

Domains of closed extensions of ODEs

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- to then discuss the set of domains of closed extensions when the operator admits more than one such extension and of selfadjoint extensions for symmetric semibounded operators.
- and finally to discuss the behavior of the eigenvalues as the domain varies over the space of selfadjoint extensions.

Set-up: the operator

$[v_{j,-1}, v_{j,1}]$

The intervals I_j may be each parametrized by $x \in [-1, 1]$.

Set-up: the operator

$$\sqrt{\quad} [v_{j,-1}, v_{j,1}]$$

$$\varphi_j(x) = \frac{1-x}{2} v_{j,-1} + \frac{1+x}{2} v_{j,1}$$

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$$A_j = \frac{1}{(1-x^2)^m} \sum_{k=0}^m a_{j,k}(x) ((1-x^2)D_x)^k$$

where D_x means $-id/dx$.

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where D_x means $-id/dx$. The coefficients $a_{j,k}(x)$ are $n \times n$ matrices whose entries are complex valued functions defined in $[-1, 1]$, smooth up to the boundary of the interval, and $\det a_{j,m}(x) \neq 0$ on all of $[-1, 1]$.

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$$A_j \text{ acts on vectors } u(x) = \begin{bmatrix} u_1(x) \\ \vdots \\ u_n(x) \end{bmatrix}$$

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On each interval I_j we do the following. We start with $C_c^\infty((-1, 1), \mathbb{C}^n)$ with the inner product

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$$u = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{bmatrix}, v = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}$$

and then let

- $L^2([-1, 1], \mathbb{C}^n) =$ completion of $C_c^\infty((-1, 1), \mathbb{C}^n)$ with respect to the associate norm.

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\mathcal{M} is the union of the I_j .

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Next we let


 "the graph inner product."

$$(u, v)_{A_j} = (A_j u, A_j v) + (u, v) \quad u, v \in C_c^\infty((-1, 1), \mathbb{C}^n),$$

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Set-up: the spaces, end

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let $\mathcal{D}_{\max}(A_j)$ be the subspace of all $u \in L^2((-1, 1), \mathbb{C}^n)$ such that there is $f \in L^2((-1, 1), \mathbb{C}^n)$ such that

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The f with this property is unique. If also f' works, then $(f - f', \phi) = 0$ for all $\phi \in C_c^\infty$. Since A_j^* is the operator such that

is dense in L^2 , $f - f'$ must vanish. Define $A_j u = f$. Since $\mathcal{D}_{\min} \subset \mathcal{D}_{\max}$, this defines an extension of A_j .

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The operator A_j^ is of the same kind as A_j (also elliptic, because $\det(a_{j,m}^*(x)) \neq 0$). It is called the formal adjoint of A_j . View $\mathcal{D}_{\max}(A_j)$ as a subspace of $L^2(I_j, \mathbb{C}^n)$.*

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In turn this space, $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{D}_{\min}^{\perp} \subset \mathcal{D}_{\max}$, is equal to

$$\ker(A^*A + I) \cap \mathcal{D}_{\max}(A).$$

The important consequence of this is that every closed extension of A has as domain a subspace $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{D}_{\max}$ of the form

$$\mathcal{D} = D + \mathcal{D}_{\min}, \quad D \subset \mathcal{E}.$$

For this reason it is of interest to study the structure of the set of subspaces of \mathcal{E} of a given dimension.

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The extra structure is that

$Gr_k(\mathcal{E})$ is a complex manifold (of complex dimension $d_k = k \times (d - k)$)

This means that $Gr_k(\mathcal{E})$ is locally like \mathbb{C}^{d_k} .

The local structure of $\text{Gr}_k(\mathcal{E})$

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Define, for $\varepsilon > 0$,

$$U(D_0, \varepsilon) = \{D_T : T \in \mathcal{L}(D_0, D_0^\perp), \|T\| \leq \varepsilon\}$$

The family $\{U(D_0, \varepsilon) : D_0 \in \text{Gr}_k(\mathcal{E}), \varepsilon > 0\}$ is a base for a topology of $\text{Gr}_k(\mathcal{E})$.

A subset $U \subset \text{Gr}_k(\mathcal{E})$ is open iff for all $D_0 \in U$ there is $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $U_{D_0, \varepsilon} \subset U$.

Fix an orthonormal basis $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_k)$ of D_0 and another one, $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_{d-k})$, of D_0^\perp . Then we have

$$Tu_j = \sum_{i=1}^{d-k} a_j^i v_i, \quad j = 1, \dots, k, \text{ some } a_j^i \in \mathbb{C}.$$

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Let $U(D_0) = \{D_T : T \in \mathcal{L}(D_0, D_0^\perp)\}$. Fixing bases \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} as above we get a **bijective** map $\phi_{D_0, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}} : U(D_0) \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(d, \mathbb{C})$. Pick another choice of $D'_0, \mathbf{u}', \mathbf{v}'$. We get that

$$\phi_{D_0, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}} \circ \phi_{D'_0, \mathbf{u}', \mathbf{v}'} : \phi_{D'_0, \mathbf{u}', \mathbf{v}'}(U(D'_0) \cap U(D_0)) \rightarrow \phi_{D_0, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}(U(D_0) \cap U(D_0))$$

is a holomorphic map.

This is what makes $\text{Gr}_k(\mathcal{E})$ a complex manifold.

Why do we care?

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Because this gives useful ways of expressing ideas, eventually leading to a better understanding of domains and of spectra.

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By definition,

$$T^*v = f.$$

This defines

$$T^* : D^* \subset H' \rightarrow H.$$

T^* is linear, closed, densely defined.

Example: The adjoint of A_{\min}^* .

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With the aid of A^* we defined

$$\mathcal{D}_{\max}(A) = \{u \in L^2 : \exists f \in L^2 \text{ s.t. } (u, A^*\phi) = (f, \phi) \quad \forall \phi \in C_c^\infty\}$$

and

if $u \in \mathcal{D}_{\max}(A)$ and $f \in L^2$ s.t. $(u, A^*\phi) = (f, \phi) \quad \forall \phi \in C_c^\infty$, then $Au = f$.

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This definition gives:

*If $u \in \mathcal{D}_{\max}$, then $(u, A^*v) = (Au, v)$ for all $u \in \mathcal{D}_{\max}(A)$ and $v \in \mathcal{D}_{\min}(A^*)$.*

As a consequence A_{\max} is the adjoint of A_{\min}^* .

In general, let $\mathcal{D} = D + \mathcal{D}_{\min}(A)$ be some domain for A . Then

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$\mathcal{D}_{\min}(A) \ni \phi \mapsto (f, A\phi) \in \mathbb{C}$ is continuous and therefore $f \in \mathcal{D}_{\max}(A^*)$, and in addition, $A^*f = -u$.

This gives $A^*Au = -u$, that is, $(A^*A + I)u = 0$.

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In other words,

$$u \in \mathcal{E} \implies A^*u \in \mathcal{E}^*.$$

A defines a bijective map

$$A|_{\mathcal{E}} : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}^*.$$

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The only thing not verified already is the last statement. This we do as follows. Let $u, v \in \mathcal{E}$.

$$(Au, Av)_{A^*} = (A^*Au, A^*Av) + (Au, Av) = (Au, Av) + (u, v) = (u, v)_A.$$

Proposition: Let $\mathcal{D} = D + \mathcal{D}_{\min}$. The domain of the adjoint of $A_{\mathcal{D}}$ is A^* with domain $D^* + \mathcal{D}_{\min}(A^*)$, where

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