

## Additive local invertibility preservers

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**Abstract.** Let  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  be the algebra of all bounded linear operators on a complex Banach space  $X$ , and for a nonzero vector  $x \in X$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ , let  $\sigma_T(x)$  denote the local spectrum of  $T$  at  $x$ . We characterize additive surjective maps  $\phi$  on  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  which satisfy  $0 \in \sigma_{\phi(T)}(x)$  if and only if  $0 \in \sigma_T(x)$  for every  $x \in X$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . Extensions of this result to the case of different Banach spaces are also established. As application, additive maps from  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  onto itself that preserve the inner local spectral radius zero of operators are classified.

### 1. Introduction and statement of the main results

Throughout this paper,  $X$  and  $Y$  will denote complex Banach spaces and  $\mathcal{L}(X, Y)$  will denote the space of all bounded linear operators from  $X$  into  $Y$ . As usual, when  $X = Y$  we simply write  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  instead of  $\mathcal{L}(X, X)$ . The local resolvent set of an operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  at a vector  $x \in X$ ,  $\rho_T(x)$ , is the set of all  $\lambda$  in the complex field  $\mathbb{C}$  for which there exists an open neighborhood  $U_\lambda$  of  $\lambda$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  and an  $X$ -valued analytic function  $f : U_\lambda \rightarrow X$  such that  $(\mu - T)f(\mu) = x$  for all  $\mu \in U_\lambda$ . Its complement in  $\mathbb{C}$ , denoted by  $\sigma_T(x)$ , is called the local spectrum of  $T$  at  $x$ , and is a compact (possibly empty) subset of the usual spectrum  $\sigma(T)$

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of  $T$ . The inner local spectral radius of  $T$  at  $x$ ,  $\iota_T(x)$ , is defined by

$$\iota_T(x) := \sup\{\varepsilon \geq 0 : x \in \mathcal{X}_T(\mathbb{C} \setminus D(0, \varepsilon))\},$$

where  $D(0, \varepsilon)$  denotes the open disc of radius  $\varepsilon$  centered at 0 and  $\mathcal{X}_T(\mathbb{C} \setminus D(0, \varepsilon))$  is the so-called glocal spectral subspace of  $T$  associated with  $\mathbb{C} \setminus D(0, \varepsilon)$ , that is, the set of all  $x \in X$  for which there is an  $X$ -valued analytic function  $f$  on  $D(0, \varepsilon)$  such that  $(\lambda - T)f(\lambda) = x$  for all  $\lambda \in D(0, \varepsilon)$ . The local spectral radius of  $T$  at  $x$  is given by the formula  $r_T(x) := \limsup_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \|T^n x\|^{\frac{1}{n}}$ . The inner local (resp. local) spectral radius of  $T$  at  $x$  coincides with the minimum (resp. maximum) modulus of  $\sigma_T(x)$  provided that  $T$  has the single-valued extension property; see [17] and [18]. Recall that  $T$  is said to have the single-valued extension property (abbreviated SVEP) if for every open subset  $U$  of  $\mathbb{C}$ , the equation  $(\mu - T)f(\mu) = 0$ , ( $\mu \in U$ ), has no nontrivial  $X$ -valued analytic solution  $f$  on  $U$ . For example, every operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  for which the interior of the set of its eigenvalues is empty enjoys this property.

Local spectra are a useful tool for analyzing operators, furnishing information well beyond that provided by classical spectral analysis. They play a very natural role in automatic continuity and in harmonic analysis, for instance in connection with the Wiener–Pitt phenomenon. The books [2], [19] and [17] give an extensive account of the local spectral theory, as well as investigations and applications in numerous fields.

On the problem of describing mappings preserving local spectra at a fixed nonzero vector, we mention: [16], where linear mappings on matrix spaces preserving the local spectrum at a fixed nonzero vector are characterized, [13], [14] concerned with the infinite dimensional case, and in [6], [7] preserver problems that have to do with locally spectrally bounded linear maps or additive local spectrum compressors on the matrix spaces and on  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  are considered. While, non-linear preserver problems on the subject were studied in [4] and [8]. On the subject focused on linear or additive mappings preserving local spectra at all vectors, we mention: [12] where it was shown that the only additive map  $\phi$  on  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  satisfying  $\sigma_{\phi(T)}(x) = \sigma_T(x)$  for all  $x \in X$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  is the identity, and [15] that deal with surjective linear local spectral radius zero preservers. In this paper, by strengthening the preservability condition, we consider surjective additive maps  $\phi$  on  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  that preserve the local invertibility of operators in both directions, that is, those maps  $\phi$  such that for every  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  and  $x \in X$  we have  $0 \in \sigma_{\phi(T)}(x)$  if and only if  $0 \in \sigma_T(x)$ . We prove the following version of the above mentioned result [12, Theorem 1.1].

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $X$  be a complex Banach space of dimension at least two. A surjective additive map  $\phi$  from  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  into itself satisfies*

$$0 \in \sigma_{\phi(T)}(x) \iff 0 \in \sigma_T(x) \quad (T \in \mathcal{L}(X), x \in X) \quad (1)$$

*if and only if there exists a nonzero scalar  $c$  such that  $\phi(T) = cT$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ .*

*Remark 1.2.* The following example shows that the assumption  $X$  is of dimension at least two cannot be removed in this theorem. In [1] it is proved that there exists a nowhere continuous automorphism  $\phi$  of the field  $\mathbb{C}$ . Obviously,  $\phi$  is bijective and additive, and satisfies (1). However, it is not a scalar multiple of the identity since it not continuous.

In the case of two different Banach spaces, Theorems 1.3 and 1.4 below improve [12, Theorems 1.3 and 1.5].

**Theorem 1.3.** *Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(X, Y)$ . If  $\phi : \mathcal{L}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(Y)$  be a surjective linear map satisfying*

$$0 \in \sigma_{\phi(T)}(Ax) \iff 0 \in \sigma_T(x) \quad (T \in \mathcal{L}(X), x \in X),$$

*then  $A$  is invertible and there exists a nonzero scalar  $c$  such that  $\phi(T) = cATA^{-1}$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ .*

**Theorem 1.4.** *Let  $B \in \mathcal{L}(Y, X)$ . If  $\phi : \mathcal{L}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(Y)$  be a surjective linear map satisfying*

$$0 \in \sigma_{\phi(T)}(y) \iff 0 \in \sigma_T(By) \quad (T \in \mathcal{L}(X), y \in Y),$$

*then  $B$  is invertible and there exists a nonzero scalar  $c$  such that  $\phi(T) = cB^{-1}TB$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ .*

The following is a variant of Theorem 1.1.

**Theorem 1.5.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be infinite dimensional complex Banach spaces and  $\phi : \mathcal{L}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(Y)$  be a surjective additive map for which there exists  $B \in \mathcal{L}(Y, X)$  such that for every  $y \in Y$  we have*

$$0 \in \sigma_{\phi(T)}(y) \iff 0 \in \sigma_T(By) \quad (T \in \mathcal{L}(X)). \quad (2)$$

*Then  $B$  is invertible and there exists a nonzero scalar  $c$  such that  $\phi(T) = cB^{-1}TB$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ .*

As consequences, the following theorems, extending the main result of [10], describe additive mappings that preserve the inner local spectral radius zero of operators.

**Theorem 1.6.** *Let  $X$  be a complex Banach space of dimension at least two. A surjective additive map  $\phi$  from  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  into itself satisfies*

$$\iota_{\phi(T)}(x) = 0 \iff \iota_T(x) = 0 \quad (T \in \mathcal{L}(X), x \in X)$$

*if and only if there exists a nonzero scalar  $c$  such that  $\phi(T) = cT$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ .*

**Theorem 1.7.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be infinite dimensional complex Banach spaces and  $\phi : \mathcal{L}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(Y)$  be a surjective additive map for which there exists  $B \in \mathcal{L}(Y, X)$  such that for every  $y \in Y$  we have*

$$\iota_{\phi(T)}(y) = 0 \iff \iota_T(By) = 0 \quad (T \in \mathcal{L}(X)).$$

*Then  $B$  is invertible and there exists a nonzero scalar  $c$  such that  $\phi(T) = cB^{-1}TB$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ .*

The obtained results in Theorems 1.6 and 1.7 lead to inner local spectral radius versions of the main results of [15] which describe surjective linear maps on  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  that are local spectral radius zero-preserving.

## 2. Proof of the main results

We first fix some notation and terminology. The duality between the Banach spaces  $X$  and its dual,  $X^*$ , will be denoted by  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ . For  $x \in X$  and  $f \in X^*$ , as usual we denote by  $x \otimes f$  the rank one operator on  $X$  given by  $z \mapsto \langle z, f \rangle x$ . For  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  we will denote by  $T^*$ ,  $\ker(T)$ ,  $\text{range}(T)$ ,  $\sigma_{su}(T) := \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : \lambda - T \text{ is not surjective}\}$  and  $r(T)$  the adjoint, the kernel, the range, the surjectivity spectrum, and the spectral radius of  $T$ ; respectively.

The following lemmas are needed for the proof of our main results. The first one relies the SVEP and the local spectrum.

**Lemma 2.1.** *An operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  has the SVEP if and only if for every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  and every nonzero vector  $x$  in  $\ker(\lambda - T)$  we have  $\sigma_T(x) = \{\lambda\}$ .*

PROOF. See for instance [2, Theorem 2.22]. □

The second lemma is a simple consequence of [17, Proposition 1.2.16] and [2, Theorem 2.22], and its proof is therefore omitted here.

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $e$  be a fixed nonzero vector in  $X$  and let  $R = x \otimes f$  be a non-nilpotent rank one operator. Then  $0 \in \sigma_R(e)$  if and only if  $\langle e, f \rangle = 0$  or  $e$  and  $x$  are linearly independent.*

Recall that a map  $\phi : \mathcal{L}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(Y)$  is said to preserve the surjectivity of operators (resp. rank one operators) in both directions provided that  $\phi(T)$  is surjective (resp. of rank one) if and only if  $T$  is.

The third lemma characterizes surjective additive maps from  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  into  $\mathcal{L}(Y)$  that preserve the surjectivity of operators in both directions.

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be infinite dimensional complex Banach spaces and let  $\phi : \mathcal{L}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(Y)$  be a surjective additive map. If  $\phi$  preserves surjectivity of operators in both directions, then either*

- (i) *there exist invertible bounded both linear or both conjugate linear operators  $A : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $B : Y \rightarrow X$  such that  $\phi(T) = ATB$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ , or*
- (ii) *there exist invertible bounded both linear or both conjugate linear operators  $A : X^* \rightarrow Y$  and  $B : Y \rightarrow X^*$  such that  $\phi(T) = AT^*B$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ .*

*The last case occurs only if  $X$  and  $Y$  are reflexive.*

PROOF. See [11, Lemma 2.1] □

The next two lemmas may be of independent interest.

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $\phi$  be a map from  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  into  $\mathcal{L}(Y)$  satisfying*

$$\exists x \in X : 0 \in \sigma_{T+S}(x) \iff \exists y \in Y : 0 \in \sigma_{\phi(T)+\phi(S)}(y)$$

*for all  $T, S \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . Then  $\phi$  is injective.*

PROOF. Assume that  $\phi(A) = \phi(B)$  for some  $A, B \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . For every  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \exists x \in X : 0 \in \sigma_{T+A}(x) &\iff \exists y \in Y : 0 \in \sigma_{\phi(T)+\phi(A)}(y) \\ &\iff \exists y \in Y : 0 \in \sigma_{\phi(T)+\phi(B)}(y) \\ &\iff \exists y \in Y : 0 \in \sigma_{T+B}(y). \end{aligned}$$

From this together with the fact that

$$\sigma_{su}(T) = \bigcup_{x \in X} \sigma_T(x) \tag{3}$$

for every  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  (see [17, Lemma 2.3]), we infer that

$$T + A \text{ is surjective} \iff T + B \text{ is surjective}$$

for every  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . Upon replacing  $T$  by  $T - A - \lambda$ , we deduce that  $\sigma_{su}(T + (B - A)) = \sigma_{su}(T)$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . As the surjectivity spectrum contains the boundary of the spectrum, we conclude that  $r(T + (B - A)) = r(T)$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . Thus, by the Zemánek's spectral characterization of the radical, [3, Theorem 5.3.1],  $A = B$  and  $\phi$  is injective.  $\square$

We will say that a mapping  $\phi : \mathcal{L}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(X)$  preserves the local invertibility of operators at a fixed nonzero vector  $e \in X$  in both directions if for every  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  we have  $0 \in \sigma_{\phi(T)}(e)$  if and only if  $0 \in \sigma_T(e)$ .

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $X$  be a Banach space of dimension at last two,  $e$  be a fixed nonzero vector in  $X$  and  $A : X^* \rightarrow X$  and  $B : X \rightarrow X^*$  be invertible bounded both linear or both conjugate linear operators. Then the anti-automorphism  $\phi : T \mapsto AT^*B$  does not preserves the local invertibility of operators at  $e$  in both directions.*

PROOF. We shall only deal with the case when  $A$  and  $B$  are conjugate linear, because the linear case follows analogously. First, we claim that

$$0 \in \sigma_T(e) \iff 0 \in \sigma_{T^*BA}(A^{-1}e) \quad (T \in \mathcal{L}(X)). \tag{4}$$

For this, it suffice to show that for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  we have  $e \in \mathcal{X}_{AT^*B}(\mathbb{C} \setminus D(0, \varepsilon))$  if and only if  $A^{-1}e \in \mathcal{X}_{T^*BA}(\mathbb{C} \setminus D(0, \varepsilon))$ . To do so, assume that  $A^{-1}e \in \mathcal{X}_{T^*BA}(\mathbb{C} \setminus D(0, \varepsilon))$  and let  $f$  be an  $X^*$ -valued analytic function on  $D(0, \varepsilon)$  such that

$$(\mu - T^*BA)f(\mu) = A^{-1}e$$

for all  $\mu \in D(0, \varepsilon)$ . We have

$$(\bar{\mu} - AT^*B)Af(\mu) = e$$

for all  $\mu \in D(0, \varepsilon)$ ; where  $\bar{\mu}$  is the complex conjugate of  $\mu$ . Set

$$\tilde{f}(\bar{\mu}) := Af(\mu), \quad (\mu \in D(0, \varepsilon)),$$

and note that the map  $\tilde{f}$  is an analytic function on  $D(0, \varepsilon)$  since

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tilde{f}(\bar{\mu} + h) - \tilde{f}(\bar{\mu})}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} A \left( \frac{f(\mu + \bar{h}) - f(\mu)}{\bar{h}} \right) = Af'(\mu)$$

for all  $\mu \in D(0, \varepsilon)$ , where  $f'(\mu)$  is the derivative of  $f$  at  $\mu$ . Hence  $e \in \mathcal{X}_{AT^*B}(\mathbb{C} \setminus D(0, \varepsilon))$ . As the reverse implication can be obtained by similarity, the claim is proved.

Next, assume by the way of contradiction that the map  $\phi$  preserves the local invertibility of operators at  $e$  in both directions. We will prove that the condition (4) is not satisfied. If  $\langle e, Be \rangle = 0$ , choose a linear functional  $f \in X^*$  so that  $\langle e, f \rangle = 1$ , and set  $T = e \otimes f$ . Lemma 2.1 implies that  $\sigma_T(e) = \{1\}$ . On the other hand, we have

$$\langle x, T^*BA(A^{-1}e) \rangle = \langle Tx, Be \rangle = \langle x, f \rangle \langle e, Be \rangle = 0$$

for every  $x \in X$ . This implies that  $T^*BA(A^{-1}e) = 0$ , and so  $\sigma_{T^*BA}(A^{-1}e) = \{0\}$ ; which contradicts (4). If we assume that  $\langle e, Be \rangle \neq 0$ , then we can find a vector  $w \in X$  such that  $e$  and  $w$  are linearly independent and  $\langle w, Be \rangle = 1$ . For  $T = w \otimes A^{-1}e$ , we have, by Lemma 2.2,  $0 \in \sigma_T(e)$  since  $e \notin \mathbb{C}w$ . Observe that

$$\langle x, T^*BA(A^{-1}e) \rangle = \langle Tx, Be \rangle = \langle x, A^{-1}e \rangle \langle w, Be \rangle = \langle x, A^{-1}e \rangle$$

is true for every  $x \in X$ , so that  $T^*BA(A^{-1}e) = A^{-1}e$ . This shows that  $\sigma_{T^*BA}(A^{-1}e) = \{1\}$ , contradicting (4) in this case too. The proof is therefore complete.  $\square$

*Remark 2.6.* Just as in the proof of the above lemma one can see that when  $X = \mathbb{C}^n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) and  $A : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$  and  $B : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$  are invertible bounded both linear or both conjugate linear operators, the anti-automorphism  $\phi : T \rightarrow AT^{tr}B$  does not preserve the local invertibility of matrices at a fixed nonzero vector in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Here  $T^{tr}$  denotes the transpose of the matrix  $T$ .

We now have collected all the necessary ingredients and are therefore in a position to prove the main results of this section.

**PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1.** Checking the ‘if’ part is straightforward, so we will only deal with the ‘only if’ part. So assume that (1) holds. From the equality (3), we have

$$\begin{aligned} T \text{ is not surjective} &\iff \exists x \in X : 0 \in \sigma_T(x) \\ &\iff \exists x \in X : 0 \in \sigma_{\phi(T)}(x) \\ &\iff \phi(T) \text{ is not surjective} \end{aligned}$$

for every  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . Consequently,  $\phi$  preserves the surjectivity of operators in both directions. We consider the following two cases:

*Case 1.*  $X$  is an infinite dimensional Banach space.

As the map  $\phi$  preserves the surjectivity of operators in both directions, Lemma 2.3 implies that either

- (i) there exist invertible bounded both linear or both conjugate linear operators  $A : X \rightarrow X$  and  $B : X \rightarrow X$  such that  $\phi(T) = ATB$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ , or
- (ii) there exist invertible bounded both linear or both conjugate linear operators  $A : X^* \rightarrow X$  and  $B : X \rightarrow X^*$  such that  $\phi(T) = AT^*B$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ .

Lemma 2.5 entails that the form of  $\phi$  in the statement (ii) is excluded, and consequently there exist invertible bounded both linear or both conjugate linear operators  $A : X \rightarrow X$  and  $B : X \rightarrow X$  such that  $\phi(T) = ATB$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . Similar argument as the one used in the proof of Lemma 2.5 allow to get that for every  $x \in X$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ , we have

$$0 \in \sigma_{B^{-1}A^{-1}\phi(T)}(B^{-1}x) \iff 0 \in \sigma_T(x) \iff 0 \in \sigma_{\phi(T)}(x).$$

From this together with the surjectivity of  $\phi$ , we infer that

$$0 \in \sigma_{B^{-1}A^{-1}T}(x) \iff 0 \in \sigma_T(Bx) \tag{5}$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . With similarly, we also have

$$0 \in \sigma_{TB^{-1}A^{-1}}(Ax) \iff 0 \in \sigma_T(x) \tag{6}$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ .

Now, let us show that  $B$  is a multiple of the identity operator by a nonzero scalar. Assume on the contrary that there exists a vector  $x \in X$  such that  $x$  and  $Bx$  are linearly independent, and pick a linear functional  $f$  on  $X$  such that  $\langle x, f \rangle = 1$  and  $\langle Bx, f \rangle = 0$ . For  $T = ABx \otimes f$ , we have  $\sigma_T(Bx) = \{0\}$ . However, that  $B^{-1}A^{-1}T(x) = x$  implies that  $\sigma_{B^{-1}A^{-1}T}(x) = \{1\}$ , contradicting (5). Thus,  $B$  is a nonzero scalar multiple of the identity. So, by taking into account (6), we get

$$0 \in \sigma_{TA^{-1}}(Ax) \iff 0 \in \sigma_T(x) \tag{7}$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . Let us also show that  $A$  is a nonzero scalar multiple of the identity. Assume for a contradiction that there exists a vector  $x \in X$  such that  $x$  and  $A^{-1}x$  are linearly independent, and let  $f \in X^*$  so that  $\langle x, f \rangle = 1$  and  $\langle A^{-1}x, f \rangle = 0$ . Set  $T = x \otimes f$ , and note that  $\sigma_T(x) = \{1\}$ . However, the fact that  $(TA^{-1})^2(Ax) = TA^{-1}x = 0$  implies that  $\sigma_{B^{-1}A^{-1}T}(x) = \{0\}$ , and contradicts (7).

Hence we must have that  $A$  and  $B$  are nonzero scalar multiple of the identity, and consequently there exists a non-null constant  $c$  such that  $\phi(T) = cT$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ .

*Case 2.*  $X$  is a finite dimensional space. The proof of it will be completed after checking the following two claims.

*Claim 1.*  $\phi$  preserves rank one operators in both directions.

PROOF. Lemma 2.4 implies that  $\phi$  is injective. Since  $\phi$  is assumed surjective, it is invertible. From this together with the fact that, in this case, an operator  $T$  is injective if and only if it is invertible, we infer that  $\phi$  is a bijective map preserving invertibility in both directions. So, using the spectral characterization of rank one operators [20, Lemma 2.1] together with the same approach as in [5, Theorem 4.1] one can see that  $\phi$  preserves rank one operators in both directions; which proves the claim.

*Claim 2.* There exists a nonzero scalar  $c$  such that  $\phi(R) = cR$  for all non-nilpotent rank one operator  $R$ .

PROOF. Let  $R = x \otimes f$  be a non-nilpotent rank one operator. According to the above lemma we can find a linear functional  $g \in X^*$  and a vector  $y \in X$  such that  $\phi(R) = y \otimes g$ . The fact that  $\sigma_R(x) = \{\langle x, f \rangle\}$  together with (1) imply that  $0 \notin \sigma_{y \otimes g}(x) = \sigma_{\phi(R)}(x)$ , and consequently, it follows, from Lemma 2.2, that  $x$  and  $y$  are linearly dependent. By absorbing a constant in the seconde term in the tensor product, one can now see that  $\phi(R) = x \otimes L_{x,f}$  for some  $L_{x,f} \in X^*$ .

Now, let us prove that for every non-nilpotent rank one operator  $R = x \otimes f$ , the mapping  $L : x \otimes f \mapsto L_{x,f}$  is independent of  $x$ . To do so, let  $z$  be a vector such that  $x$  and  $z$  are linearly independent and  $\langle z, f \rangle \neq 0$ . If  $\langle x + z, f \rangle \neq 0$ , then  $(x + z) \otimes f$  is a non-nilpotent rank one operator and

$$x \otimes L_{x,f} + z \otimes L_{z,f} = \phi((x + z) \otimes f) = (x + z) \otimes L_{x+z,f}.$$

On the other hand, it easy to see that the operator  $x \otimes L_{x,f} + z \otimes L_{z,f}$  has rank 2 whenever  $x$  and  $z$  as well as  $L_{x,f}$  and  $L_{z,f}$  are linearly independent. Consequently,  $L_{x,f}$  and  $L_{z,f}$  are linearly dependent, and so there exists a nonzero scalar  $\alpha$  such that  $L_{z,f} = \alpha L_{x,f}$ . This gives that  $(x + \alpha z) \otimes L_{x,f} = (x + z) \otimes L_{x+z,f}$ ; which implies that  $\alpha = 1$  and  $L_{z,f} = L_{x,f} = L_{x+z,f}$ . In the case when  $\langle x + z, f \rangle = 0$ , we have  $\langle x - z, f \rangle \neq 0$ , and by similarity, we get  $L_{z,f} = L_{x,f}$  in this case too. Therefore, for every non-nilpotent rank one operator  $R = x \otimes f$ , the mapping  $L : x \otimes f \mapsto L_{x,f}$  becomes independent of  $x$ . Thus, we may denote  $L_{x,f}$  simply by  $L_f$ .

Next, let us show that  $L_f$  and  $f$  are linearly dependent for all non zero  $f \in X^*$ . Assume on the contrary that there exists a vector  $x \in X$  such that  $\langle x, f \rangle = 0$  and  $\langle x, L_f \rangle \neq 0$ . Clearly, we have  $\sigma_{x \otimes f}(x) = \{0\}$  and  $\sigma_{\phi(x \otimes f)}(x) = \sigma_{x \otimes L_f}(x) = \{\langle x, L_f \rangle\}$ ; which leads to a contradiction. Therefore there exists a nonzero scalar  $c_f$  such that  $L_f = c_f f$  for all non zero  $f \in X^*$ . Moreover, we claim that the mapping  $c_f$  does not depend on  $f$ . Indeed, let  $f, g \in X^*$  be linearly independent, and let  $x \in X$  such that  $\langle x, f \rangle \neq 0 \neq \langle x, g \rangle$  and  $\langle x, f + g \rangle \neq 0$ . We have

$$x \otimes c_{f+g}(f + g) = x \otimes L_{f+g} = \phi(x \otimes (f + g)) = x \otimes (c_f f + c_g g),$$

and so we get  $c_f = c_g = c_{f+g}$ . It follows that the mapping  $c_f$  does not depend on  $f$ . Thus, we may write  $c$  instead of  $c_f$ , and consequently  $\phi(R) = cR$  for all non-nilpotent rank one operator  $R$ ; which concludes the proof of the claim.

As  $\phi$  is additive, and every nilpotent rank one operator is a sum of two non-nilpotent rank one operator, we deduce that  $\phi(R) = cR$  for all rank one operator  $R$ . Since  $X$  is of finite dimensional, we conclude that  $\phi(T) = cT$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ , and the theorem follows.  $\square$

**PROOF OF THEOREM 1.5.** The sufficiency condition is easily verified. To prove the necessity, assume that (2) holds. The proof of it will be completed after checking several steps.

**Step 1.** The mapping  $\phi$  has one of the forms (i) and (ii) in Lemma 2.3.

**PROOF.** Similar argument as the one used in the beginning of the proof of Theorem 1.1 allows to get that the map  $\phi$  preserves surjectivity of operators in both directions, and so the desired conclusion follows from Lemma 2.3.

**Step 2.** The operator  $B$  is injective.

**PROOF.** If  $By = 0$ , then (2) and the surjectivity of  $\phi$  give  $0 \notin \sigma_T(y)$  for each  $T \in \mathcal{L}(Y)$ , and therefore  $y = 0$ .

**Step 3.** The form (ii) of  $\phi$  in Step 1 is excluded.

**PROOF.** Assume for a contradiction that there exist invertible bounded both linear or both conjugate linear operators  $A_1 : X^* \rightarrow Y$  and  $B_1 : Y \rightarrow X^*$  such that  $\phi(T) = A_1 T^* B_1$ . The same argument as in the proof of Lemma 2.5 together with (2) allows to get that the equivalence

$$0 \in \sigma_T(By) \iff 0 \in \sigma_{T^* B_1 A_1}(A_1^{-1}y) \quad (8)$$

holds true for any  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  and  $y \in Y$ . Pick an arbitrary non zero vector  $y$  in  $Y$ ,

and note that, by the above step,  $By \neq 0$ . We will show that the condition (8) is not satisfied. Firstly assume that  $\langle By, B_1y \rangle = 0$ . Choose a linear functional  $f$  in  $X^*$  such that  $\langle By, f \rangle = 1$ , and set  $T = By \otimes f$ . We have

$$\langle x, T^*B_1A_1(A_1^{-1}y) \rangle = \langle Tx, B_1y \rangle = \langle x, f \rangle \langle By, B_1y \rangle = 0$$

for all  $x \in X$ . This implies that  $\sigma_{T^*B_1A_1}(A_1^{-1}y) = \{0\}$ , and contradicts (8) since  $\sigma_T(By) = \{1\}$ .

Next, assume that  $\langle By, B_1y \rangle \neq 0$ . Then we can find  $w \in X$  such that  $By$  and  $w$  are linearly independent and  $\langle w, B_1y \rangle = 1$ . Set  $T = w \otimes A_1^{-1}y$ , and note that  $0 \in \sigma_T(By)$  since  $By \notin \mathbb{C}w$ . But, the fact that

$$\langle x, T^*B_1A_1(A_1^{-1}y) \rangle = \langle Tx, B_1y \rangle = \langle x, A_1^{-1}y \rangle \langle w, B_1y \rangle = \langle x, A_1^{-1}y \rangle$$

is true for every  $x \in X$ , implies that  $T^*B_1A_1(A_1^{-1}y) = A_1^{-1}y$ . Consequently,  $\sigma_{T^*B_1A_1}(A_1^{-1}y) = \{1\}$ . This contradicts (8) in this case too, and achieves the proof of the step.

**Step 4.** The operator  $B$  is invertible.

**PROOF.** By combining Claim 1 and Claim 3, we infer that there exist invertible bounded both linear or both conjugate linear operators  $A_1 : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $B_1 : Y \rightarrow X$  such that  $\phi(T) = A_1TB_1$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . If  $B$  were not surjective, then we could find  $x \in X \setminus \text{range}(B)$  and  $f \in X^*$  such that  $\langle B_1A_1x, f \rangle = 1$ . Set  $T = x \otimes f$ . Since  $x$  and  $BA_1x$  are linearly independent, Lemma 2.2 tell us that  $0 \in \sigma_T(BA_1x)$ . But,  $\sigma_{\phi(T)}(A_1x) = \{1\}$  since

$$\phi(T)(A_1x) = A_1x \otimes f \circ B_1(A_1x) = A_1x,$$

arriving to a contradiction. Thus,  $B$  is invertible as desired.

In order to complete the proof of the theorem, define  $\chi : \mathcal{L}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(X)$  by putting  $\chi(T) = B\phi(T)B^{-1}$ , and note that the map  $\chi$  is a surjective additive map satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \in \sigma_{\chi(T)}(By) &\iff 0 \in \sigma_{B\phi(T)B^{-1}}(By) \\ &\iff 0 \in \sigma_{\phi(T)}(y) \end{aligned}$$

for any  $y \in Y$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . Upon replacing  $y$  by  $B^{-1}x$  and by taking into account (2), we get

$$0 \in \sigma_{\chi(T)}(x) \iff 0 \in \sigma_T(x)$$

for any  $x \in X$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . Theorem 1.1 implies that there exists a nonzero scalar  $c$  such that  $\chi(T) = cT$  for every  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ , and consequently  $\phi(T) = cB^{-1}\phi(T)B$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ ; which achieves the proof.  $\square$

PROOF OF THEOREM 1.4. We shall only deal with the case when  $X$  or  $Y$  is finite dimensional since otherwise the result of the theorem is a consequence of Theorem 1.5. So, assume that either  $X$  or  $Y$  is finite dimensional, and note that, by Lemma 2.4, the map  $\phi$  is injective. The fact that, in this case,  $\phi$  is linear and bijective implies that  $X$  and  $Y$  are both finite dimensional, having the same dimension over  $\mathbb{C}$ . Claim. 1 shows now that  $B$  is in fact bijective. So, as in the end of the proof of Theorem 1.5, the map  $\chi : T \mapsto B\phi(T)B^{-1}$  is linear and surjective, and satisfies (1). Consequently, the result follows by applying Theorem 1.1 to the map  $\chi$  in the case when  $X$  is of dimension at least two. The case when  $\dim X = 1$  is a consequence of [21, Theorem 1.1], and the proof is therefore complete.  $\square$

PROOF OF THEOREM 1.3. Lemma 2.4 shows that the map  $\phi$  is injective. Since  $\phi$  is assumed surjective, it is invertible. Thus, the desired conclusion follows by applying Theorem 1.4 to the map  $\phi^{-1}$ ; which achieves the proof.  $\square$

PROOF OF THEOREMS 1.6 AND 1.7. As the notion of local invertibility encompasses inner spectral radius zero: for any  $x \in X$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  we have

$$0 \in \sigma_T \iff \nu_T(x) = 0$$

(see [18]), Theorems 1.1 and 1.5 remain valid when the assumption “ $0 \in \sigma(\cdot)$ ” is replaced by “ $\nu(\cdot) = 0$ ”; which yield the desired conclusions in Theorems 1.6 and 1.7.  $\square$

*Remark 2.7.* If  $X$  is of finite dimensional space and  $\phi$  is a linear map on  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  satisfying (1), then Lemma 2.4 shows that the map  $\phi$  is automatically surjective. It is conceivable that the surjectivity assumption in Theorem 1.1 can be removed.

### 3. Open problem

It is interesting to relax the additivity assumption and to know what kind of transformations  $\phi$  on  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  will leave invariant the local invertibility property at a fixed nonzero vector  $e \in X$ . Clearly, if one just assume that

$$0 \in \sigma_{\phi(T)}(e) \iff 0 \in \sigma_T(e)$$

for every  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  on  $\phi$ , the structure of  $\phi$  can be quite arbitrary. So, it is reasonable to impose a more restrictive condition on such transformations relating the local spectra of a pair of operators. In [8], classifications were established

for mappings  $\phi$  on  $\mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{C})$ , the algebra of all  $n \times n$  complex matrices, satisfying  $\sigma_{\phi(T)-\phi(S)}(e) = \sigma_{T-S}(e)$  for any matrices  $T$  and  $S$ . Characterizations for mappings on  $\mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{C})$  that compress or expand the local spectrum of the sum or the product of matrices at a fixed nonzero vector, and investigation of several extensions of these results were obtained in [4] and [9].

We close this paper by the following similar natural problem which suggests itself.

*Problem 3.1.* Let  $e$  be a fixed nonzero vector  $X$ . Characterize surjective mappings  $\phi$  on  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  satisfying

$$0 \in \sigma_{\phi(T)-\phi(S)}(e) \iff 0 \in \sigma_{T-S}(e)$$

for all  $T, S \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ .

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