



## Three results in linear dynamics\*

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**ABSTRACT:** In this article, first we show that the Fréchet space  $H(\mathbb{D})$  cannot support strongly supercyclic weighted composition operators. Then we compute the constant  $\epsilon$  for weighted backward shifts on  $\ell^p$  ( $1 \leq p < \infty$ ) and  $c_0$ . This constant is used to find strongly hypercyclic scalar multiples of non-invertible strongly supercyclic Banach space operators. Finally, we give an affirmative answer to a recent open question concerning supercyclic vectors.

**Key Words:** Supercyclic, hypercyclic, strongly supercyclic, strongly hypercyclic.

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### 1. Introduction

Suppose  $\mathcal{X}$  is an infinite-dimensional second countable Baire topological vector space (over  $\mathbb{C}$ ) and  $\mathcal{S}$  is a multiplicative semigroup of maps on  $\mathcal{X}$  (the binary operation is the composition of two maps). For a vector  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  we put

$$\mathcal{S}x = \{f(x) : f \in \mathcal{S}\}.$$

A semigroup  $\mathcal{S}$  is said to be *hypercyclic* if there is a nonzero vector  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  such that  $\overline{\mathcal{S}x} = \mathcal{X}$ . In this case,  $x$  is called a *hypercyclic vector* for  $\mathcal{S}$ . The set of all hypercyclic vectors for  $\mathcal{S}$  is denoted by  $HC(\mathcal{S})$ . If  $HC(\mathcal{S}) = \mathcal{X} \setminus \{0\}$ , then  $\mathcal{S}$  is called *hypertransitive*.

A semigroup  $\mathcal{S}$  is called *supercyclic* if the semigroup

$$\mathbb{C}\mathcal{S} = \{bf : b \in \mathbb{C}, f \in \mathcal{S}\}$$

is hypercyclic. A vector  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  is called a *supercyclic vector* for  $\mathcal{S}$  whenever it is a hypercyclic vector for  $\mathbb{C}\mathcal{S}$ . The set of all supercyclic vectors for  $\mathcal{S}$  is denoted by  $SC(\mathcal{S})$ .

We say that  $\mathcal{S}$  is *topologically transitive* if, for any pair of nonempty open sets  $U, V \subseteq \mathcal{X}$ , there is some  $f \in \mathcal{S}$  such that

$$f(U) \cap V \neq \emptyset.$$

Finally,  $\mathcal{S}$  is said to be *strongly topologically transitive* if, for any nonempty open subset  $U$  of  $\mathcal{X}$ , we have that

$$\mathcal{X} \setminus \{0\} \subseteq \bigcup_{f \in \mathcal{S}} f(U).$$

It is clear that strong topological transitivity implies topological transitivity.

One can easily verify that a semigroup  $\mathcal{S}$  is hypertransitive if and only if

$$\mathcal{X} \setminus \{0\} \subseteq \bigcup_{f \in \mathcal{S}} f^{-1}(U)$$

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for every nonempty open subset  $U$  of  $\mathcal{X}$ . Now assume that all members of  $\mathcal{S}$  are bijections and put

$$\mathcal{S}^{-1} = \{f^{-1} : f \in \mathcal{S}\}.$$

Then the following fact is obvious:

**Fact 1.1** *Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a semigroup in which every map is a bijection. Then  $\mathcal{S}$  is strongly topologically transitive if and only if  $\mathcal{S}^{-1}$  is hypertransitive.*

Recall that by  $L(\mathcal{X})$  we mean the set of all continuous linear operators on  $\mathcal{X}$ . From now on, by an operator, we mean a continuous linear operator. The most particular case among all multiplicative operator semigroups is the semigroup generated by a single operator. A continuous linear operator  $T$  on  $\mathcal{X}$  is said to be hypercyclic (resp. supercyclic, topologically transitive) if the semigroup

$$\mathcal{S} = \{T^n : n \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$$

is hypercyclic (resp. supercyclic, topologically transitive). Here  $\mathbb{N}_0$  is the set of all non-negative integers and  $T^0 = I$ , the identity operator on  $\mathcal{X}$ . We also say that  $x$  is a hypercyclic (resp. supercyclic) vector for  $T$  when it is a hypercyclic (resp. supercyclic) vector for  $\mathcal{S}$ , and we write  $HC(T)$  (resp.  $SC(T)$ ) for  $HC(\mathcal{S})$  (resp.  $SC(\mathcal{S})$ ). Notice that (since  $\mathcal{X}$  has no isolated points) if  $x$  is a hypercyclic (resp. supercyclic) vector for  $T$ , then so is every  $T^p x$  ( $p \geq 1$ ) (resp.  $bT^p x$  ( $0 \neq b \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $p \geq 1$ )), and this shows that  $HC(T)$  (resp.  $SC(T)$ ) is dense in  $\mathcal{X}$ .

Two well-known books which are always advised to study hypercyclic and supercyclic operators are [5, 9].

We say that  $T$  is *strongly hypercyclic* (resp. *strongly supercyclic*) if the semigroup  $\mathcal{S} = \{T^n : n \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$  (resp.  $\mathcal{S} = \{bT^n : b \in \mathbb{C}, n \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$ ) is strongly topologically transitive. In other words,  $T$  is strongly hypercyclic (resp. strongly supercyclic) if

$$\mathcal{X} \setminus \{0\} \subseteq \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} T^n(U) \quad (\text{resp. } \mathcal{X} \setminus \{0\} \subseteq \bigcup_{b \in \mathbb{C}, n \in \mathbb{N}_0} bT^n(U))$$

for any nonempty open subset  $U$  of  $\mathcal{X}$ .

It is clear that strong hypercyclicity (resp. strong supercyclicity) is stronger than hypercyclicity (resp. supercyclicity). In fact, this claim is verified by taking a look at [5, Theorem 1.2] and its following remark (resp. [5, Theorem 1.12]). The reader is referred to [2, 3] for more information on strong topological transitivity, strong hypercyclicity, and strong supercyclicity.

In Section 2, we show that there is no strongly supercyclic weighted composition operator on the function space  $H(\mathbb{D})$ . In Section 3, we compute the constant  $\epsilon$  for weighted backward shift operators on  $\ell^p$  ( $1 \leq p < \infty$ ) and  $c_0$ . In the last section, we give an affirmative answer to a recent open question about supercyclic vectors.

## 2. Weighted composition operators on $H(\mathbb{D})$

It is proved in [3] that no automorphism invariant weighted Hardy space  $H^2(\beta)$  can support strongly supercyclic weighted composition operators. Some particular cases of these spaces are the classical Hardy space  $H^2(\mathbb{D})$  and the Bergman and Dirichlet spaces.

In the following theorem, we show that the same assertion is true for the Fréchet space  $H(\mathbb{D})$ . Recall that the space  $H(\mathbb{D})$  is the set of all analytic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$ , equipped with the compact-open topology. It is worth mentioning that  $H(\mathbb{D})$  supports hypercyclic (and hence supercyclic) weighted composition operators [11].

Assume that  $w, \phi \in H(\mathbb{D})$  with  $\phi(\mathbb{D}) \subseteq \mathbb{D}$ . The weighted composition operator  $C_{w, \phi}$  on  $H(\mathbb{D})$  is defined by

$$C_{w, \phi}(f) = w(f \circ \phi), \text{ i.e., } C_{w, \phi}(f)(z) = w(z)f(\phi(z)).$$

Meanwhile, it is easy to see that the  $n$ th ( $n \geq 2$ ) iterate of  $C_{w, \phi}$  is defined by

$$C_{w, \phi}^n(f) = w(w \circ \phi) \cdots (w \circ \phi_{n-1})(f \circ \phi_n)$$

for every  $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$ , where  $\phi_k$  is the  $k$ th iterate of  $\phi$ .

**Theorem 2.1** *The Fréchet space  $H(\mathbb{D})$  cannot support strongly supercyclic weighted composition operators.*

**Proof:** To get a contradiction, suppose that  $C_{w,\phi}$  is a strongly supercyclic operator on  $H(\mathbb{D})$ . Then we claim that  $w(z) \neq 0$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ . To prove this claim, assume that  $g$  is the constant function  $g(z) = 1$  ( $z \in \mathbb{D}$ ). Then, by the definition of strong supercyclicity, we must have

$$g \in \bigcup_{b \in \mathbb{C}, n \in \mathbb{N}_0} bC_{w,\phi}^n(U) \quad (2.1)$$

for any nonempty open subset  $U$  of  $H(\mathbb{D})$ . Hence, there are some  $f \in U$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{C}$ , and  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$  such that  $g = bC_{w,\phi}^n f$ . Without loss of generality, we can assume that  $n \geq 1$ . Indeed, if  $n = 0$  then we can replace  $U$  by the open set  $V = U \setminus \mathbb{C}g$  in (2.1). This shows that, for all  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ , we have that

$$1 = bw(z)w(\phi(z)) \cdots w(\phi_{n-1}(z))f(\phi_n(z)),$$

which proves that  $w(z) \neq 0$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ .

On the other hand, it is easy to see that  $\phi$  cannot be a constant map. Indeed, if  $\phi$  is constant, then we have

$$\{bC_{w,\phi}^n f : b \in \mathbb{C}, n \in \mathbb{N}_0\} \subseteq \mathbb{C}w$$

for any  $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$ . This contradicts our assumption that  $C_{w,\phi}$  is strongly supercyclic.

Hence  $C_{w,\phi}$  is injective and so it is a bijection by [3, Proposition 3.5]. Then, by [7, Theorem 2.2],  $\phi$  is an automorphism of  $\mathbb{D}$  (the proof of that theorem only uses the assumption that  $C_{w,\phi}$  is a bijection). Now it is easily seen that  $C_{w,\phi}C_{(1/w) \circ \phi^{-1}, \phi^{-1}} = I$ , and so we must have  $C_{w,\phi}^{-1} = C_{(1/w) \circ \phi^{-1}, \phi^{-1}}$ . Note that  $C_{w,\phi}^{-1}$  is a linear map on  $H(\mathbb{D})$  which may not necessarily be continuous. Let us put  $\psi = (1/w) \circ \phi^{-1}$  and  $\rho = \phi^{-1}$  to simply write  $C_{w,\phi}^{-1} = C_{\psi,\rho}$ .

Now, in view of the definition of strong supercyclicity, the semigroup

$$\mathcal{S} = \{bC_{w,\phi}^n : b \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, n \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$$

is strongly topologically transitive (if  $\mathcal{S}$  is strongly topologically transitive, then so is  $\mathcal{S} \setminus \{0\}$ ), and hence, the semigroup

$$\mathcal{S}^{-1} = \{bC_{\psi,\rho}^n : b \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, n \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$$

is hypertransitive by Fact 1.1. So, every  $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$  which is not identically zero is a hypercyclic vector for  $\mathcal{S}^{-1}$ .

We consider the two possible cases for the automorphism  $\rho$ :

(1) There is some  $a \in \mathbb{D}$  such that  $\rho(a) = a$ . Then the function  $f(z) = z - a$  ( $z \in \mathbb{D}$ ) is a hypercyclic vector for  $\mathcal{S}^{-1}$ , and hence, there are sequences  $(b_k)_k$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $(n_k)_k$  in  $\mathbb{N}_0$  such that  $b_k C_{\psi,\rho}^{n_k} f \rightarrow g$  where  $g(z) = 1$  ( $z \in \mathbb{D}$ ). Thus, at  $z = a$  we must have

$$0 = b_k \psi(a) \psi(\rho(a)) \cdots \psi(\rho_{n_k-1}(a)) f(\rho_{n_k}(a)) \rightarrow 1$$

which is not true.

(2) The map  $\rho$  has no fixed point in  $\mathbb{D}$ . Then, by the well-known Denjoy-Wolff theorem, there is some  $a \in \mathbb{T}$  (the unit circle  $\partial\mathbb{D}$ ) such that  $\rho_n \rightarrow a$  uniformly on compact subsets of  $\mathbb{D}$ . If we put  $A = \{\rho_n(0) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ , then there is some  $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$  such that  $Z(f) = A$  [10, Theorem 15.11], where  $Z(f)$  is the set of all zeros of  $f$ . Now  $f$  is a hypercyclic vector for  $\mathcal{S}^{-1}$  and so, for the constant function  $g(z) = 1$  ( $z \in \mathbb{D}$ ), there exist sequences  $(b_k)_k$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $(n_k)_k$  in  $\mathbb{N}_0$  such that  $b_k C_{\psi,\rho}^{n_k} f \rightarrow g$ . Then we have that

$$0 = b_k \psi(0) \psi(\rho(0)) \cdots \psi(\rho_{n_k-1}(0)) f(\rho_{n_k}(0)) \rightarrow 1,$$

which is impossible.

Therefore, the assumption of strong supercyclicity of  $C_{w,\phi}$  cannot be true and the proof is complete.  $\square$

### 3. The constant $\epsilon$ for weighted backward shifts

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a Banach space and  $T$  be a bounded linear operator on  $\mathcal{X}$ . In [3], the constant  $\epsilon(T)$  is defined by

$$\epsilon(T) = \inf\{\|y\| : y \in \mathcal{X} \setminus T(B)\},$$

where  $B$  is the open unit ball of  $\mathcal{X}$ . Then it is proved that:

**Theorem 3.1** [3, Theorem 4.2] *Assume that  $T \in B(\mathcal{X})$  is not invertible. Then  $T$  is surjective with dense generalized kernel if and only if  $cT$  is strongly hypercyclic for all  $c \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $|c| > 1/\epsilon(T)$ .*

**Corollary 3.1** [3, Corollary 4.3] *If  $T$  is not invertible then  $T$  is strongly supercyclic if and only if it is surjective and has dense generalized kernel.*

Thus, the evaluation of  $\epsilon(T)$  is important to find strongly hypercyclic scalar multiples of non-invertible strongly supercyclic Banach space operators.

**Remark 3.1** It is worth mentioning that, while in view of Theorem 3.1 and Corollary 3.1, non-invertible strongly supercyclic and strongly hypercyclic Banach space operators are scalar multiples of one another, there are (non-invertible) supercyclic Banach space operators whose scalar multiples are never hypercyclic [5, Example 1.15].

In the next result, we compute the constant  $\epsilon$  for weighted backward shifts on  $\ell^p$  ( $1 \leq p < \infty$ ) and  $c_0$ . Recall that  $\ell^p$  ( $1 \leq p < \infty$ ) is the space of all complex sequences  $(a_n)_{n \geq 0}$  satisfying  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |a_n|^p < \infty$ . The norm of  $x = (a_n)_n$  in  $\ell^p$  is defined by  $\|x\| = (\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |a_n|^p)^{1/p}$ . The space  $c_0$  is comprised of all sequences  $(a_n)_{n \geq 0}$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  such that  $a_n \rightarrow 0$ , and the norm of  $x = (a_n)_n$  in  $c_0$  is defined by  $\|x\| = \sup_{n \geq 0} |a_n|$ .

The weighted backward shift  $B_W$  on  $\mathcal{X} = \ell^p$  ( $1 \leq p < \infty$ ) or  $c_0$  is defined by  $B_W(e_0) = 0$ , and  $B_W(e_n) = w_n e_{n-1}$  ( $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ), where  $W = (w_n)_{n \geq 1}$  is a bounded sequence of positive numbers and  $(e_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is the canonical basis of  $\mathcal{X}$ . One can readily verify that  $B_W$  is surjective if and only if  $(w_n)_n$  is bounded-away from zero, i.e.,  $\inf_{n \geq 1} w_n > 0$ .

**Proposition 3.1** *Suppose that  $B_W$  is a weighted backward shift on  $\mathcal{X} = \ell^p$  ( $1 \leq p < \infty$ ) or  $c_0$  with the weight sequence  $(w_n)_n$ . Then we have that  $\epsilon(B_W) = \inf_{n \geq 1} w_n$ .*

**Proof:** Put  $\inf_{n \geq 1} w_n = r$ . If  $r = 0$  then there exists a strictly increasing sequence  $(n_k)_k$  of positive integers such that  $w_{n_k} \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . For each  $k \geq 1$ , put  $x_k = (0, 0, \dots, 1, 0, 0, \dots)$ , where the number 1 has been set at the  $n_k$ -th position (remember that the position numbering starts with zero). Now, if we put  $y_k = B_W x_k$  ( $k \geq 1$ ), then it is easy to see that  $y_k \in \mathcal{X} \setminus B_W(B)$ . In fact, if  $z = (b_i)_{i \geq 0}$  and  $y_k = B_W z$  for a fixed  $k \geq 1$ , then the equality  $y_k = B_W x_k$  shows that  $b_{n_k} = 1$ ,  $b_i = 0$  for all  $0 < i \neq n_k$ , and  $b_0$  could be any complex number, and hence,  $\|z\| \geq 1$ . Now, since  $\|y_k\| = w_{n_k} \rightarrow 0$ , we conclude that  $\epsilon(B_W) = 0$ .

Now assume that  $r > 0$ . Then  $B_W$  is surjective. Let  $y \in \mathcal{X} \setminus B_W(B)$  be an arbitrary vector. Then there exists a vector  $x = (a_0, a_1, \dots) \notin B$  such that  $y = B_W x = (w_1 a_1, w_2 a_2, \dots)$ . If we set  $\hat{x} = (0, a_1, a_2, \dots)$  then we must have  $\|\hat{x}\| \geq 1$ , because otherwise,  $y = B_W x = B_W \hat{x} \in B_W(B)$  which contradicts our assumption. Then  $\|y\| \geq r \|\hat{x}\| \geq r$ , and hence,  $\epsilon(B_W) \geq r$ .

To complete our proof, we show that  $\epsilon(B_W) \leq r$ . Let  $\delta > 0$  be an arbitrary number. Then there is some  $k \geq 1$  such that  $w_k < r + \delta$ . Choose the vector  $x = (a_i)_{i \geq 0}$  for which  $a_k = (r + \delta)w_k^{-1}$  and  $a_i = 0$  for all  $0 \leq i \neq k$ , and let  $y = B_W x$ . Then  $\|x\| = a_k > 1$  and meanwhile, we claim that  $y \notin B_W(B)$ . Indeed, if  $z = (b_i)_{i \geq 0}$  and  $y = B_W z$  then we have that  $b_k = a_k$ ,  $b_i = 0$  for all  $0 < i \neq k$ , and  $b_0$  could be any complex number. Thus,  $\|z\| > 1$ . Now, since  $y \notin B_W(B)$  and  $\|y\| = r + \delta$ , we have  $\epsilon(B_W) \leq r + \delta$ . Finally, since  $\delta > 0$  was arbitrary, we conclude that  $\epsilon(B_W) \leq r$ .  $\square$

### 4. A positive answer to an open question

We finish this paper by giving an affirmative answer to a recently asked open question concerning supercyclic vectors. It should be mentioned that this section has appeared as an arXiv preprint [1].

For a subset  $M$  of  $\mathcal{X}$ , by  $\bigvee M$  we mean the closed linear span of  $M$ , i.e.,  $\bigvee M = \overline{\text{span}M}$ . It is clear that if  $x$  is a supercyclic vector for an operator  $T$  on  $\mathcal{X}$ , then

$$\bigvee \{T^n x : n \in \mathbb{N}_0\} = \mathcal{X}.$$

A natural question which may be asked here is that whether there is a strictly increasing sequence  $(n_k)_k$  of positive integers such that

$$\bigvee \{T^{n_k} x : k \geq 1\} \neq \mathcal{X}.$$

In their recently published paper, Faghih-Ahmadi and Hedayatian [8] have proved the following interesting result. Recall that for a normed linear space  $\mathcal{X}$ , we often write  $B(\mathcal{X})$  instead of  $L(\mathcal{X})$ .

**Theorem 4.1 (Theorem 1 of [8])** *Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be an infinite-dimensional Hilbert space. If  $x$  is a supercyclic vector for  $T \in B(\mathcal{H})$ , then there is a (strictly increasing) sequence  $(n_k)_k$  of positive integers such that  $\bigvee \{T^{n_k} x : k \geq 1\} \neq \mathcal{H}$ .*

Then they have asked whether the assertion is true for locally convex spaces or at least for Banach spaces [8, Question 1].

We show that the assertion is true for normed linear spaces. To prove our result, we use Lemma 4.2 which is an analogue of the following lemma.

**Lemma 4.1 (Lemma 2.3 of [4])** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a dense subset of an infinite-dimensional Banach space  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $e$  be a fixed element with  $\|e\| > 1$ . Then, for every finite-dimensional subspace  $Y \subset \mathcal{X}$  with  $\text{dist}(e, Y) > 1$ , for every  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $y \in Y$ , there is an  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $\|y - a\| < \epsilon$  and  $\text{dist}(e, \text{span}\{Y, a\}) > 1$ .*

The proof of the above lemma shows that it can also be stated for infinite-dimensional normed linear spaces. In fact, the lemma is proved by using Lemma 2.2 of [4] whose proof uses the fact that the weak closure of the unit sphere is the unit ball. Thus, we can give the following modified version.

**Lemma 4.2** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a dense subset of an infinite-dimensional normed linear space  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $e \in \mathcal{X}$  be a fixed element with  $\|e\| > 1$ . Then, for every finite-dimensional subspace  $Y$  of  $\mathcal{X}$  with  $\text{dist}(e, Y) > 1$ , there is an  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $\text{dist}(e, \text{span}\{Y, a\}) > 1$ .*

Now we are ready to answer Question 1 of [8] for normed linear spaces.

**Theorem 4.2** *Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be an infinite-dimensional normed linear space. If  $x$  is a supercyclic vector for  $T \in B(\mathcal{X})$  then there is a strictly increasing sequence  $(n_k)_k$  of positive integers such that  $\bigvee \{T^{n_k} x : k \geq 1\} \neq \mathcal{X}$ .*

**Proof:** It is clear that every nonzero scalar multiple of  $x$  is also a supercyclic vector for  $T$ . On the other hand, since  $x$  and  $Tx$  are linearly independent vectors, we have that  $\text{dist}(x, \text{span}\{Tx\}) > 0$ . Thus, without loss of generality, we can assume that  $\|x\| > 1$  and  $\text{dist}(x, \text{span}\{Tx\}) > 1$ . Now, if we put

$$\mathcal{A} = \{cT^n x : c \in \mathbb{C}, n > 1\}, Y = \text{span}\{Tx\},$$

and  $e = x$ , then  $\mathcal{A}$  is dense in  $\mathcal{X}$  because

$$\mathcal{A} = \{cT^n x : c \in \mathbb{C}, n \geq 0\} \setminus \{cT^n x : c \in \mathbb{C}, n = 0, 1\}$$

and  $\{cT^n x : c \in \mathbb{C}, n = 0, 1\}$  is nowhere dense in  $\mathcal{X}$ , and hence, in view of Lemma 4.2, there is some  $a = cT^{n_2} x \in \mathcal{A}$  such that

$$\text{dist}(x, \text{span}\{Tx, T^{n_2} x\}) = \text{dist}(x, \text{span}\{Y, a\}) > 1.$$

Now let

$$\mathcal{A}_2 = \{cT^n x : c \in \mathbb{C}, n > n_2\}, Y_2 = \text{span}\{Tx, T^{n_2} x\}.$$

Then, by Lemma 4.2, there is some  $a_2 = c_2 T^{n_3} x \in \mathcal{A}_2$  such that

$$\text{dist}(x, \text{span}\{Tx, T^{n_2}x, T^{n_3}x\}) = \text{dist}(x, \text{span}\{Y_2, a_2\}) > 1.$$

By continuing this construction, assume that for some  $k \geq 2$ , the dense set  $\mathcal{A}_k$  and the finite-dimensional subspace  $Y_k$  have been presented and (by using Lemma 4.2) we have found an element  $a_k = c_k T^{n_{k+1}} x \in \mathcal{A}_k$  such that

$$\text{dist}(x, \text{span}\{Tx, T^{n_2}x, \dots, T^{n_{k+1}}x\}) = \text{dist}(x, \text{span}\{Y_k, a_k\}) > 1.$$

Then we put

$$\mathcal{A}_{k+1} = \{cT^n x : c \in \mathbb{C}, n > n_{k+1}\}, Y_{k+1} = \text{span}\{Tx, T^{n_2}x, \dots, T^{n_{k+1}}x\}.$$

Again, by Lemma 4.2, there is some  $a_{k+1} = c_{k+1} T^{n_{k+2}} x \in \mathcal{A}_{k+1}$  such that

$$\text{dist}(x, \text{span}\{Tx, T^{n_2}x, \dots, T^{n_{k+2}}x\}) = \text{dist}(x, \text{span}\{Y_{k+1}, a_{k+1}\}) > 1.$$

This inductive procedure gives a strictly increasing sequence  $(n_k)_k$  (with  $n_1 = 1$ ) and it is easily seen that

$$\text{dist}(x, \bigvee\{T^{n_k}x : k \geq 1\}) \geq 1.$$

Indeed, let  $M = \text{span}\{T^{n_k}x : k \geq 1\}$  and suppose, to get a contradiction, that  $\text{dist}(x, \overline{M}) < 1$ . Then there is some  $y \in M$  such that  $\text{dist}(x, y) < 1$ . But it is clear that  $y \in \text{span}\{Y_k, a_k\}$  for some  $k \geq 1$  and we have already seen that  $\text{dist}(x, \text{span}\{Y_k, a_k\}) > 1$ . Therefore, the assumption  $\text{dist}(x, \overline{M}) < 1$  cannot be true and this shows that  $x \notin \bigvee\{T^{n_k}x : k \geq 1\}$ .  $\square$

We need to mention that the authors in [6] have also answered the above-mentioned open question independently. The interested readers are invited to investigate Question 1 of [8] for operators on locally convex spaces.

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