



## A NOTE ON J-SETS OF LINEAR OPERATORS

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**ABSTRACT.** We construct a Banach space operator  $T \in B(X)$  such that the set  $J_T(0)$  has a nonempty interior but  $J_T(0) \neq X$ . This gives a negative answer to a problem raised by G. Costakis and A. Manoussos.

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARIES

Let  $X$  be an infinite dimensional complex Banach space and let  $B(X)$  be the algebra of all bounded linear operators on  $X$ . For  $T \in B(X)$  and  $x \in X$  let  $\text{Orb}(T, x) = \{x, Tx, T^2x, \dots\}$  be the orbit of  $T$  at  $x$ .

By a result of Bourdon and Feldman [?], if the closure  $\overline{\text{Orb}(T, x)}$  has a non-empty interior, then  $\overline{\text{Orb}(T, x)} = X$ , and so  $x$  is a hypercyclic vector for  $T$ .

In [?], a weaker concept to that of the limit set of an orbit was introduced and studied. For  $T \in B(X)$  and  $x \in X$ , let  $J_T(x)$  be the set of all vectors  $y \in X$  such that there exist a strictly increasing sequence  $(k_n) \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  and a sequence  $(x_n) \subseteq X$  with  $x_n \rightarrow x$  and  $T^{k_n}x_n \rightarrow y$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . It is easy to see that the set  $J_T(x)$  is always closed.

In [?], Problem 1, it was asked whether there is an analogue of the Bourdon-Feldman theorem in the case of  $J$ -sets: if the set  $J_T(x)$  has a nonempty interior, does it imply that  $J_T(x) = X$ ?

The goal of this paper is to give a negative answer to this question.

Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $x \in X$  and  $r > 0$ . We denote by  $B(x, r) = \{y \in X : \|y - x\| \leq r\}$  the closed ball with radius  $r$  and center  $x$ . We denote by  $\text{int } A$  the interior of any subset  $A \subset X$ .

### 2. MAIN RESULT

**Example.** There exist a Banach space  $X$  and an operator  $T \in B(X)$  such that  $\text{int } J_T(0) \neq \emptyset$  and  $J_T(0) \neq X$ .

**Construction.** Let  $(k_n)_{n=1}^\infty$  be a fixed fast increasing sequence of positive integers. It is sufficient to assume that  $k_{n+1} \geq 5k_n^2$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $X$  be the  $\ell_1$  space with the standard basis

$$\{u_i : i = 0, 1, \dots\} \cup \{v_{n,j} : n \in \mathbb{N}, 1 \leq j \leq k_n\}.$$

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More precisely, the elements of  $X$  can be expressed as

$$x = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \alpha_i u_i + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^{k_n} \beta_{n,j} v_{n,j}$$

with complex coefficients  $\alpha_i, \beta_{n,j}$  such that

$$\|x\| := \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |\alpha_i| + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^{k_n} |\beta_{n,j}| < \infty.$$

Let  $\{w_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  be a countable dense set in  $B(0, \frac{1}{4})$ . Without loss of generality we may assume that each  $w_n$  belongs to the space  $\bigvee\{u_0, u_1, \dots, u_n, v_{m,j} : 1 \leq m < n, 1 \leq j \leq k_m\}$ .

We are going to construct an operator  $T$  with  $J_T(0) \supset B(u_0, 1/4)$ . To this end it is sufficient to have  $u_0 + w_n \in T^{k_n} B(0, 1/n)$  for each  $n$ . The purpose of the finite-dimensional subspace  $\bigvee\{v_{n,j} : 1 \leq j \leq k_n\}$  is to achieve this relation. The infinite-dimensional subspace  $\bigvee\{u_i : i = 0, 1, \dots\}$  will ensure that  $J_T(0) \neq X$ .

Let  $T \in B(X)$  be defined by

$$\begin{aligned} Tu_i &= 2u_{i+1} & (i = 0, 1, \dots), \\ Tv_{n,j} &= 2v_{n,j+1} & (n \in \mathbb{N}, 1 \leq j \leq k_n - 1), \\ Tv_{n,k_n} &= \frac{n}{2^{k_n-1}}(u_0 + w_n) & (n \in \mathbb{N}). \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that  $\|T\| = 2$ . For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have

$$T^{k_n}(n^{-1}v_{n,1}) = 2^{k_n-1}n^{-1}Tv_{n,k_n} = u_0 + w_n.$$

This implies that  $B(u_0, \frac{1}{4}) \subset J_T(0)$ . Indeed, let  $z \in X$  with  $\|z\| \leq \frac{1}{4}$  and let  $(n_i)$  be an increasing sequence in  $\mathbb{N}$  satisfying  $w_{n_i} \rightarrow z$  as  $i \rightarrow \infty$ . Then  $n_i^{-1}v_{n_i,1} \rightarrow 0$  and  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} T^{k_{n_i}}(n_i^{-1}v_{n_i,1}) = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} (u_0 + w_{n_i}) = u_0 + z$ . In particular,  $\text{int } J_T(0) \neq \emptyset$ .

It remains to show that  $J_T(0) \neq X$ . Suppose on the contrary that  $J_T(0) = X$ . In particular, it means that  $v_{1,1} \in J_T(0)$ , and so there exist  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $y \in X$ ,  $\|y\| \leq 1$  with

$$\|T^k y - v_{1,1}\| < \frac{1}{4}. \quad (1)$$

Moreover, we may assume that  $k > k_2 + k_1$ . Write  $m_n = k_n + k_{n-1} + \dots + k_1$ . Since  $k_{i+1} \geq 5k_i^2 \geq 5k_i$ , we have  $m_n \leq \frac{5k_n}{4}$ , and so  $k_n \leq m_n \leq \frac{5}{4}k_n$ .

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  satisfy  $m_{n-1} \leq k < m_n$ . By assumption,  $n \geq 3$ . Write  $X_0 = \bigvee\{u_i : i = 0, 1, \dots\}$ . For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $X_n = \bigvee\{v_{n,i} : 1 \leq i \leq k_n\}$ . Let  $P_j$  be the natural projection onto  $X_j$ , i.e.,  $\ker P_j = \bigvee_{i \neq j} X_i$ . Clearly  $\|P_j\| = 1$  for each  $j$ .

Write  $y = y_0 + y_1 + x + y_2$ , where  $y_0 = P_0 y$ ,  $y_1 = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} P_i\right)y$ ,  $x = P_n y$  and  $y_2 = \left(\sum_{i=n+1}^{\infty} P_i\right)y$ . We have  $\|y_0\| + \|y_1\| + \|x\| + \|y_2\| = \|y\| \leq 1$ . Obviously  $T^k y_0 \in X_0$  and

$$T^k y_1 \in T^k \left(\bigvee_{i=1}^{n-1} X_i\right) \subset T^{k-k_{n-1}} \left(\bigvee_{i=0}^{n-2} X_i\right) \subset \dots \subset T^{k-k_{n-1}-\dots-k_1}(X_0) \subset X_0.$$

Finally,  $\left\| \left(\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} P_i\right) T^k y_2 \right\| \leq \frac{2^k(n+1)}{2^{k_{n+1}-1}} \leq \frac{n+1}{2^{k_{n+1}-m_n}} \leq \frac{n+1}{2^{k_n}} < \frac{1}{4}$ .

If  $m_{n-1} \leq k < m_n - 2m_{n-1} = k_n - m_{n-1}$ , then

$$\|P_1 T^k y\| \leq \|P_1 T^k x\| + \|P_1 T^k y_2\| \leq \frac{2^k n}{2^{k_{n-1}}} + \frac{1}{4} \leq \frac{n}{2^{m_{n-1}}} + \frac{1}{4} < \frac{1}{2}.$$

So  $\|T^k y - v_{1,1}\| \geq \|P_1(T^k y - v_{1,1})\| \geq 1 - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$ , a contradiction with (1).

So we may assume that  $k_n - m_{n-1} \leq k \leq k_n + m_{n-1} = m_n$ . Write for short  $m = m_{n-1}$ . For  $j = 1, 2, \dots$  let  $Y_j = \bigvee \{u_{(j-1)m}, \dots, u_{jm-1}\}$ . Write also  $Y_0 = \bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} X_i$ . Let  $Q_j$  be the natural projection onto  $Y_j$  ( $j = 0, 1, \dots$ ). Note that  $k - m \geq k_n - 2m \geq 5k_{n-1}^2 - 2m \geq \frac{16}{5}m^2 - 2m \geq m^2$ , and so  $T^k(y_0 + y_1) \in \bigvee \{u_i : i \geq m^2\}$ . Thus  $(\sum_{i=0}^m Q_j) T^k(y_0 + y_1) = 0$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \left( \sum_{j=0}^m Q_j \right) (T^k x - v_{1,1}) \right\| &= \left\| \left( \sum_{j=0}^m Q_j \right) (T^k(y_0 + y_1 + x) - v_{1,1}) \right\| \\ &\leq \left\| \left( \sum_{j=0}^m Q_j \right) (T^k y - v_{1,1}) \right\| + \left\| \left( \sum_{j=0}^m Q_j \right) T^k y_2 \right\| \leq \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2}. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Let  $x = \sum_{i=1}^{k_n} \alpha_i v_{n,i}$ . Let  $i_0 = k_n - k + 1$  and  $x_0 = \sum_{i=1}^{i_0-1} \alpha_i v_{n,i}$  (if  $i_0 \leq 1$  then  $x_0 = 0$ ). For  $j = 1, \dots, m$  let

$$x_j = \sum_{i=i_0+(j-1)m}^{i_0+jm-1} \alpha_i v_{n,i}.$$

We have  $T^k x_0 \in X_n$ , and so  $(\sum_{j=0}^m Q_j) T^k x_0 = 0$ . For  $j = 1, \dots, m$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} T^k x_j &= \sum_{i=i_0+(j-1)m}^{i_0+jm-1} \alpha_i T^k v_{n,i} = \sum_i \alpha_i 2^{k_n-i} T^{k-k_n+i} v_{n,k_n} \\ &= \sum_i \alpha_i \frac{2^{k_n-i} n}{2^{k_n-1}} T^{k-k_n+i-1} (u_0 + w_n) = s_j + q_j, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$s_j = 2^{k-k_n} n \sum_{i=i_0+(j-1)m}^{i_0+jm-1} \alpha_i u_{k-k_n+i-1}$$

and

$$q_j = \sum_{i=i_0+(j-1)m}^{i_0+jm-1} \alpha_i 2^{1-i} n T^{k-k_n+i-1} w_n.$$

Note that

$$\|s_j\| = n 2^{k-k_n} \sum_{i=i_0+(j-1)m}^{i_0+jm-1} |\alpha_i| = n 2^{k-k_n} \|x_j\|$$

and

$$\|q_j\| \leq \sum_{i=i_0+(j-1)m}^{i_0+jm-1} |\alpha_i| 2^{1-i} n 2^{k-k_n+i-1} \|w_n\| \leq \frac{1}{4} \|s_j\|.$$

Note also that

$$T^k x_j \in Y_{j-1} \vee Y_j \vee Y_{j+1}.$$

Write  $t_j = Q_{j-1} q_j$ ,  $t'_j = Q_j q_j$  and  $t''_j = Q_{j+1} q_j$ . For  $j = 1, \dots, m-1$ , we have

$$\left\| \left( \sum_{i=0}^j Q_i \right) (T^k x - v_{1,1}) \right\| = \|t_1 - v_{1,1}\| + \|s_1 + t'_1 + t_2\| + \|s_2 + t'_1 + t'_2 + t_3\| + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \cdots + \|s_{j-1} + t''_{j-2} + t'_{j-1} + t_j\| + \|s_j + t''_{j-1} + t'_j + t_{j+1}\| \\
& \geq 1 - \|t_1\| + \|s_1\| - \|t'_1\| - \|t_2\| + \|s_2\| - \|t''_1\| - \|t'_2\| - \|t_3\| + \cdots \\
& \quad \cdots + \|s_j\| - \|t''_j\| - \|t'_j\| - \|t_{j+1}\| \\
& \geq 1 + (\|s_1\| - \|t_1\| - \|t'_1\| - \|t''_1\|) + \cdots \\
& \quad \cdots + (\|s_{j-1}\| - \|t_{j-1}\| - \|t'_{j-1}\| - \|t''_{j-1}\|) + (\|s_j\| - \|t_j\| - \|t'_j\|) - \|t_{j+1}\| \\
& \geq 1 + \frac{3}{4}(\|s_1\| + \|s_2\| + \cdots + \|s_j\|) - \frac{\|s_{j+1}\|}{4}.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\left\| \left( \sum_{i=0}^j Q_i \right) (T^k x - v_{1,1}) \right\| \leq \frac{1}{2}$  by (2), we have

$$\|s_{j+1}\| \geq 3(\|s_1\| + \|s_2\| + \cdots + \|s_j\|) \geq 3\|s_j\|. \text{ So } \|x_{j+1}\| \geq 3\|x_j\|.$$

By induction,  $\|x_m\| \geq 3\|x_{m-1}\| \geq \cdots \geq 3^{m-1}\|x_1\|$ . Since  $\|x_m\| \leq \|x\| \leq 1$ , we have  $\|x_1\| \leq 3^{1-m}$ . Hence

$$\|Q_0 T^k x\| = \|Q_0 T^k x_1\| = \|t_1\| \leq 2^{k-k_n} n \frac{\|x_1\|}{4} \leq 2^{k-k_n-2} n 3^{1-m} \leq \frac{2^m n}{3^m} \leq \frac{1}{2},$$

which is a contradiction with the fact that

$$\|Q_0 T^k x\| \geq \|Q_0 v_{1,1}\| - \|Q_0(T^k x - v_{1,1})\| \geq 1 - \|T^k x - v_{1,1}\| \geq \frac{3}{4}.$$

**Remark.** The construction above can be modified easily so that we obtain an operator  $V \in B(Y)$  and a non-zero vector  $y \in Y$  such that  $\text{int } J_V(y) \neq \emptyset$  and  $J_V(y) \neq Y$ .

Let  $X$  and  $T \in B(X)$  be as in the previous example. Let  $Y = X \oplus \ell_1$  and let  $V = T \oplus 2S$ , where  $S \in B(\ell_1)$  is the backward shift. Let  $y \neq 0$  and  $Sy = 0$ . Then  $V(0 \oplus y) = 0$ . It is easy to see that  $J_V(0 \oplus y) = J_V(0 \oplus 0)$ . Clearly  $J_V(0 \oplus 0) \subset J_T(0) \oplus J_{2S}(0)$ . Furthermore, it is easy to see that for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $y' \in \ell_1$  and all  $n$  sufficiently large there exists  $y_n \in \ell_1$  with  $\|y_n\| < \varepsilon$  and  $(2S)^n y_n = y'$ . This implies that  $J_V(0 \oplus 0) = J_T(0) \oplus \ell_1$ .

Hence  $\text{int } J_V(0 \oplus y) \neq \emptyset$  and  $J_V(0 \oplus y) \neq Y$ .

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