

## POINTWISE CONVERGENCE OF ALTERNATING SEQUENCES

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**1. Introduction.** Let  $1 < p < \infty$  and let  $L_p$  be the usual Banach Space of complex valued functions on a  $\sigma$ -finite measure space. Let  $(T_n), n \geq 1$ , be a sequence of positive linear contractions on  $L_p$ . Hence  $T_n L_p^+ \subset L_p^+$  and  $\|T_n\| \leq 1$ , where  $L_p^+$  is the part of  $L_p$  that consists of non-negative  $L_p$  functions. The adjoint of  $T_n$  is denoted by  $T_n^*$ , which is a positive linear contraction of  $L_q$  with  $q = p/(p - 1)$ .

Our purpose in this paper is to show that the alternating sequences associated with  $(T_n)$ , as introduced in [2], converge almost everywhere. Complete definitions will be given later. When applied to a non negative function, however, this result is reduced to the following theorem.

(1.1) THEOREM. *If  $(T_n)$  is a sequence of positive contractions of  $L_p$  then*

$$(1.2) \quad \lim_n T_1^* \dots T_n^* (T_n \dots T_1 f)^{p-1}$$

*exists a.e. for all  $f \in L_p^+$ .*

This is related to the following theorems due to Stein [9] and Rota [7]; see also [3], [4], [8], and [5] and [10].

(1.3) THEOREM (Stein). *If  $T$  is a self adjoint positive contraction on  $L_2$  then*

$$\lim_n T^{2n} f$$

*exists a.e. for each  $f \in L_2$ .*

(1.4) THEOREM (Rota). *If each  $T_n$  is a positive contraction of all  $L_p$ -Spaces,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ , simultaneously, and if  $T_n 1 = T_n^* 1 = 1$ , then*

$$(1.5) \quad \lim_n T_1^* \dots T_n^* T_n \dots T_1 f$$

*exists a.e. for each  $f \in L_p, 1 < p$ .*

Theorem (1.1) generalizes Stein's Theorem. It also implies a part of Rota's Theorem, namely the existence of (1.5) first for  $f \in L_2$ , then, by an easy argument, for  $f \in L_p, 2 \leq p$  (even if the measure is not finite). If  $f \in L_p, 1 < p < 2$ , then the existence of (1.5) does not seem to follow

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from the existence of (1.2) in a direct way. It may be noticed, however, that, under the additional hypotheses of Rota's theorem, our proof can be modified in a trivial way to obtain (1.4). We omit this as the proof so obtained will not be very different from the existing proofs of (1.4).

The arguments of the present paper depend, beyond the basic Measure Theory, only on Doob's maximal theorems for martingales (as given in, e.g., [10], pp. 89-94) and on a result in [1]. Our main result, in fact, will be obtained by adapting the arguments of [1] to the present case. Also, in Lemma (2.3) we seem to need the uniform convexity of  $L_p$  (see [2]). If one is interested only in  $p = 2$  then this becomes, however, very simple.

In Section 2 we list a number of elementary results and observations that we will need later. In this section some of the simple proofs are omitted. In Section 3 we formulate our main result, Theorem (3.2), and reduce its proof to the proof of two maximal inequalities. We also notice that it will be enough to prove these inequalities only in the finite dimensional case. Finally in Section 4, which contains our main arguments, we give the proofs in the finite dimensional case.

**2. Preliminaries.** In this section we are dealing with a fixed (complex)  $L_p$  Space,  $1 < p < \infty$ , over a  $\sigma$ -finite measure space  $(X, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$ . The adjoint of  $L_p$  is identified with  $L_q$ ,  $q = p/(p - 1)$ . The application of the functional  $g \in L_q$  on  $f \in L_p$  is given by

$$(f, g) = \int f \bar{g} d\mu.$$

Any statement made about  $L_p$  and/or  $L_q$  is also valid and will be used when the indices  $p$  and  $q$  are switched. The norm in  $L_p$  is denoted by  $\|\cdot\|_p$  or simply by  $\|\cdot\|$ . Finally, all our statements are correct only up to sets of measure zero, where applicable.

The duality mapping  $\psi_p: L_p \rightarrow L_q$  is defined by

$$(\psi_p f)(x) = \begin{cases} |f(x)|^p (\overline{f(x)})^{-1} & \text{if } f(x) \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We also write  $f^*$  for  $\psi_p f$ . Note that  $f^* \in L_q$  and

$$(f, f^*) = \|f\|_p^p = \|f\|_p \|f^*\|_q = \|f^*\|_q^q.$$

In fact, these equations define  $f^*$  uniquely. Also note that

$$\psi_q: L_q \rightarrow L_p$$

is the inverse of  $\psi_p$ . We also write  $\psi_q g = g^*$ ,  $g \in L_q$ , when the distinction between  $\psi_p$  and  $\psi_q$  is clear from the context.

By a linear operator we always mean a linear bounded operator. A linear operator  $V: L_p \rightarrow L_p$  is called a contraction if  $\|Vf\| \leq \|f\|$  for all  $f \in L_p$  and is called positive if  $VL_p^+ \subset L_p^+$ , i.e., if  $Vf \geq 0$  whenever

$f \geq 0$  and  $f \in L_p$ . If  $V:L_p \rightarrow L_p$  is a linear operator then the adjoint operator  $V^*:L_q \rightarrow L_q$  is defined by the requirement that

$$(Vf, g) = (f, V^*g) \text{ for all } f \in L_p, g \in L_q.$$

If  $V$  is a positive linear contraction on  $L_p$  then  $V^*$  is a positive linear contraction on  $L_q$ .

(2.1) LEMMA. *If  $V:L_p \rightarrow L_p$  is a positive linear operator then*

$$|Vf| \leq V|f|, \quad f \in L_p.$$

*Proof.* If  $\phi \in L_p$  then let  $P(\phi)$  be the class of functions  $h \in L_p^+$  such that

$$\left| \int \phi g d\mu \right| \leq \int h g d\mu \text{ for all } g \in L_q^+.$$

Then  $|\phi| \leq h$  whenever  $h \in P(\phi)$ . But if  $g \in L_q^+$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int Vf \cdot g d\mu \right| &= \left| \int fV^*g d\mu \right| \\ &\leq \int |f|V^*g d\mu = \int V|f| \cdot g d\mu, \end{aligned}$$

which shows that  $V|f| \in P(Vf)$ . Hence  $|Vf| \leq V|f|$ .

(2.2) LEMMA. *Let  $f_k \in L_p, 1 \leq k \leq n$ , and let  $V:L_p \rightarrow L_p$  be a positive linear operator. Then*

$$\max|Vf_k| \leq V(\max|f_k|),$$

and, consequently,

$$\|\max|Vf_k|\| \leq \|V\| \cdot \|\max|f_k|\|.$$

(2.3) LEMMA. *For each  $\epsilon > 0$  there is a  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $E:L_p \rightarrow L_p$  is a conditional expectation operator,  $f \in L_p$ , and if*

$$\|f\| - \|Ef\| < \delta\|f\|$$

then

$$\|f - Ef\| < \epsilon\|f\|.$$

*Proof.* We will use the uniform convexity of  $L_p$ , as stated in Lemma (2.2) of [2]: For each  $\epsilon > 0$  there is an  $\eta > 0$  such that  $\|g - h\| < \epsilon$  whenever  $g, h \in L_p, \|g\| \leq 1, \|h\| \leq 1$  and  $\|g + h\| > 2 - \eta$ . We choose a  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$2(1 - \delta)^p > 2 - \eta.$$

Let  $f \in L_p, \|f\| = 1$  and let

$$\|f\| - \|Ef\| < \delta.$$

Then  $1 - \delta < \|Ef\| \leq 1$ . Also,

$$\begin{aligned} (f + Ef, (Ef)^*) &= (2Ef, (Ef)^*) \\ &= 2\|Ef\|^p > 2(1 - \delta)^p, \end{aligned}$$

where the first equality follows from a basic property of  $E$ . Since  $\|(Ef)^*\|_q \leq 1$ , we see that

$$\|f + Ef\| > 2(1 - \delta)^p > 2 - \eta.$$

Hence  $\|f - Ef\| < \epsilon$ . If  $f \in L_p$  and  $0 < \|f\| \neq 1$  then we apply the above argument to  $f' = f/\|f\|$ .

(2.4) LEMMA. Let  $f_k, k \geq 0$ , be a sequence in  $L_p$  such that

$$F = (\sup|f_k|) \in L_p.$$

If  $\lambda_k$  is a sequence of complex numbers such that  $|1 - \lambda_k| < \epsilon$  for each  $k \geq 0$  then

$$\|(\sup|f_k - f_0|) - (\sup|\lambda_k f_k - \lambda_0 f_0|)\| \leq 4\epsilon\|F\|.$$

(2.5) LEMMA. Let  $(f_{km}), 1 \leq k \leq n, 1 \leq m$ , be  $n$  sequences in  $L_p$  such that  $\lim_m \|f_{km} - f_k\| = 0$  for each  $k$ . Then

$$\lim_m \|\max_{1 \leq k \leq n} |f_{km}| - \max_{1 \leq k \leq n} |f_k|\| = 0.$$

*Proof.* See Lemma (3.2) in [1].

(2.6) LEMMA (Uniform continuity of  $\psi_p$ ). Given  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $M > 0$  there is a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $\|f^* - g^*\|_q < \epsilon$  whenever  $\|f - g\|_p < \delta, f \in L_p, g \in L_p$ , and  $\|f\|_p \leq M, \|g\|_p \leq M$ .

This lemma has been stated in [2]. As mentioned there, its proof follows directly from a result of Mazur [6]. It should be noted, however, it is also quite routine to give a direct elementary proof.

(2.7) LEMMA. Given an  $\epsilon > 0$  and an  $M > 0$  there is a  $\delta > 0$  with the following property. If  $f_k$  is a sequence in  $L_p$  such that

$$\|\sup|f_k|\|_p \leq M \quad \text{and} \quad \|\sup|f_k - f_0|\|_p < \delta$$

then

$$\|\sup|f_n^* - f_0^*|\|_q < \epsilon.$$

*Proof.* Choose  $\delta$  from the previous lemma corresponding to  $(1/2)\epsilon$  and  $M$ . Given any  $n \geq 1$  there is a partition of  $X$  into  $n$  sets  $A_l, 1 \leq l \leq n$ , such that

$$\max_{1 \leq k \leq n} |f_k^* - f_0^*| = \sum_l |f_l^* - f_0^*| \chi_{A_l}$$

where  $\chi$  denotes the characteristic function of a set. Hence

$$\max_{1 \leq k \leq n} |f_k^* - f_0^*| = |f^* - f_0^*|$$

with

$$f = \sum_l f_l \chi_{A_l}$$

But  $\|f\|_p \leq M$  and  $\|f_0\|_p \leq M$  and

$$\|f - f_0\|_p \leq \|\sup |f_k - f_0|\|.$$

Hence if this last norm is less than  $\delta$  then

$$\|f^* - f_0^*\|_q < \frac{1}{2}\epsilon,$$

which completes the proof.

(2.8) LEMMA. Let  $f_n$  be a sequence of functions in  $L_p$  such that

$$(\sup |f_n|) \in L_p.$$

Then  $f_n$  converges a.e. if and only if

$$\lim_n \|\sup_{k \geq n} |f_k - f_n|\| = 0.$$

*Proof.* Let

$$\theta_n = \sup_{k \geq n} |f_k - f_n|.$$

First assume that  $f_n$ 's are real valued. Let

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_n &= \inf_{k \geq n} f_k \quad \text{and} \quad \psi_n = \sup_{k \geq n} f_k \\ f_n - \theta_n &\leq \phi_n \leq f_n \leq \psi_n \leq f_n + \theta_n, \quad k \geq n, \end{aligned}$$

shows that

$$0 \leq \theta_n \leq \psi_n - \phi_n \leq 2\theta_n.$$

Hence  $\|\theta_n\| \rightarrow 0$  if and only if  $\|\psi_n - \phi_n\| \rightarrow 0$ . But  $f_n$  converges a.e. if and only if  $\psi_n - \phi_n$  converges a.e. to zero, which happens if and only if  $\|\psi_n - \phi_n\|$  converges to zero.

For the complex valued case, let

$$f_n = f'_n + if''_n,$$

where  $f'_n$  and  $f''_n$  are real valued. Let  $\theta_n$  be as before and let  $\theta'_n, \theta''_n$  be the similar functions associated with the sequences  $f'_n$  and  $f''_n$ , respectively. Then we see that  $\theta'_n \leq \theta_n, \theta''_n \leq \theta_n$ , and  $\theta_n \leq \theta'_n + \theta''_n$ . Hence  $\|\theta_n\| \rightarrow 0$  if and only if  $\|\theta'_n\| + \|\theta''_n\| \rightarrow 0$ , which happens if and only if both  $f'_n$  and  $f''_n$  converge a.e.

(2.9) COROLLARY. Let  $f_n$  be a sequence in  $L_p$  such that  $(\sup |f_n|) \in L_p$ . Let  $V$  be a positive linear operator. If  $f_n$  converges a.e. then  $Vf_n$  also converges a.e.

(2.10) *Definition.* A point transformation  $\tau: X \rightarrow X$  will be called an *automorphism* if it is invertible and if both  $\tau$  and  $\tau^{-1}$  are measurable and non singular. An automorphism induces two measures  $\mu\tau^{-1}$  and  $\mu\tau$ , both absolutely continuous with respect to  $\mu$ . If  $\rho$  is the Radon-Nikodym derivative of  $\mu\tau^{-1}$  with respect to  $\mu$  then the operator  $Q: L_p \rightarrow L_p$  defined by

$$Qf = \rho^{1/p} f \tau^{-1}, \quad f \in L_p$$

(or, more explicitly, by

$$(Qf)(x) = \rho(x)^{1/p} f(\tau^{-1}x), \quad f \in L_p)$$

is a positive invertible isometry of  $L_p$ . We will call  $Q$  the  $L_p$ -isometry induced by  $\tau$ .

(2.11) *LEMMA.* If  $Q$  is the  $L_p$ -isometry induced by an automorphism  $\tau$  then  $Q^{-1}$  is the  $L_p$ -isometry induced by  $\tau^{-1}$  and  $Q^*$  is the  $L_q$ -isometry induced by  $\tau^{-1}$ .

*Proof.* This follows directly from the definitions, if it is observed that the Radon-Nikodym derivative  $\rho'$  of  $\mu\tau$  with respect to  $\mu$  is given by

$$\rho'(x) = 1/\rho(\tau x).$$

(2.12) *LEMMA.* If  $Q$  is the  $L_p$ -isometry induced by an automorphism  $\tau$  and if  $f \in L_p$  then

$$Q^*f^* = (Q^{-1}f)^*.$$

*Proof.* This, again, follows directly from the definitions and from Lemma (2.11).

**3. The main result.** If  $T$  is a linear operator in  $L_p$  then we let, as in [2],

$$(3.1) \quad M(T)f = [T^*(Tf)^*]^*,$$

where  $f \in L_p$ . Note that  $M(T)$  maps  $L_p$  into  $L_p$ , but in general it is a non linear operator. The main result of this paper is the following theorem.

(3.2) *THEOREM.* If  $T_n$  is a sequence of positive linear contractions on  $L_p$ ,  $1 < p$ , then

$$\lim M(T_n \dots T_1)f$$

exists a.e. for each  $f \in L_p$ .

(3.3) *Remarks.* The pointwise convergence of

$$M(T_n \dots T_1)f = [T_1^* \dots T_n^*(T_n \dots T_1 f)^*]^*$$

is equivalent to the pointwise convergence of

$$T_1^* \dots T_n^*(T_n \dots T_1 f)^*.$$

If  $f \in L_p^+$  then this last sequence simplifies to

$$T_1^* \dots T_n^*(T_n \dots T_1 f)^{p-1}.$$

Hence Theorem (3.2) contains Theorem (1.1) stated in the introduction. Also, if  $p = 2$  then  $M(T_n \dots T_1)f$  becomes  $T_1^* \dots T_n^* T_n \dots T_1 f$ . Hence Theorem (3.2) implies that if  $T_n$  is a sequence of positive linear contractions in  $L_2$  then

$$\lim T_1^* \dots T_n^* T_n \dots T_1 f$$

exists a.e. for each  $f \in L_2$ .

(3.4) *Notation.* If  $T_k, k \geq 1$ , is a sequence of linear operators on  $L_p$  and if  $f \in L_p$  then we let  $V_0 = 1$  be the identity on  $L_p$ ,

$$V_n = T_n \dots T_1, \quad n \geq 1,$$

and

$$f_n = M(V_n)f = [V_n^*(V_n f)^*]^*,$$

$$g_n = f_n^* = V_n^*(V_n f)^*, \quad n \geq 0.$$

Note that  $f_n$  is a sequence in  $L_p$  and  $g_n$  is a sequence in  $L_q$  and that  $f_n$  converges a.e. if and only if  $g_n$  converges a.e. Also,  $f_0 = f = g_0^*$ .

(3.5) *Definition.* Let  $T_n$  be a sequence of linear operators on  $L_p$ . We say that Estimate A holds for  $T_n$  if

$$\|\sup|f_n|\| \leq q\|f\|$$

for all  $f \in L_p$ , with the notations of (3.4).

(3.6) *Definition.* Let  $T_n$  be a sequence of linear contractions on  $L_p$ . We say that Estimate B holds for  $T_n$  if for each  $\epsilon > 0$  there is a  $\delta > 0$  depending only upon  $\epsilon$  and  $p$ , such that

$$\|\sup|f_n - f_0|\| < \epsilon$$

whenever

$$\|f\| - \lim_n \|V_n f\| < \delta \|f\|$$

and

$$\|f\| \leq 1,$$

with the notations of (3.4).

These two estimates can also be given in terms of the sequence  $g_n$ . We state this in the following two lemmas.

(3.7) LEMMA. Estimate A holds for  $T_n$  if and only if

$$\|\sup|g_n|\|_q \leq (q\|f\|_p)^{p-1}, \text{ for all } f \in L_p.$$

*Proof.* We see that

$$\sup|g_n| = \sup|f_n^*| = (\sup|f_n|)^*.$$

Hence

$$\|\sup|g_n|\|_q^q = \|\sup|f_n|\|_p^p.$$

Then the proof follows.

(3.8) LEMMA. Estimate B holds for  $T_n$  if and only if for each  $\xi > 0$  there exists an  $\eta > 0$  such that

$$\|\sup|g_n - g_0|\|_q < \xi$$

whenever

$$\|f\|_p - \lim\|V_n f\|_p < \eta\|f\|_p$$

and

$$\|f\|_p \leq 1.$$

*Proof.* Assume that Estimate B holds. First find  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that

$$\|\sup|f_n - f_0|\| < 1$$

whenever

$$(3.9) \quad \|f\| - \lim\|V_n f\| < \delta_1\|f\|,$$

and

$$(3.10) \quad \|f\| \leq 1.$$

Then

$$(3.11) \quad \|\sup|f_n|\| \leq \|\sup|f_n - f_0|\| + \|f_0\| < 2,$$

whenever (3.9) and (3.10) hold, since  $\|f_0\| = \|f\|$ . Given  $\xi > 0$  we use Lemma (2.7) with  $\epsilon = \xi$  and  $M = 2$  to find a  $\delta_0 > 0$  such that

$$(3.12) \quad \|\sup|g_n - g_0|\|_q < \xi$$

whenever

$$(3.13) \quad \|\sup|f_n - f_0|\|_p < \delta_2$$

and

$$(3.14) \quad \|\sup|f_n|\|_p \leq 2.$$



Then find  $\eta, 0 < \eta < \delta_1$ , using the Estimate B with  $\epsilon = \delta_2$ . Then we see that (3.12) holds whenever

$$\|f\| - \lim \|V_n f\| < \eta \|f\| \leq \eta.$$

The proof in the other direction is similar.

(3.15) LEMMA. *Given a sequence of linear operators  $T_k, k \geq 1$ , a function  $f \in L_p$  and an integer  $n \geq 1$ , define a new sequence  $\tilde{T}_k = T_{n+k}$ , a new function*

$$\tilde{f} = V_n f = T_n \dots T_1 f$$

and then define  $\tilde{V}_k, \tilde{f}_k, \tilde{g}_k$  as in (3.4). Then

$$g_{n+k} = V_n^* \tilde{g}_k, \quad k \geq 0.$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} g_{n+k} &= V_{n+k}^* (V_{n+k} f)^* \\ &= V_n^* \tilde{V}_k^* (\tilde{V}_k V_n f)^* \\ &= V_n^* \tilde{V}_k^* (\tilde{V}_k \tilde{f}) = V_n^* \tilde{g}_k. \end{aligned}$$

The following lemma reduces the proof of the main result to the proof of Estimates A and B for a sequence of positive linear contractions.

(3.16) LEMMA. *Let  $T_n$  be a sequence of positive linear contractions on  $L_p$ . If Estimates A and B hold for  $T_n$  then  $f_n$  converges a.e. for each  $f \in L_p$ , with the notations of (3.4).*

*Proof.* It is enough to consider  $f \in L_p$  with  $\|f\| \leq 1$ . We will prove the convergence of  $g_n$ . First, since Estimate A holds,

$$\sup |g_n| \in L_q.$$

Hence we will show

$$\lim_n \|\sup_{k \geq 0} |g_{n+k} - g_n|\| = 0$$

to complete the proof.

Let  $\beta = \lim \|V_n f\|$ . Distinguish two cases.

Case 1.  $\beta = 0$ . Given  $\epsilon > 0$  find  $n_0 \geq 1$  such that

$$\|V_{n_0} f\| < \epsilon.$$

Choose and fix an  $n \geq n_0$  and define  $\tilde{g}_k$  and  $\tilde{f}$  as in Lemma (3.15). Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|\sup_{k \geq 0} |g_{n+k} - g_n|\| &= \|\sup_{k \geq 0} |V_n^* \tilde{g}_k - V_n^* \tilde{g}_0|\| \\ &\leq \|\sup_{k \geq 0} |\tilde{g}_k - \tilde{g}_0|\| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq 2\|\sup_{k \geq 0} \tilde{g}_k\| \\ &\leq 2(q\|\tilde{f}\|)^{p-1} < 2(q\epsilon)^{p-1}, \end{aligned}$$

where the first inequality follows from Lemma (2.2) and the second inequality from Estimate A. Note that Estimate B is not needed in this first case.

Case 2.  $\beta > 0$ . Given  $\xi > 0$  choose  $\eta > 0$  from Lemma (3.8). Choose  $n_0 \geq 1$  such that

$$\|V_{n_0}f\| < (1 + \eta)\beta.$$

Then choose and fix an  $n \geq n_0$  and define  $\tilde{g}_k$  and  $\tilde{f}$  as before. Then we see that, as in the first case,

$$\|\sup_{k \geq 0} |g_{n+k} - g_n|\| \leq \|\sup_{k \geq 0} |\tilde{g}_k - \tilde{g}_0|\| < \xi,$$

since

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{f}\| - \lim_k \|\tilde{V}_k \tilde{f}\| &= \|V_n f\| - \beta \\ &< (1 + \eta)\beta - \beta = \eta\beta \leq \eta\|\tilde{f}\| \leq \eta. \end{aligned}$$

(3.17) LEMMA. *If Estimate A holds for any sequence of positive linear contractions on a finite dimensional  $L_p$  Space then it also holds for a sequence of positive linear contractions on a general  $L_p$  Space.*

*Proof.* Assume the hypothesis of the theorem. Let  $T_n$  be a sequence of positive linear contractions on a general  $L_p$  Space. If Estimate A does not hold for  $T_n$  then there is an  $f \in L_p$  such that

$$\|\sup |f_k|\| > q\|f\|.$$

Then there is an  $n \geq 1$  such that

$$\|\max_{0 \leq k \leq n} |f_k|\| > q\|f\|.$$

Then we see that there is a finite partition  $\mathcal{P}$  of the measure space  $X$  such that if  $E$  is the conditional expectation with respect to  $\mathcal{P}$  and if  $T'_k = ET_kE$ ,  $f' = Ef$  and if  $f'_k = M(V'_k)f'$  with  $V'_k = T'_k \dots T'_1$  then

$$(3.18) \quad \|\max_{0 \leq k \leq n} |f'_k|\| > q\|f'\|.$$

This essentially follows from Lemma (2.5). We recall that the conditional expectation is defined as zero on the atoms of  $\mathcal{P}$  with infinite measures.

Now  $T'_k = ET_kE$  can be considered as a positive linear contraction on a finite dimensional  $L_p$  Space. Hence (3.18) contradicts our hypothesis. Therefore Estimate A must be satisfied for  $T_k$ .

(3.19) LEMMA. Assume that for each  $\xi > 0$  there is an  $\eta > 0$ , depending only on  $\xi$  and  $p$ , such that

$$(3.20) \quad \left\| \max_{0 \leq k \leq n} |g'_k - g'_0| \right\|_q < \xi$$

whenever  $n \geq 1$  is an integer,  $T'_1, \dots, T'_n$  are  $n$  positive linear contractions of a finite dimensional  $L_p$  Space  $l_p$  and  $f' \in l_p$  such that

$$(3.21) \quad \|f'\| - \|V'_n f'\| < \eta \|f'\| \leq \eta,$$

where, as before,

$$g'_k = (V'_k)^*(V'_k f')^*$$

$$V'_k = T'_k \dots T'_1, V'_0 = 1.$$

Then Estimate B holds for any sequence of positive linear contractions on a general  $L_p$  Space.

*Proof.* Let  $\xi > 0$  be given. Find  $\eta > 0$  from the hypothesis. Let  $T_k$  be any sequence of positive linear contractions on an  $L_p$  Space. We would like to show that

$$\left\| \sup_k |g_k - g_0| \right\| < 2\xi$$

whenever

$$(3.22) \quad \|f\| - \lim \|V_k f\| < \eta \|f\| \leq \eta.$$

In fact, otherwise there is an  $f \in L_p$  satisfying (3.22) for which

$$\left\| \sup_k |g_k - g_0| \right\| > \xi.$$

Then there is an  $n \geq 1$  such that

$$\|f\| - \|V_n f\| < \eta \|f\| \leq \eta$$

and

$$\left\| \max_{0 \leq k \leq n} |g_k - g_0| \right\| > \xi.$$

Then, as before, we find a conditional expectation  $E$  with respect to a finite partition such that if  $T'_k = ET_k E$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq n$  and  $f' = Ef$  then (3.21) is satisfied but (3.20) is violated.

Finally we will show that if the hypotheses of the Lemmas (3.17) and (3.18) are satisfied for a special type of positive linear contractions on a finite dimensional  $L_p$ -Space then they are also satisfied for all positive linear contractions on finite dimensional  $L_p$ -Spaces. For convenience, we will call these special contractions the admissible contractions.

(3.23) *Definition.* Let  $T$  be a positive linear contraction on a finite dimensional  $L_p$ -Space  $l_p$ . Then  $T$  is called an *admissible contraction* if  $\|T\| = 1$  and if  $Tf > 0$  at each point whenever  $f \in l_p^+$  and  $f \neq 0$ .

(3.24) LEMMA. Let  $T$  be any positive linear contraction of  $l_p$ . Let  $1/\lambda = \|T\| > 0$ . Then for each  $\epsilon > 0$  there is an admissible contraction  $T'$  of  $l_p$  such that

$$\|\lambda T - T'\| < \epsilon.$$

*Proof.* Let  $T_0$  be an arbitrary admissible contraction. Find an admissible  $T'$  of the form

$$T' = r\lambda T + sT_0$$

where  $r < 1$ ,  $0 < s$ , and  $s$  and  $1 - r$  are sufficiently small.

(3.24) LEMMA. Assume that Estimate A is satisfied for any sequence of admissible contractions. Then it is also satisfied for any sequence of positive linear contractions on a finite dimensional  $L_p$ -Space.

*Proof.* If the conclusion is not correct then there are finitely many positive linear contractions  $T_1, \dots, T_n$  on  $l_p$  and  $f \in l_p$  such that

$$\frac{1}{\lambda_k} = \|T_k\| > 0 \quad \text{and}$$

$$\|\max_{0 \leq k \leq n} |f_n|\| > q\|f\|.$$

Let  $T'_k = \lambda_k T_k$  and  $f' = f$  and

$$f'_k = M(V'_k)f'.$$

Then we see that

$$f'_k = (\lambda_k \dots \lambda_1)^q f_k.$$

Hence

$$\|\max_{0 \leq k \leq n} |f'_k|\| > q\|f'\|.$$

Then one can replace each  $T'_k$  by an admissible  $T''_k$  such that one would still have

$$\|\max_{0 \leq k \leq n} |f''_k|\| > q\|f''\|$$

with  $f'' = f$ ,  $f''_k = M(V''_k)f''$ .

(3.25) LEMMA. Suppose that for each  $\xi' > 0$  there exists an  $\eta' > 0$ , depending only on  $\xi'$  and  $p$  such that

$$\|\max_{0 \leq k \leq n} |g_k - g_0|\| < \xi'$$

whenever  $n \geq 1$  is an integer,  $T_1, \dots, T_n$  are  $n$  admissible contractions of  $l_p$  and  $f \in l_p$  such that

$$\|f\| - \|V_n f\| < \eta' \|f\| \leq \eta'.$$

Also assume that Estimate A is satisfied for any sequence of admissible contractions on  $l_p$ . Then the hypothesis of Lemma (3.19) is satisfied.

*Proof.* Let  $\xi > 0$ . Using the hypothesis choose an  $\eta' > 0$  corresponding to  $\xi' = (1/10)\xi$ . Then choose  $\eta'' > 0$  such that

$$(1 + 2x)^q < 1 + \frac{1}{10} \xi q^{1-p}$$

whenever  $0 \leq x < \eta''$ . Let

$$\eta = \min\left(\eta', \eta'', \frac{1}{4}\right).$$

Then let  $T'_1, \dots, T'_n$  be linear positive  $l_p$  contractions. Let  $f' \in l_p$  be such that

$$\|f'\| - \|V'_n f'\| < \eta \|f'\| \leq \eta.$$

Then, since Estimate A holds for  $T'_k$ ,

$$(3.26) \quad \|\max|g'_k|\| \leq (q\|f'\|)^{p-1} \leq q^{p-1},$$

by Lemma (3.7).

We would like to show that

$$(3.27) \quad \|\max|g'_k - g'_0|\| > \frac{1}{2} \xi$$

leads to a contradiction.

If  $T'_k = 0$  for some  $k, 1 \leq k \leq n$ , then  $V'_n f' = 0$  and we have

$$\|f'\| < \eta \|f'\| \leq \frac{1}{4} \|f'\|$$

which is impossible. Hence

$$0 < \|T'_k\| = \frac{1}{\lambda_k} \leq 1 \quad \text{for all } k.$$

Also, since  $\eta \leq 1/4$ , and since

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - \eta) \|f'\| &\leq \|V'_n f'\| = \|T'_n \dots T'_1 f'\| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\lambda_n \dots \lambda_1} \|f'\|, \end{aligned}$$

we see that

$$1 \leq \lambda_1 \dots \lambda_n \leq \frac{1}{1 - \eta} \leq 1 + 2\eta.$$

Hence, if  $\mu_k = \lambda_1 \dots \lambda_k$  then

$$1 \leq \mu_k \leq 1 + 2\eta \leq 1 + 2\eta'' \quad \text{for all } k, \quad 1 \leq k \leq n.$$

Now let  $T_k'' = \lambda_k T_k'$  and  $f'' = f'$  and define  $g_k''$  in terms of  $f''$  and  $T_k''$  as before. Then

$$g_k'' = \mu_k^q g_k'$$

and

$$1 \leq \mu_k^q \leq 1 + \frac{1}{10} \xi q^{1-p}$$

by the choice of  $\eta''$ .

Then, by Lemma (2.4) and by (3.26)

$$\begin{aligned} \|\max|g_k'' - g_0''|\| &\geq \|\max|g_k' - g_0'|\| - \frac{1}{10} \xi \\ &> \frac{4}{10} \xi. \end{aligned}$$

Also

$$\begin{aligned} \|f''\| - \|V_n'' f''\| &\leq \|f'\| - \|V_n' f'\| \\ &< \eta \|f'\| = \eta \|f''\| \\ &\leq \eta' \|f''\|. \end{aligned}$$

Now we can find admissible  $T_k$  such that if  $f = f' = f''$  then we still have

$$\|\max|g_k - g_0|\| > \frac{4}{10} \xi > \xi'$$

and

$$\|f\| - \|V_n f\| < \eta' \|f\| \leq \|f\|.$$

This contradicts the choice of  $\eta'$ . Hence we see that

$$\|\max|g_k' - g_0'|\| < \xi$$

whenever

$$\|f'\| - \|V_n f'\| < \eta \|f'\| \leq \|f'\|.$$

This completes the proof.

Hence to prove the main theorem, Theorem (3.2), it will be enough to prove the hypotheses of Lemmas (3.24) and (3.25). This will be done in the next section.

**4. Admissible contractions of  $l_p$ .** Let  $l_p$  be a  $d$ -dimensional  $L_p$ -Space. Hence the associated measure space consists of  $d$  points with non zero measures  $m_i > 0$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq d$ . Let  $T$  be an admissible contraction of  $l_p$ . A result in [1] shows that there is a finite measure space  $(Z, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$  of a very special type, a partition  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $Z$  into  $d$  atoms of measure  $m_i$  and an automorphism  $\tau$  of  $Z$ , again of a very special type, such that if  $Q$  is the  $L_p$ -isometry induced by  $\tau$  and if  $E$  is the conditional expectation with respect to the partition  $\mathcal{P}$  then  $T$  can be represented by (or isomorphic to)

$$EQE$$

in the obvious sense. We will use the properties of  $Z$ ,  $\tau$ ,  $Q$  and  $E$  to obtain the estimates on admissible contraction from the corresponding estimates on martingales. We will first describe  $Z$  and  $\tau$ . Again, for convenience, we will call the particular type of automorphisms of  $Z$  we are going to define the admissible automorphisms of  $Z$  and the induced isometries the admissible isometries of  $L_p$ . In this section  $L_p$  will always denote  $L_p(Z)$  and  $l_p$  the finite dimensional  $L_p$ -Space associated with the finite partition  $\mathcal{P}$ . (Hence  $l_p = EL_p$ .)

(4.1) *Definition of  $Z$ .* Let  $d$  be an arbitrary integer,  $d \geq 1$ . The indices  $i$  and  $j$  will range through the integers  $\{1, \dots, d\}$ . Let  $m_i$  be also fixed numbers,  $m_i > 0$ . Let  $I_i$  be disjoint intervals on the  $x$ -axis such that the length of  $I_i$  is  $m_i$ . Let  $J_j$  be disjoint intervals on the  $y$ -axis, each of unit length. Let  $P_i = I_i \times J_j$  and let  $Z = \cup P_i$ . Hence  $Z$  be a subset of the  $xy$  plane. The measure  $\mu$  will be the two dimensional Lebesgue measure on  $Z$ . The partition of  $Z$  into  $P_i$  will be denoted by  $\mathcal{P}$ . The points of  $Z$  are denoted by  $(x, y)$ , as usual.

(4.2) *Admissible automorphisms of  $Z$ .* An automorphism  $\tau$  of  $Z$  will be called an *admissible automorphism* if it is of the following type. Each  $I_j$  is partitioned into  $d$  intervals  $(I_{ij})_i$  of non zero length and each  $J_j$  is partitioned into  $d$  intervals  $(J_{ij})_i$  of non zero length. If  $R_{ij} = I_i \times J_j$  and  $S_{ij} = I_{ij} \times J_j$  then  $\tau$  maps each  $R_{ij}$  onto  $S_{ij}$  and the restriction of  $\tau$  to each  $R_{ij}$  is of the form

$$\tau(x, y) = (ax + b, cy + d),$$

where  $a, b, c, d$  are four constants depending on  $R_{ij}$ . The  $L_p$ -isometry  $Q$  induced by an admissible automorphism will be called an *admissible isometry* of  $L_p$ .

(4.3) *Admissible contractions of  $L_p$ .* A result in [1] shows that if  $T$  is an admissible contraction of  $l_p$  then there is an admissible isometry  $Q$  of  $L_p$  such that  $T = EQE$ , where  $E$  is the conditional expectation with respect to  $\mathcal{P}$ . Here we identified, in an obvious way, the finite dimensional space  $l_p$  by  $EL_p$ . The converse is not true. If  $Q$  is an admissible isometry of  $L_p$  then

$EQE$  may not be an admissible contraction of  $L_p$ , in the sense of the previous section (the reason is that  $\|EQE\| < 1$  is possible). This is not important, however, as we are going to prove our estimates for any sequence of operators of the type  $EQE$ , with  $Q$  being an admissible isometry of  $L_p$ .

(4.4) *Further notations and definitions.* We have already denoted the conditional expectation operator with respect to  $\mathcal{P}$  by  $E$ . In general, if  $\mathcal{G}$  is a finite partition then  $E(\cdot | \mathcal{G})$  will denote the conditional expectation with respect to  $\mathcal{G}$ . Hence  $E = E(\cdot | \mathcal{P})$ .

Let  $G$  be a set in the  $xy$ -plane. A subset  $F$  of  $G$  will be called a *vertical subset* of  $G$  if

$$F = (F' \times \mathbf{R}) \cap G$$

for some subset  $F'$  of the  $x$ -axis. Similarly, if

$$H = (\mathbf{R} \times H') \cap G$$

then  $H$  will be called a *horizontal subset* of  $G$ . Let  $\phi$  be a function defined on a subset of the  $xy$ -plane. We will say that  $\phi$  is *constant on vertical lines* if  $\phi(x, y)$  depends only on the  $x$ -coordinate. Similarly, if  $\phi(x, y)$  depends only on the  $y$ -coordinate then we will say that  $\phi$  is constant on horizontal lines.

(4.5) LEMMA. *Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a finite partition of  $Z$  such that each atom of  $\mathcal{G}$  is a vertical subset of one of  $P_i$ . Let  $f$  be an  $L_p$  function which is constant on vertical lines. Let  $\tau$  be an admissible automorphism and let  $Q$  be the induced  $L_p$  isometry. Then*

$$(4.6) \quad QE(f|\mathcal{G}) = E(Qf|\mathcal{P} \vee \tau\mathcal{G}).$$

*Proof.* If  $G$  is a subset of  $Z$  then let  $A(f, G)$  be the average value of  $f$  on  $G$ ; i.e., let

$$(4.7) \quad A(f, G) = \begin{cases} (\mu(G))^{-1} \int_G f d\mu & \text{if } \mu(G) > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If  $G$  is an atom of  $\mathcal{G}$  then it is of the form  $G = G' \times J_i$ , for some  $i$ , where  $G'$  is a subset of  $I_i$ . Let  $G_j = G \cap R_{ij}$  with this particular  $i$ , where  $R_{ij}$ 's are associated with  $\tau$  as in (4.2). Then  $G_j = G' \times J_{ij}$ . Since  $f$  is constant on vertical lines,

$$A(f, G_j) = A(f, G)$$

for each  $j$ . Hence,

$$(4.8) \quad A(f, G)\chi_G = \sum A(f, G_j)\chi_{G_j}$$

We now notice that  $\tau$  maps  $R_{ij}$  onto  $S_{ij}$  and that  $\tau$  transports the measure  $\mu$  on  $R_{ij}$  to a constant multiple of  $\mu$  on  $S_{ij}$  (i.e.,



$$\rho = \frac{d\mu\tau^{-1}}{d\mu}$$

is a constant  $\rho_{ij}$  on  $S_{ij}$ ). Hence, if  $F$  is a subset of  $R_{ij}$ , then

$$A(f, F) = A(f\tau^{-1}, \tau F).$$

We then have that, since each  $G_j$  is contained in a single  $R_{ij}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (4.9) \quad QA(f, G_j)\chi_{G_j} &= A(f, G_j)Q\chi_{G_j} \\ &= A(f\tau^{-1}, \tau G_j)\rho_{ij}^{1/p}\chi_{\tau G_j} \\ &= A(\rho_{ij}^{1/p}f\tau^{-1}, \tau G_j)\chi_{\tau G_j} \\ &= A(Qf, \tau G_j)\chi_{\tau G_j}. \end{aligned}$$

We now observe that

$$\tau G_j = (\tau G) \cap S_{ij} = (\tau G) \cap P_i,$$

which means that  $\tau G_j$ 's are exactly the atoms of  $\mathcal{P} \vee \tau G$  that are contained in  $\tau G$ . Hence we conclude the proof first by applying  $Q$  to the both sides of (4.8), then by transforming the second side by means of (4.9) and finally by summing the resulting equations over the atoms  $G$  of the partition  $\mathcal{G}$ .

(4.10) LEMMA. *Let  $f, f'$  be two functions in  $L_p$  that are constant on vertical lines. If  $Ef = Ef'$  then also  $EQf = EQf'$ , where  $Q$  is any admissible  $L_p$  isometry.*

*Proof.* This was already proved in [1]. But it also follows directly from the previous lemma, which shows that

$$E(Qf|\mathcal{P} \vee \tau\mathcal{P}) = E(Qf'|\mathcal{P} \vee \tau\mathcal{P}),$$

as these two sides are equal to  $QEf$  and to  $QEf'$  respectively.

These results have obvious analogues for the inverse of an admissible isometry. We state only the following result and omit the proof.

(4.11) LEMMA. *Let  $f$  and  $f'$  be two functions in  $L_p$  that are constant on horizontal lines. If  $Ef = Ef'$  then also*

$$EQ^{-1}f = EQ^{-1}f',$$

where  $Q$  is any admissible isometry.

(4.12) LEMMA. *If  $f \in L_p$  is constant on vertical lines and if  $Q$  is an admissible isometry then  $Qf$  is also constant on vertical lines. Similarly, if  $g \in L_p$  is constant on horizontal lines then  $Q^{-1}g$  is also constant on horizontal lines.*

*Proof.* This follows directly from the definitions, if one observes that the image of a vertical line in  $Z$  under an admissible  $\tau$  consists of  $d$  vertical lines and that

$$\rho = \frac{d\mu\tau^{-1}}{d\tau}$$

is constant on vertical lines.

(4.13) *Notation.* Let  $n$  be a fixed integer,  $n \geq 1$ . The index  $k$  will range through the integers  $\{0, 1, \dots, n\}$ . If  $1 \leq k \leq n$  then let  $Q_k$  be an admissible  $L_p$  isometry induced by an admissible automorphism  $\tau_k$ . Let  $Q_0$  be the identity operator on  $L_p$  and  $\tau_0$  the identity automorphism on  $Z$ . Then let

$$T_k = EQ_kE, \quad V_k = T_k \dots T_0, \quad W_k = Q_k \dots Q_0.$$

For a fixed  $f \in L_p$  we let, as before,

$$f_k = [V_k^*(V_k f)^*]^*,$$

$$g_k = f_k^* = V_k^*(V_k f)^*,$$

and also

$$\phi_k = W_k^{-1}EW_kEf, \quad 0 \leq k \leq n.$$

Note that

$$f_0 = \phi_0 = Ef.$$

(4.14) LEMMA.  $V_k f = EW_kEf.$

*Proof.* First observe that  $W_kEf$  is constant on vertical lines. Hence,

$$W_{k+1}Ef = Q_{k+1}W_kEf = Q_{k+1}EW_kEf$$

where the second equality follows from Lemma (4.10). Then an obvious induction argument completes the proof.

(4.15) LEMMA.  $V_k^*(V_k f)^* = E(W_k^{-1}EW_kEf)^*.$

*Proof.* Let  $(V_k f)^* = g$ , which is equal to

$$g = (EW_kEf)^*$$

by Lemma (4.14). Hence  $Eg = g$ . Since  $T_k^* = EQ_k^*E$ , and since  $Q_k^*$  is the  $L_q$  isometry induced by  $\tau_k^{-1}$ , an obvious analogue of Lemma (4.14) shows that

$$V_k^*g = EW_k^*Eg = EW_k^*g.$$

Then Lemma (2.12) gives that

$$\begin{aligned} W_k^*g &= (W_k^{-1}g^*)^* \\ &= (W_k^{-1}EW_kEf)^*, \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof.

(4.16) LEMMA. *There exists a monotone sequence of finite partitions  $\mathcal{G}_n < \dots < \mathcal{G}_0$ , each as in Lemma (4.5), such that, with the notations of (4.13),*

$$\phi_k = W_n^{-1} E(W_n Ef | \mathcal{G}_k).$$

*Proof.* First we can take  $\mathcal{G}_n = \mathcal{P}$ , since

$$\phi_n = W_n^{-1} E W_n Ef = W_n^{-1} E(W_n Ef | \mathcal{P}).$$

To obtain  $\mathcal{G}_{n-1}$  we use Lemma (3.8).

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{n-1} &= W_{n-1}^{-1} E(W_{n-1} Ef | \mathcal{P}) \\ &= W_{n-1}^{-1} Q_n^{-1} E(Q_n W_{n-1} Ef | \mathcal{P} \vee \tau_n \mathcal{P}) \\ &= W_n^{-1} E(W_n Ef | \mathcal{P} \vee \tau_n \mathcal{P}). \end{aligned}$$

Hence we can take  $\mathcal{G}_{n-1} = \mathcal{P} \vee \tau_n \mathcal{P}$ . Continuing in this way we see that

$$\mathcal{G}_{n-k} = \mathcal{P} \vee \tau_n \mathcal{P} \vee \dots \vee \tau_n \dots \tau_{n-k+1} \mathcal{P}, \quad 1 \leq k \leq n.$$

For a more formal proof one can apply an induction over  $n$ . Since  $\mathcal{G}_k$  depends on  $n$  we write, for the purpose of this proof,  $\mathcal{G}_k^n$  to show this dependence. Then an application of Lemma (3.8) shows that

$$\begin{aligned} W_n^{-1} E(W_n Ef | \mathcal{G}_k^n) &= W_n Q_{n+1}^{-1} E(Q_{n+1} W_n Ef | \mathcal{P} \vee \tau_{n+1} \mathcal{G}_k^n) \\ &= W_{n+1}^{-1} E(W_{n+1} Ef | \mathcal{G}_k^{n+1}), \end{aligned}$$

i.e., that

$$\mathcal{G}_k^{n+1} = \mathcal{P} \vee \tau_{n+1} \mathcal{G}_k^n.$$

Since  $\mathcal{G}_k^k = \mathcal{P}$ , we obtain  $\mathcal{G}_k^n$  as before. Since  $n$  is fixed we will now again write  $\mathcal{G}_k$  instead of  $\mathcal{G}_k^n$ .

(4.17) Notation. Let

$$u_k = E(W_n Ef | \mathcal{G}_k), \quad 0 \leq k \leq n,$$

where  $\mathcal{G}_k$ 's are the partitions obtained in Lemma (3.17). Hence

$$\phi_k = W_n^{-1} u_k.$$

(4.18) THEOREM. *The sequence  $(u_0, \dots, u_n)$  is a martingale in  $L_p$  and*

$$\|\max |u_k| \| \leq q \|u_0\| \leq q \|Ef\|,$$

$$\|\max |u_k - u_n| \| \leq q \|u_0 - u_n\|.$$

*Proof.* Since the partitions  $\mathcal{G}_k$  form a monotone sequence, the sequence  $(u_0, \dots, u_n)$  is a martingale in  $L_p$  with

$$u_k = E(u_0 | \mathcal{G}_k).$$

Hence the martingale inequality (see, e.g. [10], p. 91, where we can take  $A_p = q = p/(p - 1)$ ) shows that

$$\|\max|u_k|\| \leq q\|u_0\|.$$

For the second inequality, we observe that

$$h_k = u_k - u_n, \quad 0 \leq k \leq n,$$

is also a martingale, since

$$h_k = E(u_0 - u_n | \mathcal{G}_k) = E(h_0 | \mathcal{G}_k).$$

Then we use the same martingale inequality for  $h_k$ .

(4.19) LEMMA.

$$\begin{aligned} \|\max|\phi_k|\| &\leq q\|\phi_0\| \quad \text{and} \\ \|\max|\phi_k - \phi_n|\| &\leq q\|\phi_0 - \phi_n\|. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Note that  $W_n^{-1}$  is a positive invertible isometry of  $L_p$  and it is induced by an automorphism of  $Z$ . Since  $\phi_k = W_n^{-1}u_k$  we see that

$$\begin{aligned} |\phi_k| &= W_n^{-1}|u_k| \quad \text{and} \\ |\phi_k - \phi_n| &= W_n^{-1}|u_k - u_n|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \max|\phi_k| &= W_n^{-1}(\max|u_k|) \quad \text{and} \\ \max|\phi_k - \phi_n| &= W_n^{-1}(\max|u_k - u_n|). \end{aligned}$$

Then the proof follows from Theorem (4.18).

(4.20) COROLLARY.  $\|\max|\phi_k - \phi_0|\| \leq 2q\|\phi_n - \phi_0\|$ .

(4.21) LEMMA. *Given  $\epsilon > 0$  there is a  $\delta > 0$ , depending only on  $\epsilon$  and  $p$ , such that*

$$\|f_0\| - \|V_n f_0\| < \delta\|f_0\|$$

*implies that  $\|\phi_n - \phi_0\| < \epsilon\|\phi_0\|$ .*

*Proof.* Recall that  $f_0 = \phi_0 = Ef$ . Given  $\epsilon > 0$  pick a  $\delta > 0$  as given by Lemma (2.3). Let

$$\|f_0\| - \|V_n f_0\| < \delta\|f_0\|.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|W_n f_0\| - \|EW_n f_0\| &= \|f_0\| - \|V_n f_0\| \\ &< \delta\|f_0\| = \delta\|W_n f_0\|, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used Lemma (4.14) and the fact that  $W_n$  is an  $L_p$  isometry. Hence Lemma (2.3) shows that

$$\|W_n f_0 - EW_n f_0\| < \epsilon \|W_n f_0\|,$$

which implies that

$$\|f_0 - W_n^{-1}EW_n f_0\| < \epsilon \|f_0\|,$$

or that

$$\|\phi_0 - \phi_n\| < \epsilon \|\phi_0\|.$$

This completes the proof.

We are now ready to prove the main estimates.

(4.21) THEOREM. *With the notations of (4.13),*

$$\|\max_{0 \leq k \leq n} |f_k|\| \leq q \|f_0\| \quad (= \|Ef\| \leq \|f\|).$$

*Proof.* By Lemma (4.15) we see that

$$f_k^* = g_k = E\phi_k^*.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \|\max |g_k|\|_q &\leq \|\max |\phi_k^*|\|_q \\ &\leq \|(\max |\phi_k|)^*\|_q \\ &= \|\max |\phi_k|\|_p^{p/q} \\ &\leq (q \|\phi_0\|)^{p/q}, \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality follows from Lemma (4.19). We then have that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\max |f_k|\|_p &= \|\max |g_k^*|\|_p \\ &= \|(\max |g_k|)^*\|_p \\ &= \|\max |g_k|\|_q^{q/p} \\ &\leq q \|\phi_0\| = q \|f_0\|. \end{aligned}$$

(4.22) THEOREM. *Given  $\xi > 0$  there exists an  $\eta > 0$ , depending only on  $\xi$  and  $p$ , such that with the notations of (4.13),*

$$\|\max |g_k - g_0|\| < \xi$$

whenever

$$\|f_0\| - \|V_n f_0\| < \eta \|f_0\| \leq \eta.$$

*Proof.* Use Lemma (2.7) with  $\epsilon = \xi$  and  $M = q$  to find a  $\lambda > 0$  such that, for any sequence  $h_k$  in  $L_p$ ,

$$\|\sup |h_k^* - h_0^*|\|_q < \xi,$$

whenever

$$\|\sup|h_k|\|_p \leq q$$

and

$$\|\sup|h_k - h_0|\|_p < \lambda.$$

Then use Lemma (4.21) with  $\epsilon = \lambda/4q$  to find an  $\eta > 0$  such that

$$\|\phi_n - \phi_0\| < \frac{\lambda}{4q} \|\phi_0\|$$

whenever

$$(4.23) \quad \|f_0\| - \|V_n f_0\| < \eta \|f_0\|.$$

Now assume that (4.23) is satisfied with an  $f_0 \in EL_p$  such that  $\|f_0\| \leq 1$ . Then

$$\|\phi_n - \phi_0\| < \frac{\lambda}{4q}.$$

This implies, by Corollary (4.20),

$$\|\max|\phi_k - \phi_0|\| < \lambda,$$

and also, by Lemma (4.19),

$$\|\max|\phi_k|\| < q.$$

Hence the choice of  $\lambda$  implies that

$$\|\max|\phi_k^* - \phi_0^*|\|_q < \xi.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|\max|g_k - g_0|\|_q &= \|\max|E\phi_k^* - E\phi_0^*|\|_q \\ &\leq \|\max|\phi_k^* - \phi_0^*|\|_q \\ &< \xi. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of the present theorem. Hence the proof of the main theorem, Theorem (3.2), is also completed.

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