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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 \(U_\psi : L^1(\omega_1) \to L^1(\omega_2)\). 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.
In a different direction, for a non-negative measurable function $\psi$ on $[0, 1]$, Xiao \cite{Xiao} 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, \cite{AlbaneseBonet1} and \cite{AlbaneseBonet2}) 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 $\hat{h}$ on $\mathbb{R}^+$ for which

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

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 \cite{Section2} 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 \cite{Section3} where we also obtain results about their ranges. Finally, in Section \cite{Section4} 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

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

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

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, 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 \( \| U_\psi g \| = \text{ess sup}_{s \in \mathbb{R}^+} \| \rho(s) \|_{M(\omega_2)} \) 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

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

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

\[
= \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{\omega_1(s)} \int_s^\infty \frac{g(x)}{x} \psi(s/x) \, dx \, f(s) \omega_1(s) \, ds
\]
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
\[
\|\rho(s)\|_{L^1(\omega_2)} = \int_0^\infty \omega_2(x) \, d\rho(s)(x)
\]
\[
= \frac{1}{\omega_1(s)} \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{x} \psi(s/x) 1_{x \geq s} \omega_2(x) \, dx
\]
\[
= \frac{1}{\omega_1(s)} \int_s^\infty \frac{1}{x} \psi(s/x) \omega_2(x) \, dx
\]
\[
= \frac{1}{\omega_1(s)} \int_s^1 \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \omega_2(s/t) \, dt
\]
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. \hfill \Box

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
\[
\int_0^1 \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt < \infty.
\]

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 $\omega_1 = \omega_2 = \omega$. \(\square\)

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 $\psi(t) = e^{-1/t^2}$ 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
\[
\int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} dt = \int_0^1 \left(1 + \frac{s}{t}\right)^{\beta_2} t^{\alpha-1} dt \\
\quad \simeq s^{\beta_2} \int_0^1 t^{\alpha-\beta_2-1} dt \quad \simeq s^{\beta_2}
\]
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

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

\[
\int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt = \int_s^\infty \frac{\omega_2(x)}{x} \psi(s/x) \, dx = \int_s^\infty \frac{e^{-s/x}}{x^\alpha} \, dx \leq \int_s^\infty \frac{e^{-x}}{x} \, dx \leq \frac{e^{-s}}{s}.
\]

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

\[
\int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt \geq \int_s^\infty \frac{e^{-s/x}}{x^\alpha} \, dx \geq \frac{1}{2^{\alpha+1}s^2} \int_s^\infty e^{-x} \, dx \geq \frac{e^{-s}}{2s^2}
\]

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

\[
\int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt = \int_s^\infty \frac{\omega_2(x)}{x} \psi(s/x) \, dx = \int_s^\infty \frac{e^{-s/x^2}}{x} \, dx = \int_s^\infty \frac{e^{s/y^2}}{y} \, dy.
\]

Moreover, for \( s \geq 4 \)

\[
\int_{s/4}^\infty \frac{e^{s/y^2}}{y} \, dy \leq \frac{4}{s} \int_{s/4}^\infty e^{-(y-s/2)^2+s^2/4} \, dy = 4 \int_{-s/4}^\infty e^{-u^2} \, du \frac{e^{s^2/4}}{s}
\]

and

\[
\int_1^{s/4} \frac{e^{s/y^2}}{y} \, dy \leq \int_1^{s/4} e^{sy} \, dy \leq \frac{e^{s^2/4}}{s},
\]

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

\[
\int_0^1 \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt = \int_1^\infty \frac{e^{s/y^2}}{y} \, dy \geq \frac{1}{s} \int_{s/2}^{s/2+1} e^{-(y-s/2)^2+s^2/4} \, dy = \int_0^1 e^{-u^2} \, du \frac{e^{s^2/4}}{s}
\]

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 \( \omega_2(x)/\omega_1(x) \rightarrow \infty \) as \( x \rightarrow \infty \), which should be compared to the conclusion in Corollary 2.3(b). Conversely, Example 2.3(c) shows an example where we need \( \omega_2(x)/\omega_1(x) \rightarrow 0 \) rapidly as \( x \rightarrow \infty \) 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

\[
\langle f, U_\psi^* h \rangle = \langle U_\psi f, h \rangle = \int_0^\infty (U_\psi f)(s) h(s) \, ds = \int_0^\infty \frac{\psi(s)}{s} f(x/s) h(s) \, ds \, dx \, ds = \int_x^\infty \int_0^\infty \frac{h(s)}{s} \psi(x/s) \, ds \, f(x) \, dx
\]

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

\[
(U_\psi^* g)(x) = \int_x^\infty \frac{g(s)}{s} \psi(x/s) \, ds
\]
it follows that $\text{supp} \ U \omega \ast g \subseteq \text{supp} \ g$, so we conclude that $U \omega \ast g \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^+) \subseteq C_0(1/\omega_1)$. □

Let $V_\psi$ be the restriction of $U \omega \ast$ 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 $U \omega \psi : L^1(\omega_1) \to L^1(\omega_2)$ is a bounded operator. The bounded operator $\overline{U \omega} \psi = V \omega \ast \psi$ from $M(\omega_1)$ to $M(\omega_2)$ is an extension of $U \omega \psi$.

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

$$ (W \omega \psi \mu)(x) = \frac{1}{x} \int_{(0,x)} \psi(s/x) \, d\mu(s). $$

**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 $U \omega \psi : L^1(\omega_1) \to L^1(\omega_2)$ is a bounded operator. Then $W \omega \psi \mu \in L^1(\omega_2)$ and

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

for $\mu \in M(\omega_1)$. In particular $\overline{U \omega} \psi \subseteq L^1(\omega_2) \subseteq C\delta_0$ and $\overline{U \omega} \psi$ 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

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

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

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

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

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

$$ = \int_0^\infty (W \psi \mu)(x) g(x) \, dx = \langle g, W \psi \mu \rangle, $$

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so we conclude that \( \overline{U}_\psi \mu = W_\psi \mu \). 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. \( \square \)

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

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

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

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

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 \( \text{ran} \overline{U}_\psi \). \( \square \)

**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 \( x < s \).
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 \( U_{\psi_n} \rightarrow U_{\psi} \) strongly as \( n \rightarrow \infty \). \qed

It follows from Corollary 3.5 that

\[
\|U_{\psi}\delta_{s}\|_{M(\omega_2)} = \int_{s}^{\infty} \frac{\omega_2(x)}{x} \psi(s/x) \, dx = \int_{0}^{1} \omega_2(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt,
\]

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 \( \overline{U}_{\psi}: M(\omega_1) \rightarrow M(\omega_2) \) 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 [4, 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

\[
\langle g, \rho(s) \rangle = \int_{0}^{\infty} g(x)\rho(s)(x) \, dx = \frac{1}{\omega_1(s)} \int_{s}^{\infty} \frac{g(x)}{x} \psi(s/x) \, dx = \frac{1}{\omega_1(s)} \int_{0}^{1} g(s/t) \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \, dt.
\]

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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