

# Atomic decomposition of a positive compact operator on $L^p$

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22 Mars 2023

We consider of population of individuals, with a feature set  $\Omega$ .  
Each individual is susceptible ( $S$ ) or infected ( $I$ ). For disease with no immunity (ex: gonorrhea).

$k(x, y)$ : Infection rate from feature  $y$  towards feature  $x$ .

$\gamma(x)$ : Recovery rate of feature  $x$ .

Let  $u(t, x)$  be the probability that an individual of feature  $x$  is infected at time  $t \geq 0$ . We consider the following ODE (for  $\forall t \geq 0, \forall x \in \Omega$ ):

$$\partial_t u(t, x) = (1 - u(t, x)) \int_{\Omega} k(x, y) u(t, y) d\mu(y) - \gamma(x) u(t, x).$$

We recall the ODE of evolution of a SIS model:

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t u &= (1 - u)T_k(u) - \gamma u \\ u(0, \cdot) &= u_0\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

We call equilibrium of Equation (1) any constant solution  $g$  so that  $0 \leq g \leq 1$ , that is:  $\gamma g = (1 - g)T_k(g)$ .

Let  $g \in L^\infty$  with  $0 \leq g \leq 1$ . Then  $g$  is an equilibrium if and only if:

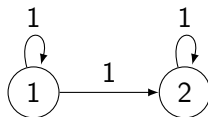
$$T_{(1-g)k/\gamma}(\gamma g) = \gamma g$$

where we denote  $(1 - g)k/\gamma(x, y) = (1 - g(x))k(x, y)/\gamma(y)$  for  $(x, y) \in \Omega^2$ .

Let  $M = (M_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq n}$  be a matrix with nonnegative entries. We define the oriented weighted graph on  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  giving the weight  $M_{i,j}$  to the edge  $j \rightarrow i$ . Example:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

(a) Matrix



(b) Graph

**Figure:** Example of a nonnegative matrix and its associated graph

Epidemics interpretation : We split our population into  $n$  groups of features.  $M_{i,j}$  represents the power of infection from individuals of feature  $j$  towards individuals of feature  $i$ .

We call *path* from  $i$  to  $j$  on the graph any sequence  $(i = x_0, \dots, x_n = j)$  so that  $\forall l, M_{l+1,l} > 0$ .

We say that  $A \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$  is *invariant* if there is no path starting in  $A$  that goes outside of  $A$ . In epidemics terms, any infection starting in  $A$  stays within  $A$ .  $A$  is co-invariant if  $A^c$  is invariant.

We say that the matrix  $M$  is *irreducible* if its only invariant sets are  $\emptyset$  and  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ . It is equivalent to say that from all  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , there is a path from  $i$  to  $j$ .

For any matrix  $M \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$ , we denote  $\rho(M) = \sup_{\lambda \in \text{Sp}(M)} |\lambda|$  its spectral radius.

### Theorem (Perron-Frobenius theorem ('07 P), ('12 F))

Let  $M \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$  be a non null matrix with nonnegative entries. Then  $\rho(M)$  is a eigenvalue of  $M$ , related to an eigenvector with nonnegative entries.

We now assume that  $M$  is irreducible. We have:

- (i)  $\rho(M) > 0$ .
- (ii)  $\dim \left( \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \ker(M - \rho(M)I_n)^n \right) = 1$  ( $\rho(M)$  is simple).
- (iii) There exists a unique nonnegative eigenvector, and it has positive entries.

Two possibilities to upgrade Perron-Frobenius theorem:

- (i) From finite-dimension to infinite dimension  $\rightarrow$  From matrices to operators.
- (ii) Without irreducibility  $\rightarrow$  Define irreducible components.

Our goal is to characterize nonnegative eigenfunctions for a positive operator.

Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$  be a finite measured space. A kernel is a measurable function  $k : \Omega^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ .

When possible, we define, for  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  measurable and  $x \in \Omega$ :

$$T_k(f)(x) = \int_{\Omega} k(x, y) f(y) d\mu(y).$$

$T_k$  is a *positive* operator:  $\forall f \geq 0$  a.e.,  $T_k(f) \geq 0$  a.e..

Epidemics interpretation :  $\Omega$  is a set of features, and  $k(x, y)$  the power of infection from individuals of feature  $y$  towards individuals of feature  $x$ . The operator  $T_k$  models a "one-step infection".



For any operator  $T$  on  $L^p$ , we denote  $\rho(T) = \sup_{\lambda \in \text{Sp}(T)} |\lambda|$ .

**Theorem (Krein-Rutman theorem ('48), Schaefer ('74), de Pagter ('86))**

*Let  $T$  be a compact positive operator on  $L^p$  for  $p \in [1, +\infty]$ . If  $\rho(T) > 0$ , then  $\rho(T)$  is a eigenvalue of  $T$ , related to a nonnegative eigenfunction.*

*If  $T$  is irreducible (we will define it later). We have:*

- (i)  $\rho(T) > 0$ .*
- (ii)  $\dim \left( \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \ker(T - \rho(T) \text{Id})^n \right) = 1$  ( $\rho(T)$  is simple).*
- (iii) There exists a unique nonnegative eigenfunction related to a non-null eigenvalue, and it is positive.*

Let  $k$  be a kernel and  $T$  the associated kernel operator.

### Assumption

*The operator  $T$  is a compact operator on  $L^p$  for some  $p \in (1, +\infty)$ .*

For  $A, B \subset \mathcal{F}$ , we define the *infection power* from  $B$  towards  $A$  as:

$$k(A, B) = \int_{A \times B} k(x, y) d\mu(x) d\mu(y).$$

Notice that  $k(A, B) = 0$  if and only if  $k(x, y) = 0$  a.e. on  $A \times B$ .

We say that  $A$  is *invariant* if  $k(A^c, A) = 0$ , and that  $A$  is *co-invariant* if  $A^c$  is invariant.

A motivation in epidemiology

The well-known matrix case

Infinite-dimensional framework

Towards the atomic decomposition

Nonnegative eigenfunctions

Application : Equilibria of SIS epidemic model

Some generalizations

Infection power and invariance

Future and past of a measurable set

Restricted operator

3 definitions of "irreducible component"

Let  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  be a measurable set. We define the *future* of  $A$ , denoted  $F(A)$  as the minimal invariant set that contains  $A$ , and the *past* of  $A$ , denoted  $P(A)$  as the minimal co-invariant set that contains  $A$ . We denote  $A_F = F(A) \setminus A$ .

The future of  $A$  is the set of all the features that might be infected by an epidemics starting in  $A$ . The past of  $A$  is the set of all the features that might infect  $A$  if an epidemics starts there.

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For  $\Omega' \in \mathcal{F}$  a measurable set with  $\mu(\Omega') > 0$ , we define the restricted operator  $T|_{\Omega'}$  on  $L^p(\Omega')$  by  $\forall f \in L^p, \forall x \in \Omega'$ :

$$T|_{\Omega'}(f)(x) = \int_{\Omega'} k(x, y)f(y)d\mu(y).$$

Notice that  $A \subset \Omega'$  is a  $T|_{\Omega'}$ -invariant set if and only if  $k(\Omega' \setminus A, A) = 0$ .

We say  $T$  is an *irreducible operator* if the only  $T$ -invariant sets are  $\emptyset$  or  $\Omega$ . We say that  $A$  is an *irreducible set* if  $T|_A$  is a irreducible operator, that is, the only  $T|_A$ -invariant sets are  $\emptyset$  and  $A$ .

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the  $\sigma$ -field generated by the invariant sets. We call *atom* (in the sense of Schwartz) any minimal element of  $\mathcal{A}$  with positive measure. That is,  $A$  is an atom if  $\mu(A) > 0$ ,  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  and for any set  $B \in \mathcal{A}$  with  $B \subset A$ , we have  $B = A$  or  $B = \emptyset$ .

We say that  $A$  is a *convex set* if  $F(A) \setminus A$  is an invariant set.

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## Theorem (Equivalent definitions of atoms)

Let  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  be a measurable set with  $\mu(A) > 0$ . We have equivalence between:

- (i)  $A$  is an atom.
- (ii)  $A$  is a minimal convex set.
- (iii)  $A$  is a maximal irreducible set.

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Pros and cons of each definition:

	Pros	Cons
Atom	Good for theory	Hard to use in practice
Min convex	Easy to use	Not general enough
Max irr	Easy to generalize	Maximal instead of minimal

For  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  a measurable set with  $\mu(A) > 0$ , we define the *algebraic multiplicity* of  $\lambda$  of  $T$  restricted to  $A$  by:

$$m(\lambda, A, T) \text{ (or } m(\lambda, A)) = \dim \left( \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \ker(T|_A - \lambda \text{Id})^n \right).$$

When  $m(\lambda, \Omega) = 1$ , we say that  $\lambda$  is *simple*. The algebraic multiplicity, for a compact operator and for  $\lambda \neq 0$ , satisfies the following properties:

- (i)  $m(\lambda, \Omega) < +\infty$ .
- (ii)  $m(\lambda, A) > 0$  if and only if  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $T|_A$ .



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Algebraic multiplicity and Schwartz's theorem

Distinguished atoms

Distinguished eigenvalues

## Theorem (Schwartz ('61))

Let  $\lambda > 0$ . Then we have:

$$m(\lambda, \Omega) = \sum_{A \text{ atom}} m(\lambda, A).$$

For any  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $\mu(A) > 0$ , we denote  $\rho(A) := \rho(T|_A)$ . We remind that if  $A$  is an atom with  $\rho(A) > 0$ , by Krein-Rutman theorem we have  $m(\rho(A), A) = 1$ .

Here are some important consequences of Schwartz's theorem:

### Corollary

- (i) *If  $\lambda > 0$ , there exists a finite amount of atoms with a spectral radius  $\geq \lambda$ .*
- (ii)  $\rho(T) = \max_{A \text{ atom}} \rho(A)$ .
- (iii) *If  $I$  is an invariant set,  $\rho(I) = \max_{A \text{ atom}, A \subset I} \rho(A)$ .*

Question: How can we "distinguish" an atom using nonnegative eigenfunction "related" to the atom ?

Idea: Find a nonnegative eigenfunction  $v$  so that  $\text{supp}(v) := \{v > 0\}$  is "close enough" to  $A$ . For instance  $A \cap \text{supp}(v) \neq \emptyset$ . As  $A$  is an atom and  $\text{supp}(v)$  an invariant set, we have in this case  $F(A) \subset \text{supp}(v)$ . Can we have it with  $\text{supp}(v) = F(A)$  ?

### Definition (Distinguished atom)

*We say that an atom  $A$  is distinguished if there exists a nonnegative eigenfunction  $v \in L^p$  so that  $\text{supp}(v) = F(A)$ .*

## Proposition (Characterization of distinguished atoms)

*Let  $A$  be an atom. We have the following:*

- (i)  $A$  is distinguished if and only if  $\rho(A) > \rho(A_F)$ .*
- (ii) If  $A$  is distinguished, there exists a unique nonnegative eigenfunction  $v \in L^P$  with  $\text{supp}(v) = F(A)$ , and it is related to the eigenvalue  $\rho(A)$ .*

Idea of proof of the previous proposition:

Let  $v \in L^p$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\text{supp}(v) = F(A)$ . We have  $Tv = \lambda v$  if and only if:

$$\lambda \mathbb{1}_A v = \mathbb{1}_A T(\mathbb{1}_A v) \quad (2)$$

$$\lambda \mathbb{1}_{A^c} v = \mathbb{1}_{A^c} T(\mathbb{1}_A v) + \mathbb{1}_{A^c} T(\mathbb{1}_{A^c} v) \quad (3)$$

Then by Equation (2),  $\mathbb{1}_A v$  is a nonnegative eigenfunction of  $T|_A$ . Therefore by Krein-Rutman theorem,  $\mathbb{1}_A v$  is uniquely defined and  $\lambda = \rho(A)$ .

Does Equation (3):  $\rho(A)\mathbb{1}_{A_F} v = \mathbb{1}_{A_F} T(\mathbb{1}_A v) + \mathbb{1}_{A_F} T(\mathbb{1}_{A_F} v)$  have a nonnegative solution  $\mathbb{1}_{A_F} v$  ?

Answer: If and only if  $\rho(A_F) < \rho(A)$ .

If  $\rho(A_F) < \rho(A)$ , then we have

$\mathbb{1}_{A_F} v = (\rho(A) \text{Id} - T|_{A_F})^{-1}(\mathbb{1}_{A_F} T(\mathbb{1}_A v))$  therefore Equations (2), (3) have a unique solution.

We say that  $\lambda \geq 0$  is a *distinguished* eigenvalue if there exists a nonnegative eigenfunction  $v \in L^p$  so that  $\lambda v = Tv$ .

Proposition (Jang-Lewis, Victory ('93))

*A number  $\lambda \geq 0$  is a distinguished eigenvalue if and only if there exists a distinguished atom  $A$  with  $\rho(A) = \lambda$ .*

Theorem (Characterization of nonnegative eigenfunctions)

*Let  $\lambda > 0$  be a distinguished eigenvalue and  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  be all the distinguished atoms with spectral radius  $\lambda$ . Let  $v_i$  be the unique eigenfunction so that  $\text{supp}(v_i) = F(A_i)$ . Then  $v \in L^p$  is a nonnegative eigenfunction related to  $\lambda$  if and only if  $v = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i v_i$  with  $c_i \geq 0$ .*

We consider the set of feature  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$  with  $\mu$  a finite measure.  
We recall the ODE of evolution of a SIS model:

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t u &= (1 - u) T_k(u) - \gamma u \\ u(0, \cdot) &= u_0\end{aligned}$$

We call equilibrium of Equation (1) any constant solution  $g$  so that  $0 \leq g \leq 1$ , that is:  $\gamma g = (1 - g) T_k(g)$ .

When  $g^* \neq \tilde{0}$ , it corresponds to an endemic equilibrium.



We denote  $k/\gamma : \begin{cases} \Omega^2 & \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+ \\ (x, y) & \mapsto k(x, y)/\gamma(y) \end{cases}$  and  $T_{k/\gamma}$  the kernel operator associated to the kernel  $k/\gamma$ .

### Assumption

- (i)  $\gamma$  is bounded
- (ii)  $T_{k/\gamma}$  is a compact operator on  $L^p$  with  $p \in (1, +\infty)$ .
- (iii)  $T_{k/\gamma}(L^p) \subset L^\infty$  and  $T_{k/\gamma} : (L^p, \|\cdot\|_p) \rightarrow (L^\infty, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$  is an operator.

### Definition (Basic reproduction number)

We call **basic reproduction number** the quantity  $R_0 = \rho(T_{k/\gamma})$ .

## Theorem (Delmas, Dronnier, Zitt ('21))

Let  $u_0$  be an initial condition so that  $0 \leq u_0 \leq 1$ . We have:

- (i) Any maximal solution of Equation (1) is global, and verifies  $\forall t \in \mathbb{R}_+, 0 \leq u(t, \cdot) \leq 1$ .
- (ii) Equation (1) admits a maximal equilibrium  $g^*$ . It satisfies  $g^* = \lim u(t, \cdot)$  where  $u$  is the solution of Equation (1) with an initial condition  $u_0 = 1$ , for the a.e. convergence.
- (iii) According to the value of  $R_0$ , we have the different behaviors:
  - a If  $R_0 \leq 1$ , then  $g^* = 0$  and for any initial condition  $u_0$ , we have  $u(t, \cdot) \rightarrow 0$  for the a.e. convergence.
  - b If  $R_0 > 1$ , then  $g^* \neq \tilde{0}$ . If  $T_k$  is irreducible, then  $g^* > 0$  and for any initial condition  $u_0 \neq \tilde{0}$ , we have  $u(t, \cdot) \rightarrow g^*$  for the a.e. convergence.

Question: What would happen if  $R_0 > 1$  but with no irreducibility ?

Let  $g \in L^\infty$  with  $0 \leq g \leq 1$ . Then  $g$  is an equilibrium if and only if:

$$T_{(1-g)k/\gamma}(\gamma g) = \gamma g$$

where we denote  $(1-g)k/\gamma(x, y) = (1-g(x))k(x, y)/\gamma(y)$  for  $(x, y) \in \Omega^2$ .

When  $g$  is an equilibrium, then  $g < 1$  therefore the operators  $T_k$  and  $T_{(1-g)k/\gamma}$  have the same invariants, therefore the same atoms. So the study of equilibria becomes a study of nonnegative eigenfunctions.

We say that a family of atoms  $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$  is an *antichain* if for  $i \neq j$ , we have  $A_i \cap F(A_j) = \emptyset$ . Informally, it means that no atom among the family  $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$  infects another atom of the family.

## Theorem

(i) Let  $g$  be an equilibrium. There exists a unique antichain  $\{A_1, \dots, A_n\}$  of atoms with  $R_0(A_i) > 1$  so that

$$\text{supp}(g) = \bigcup_{i=1}^n F(A_i).$$

(ii) Let  $\{A_1, \dots, A_n\}$  be an antichain of atoms with  $R_0(A_i) > 1$ . There exists a unique equilibrium  $g$  so that

$$\text{supp}(g) = \bigcup_{i=1}^n F(A_i).$$

There are some difficulties and possible generalizations of our results:

- (i) Everything also works by replacing  $T_k$  by any power compact operator  $T$ . Except for the application, one can replace "finite measure" by " $\sigma$ -finite measure".
- (ii) If  $p = 1$  or  $p = +\infty$ , there are some issues about the dual of  $L^p$ .
- (iii) General framework of Banach lattices: Irreducibility is easy to generalize on more general spaces than  $L^p$ , but not atoms and convex sets.

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Thank you for your attention !