

# Invertibility of Operators in Spaces of Real Interpolation

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## ABSTRACT

Let  $A$  be a linear bounded operator from a couple  $\vec{X} = (X_0, X_1)$  to a couple  $\vec{Y} = (Y_0, Y_1)$  such that the restrictions of  $A$  on the spaces  $X_0$  and  $X_1$  have bounded inverses. This condition does not imply that the restriction of  $A$  on the real interpolation space  $(X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q}$  has a bounded inverse for all values of the parameters  $\theta$  and  $q$ . In this paper under some conditions on the kernel of  $A$  we describe all spaces  $(X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q}$  such that the operator  $A : (X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q} \rightarrow (Y_0, Y_1)$  has a bounded inverse.

*Key words:* real interpolation, invertible operators.

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## Introduction

In the area of partial differential equations, the importance of invertibility of operators in scales of spaces was first observed by Alberto Calderón in 1985 [5], who considered the case of  $L^p$  scale and an operator bounded in  $L^2$ . New applications of invertibility of operators to PDE were recently obtained by Kalton and Mitrea [10]. These applications are closely connected to interpolation theory and, in particular, to the remarkable theorem proved by I. Ya. Shneiberg (see [16, 17]). This theorem in its simplest form claims that if a linear bounded operator  $A$  from a couple  $\vec{X} = (X_0, X_1)$  to itself is invertible on a complex interpolation space  $[X_0, X_1]_{\theta_0}$ , then it is also invertible on the spaces  $[X_0, X_1]_{\theta}$  when  $\theta$  is close to  $\theta_0$ :  $|\theta - \theta_0| < \varepsilon$ . Later on different

generalizations and applications of Shneiberg's results were obtained by various authors (see, for example, [2, 6, 7, 11, 19, 20]). In particular, in the work [11] a general theory of Shneiberg-type theorems was proposed.

The above mentioned applications are closely connected to the following problem. Let  $A$  be a linear bounded operator from a Banach couple  $\vec{X} = (X_0, X_1)$  to a Banach couple  $\vec{Y} = (Y_0, Y_1)$ . Let also  $\Omega_q$  be the set of all  $\theta$  for which the restriction of the operator  $A$  on the space  $(X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q}$  has a bounded inverse defined on the space  $(Y_0, Y_1)_{\theta, q}$ . Then it follows from an analog of Shneiberg theorem (proved for the case  $q < \infty$  in [20] and proved for the general case, including  $q = \infty$ , in [11]) that the set  $\Omega_q$  is open. To describe the set  $\Omega_q$ , the following problem has to be solved:

**Problem.** *Suppose that the restrictions of the operator  $A$  on the spaces  $X_0$  and  $X_1$  have bounded inverses defined on the spaces  $Y_0$  and  $Y_1$ , respectively. How can we describe all real interpolation spaces  $(X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q}$  such that the restriction of the operator  $A$  on a space  $(X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q}$  has a bounded inverse on the space  $(Y_0, Y_1)_{\theta, q}$ ?*

Two different but complimentary approaches to this problem are possible. The first approach consists of a complete and, if possible, explicit description of the set  $\Omega_q$ . In the general case, this task is rather complicated, even in the case when the kernel of the operator  $A$  is of dimension one. Let us also note that the proofs known for this case are based on Hahn-Banach theorem and are not constructive (see [1, 9]).

The second approach consists of finding sufficiently simple and easily tested conditions that would allow for a complete solution of the problem. A constructive solution is preferable since the problem can, in fact, be reduced to the problem of solving the equation

$$Ax = y,$$

where  $y \in (Y_0, Y_1)_{\theta, q}$  and  $\theta$  does not belong to the set  $\Omega_q$ .

The present work takes the first step in developing the second approach. Our main result is the following

**Theorem A.** *Let  $A$  be a bounded linear operator from a Banach couple  $\vec{X} = (X_0, X_1)$  to a Banach couple  $\vec{Y} = (Y_0, Y_1)$  such that  $A$  is invertible on the spaces  $X_0$  and  $X_1$ . Suppose also that its kernel  $\text{Ker } A \subset X_0 + X_1$  is finite-dimensional and has a basis  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  such that*

$$K(t, e_i; X_0, X_1) \approx t^{\theta_i} \quad (\theta_i \in (0, 1), \theta_i \neq \theta_j \text{ for } i \neq j).$$

*Then the operator  $A$  is invertible on the space  $(X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q}$  if and only if  $\theta \neq \theta_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ).*

A direct constructive proof of this result will be presented below. It is easy to see, especially in the case when the kernel is one-dimensional, how the algorithm for constructing the solution to the equation  $Ax = y$ ,  $y \in (Y_0, Y_1)_{\theta, q}$ , changes as the parameter  $\theta$  passes a critical value  $\theta_i$ .

The following example, taken from [12], illustrates this theorem. Let  $L_1(t^{-\alpha}, \frac{dt}{t})$  be a space of functions on  $(0, \infty)$  defined by the norm

$$\|f\|_{L_1(t^{-\alpha}, \frac{dt}{t})} = \int_0^\infty |f(t)|t^{-\alpha} \frac{dt}{t} < \infty$$

and let us consider an operator  $A = I - H$  (Identity minus Hardy) which is defined by the formula  $(Af)(t) = f(t) - \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t f(s)ds$ . Let also  $(X_0, X_1) = (L_1(\sqrt{t}, \frac{dt}{t}), L_1(\frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}, \frac{dt}{t}))$ . It is easy to verify that the operator  $A = I - H$  has a one-dimensional kernel in  $X_0 + X_1$  which consists of constant functions  $f(x) \equiv C$ . Note that for  $f(x) \equiv C$  holds

$$K(t, f; X_0, X_1) = \int_0^\infty C \min\left(\sqrt{s}, \frac{t}{\sqrt{s}}\right) \frac{ds}{s} \approx C\sqrt{t}.$$

As the operator  $A$  is bounded and invertible on the spaces  $X_0$  and  $X_1$  (see [12]), therefore the conditions of Theorem A are fulfilled. Hence Theorem A describes all spaces  $(X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q}$  on which  $A = I - H$  is invertible.

We will prove the theorem in two steps. In the first step we reduce the theorem to the case when the kernel of the operator  $A$  is one-dimensional and in the second step we consider the case of a one-dimensional kernel.

### 1. Reduction to the case of a one-dimensional kernel

First of all let us note that it is sufficient to consider the case when  $A$  is a quotient operator. Indeed, if we denote by  $\bar{A} : \bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{X}/\text{Ker } A$  the quotient operator then we have  $A = B\bar{A}$ , where  $B : \bar{X}/\text{Ker } A \rightarrow \bar{Y}$  is invertible on the end spaces and has no kernel. Therefore,  $B$  is an invertible operator for all interpolation spaces  $(X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q}$ , and it is sufficient to prove the theorem for the operator  $\bar{A}$ . Note that  $\bar{A}$  can be represented as a product  $\bar{A} = A_n A_{n-1} \cdots A_1$ , where  $A_1$  is an operator with the kernel  $\text{Ker } A_1 = \text{Span}\{e_1\}$  and  $A_i$  ( $i = 2, \dots, n$ ) is an operator with a one-dimensional kernel generated by the element  $A_{i-1} \cdots A_1 e_i$ . Therefore, Theorem A can be easily proved by induction using the following result.

**Theorem 1.1.** *If an operator  $A$  from a couple  $\bar{X}$  to a couple  $\bar{Y}$  is invertible on the spaces  $X_0$  and  $X_1$  and has a one-dimensional kernel  $\text{Ker } A = \{\lambda e\}$  such that  $K(t, e; \bar{X}) \approx t^{\theta_0}$ , then from  $K(t, x; \bar{X}) \approx t^\theta$  with  $\theta \neq \theta_0$  it follows that*

$$K(t, Ax; \bar{Y}) \approx t^\theta.$$

The proof of the theorem is based on the following lemma.

**Lemma 1.2.** *Suppose that the operator  $A : \bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{Y}$  is such that  $A(X_i) = Y_i$  ( $i = 0, 1$ ). Then for any  $x \in X_0 + X_1$  holds*

$$K(t, Ax; \bar{Y}) \approx \inf_{u \in \text{Ker } A} K(t, x - u; \bar{X})$$

with the constant of equivalence independent of  $x$  and  $t$ .

*Proof.* Let  $u \in \text{Ker } A$  and let  $x_0 \in X_0$  and  $x_1 \in X_1$  be some decomposition of  $x - u$ , i.e.,  $x - u = x_0 + x_1$ . Then

$$Ax = Ax_0 + Ax_1$$

and

$$K(t, Ax; \vec{Y}) \leq \|Ax_0\|_{Y_0} + t\|Ax_1\|_{Y_1} \leq \|A\|(\|x_0\|_{X_0} + t\|x_1\|_{X_1}).$$

Hence

$$K(t, Ax; \vec{Y}) \leq \|A\| \inf_{u \in \text{Ker } A} K(t, x - u; \vec{X}).$$

To prove the opposite inequality let us consider a decomposition  $Ax = y_0 + y_1$  with  $y_0 \in Y_0$  and  $y_1 \in Y_1$ . Since  $A(X_i) = Y_i$  ( $i = 0, 1$ ) we can find such elements  $x_0 \in X_0$  and  $x_1 \in X_1$  that  $Ax_i = y_i$  ( $i = 0, 1$ ) and  $\|x_i\|_{X_i} \leq c\|y_i\|_{Y_i}$  ( $i = 0, 1$ ) with the constant  $c > 0$  independent of  $y_0, y_1$ , and  $x$ . Then from the equality

$$Ax = y_0 + y_1 = Ax_0 + Ax_1$$

it follows that  $x - x_0 - x_1 = u \in \text{Ker } A$  and

$$K(t, x - u; \vec{X}) \leq \|x_0\|_{X_0} + t\|x_1\|_{X_1} \leq c(\|y_0\|_{Y_0} + t\|y_1\|_{Y_1}).$$

Hence

$$\inf_{u \in \text{Ker } A} K(t, x - u; \vec{X}) \leq cK(t, Ax; \vec{Y}). \quad \square$$

Let us now return to the proof of Theorem 1.1.

*Proof.* From Lemma 1.2 it follows that it is sufficient to prove that the conditions

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 t^{\theta_0} &\leq K(t, e; \vec{X}) \leq c_1 t^{\theta_0}, \\ d_0 t^\theta &\leq K(t, x; \vec{X}) \leq d_1 t^\theta \end{aligned}$$

imply

$$\inf_{\lambda} K(t, x - \lambda e; \vec{X}) \approx t^\theta.$$

Here  $c_0, c_1, d_0$ , and  $d_1$  are some positive constants.

As

$$K(t, Ax, \vec{Y}) \approx \inf_{\lambda} K(t, x - \lambda e; \vec{X}) \leq K(t, x; \vec{X}) \leq d_1 t^\theta$$

it is sufficient to prove the estimate from below

$$\inf_{\lambda} K(t, x - \lambda e; \vec{X}) \geq \delta t^\theta.$$

Let us fix a number  $t > 0$ . From the inequality

$$K(t, x - \lambda e; \vec{X}) \geq K(t, \lambda e; \vec{X}) - K(t, x; \vec{X}) \geq |\lambda|c_0 t^{\theta_0} - d_1 t^\theta$$

it follows that if

$$|\lambda| \geq \frac{2d_1}{c_0 t^{\theta_0 - \theta}}$$

then  $K(t, x - \lambda e; \vec{X}) \geq d_1 t^\theta$  and it is sufficient to consider the case when

$$|\lambda| < \frac{2d_1}{c_0 t^{\theta_0 - \theta}}.$$

Now we will consider the two cases  $\theta > \theta_0$  and  $\theta < \theta_0$  separately. In the case of  $\theta > \theta_0$  from the concavity of the  $K$ -functional it follows that for any  $T \geq t$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} K(t, x - \lambda e; \vec{X}) &\geq \frac{t}{T} K(T, x - \lambda e; \vec{X}) \geq \frac{t}{T} (K(T, x; \vec{X}) - |\lambda| K(T, e; \vec{X})) \\ &\geq \frac{t}{T} \left( d_0 T^\theta - \frac{2d_1}{c_0 t^{\theta_0 - \theta}} c_1 T^{\theta_0} \right). \end{aligned}$$

If  $T = \gamma t$  ( $\gamma > 1$ ) then

$$K(t, x - \lambda e; \vec{X}) \geq \frac{1}{\gamma} \left( d_0 \gamma^\theta t^\theta - \frac{2d_1}{c_0 t^{\theta_0 - \theta}} c_1 \gamma^{\theta_0} t^{\theta_0} \right).$$

Let now  $\gamma$  be such that

$$d_0 \gamma^\theta = \frac{3d_1}{c_0} c_1 \gamma^{\theta_0}.$$

Since  $\theta > \theta_0$ ,  $d_1 \geq d_0$ , and  $c_1 \geq c_0$ , therefore  $\gamma > 1$  and we have

$$K(t, x - \lambda e; \vec{X}) \geq \left( \frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{d_1}{c_0} c_1 \gamma^{\theta_0} \right) t^\theta = \delta t^\theta,$$

with the constant  $\delta > 0$  dependent only on the constants  $\theta$ ,  $\theta_0$ ,  $d_1$ ,  $d_0$ ,  $c_1$ , and  $c_0$ . In the case of  $\theta < \theta_0$  we take  $T = \gamma t$  with  $\gamma < 1$ . From the properties of the  $K$ -functional we obtain the inequalities

$$\begin{aligned} K(t, x - \lambda e; \vec{X}) &\geq K(T, x - \lambda e; \vec{X}) \geq K(T, x; \vec{X}) - |\lambda| K(T, e; \vec{X}) \\ &\geq d_0 T^\theta - \frac{2d_1}{c_0 t^{\theta_0 - \theta}} c_1 T^{\theta_0} = t^\theta \left( d_0 \gamma^\theta - \frac{2d_1}{c_0} c_1 \gamma^{\theta_0} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\theta < \theta_0$  we can choose such  $\gamma < 1$  that

$$d_0 \gamma^\theta = \frac{3d_1}{c_0} c_1 \gamma^{\theta_0}.$$

For such  $\gamma$  we have

$$K(t, x - \lambda e; \vec{X}) \geq \frac{d_1}{c_0} c_1 \gamma^{\theta_0} t^\theta = \delta t^\theta,$$

with the constant  $\delta > 0$  dependent only on the constants  $\theta$ ,  $\theta_0$ ,  $d_1$ ,  $d_0$ ,  $c_1$ , and  $c_0$ .  $\square$

## 2. The case of a one-dimensional kernel

Let  $A : \vec{X} \rightarrow \vec{Y}$  be a bounded linear operator which is invertible on spaces  $X_0$  and  $X_1$ . Suppose also that  $A$  has in  $X_0 + X_1$  a one-dimensional kernel  $\text{Ker } A = \{\lambda e\}$  with  $K(t, e; \vec{X}) \approx t^{\theta_0}$ . We need to prove that  $A$  is invertible on the space  $(X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q}$  if and only if  $\theta \neq \theta_0$ .

We start with the case when  $\theta \neq \theta_0$ . Since  $K(t, e; \vec{X}) \approx t^{\theta_0}$ , therefore  $\text{Ker } A \cap (X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q} = \{0\}$  and it is sufficient to show that for a given  $y \in (Y_0, Y_1)_{\theta, q}$  it is possible to construct an element  $x \in (X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q}$  such that  $Ax = y$  and  $\|x\|_{(X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q}} \leq \gamma \|y\|_{(Y_0, Y_1)_{\theta, q}}$  with  $\gamma$  independent of  $y$ . From the equivalence theorem of the  $K$ - and  $J$ -methods (see [4]) it follows that there exists a sequence of elements  $y_n \in Y_0 \cap Y_1$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , such that

$$\left( \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \left( 2^{-\theta n} J(2^n, y_n; \vec{Y}) \right)^q \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \leq \gamma \|y\|_{(Y_0, Y_1)_{\theta, q}}, \tag{1}$$

where  $J(2^n, y_n; \vec{Y}) = \max\{\|y_n\|_{Y_0}, 2^n \|y_n\|_{Y_1}\}$ . As the operator  $A$  has inverses on the spaces  $X_0$  and  $X_1$  defined on the spaces  $Y_0$  and  $Y_1$ , respectively, therefore we can find two sequences  $x_0^n \in X_0$ ,  $x_1^n \in X_1$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , such that

$$Ax_0^n = Ax_1^n = y_n \text{ and } \|x_0^n\|_{X_0} \leq \gamma \|y_n\|_{Y_0}, \quad \|x_1^n\|_{X_1} \leq \gamma \|y_n\|_{Y_1}. \tag{2}$$

Now we can define the required element  $x \in (X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q}$  as

$$x = \sum_n x_1^n \quad \text{for } \theta > \theta_0,$$

and

$$x = \sum_n x_0^n \quad \text{for } \theta < \theta_0.$$

Let us first consider the case of  $\theta > \theta_0$ . We note that if the series  $x = \sum_n x_1^n$  converges in  $X_0 + X_1$  then we have  $Ax = \sum_n Ax_1^n = \sum_n y_n = y$ . To prove the convergence we need the inequality

$$\left\| \sum_n x_1^n \right\|_{(X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q}} \leq \gamma \|y\|_{(Y_0, Y_1)_{\theta, q}}. \tag{3}$$

As  $Ax_0^n = Ax_1^n = y_n$ , then  $x_0^n - x_1^n \in \text{Ker } A$  and hence  $x_0^n - x_1^n = \lambda_n e$ . Moreover, from  $K(2^k, \lambda_k e; \vec{X}) \approx |\lambda_k| 2^{k\theta_0}$  and (2) it follows that

$$|\lambda_k| \leq \gamma 2^{-k\theta_0} K(2^k, \lambda_k e; \vec{X}) \leq \gamma 2^{-k\theta_0} (\|x_0^k\|_{X_0} + 2^k \|x_1^k\|_{X_1}) \leq \gamma 2^{-k\theta_0} J(2^k, y_k; \vec{Y}).$$

(By  $\gamma$  and  $\gamma_1$  we will denote different positive constants in different contexts.) Hence

$$\begin{aligned} K\left(2^n, \sum_k x_1^k; \vec{X}\right) &\leq K\left(2^n, \sum_{k<n} x_0^k + \sum_{k\geq n} x_1^k; \vec{X}\right) + K\left(2^n, \sum_{k<n} -\lambda_k e; \vec{X}\right) \\ &\leq \left\| \sum_{k<n} x_0^k \right\|_{X_0} + 2^n \left\| \sum_{k\geq n} x_1^k \right\|_{X_1} + \sum_{k<n} |\lambda_k| K(2^n, e; \vec{X}) \\ &\leq \sum_{k<n} \|x_0^k\|_{X_0} + 2^n \sum_{k\geq n} \|x_1^k\|_{X_1} + \gamma 2^{\theta_0 n} \sum_{k<n} |\lambda_k| \\ &\leq \gamma \left( \sum_k \min\left(1, \frac{2^n}{2^k}\right) J(2^k, y_k; \vec{Y}) \right) + \gamma 2^{\theta_0 n} \sum_{k<n} 2^{-k\theta_0} J(2^k, y_k; \vec{Y}). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the proof of the inequality (3) (and also the convergence of  $\sum_n x_1^n$  in  $X_0 + X_1$ ) follows from (1) and the boundedness of the operators  $S$  and  $S_{\theta_0}$  in the space  $l_q(\{2^{-n\theta}\}_{n\in\mathbb{Z}})$ . Here  $S$  and  $S_{\theta_0}$  are defined by the formulas

$$(S\{a_k\})_n = \sum_k \min\left(1, \frac{2^n}{2^k}\right) a_k, \quad (S_{\theta_0}\{a_k\})_n = 2^{\theta_0 n} \sum_{k<n} 2^{-k\theta_0} a_k. \tag{4}$$

The boundedness of the first operator in the space  $l_q(\{2^{-n\theta}\}_{n\in\mathbb{Z}})$  follows from the fact that this operator is a discrete analog of the Calderón operator

$$(Sf)(t) = \int_0^t f(s) \frac{ds}{s} + t \int_t^\infty s^{-1} f(s) \frac{ds}{s},$$

which is bounded in  $L_q(t^{-\theta}, \frac{dt}{t})$  for all  $\theta \in (0, 1)$ .

The second operator  $S_{\theta_0}$  is a discrete analog of the operator

$$(S_{\theta_0}f)(t) = t^{\theta_0} \int_0^t s^{-\theta_0} f(s) \frac{ds}{s},$$

which is bounded in  $L_q(t^{-\theta}, \frac{dt}{t})$  for  $\theta > \theta_0$ . Indeed, from the Minkovskii inequality

we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left( \int_0^\infty (t^{-\theta} (S_{\theta_0} f)(t))^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} &= \left( \int_0^\infty \left( t^{-(\theta-\theta_0)} \int_0^t s^{-\theta_0} f(s) \frac{ds}{s} \right)^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \\
 &= \left( \int_0^\infty \left( t^{-(\theta-\theta_0)} \int_0^1 (tu)^{-\theta_0} f(tu) \frac{du}{u} \right)^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \\
 &= \left( \int_0^\infty \left( t^{-\theta} \int_0^1 u^{-\theta_0} f(tu) \frac{du}{u} \right)^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \\
 &\leq \int_0^1 u^{-\theta_0} \left( \int_0^\infty (t^{-\theta} f(tu))^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \frac{du}{u} \\
 &\leq \int_0^1 u^{-\theta_0} \left( \int_0^\infty \left( \left( \frac{s}{u} \right)^{-\theta} f(s) \right)^q \frac{ds}{s} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \frac{du}{u} \\
 &\leq \left( \int_0^\infty (s^{-\theta} f(s))^q \frac{ds}{s} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \cdot \int_0^1 u^{\theta-\theta_0} \frac{du}{u} \\
 &\leq \gamma \left( \int_0^\infty (s^{-\theta} f(s))^q \frac{ds}{s} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

This concludes the proof for the case of  $\theta > \theta_0$ .

The case of  $\theta < \theta_0$  can be considered in a similar way, we only need to define  $x = \sum_n x_0^n$  and to prove that

$$\left\| \sum_n x_0^n \right\|_{(X_0, X_1)_{\theta, q}} \leq \gamma \|y\|_{(Y_0, Y_1)_{\theta, q}}.$$

This inequality is proved similarly to (3). We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 K\left(2^n, \sum_k x_0^k; \vec{X}\right) &\leq K\left(2^n, \sum_{k < n} x_0^k + \sum_{k \geq n} x_1^k; \vec{X}\right) + K\left(2^n, \sum_{k \geq n} \lambda_k e; \vec{X}\right) \\
 &\leq \left\| \sum_{k < n} x_0^k \right\|_{X_0} + 2^n \left\| \sum_{k \geq n} x_1^k \right\|_{X_1} + \sum_{k \geq n} |\lambda_k| K(2^n, e; \vec{X}) \\
 &\leq \sum_{k < n} \|x_0^k\|_{X_0} + 2^n \sum_{k \geq n} \|x_1^k\|_{X_1} + \gamma 2^{\theta_0 n} \sum_{k \geq n} |\lambda_k| \\
 &\leq \gamma \left( \sum_k \min\left(1, \frac{2^n}{2^k}\right) J(2^k, y_k; \vec{Y}) \right) \\
 &\quad + \gamma 2^{\theta_0 n} \sum_{k \geq n} 2^{-k\theta_0} J(2^k, y_k; \vec{Y}).
 \end{aligned}$$



Therefore, the inequality (3) follows from (1) and the boundedness of the operators  $S$  (see (4)) and  $S^{\theta_0}$  in  $l_p(\{2^{-n\theta}\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}})$ . Here  $S^{\theta_0}$  is defined by the formula

$$(S^{\theta_0}\{a_k\})_n = 2^{\theta_0 n} \sum_{k \geq n} 2^{-k\theta_0} a_k.$$

We already know that the operator  $S$  is bounded in  $l_q(\{2^{-n\theta}\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}})$  for all  $\theta \in (0, 1)$ . The operator  $S^{\theta_0}$  is a discrete analog of the operator

$$(S^{\theta_0} f)(t) = t^{\theta_0} \int_t^\infty s^{-\theta_0} f(s) \frac{ds}{s}.$$

Its boundedness in  $L_q(t^{-\theta}, \frac{dt}{t})$  for  $\theta < \theta_0$  follows from the Minkovskii inequality:

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \int_0^\infty (t^{-\theta} (S^{\theta_0} f)(t))^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} &= \left( \int_0^\infty \left( t^{-(\theta-\theta_0)} \int_t^\infty s^{-\theta_0} f(s) \frac{ds}{s} \right)^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \\ &= \left( \int_0^\infty \left( t^{-(\theta-\theta_0)} \int_0^1 \left( \frac{t}{u} \right)^{-\theta_0} f\left(\frac{t}{u}\right) \frac{du}{u} \right)^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \\ &= \left( \int_0^\infty \left( t^{-\theta} \int_0^1 u^{\theta_0} f\left(\frac{t}{u}\right) \frac{du}{u} \right)^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \\ &\leq \int_0^1 u^{\theta_0} \left( \int_0^\infty \left( t^{-\theta} f\left(\frac{t}{u}\right) \right)^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \frac{du}{u} \\ &\leq \int_0^1 u^{\theta_0} \left( \int_0^\infty \left( (su)^{-\theta} f(s) \right)^q \frac{ds}{s} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \frac{du}{u} \\ &\leq \left( \int_0^\infty (s^{-\theta} f(s))^q \frac{ds}{s} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \cdot \int_0^1 u^{-(\theta-\theta_0)} \frac{du}{u} \\ &\leq \gamma \left( \int_0^\infty (s^{-\theta} f(s))^q \frac{ds}{s} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the case of  $\theta < \theta_0$ , and it only remains to consider the case of  $\theta = \theta_0$ .

We need to show that the operator  $A$  does not have an inverse on the space  $(X_0, X_1)_{\theta_0, q}$ . As the element  $e \in \text{Ker } A$  belongs to  $(X_0, X_1)_{\theta_0, \infty}$ , therefore  $A$  does not have an inverse on  $(X_0, X_1)_{\theta_0, \infty}$ .

Let us consider the case of  $(X_0, X_1)_{\theta_0, q}$  with  $q < \infty$ . In this case the kernel of  $A$  does not intersect with  $(X_0, X_1)_{\theta_0, q}$ , but we will show that it is possible to construct a family of elements  $x_\varepsilon \in (X_0, X_1)_{\theta_0, q}$  such that  $\sup_\varepsilon \|Ax_\varepsilon\|_{(Y_0, Y_1)_{\theta_0, q}} < \infty$  and  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|x_\varepsilon\|_{(X_0, X_1)_{\theta_0, q}} = \infty$ . Hence the restriction of the operator  $A$  on  $(X_0, X_1)_{\theta_0, q}$  does not have an inverse.

To construct the family of elements  $x_\varepsilon \in (X_0, X_1)_{\theta_0, q}$  we fix an arbitrary  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$  and consider the  $K$ -functional of the element  $e$  on the three intervals  $(0, \varepsilon]$ ,  $(\varepsilon, \varepsilon^{-1})$ ,

$[\varepsilon^{-1}, \infty)$ . Let us denote by  $\varphi_0^\varepsilon$ ,  $\varphi_1^\varepsilon$ , and  $\varphi_2^\varepsilon$  the concave majorants of  $K(\cdot, e; \vec{X})\chi_{(0, \varepsilon]}$ ,  $K(\cdot, e; \vec{X})\chi_{(\varepsilon, \varepsilon^{-1})}$ , and  $K(\cdot, e; \vec{X})\chi_{[\varepsilon^{-1}, \infty)}$  on  $(0, \infty)$ , i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_0^\varepsilon &= K(\cdot, e; \vec{X})\chi_{(0, \varepsilon)} + K(\varepsilon, e; \vec{X})\chi_{[\varepsilon, \infty)}, \\ \varphi_1^\varepsilon &= \frac{t}{\varepsilon}K(\varepsilon, e; \vec{X})\chi_{(0, \varepsilon]} + K(\cdot, e; \vec{X})\chi_{(\varepsilon, \varepsilon^{-1})} + K(\varepsilon^{-1}, e; \vec{X})\chi_{[\varepsilon^{-1}, \infty)}, \\ \varphi_2^\varepsilon &= \frac{t}{\varepsilon^{-1}}K(\varepsilon^{-1}, e; \vec{X})\chi_{(0, \varepsilon^{-1}]} + K(\cdot, e; \vec{X})\chi_{(\varepsilon^{-1}, \infty)}. \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

Then  $K(\cdot, e; \vec{X}) \leq \varphi_0^\varepsilon + \varphi_1^\varepsilon + \varphi_2^\varepsilon$  and from the  $K$ -divisibility theorem (see [3]) it follows that there exists a decomposition  $e = x_0^\varepsilon + x_1^\varepsilon + x_2^\varepsilon$  such that

$$K(\cdot, x_i^\varepsilon; \vec{X}) \leq \gamma \varphi_i^\varepsilon, \quad i = 0, 1, 2,$$

with the constant  $\gamma > 0$  independent of  $\varepsilon$ . Let us take  $x_\varepsilon = x_1^\varepsilon$ . Then we only need to prove that

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|x_1^\varepsilon\|_{(X_0, X_1)_{\theta_0, q}} = \infty \tag{6}$$

and

$$\sup_{\varepsilon} \|Ax_1^\varepsilon\|_{(Y_0, Y_1)_{\theta_0, q}} < \infty. \tag{7}$$

To prove (6) we note that from  $K(t, e; \vec{X}) \approx t^{\theta_0}$  and from the formulas (5) for  $t \in [\varepsilon, \varepsilon^{-1}]$  it follows that

$$K(t, x_1^\varepsilon; \vec{X}) \geq K(t, e; \vec{X}) - K(t, x_0^\varepsilon; \vec{X}) - K(t, x_2^\varepsilon; \vec{X}) \geq \gamma t^{\theta_0} - \gamma_1 \varepsilon^{\theta_0} - \gamma_1 \frac{t}{\varepsilon^{-1}} \varepsilon^{-\theta_0}.$$

Let us now fix a number  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ . Then from the above inequality we have

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|x_1^\varepsilon\|_{(X_0, X_1)_{\theta_0, q}} \geq \left( \int_{\delta}^{\delta^{-1}} (t^{-\theta_0} \gamma t^{\theta_0})^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} = \gamma \left( 2 \ln \frac{1}{\delta} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}.$$

Since  $\delta \in (0, 1)$  is arbitrary, we have  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|x_1^\varepsilon\|_{(X_0, X_1)_{\theta_0, q}} = \infty$ . To prove (7) it is sufficient to prove the following estimate

$$K(t, Ax_1^\varepsilon; \vec{Y}) \leq \gamma \varepsilon^{\theta_0} \min\left(1, \frac{t}{\varepsilon}\right) + \gamma (\varepsilon^{-1})^{\theta_0} \min\left(1, \frac{t}{\varepsilon^{-1}}\right). \tag{8}$$

The proof of (8) outside of the interval  $[\varepsilon, \varepsilon^{-1}]$  follows from  $K(t, e; \vec{X}) \approx t^{\theta_0}$  and

$$K(t, Ax_1^\varepsilon; \vec{Y}) \leq \gamma K(t, x_1^\varepsilon; \vec{X}) \leq \gamma \varphi_1^\varepsilon \leq \gamma \frac{t}{\varepsilon} K(\varepsilon, e; \vec{X})\chi_{(0, \varepsilon]} + \gamma K(\varepsilon^{-1}, e; \vec{X})\chi_{[\varepsilon^{-1}, \infty)},$$

and its proof inside the interval  $[\varepsilon, \varepsilon^{-1}]$  follows from Lemma 1.2:

$$\begin{aligned} K(t, Ax_1^\varepsilon; \vec{Y}) &\approx \inf_{\lambda} K(t, x_1^\varepsilon - \lambda e; \vec{X}) \leq K(t, x_1^\varepsilon - e; \vec{X}) \leq K(t, x_0^\varepsilon; \vec{X}) + K(t, x_2^\varepsilon; \vec{X}) \\ &\leq \gamma K(\varepsilon, e; \vec{X}) + \gamma \frac{t}{\varepsilon^{-1}} K(\varepsilon^{-1}, e; \vec{X}). \end{aligned}$$

Thus the case of  $\theta = \theta_0$  and the proof of Theorem A are complete.

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