Generalized Hardy–Cesaro operators between weighted spaces

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Generalized Hardy-Cesàro operators between weighted spaces

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Abstract

We characterize those non-negative, measurable functions $\psi$ on $[0, 1]$ and positive, continuous functions $\omega_1$ and $\omega_2$ on $\mathbb{R}^+$ for which the generalized Hardy-Cesàro operator

$$(U\psi f)(x) = \int_0^1 f(tx) \psi(t) \, dt$$

defines a bounded operator $U_\psi : L^1(\omega_1) \rightarrow L^1(\omega_2)$. This generalizes a result of Xiao ([7]) to weighted spaces. Furthermore, we extend $U_\psi$ to a bounded operator on $M(\omega_1)$ with range in $L^1(\omega_2) \oplus \mathbb{C} \delta_0$, where $M(\omega_1)$ is the weighted space of locally finite, complex Borel measures on $\mathbb{R}^+$. Finally, we show that the zero operator is the only weakly compact generalized Hardy-Cesàro operator from $L^1(\omega_1)$ to $L^1(\omega_2)$.

1 Introduction

A classical result of Hardy ([5]) shows that the Hardy-Cesàro operator

$$(Uf)(x) = \frac{1}{x} \int_0^x f(s) \, ds$$

defines a bounded linear operator on $L^p(\mathbb{R}^+)$ with $\|U\| = p/(p - 1)$ for $p > 1$. Clearly, $U$ is not bounded on $L^1(\mathbb{R}^+)$. Hardy’s result has been generalized in various ways, of which we will mention some, which have inspired this paper.

For $1 \leq p \leq q \leq \infty$ and non-negative measurable functions $u$ and $v$ on $\mathbb{R}^+$, Muckenhoupt ([6]) and Bradley ([3]) gave a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of a constant $C$ such that

$$\left( \int_0^\infty \left( u(x) \int_0^x f(t) \, dt \right)^q \, dx \right)^{1/q} \leq C \left( \int_0^\infty (v(x) f(x))^p \, dx \right)^{1/p}$$

for every positive, measurable function $f$ on $\mathbb{R}^+$. This can be rephrased as a characterization of the weighted $L^p$ and $L^q$ spaces on $\mathbb{R}^+$ between which the Hardy-Cesàro operator $U$ is bounded.

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\footnote{Keywords: Generalized Hardy-Cesàro operators, weighted spaces, weak compactness.}
In a different direction, for a non-negative measurable function $\psi$ on $[0, 1]$, Xiao ([7]) considered the generalized Hardy-Cesàro operators

$$(U_\psi f)(x) = \int_0^1 f(tx) \psi(t) \, dt$$

for measurable functions $f$ on $\mathbb{R}^n$. We remark that

$$(U_\psi f)(x) = \frac{1}{x} \int_0^x f(s) \psi(s/x) \, ds$$

for measurable functions $f$ on $\mathbb{R}$. Xiao proved that $U_\psi$ defines a bounded operator on $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$ (for $p \geq 1$) if and only if

$$\int_0^1 \psi(t) t^{-n/p} \, dt < \infty.$$ 

Xiao’s result is the main motivation for this paper.

Finally, we mention that Albanese, Bonet and Ricker in a recent series of papers (see, for instance, [1] and [2]) have considered the spectrum, compactness and other properties of the Hardy-Cesàro operator on various spaces of continuous functions and discrete spaces.

In this paper we will study the generalized Hardy-Cesàro operators between weighted spaces of integrable functions, and we will obtain a generalization of Xiao’s result in this context. Let $\omega$ be a positive, continuous function on $\mathbb{R}^+$ and let $L^1(\omega)$ be the Banach space of (equivalence classes of) measurable functions $f$ on $\mathbb{R}^+$ for which

$$\|f\|_{L^1(\omega)} = \int_0^\infty |f(t)| \omega(t) \, dt < \infty.$$ 

In the usual way we identify the dual space of $L^1(\omega)$ with the space $L^\infty(1/\omega)$ of measurable functions $h$ on $\mathbb{R}^+$ for which

$$\|h\|_{L^\infty(1/\omega)} = \text{ess sup}_{t \in \mathbb{R}^+} |h(t)|/\omega(t) < \infty.$$ 

We denote by $C_0(1/\omega)$ the closed subspace of $L^\infty(1/\omega)$ consisting of the continuous functions $g$ in $L^\infty(1/\omega)$ for which $g/\omega$ vanishes at infinity. Finally, we identify the dual space of $C_0(1/\omega)$ with the space $M(\omega)$ of locally finite, complex Borel measures $\mu$ on $\mathbb{R}^+$ for which

$$\|\mu\|_{M(\omega)} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} \omega(t) \, d|\mu|(t) < \infty.$$ 

We consider the space $L^1(\omega)$ as a closed subspace of $M(\omega)$.

In Section 2 we characterize those functions $\psi, \omega_1$ and $\omega_2$ for which $U_\psi$ defines a bounded operator from $L^1(\omega_1)$ to $L^1(\omega_2)$. These operators are extended to bounded operators on $M(\omega_1)$ in Section 3 where we also obtain results about their ranges. Finally, in Section 4 we show that there are no non-zero weakly compact generalized Hardy-Cesàro operators from $L^1(\omega_1)$ to $L^1(\omega_2)$. 
2 A characterization of the generalized Hardy-Cesàro operators

For a non-negative, measurable function \( \psi \) on \([0, 1]\) and positive, continuous functions \( \omega_1 \) and \( \omega_2 \) on \( \mathbb{R}^+ \), we say that condition (C) is satisfied if there exists a constant \( C \) such that

\[
\int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} dt \leq C \omega_1(s)
\]

for every \( s \in \mathbb{R}^+ \).

**Theorem 2.1** Let \( \psi \) be a non-negative, measurable function on \([0, 1]\) and let \( \omega_1 \) and \( \omega_2 \) be positive, continuous functions on \( \mathbb{R}^+ \). Then \( U_\psi \) defines a bounded operator from \( L^1(\omega_1) \) to \( L^1(\omega_2) \) if and only if condition (C) is satisfied.

**Proof** Assume that condition (C) is satisfied and let \( f \in L^1(\omega_1) \). Then

\[
\int_0^\infty \int_0^1 |f(s)| \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \omega_2(s/t) dt \, ds \leq C \int_0^\infty |f(s)| \omega_1(s) \, ds = C \|f\|_{L^1(\omega_1)} < \infty,
\]

so it follows from Fubini’s theorem that

\[
\int_0^1 \int_0^\infty |f(tx)| \psi(t) \omega_2(x) \, dx \, dt = \int_0^1 \int_0^\infty |f(s)| \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \omega_2(s/t) \, dt \, ds \leq C \|f\|_{L^1(\omega_1)} < \infty.
\]

Another application of Fubini’s theorem thus shows that \((U_\psi f)(x)\) is defined for almost all \( x \in \mathbb{R}^+ \) with

\[
\|U_\psi f\|_{L^1(\omega_2)} = \int_0^\infty (U_\psi f)(x) \omega_2(x) \, dx \leq \int_0^1 \int_0^\infty |f(tx)| \psi(t) \omega_2(x) \, dt \, dx
\]

\[
= \int_0^1 \int_0^\infty |f(tx)| \psi(t) \omega_2(x) \, dx \, dt \leq C \|f\|_{L^1(\omega_1)} < \infty.
\]

Hence \( U_\psi \) defines a bounded operator from \( L^1(\omega_1) \) to \( L^1(\omega_2) \).

Conversely, assume that \( U_\psi \) defines a bounded operator from \( L^1(\omega_1) \) to \( L^1(\omega_2) \). Since \( L^1(\omega_2) \) is a closed subspace of \( M(\omega_2) \) which we identify with the dual space of \( C_0(1/\omega_2) \), it follows from \([4, \text{Theorem VI.8.6}]\) that there exists a map \( \rho \) from \( \mathbb{R}^+ \) to \( M(\omega_2) \) for which the map \( s \mapsto \langle g, \rho(s) \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} g(x) \, d\rho(s)(x) \) is measurable and essentially bounded on \( \mathbb{R}^+ \) for every \( g \in C_0(1/\omega_2) \) with \( \|U_\psi\| = \text{ess sup}_{s \in \mathbb{R}^+} \|\rho(s)\|_{M(\omega_2)} \) and such that

\[
\langle g, U_\psi f \rangle = \int_0^\infty \langle g, \rho(s) \rangle f(s) \omega_1(s) \, ds = \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} g(x) \, d\rho(s)(x) \, f(s) \omega_1(s) \, ds
\]

for every \( g \in C_0(1/\omega_2) \) and \( f \in L^1(\omega_1) \). On the other hand

\[
\langle g, U_\psi f \rangle = \int_0^\infty g(x) (U_\psi f)(x) \, dx
\]

\[
= \int_0^\infty \int_0^x g(x) f(s) \psi(s/x) \, ds \, dx
\]

\[
= \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{\omega_1(s)} \int_s^\infty g(x) \psi(s/x) \, dx \, f(s) \omega_1(s) \, ds
\]
for every $g \in C_0(1/\omega_2)$ and $f \in L^1(\omega_1)$, so it follows that
\[
\int_{\mathbb{R}^+} g(x) \, d\rho(s)(x) = \frac{1}{\omega_1(s)} \int_s^\infty \frac{g(x)}{x} \psi(s/x) \, dx
\]
for almost all $s \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and every $g \in C_0(1/\omega_2)$ (considering both sides as elements of $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^+)$). Considered as elements of $M(\omega_2)$ we thus have
\[
d\rho(s)(x) = \frac{1}{\omega_1(s)} \frac{1}{x} \psi(s/x) \, 1_{x \geq s} \, dx
\]
for almost all $s, x \in \mathbb{R}^+$. Hence $\rho(s) \in L^1(\omega_2)$ with
\[
\|\rho(s)\|_{L^1(\omega_2)} = \int_0^\infty \omega_2(x) \, d\rho(s)(x)
\]
\[
= \frac{1}{\omega_1(s)} \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{x} \psi(s/x) \, 1_{x \geq s} \omega_2(x) \, dx
\]
\[
= \frac{1}{\omega_1(s)} \int_s^\infty \frac{1}{x} \psi(s/x) \omega_2(x) \, dx
\]
\[
= \frac{1}{\omega_1(s)} \int_0^1 \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \omega_2(s/t) \, dt
\]
for almost all $s \in \mathbb{R}^+$. Therefore
\[
\int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt = \|\rho(s)\|_{L^1(\omega_2)} \omega_1(s) \leq \|U\psi\| \omega_1(s)
\]
for almost all $s \in \mathbb{R}^+$. Since both sides of the inequality are continuous functions of $s$, the inequality holds for every $s \in \mathbb{R}^+$, so condition (C) holds. □

Letting $s = 0$ in condition (C) we see that Xiao’s condition is necessary in our situation.

**Corollary 2.2** Let $\psi$ be a non-negative, measurable function on $[0, 1]$ and let $\omega_1$ and $\omega_2$ be positive, continuous functions on $\mathbb{R}^+$. If $U\psi$ defines a bounded operator from $L^1(\omega_1)$ to $L^1(\omega_2)$, then
\[
\int_0^1 \psi(t) \frac{1}{t} \, dt < \infty.
\]

The following straightforward consequences can be deduced from Theorem 2.1.

**Corollary 2.3** Let $\psi$ be a non-negative, measurable function on $[0, 1]$

(a) Let $\omega$ be a decreasing, positive, continuous function on $\mathbb{R}^+$, and assume that
\[
\int_0^1 \psi(t)/t \, dt < \infty.
\]
Then $U\psi$ defines a bounded operator from $L^1(\omega)$ to $L^1(\omega)$.

(b) Let $\omega_1$ and $\omega_2$ be positive, continuous functions on $\mathbb{R}^+$, and assume that $\omega_2$ is increasing. If $U\psi$ defines a bounded operator from $L^1(\omega_1)$ to $L^1(\omega_2)$, then there exists a constant $C$ such that $\omega_2(s) \leq C\omega_1(s)$ for every $s \in \mathbb{R}^+$. 

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(c) Let \( \omega \) be an increasing, positive, continuous function on \( \mathbb{R}^+ \), and assume that there exists \( a < 1 \) and \( K > 0 \) such that \( \psi(t) \geq K \) almost everywhere on \([a, 1]\). If \( U_\psi \) defines a bounded operator from \( L^1(\omega) \) to \( L^1(\omega) \), then there exist positive constants \( C_1 \) and \( C_2 \) such that

\[
C_1\omega(s) \leq \int_0^1 \omega(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt \leq C_2\omega(s)
\]

for every \( s \in \mathbb{R}^+ \).

**Proof (a):** We have

\[
\int_0^1 \omega(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt \leq \int_0^1 \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt \omega(s)
\]

for every \( s \in \mathbb{R}^+ \), so condition (C) is satisfied with \( \omega_1 = \omega_2 = \omega \) and the result follows.

(b): We have

\[
\int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt \geq \int_0^1 \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt \omega_2(s)
\]

for every \( s \in \mathbb{R}^+ \). Since condition (C) is satisfied, the result follows.

(c): We have

\[
\int_0^1 \omega(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt \geq K \int_a^1 \omega(s/t) \, dt \geq K(1-a)\omega(s)
\]

for every \( s \in \mathbb{R}^+ \). The other inequality is just condition (C) with \( \omega_1 = \omega_2 = \omega \). \( \Box \)

We finish the section with some examples of functions \( \psi, \omega_1 \) and \( \omega_2 \) for which \( U_\psi \) defines a bounded operator from \( L^1(\omega_1) \) to \( L^1(\omega_2) \).

**Example 2.4**

(a) For \( \alpha > 0 \), let \( \psi(t) = t^\alpha \) for \( t \in [0, 1] \). Also, for \( \beta_1, \beta_2 \in \mathbb{R} \), let \( \omega_i(x) = (1 + x)^{\beta_i} \) for \( x \in \mathbb{R}^+ \) and \( i = 1, 2 \). Then \( U_\psi \) defines a bounded operator from \( L^1(\omega_1) \) to \( L^1(\omega_2) \) if and only if \( \beta_2 \leq \beta_1 \) and \( \beta_2 < \alpha \).

(b) For \( \alpha > 0 \), let \( \psi(t) = t^\alpha \) for \( t \in [0, 1] \). Also, let \( \omega_1(x) = e^{-x}/(1 + x) \) and \( \omega_2(x) = e^{-x} \) for \( x \in \mathbb{R}^+ \). Then \( U_\psi \) defines a bounded operator from \( L^1(\omega_1) \) to \( L^1(\omega_2) \). Moreover, it is not possible to replace \( \omega_1(x) \) by a function tending faster to zero at infinity.

(c) Let \( \psi(t) = e^{-t/\sqrt{t}} \) for \( t \in [0, 1] \). Also, let \( \omega_1(x) = e^{x^2/4}/x \) and \( \omega_2(x) = e^x \) for \( x \in \mathbb{R}^+ \). Then \( U_\psi \) defines a bounded operator from \( L^1(\omega_1) \) to \( L^1(\omega_2) \). Moreover, it is not possible to replace \( \omega_1(x) \) by a function tending slower to infinity at infinity.

**Proof (a):** For \( s \geq 1 \) and \( t \in [0, 1] \) we have \( s/t < 1 + s/t \leq 2s/t \), so

\[
\int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt = \int_0^1 \left(1 + \frac{s}{t}\right)^{\beta_2} t^{\alpha-1} \, dt
\]

\[
\approx s^{\beta_2} \int_0^1 t^{\alpha-\beta_2-1} \, dt
\]

\[
\approx s^{\beta_2}
\]
for $s \geq 1$ if $\beta_2 < \alpha$ (where $F(s) \simeq G(s)$ for positive functions $F$ and $G$ on $[1, \infty)$ indicates the existence of positive constants $C_1$ and $C_2$ such that $C_1 F(s) \leq G(s) \leq C_2 F(s)$ for all $s \in [1, \infty)$), whereas the integrals diverge if $\beta_2 \geq \alpha$. Moreover, the expression
\[
\int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} dt = \int_0^1 \left(1 + \frac{s}{t}\right)^{\beta_2} t^{\alpha-1} dt
\]
defines a positive, continuous function of $s$ on $\mathbb{R}^+$, so it follows that condition (C) is satisfied if and only if $\beta_2 \leq \beta_1$ and $\beta_2 < \alpha$.

(b): For $s \geq 1$ we have
\[
\int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} dt = \int_s^\infty \frac{\omega_2(x)}{x} \psi(s/x) dx = \int_s^\infty \frac{e^{-x} s^\alpha}{x^{\alpha+1}} dx \leq \int_s^\infty \frac{e^{-x}}{x} dx \leq \frac{e^{-s}}{s}.
\]
Moreover,
\[
\int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} dt \leq \int_0^1 \frac{\psi(t)}{t} dt < \infty
\]
for all $s \in \mathbb{R}^+$, so condition (C) is satisfied and $U_\psi$ thus defines a bounded operator from $L^1(\omega_1)$ to $L^1(\omega_2)$. On the other hand, since
\[
\int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} dt \geq \int_s^{2s} \frac{e^{-x} s^\alpha}{x^{\alpha+1}} dx \geq \frac{1}{2\alpha+1} \int_s^{2s} e^{-x} dx \geq \frac{1}{2\alpha+2} \frac{e^{-s}}{s}
\]
for $s \geq 1$, it is not possible to replace $\omega_1(x)$ by a function tending faster to zero at infinity.

(c): For $s \in \mathbb{R}^+$ we have
\[
\int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} dt = \int_s^{\infty} \frac{\omega_2(x)}{x} \psi(s/x) dx = \int_s^{\infty} \frac{e^{-x/2} s^2/4}{x} dx = \int_1^{\infty} \frac{e^{s y - y^2/2}}{y} dy.
\]
Moreover, for $s \geq 4$
\[
\int_s^{\infty} \frac{e^{s y - y^2}}{y} dy \leq \frac{4}{s} \int_s^{\infty} e^{-(y-s/2)^2+s^2/4} dy = 4 \int_{-s/4}^{\infty} e^{-u^2} du \frac{e^{s^2/4}}{s}
\]
and
\[
\int_1^{s/4} \frac{e^{s y - y^2}}{y} dy \leq \int_1^{s/4} e^{s y} dy \leq \frac{e^{s^2/4}}{s},
\]
so condition (C) is satisfied and $U_\psi$ thus defines a bounded operator from $L^1(\omega_1)$ to $L^1(\omega_2)$. On the other hand, the estimate
\[
\int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} dt = \int_1^{\infty} \frac{e^{s y - y^2}}{y} dy \geq \frac{1}{s} \int_s^{s/2+1} e^{-(y-s/2)^2+s^2/4} dy = \int_0^1 \frac{e^{-u^2}}{u} \frac{e^{s^2/4}}{s}
\]
for $s \geq 2$ shows that it is not possible to replace $\omega_1(x)$ by a function tending slower to infinity at infinity. \(\square\)

In Example 2.3(b) we have $\omega_2(x)/\omega_1(x) \to \infty$ as $x \to \infty$, which should be compared to the conclusion in Corollary 2.3(b). Conversely, Example 2.3(c) shows an example where we need $\omega_2(x)/\omega_1(x) \to 0$ rapidly as $x \to \infty$ in order for $U_\psi$ to be defined.
3 Extensions to weighted spaces of measures

Identifying the dual space of $L^1(\omega)$ with $L^\infty(1/\omega)$ as in the introduction, we have the following result about the adjoint of $U_\psi$.

**Proposition 3.1** Let $\psi$ be a non-negative, measurable function on $[0, 1]$ and let $\omega_1$ and $\omega_2$ be positive, continuous functions on $\mathbb{R}^+$. Assume that condition (C) is satisfied so that $U_\psi : L^1(\omega_1) \to L^1(\omega_2)$ is a bounded operator, and consider the adjoint operator $U_\psi^* : L^\infty(1/\omega_2) \to L^\infty(1/\omega_1)$.

(a) For $h \in L^\infty(1/\omega_2)$ we have

$$(U_\psi^* h)(x) = \int_0^1 h(x/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt$$

for almost all $x \in \mathbb{R}^+$.

(b) $U_\psi^*$ maps $C_0(1/\omega_2)$ into $C_0(1/\omega_1)$.

**Proof** (a): Let $h \in L^\infty(1/\omega_2)$. Since $|h(x/t)| \leq \|h\|_{L^\infty(1/\omega_2)} \omega_2(x/t)$ for almost all $x, t \in \mathbb{R}^+$, it follows from condition (C) that $\int_0^1 h(x/t)\psi(t)/t \, dt$ is defined and satisfies

$$\left| \int_0^1 h(x/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt \right| \leq \|h\|_{L^\infty(1/\omega_2)} \int_0^1 \omega_2(x/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt \leq C \|h\|_{L^\infty(1/\omega_2)} \omega_1(x)$$

for almost all $x \in \mathbb{R}^+$. Hence the function $x \mapsto \int_0^1 h(x/t)\psi(t)/t \, dt$ belongs to $L^\infty(1/\omega_1)$. Also, for $f \in L^1(\omega_1)$ we have

$$\langle f, U_\psi^* h \rangle = \langle U_\psi f, h \rangle = \int_0^\infty (U_\psi f)(s) h(s) \, ds$$

$$= \int_0^\infty \int_0^s \frac{1}{s} f(x) \psi(x/s) h(s) \, dx \, ds$$

$$= \int_0^\infty \int_x^\infty \frac{h(s)}{s} \psi(x/s) \, ds \, f(x) \, dx$$

from which it follows that

$$(U_\psi^* h)(x) = \int_x^\infty \frac{h(s)}{s} \psi(x/s) \, ds = \int_0^1 h(x/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt$$

for almost all $x \in \mathbb{R}^+$.

(b): It suffices to show that $U_\psi^*$ maps $C_c(\mathbb{R}^+)$ (the continuous functions on $\mathbb{R}^+$ with compact support) into $C_0(1/\omega_1)$. Let $g \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^+)$, let $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and let $(x_n)$ be a sequence in $\mathbb{R}^+$ with $x_n \to x_0$ as $n \to \infty$. Then

$$(U_\psi^* g)(x_n) - (U_\psi^* g)(x_0) = \int_0^1 (g(x_n/t) - g(x_0/t)) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt$$

for $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Since $g$ is bounded on $\mathbb{R}^+$ and since $\int_0^1 \psi(t)/t \, dt < \infty$ by Corollary 2.2, it follows from Lebesgue’s dominated convergence theorem that $(U_\psi^* g)(x_n) \to (U_\psi^* g)(x_0)$ as $n \to \infty$. Hence $U_\psi^* g$ is continuous on $\mathbb{R}^+$. Finally, from the expression

$$(U_\psi^* g)(x) = \int_x^\infty \frac{g(s)}{s} \psi(x/s) \, ds$$

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it follows that $\text{supp } U^*_\psi g \subseteq \text{supp } g$, so we conclude that $U^*_\psi g \in \mathcal{C}_0(\mathbb{R}^+) \subseteq C_0(1/\omega_1)$. □

Let $V_\psi$ be the restriction of $U^*_\psi$ to $C_0(1/\omega_2)$ considered as a map into $C_0(1/\omega_1)$. We then immediately have the following result.

**Corollary 3.2** Let $\psi$ be a non-negative, measurable function on $[0, 1]$ and let $\omega_1$ and $\omega_2$ be positive, continuous functions on $\mathbb{R}^+$. Assume that condition (C) is satisfied so that $U_\psi : L^1(\omega_1) \to L^1(\omega_2)$ is a bounded operator. The bounded operator $\overline{U}_\psi = V^*_\psi$ from $M(\omega_1)$ to $M(\omega_2)$ is an extension of $U_\psi$.

Let $\psi$ be a non-negative, continuous function on $[0, 1]$ with $\psi(0) = 0$. For $\mu \in M(\omega_1)$ and $x > 0$ let

$$\langle W_\psi \mu \rangle(x) = \frac{1}{x} \int_{(0,x)} \psi(s/x) \, d\mu(s).$$

**Proposition 3.3** Let $\psi$ be a non-negative, continuous function on $[0, 1]$ and let $\omega_1$ and $\omega_2$ be positive, continuous functions on $\mathbb{R}^+$. Assume that condition (C) is satisfied so that $U_\psi : L^1(\omega_1) \to L^1(\omega_2)$ is a bounded operator. Then $W_\psi \mu \in L^1(\omega_2)$ and

$$\overline{U}_\psi \mu = W_\psi \mu + \int_0^1 \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt \cdot \mu(\{0\}) \delta_0$$

for $\mu \in M(\omega_1)$. In particular $\text{ran } \overline{U}_\psi \subseteq L^1(\omega_2) \oplus \mathbb{C} \delta_0$ and $\overline{U}_\psi$ maps $M((0, \infty), \omega_1)$ into $L^1(\omega_2)$.

**Proof** By Corollary [2.2] we have $\int_0^1 \psi(t)/t \, dt < \infty$, so it follows that $\psi(0) = 0$. Let $\mu \in M(\omega_1)$ with $\mu(\{0\}) = 0$. By condition (C) we have

$$\int_{(0,\infty)} \int_s^\infty \frac{1}{x} \psi(s/x) \omega_2(x) \, dx \, d|\mu|(s) = \int_{(0,\infty)} \int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt \, d|\mu|(s)$$

$$\leq C \int_{(0,\infty)} \omega_1(s) \, d|\mu|(s) = C \|\mu\|_{M(\omega_1)} < \infty,$$

so it follows from Fubini’s theorem that

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{1}{x} \int_{(0,x)} \psi(s/x) \, d\mu(s) \omega_2(x) \, dx < \infty.$$

Hence $W_\psi \mu \in L^1(\omega_2)$. Moreover, for $g \in C_0(1/\omega_2)$ we have

$$\langle g, \overline{U}_\psi \mu \rangle = \langle V_\psi g, \mu \rangle = \int_{(0,\infty)} \int_0^1 g(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt \, d\mu(s)$$

$$= \int_{(0,\infty)} \int_s^\infty \frac{g(x)}{x} \psi(s/x) \, dx \, d\mu(s)$$

$$= \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{x} \int_{(0,x)} \psi(s/x) \, d\mu(s) \, g(x) \, dx$$

$$= \int_0^\infty (W_\psi \mu)(x) g(x) \, dx = \langle g, W_\psi \mu \rangle,$$
so we conclude that $U_\psi \mu = W_\psi \mu$. Finally, for $g \in C_0(1/\omega_2)$ we have

$$\langle g, \overline{U}_\psi \delta_0 \rangle = \langle V_\psi g, \delta_0 \rangle = (V_\psi g)(0) = g(0) \int_0^1 \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt = \langle g, \int_0^1 \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt \cdot \delta_0 \rangle.$$ 

Since $W_\psi \delta_0 = 0$ this finishes the proof.

The conclusion about the range of $\overline{U}_\psi$ can be generalized to the case, where $\psi$ is not assumed to be continuous.

**Proposition 3.4** Let $\psi$ be a non-negative, measurable function on $[0, 1]$ and let $\omega_1$ and $\omega_2$ be positive, continuous functions on $\mathbb{R}^+$. Assume that condition (C) is satisfied so that $U_\psi : L^1(\omega_1) \to L^1(\omega_2)$ is a bounded operator. Then $\text{ran} \overline{U}_\psi \subseteq L^1(\omega_2) \oplus \mathbb{C} \delta_0$.

**Proof** Choose a sequence of non-negative, continuous functions $(\psi_n)$ on $[0, 1]$ with $\psi_n \leq \psi$ and

$$\int_0^1 \frac{\psi(t) - \psi_n(t)}{t} \, dt \to 0 \quad \text{as} \quad n \to \infty.$$ 

For $\mu \in M(\omega_1)$ and $g \in C_0(1/\omega_2)$ we have

$$|\langle g, (\overline{U}_\psi - \overline{U}_{\psi_n}) \mu \rangle| = |\langle (V_\psi - V_{\psi_n}) g, \mu \rangle| = \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} \int_0^1 g(x/t) \frac{\psi(t) - \psi_n(t)}{t} \, dt \, d\mu(x) \right| \leq \|g\|_{C_0(1/\omega_2)} \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} \int_0^1 \omega_2(x/t) \frac{\psi(t) - \psi_n(t)}{t} \, dt \, d|\mu|(x).$$

Let

$$p_n(x) = \int_0^1 \omega_2(x/t) \frac{\psi(t) - \psi_n(t)}{t} \, dt$$

for $x \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$. By condition (C) there exists a constant $C$ such that $p_n(x) \leq C \omega_1(x)$ for every $x \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Moreover, for every $x \in \mathbb{R}^+$ we have $p_n(x) \to 0$ as $n \to \infty$ by Lebesgue’s dominated convergence theorem. Hence

$$\| (\overline{U}_\psi - \overline{U}_{\psi_n}) \mu \|_{M(\omega_2)} = \sup_{\|g\|_{C_0(1/\omega_2)} \leq 1} |\langle g, (\overline{U}_\psi - \overline{U}_{\psi_n}) \mu \rangle| \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} p_n(x) \, d|\mu|(x) \to 0$$

as $n \to \infty$ again by Lebesgue’s dominated convergence theorem. Consequently, $\overline{U}_{\psi_n} \to \overline{U}_\psi$ strongly as $n \to \infty$. Since $\text{ran} \overline{U}_{\psi_n} \subseteq L^1(\omega_2) \oplus \mathbb{C} \delta_0$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$ by Proposition 3.3 the same thus holds for $\text{ran} \overline{U}_\psi$.

**Corollary 3.5** Let $\psi$ be a non-negative, measurable function on $[0, 1]$ and let $\omega_1$ and $\omega_2$ be positive, continuous functions on $\mathbb{R}^+$. Assume that condition (C) is satisfied so that $U_\psi : L^1(\omega_1) \to L^1(\omega_2)$ is a bounded operator. For $s > 0$ we then have $(\overline{U}_\psi \delta_s)(x) = \psi(s/x)/x$ for almost all $x \geq s$ and $(\overline{U}_\psi \delta_s)(x) = 0$ for almost all $x < s$.  

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Proof. For \( \psi \) continuous, this follows from Proposition 3.3. For general \( \psi \) it follows from the approach in the proof of Proposition 3.4 using \( U_\psi \rightarrow U_\psi \) strongly as \( n \rightarrow \infty \). \( \Box \)

It follows from Corollary 3.5 that
\[
\|U_\psi \delta_s\|_{M(\omega_2)} = \int_\infty s \omega_2(x) \psi(s/x) dx = \int_0^\infty \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} dt,
\]
whereas \( \|\delta_s\|_{M(\omega_1)} = \omega_1(s) \). Since \( U_\psi \) is bounded we thus recover condition (C). If we without using Theorem 2.1 could show that if \( U_\psi : L^1(\omega_1) \rightarrow L^1(\omega_2) \) is a bounded operator, then is has a bounded extension \( U_\psi : M(\omega_1) \rightarrow M(\omega_2) \) for which Corollary 3.5 holds, then we would in this way obtain an alternative proof of condition (C).

4 Weakly compact operators

We finish the paper by showing that there are no non-zero, weakly compact generalized Hardy-Cesàro operators between \( L^1(\omega_1) \) and \( L^1(\omega_2) \).

Proposition 4.1 Let \( \psi \) be a non-negative, measurable function on \([0,1]\) and let \( \omega_1 \) and \( \omega_2 \) be positive, continuous functions on \( \mathbb{R}^+ \). Assume that condition (C) is satisfied so that \( U_\psi : L^1(\omega_1) \rightarrow L^1(\omega_2) \) is a bounded operator. If \( \psi \neq 0 \), then \( U_\psi \) is not weakly compact.

Proof. For \( f \in L^1(\omega_1) \) and \( x \in \mathbb{R}^+ \) we have
\[
(U_\psi f)(x) = \frac{1}{x} \int_0^x f(s) \psi(s/x) ds = \int_0^\infty f(s) \rho(s)(x) \omega_1(s) ds,
\]
where (with a slight change of notation compared to the proof of Theorem 2.1)
\[
\rho(s)(x) = \frac{1}{\omega_1(s)} \frac{1}{x} \psi(s/x) 1_{x \geq s}
\]
for \( x, s \in \mathbb{R}^+ \). In the proof of Theorem 2.1 we saw that \( \rho(s) \in L^1(\omega_2) \) with \( \|\rho(s)\|_{L^1(\omega_2)} \leq C \) for a constant \( C \) for almost all \( s \in \mathbb{R}^+ \). It thus follows from [3, Theorem VI.8.10] that \( U_\psi \) is weakly compact if and only if \( \{\rho(s) : s \in \mathbb{R}^+\} \) is contained in a weakly compact set of \( L^1(\omega_2) \) (except possibly for \( s \) belonging to a null-set). Consider \( \rho(s) \) as an element of \( C_0(1/\omega_2)^* \) for \( s \in \mathbb{R}^+ \) and let \( g \in C_0(1/\omega_2) \). Then
\[
\langle g, \rho(s) \rangle = \int_0^\infty g(x) \rho(s)(x) dx = \frac{1}{\omega_1(s)} \int_s^\infty \frac{g(x)}{x} \psi(s/x) dx = \frac{1}{\omega_1(s)} \int_0^1 \frac{g(s/t)}{t} \frac{\psi(t)}{t} dt.
\]
Since \( g(s/t) \rightarrow g(0) \) as \( s \rightarrow 0_+ \) for all \( t > 0 \), it follows from Lebesgue’s dominated convergence theorem that
\[
\langle g, \rho(s) \rangle \rightarrow \frac{1}{\omega_1(0)} g(0) \int_0^1 \frac{\psi(t)}{t} dt
\]
as \( s \to 0_+ \). We therefore conclude that

\[
\rho(s) \to \frac{1}{\omega_1(0)} \int_0^1 \frac{\psi(t)}{t} dt \cdot \delta_0
\]

weak-star in \( M(\omega_2) \) as \( s \to 0_+ \). Since \( \delta_0 \notin L^1(\omega_2) \), it follows that \( \{ \rho(s) : s \in \mathbb{R}^+ \} \) is not contained in a weakly compact set of \( L^1(\omega_2) \) (even excepting null sets), and the result follows.

\[\square\]

References


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