

ON THE SPECTRAL CHARACTER OF TOEPLITZ OPERATORS ON PLANAR REGIONS

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ABSTRACT. Self-adjoint Toeplitz operators on multiply connected planar regions are investigated using theta functions on the double. An explicit resolvent form for self-adjoint Toeplitz operators on a Hardy space associated with any representing measure on a g -holed planar region is given via reproducing kernels in terms of theta functions on \mathbb{C}^g . This resolvent formula is a generalization of an analogous formula obtained by K. F. Clancey (1991) for the case of harmonic measure. Applications of this resolvent form to the spectral type of the self-adjoint Toeplitz operators are described.

INTRODUCTION

The resolvent formula and spectral analysis of the self-adjoint Toeplitz operators on the Hardy space $H^2(dm)$ on the unit disc have been worked out in detail by M. Rosenblum [10]. Here dm refers to Lebesgue measure on the unit circle. For an arbitrary real ϕ in $L^\infty(dm)$, Rosenblum has “concretely” diagonalized the self-adjoint Toeplitz operator T_ϕ on the unit circle. Specifically, it is shown that T_ϕ is absolutely continuous unless $\phi \equiv \text{constant}$. J. D. Pincus and J. Xia [9] have also studied the self-adjoint case when the region D is multiply connected planar having g holes, $g \geq 1$, and m_a is harmonic measure for D relative to a fixed point $a \in D$. They show that in the self-adjoint case the absolutely continuous spectral theory of T_ϕ is related to the absolutely continuous spectral theory of T_{ϕ_i} , $\phi_i = \phi|_{b_i}$, on Hardy spaces of analytic functions on the simply connected regions bounded by b_i , $i = 0, 1, \dots, g$, and $\bigcup_{i=0}^g b_i = \partial D$. More specifically, if $\phi \in L^\infty(dm_a)$ and $\bar{\phi} = \phi$ is not constant on b_i , then one gets an interval $[m_i, M_i]$ of absolutely continuous spectrum, where $m_i = \text{ess inf}(\phi_i)$, $M_i = \text{ess sup}(\phi_i)$, $i = 0, 1, \dots, g$. K. F. Clancey [5] investigated self-adjoint Toeplitz operators on least harmonic majorant Hardy spaces by developing a generalization of M. Rosenblum’s resolvent formula. His investigation is based upon a resolvent formula for higher genus. He considers the region D as a regular region on its double X . When viewed in this manner, it is possible to describe the orthogonal complement of H^2 using meromorphic functions on X . In this analysis, Riemann theta functions enter naturally into the resolvent formula. The techniques rely heavily on results from Riemann surfaces

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and theta functions. Clancey shows that when the symbol $\phi \in L^\infty(dm_a)$ is a simple or an analytic function on the boundary of the region, then the singular continuous component of the spectral measure of T_ϕ is trivial. Moreover, if one restricts attention to doubly connected planar regions, then this property holds for any real symbol ϕ in $L^\infty(dm_a)$. His conjecture in this setting is that in general the singular continuous component is trivial even when one considers not only harmonic measures but an arbitrary non-negative representing measure.

In the case of arbitrary representing measures, when the symbols ϕ are those considered by Clancey, the Toeplitz operator T_ϕ is unitarily equivalent to a finite dimensional perturbation of a Toeplitz operator with the same symbol acting on the least harmonic majorant Hardy space $H^2(dm_a)$. Therefore, assuming the results in Clancey [5], one may apply the abstract perturbation theory to study the spectral character of T_ϕ . Let us point out here that, in general, a finite dimensional perturbation of an operator may cause a significant effect on the spectral behavior of that operator (see example 1 of W. F. Donoghue [6]).

The main goal of this paper is to establish a generalization of Clancey's resolvent formula for self-adjoint Toeplitz operators on Hardy spaces associated with any non-negative representing measure. Using this as a tool, it is concluded that on an arbitrary multiply connected planar region, a self-adjoint Toeplitz operator whose symbol is either analytic or a simple function cannot have a singular continuous component. Further, when the region is doubly connected, an arbitrary self-adjoint Toeplitz operator does not have a singular continuous component.

This paper is organized as follows. In Section 1 we will recall some preliminaries concerning notation and definitions of Hardy spaces and theta functions associated with doubles of multiply connected planar regions. Moreover, in this section we will describe an explicit formula for the reproducing kernel for Hardy spaces $H^2_{\mathcal{D}}(dm)$ on multiply connected planar regions associated with representing measures, in terms of their related theta functions. In Section 2 we will generalize Clancey's resolvent formula [5]. In Theorem 1, we will give an explicit resolvent formula for the self-adjoint Toeplitz operators T_ϕ on Hardy spaces $H^2_{\mathcal{D}}(dm)$. This was made possible by the explicit description of the reproducing kernels obtained by J. A. Ball and K. F. Clancey [2]. We will give the proof of Theorem 1 in this section also. In Section 3, we will present the corollaries for Theorem 1 about the spectral characters of T_ϕ on these Hardy spaces.

1. PRELIMINARIES

Let D be a bounded planar region having g holes, b_0 the boundary of the unbounded component of the complement of D , and b_1, \dots, b_g the boundaries of the g holes. The boundary ∂D of D which consists of b_0, \dots, b_g is assumed to be analytic and oriented positively. Let X be the double of \overline{D} with the usual complex structure determined by requiring the mapping $J : X \rightarrow X$, interchanging points in D with their twins, to be an anti-conformal involution on X . The double X is a compact Riemann surface of genus g . We mark X by the symmetric canonical homology basis $a_1, \dots, a_g : b_1, \dots, b_g$ for $H_1(X) = H_1(X, \mathbb{Z})$, where $a_i = \alpha_i - J\alpha_i$, and α_i is a cross cut from a fixed point p_0 on b_0 to a point on b_i , $i = 1, \dots, g$. Let dw_1, \dots, dw_g be the basis for $\Omega(X)$, the set of holomorphic functions on X , dual to the above symmetric canonical homology basis. The B-period matrix τ has the form $\tau = \left[\int_{b_j} dw_i \right] = iP$, where P is a symmetric positive definite $g \times g$ matrix.

Let m be a representing measure in the set $M_a(X)$ of non-negative representing measures based at a fixed point a in D with the critical divisor \mathcal{D}_m . Let V_a denote the collection of all divisors \mathcal{D} in the g -fold symmetric product $X^{(g)}$ which provides the representation $(\omega) = \mathcal{D} + J(\mathcal{D}) - a - Ja$ for some symmetric meromorphic differential ω in the set $M^1(X)$ of meromorphic differentials on X with $\omega|_{\partial D}$ in M_a . For a given divisor \mathcal{D} in V_a , let $\mathcal{D}^+ = \mathcal{D}|_{\overline{D}}$, $\mathcal{D}^- = \mathcal{D}|_{J\overline{D}}$. The Hardy space associated with the representing measure m , $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$, is the closure in $L^2(dm)$ of $L(\overline{D} : \mathcal{D}^+)$, where $L(\overline{D} : \mathcal{D}^+)$ is the subspace of the complex vector space $M(\overline{D})$ of meromorphic functions f on \overline{D} having the divisors $(f) \geq -\mathcal{D}^+$. Similarly, $K_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$ denotes the closure in $L^2(dm)$ of functions f meromorphic on $J\overline{D}$ satisfying $(f) \geq -\mathcal{D}^-$. Also, we let $K_{\mathcal{D}}^{2,a}(dm)$ denote the closure in $L^2(dm)$ of functions f meromorphic on $J\overline{D}$ satisfying $(f) \geq -\mathcal{D}^- + Ja$. Notice that if $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}_{m_a}$, then $H_{\mathcal{D}_{m_a}}^2(dm_a)$ is the familiar least harmonic majorant Hardy space $H^2(dm_a)$. Moreover, if \mathcal{D}^+ is zero, then $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$ is the closure in $L^2(dm)$ of functions holomorphic on a neighborhood of \overline{D} . In the case where \mathcal{D}^+ is non-zero the space $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$ is a Hardy space with singularities. This is because the elements in $L(\overline{D} : \mathcal{D}^+)$ can have poles at the points in \mathcal{D}^+ . One has the following orthogonal decomposition of $L^2(dm)$:

$$L^2(dm) = H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm) \oplus K_{\mathcal{D}}^{2,a}(dm).$$

The proof of this fact is in K. F. Clancey [4].

The Abel-Jacobi map Φ_0 based at a fixed point p_0 on b_0 is defined on X by

$$\Phi_0(p) = \int_{p_0}^p \vec{dw} \mod(\mathbb{Z}^g + \tau\mathbb{Z}^g),$$

and the Riemann theta function associated with τ is defined on \mathbb{C}^g by

$$\theta(\underline{z}) = \theta(\underline{z}, \tau) = \sum_{\underline{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^g} \exp\{2\pi i(\frac{1}{2}\underline{n}^t \tau \underline{n} + \underline{n}^t \underline{z})\}.$$

The theta function is an entire and quasi-periodic in the sense that for $\underline{z} \in \mathbb{C}^g$ and $\underline{m}, \underline{n}$ in \mathbb{Z}^g ,

$$\theta(\underline{z} + \underline{m} + \underline{n}^t \tau) = \exp\{2\pi i(-\frac{1}{2}\underline{n}^t \tau \underline{n} - \underline{n}^t \underline{z})\} \theta(\underline{z}).$$

In particular, θ is \mathbb{Z}^g periodic. Since the B-period matrix of the marked double X has the form $\tau = iP$, the antiholomorphic involution map J on the Jacobian variety $\text{Jac}(X) = \mathbb{C}^g/(\mathbb{Z}^g + \tau\mathbb{Z}^g)$ defined by $J([\underline{z}]) = -[\underline{z}]$ is a well-defined map. We remark that the theta function associated with the B-period matrix τ of a double of genus g never vanishes in \mathbb{R}^g . This result is in Fay [7].

Let $e_* = \frac{1}{2}(\mu_* + \tau\lambda_*)$, $\mu_*, \lambda_* \in \mathbb{Z}^g/2\mathbb{Z}^g$, be a fixed nonsingular odd-half period. This means that the complex gradient $\nabla\theta(e_*) \neq 0$. The existence of e_* is established in D. Mumford [8]. We denote the theta function with characteristics $\underline{a} = \frac{1}{2}\lambda_*$ and $\underline{b} = \frac{1}{2}\mu_*$ by θ_* . Thus,

$$\theta_*(\underline{z}) = \theta_*(\underline{z}, \tau) = \theta\left[\begin{smallmatrix} \underline{a} \\ \underline{b} \end{smallmatrix}\right](\underline{z}, \tau) = \exp\{2\pi i(\frac{1}{2}\underline{a}^t \tau \underline{a} + \underline{a}^t (\underline{z} + \underline{b}))\} \theta(\underline{z} + \underline{b} + \tau \underline{a}).$$

The Hardy spaces $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$ associated with representing measures m are reproducing kernel Hilbert spaces. This means that for a given z in $D \setminus \text{supp } \mathcal{D}$, there is an element $k_z^{\mathcal{D}}$ in $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$ satisfying $f(z) = \langle f, k_z^{\mathcal{D}} \rangle$, for any f in $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$, where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denotes the inner product in $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$. Here we describe an explicit formula of J. A. Ball and K. F. Clancey for the reproducing kernels $k_z^{\mathcal{D}}$ of the Hardy spaces $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$:

let \mathcal{D} be a given element in V_a providing a representation $(\omega) = \mathcal{D} + J(\mathcal{D}) - a - Ja$ for an ω in $M^1(X)$ with $dm = \omega|_{\partial D}$. Also, let X_0 denote the image of X in $\text{Jac}(X)$ under the Abel-Jacobi map Φ_0 . Then, for a given z in $D \setminus \text{supp } \mathcal{D}$, the reproducing kernel $k_z^{\mathcal{D}}(\cdot) = k(\cdot, z : \mathcal{D})$ for the space $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$ is given by

$$k_z^{\mathcal{D}}(\zeta) = k(\zeta, z : \mathcal{D}) = \frac{\theta(\zeta + \bar{z} - a - \bar{a} - t)\theta(t)\theta_*(\zeta - Ja)\theta_*(a - Jz)}{\theta(\zeta - a - t)\theta(\bar{z} - \bar{a} - t)\theta_*(\zeta - Jz)\theta_*(a - Ja)}, \quad \zeta \in X_0,$$

where $t = \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}) - \Phi_0(a) + [\Delta_0]$. The function $k_z^{\mathcal{D}}$ is a meromorphic function with the divisor of the form

$$(k_z^{\mathcal{D}}) = \mathcal{D}_z - \mathcal{D} + Ja - Jz,$$

where $\mathcal{D}_z \geq 0$ is of degree g . Note that t depends only on \mathcal{D} .

2. THEOREM 1

Let P denote the orthogonal projection of $L^2(dm)$ onto $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$. Given ϕ in $L^\infty(dm)$ one defines the Toeplitz operator T_ϕ with the symbol ϕ as the operator on $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$ given by

$$T_\phi f = P(\phi f), \quad f \in H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm).$$

The Toeplitz operator T_ϕ is self-adjoint if and only if the symbol ϕ is real-valued.

One can associate with any given element $\mathcal{D} \in V_a$ the divisor \mathcal{D}_1 as follows. Let z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k be those elements in $\text{supp } \mathcal{D}$, repeated according to their orders, for which $Jz_i \notin \text{supp } \mathcal{D}$, $i = 1, \dots, k$. Let \mathcal{D}_1 be the divisor

$$\mathcal{D}_1 = z_1 - Jz_1 + \dots + z_k - Jz_k.$$

Evidently, $J\mathcal{D} + \mathcal{D}_1 = \mathcal{D}$. The main theorem in this paper is

Theorem 1. *Let ϕ be a real-valued element in $L^\infty(dm)$ and let $\mathcal{D} \in V_a$. Suppose T_ϕ is the associated self-adjoint Toeplitz operator on $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$. For a given z in $D \setminus \text{supp } \mathcal{D}$ let $k_z^{\mathcal{D}}$ denote the reproducing kernel in $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$. Then for any complex number λ satisfying $\text{Im } \lambda \neq 0$, we have the following:*

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle (T_\phi - \lambda)^{-1} k_z^{\mathcal{D}}, k_z^{\mathcal{D}} \rangle \\ &= C(z) \frac{\theta(\omega_z + t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) - \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) d\vec{w})}{\theta(t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) - \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) d\vec{w})} e^{-\int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) dm_z}, \end{aligned}$$

where t is a constant, $\omega(z)$ is a constant depending only on z , and $C(z)$ is a constant depending only on \mathcal{D} , z .

This formula without the theta function factors is precisely the classical result in genus zero (see M. Rosenblum [10]). The case when $m = m_a$ is the harmonic measure based at a and the Hardy space is the least harmonic majorant Hardy space $H^2(dm_a)$ appears in work of K. F. Clancey [5].

Proof. We first solve the Toeplitz equation $(T_\phi - \lambda)x = k_z^{\mathcal{D}}$ in $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$ for $\text{Im } \lambda \neq 0$. To do this, we try to solve an inhomogeneous Hilbert barrier problem with the symbol $G = (\phi - \lambda)$. Let $\text{Log}(\phi - \lambda)$ be the principal determination of the logarithm of the function $(\phi - \lambda)$, where $-\pi < \text{Im } \text{Log } z \leq \pi$, also, let ϕ be smooth. Fix a

point b in $X \setminus \overline{D}$ and let $A(t, p)dt$ be the multiplicative Cauchy kernel based at b . Then for a fixed $\lambda \in \mathbf{C}$ with $\text{Im} \lambda \neq 0$, the function H defined on $X \setminus \partial D$ by

$$H(p) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) A(t, p) dt\right)$$

is a multiple-valued holomorphic function belonging to the homology character χ with

$$\chi(a_j) = 1, \quad \chi(b_j) = \exp\left(-\int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) dw_j\right), \quad j = 1, \dots, g.$$

Moreover, H has continuous extensions H^+ (respectively, H^-) a.e. m to ∂D from inside (respectively, outside of \overline{D}) satisfying

$$(\phi - \lambda)H^+ = H^- \quad \text{a.e. } m \text{ on } \partial D.$$

See Clancey [3] or E. I. Zverovich [11]. One can use theta functions to remove this multiplicative behavior of the function H as follows. Let t be a fixed element in $\Phi_0(\mathcal{D}) - \Phi_0(a) + [\Delta_0]$, and for a fixed point z in $D \setminus \text{supp } \mathcal{D}$ define f_z on X by

$$f_z(p) = \frac{\theta\left(\int_{p_0}^p d\vec{w} + \bar{z} + t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) - \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) d\vec{w}\right)}{\theta\left(\int_{p_0}^p d\vec{w} + \bar{a} + t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1)\right)} \cdot \frac{\theta_*\left(\int_{p_0}^p d\vec{w} - Ja\right)\theta_*(a - Jz)}{\theta_*\left(\int_{p_0}^p d\vec{w} - Jz\right)\theta_*(a - Ja)}.$$

Consider the function

$$\rho_{z,\lambda}(p) = \theta\left(\int_{p_0}^p d\vec{w} + \bar{z} + t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) - \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) d\vec{w}\right)$$

on X which is in the numerator in the definition of f_z . Since $J[\underline{z}] = -[\underline{z}]$ and $[\bar{t}] = [t]$, $[t] - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) = -J[t] - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) = -\Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) - \Phi_0(J\mathcal{D}) + \Phi_0(Ja) - [\Delta_0] = -\Phi_0(\mathcal{D}) + \Phi_0(Ja) - [\Delta_0] = -[t] + \Phi_0(Ja) - \Phi_0(a) = -[t] - [\omega_a]$. Therefore, for $\lambda < \text{ess inf}(\phi)$,

$$[t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) - \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) d\vec{w}]$$

is in $\mathbb{R}^g/\mathbb{Z}^g$. Since the theta function θ associated with the double of a planar region does not vanish on \mathbb{R}^g , for a fixed z there is at most a countable set of values of λ off the interval $[\text{ess inf}(\phi), \text{ess sup}(\phi)]$ where the function $\rho_{z,\lambda}$ vanishes at Jz . Therefore, for a fixed z there is at most a countable set of points λ off the interval $[\text{ess inf}(\phi), \text{ess sup}(\phi)]$ having the property that the function $\rho_{z,\lambda}$ defined on X vanishes identically. If f_z is not identically zero, then f_z belongs to the character $\chi(a_j) = 1$; $\chi(b_j) = \exp(\int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) dw_j)$, $j = 1, \dots, g$, and the divisor of f_z has the form

$$(f_z) = \mathcal{D}_2 - Jz + Ja - \mathcal{D},$$

where $\mathcal{D}_2 \geq 0$ is of degree g satisfying

$$\Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_2) + [\Delta_0] = \Phi_0(Jz) + [\Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) - t + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) d\vec{w}].$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \left[\int_{p_0}^p d\vec{w} - \int_{p_0}^{Ja} d\vec{w} + t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) \right] &= \left[\int_{p_0}^p d\vec{w} - \int_{p_0}^{Ja} d\vec{w} \right] - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) - J[t] \\ &= \left[\int_{p_0}^p d\vec{w} - \int_{p_0}^{Ja} d\vec{w} \right] - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) - \Phi_0(J\mathcal{D}) + \Phi_0(Ja) - [\Delta_0] \\ &= \left[\int_{p_0}^p d\vec{w} \right] - (\Phi_0(\mathcal{D}) + [\Delta_0]). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, for $p \in \mathcal{D}$,

$$\left[\int_{p_0}^p d\vec{w} - \int_{p_0}^{Ja} d\vec{w} + t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) \right] = -(\Phi_0(\mathcal{D}') + [\Delta_0]),$$

where $\mathcal{D}' \geq 0$ and $\deg \mathcal{D}' = g - 1$. Now suppose that for a fixed non-real λ and a fixed z the function f_z is not identically zero, and let $h_z = f_z H$. Then h_z is a single-valued meromorphic function on $X \setminus \partial D$. The divisor of h_z is the same as the divisor of f_z and hence h_z restricted to \overline{D} is in $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$. Moreover,

$$(\phi - \lambda)h_z^+ = h_z^- \quad \text{a.e. } m \text{ on } \partial D.$$

The restriction of h_z to $J\overline{D}$ would be in $K_{\mathcal{D}}^{2,a}(dm) \subseteq K_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$ except for the pole at Jz which must be removed. This can be removed by subtracting an appropriate multiple of $k_z^{\mathcal{D}}$. Recall that the reproducing kernel $k_z^{\mathcal{D}}$ of $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$ is a meromorphic function given by

$$\begin{aligned} k_z^{\mathcal{D}}(\zeta) &= k(\zeta, z : \mathcal{D}) \\ &= \frac{\theta(\zeta + \bar{z} - a - \bar{a} - t)\theta(t)\theta_*(\zeta - Ja)\theta_*(a - Jz)}{\theta(\zeta - a - t)\theta(\bar{z} - \bar{a} - t)\theta_*(\zeta - Jz)\theta_*(a - Ja)}, \quad \zeta \in X_0, \end{aligned}$$

with the divisor of the form $(k_z^{\mathcal{D}}) = \mathcal{D}_z - \mathcal{D} + Ja - Jz$, where $\mathcal{D}_z \geq 0$ is of degree g . Since h_z and $k_z^{\mathcal{D}}$ have the same factor

$$\frac{\theta_*(\int_{p_0}^p d\vec{w} - Ja)\theta_*(a - Jz)}{\theta_*(\int_{p_0}^p d\vec{w} - Jz)\theta_*(a - Ja)},$$

for the constant $K(z)$ given by

$$K(z) = \frac{\theta(t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) - \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) d\vec{w})\theta(\int_{Jz}^a d\vec{w} + t)\theta(\bar{z} - \bar{a} - t)}{\theta(t - \bar{z} + \bar{a} - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1))\theta(t)\theta(\omega_a + t)} H(Jz)$$

and for the appropriate choice of $H(Jz)$, $h_z - K(z)k_z^{\mathcal{D}}$ a.e. m on ∂D is in $K_{\mathcal{D}}^{2,a}(dm)$ and $(\phi - \lambda)h_z^+ = h_z^-$ a.e. m on ∂D . Let g be the function defined on $X \setminus \partial D$ by $g|_D = h_z|_D$ and $g|_{JD} = (h_z - K(z)k_z^{\mathcal{D}})|_{JD}$. Then,

$$(*) \quad (\phi - \lambda)g^+ = g^- + K(z)k_z^{\mathcal{D}} \quad \text{a.e. } m \text{ on } \partial D.$$

So g is a solution to the inhomogeneous Hilbert barrier problem with the symbol $G = (\phi - \lambda)$ and $k = K(z)k_z^{\mathcal{D}}$. Applying the projection P to both sides of the

equation in (*), we obtain $(T_\phi - \lambda)h_z = K(z)k_z^{\mathcal{D}}$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle (T_\phi - \lambda)^{-1}k_z^{\mathcal{D}}, k_z^{\mathcal{D}} \rangle \\ &= C(z) \frac{\theta(\omega_z + t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) - \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) d\vec{w})}{\theta(t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) - \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) d\vec{w})} \cdot \frac{H(z)}{H(Jz)}, \end{aligned}$$

where $C(z) = \frac{\theta(t - \bar{z} + \bar{a} - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1))\theta(t)\theta(\omega_a + t)\theta_*(a - Jz)\theta_*(z - Ja)}{\theta(\int_{Jz}^a d\vec{w} + t)\theta(\int_{Ja}^z d\vec{w} + t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1))\theta_*(a - Ja)\theta_*(z - Jz)}$ is a constant depending only on \mathcal{D} and z . Since the multiplicative Cauchy kernel $A(t, p)dt$ based at b is the differential Ω_{p-b} , if we choose $b = Jz$, then $H(Jz) = 1$ and

$$H(z) = \exp\left(-\int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) dm_z\right).$$

Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle (T_\phi - \lambda)^{-1}k_z^{\mathcal{D}}, k_z^{\mathcal{D}} \rangle \\ &= C(z) \frac{\theta(\omega_z + t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) - \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) d\vec{w})}{\theta(t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) - \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) d\vec{w})} e^{-\int_{\partial D} \text{Log}(\phi - \lambda) dm_z}, \end{aligned}$$

where $C(z)$ is the above constant. Since $\Psi_{k_z^{\mathcal{D}}}(\lambda) = \langle (T_\phi - \lambda)^{-1}k_z^{\mathcal{D}}, k_z^{\mathcal{D}} \rangle$ is analytic off the spectrum of T_ϕ , by analytic continuation of both sides of the last equation, one can extend the above equation for the case where λ is an arbitrary non-real number. Also, for a given ϕ in $L^\infty(dm)$ there exists a sequence ϕ_n of smooth functions which converges pointwise boundedly to ϕ . This fact and a further analysis can be used to remove the smoothness condition on the symbol ϕ from the above argument. The proof of the theorem now is complete.

3. SPECTRAL CHARACTER RESULTS

One can prove the following results by making minor modifications in the proofs of Corollaries of Clancey [5]. The modifications in the proofs are basically the replacements of the constant t_a from the resolvent formula in [5] by the constant t which appears in the above generalization of the resolvent formula.

Corollary 1. *For a given representing measure m and a given element ϕ in $L^\infty(dm)$, $\bar{\phi} = \phi$, let T_ϕ be the associated Toeplitz operator on $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$. For fixed z in $D \setminus \text{supp } \mathcal{D}$, let $k_z^{\mathcal{D}}$ denote the reproducing kernel in $H_{\mathcal{D}}^2(dm)$. If $T_\phi = \int x dE_x$ is the spectral resolution of T_ϕ , then for almost all x in \mathbb{R}*

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\|E_x k_z^{\mathcal{D}}\|^2}{dx} &= \lim_{y \downarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{2\pi i} \langle (T_\phi - (x + iy))^{-1}k_z^{\mathcal{D}}, k_z^{\mathcal{D}} \rangle - \langle (T_\phi - (x - iy))^{-1}k_z^{\mathcal{D}}, k_z^{\mathcal{D}} \rangle \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} C(z) \text{Im}(\Psi(x) e^{-i\pi \int_{A_x} dm_z}) e^{-\int_{\partial D} \log|\phi - x| dm_z}. \end{aligned}$$

Here,

$$\psi(x) = \frac{\theta(\omega_z + t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\partial D} \log|\phi - x| d\vec{\nu} + \frac{i}{2} \int_{A_x} d\vec{\nu})}{\theta(t - \Phi_0(\mathcal{D}_1) + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\partial D} \log|\phi - x| d\vec{\nu} + \frac{i}{2} \int_{A_x} d\vec{\nu})},$$

where $A_x = \{p \in \partial D : \phi(p) < x\}$ and $d\vec{\nu} = -\frac{1}{2} * d\vec{\omega}$ is a vector signed measure on ∂D , $\omega = (\omega_1, \dots, \omega_g)$ and $\omega_j = \omega_j(z)$ is the harmonic measure of b_j based at z , $j = 1, \dots, g$.

Corollary 2. *For a given representing measure m and a given ϕ in $L^\infty(dm)$, $\overline{\phi} = \phi$, if ϕ is either a simple or analytic function on ∂D , then the singular continuous component of T_ϕ is absent.*

Corollary 3. *Let D be a doubly connected region and let m be a given representing measure. If ϕ is in $L^\infty(dm)$, $\overline{\phi} = \phi$, then the singular continuous component of T_ϕ is absent.*

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