

ABSTRACT. The genesis of this paper is the construction of a new operator that, when combined with a theorem of Herrero, settles a question of Herrero. Herrero proved that a strictly cyclic operator on an infinite dimensional Hilbert space is never triangular. He later asks whether the adjoint of a strictly cyclic operator is necessarily triangular. We settle the question by constructing an operator  $T$  for which both  $T$  and  $T^*$  are strictly cyclic. We make a detailed study of this *bi-strictly cyclic* operator which leads to theorems about general bi-strictly cyclic operators. We conclude the paper with a comparison of the operator space structures of the singly generated algebras  $\mathcal{A}(S)$  and  $\mathcal{A}(T)$ , when  $S$  is strictly cyclic and  $T$  is bi-strictly cyclic.