with a bounded one.

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $S$  be a bounded subnormal operator on  $H$  with a bounded normal extension  $N$  on  $K$ . If

- (i)  $1 - N$  is one-to-one and
- (ii)  $1 \in \sigma(N)$ ,  $\sigma(N) \setminus \{1\} \subset \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$

then  $\psi(N)|_H$  is an unbounded closed subnormal operator where  $\psi(N)$  is the normal operator in  $K$  defined via the spectral theorem by the function  $\psi(z) = i(1 + z)(1 - z)^{-1}$ .

*Proof.* Define  $N'$  in  $K$  with domain  $D(N') = R(1 - N)$  by  $N'x = i(1 + N)(1 - N)^{-1}x$ . Then  $N'$  is densely defined.

*Claim (a).*  $\overline{N'} = \psi(N)$ .

For, given  $x \in D(N')$ ,  $(1 - N)y = x$ , and so

$$\int |(1 + z)(1 - z)^{-1}|^2 dE_{x,x} = \int |(1 + z)^2(1 - z)^{-2}|(1 - z)(1 - z) dE_{y,y} < \infty,$$

and for all  $u \in K$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle N'x, u \rangle &= i \langle (1 + N)y, u \rangle = i \int (1 + z)(1 - z)^{-1} dE_{x,u} \\ &= \langle \psi(N)x, u \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $N' \subset \psi(N)$ . As  $\psi(N)$  is closed,  $\overline{N'} \subset \psi(N)$ . Now let  $N_0 = N'^*|_{D(\psi(N)^*\psi(N))}$ . Then  $G(N_0)$  is dense in  $G(N'^*)$ ,  $G(\cdot)$  denoting the graph of the operator. Indeed, note that  $G(N'^*)$  is closed in  $K \times K$ . Let  $(u, N'^*u) \in G(N'^*)$ ,  $(u, N'^*u) \perp G(N_0)$ . Then for all  $x \in D(\psi(N)^*\psi(N))$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle (u, N'^*u), (x, N'^*x) \rangle \\ &= \langle u, x \rangle + \langle N'^*u, \psi(N)^*x \rangle \text{ (as } \psi(N)^* \subset N'^*) \\ &= \langle u, x \rangle + \langle u, \psi(N)\psi(N)^*x \rangle. \end{aligned} \tag{\alpha}$$

Here we have used the following that can be easily verified.

*Lemma.* Let  $A$  and  $B$  be densely defined linear operators in a Hilbert space with  $B$  closed and  $D(B) = D(B^*)$ . If  $A \subset B$ , then for all  $u \in D(A^*)$ ,  $y \in D(B)$ ,  $\langle A^*u, y \rangle = \langle u, By \rangle$ .

Thus in  $(\alpha)$ , since  $R(1 + \psi(N)^*\psi(N))$  is dense in  $K$ ,  $u = 0$ . Then  $G(N_0)$  is dense in  $G(N'^*)$ . Now, let  $y \in D(N'^*)$ . Then for some sequence  $(y_i)$  in  $D(\psi(N)^*\psi(N))$ ,  $y_i \rightarrow y$  and  $N_0 y_i - N'^* y = N'^* y_i - N'^* y \rightarrow 0$ . Since  $\|\psi(N)y_i - \psi(N)y_j\| = \|\psi(N)^* y_i - \psi(N)^* y_j\| = \|N'^* y_i - N'^* y_j\|$ ,  $(\psi(N)y_i)$  converges to some  $u \in K$ . Since  $\psi(N)$  is closed,  $(y, u) \in G(\psi(N))$ ,  $y \in D(\psi(N))$ . Thus  $D(N'^*) \subset D(\psi(N)) = D(\psi(N)^*)$ ; hence  $D(N'^*) = D(\psi(N)^*)$ ,  $N'^* = \psi(N)$  and so  $\overline{N'} = \psi(N)$ .

*Claim (b).*  $H$  is invariant under  $\psi(N)$  (and  $N'$ ). For if,  $x \in D(\psi(N)) \cap H$ ,  $y \in H^\perp$ , then since 1 is not an eigenvalue,  $E(\{1\}) = 0$ ; and so

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \psi(N)x, y \rangle &= i \int_{\sigma(N)} (1+z)(1-z)^{-1} dE_{x,y} \\ &= i \int_{\sigma(N) - \{1\}} (1+z)(1-z)^{-1} dE_{x,y} \\ &= i \sum_k \int (1+z)z^k dE_{x,y} \\ &= i \sum_k \langle (1+N)N^k x, y \rangle = 0 \end{aligned}$$

as  $(1+N)N^k x \in H$ . Thus  $\psi(N)x \in H$ . This establishes our claim (b).

It is easy to see that  $\psi(N)|_H$  with domain  $D(\psi(N)|_H) = D(\psi(N)) \cap H$  is a closed operator.

*Remark 3.2.* Note that if  $R(1-S)$  (range of  $(1-S)$ ) is dense in  $H$ , then  $S' = i(1+S)(1-S)^{-1}$  with domain  $D(S') = R(1-S)$  and  $S_0 = N'|_H$  and hence are subnormals (not necessarily closed) in  $H$ .

## 4. Examples

### 4.1 Unbounded analytic Toeplitz operators

Let

$$U = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}, \quad \Gamma = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\}.$$

Let  $\phi$  be a measurable function on  $\Gamma$  and  $D_\phi = \{f \in H^2(U) : \phi f \in L^2(\Gamma)\}$ . Define  $T_\phi$  in  $H^2(U)$  with domain  $D_\phi$  as  $T_\phi f = P(\phi f)$ , where  $P: L^2(\Gamma) \rightarrow H^2(U)$  is the projection. The Toeplitz operator  $T_\phi$  is an analytic Toeplitz operator if  $\phi$  is analytic. Such a  $T_\phi$  admits a normal extension  $M_\phi$  with domain  $D(M_\phi) = \{f \in L^2(\Gamma) : \phi f \in L^2(\Gamma)\}$ ,  $M_\phi f = \phi f$ . Thus, in this case, if  $D_\phi$  is dense in  $H^2(U)$ , then  $T_\phi$  is subnormal. Note that it is bounded iff  $\phi$  is bounded. We exhibit below a class of function  $\phi$  for which  $T_\phi$  is a closed unbounded subnormal operator.

(i)  $\phi(z) = (1 - z)^{-1}$ . Then  $D_\phi = R(1 - S)$  where  $S$  is the unilateral shift. Hence  $D_\phi = \ker(1 - S^*)^\perp = H^2(U)$ . Also  $T_\phi$  is closed. For, if  $(f_n, T_\phi f_n) \rightarrow (f, g)$ , then (identifying  $H^2(U)$  with a closed subspace of  $L^2(\Gamma)$ ), there exists a subsequence  $(f_{n_k})$  of  $(f_n)$  each of whose subsequence converges a.e. to  $f$  on  $\Gamma$ . Since  $f_{n_k}(z) (z - 1)^{-1} \rightarrow g \in L^2(\Gamma)$ ,  $(z - 1)g = f$  a.e. Hence  $g = T_\phi f$  in  $H^2(U)$ .

(ii) A similar argument can be applied for  $\phi(z) = (z - \lambda_1)^{-n_1} (z - \lambda_2)^{-n_2} \dots (z - \lambda_k)^{-n_k}$  with  $|\lambda_i| \geq 1, n_i = 1, 2, \dots$

(iii) As discussed in [6], functions  $\phi \in H^2(U)$  define unbounded analytic Toeplitz operators.

Unbounded Teopltiz operators also arise quite naturally in representation of certain topological algebras by unbounded operators.

Consider Arens algebra [1]  $L^w(\Gamma) = \bigcap_{1 \leq p < \infty} L^p(\Gamma) \neq L^\infty(\Gamma)$  with pointwise operations. It is a Frechet \* algebra with the topology of  $L^p$ -convergence for each  $p, 1 \leq p < \infty$ . The Hardy-Arens algebra  $H^w(U) = \bigcap_{1 \leq p < \infty} H^p(U) \neq H^\infty(U)$  [9, Ch. 17, Ex. 10] can be regarded as a closed subalgebra of  $L^w(\Gamma)$ . For a  $\phi \in H^w(U)$ ,  $D_\phi$  is dense in  $H^2(U)$  since  $H^\infty(U) \subset D_\phi$  and  $H^\infty(U)$  is dense in  $H^2(U)$ . In fact, as in (i) above,  $T_\phi$  is closed. It is easily seen that  $\phi \rightarrow T_\phi$  is a representation of  $H^w(U)$  by unbounded subnormal operators in  $H^2(U)$  which is the restriction of the unbounded \* representation  $\phi \rightarrow M_\phi$  of  $L^w(\Gamma)$  into normal operators in  $L^2(\Gamma)$ .

#### 4.2 Unbounded Bergman operators

Let  $G$  be a bounded domain in  $\mathbb{C}$ . For  $1 \leq p < \infty$ , consider the Bergman spaces  $L_a^p(G) = \{f \in L^p(G) : f \text{ is analytic on } G\}$  with  $\|\cdot\|_p$  norm. Let  $L_a^w(G) = \bigcap_{1 \leq p < \infty} L_a^p(G)$ . For  $g \in L_a^w(G)$ , define  $S_g$  in  $L_a^2(G)$  with domain  $D(S_g) = \{f \in L_a^2(G) : gf \in L_a^2(G)\}$  as  $S_g f = gf$ . Again  $S_g$  is densely defined if  $L_a^\infty(G)$  is dense in  $L_a^2(G)$ , in particular, if  $G$  is a Caratheodory domain [3, Ch. 3] in which case  $L_a^2(G) = P^2(G)$ , the  $L_a^2(G)$ -closure of polynomials. In this way, one gets a large class of unbounded subnormals.

#### Acknowledgements

We are grateful to Prof. Schôichi Ôta (Fukuoka, Japan) whose comments on the first draft of the paper led to a thorough revision (and improvements) of the paper. We are also thankful to Prof. B C Gupta for providing us with a few references.

#### References

- [1] Arens R, The space  $L^w$  and convex topological rings, *Bull. Am. Math. Soc.* **52** (1946) 931-935.
- [2] Coddington E A, Formally normal operators having no normal extension, *Can. J. Math.* **17** (1965) 1030-1040
- [3] Conway J B, *Subnormal operators* (Boston, London, Melbourne: Pitman Adv. Publishing Programme) (1981)
- [4] Foias C, Decompositions operateurs et vecteurs Propres I, *Rev. Roum. Math. Pures Appl.* **7** (1962) 241-281.
- [5] Halmos P R, *A Hilbert space problem book* (Princeton D Van Nostrand) (1967)
- [6] McDonald G and Sundberg, C, On the spectra of unbounded subnormal operators, *Can. J. Math.* **38** (1986) 1135-1148

- [7] Ôta S, Closed linear operators with domain containing their ranges, *Proc. Edinburgh Math. Soc.* **27** (1984) 229–233
- [8] Patel A B, A joint spectral theorem for unbounded operators, *J. Aust. Math. Soc. Ser. A* **34** (1983) 203–213
- [9] Rudin W, *Real and complex analysis* (New York: McGraw Hill Publ. Co.) (1965)
- [10] Rudin W, *Functional analysis* (New York: McGraw Hill Publ. Co.) (1976)
- [11] Smüdgen K, Formally normal operator having no normal extension, *Proc. Am. Math. Soc.* **95** (1985) 503–504
- [12] Stochel J and Szafranich F, Bounded vectors and formally normal operators, in *Dilation theory, Toeplitz operators and other topics* (ed. G. Arsene (Basel: Birkhauser, Verlag) (1983) 363–370
- [13] Stochel J and Szafranich F, Normal extensions of unbounded operators, *J. Operator Theory* **14** (1985) 31–55
- [14] Stochel J and Szafranich F, On normal extensions of unbounded operators II (preprint)
- [15] Takesaki, M *Theory of operator algebras I* (New York: Springer-Verlag) (1976)
- [16] Weidman J, *Linear operators in Hilbert spaces* (Graduate Text in Mathematics) (New York: Springer-Verlag) (1980)