

Preliminary about spectral theorem.

Definition 1. Suppose A is closed and densely defined in H , then A is normal if $A^*A = AA^*$.

Definition 2. We define $E : \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(H)$ a spectral measure, if

① $E(\mathbb{C}) = I$; ② $E(\cup_i \Omega_i) = \sum_i E(\Omega_i)$.

Spectral Theorem. Suppose A is a normal operator in H , then there is a unique

spectral measure E , such that (E support on $\sigma(A)$).

$$A = \int_{\mathbb{C}} \lambda dE(\lambda) = \int_{\sigma(A)} \lambda dE(\lambda).$$

Moreover, for $f \in M(\sigma(A))$, we can define $f(A) = \int f(\lambda) dE(\lambda)$.

Some direct application.

① Suppose A is a normal operator, then

↳ A is self-adjoint if and only if $\sigma(A) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$;

↳ A is non-negative if and only if $\sigma(A) \subseteq [0, \infty)$;

② Suppose A is self-adjoint, then we have for $\lambda_0 \in \rho(A)$,

$$\|(\lambda_0 - A)^{-1}\| = \text{dist}(\lambda_0, \sigma(A))^{-1}. \quad \star$$



Definition of Riesz projection: Suppose A is a normal operator in X and correspond to E ,

let Δ be a connected component of $\sigma(A)$, we define

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\Delta}(A) &= \int \chi_{\Delta}(\lambda) dE(\lambda) = \int \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} \frac{1}{z-\lambda} dz dE(\lambda). \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} \int \frac{1}{z-\lambda} dE(\lambda) dz = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} (zI - A)^{-1} dz. \end{aligned}$$

$$\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{(\lambda I - T)^{-1} \text{ exists?}} \begin{cases} N : \lambda \in \sigma_p(T), \\ Y : \frac{\overline{R(\lambda I - T)} = X?}{(D((\lambda I - T)^{-1}) = X?)} \end{cases} \begin{cases} N : \lambda \in \sigma_r(T), \\ Y : \frac{(\lambda I - T)^{-1} \text{ is bounded?}}{} \end{cases} \begin{cases} N : \lambda \in \sigma_c(T), \\ Y : \lambda \in \rho(T). \end{cases}$$

Consequently, we have $\mathbb{C} = \rho(T) \sqcup \rho(T) =: \rho(T) \sqcup \sigma_c(T) \sqcup \sigma_r(T) \sqcup \sigma_p(T)$, last three called continuous spectrum, residual spectrum, point spectrum respectively.

singular discrete

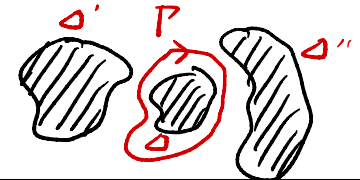
Lecture 4. The essential and discrete spectrum.

In this lecture, we'd like to decompose the spectrum into two different types by the Riesz projection, and we establish some important criterion for such classification and apply them to find the exact spectrum of Laplacian operator.

Definition 1: Let $A: D(A) \subseteq X \rightarrow X$ be closed when X is Banach. Suppose Δ is a connected component of $\sigma(A)$. now we define the Riesz projection of A at Δ as

$$P_\Delta = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_P (z-A)^{-1} dz$$

where P is a admissible contour in $\rho(A)$ round only Δ .



Remark: Particularly, if $\Delta = \{\lambda\}$, we'd like to denote $P_\Delta = P_\lambda$. (For example, the spectrum for the compact operator).

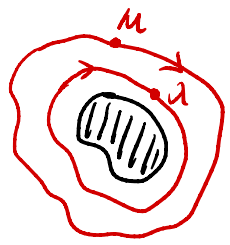
We'd like to list the basic properties of the Riesz projection:

Proposition 1. Suppose $A: D(A) \subseteq X \rightarrow X$ is closed when X is Banach, $\Delta \in \sigma(A)$ is a connected component. Then

- ① The Definition of P_Δ is free with choice of P . (well-definedness).
- ② P_Δ is a projection into $\ker(\Delta - A)$. ($P_\Delta^2 = P_\Delta$, $P_\Delta X \supseteq \ker(\Delta - A)$).
- ③ if A is self-adjoint, then P_Δ is a orthonormal projection and $P_\Delta X = \ker(\Delta - A)$.

Proof: ② Just take another contour P' and

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_\Delta \cdot P_\Delta &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_P (\lambda - A)^{-1} d\lambda \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{P'} (\mu - A)^{-1} d\mu \\
 &= \frac{1}{(2\pi i)^2} \int_P \int_{P'} \frac{1}{\mu - \lambda} ((\lambda - A)^{-1} - (\mu - A)^{-1}) d\lambda d\mu \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_P \left(\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{P'} \frac{1}{\mu - \lambda} d\mu \right) (\lambda - A)^{-1} d\lambda \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{P'} \left(\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_P \frac{1}{\mu - \lambda} d\lambda \right) (\mu - A)^{-1} d\mu = P_\Delta.
 \end{aligned}$$



residue theorem.

Besides, for $x \in \ker(\Delta - A)$, i.e. $\exists \lambda_0 \in \Delta$, $Ax = \lambda_0 x$

$$\Rightarrow (\lambda - A)^{-1} x = (\lambda - \lambda_0)^{-1} x, \quad \forall \lambda \in P \subseteq \rho(A),$$

$$\Rightarrow P_0 x = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_P (\lambda - A)^{-1} x \, d\lambda = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_P (\lambda - \lambda_0)^{-1} x \, d\lambda = x.$$

This implies $P_0 X \supseteq \ker(\Delta - A)$.

③ Here I only find the proof for isolated point set $\Delta = \{\lambda_0\}$. In this case, we attempt to show that:

1) orthonormality: $P_{\lambda_0} = P_{\lambda_0}^*$;

2) $P_{\lambda_0} X \subseteq \ker(\lambda_0 - A)$, i.e. $(\lambda_0 - A)P_{\lambda_0} = 0$.

Proof of 1): we just choose $P: |\lambda - \lambda_0| = r$, and take $\lambda = \lambda_0 + r e^{i\theta}$, then we find:

$$P_{\lambda_0} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_P (\lambda - A)^{-1} d\lambda = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} R_A(\lambda_0 + r e^{i\theta}) r e^{i\theta} d\theta$$

Proof of 2): $(\lambda_0 - A)P_{\lambda_0} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_P (\lambda_0 - A)(\lambda - A)^{-1} d\lambda$
 $= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_P (\lambda_0 - \lambda)(\lambda - A)^{-1} d\lambda.$

It is enough to show $(\lambda_0 - \lambda)(\lambda - A)^{-1}$ is analytic inside P and then Cauchy's theorem implies the integration vanishes. This is due to the resolvent estimate:

$$\|(\lambda - A)^{-1}\| \leq \text{dist}(\lambda, \sigma(A))^{-1}. \quad \rightarrow \text{this may fail for } \Delta \text{ not isolated.}$$

Once we choose that P is small enough around λ_0 such that

$$|\lambda_0 - \lambda| = \text{dist}(\lambda, \sigma(A)), \quad \forall \lambda \in P(A).$$



Then we have: $(\lambda_0 - \lambda)(\lambda - A)^{-1}$ is uniformly bounded inside $U \setminus \{\lambda_0\}$,

which implies λ_0 is a removable singularity and we can extend naturally, which finish the proof.

Remark. For an isolated spectrum point λ_0 we say $\dim P_{\lambda_0} X$ is the algebraic multiplicity of λ_0 , and $\dim \ker(\lambda_0 - A)$ is the geometric multiplicity of λ_0 .

The above theorem states the following fact: $AM \geq GM$ for any isolated spectrum point of a closed operator. Moreover, if self-adjoint, they coincide exactly.

Essential spectrum and the discrete spectrum.

Now we can classify the spectrum of a closed operator into following two kinds:

1) discrete spectrum $\sigma_d(A)$: $\lambda \in \sigma_d(A)$ if λ is isolated + P_λ finite rank.

2) essential spectrum: $\sigma_{\text{ess}}(A)$: $\sigma_{\text{ess}}(A) = \sigma(A) \setminus \sigma_d(A)$.

(there are some equivalent definitions for $\sigma_{\text{ess}}(A)$ by Fredholm operators.)

Our following main goal is to establish a criterion for essential spectrum and apply it to figure out the spectrum of Laplacian operator on \mathbb{R}^d .

We state the main result here:

Theorem (Weyl). Suppose $A: D(A) \subseteq X \rightarrow X$ is self-adjoint, then $\lambda \in \sigma_{\text{ess}}(A)$ if and only if there is a Weyl sequence $\{u_n\}$ for λ , i.e.

$$1) \|u_n\| = 1, \quad 2) u_n \rightarrow 0, \quad 3) (\lambda - A)u_n \rightarrow 0.$$

Remark: This is the criterion for the whole spectrum if we remove 2).

The proof is a complete argument and we'd like to sketch it here.

For self-adjoint operator:

$$\lambda \in \sigma_d(A) \iff \lambda \text{ is isolated} + \dim P_\lambda X < \infty$$

\Downarrow self-adjoint \Downarrow

$$\lambda \in \sigma(A|_{\ker(\lambda - A)^\perp}) + \dim \ker(\lambda - A) < \infty$$

$$\lambda \in \sigma_{\text{ess}}(A) \iff \lambda \in \sigma(A|_{\ker(\lambda - A)^\perp}) \text{ or } \dim \ker(\lambda - A) = \infty.$$

(since $\lambda - A|_{\ker(\lambda - A)^\perp}$ always has inverse, then the only case is the inverse is unbounded).

Proof of the theorem: \Rightarrow suppose $\lambda \in \text{ess}(A)$, then:

① if $\dim \ker(\lambda - A) = \infty$, just take orthonormal functions $\{u_n\} \subseteq \ker(\lambda - A)$.

We have clearly $\|u_n\| = 1$ and $(\lambda - A)u_n = 0$, besides $u_n \rightarrow 0$ since

$V_\infty = \text{span}\{u_1, \dots, u_n, \dots\}$ is dense in X .

② if $\dim \ker(\lambda - A) < \infty$ and $(\lambda - A_1)^{-1}$ is unbounded,

we can choose a sequence

$$\|v_n\| = 1, \quad \|(\lambda - A)^{-1}v_n\| \rightarrow \infty,$$

let $u_n = \frac{(\lambda - A)^{-1}v_n}{\|(\lambda - A)^{-1}v_n\|} \in \ker(\lambda - A)^\perp$ exactly, then $\|u_n\| = 1$ and $\|(\lambda - A)u_n\| \rightarrow 0$.

As for the weak convergence, it is enough to prove:

$$\langle u_n, f \rangle \rightarrow 0 \quad \forall f \in \ker(\lambda - A)^\perp,$$

If we can establish the following density:

claim: $D((\lambda - A)^{-1})^*$ is dense in $X_1 = \ker(\lambda - A)^\perp$.

Proof: $\lambda - A_1 : D \subseteq X_1 \rightarrow X_1$ has dense range and self-adjoint. (use the criterion $R(A \pm i) = H$)

$\Rightarrow (\lambda - A_1)^{-1}$ exists and self-adjoint.

$\Rightarrow ((\lambda - A)^{-1})^*$ is densely defined.

consequently, we see for $f \in D((\lambda - A)^{-1})^*$

$$\langle u_n, f \rangle = \frac{\langle (\lambda - A)^{-1}v_n, f \rangle}{\|(\lambda - A)^{-1}v_n\|} = \frac{\langle v_n, (\lambda - A)^{-1}f \rangle}{\|(\lambda - A)^{-1}v_n\|} \rightarrow 0.$$

And thus we finish the necessity.

\Leftarrow : Suppose $\{u_n\}$ is the Weyl's sequence and WLOG $\dim \ker(\lambda - A) < \infty$, we attempt to show that $(\lambda - A)$ has a unbounded inverse.

Indeed, let $\{\phi_i\}$ be the finite orthonormal basis for $\ker(\lambda - A)$, then:

$$\|P_\lambda u_n\|^2 = \sum \langle u_n, \phi_i \rangle \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{since } u_n \rightarrow 0.$$

This implies: $\|(1-P_\lambda)u_n\| \rightarrow 1$. Take $v_n = (1-P_\lambda)u_n$,

we have:
$$\begin{cases} \|v_n\| \rightarrow 0, \\ (\lambda - A_1)v_n = (\lambda - A_1)u_n \rightarrow 0. \end{cases}$$
 $(\lambda - A_1): x_1 \rightarrow x_1$.

And so $(\lambda - A_1)^{-1}$ is unbounded.

Direct decomposition of the closed operator.

Suppose A is closed on X , P_1, P_2 decompose $\begin{cases} \sigma(A) = \sigma_1 \cup \sigma_2 \\ X = X_1 \oplus X_2 = P_1 X \oplus P_2 X, \end{cases}$

then we have: $A = A_1 \oplus A_2$, $\begin{cases} A_1 \text{ invariant on } X_1, \sigma(A_1) = \sigma_1, \\ A_2 \text{ invariant on } X_2, \sigma(A_2) = \sigma_2. \end{cases}$

Proof: consider for A_1 only, we show: $AP_1 = P_1A$, (which implies $R(A_1) \subseteq X_1$).

$$\begin{aligned} P_1 A x &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_P (\lambda - A)^{-1} A d\lambda = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_P A (\lambda - A)^{-1} d\lambda \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_P (\lambda (\lambda - A)^{-1} - 1) d\lambda = A P_1 x \end{aligned}$$

Claim: λ is isolated $\iff \lambda \notin \sigma(A_2)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \lambda \text{ is isolated} &\Rightarrow X_1 = P_\lambda X = \ker(\lambda - A) \\ &X_2 = (1 - P_\lambda)X = X_1^\perp = \ker(\lambda - A)^\perp. \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow A_2 = A|_{X_2}$ is invariant in X_2 ,

since $\lambda \in \sigma(A_1)$, $(A_1 = A|_{\ker(\lambda - A)})$, so $\lambda \in \sigma(A_2)$

\Leftarrow show $\lambda + z \in \rho(A)$ for small $z \iff \lambda + z - A$ is invertible

$$\iff \begin{matrix} \lambda + z - A|_M & M = \ker(\lambda - A) \\ \lambda + z - A|_{M^\perp} & \end{matrix} \text{ are all invertible}$$

\uparrow since $\lambda \in \sigma(A_2)$.

Spectrum of Laplace Operator

We discuss about the spectrum of Laplacian operator.

Theorem 4.24. *The spectrum of $-\Delta : H^2 \subset L^2 \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is*

$$\sigma(-\Delta) = \sigma_{ess}(-\Delta) = [0, \infty).$$

Proof. As we already show that $-\Delta$ is self-adjoint, following we check that $-\Delta$ is positive so that $\sigma(-\Delta) \subset [0, \infty)$:

$$\langle u, -\Delta u \rangle_2 = \langle \hat{u}, \xi^2 \hat{u} \rangle_2 = \int \xi^2 \hat{u}^2 d\xi \geq 0.$$

It remains to show $\sigma_{ess}(-\Delta) \supset (0, \infty)$, so that $\sigma(-\Delta) = [0, \infty)$ as the spectrum is closed. And consequently $\sigma_{ess}(-\Delta) = \sigma(-\Delta) = [0, \infty)$ since 0 is not a isolated point.

Now for any $\lambda > 0$, we attempt to construct a sequence u_k by

$$\hat{u}_k(\xi) = \underbrace{(2\pi k)^{\frac{n}{2}} e^{-k^2(\xi-\xi_0)^2}}_{\text{Gaussian Wave Package}}, \xi_0^2 = \lambda.$$

and check that it is a Weyl's sequence for λ and $-\Delta$:

1. $\|u_k\|_2 = 1$. Indeed,

$$\|u_k\|^2 = \|\hat{u}_k\|^2 = \langle \hat{u}_k, \hat{u}_k \rangle = (2\pi k)^n \int e^{-2k^2(\xi-\xi_0)^2} d\xi = (2\pi k)^n (2\pi k)^{-n} = 1.$$

2. $\|u_k\| \rightarrow 0$. Since \mathcal{S} is dense in L^2 , we can only test with $f \in \mathcal{S}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle u_k, f \rangle &= \langle \hat{u}_k, \hat{f} \rangle = (2\pi k)^{\frac{n}{2}} \int e^{-k^2(\xi-\xi_0)^2} \hat{f}(\xi) d\xi \\ (\eta = k(\xi - \xi_0)) &= \left(\frac{2\pi}{k}\right)^{\frac{n}{2}} \int e^{-\eta^2} \hat{f}\left(\frac{\eta}{k} + \xi_0\right) d\eta \\ &\rightarrow 0 \text{ as } k \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

3. $\|(\lambda - A)u_k\| \rightarrow 0$. Notice $u_k, \hat{u}_k \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ by definition. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|(\lambda + \Delta)u_k\|_2^2 &= \|(\lambda - \xi^2)\hat{u}_k\|_2^2 \\ &= (2\pi k)^n \int (\xi_0^2 - \xi^2) e^{-2k^2(\xi-\xi_0)^2} d\xi \\ &= (2\pi k)^n (\sqrt{2}k)^{-n} \int e^{-\eta^2} \left(\xi_0^2 - \left(\frac{\eta}{\sqrt{k}} + \xi_0\right)^2 \right) d\eta \\ &= -(\sqrt{2}\pi)^n \int e^{-\eta^2} \left(\frac{\eta^2}{2k^2} + \sqrt{2}\frac{\eta}{k} \cdot \xi_0 \right) d\eta, \end{aligned}$$

which vanish at rate k^{-1} .

In conclusion, u_k is a Weyl's sequence for any $\lambda > 0$. □