

## 0.1 Bounded and Compact operators

For a given inner-product space  $V$ , a linear operator  $T : V \rightarrow V$  is called *bounded* (with respect to a given norm) if there exists a constant  $C$  such that for all  $v$ ,  $\|T(v)\| \leq C\|v\|$ . In this case the smallest such  $C$  is denoted  $|T|$ . It is easy to see from the definitions that the following holds:

$$|T| = \sup_{0 \neq v \in V} \left( \frac{\|T(v)\|}{\|v\|} \right).$$

A bounded operator  $T$  is said to be *compact* if for a sequence  $v_1, v_2, \dots$  such that  $\|v_i\| \leq 1 \forall i$ , the sequence  $T(v_1), T(v_2), \dots$ , has a convergent subsequence.

$T$  is said to be *symmetric* if  $\langle T(v), w \rangle = \langle v, T(w) \rangle$ .

**Lemma 1.** *If  $T : V \rightarrow V$  is a bounded symmetric compact operator then:*

$$|T| = \sup_{0 \neq v \in V} \left( \frac{\langle T(v), v \rangle}{\langle v, v \rangle} \right).$$

*Proof.* Let  $B$  denote the right-hand side of the given equation. By the Schwartz inequality we get that for any  $v \neq 0$ :

$$|\langle T(v), v \rangle| \leq \|T(v)\| \|v\| \leq |T| \|v\|^2 = |T| \langle v, v \rangle,$$

which gives us

$$\frac{|\langle T(v), v \rangle|}{\langle v, v \rangle} \leq |T|,$$

and so  $B \leq |T|$ .

On the other hand, we assume  $T(v) \neq 0$  and  $k$  is some positive constant, since we know that  $T$  is symmetric we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle T(kv + k^{-1}T(v)), kv + k^{-1}T(v) \rangle &= \langle T(kv), kv \rangle + 2\langle T(kv), k^{-1}T(v) \rangle + \langle T(k^{-1}T(v)), k^{-1}T(v) \rangle \\ &= \langle T(kv), kv \rangle + 2\langle T(v), T(v) \rangle + \langle T(k^{-1}T(v)), k^{-1}T(v) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\langle T(kv - k^{-1}T(v)), kv - k^{-1}T(v) \rangle = \langle T(kv), kv \rangle - 2\langle T(v), T(v) \rangle + \langle T(k^{-1}T(v)), k^{-1}T(v) \rangle.$$

By definition, for all  $v \neq 0$  we have that  $\frac{|\langle T(v), v \rangle|}{\langle v, v \rangle} \leq B$  and so  $|\langle T(v), v \rangle| \leq B \langle v, v \rangle$ . Combining the equations above we get

$$\begin{aligned} 4\langle T(v), T(v) \rangle &= \langle T(kv + k^{-1}T(v)), kv + k^{-1}T(v) \rangle - \langle T(kv - k^{-1}T(v)), kv - k^{-1}T(v) \rangle \\ &\leq |\langle T(kv + k^{-1}T(v)), kv + k^{-1}T(v) \rangle| + |\langle T(kv - k^{-1}T(v)), kv - k^{-1}T(v) \rangle| \\ &\leq B\langle kv + k^{-1}T(v), kv + k^{-1}T(v) \rangle + B\langle kv - k^{-1}T(v), kv - k^{-1}T(v) \rangle \\ &\leq B(2k^2\langle v, v \rangle + 2k^{-2}\langle T(v), T(v) \rangle) \\ &= 2B(k^2\langle v, v \rangle + k^{-2}\langle T(v), T(v) \rangle) \end{aligned}$$

We now let  $k = \left( \frac{\|T(v)\|}{\|v\|} \right)^{1/2}$ , and obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} 4\|T(v)\|^2 &= 4\langle T(v), T(v) \rangle \leq 2B(2\|T(v)\| \cdot \|v\|) \\ \|T(v)\| &\leq B\|v\|. \end{aligned}$$

We conclude that  $|T| = B$ , as claimed. □

**Lemma 2.** *If  $T$  is a bounded symmetric compact operator at least one of  $|T|, -|T|$  is an eigenvalue for  $T$ .*

*Proof.* From the previous lemma we can deduce that there is a sequence of *unit* vectors  $v_i$  such that  $|\langle T(v_i), v_i \rangle| \rightarrow |T|$ . From this we obtain a subsequence such that  $\langle T(v_i), v_i \rangle \rightarrow \lambda = \pm|T|$ . Also since  $T$  is a compact operator we may assume that  $T(v_i)$  converges to some vector  $w$ . We will show that  $v_i \rightarrow \lambda^{-1}w$ .

By the Schwartz inequality we have

$$|\langle T(v_i), v_i \rangle| \leq \|T(v_i)\| \|v_i\| = \|T(v_i)\| \leq |T| \|v_i\| = |\lambda|,$$

but we know that  $|\langle T(v_i), v_i \rangle| \rightarrow |\lambda|$ , so we conclude that  $\|T(v_i)\| \rightarrow |\lambda|$ . Consider the quantity

$$\begin{aligned} \|\lambda v_i - T(v_i)\|^2 &= \langle \lambda v_i - T(v_i), \lambda v_i - T(v_i) \rangle \\ &= \lambda^2 \|v_i\|^2 - 2\lambda \langle T(v_i), v_i \rangle + \|T(v_i)\|^2 \\ &\rightarrow \lambda^2 - 2\lambda\lambda + \lambda^2 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since we know  $T(v_i) \rightarrow w$ , we also have that  $\lambda v_i \rightarrow w$  and so we write  $v_i \rightarrow v = \lambda^{-1}w$ . By continuity  $T(v) = \lim T(v_i) = w = \lambda v$ , so we have proved that  $v$  is an eigenvector with eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $T : V \rightarrow V$  be a compact operator. If  $\lambda \neq 0$  is an eigenvalue of  $T$  we define  $V_\lambda = \{v \in V \mid T(v) = \lambda v\}$ . For any given  $r > 0$ , then  $W = \text{span}\{V_\lambda \mid \lambda \geq r\}$  is finite dimensional.*

*Proof.* Suppose  $W$  is not finite dimensional, then there exists a countable orthonormal subset  $\{e_n\}$ . Since  $T$  is a compact operator and that  $\|e_n\| = 1$ , the sequence  $\{T(e_1), T(e_2), \dots\}$  has a convergent subsequence.

However, we know that  $T(e_n) = \lambda_n e_n$ , with  $\lambda_n \geq r$ , so for  $n \neq m$ ,

$$\|T(e_n) - T(e_m)\|^2 = \|\lambda_n e_n - \lambda_m e_m\|^2 = \|\lambda_n e_n\|^2 + \|\lambda_m e_m\|^2 = \lambda_n^2 + \lambda_m^2 \geq 2r^2,$$

which contradicts the previous statement.  $\square$

From this result we conclude that every maximal orthonormal set of non-zero eigenvectors is countable. We arrange such set in a sequence  $(e_n)$  with the extra requirement that if  $i < j$  and  $\lambda_i$  and  $\lambda_j$  are the eigenvalues for  $e_i, e_j$ , then  $\lambda_i \geq \lambda_j$ . Also from now on, we will assume  $T : V \rightarrow V$  is a symmetric compact bounded operator.

**Lemma 4.** *Every eigenvector with a non-zero eigenvalue is a finite linear combination of vectors in  $(e_n)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\lambda \neq 0$  and  $v$  be said eigenvalue and eigenvector. We know that there are only finitely many  $n$ 's such that  $e_n$  has characteristic value  $\lambda$ ; we denote this set of values by  $S_\lambda$ . Let

$$w = v - \sum_{n \in S_\lambda} \langle v, e_n \rangle e_n,$$

First, note that as a linear combination of eigenvectors corresponding to  $\lambda$ ,  $w$  is one itself; if we can show that  $w = 0$ , the proof will be complete. For  $i \in S_\lambda$ ,

$$\langle w, e_i \rangle = \langle v, e_i \rangle - \sum_{n \in S_\lambda} \langle v, e_n \rangle \langle e_n, e_i \rangle = \langle v, e_i \rangle - \langle v, e_i \rangle = 0.$$

On the other hand, if  $i \notin S_\lambda$  then we have  $T(e_i) = \mu e_i$  with  $\lambda \neq \mu$ :

$$\lambda \langle w, e_i \rangle = \langle \lambda w, e_i \rangle = \langle T(w), e_i \rangle = \langle w, T(e_i) \rangle = \langle w, \mu e_i \rangle = \mu \langle w, e_i \rangle.$$

From this we conclude that  $(\mu - \lambda) \langle w, e_i \rangle = 0$  and so  $\langle w, e_i \rangle = 0$ . Now,  $w$  must be zero, for otherwise this will contradict the maximality of  $(e_n)$ . □

## 0.2 Compact Groups

For the remaining part of the paper we will let  $G$  be a compact group and  $V = \text{Map}(G, \mathbb{R})$ . For consistency we will use  $f, g \in V$  and  $x, y, z \in G$ .

**Definition** Let  $\phi \in V$  we define  $T_\phi : V \rightarrow V$  as

$$T_\phi(f)(x) = \int_G \phi(xy^{-1})f(y)dy.$$

**Lemma 5.**  $T_\phi$  is well-defined, linear and continuous. Also if  $\phi(x) = \phi(x^{-1})$  for all  $x \in G$ , then  $T_\phi$  is symmetric.

*Proof.* Well-definedness, linearity and continuity were proved in the homework.

Suppose  $\phi(x) = \phi(x^{-1})$  for all  $x \in G$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle T_\phi(f), g \rangle &= \int_G T_\phi(f)(x)g(x)dx = \int_G \int_G \phi(xy^{-1})f(y)dy g(x)dx \\ &= \int_G \int_G \phi(xy^{-1})f(y)g(x) dy dx \\ \langle f, T_\phi(g) \rangle &= \int_G f(y)T_\phi(g)(y) dy = \int_G f(y) \int_G \phi(yx^{-1})g(x) dx dy \\ &= \int_G \int_G \phi((xy^{-1})^{-1})f(y)g(x) dx dy \end{aligned}$$

But we know that  $\phi((xy^{-1})^{-1}) = \phi(xy^{-1})$  and, if  $h(x, y)$  is continuous then  $\int_G \int_G h(x, y)dx dy = \int_G \int_G h(x, y)dy dx$ , so  $\langle T_\phi(f), g \rangle = \langle f, T_\phi(g) \rangle$ , and  $T_\phi$  is symmetric. □

**Definition** We define the following three norms in  $V$ :

- $\|f\|_1 = \int_G |f(x)|dx,$
- $\|f\|_2 = \sqrt{\langle f, f \rangle} = \sqrt{\int_G f(x)f(x)dx},$
- $\|f\|_\infty = \sup_{x \in G} |f(x)|.$

We showed in the exercises that the following inequalities hold.

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_1 &\leq \|f\|_2 \leq \|f\|_\infty, \\ \|T_\phi(f)\|_\infty &\leq \|\phi\|_\infty \|f\|_1. \end{aligned}$$

Next, we recall the following (weaker version) of a result that we will need.

**Theorem 1.** (Arzelà-Ascoli theorem) *Let  $G$  be a compact topological group. If  $\Delta$  is a uniformly equicontinuous and uniformly bounded family of functions  $G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , then every subsequence of functions  $f_i \in \Delta$  contains a uniformly convergent subsequence.*

**Lemma 6.**  $T_\phi$  is a bounded and compact operator with respect to  $\|\cdot\|_2$ .

*Proof.* We proved in the homework that  $\|T_\phi(f)\|_2 \leq \|\phi\|_\infty \|f\|_2$ , so  $T_\phi$  is bounded.

Let  $\{f_1, f_2, \dots\}$  be a sequence of functions such that  $\|f_i\|_2 \leq 1, \forall i$ . Let  $\Delta$  be the family of functions  $\{T_\phi(f_1), T_\phi(f_2), \dots\}$ . Then, for any  $x \in G, i \in n$ ,

$$|T_\phi(f_i)(x)| \leq \|T_\phi(f)\|_\infty \leq \|\phi\|_\infty \|f_i\|_1 \leq \|\phi\|_\infty.$$

So  $\Delta$  is uniformly bounded. On the other hand,  $\phi$  is continuous and  $G$  compact so  $\phi$  is uniformly continuous. Let  $\epsilon > 0$ , then let  $U$  be a neighborhood of the identity such that if  $k \in U$  then  $|\phi(kg) - \phi(g)| < \epsilon$ . For any  $i$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} |T_\phi(f_i)(kg) - T_\phi(f_i)(g)| &= \\ \left| \int_G (\phi(kgh^{-1}) - \phi(gh^{-1})) f_i(h) dh \right| &\leq \int_G |\phi(kgh^{-1}) - \phi(gh^{-1})| |f_i(h)| dh \\ &\leq \int_g \epsilon |f_i(h)| dh \leq \epsilon \|f_i\|_1 \leq \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Now we have shown that  $\Delta$  is uniformly continuous and uniformly bounded, by the Arzelà-Ascoli theorem, the sequence  $\{T_\phi(f_1), T_\phi(f_2), \dots\}$  contains a convergent subsequence with respect to  $\|\cdot\|_\infty$  and therefore also with respect to  $\|\cdot\|_2$ . We conclude that  $T_\phi$  is a compact operator.  $\square$

We now recall the result known as the Bessel Inequality; if  $\{e_n \mid n \in B\}$  is a set of orthonormal vectors in  $V$ , then for any  $f \in V$

$$\sum_{n \in B} \langle f, e_n \rangle^2 \leq (\|f\|_2)^2.$$

The proof is as follows, consider the following non-negative quantity

$$\begin{aligned} (\|f - \sum_{n \in B} \langle f, e_n \rangle e_n\|_2)^2 &= \langle f - \sum_{n \in B} \langle f, e_n \rangle e_n, f - \sum_{n \in B} \langle f, e_n \rangle e_n \rangle \\ &= \langle f, f \rangle - 2 \sum_{n \in B} \langle f, e_n \rangle \langle f, e_n \rangle + \sum_{n \in B} \sum_{m \in B} \langle f, e_n \rangle \langle f, e_m \rangle \langle e_n, e_m \rangle \\ &= (\|f\|_2)^2 - 2 \sum_{n \in B} \langle f, e_n \rangle^2 + \sum_{n \in B} \langle f, e_n \rangle^2 \\ &= (\|f\|_2)^2 - \sum_{n \in B} \langle f, e_n \rangle^2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Which concludes the proof.

For the following theorem we revert to using  $T$  for the compact operator, since this is a more general result.

**Theorem 2.** *For any  $f \in V$  we let  $f_p = T(\sum_{n \leq p} \langle f, e_n \rangle e_n)$ . The sequence  $\|T(f) - f_p\|_\infty$  converges to 0.*

*Proof.* In homework problem 11.3 we showed the first of the following inequalities;

$$\|f_q - f_p\|_\infty = \|T \left( \sum_{p < n \leq q} \langle f, e_n \rangle e_n \right)\|_\infty \leq |T| \left\| \sum_{p < n \leq q} \langle f, e_n \rangle e_n \right\|_2 = \left( \sum_{p < n \leq q} \langle f, e_n \rangle^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

However,  $\left( \sum_{p < n \leq q} \langle f, e_n \rangle^2 \right)^{1/2}$  is bounded by  $\|f\|_2$  (this follows from the Bessel inequality), and so the quantity on the right, approaches 0 as  $p$  and  $q$  become large. Hence the sequence  $(f_p)$  is Cauchy and converges to an element  $g$  of  $V$ . If we can show that  $g = T(f)$  the proof will be complete. Note, however, that we have shown that we can make the quantity  $\|g - f_p\|_2 \leq \|g - f_p\|_\infty$  as small as we want.

We define  $T_p : V \rightarrow V$  as

$$T_p(u) = T(u) - \sum_{n \leq p} \langle e_n, u \rangle T(e_n).$$

Note that  $T_p(f) = T(f) - \sum_{n \leq p} \langle f, e_n \rangle T(e_n) = T(f) - f_p$ . So now, all we have to show is that  $\|T_p\|$  converges to 0 as  $p$  becomes large. It is clear that  $T_p$  is bounded and compact because so is  $T$ . It is also symmetric:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle T_p(f), g \rangle &= \langle T(f) - \sum_{n \leq p} \langle f, e_n \rangle T(e_n), g \rangle \\ &= \langle f, T(g) \rangle - \sum_{n \leq p} \langle f, e_n \rangle \langle T(e_n), g \rangle \\ &= \langle f, T(g) \rangle - \sum_{n \leq p} \lambda_n \langle f, e_n \rangle \langle g, e_n \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f, T_p(g) \rangle &= \langle f, T(g) - \sum_{n \leq p} \langle g, e_n \rangle T(e_n) \rangle \\ &= \langle f, T(g) \rangle - \sum_{n \leq p} \langle g, e_n \rangle \langle T(e_n), f \rangle \\ &= \langle f, T(g) \rangle - \sum_{n \leq p} \lambda_n \langle g, e_n \rangle \langle f, e_n \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

By lemma 3, there must exist some  $u_p \in V$  such that  $T(u_p) = \lambda_p u_p$ , and  $\lambda_p = \pm |T_p|$ . If  $\lambda_p = 0$  we are finished, otherwise, we note that for  $m \leq p$ ;

$$\begin{aligned} \langle u_p, e_n \rangle &= 1/\lambda \langle T_p(u_p), e_n \rangle \\ &= 1/\lambda \langle u_p, T_p(e_n) \rangle \\ &= 1/\lambda \langle u_p, T(e_n) - \sum_{n \leq p} \langle e_m, e_n \rangle T(e_n) \rangle \\ &= 1/\lambda \langle u_p, T(e_n) - T(e_n) \rangle = 0. \end{aligned}$$

This means that  $T_p(u_p) = T(u_p) = \lambda_p u_p$ . We have shown that  $u_p$  is an eigenvalue for  $T$  and so by lemma 3, we can write  $u_p = \sum_{n \in S_{\lambda_p}} \langle u_p, e_n \rangle e_n$ . But then;

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \neq \lambda_p u_p &= T(u_p) = T(u_p) - \sum_{n \leq p} \langle u_p, e_n \rangle T(e_n) \\ &= T \left( \sum_{n \in S_{\lambda_p}} \langle u_p, e_n \rangle e_n \right) - \sum_{n \leq p} \langle u_p, e_n \rangle T(e_n) \\ &= \sum_{n \in S_{\lambda_p}} \langle u_p, e_n \rangle T(e_n) - \sum_{n \leq p} \langle u_p, e_n \rangle T(e_n) \end{aligned}$$

This means that there is some  $n \in S_{\lambda_p}$  that is greater than  $p$ .

In summary, we have shown that if we choose a  $p$ , we obtain  $u_p, \lambda_p$  and subsequently some  $e_n$ , with  $T_p(e_n) = \lambda_p e_n$  such that  $n > p$ .

Now we let  $\epsilon > 0$ , and consider all the  $e_n$ 's such that  $|\lambda_n| > \epsilon$ , (which we know to be finitely many from lemma 3); we choose  $p_0$  greater than all these  $n$ 's, in other words, if  $n \geq p_0$  then  $|\lambda_n| \leq \epsilon$ . By what we proved above we obtain  $u_{p_0}, \lambda_{p_0}$  and  $e_n$  such that  $T_{p_0}(e_n) = \lambda_{p_0} e_n$  and  $n > p_0$ , which implies  $|\lambda_n| \leq \epsilon$ .

So we have shown that  $|T_{p_0}| \leq \epsilon$ . We use this to show that we can make

$$\|T(f) - f_p\|_2 \leq \|T_p(f)\|_2 \leq |T| \|f\|_1$$

as small as we want. Therefore, since

$$\|g - T(f)\|_2 = \|g - f_p\|_2 + \|f_p - T(f)\|_2,$$

we have that  $\|g - T(f)\|_2 = 0$  and the  $g = T(f)$ . □

**Lemma 7.** *The  $\lambda$ -eigenspace*

$$V(\lambda) = \{f \in V \mid T\phi(f) = \lambda f\}$$

*is invariant under  $R_z$  for all  $z \in G$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $f$  be such that  $T_\phi(f) = \lambda f$ . Then

$$T_\phi(R_z(f))(x) = \int_G \phi(xy^{-1}) R_z(f)(y) dy = \int_G \phi(xy^{-1}) f(yz) dy.$$

We make the change of variables  $y \rightarrow yz^{-1}$  and obtain

$$\int_G \phi(xzy^{-1}) f(y) dy = T_\phi(f)(xz) = R_z(T_\phi(f))(x) = \lambda R_z(f)(x).$$

So  $R_z(f) \in V(\lambda)$ . □

**Lemma 8.** *Let  $G$  be a compact group, and  $U$  a neighborhood of the identity. Then we can find a function  $\phi$  supported in  $U$ , such that  $\phi(x) = \phi(x^{-1})$ ,  $\forall x \in G$ , and  $\int_G \phi(x) dx = 1$ .*

*Proof.* We first define  $V$  an open neighborhood of the identity such that  $V = V^{-1} \subset U$ .  $G$  is compact and Hausdorff, also  $\{e\}$  and  $G \setminus V$  are closed and so, by Urysohn's Lemma, we obtain a function  $\phi'' : G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$\phi''(e) = 1, \phi''(y) = 0, \forall y \notin V.$$

We next define a function  $\phi' : G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as  $\phi'(x) = \phi''(x) + \phi''(x^{-1})$ . It is clear that  $\phi'(x) = \phi'(-x)$ . Finally, we define

$$\phi(x) = \frac{\phi'(x)}{\int_G \phi'(z) dz}.$$

Then,  $\phi$  is the desired function:

- For  $y \notin U$  we know that  $y, y^{-1} \notin V$ , and so we have that

$$\phi(y) = \frac{\phi''(y) + \phi''(y^{-1})}{\int_G \phi'(z) dz} = 0,$$

so  $\phi$  is supported in  $U$ .

- Finally,

$$\int_G \phi(x) dx = \int_G \frac{\phi'(x)}{\int_G \phi'(z) dz} dx = 1.$$

□

The last thing we will need in order to prove the Peter-Weyl theorem is the following fact, which was proved in homework 9.3.

*If the vector subspace of  $V$  spanned by  $\{R_x(f) \mid x \in G\}$  is finite dimensional, then  $f$  is a matrix representation.*

This completes all the prerequisites we need to prove our main result.

**Theorem 3. (Peter-Weyl Theorem)** *Let  $G$  be a compact group, then the matrix coefficients of  $G$  are dense in  $V$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $f \in V$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ . We will show that there exists a matrix coefficient  $f'$  such that  $\|f - f'\|_\infty < \epsilon$ .

Since  $G$  is compact,  $f$  is uniformly continuous, and so we can find  $U$ , an open symmetric neighborhood of the identity such that, if  $x \in U$  such that

$$\|L_x(f) - f\|_\infty < \epsilon/2.$$

(Note, this was proved in homework 7.3.) By lemma 8, we can find  $\phi \in V$ , supported in  $U$  and such that

$$\phi(x) = \phi(x^{-1}), \text{ and } \int_G \phi(x) dx = 1.$$

We thus obtain  $T_\phi : V \rightarrow V$ , which is symmetric and compact. We claim that  $\|T_\phi(f) - f\|_\infty < \epsilon/2$ . For any  $x \in G$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
|T_\phi(f)(x) - f(x)| &= \left| \int_G (\phi(xy^{-1})f(y) dy - \int_G \phi(y)f(x) dy \right| \\
&\leq \int_G |\phi(y)f(y^{-1}x) - \phi(y)f(x)| dy \\
&= \int_G \phi(y) |f(y^{-1}x) - f(x)| dy \\
&= \int_U \phi(y) |f(y^{-1}x) - f(x)| dy \\
&\leq \int_U \phi(y) \|L_{y^{-1}}(f) - f\|_\infty dy \\
&\leq \int_U \phi(y)(\epsilon/2) dy = \epsilon/2.
\end{aligned}$$

By theorem 1, we can choose  $p$  so that

$$\|T_\phi(f) - f_p\|_\infty < \frac{\epsilon}{2}.$$

Recall that

$$f_p = T_\phi \left( \sum_{n \leq p} \langle f, e_n \rangle e_n \right) = \sum_{n \leq p} \langle f, e_n \rangle \lambda_n e_n,$$

and notice that it is contained in a finite dimensional vector space, which, by lemma 7 is closed under right translation, we conclude that  $f_p$  is a matrix coefficient

Finally,

$$\|f - f'\|_\infty = \|f - T_\phi(f) + T_\phi(f) - f_p\|_\infty \leq \|f - T_\phi(f)\|_\infty + \|T_\phi(f) - f_p\|_\infty \leq \epsilon.$$

□

We will now show some applications of the theorem as the following two corollaries.

**Corollary 1.** *Suppose  $G$  is a compact group,  $H$  a closed subgroup and  $U$  a neighborhood of  $e$ . Then, there exists a finite dimensional linear  $G$ -space  $V$  and  $v \in V$  such that*

$$H \subset G_v \subset UH.$$

*Proof.*  $G/H$  is compact and Hausdorff, so by Urysohn's Lemma, there exists a continuous function  $\tilde{f} : G/H \rightarrow I = [0, 1]$  such that

- $\tilde{f}(eH) = 0,$
- $\tilde{f}(y) = 1, \forall y \notin \pi(UH).$

We define  $f' = \tilde{f} \circ \pi : G \rightarrow I$  and consider the following statements:

1.  $f'(h) = 0, \forall h \in H,$
2.  $f'(x) = 1, \forall x \notin UH,$
3.  $R_h f = f, \forall h \in H$



Statements 1 and 2 are trivial, and 3 follows because  $\pi(xh) = \pi(x)$ .

By the Peter-Weyl theorem we find  $f'' : G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , a *matrix coefficient* such that  $|(f'' - f')(x)| < \epsilon$ ,  $\forall x \in G$ . Unfortunately  $f''$  does not necessarily satisfy the given conditions, but it does have some useful properties.

1. For all  $h \in H$ ,  $f''(h) < f'(h) + \epsilon = \epsilon$ . For  $x \notin UH$
2. For all  $x \notin UH$ ,  $f''(x) > f'(x) - \epsilon = 1 - \epsilon$ .
3. Unfortunately, there is nothing like property 3 that applies to  $f''$ , so we must define yet another function.

We let  $f : G \rightarrow I$  as  $f(x) = \int_H f''(xh') dh'$ . Since  $f''$  is a matrix coefficient, so is  $f$ .

1. For  $h, h' \in H$ , we show that  $f(h) = \int_H f''(hh') dh' < \int_H \epsilon = \epsilon$ .
2. For  $x \notin UH$ , we show that  $f(x) = \int_H f''(xh) dh' > \int_H 1 - \epsilon = 1 - \epsilon$ .
3. For  $x \in G, h \in H$  we show that  $f(xh) = \int_H f''(xhh') dh' = \int_H f''(xh') dh = f(x)$ .

Consider the action  $R : G \times V_f \rightarrow V_f$ , we will show that  $V_f$  and  $f \in V_f$  satisfy the conclusion of the theorem:

- Firstly, since  $f$  is a matrix coefficient, we know  $V_f$  is finite dimensional.
- For any  $h \in H$ , we showed  $R(h, f) = R_h f = f$ , so  $H \subset G_f$ .
- For  $x \notin UH$  consider  $R_x f(e) = f(x) > 1 - \epsilon$ , but  $f(e) < \epsilon$ , since  $e \in H$ . If we also require that  $\epsilon < 1/2$ , this shows that  $x \notin G_f$ , and so  $G_f \subset UH$ .

□

**Corollary 2.** *Suppose  $G$  is a compact group,  $U$  is an open neighborhood of the identity. Then there exists a linear representation  $\phi : G \rightarrow O(n)$ , for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\text{Ker}(\phi) \subset U$*

*Proof.* By applying corollary 1 to  $H = \{e\}$  we obtain  $\psi : G \rightarrow (V)$  such that for some  $v \in V$ ,  $\text{Ker}(\psi) \subset G_v \subset U$ .

We showed in lectures (pdf 1 p.38) that  $\psi$  is equivalent to an orthogonal representation  $\phi : G \rightarrow O(n)$ , which satisfies all the conditions of the corollary. □

For the next corollary we will need the following definition. We say that a compact group  $G$  has *no small subgroups*, if there exists a neighborhood  $U$  of the identity such that no non-trivial subgroups are contained in  $U$ .

**Corollary 3.** *Let  $G$  be a compact group that has no small subgroups. Then  $G$  is homeomorphic to a subgroup of  $O(n)$  for some  $n$ .*

*Proof.* We let  $U$  be the neighborhood of identity defined in the previous definition, and set  $H = e$ . Then, by the previous corollary we find a representation  $f : G \rightarrow O(n)$  such that  $\text{Ker}(f) \subset U$ , so by our choice of  $U$  we deduce that  $\text{Ker}(f)$  is trivial, and  $f$  is an injection. □