## N<sup>p</sup>-operators and semi-Carleman operators

· By TIN KIN WONG in Detroit (Michigan, U.S.A.)

1. Let  $(X, \mu)$  be a measure space, E a Banach space, and let p and p' be the usual conjugate numbers with 1 , that is <math>1/p + 1/p' = 1. Let  $L^p(X, \mu; E)$  be the Banach space of all equivalent classes of  $\mu$ -strongly measurable E-valued functions K such that  $||K||^p = \int_X ||K(x)||^p d\mu < +\infty$ .

Operators of the type  $T: L^p(X, \mu) \to E$ , which can be represented by a unique K in  $L^{p'}(X, \mu; E)$  in the following way:  $Tg = \int g(x)K(x)d\mu$  were considered by

A. PERSSON. In [3] he showed that these are operators of type  $N^p$  which are also known as right *p*-nuclear operators. (See [1], Théorème 6.) The author proved in [7] that if *E* is the strong dual of some Banach space *F* such that either *E* is separable or reflexive, then *T* is the adjoint of an operator  $S: F \to L^{p'}(X, \mu)$  such that  $|Sf(x)| \leq \gamma(x) ||f||$  a.e. for some non-negative  $\gamma$  in  $L^{p'}(X, \mu)$ . In section 2 of this note we give a new characterization of this class of  $N^p$ -operators without referring to their adjoints. A necessary and sufficient condition for *T* to be of this class is that  $||Tg|| \leq \int_{X} \gamma(x) |f(x)| d\mu$  for some non-negative  $\gamma$  in  $L^{p'}(X, \mu)$  and for all *g* in

 $L^p(X, \mu)$ . In section 3, we apply our results to Hilbert spaces. We first give two characterizations of Hilbert—Schmidt class operators, and then obtain a characterization of the semi-Carleman operators introduced by M. SCHREIBER [4]. Finally, we show that the Korotkov theorem for Carleman operators ([2], Theorem 1) remains valid even in nonseparable Hilbert space.

2. Throughout this section, all operators are bounded.

Theorem 2.1. Let E be a Banach space such that either E has a separable strong dual E' or E is reflexive. For operators  $T:L^p(X, \mu) \rightarrow E'$  with 1 the following are equivalent:

(i) There exists a unique K in  $L^{p'}(X, \mu; E')$  such that  $Tg = \int_{X} g(x)K(x)d\mu$  for all g in  $L^{p}(X, \mu)$ .

(ii) There exists some non-negative  $\gamma$  in  $L^{p'}(X, \mu)$  such that  $||Tg|| \leq \int_{X} \gamma(x)|g(x)|d\mu$ . for all g in  $L^{p}(X, \mu)$ . Tin Kin Wong

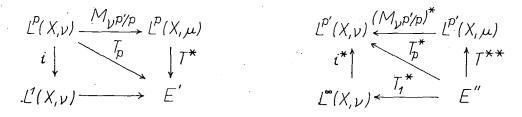
Note. The implication (i)  $\Rightarrow$ (ii) is trivial, as one may take  $\gamma(x) = ||K(x)||$ . Moreover, the uniqueness of K in (i) is clear. For if there were some K and K' in  $L^{p'}(X, \mu; E')$  such that  $Tg = \int_{X} g(x)K(x)d\mu = \int_{X} g(x)K'(x)d\mu$  for all g in  $L^{p}(X, \mu)$ , then, in particular,  $\int_{A} K(x)d\mu = \int_{A} K'(x)d\mu$  for all measurable set A with finite measure. Because the supports of K and K' are  $\sigma$ -finite measurable sets, we have therefore K = K' in  $L^{p}(X, \mu; E')$ .

Theorem 2. 1 follows from Theorem 2 of [7] and the following lemma which may have some interest in its own right.

Lemma 2.1. Let E be a Banach space. Let  $T^*: L^p(X, \mu) \to E'$  be the adjoint of  $T: E \to L^p(X, \mu)$ , and let  $\gamma \in L^{p'}(X, \mu)$ ,  $\gamma \ge 0$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- (i)  $|Tf(x)| \leq \gamma(x) ||f||$  a.e. for f in E.
- (ii)  $||T^*g|| \leq \int_{Y} |g(x)|\gamma(x)d\mu \text{ for all } g \text{ in } L^p(X,\mu).$

Proof. Case 1:  $\gamma(x) > 0$  a.e. Form the finite measure space (X, v) where  $dv = \gamma^{p'}d\mu$ . Let  $M_{\gamma}: L^{p'}(X, v) \to L^{p'}(X, \mu)$ , and  $M_{\gamma^{p'/p}}: L^{p}(X, v) \to L^{p}(X, \mu)$  be the multiplication by  $\gamma$  and  $\gamma^{p'/p}$ , respectively. That is,  $M_{\gamma}(g) = \gamma \cdot g$  and  $M_{\gamma^{p'/p}}(h) = \gamma^{p'/p} \cdot h$  for g in  $L^{p'}(X, v)$  and h in  $L^{p}(X, v)$ . Beause  $\gamma(x) < 0$  a.e.,  $M_{\gamma}$  and  $M_{\gamma^{p'/p}}$  are linear isomorphisms (onto), and  $M_{\gamma}^{-1} = M_{\gamma^{-1}}, (M_{\gamma^{p'/p}})^{-1} = M_{\gamma^{-p'/p}}$ . A simple computation shows that  $(M_{\gamma^{p'/p}})^* = (M_{\gamma})^{-1}$ , hence  $M_{\gamma}^* = M_{\gamma^{p'/p}}$ . We now prove (ii)  $\Rightarrow$ (i). Write  $T_p = T^* \circ M_{\gamma^{p'/p}}$ . Then  $T_p: L^p(X, v) \to E'$ , and  $||T_pf|| \leq \int_X |M_{\gamma^{p'/p}}(f)| \cdot \gamma d\mu$ . Hence  $||T_pf|| \leq \int_X |f(x)| dv = ||f||_1$ , where  $||\cdot||_1$  denotes the  $L^1$ -norm of f. Since  $L^p(X, v)$  is dense in  $L^1(X, v)$ , we can extend  $T_p$  to the whole of  $L^1(X, v)$  without increasing its norm. Let  $T_1: L^1(X, v) \to E'$  be the extension of  $T_p$ . Then  $||T_1|| \leq 1$ . We have the first one of the following commutative diagrams, from which the second one derives by taking adjoints:



Here *i* and  $i_{\lambda}$  are the natural embeddings, and  $||T_1^*|| = ||T_1|| \le 1$ . If *f* in *E*, then  $T^{**}f = Tf$ . (Here we have identified *E* with a subset of  $E^{**}$  via the natural embedding.)

Therefore  $i^*T_1^*(f) = (M_{\gamma^{p'/p}})^*T(f) = M_{\gamma^{-1}}(Tf)$ . Hence  $||T_1^*f||_{\infty} \le ||f||$ ; it follows that  $|T_1^*f(x)| \le ||f||$  a.e. But  $T_1^*f(x) = M_{\gamma^{-1}}Tf(x) = \gamma^{-1}(x) \cdot Tf(x)$ . Therefore  $|\gamma^{-1}(x) \cdot Tf(x)| \le ||f||$  a.e. Hence  $|Tf(x)| \le \gamma(x)||f||$  a.e. for f in E. This completes the proof of the implication (ii)  $\Rightarrow$ (i). The proof of (i)  $\Rightarrow$ (ii) is similar. We first consider the mapping  $S_{p'}: E \to L^p(X, v)$  defined by  $S_{p'} = M_{\gamma^{-1}} \circ T$ . Then  $|S_{p'}f(x)| \le ||f||$ a.e. Let  $i: L^{\infty}(X, v) \to L^{p'}(X, v)$  be the injection. Then  $S_{p'}$  factors as  $S_{p'} = i \circ S_{\infty}'$ where  $S_{\infty}: E \to L^{\infty}(X, v)$  and  $||S_{\infty}f||_{\infty} \le ||f||$  where  $||\cdot||_{\infty}$  denotes the  $L^{\infty}$ -norm. Hence  $||S_{\infty}|| \le 1$ . Therefore  $S_{\infty}^*: M(X, v) \to E'$  is also a contraction where M(X, v) is the dual of  $L^{\infty}(X, v)$ . It is clear that  $i^*: L^p(X, v) \to M(X, v)$  is the natural injection which maps g into the finite measure (complex) gdv for g in  $L^p(X, v)$ . Hence  $||S_{\infty}^* \circ i^*g|| \le ||i^*g||$ , and  $||i^*g|| = \int_{X} ||g|dv$  for g in  $L^p(X, v)$ . Moreover, since  $i \circ S_{\infty} = S_{p'} = M_{\gamma^{-1}} \circ T$ , then  $S_{\infty}^* \circ i^* = S_{p'}^* = T^* \circ (M_{\gamma^{-1}})^* = T^* \circ M_{\gamma^{p'/p}}$ . It follows that  $||T^* \circ M_{\gamma^{p'/p}}g|| \le \int_{X} ||g|dv$ for g in  $L^p(X, v)$ . If g is in  $L^p(X, \mu)$ , write  $g = M_{\gamma^{p'/p}}(M_{\gamma^{p'/p}}g)$ . Then  $||T^*g|| \le$  $\le \int_{X} |M_{\gamma^{-p'/p}}(g)|dv = \int_{X} \gamma(x)|g(x)|d\mu$ . This proves (i)  $\Rightarrow$ (ii).

Case 2:  $\gamma$  vanishes on a set of positive measure. Let  $Y = \{x; \gamma(x) > 0\}$ , and let  $(Y, \mu)$  be the measure space obtained by restricting  $\mu$  to Y. Let  $j: L^{p'}(Y, \mu) \to L^{p'}(X, \mu)$  be the natural embedding. Then  $j^*: L^p(X, \mu) \to L^p(Y, \mu)$  is the projection  $g \to \chi_Y g$  where  $\chi_Y$  is the characteristic function of Y. Then the operator T factors as  $E \xrightarrow{T_Y} L^p(Y, \mu) \xrightarrow{j} L^p(X, \mu)$  if and only if  $T^*$  factors as  $L^{p'}(X, \mu) \xrightarrow{j^*} L^{p'}(Y, \mu) \xrightarrow{T^*} E'$ . Now we apply the implication  $(i) \Rightarrow (ii)$  to the operators  $T_Y$  and  $T^*_Y$ , and complete the proof.

Proof of Theorem 2.1. We only need to prove that (ii) implies (i). Let  $S: E \to L^{p'}(X, \mu)$  be the restriction of  $T^*: E'' \to L^{p'}(X, \mu)$  to E. Then  $T = S^*$ . By Lemma 2.1, we have  $|Sf(x)| \leq \gamma(x) ||f||$  a.e. for f in E. By Theorem 2 of [7], we have  $Tg = S^*g = \int K(x)g(x)d\mu$  for a unique K in  $L^{p'}(X, \mu; E')$ .

Remark. We note that, in Theorem 2.1, the existence of K does not depend upon the choice of those non-negative  $\gamma$  such that  $||Tg|| \leq \int_{X} \gamma(x)|g(x)|d\mu$  for g in  $L^{p}(X, \mu)$ . The following lemma asserts that the function  $||K(\cdot)||$  is the infimum of all those  $\gamma$  in the language of lattice theory. That is,  $||K(\cdot)|| = \Lambda\{\gamma \in L^{p'}(X, \mu);$  $||Tg|| \leq \int \gamma(x)|g(x)|d\mu$  for all g in  $L^{p}(X, \mu)\}$ .

Lemma 2.2. Let E be a Banach space. Let K be in  $L^{p'}(X, \mu; E)$  and let  $\gamma$  be non-negative element in  $L^{p'}(X, \mu)$  such that  $\left\| \int_{X} K(x)g(x)d\mu \right\| \leq \int_{X} \gamma(x)|g(x)|d\mu$  for all g in  $L^{p}(X, \mu)$ . Then  $\|K(x)\| \leq \gamma(x)$  a.e.

Proof. Let  $S: L^p(X, \mu) \to E$  be defined by  $Sg = \int_X K(x)g(x)d\mu$ . Then S is a bounded operator, and  $S^*: E' \to L^{p'}(X, \mu)$  is given by  $S^*f'(x) = \langle f', K(x) \rangle$  a.e. Furthermore, the proof for (ii)  $\Rightarrow$ (i) of Lemma 2. 1 proves that  $|S^*f'(x)| \leq \gamma(x) ||f'||$ . a.e. where the exceptional set of measure zero may depend upon f'. Hence  $|\langle f', K(x) \rangle| \leq \gamma(x) ||f'||$  a.e. for f' in E'. Let N be the  $\mu$ -null set such that  $K(X \setminus N)$ is contained in a separable subset of E. Let  $\{f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n, \dots\}$  be a countable dense subset of this subset of E. Let  $\{f'_1, f'_2, \dots, f'_n, \dots\}$  be the subset of E' such that  $||f'_j|| = 1$  and  $|\langle f'_j, f_j \rangle| = ||f_j||$  for each j. Then, if x is not in N, we have ||K(x)|| = $= \sup_j |\langle f'_j, K(x) \rangle|$ . Let  $N_j$  be the  $\mu$ -null such that  $|\langle f'_j, K(x) \rangle| \leq \gamma(x)$  for all x not in  $N_j$ . Let  $A = N \cup \left(\bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} N_j\right)$ . Then A is also a  $\mu$ -null, and  $||K(x)|| \leq \gamma(x)$  for all x not in A. This proves the lemma.

3. Let *H* be a Hilbert space. Let  $S: H \to L^2(X, \mu)$  be a Hilbert—Schmidt class operator. For any orthonormal basis  $\{f_{\lambda}\}$  of *H*,  $\sum_{\lambda} ||Sf_{\lambda}||^2$  is finite. There are at most countably many non-vanishing  $||Sf_{\lambda}||^2$  in the above sum, say  $Sf_{\lambda_j} \neq 0$  (j=1, 2, 3, ...). Hence  $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |Sf_{\lambda_j}(x)|^2 < +\infty$  a.e. Let  $K(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} Sf_{\lambda_j}(x)f_{\lambda_j}$ . Then *K* is a strongly  $\mu$ -measurable *H*-valued function such that  $\int_{X} ||K(x)||^2 d\mu = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} ||Sf_{\lambda_j}||^2 = \sum_{\lambda} ||Sf_{\lambda}||^2 = ||S||_2^2$ , where  $||S||_2$  denotes the Hilbert—Schmidt norm of *S*. Furthermore,  $Sf_{\lambda_j}(x) = \langle f_{\lambda_j}, K(x) \rangle$  and hence  $Sf(x) = \langle f, K(x) \rangle$  a.e. for *f* in *H*. Conversely, if *K* in  $L^2(X, \mu; H)$  and  $S: H \to L^2(X, \mu)$  is defined by  $Sf(x) = \langle f, K(x) \rangle$  a. e. then it is clear that *S* is of Hilbert—Schmidt class with Hilbert—Schmidt norm ||K||. This shows that every Hilbert—Schmidt class operator  $S: H \to L^2(X, \mu)$  is of the form  $Sf(x) = \langle f, K(x) \rangle$  a.e. for a unique *K* in  $L^2(X, \mu; H)$ . The above argument can also be found, for example, in [6], 2. 2 (1); we include it here for a later reference. The following characterization for Hilbert—Schmidt class operators first appeared in PERSSON's article ([3], Theorem 3) as a special case of his main result. It is also included in ([7], Corollary 3 and its following remark).

However, the following version is due to WEIDMANN ([6], 2. 10. Korollar) for separable Hilbert spaces.

Theorem 3.1. Let H be a Hilbert space. For a bounded operator T:  $H \rightarrow L^2(X, \mu)$ , the following are equivalent:

- (i) T is of Hilbert—Schmidt class.
- (ii)  $|Tf(x)| \leq \gamma(x) ||f||$  a.e. for some non-negative  $\gamma$  in  $L^2(X, \mu)$ .
- (iii)  $Tf(x) = \langle f, K(x) \rangle$  a.e. for a unique K in  $L^2(X, \mu; H)$ .

Moreover,  $||T||_2 = ||K||$ , where  $||T||_2$  denotes the Hilbert—Schmidt norm of T, and ||K|| denotes the norm of K in  $L^2(X, \mu; H)$ .

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Proof. The argument given at the beginning of this section shows that (i) and (iii) are equivalent and  $||T||_2 = ||K||$ . By Theorem 1 of [7] we see that (ii) and (iii) are equivalent.

Dual to Theorem 3.1, we have the following

Theorem 3.2. Let H be a Hilbert space. For a bounded operator  $S: L^2(X, \mu) \rightarrow H$  the following are equivalent:

(i) S is of Hilbert—Schmidt class.

(ii)  $||Sg|| \leq \int \gamma(x) |g(x)| d\mu$  for some non-negative  $\gamma$  in  $L^2(X, \mu)$ .

(iii)  $Sg = \int_{X} \hat{K}(x)g(x)d\mu$  for a unique K in  $L^{2}(X, \mu; H)$ . Moreover,  $\|S\|_{2} = \|K\|$ .

Proof. S is of Hilbert—Schmidt class if and only if  $S^*: H \to L^2(X, \mu)$  is of Hilbert—Schmidt class. This is so if and only if  $|S^*f(x)| \le \gamma(x) ||f||$  a.e. for some  $\gamma \ge 0$  in  $L^2(X, \mu)$ . By Lemma 2. 1, the above inequality holds if and only if  $||Sg|| \le$  $\le \int_X \gamma(x) |g(x)| d\mu$ . Hence (i) and (ii) are equivalent. (ii) and (iii) are equivalent by Theorem 2. 1. Furthermore, from Theorem 3. 1, we have  $||S^*||_2 = ||K||$ , but  $||S||_2 =$  $= ||S^*||_2$ . Hence  $||S||_2 = ||K||$ .

We now turn our attention to operators defined on a linear manifold of Hilbert space. Let H be a Hilbert space, and let K be a strongly  $\mu$ -measurable H-valued function defined almost everywhere on X. Let  $\mathfrak{D} = \{f \in H; \langle f, K(\cdot) \rangle \in L^2(X, \mu)\}$ . Then  $\mathfrak{D}$  is a linear manifold of H, but not necessarily dense in H. Let  $\mathfrak{D} = \{g \in L^2(X, \mu): \int_X ||K(x)|| |g(x)| d\mu < +\infty\}$ . Then  $\mathfrak{D}$  is a dense linear manifold of  $L^2(X, \mu)$  (cf. [4]).

Notice that  $\hat{\mathfrak{D}} = \{g \in L^2(X, \mu); gK \text{ is Bochner integrable}\}$ . Moreover, if  $\hat{\mathfrak{D}} = L^2(X, \mu)$ , then K is necessary in  $L^2(X, \mu; H)$ .

Following J. WEIDMANN [6] we call an operator  $T: \mathfrak{D}_T \to L^2(X, \mu)$  a Carleman operator, if its domain  $\mathfrak{D}_T$  is contained in  $\mathfrak{D}$  and it can be written as  $Tf(x) = \langle f, K(x) \rangle$ a.e. for f in  $\mathfrak{D}_T$ . An operator  $S: \mathfrak{\hat{D}}_S \to H$  is called a semi-Carleman operator, if its domain  $\mathfrak{\hat{D}}_S$  is contained in  $\mathfrak{\hat{D}}$  and it can be written as  $Sg = \int_X g(x)K(x)d\mu$  for g in  $\mathfrak{\hat{D}}_S$ .

We note that, when  $(X, \mu)$  is  $\sigma$ -finite, and  $H = L^2(X, \mu)$ , then our definitions for Carleman and semi-Carleman operations coincide with the classical ones ([2] and [4]). For a detailed discussion of this see ([6], Section 5) or ([2], Lemma 1).

Theorem 3.3. Let  $(X, \mu)$  be a  $\sigma$ -finite measure space. Let  $S: \hat{\mathfrak{D}}_S \to H$  be an operator with dense domain  $\hat{\mathfrak{D}}_S$  in  $L^2(X, \mu)$ . The following are equivalent:

(i) S is a semi-Carleman operator.

(ii) There exists a measurable function  $\gamma$  such that  $0 \leq \gamma(x) < +\infty$  a.e.,  $\hat{\mathbb{D}}_{S} \subset \{g \in L^{2}: \int_{X} \gamma(x) |g(x)| d\mu < +\infty\}, and ||Sg|| \leq \int_{X} \gamma(x) |g(x)| d\mu$  for all g in  $\hat{\mathbb{D}}_{S}$ .

Proof. The implication (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) is clear. We now prove (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i). Write  $X = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$ ,  $A_n \subset A_{n+1}$  and  $\mu(A_n) < +\infty$  for all *n*. Let  $X_n = \{x \in A_n; \gamma(x) \le n\}$  for n=1, 2, ...Then  $X_n \subset X_{n+1}$ ,  $\mu(X_n) < +\infty$  and  $\mu(X \setminus \bigcup X_n) = 0$ . Let  $\mu_n$  be the restriction of  $\mu$ to  $X_n$ , let  $\hat{\mathfrak{D}}_n = \hat{\mathfrak{D}}_S \cap L^2(X_n, \mu_n)$ ,  $\gamma_n = \chi_{X_n} \gamma$ . Then  $\gamma_n$  is in  $L^2(X_n, \mu_n)$ , and  $\hat{\mathfrak{D}}_n$  is dense in  $L^2(X_n, \mu_n)$ . Consider  $S_n: \hat{\mathfrak{D}}_n \to H$ ; the restriction of S to  $\hat{\mathfrak{D}}_n$ . We have  $||S_ng|| \leq 1$  $\leq \int \gamma_n(x) |g(x)| d\mu_n$  for g in  $\hat{\mathfrak{D}}_n$ . Then  $S_n$  admits a unique bounded extension to  $L^{2}(X_{n}, \mu_{n})$  which is also denoted by  $S_{n}$ . Moreover, the inequality  $||S_{n}g|| \leq 1$  $\leq \int \gamma_n(x) |g(x)| d\mu_n$  holds for all g in  $L^2(X_n, \mu_n)$ . Therefore, by Theorem 3.2  $S_n g =$  $= \int g(x)K_n(x)d\mu_n \text{ for a unique } K'_n \text{ in } L^2(X_n, \mu_n; H). \text{ By Lemma 2. 2 } \|K'_n(x)\| \leq \gamma_n(x)$ a.e. Note that  $S_{n+1}$  extends  $S_n$ , using the uniqueness assertion once more we have  $K'_{n+1}(x) = K'_n(x)$  a.e. on  $X_n$ . We now define  $K_n$  almost everywhere on X by putting  $K_n(x) = K'_n(x)$  a.e. on  $X_n$  and  $K_n(x) = 0$  for x not in  $X_n$ . Then  $K_n$  is  $\mu$ -strongly measurable. Since  $K_{n+1}(x) = K_n(x)$  a.e. on  $X_n$ , then  $\lim_{n \to \infty} K_n(x)$  exists almost everywhere. Let  $K(x) = \lim K_n(x)$ , then K is defined almost everywhere on X into H and K is also  $\mu$ -strongly measurable. Moreover,  $||K(x)|| = \lim_{n \to \infty} ||K_n(x)|| \le \lim_{n \to \infty} \gamma_n(x) = \gamma(x)$  a.e. Hence  $\int_{V} |g(x)| \|K(x)\| d\mu \leq \int_{V} |g(x)|\gamma(x)d\mu < +\infty$  for all g in  $\hat{\mathfrak{D}}_{S}$ . Thus the integral  $\int_{X} g(x)K(x)d\mu \text{ exists for } g \text{ in } \hat{\mathbb{D}}_{S}. \text{ We have } \hat{\mathbb{D}}_{S} \subset \{g \in L^{2}(X,\mu); \int |g(x)| \|K(x)\| d\mu < +\infty\}.$ We want to show that  $Sg = \int g(x)K(x)d\mu$  for g in  $\hat{\mathfrak{D}}_S$ . To see this, we let  $g_n = \chi_{X_n}g$ . Then  $g_n(x) \rightarrow g(x)$  a.e. and  $g_n \in L^2(X_n, \mu_n)$ .  $||Sg - Sg_n|| \leq \int_{Y} \gamma(x) |g_n(x) - g(x)| d\mu \rightarrow 0$ , by dominated convergence. But  $Sg_n = S_ng_n = \int_X K_n(x)g_n(x)d\mu_n = \int_Y K(x)g_n(x)d\mu$ . On the other hand  $\left\| \int_{Y} K(x)g(x)d\mu - \int_{Y} K(x)g_n(x)d\mu \right\| \leq \int_{X} \|K(x)\| |g(x) - g_n(x)|d\mu \leq \int_{Y} \|K(x)\| |g(x) - g_n(x)|d\mu$  $\leq \int \gamma(x) |g(x) - g_n(x)| d\mu \to 0$ . Therefore  $Sg = \int g(x) K(x) d\mu$  for g in  $\hat{\mathfrak{D}}_S$ . This completes the proof.

In 1965, V. B KOROTKOV gave a characterization for a Carleman operator on separable  $L^2$ -space which is what he called an integral operator of Carleman type (cf. [2], Theorem 1). His proof is based on the Dunford-Pettis Theorem. Recently, M. SCHREIBER and GY. TARGONSKI also obtained a new characterization for Carleman operators (cf. [5], Theorem 2. 1). However, J. P. WILLIAMS shows that the

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Schreiber—Targonski theorem is a consequence of the Korotkov theorem (private communication). (See also [6], Satz 2.11.) Using our result, we can prove that the Korotkov Theorem remains valid without the separability assumption on the Hilbert spaces.

Theorem 3.4 (KOROTKOV [2], Theorem 1). Let  $(X, \mu)$  be a  $\sigma$ -finite measure space. Let  $T: \mathfrak{D}_T \to L^2(X, \mu)$  be an operator with dense domain  $\mathfrak{D}_T$  in a Hilbert space H. The following are equivalent conditions:

(i) T is a Carleman operator.

(ii) There exists a non-negative measurable function  $\gamma$  such that  $\gamma(x) < +\infty$ a.e. and  $|Tf(x)| \leq \gamma(x) ||f||$  a.e. for f in  $\mathfrak{D}_T$ .

Proof. (i) clearly implies (ii). To prove (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i), we write  $X = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$ , with  $A_n \subset A_{n+1}$ and each  $A_n$  of finite measure. Let  $X_n = \{x \in A_n; \gamma(x) \le n\}$ . Then  $\mu \left( X \setminus \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} X_n \right) = 0$ , and  $X_n \subset X_{n+1}$  and each  $X_n$  has finite measure. Let  $E_n: L^2(X, \mu) \to L^2(X, \mu)$  be the projection on  $L^2(X_n, \mu)$ . Then  $E_n \to 1$  strongly. Let  $\gamma_n = \chi_{X_n} \gamma$ ,  $\mu_n = \mu|_{X_n}$ . Then  $\gamma_n$ in  $L^2(X_n, \mu_n)$ . Consider  $E_n T: \mathfrak{D}_T \to L^2(X, \mu)$ . Let  $j: L^2(X_n, \mu_n) \to L^2(X, \mu)$  be the natural embedding. Then  $E_n T$  factors as  $\mathfrak{D}_T \xrightarrow{T_n} L^2(X_n, \mu_n) \xrightarrow{j} L^2(X, \mu)$  where  $|T_n f(x)| \leq 1$  $\leq \gamma_n(x) \|f\|$  a. e.  $(\mu_n)$ .  $T_n$  admits a unique bounded extension to H which is again. written as  $T_n$ . By a standard density argument one can show that the extension  $T_n$  also has the property that  $|T_n f(x)| \leq \gamma_n(x) ||f||$  a.e.  $(\mu_n)$  for f in H. By Theorem 3.1  $T_n$  is of Hilbert—Schmidt class, and there is a unique  $K_n$  in  $L^2(X_n, \mu_n; H)$ such that  $T_n f(x) = \langle f, K'_n(x) \rangle$  a.e. By uniqueness again, we have  $K'_{n+1}(x) = K'_n(x)$ a.e. on  $X_n$ . Let  $K_n(x) = K'_n(x)$  a.e. on  $X_n$  and  $K_n(x) = 0$  for x not in  $X_n$ . Then each  $K_n$  is strongly  $\mu$ -measurable H-valued. Let  $K(x) = \lim K_n(x)$  a.e. Then K defines almost everywhere on X and is  $\mu$ -measurable. Moreover  $K(x) = K_n(x)$  a.e. on  $X_n$ . If f in  $\mathfrak{D}_T$ , then  $Tf = \lim_{n \to \infty} E_n Tf$ . But  $E_n Tf = j \cdot T_n f$ , so  $(E_n T) f(x) = (T_n f)(x) = f$ ,  $K_n(x)$ a. e. Therefore  $Tf(x) = \lim_{t \to \infty} E_{n_t} Tf(x) = \lim_{t \to \infty} \langle f, K_{n_t}(x) \rangle = \langle f, K(x) \rangle$  a.e. This completes the proof.

4. Concluding remark. In the definition of a semi-Carleman operator, if we enlarge the linear manifold  $\hat{\mathfrak{D}}$  to the linear manifold of  $L^2(X, \mu)$  consisting of all g such that the H-valued function  $x \rightarrow g(x)K(x)$  is weakly integrable in the sense of Pettis, where K is a  $\mu$ -strongly measurable H-valued function. We may call an operator  $T:\hat{\mathfrak{D}}_T \rightarrow H$  a weak semi-Carleman operator, if its domain  $\hat{\mathfrak{D}}_T$  is contained in  $\hat{\mathfrak{D}}$  and it can be written as  $Tg = \int_X g(x)K(x)d\mu$  for g in  $\hat{\mathfrak{D}}_T$ , where the integral is the weak integral in the sense of Pettis. It is easy to see that, if  $A: H \rightarrow$  $\rightarrow L^2(X, \mu)$  is an everywhere defined Carleman operator (hence bounded), then  $A^*: L^2(X, \mu) \to H$  is a weak semi-Carleman operator. More than this, one can easily show that the adjoint of a densely defined Carleman operator is a closed extension of a weak semi-Carleman operator. It follows that the conditions  $|Af(x)| \leq \gamma(x) ||f||$ and  $||A^*g|| \leq \int_X \gamma(x) |g(x)| d\mu$ , for some nonnegative measurable  $\gamma$  are not equivalent for the Carleman operator A. It would be interesting to give a characterization for a weak semi-Carleman operator.

Using theory of semi-ordered spaces, S. I. ŽDANOV (cf. [8], proof of Theorem 1) proved that the Korotkov inequality  $|Tf(x)| = \gamma(x) ||f||$  a.e. is equivalent to that T maps every null sequence of vectors  $\{f_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  in H into a sequence  $\{Tf_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  in  $L^2(X, \mu)$  such that  $Tf_n(x) \to 0$  a.e. For a complete elementary proof of this see WEIDMANN ([6], Satz 2. 12). We do not know the answer to the following question:

What is the condition corresponding to the Ždanov theorem for a semi-Carleman operator and a Carleman operator respectively?

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48202, U.S.A.

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