

# Spectral Theory

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# 1 Adjoint Operator

**Definition 1.1** (Unbounded Operator).  $\mathcal{H}$  is a Hilbert space.

- (1)  $A: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  is called a linear operator if the domain  $D(A) \subset \mathcal{H}$  is a linear subspace and  $A: D(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  is linear, denoted by  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ .
- (2)  $A$  is bounded if there is a  $c$  such that  $\|Ax\| \leq c\|x\|$  for any  $x \in D(A)$ . In such case,  $D(A)$  can be extended to  $\mathcal{H}$ . Then  $A$  is viewed as a bounded operator on  $\mathcal{H}$ .
- (3) If  $D(A) \subset \mathcal{H}$  is dense,  $A$  is called densely defined.

*Remark 1.2.* For  $A, B \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ ,  $A \subset B$  means that  $D(A) \subset D(B)$  and  $Ax = Bx$  for  $x \in D(A)$ . It follows that  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset A$  imply  $A = B$ . So  $A \subset B$  and  $D(B) \subset D(A)$  imply  $A = B$ .

**Definition 1.3** (Adjoint Operator). Let  $A: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  be densely defined. Let

$$D(A^*) := \{y \in \mathcal{H}: x \mapsto \langle Ax, y \rangle \text{ is a bounded linear functional on } D(A)\}.$$

Because  $D(A)$  is dense, it can be extended on  $\mathcal{H}$  by the Hahn-Banach Theorem. Then by Riesz representation theorem, there is a  $z \in \mathcal{H}$  such that

$$\langle Ax, y \rangle = \langle x, z \rangle = \langle x, A^*y \rangle,$$

which is defined as  $A^*y$ .

*Remark 1.4.* Note that  $D(A^*)$  may be not dense.

**Proposition 1.5.** For  $A, B \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ ,

- (1) if  $A, B$  are densely defined and  $A \subset B$ , then  $B^* \subset A^*$ .
- (2) if  $D(A + B) = D(A) \cap D(B)$  is dense, then

$$A^* + B^* \subset (A + B)^*,$$

where “ $=$ ” if  $B$  is bounded.

- (3) if  $D(BA)$  is dense, then

$$A^*B^* \subset (BA)^*,$$

where “ $=$ ” if  $B$  is bounded.

*Proof.* (1) For  $y \in D(B^*)$ ,  $x \in D(B) \mapsto \langle Bx, y \rangle$  is bounded. So  $x \in D(A) \mapsto \langle Ax, y \rangle$  is bounded, i.e.  $y \in D(A^*)$ . And  $\langle Ax, y \rangle = \langle Bx, y \rangle$  implies that  $A^*y = B^*y$ .

- (2) Fix  $y \in D(A^*) \cap D(B^*)$ . For any  $x \in D(A) \cap D(B) = D(A + B)$ ,

$$\langle Ax, y \rangle + \langle Bx, y \rangle = \langle x, A^*y \rangle + \langle x, B^*y \rangle,$$

i.e.,  $\langle (A + B)x, y \rangle = \langle x, (A + B)^*y \rangle$ . It follows that  $y \in D((A + B)^*)$  and  $(A + B)^*y = A^*y + B^*y$ .

Let  $B$  be bounded. Fix  $y \in D((A + B)^*)$ . For any  $x \in D(A)$ ,

$$\langle Ax, y \rangle = \langle Ax + Bx, y \rangle - \langle Bx, y \rangle = \langle x, (A + B)^*y \rangle - \langle x, B^*y \rangle.$$

So  $y \in D(A^*) = D(A^* + B^*)$ .

(3) Let  $y \in D(A^*B^*)$ . For any  $x \in D(BA)$ ,

$$\langle BAx, y \rangle = \langle x, A^*B^*y \rangle.$$

So  $y \in D((BA)^*)$  and  $(BA)^*y = A^*B^*y$ .

Let  $B$  be bounded. If  $y \in D((BA)^*)$ , for any  $x \in D(A) = D(BA)$ ,

$$\langle Ax, B^*y \rangle = \langle BAx, y \rangle = \langle x, (BA)^*y \rangle.$$

So  $B^*y \in D(A^*)$ , i.e.  $y \in D(A^*B^*)$ .

□

## 2 Closable Operator

**Definition 2.1** (Closed Operator). For  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , if the graph of  $A$

$$G(A) := \{(x, Ax) : x \in D(A)\} \subset \mathcal{H} \oplus \mathcal{H}$$

is closed, then  $A$  is called closed.

*Remark 2.2.* (1) For any sequence  $(x_n, Ax_n)$  in  $G(A)$  such that

$$(x_n, Ax_n) \rightarrow (x, y),$$

because  $(x, y) \in G(A)$ ,  $Ax = y$ .

(2) By the closed graph theorem, if  $A$  is closed and  $D(A) = \mathcal{H}$ , then  $A$  is bounded.

**Proposition 2.3.** Let  $A, B \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ .

(1) If  $A$  is densely defined, then  $A^*$  is closed.

(2) If  $A$  is closed and  $B$  is bounded, then  $A + B$  is closed.

*Proof.* (1) Let  $y_n \in D(A^*)$  such that  $y_n \rightarrow y$  and  $A^*y_n \rightarrow z$ . For  $x \in D(A)$ ,

$$\langle Ax, y_n \rangle = \langle x, A^*y_n \rangle.$$

As  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\langle Ax, y \rangle = \langle x, z \rangle$ . Therefore,  $y \in D(A^*)$  and  $A^*y = z$ . It follows that  $G(A^*)$  is closed.

(2) Let  $x_n$  in  $D(A + B) = D(A)$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow x$  and  $(A + B)x_n \rightarrow y$ . Because  $B$  is bounded,  $Bx_n \rightarrow Bx$  and  $Ax_n \rightarrow y - Bx$ . Furthermore, since  $A$  is closed,  $x \in D(A)$  and  $Ax = y - Bx$ . Therefore,  $x \in D(A + B)$  and  $(A + B)x = y$ .

□

**Definition 2.4** (Closable Operator). Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ .  $A$  is called closable if there is a closed operator  $B$  such that  $A \subset B$ . In such case,  $B$  is called a closed extension of  $A$ .

**Proposition 2.5.** Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ .  $A$  is closable if and only if for any sequence  $x_n$  in  $D(A)$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow 0$  and  $Ax_n \rightarrow y$ ,  $y = 0$ .

*Proof.* If  $A$  is closable, the statements are clearly true. Conversely, it is sufficient to prove that  $\overline{G(A)}$  is a graph of some linear operator. Because the linearity of  $\overline{G(A)}$  is clear, it is sufficient to prove  $y = y'$  for any  $(x, y), (x, y') \in \overline{G(A)}$ . Let  $x_n$  and  $x'_n$  be two sequences in  $\overline{G(A)}$  such that

$$(x_n, Ax_n) \rightarrow (x, y), \quad (x'_n, Ax'_n) \rightarrow (x, y')$$

Because  $x_n - x'_n \rightarrow 0$  and  $Ax_n - Ax'_n \rightarrow y - y'$ ,  $y = y'$  by the assumption.

□

**Definition 2.6** (Closure of Closable Operator). By above proposition, when  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is closable, the closed operator whose graph is  $\overline{G(A)}$  is called the closure of  $A$ , denoted by  $\overline{A}$ .

**Proposition 2.7.** Let  $A, B \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ .

- (1)  $A \subset B$  implies that  $\overline{A} \subset \overline{B}$ .
- (2)  $\overline{\text{Im}(\overline{A})} = \overline{\text{Im}(A)}$ .
- (3) If  $A$  is closable and  $B$  is bounded, then  $A + B$  is closable and

$$\overline{A + B} = \overline{A} + B$$

*Proof.* (1) It is clear.

- (2) Clearly,  $\overline{\text{Im}(\overline{A})} \supset \overline{\text{Im}(A)}$ . Let  $y \in \text{Im}(\overline{A})$ , so by definition there is a sequence  $x_n$  in  $D(A)$  such that  $Ax_n \rightarrow y$ , i.e.,  $\text{Im}(\overline{A}) \subset \overline{\text{Im}(A)}$ . Therefore,  $\overline{\text{Im}(\overline{A})} \subset \overline{\text{Im}(A)}$ .

- (3) Let  $x_n$  be a sequence in  $D(A + B) = D(A)$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow 0$  and  $(A + B)x_n \rightarrow y$ . Because  $Bx_n \rightarrow 0$ ,  $Ax_n \rightarrow y$ . Because  $A$  is closable,  $Ax_n \rightarrow 0 = y$ . So  $A + B$  is closable.

First,  $A \subset \overline{A}$ , so  $A + B \subset \overline{A} + B$  and thus

$$\overline{A + B} \subset \overline{A} + B$$

Conversely, let  $x \in D(\overline{A} + B) = D(\overline{A})$ . Choose a sequence  $x_n$  in  $D(A)$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow x$  and  $Ax_n \rightarrow \overline{A}x$ . Then

$$x_n \rightarrow x, \quad (A + B)x_n \rightarrow \overline{A}x + Bx.$$

Therefore,  $x \in D(\overline{A + B})$  and  $\overline{A + B} = \overline{A} + B$ .

□

**Lemma 2.8.** Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be densely defined.

$$G(A)^\perp = \{(-A^*y, y) : y \in D(A^*)\}.$$

*Proof.* For any  $x \in D(A)$  and  $y \in D(A^*)$ ,

$$(-A^*y, y) \perp (x, Ax)$$

in  $\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathcal{H}$ . So

$$G(A)^\perp \supset \{(-A^*y, y) : y \in D(A^*)\}.$$

Conversely, let  $(x', y') \perp G(A)$ . For any  $x \in D(A)$ ,  $(x, Ax) \perp (x', y')$  implies that

$$\langle x, x' \rangle = -\langle Ax, y' \rangle$$

Therefore,  $y' \in D(A^*)$  and  $A^*y' = -x'$ . It follows that

$$G(A)^\perp \subset \{(-A^*y, y) : y \in D(A^*)\}.$$

□

**Theorem 2.9.** Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be densely defined.  $A$  is closable if and only if  $D(A^*)$  is dense. In such case, we have

$$A^{**} = \overline{A}, \quad \overline{A}^* = A^*.$$

*Proof.* Assume  $A$  is closable. Let  $z \in D(A^*)^\perp$ . Then

$$(0, z) \in \{(-A^*y, y) \mid y \in D(A^*)\}^\perp$$

Therefore,

$$(0, z) \in G(A)^{\perp\perp} = \overline{G(A)} = G(\bar{A}),$$

which implies that  $z = 0$ . So  $D(A^*)$  is dense.

Conversely, assume  $D(A^*)$  is dense. Let  $(0, z) \in \overline{G(A)}$ . Then

$$(0, z) \in \{(-A^*y, y) \mid y \in D(A^*)\}^\perp$$

by above lemma. Therefore,  $z \in D(A^*)^\perp = \{0\}$ . It follows that  $A$  is closable.

In such case,  $D(A^*)$  is dense, so it can consider  $A^{**}$ . By the similar prove of above lemma,

$$G(A)^{\perp\perp} = \{(-A^*y, y) : y \in D(A^*)\}^\perp = \{(z, A^{**}z) : z \in D(A^{**})\} = G(A^{**})$$

Therefore,

$$G(\bar{A}) = \overline{G(A)} = G(A)^{\perp\perp} = G(A^{**}),$$

i.e.,  $\bar{A} = A^{**}$ .

Because

$$G(\bar{A})^\perp = G(A)^\perp$$

by above lemma,  $G(A^*) = G(\bar{A}^*)$ . So  $A^* = \bar{A}^*$ . □

### 3 Spectrum

**Definition 3.1** (Resolvent Set). Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be densely defined. For  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , if

- (1)  $A - \lambda I$  is injective;
- (2)  $\text{ran}(A - \lambda I)$  is dense;
- (3)  $(A - \lambda I)^{-1}$  is bounded on  $\text{ran}(A - \lambda I)$ ,

then  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$ , which is called the resolvent set, and  $\sigma(A) = \mathbb{C} \setminus \rho(A)$  is called the spectrum of  $A$ . Furthermore,  $R_\lambda(A) = (A - \lambda I)^{-1}$ .

**Definition 3.2** (Spectrum). Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be densely defined.

- (1) If  $A - \lambda I$  is not injective, then  $\lambda$  is called an eigenvalue of  $A$ , and the set  $\sigma_p(A)$  of all eigenvalues is called the point spectrum of  $A$ .
- (2) If  $A - \lambda I$  is injective but  $\text{ran}(A - \lambda I)$  is not dense, then the set  $\sigma_r(A)$  of all such  $\lambda$  is called the residual spectrum of  $A$ .
- (3) If  $A - \lambda I$  is injective and  $\text{ran}(A - \lambda I)$  is dense, but  $(A - \lambda I)^{-1}$  is not bounded, then the set  $\sigma_c(A)$  of all such  $\lambda$  is called the continuous spectrum of  $A$ .

*Remark 3.3.* Note that the spectrum of  $A$

$$\sigma(A) = \sigma_p(A) \cup \sigma_c(A) \cup \sigma_r(A).$$

**Proposition 3.4.** Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be densely defined. TFAE.

- (1)  $\lambda \in \sigma_c(A)$ .

(2)  $A - \lambda I$  is injective,  $\overline{\text{Im}(A - \lambda I)} = \mathcal{H}$  and

$$\forall c > 0, \quad \exists x \in D(A) \setminus \{0\}, \quad \|(A - \lambda I)x\| \leq c\|x\|.$$

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): Assume that there is a  $c > 0$  such that  $\|(A - \lambda I)x\| \leq c\|x\|$  for all  $x \in D(A) \setminus \{0\}$ . Then for any  $y \in \text{Im}(A - \lambda I)$ , let  $x \in D(A)$  be  $y = (A - \lambda I)x$ . So

$$\|(A - \lambda I)^{-1}y\| = \|x\| \leq \frac{1}{c}\|y\|,$$

i.e.,  $(A - \lambda I)^{-1}$  is bounded, contradicting to  $\lambda \in \sigma_c(A)$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): Similarly as above, if  $(A - \lambda I)^{-1}$  is bounded,  $A - \lambda I$  is bounded below.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.5.** *Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be densely defined and closable.*

(1) When  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$ ,  $\text{Im}(\overline{A} - \lambda I) = \mathcal{H}$ .

(2)  $\rho(A) = \rho(\overline{A})$ .

(3) When  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$ ,  $\overline{R_\lambda(A)} = R_\lambda(\overline{A})$ .

*Proof.* (1) Let  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$  and  $y \in \mathcal{H}$ . Choose a sequence  $x_n$  in  $D(A)$  such that

$$y_n = (A - \lambda I)x_n \rightarrow y.$$

and so  $y_n$  is Cauchy. Because  $(A - \lambda I)^{-1}$  is bounded,

$$x_n = (A - \lambda I)^{-1}y_n$$

is also Cauchy. So  $x_n \rightarrow x$  for some  $x$ . Because  $A - \lambda I$  is closable,  $x \in D(\overline{A - \lambda I}) = D(\overline{A} - \lambda I)$ . Therefore,  $(\overline{A} - \lambda I)x = y$ . Therefore,  $\overline{A} - \lambda I$  is bijective.

(2) First, fix  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$ . Let  $x \in \ker(\overline{A} - \lambda I)$  and choose  $x_n$  in  $D(A)$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow x$  and  $(A - \lambda I)x_n \rightarrow 0$ . Because  $(A - \lambda I)^{-1}$  is bounded,  $x_n \rightarrow 0 = x$ . So  $\overline{A} - \lambda I$  is injective. By (1),  $\overline{A} - \lambda I$  is surjective. Then the closedness  $G(\overline{A} - \lambda I)$  implies that the closedness of  $G((\overline{A} - \lambda I)^{-1})$ . By the closed graph theorem,  $(\overline{A} - \lambda I)^{-1}$  is bounded. Therefore,  $\lambda \in \rho(\overline{A})$ .

Conversely, for  $\lambda \in \rho(\overline{A})$ , by  $A - \lambda I \subset \overline{A} - \lambda I$ , the injectivity of  $A - \lambda I$  and the boundedness of  $(A - \lambda I)^{-1}$  are clear. Furthermore,  $\overline{\text{Im}(A - \lambda I)} = \overline{\text{Im}(\overline{A} - \lambda I)} = \mathcal{H}$ . So  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$ .

(3) For  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$ , it is because  $\overline{R_\lambda(A)}$  and  $R_\lambda(\overline{A})$  have same graphs.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.6.** *Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be densely defined and closed.  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$  if and only if  $A - \lambda I: D(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  is bijective.*

*Proof.* If  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$ , by above (1),  $A - \lambda I$  is bijective.

Conversely, it is sufficient to prove  $(A - \lambda I)^{-1}$  is bounded, i.e., its graph is closed by the closed graph theorem. It is because  $A$  is a closed operator.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.7.** *Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be densely defined and closed. For  $\lambda, \mu \in \rho(A)$ ,*

$$R_\lambda(A) - R_\mu(A) = (\lambda - \mu)R_\lambda(A)R_\mu(A)$$

*Proof.* It is because

$$R_\lambda(A) - R_\mu(A) = R_\lambda(A)((A - \mu I) - (A - \lambda I))R_\mu(A). \quad \square$$

**Proposition 3.8.** *Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be densely defined and closed. Let  $\lambda_0 \in \rho(A)$ . For  $\varepsilon = \|R_{\lambda_0}(A)\|^{-1}$ ,*

$$B(\lambda_0, \varepsilon) \subset \rho(A),$$

*i.e.,  $\rho(A)$  is open. Moreover, if  $\lambda \in B(\lambda_0, \varepsilon)$ ,*

$$R_\lambda(A) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\lambda - \lambda_0)^n R_{\lambda_0}(A)^{n+1}.$$

*Proof.* For  $\lambda \in B(\lambda_0, \varepsilon)$ , let

$$K_\lambda = (\lambda - \lambda_0)R_{\lambda_0}(A),$$

whose domain is  $\mathcal{H}$  by the definition. So

$$A - \lambda I = (I - K_\lambda)(A - \lambda_0 I)$$

Moreover, because  $\|K_\lambda\| = |\lambda - \lambda_0| \|R_{\lambda_0}(A)\| < 1$ ,

$$(I - K_\lambda)^{-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} K_\lambda^n$$

in norm convergence. Therefore,  $I - K_\lambda$  is bijective from  $\mathcal{H}$  to  $\mathcal{H}$ . Because  $A - \lambda_0 I$  is bijective from  $D(A)$  to  $\mathcal{H}$ ,  $A - \lambda I = (I - K_\lambda)(A - \lambda_0 I)$  is also bijective from  $D(A)$  to  $\mathcal{H}$ . So  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$  by above proposition. Then

$$(A - \lambda I)^{-1} = (A - \lambda_0 I)^{-1} (I - K_\lambda)^{-1} = R_{\lambda_0}(A) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\lambda - \lambda_0)^n R_{\lambda_0}(A)^n. \quad \square$$

**Proposition 3.9.** *Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be bounded.*

$$\emptyset \neq \sigma(A) \subset \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \mid |\lambda| \leq \|A\|\}$$

*Proof.* If  $|\lambda| > \|A\|$ ,

$$(A - \lambda I)^{-1} = -\lambda^{-1} (I - \lambda^{-1} A)^{-1} = -\lambda^{-1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{-n} A^n,$$

which implies that  $\lambda \notin \sigma(A)$ .

Assume  $\sigma(A) = \emptyset$ . For  $\lambda_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ , when  $\lambda$  is closed to  $\lambda_0$ ,

$$f(\lambda) := (R_\lambda(A)x, y) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\lambda - \lambda_0)^n (R_{\lambda_0}(A)^{n+1}x, y),$$

i.e.,  $f$  is regular on  $\mathbb{C}$ . Moreover, for  $\lambda > \|A\|$ ,

$$|f(\lambda)| \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |\lambda|^{-n-1} \|A\|^n \|x\| \|y\| = |\lambda|^{-1} (1 - \|A\|/|\lambda|)$$

Therefore,  $f(\lambda) \rightarrow 0$  as  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ . By Liouville's Theorem,  $f(\lambda) = 0$ , i.e.,  $R_\lambda(A) = 0$ , which induces a contradiction.  $\square$

## 4 Symmetric Operator

**Definition 4.1** (Symmetric Operator). Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be densely defined. If for any  $x, y \in D(A)$ ,

$$\langle Ax, y \rangle = \langle x, Ay \rangle,$$

$A$  is called symmetric or Hermitian.

*Remark 4.2.* Note that for densely defined  $A$ , it is symmetric if and only if  $A \subset A^*$ . So symmetric operators are closable.

**Proposition 4.3.** Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be densely defined.

- (1)  $A$  is symmetric if and only if for any  $x \in D(A)$ ,  $\langle Ax, x \rangle \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- (2) If  $A$  is symmetric, then  $A$  is closable and  $\overline{A}$  is also symmetric.
- (3) If  $A$  is symmetric and  $D(A) = \mathcal{H}$ , then  $A$  is bounded.

*Proof.* (1) If  $A$  is symmetric,  $\langle Ax, x \rangle \in \mathbb{R}$  clearly. In converse, because  $\langle Ax, x \rangle \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\langle Ax, y \rangle = \sum_{k=0}^3 i^k \langle A(x + i^k y), x + i^k y \rangle,$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^3 i^k \langle x + i^k y, A(x + i^k y) \rangle = \langle x, Ay \rangle.$$

Therefore,  $\langle Ax, y \rangle = \langle x, Ay \rangle$ .

- (2) If  $A$  is symmetric,  $A \subset A^*$ . Because  $D(A)$  is dense,  $A^*$  is closed. So  $A$  is closable. Moreover,

$$\overline{A} = A^{**} \subset A^* = \overline{A}^*.$$

So  $\overline{A}$  is symmetric.

- (3) Because  $A \subset A^*$  and  $D(A) = \mathcal{H}$ ,  $A = A^*$ . Therefore,  $A$  is closed. By the closed graph theorem,  $A$  is bounded.  $\square$

**Proposition 4.4.** Let  $A$  be symmetric.

- (1)  $\sigma_p(A) \subset \mathbb{R}$ .
- (2) For  $\lambda, \mu \in \sigma_p(A)$  with  $\lambda \neq \mu$ , and  $Ax = \lambda x$ ,  $Ay = \mu y$ ,  $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$ .

**Definition 4.5** (Order). Let  $A$  be symmetric. For  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ , if

$$\alpha \|A\|^2 \leq \langle Ax, x \rangle, \quad \forall x \in D(A),$$

then  $\alpha \leq A$ .

**Definition 4.6** (Self-adjoint Operator). Let  $A$  be densely defined. If  $A = A^*$ , then  $A$  is called self-adjoint.

**Proposition 4.7.** Let  $A$  be self-adjoint. If  $B$  is symmetric and  $A \subset B$ , then  $A = B$ .

*Proof.* It is because  $A \subset B \subset B^* \subset A^* = A$ .  $\square$



**Proposition 4.8.** *Let  $A$  be closed.*

(1)  $\ker A$  is closed.

(2) If  $A$  is dense, then

$$\mathcal{H} = \ker A \oplus \overline{\operatorname{Im} A^*}$$

*Proof.* (1) Let  $x_n$  be a sequence in  $\ker A$  and  $x_n \rightarrow x$ . Then  $x - x_n \rightarrow 0$  and  $A(x - x_n) = Ax - Ax_n \rightarrow Ax$ . Because  $A$  is closed,  $Ax = 0$ , i.e.,  $x \in \ker A$ .

(2) Let  $x \in \ker A$  and  $y \in D(A^*)$ . Because

$$0 = \langle Ax, y \rangle = \langle x, A^*y \rangle,$$

$\ker A \perp \operatorname{Im} A^*$ . Moreover, if  $z \perp \operatorname{Im} A^*$  and  $y \in D(A^*)$ , i.e.,  $\langle z, A^*y \rangle = 0$ , then  $z \in D(A^{**}) = D(A)$ . Furthermore, because  $D(A^*)$  is dense,  $Az = A^{**}z = 0$ , i.e.,  $z \in \ker A$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 4.9.** *Let  $A$  be a closed operator. The following statements are equivalent.*

(1)  $\operatorname{Im} A$  is closed.

(2) There exists  $C > 0$  such that for all  $x \in D(A) \cap (\ker A)^\perp$ ,

$$\|Ax\| \geq C\|x\|.$$

*Proof.* Assume (1). Consider  $A: D(A) \cap (\ker A)^\perp \rightarrow \operatorname{Im} A$ . It is a bijection between Hilbert spaces  $D(A) \cap (\ker A)^\perp$  and  $\operatorname{Im} A$  by closedness. Then by the closed graph theorem,  $A^{-1}$  is bounded.

Conversely, assume (2). Choose  $x_n \in D(A)$  such that  $Ax_n \rightarrow y$ . Let

$$x_n = x'_n + x''_n$$

with  $x'_n \in D(A) \cap (\ker A)^\perp$  and  $x''_n \in \ker A$ . So  $Ax'_n \rightarrow y$ . By (2),  $x'_n$  is Cauchy, so  $x'_n \rightarrow x \in \mathcal{H}$ . Because  $G(A)$  is closed,  $(x'_n, Ax'_n) \rightarrow (x, y) \in G(A)$ . It follows that  $Ax = y \in \operatorname{Im} A$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.10.** *Let  $A$  be a symmetric operator.*

(1) For  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}$  and  $x \in D(A)$ ,

$$\|(A - \lambda I)x\| \geq |\operatorname{Im} \lambda| \|x\|.$$

(2) If  $A \geq 0$  and  $\lambda > 0$ , then

$$\|(A + \lambda I)x\| \geq \lambda \|x\|.$$

(3) If  $A$  is closed, for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\operatorname{Im}(A - \lambda I)$  is closed.

(4) If  $A$  is closed and  $A \geq 0$ , for any  $\lambda > 0$ , then  $\operatorname{Im}(A + \lambda I)$  is closed.

*Proof.* (1) Let  $\lambda = \alpha + \beta i$  for  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$\langle (A - \lambda I)x, (A - \lambda I)x \rangle = \|(A - \alpha I)x\|^2 + \beta^2 \|x\|^2 \geq \beta^2 \|x\|^2$$

(2) It is because

$$\langle (A + \lambda I)x, (A + \lambda I)x \rangle = \|Ax\|^2 + 2\lambda(Ax, x) + \lambda^2 \|x\|^2 \geq \lambda^2 \|x\|^2.$$

(3) It is by above  $\ker(A - \lambda I) = 0$ , (1), and above lemma.

(4) It is by above  $\ker(A + \lambda I) = 0$ , (2), and above lemma.

□

**Theorem 4.11.** *Let  $A$  be self-adjoint.*

(1)  $\sigma(A) \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

(2) For  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $A \geq \gamma$ ,  $\sigma(A) \subset [\gamma, \infty)$ .

(3)  $\sigma_r(A) = \emptyset$ .

(4)  $\sigma(A) = \sigma_{ap}(A)$ , where  $\sigma_{ap}(A)$  is the approximated point spectrum of  $A$ , defined as

$$\sigma_{ap}(A) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : \exists x_n \text{ with } \|x_n\| = 1 \text{ such that } (A - \lambda I)x_n \rightarrow 0\}$$

*Proof.* (1) For  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}$ , by (1) in the above proposition,  $A - \lambda I$  is injective and its inverse is bounded. Because  $A = A^*$ ,

$$\mathcal{H} = \ker(A - \bar{\lambda}I) \oplus \overline{\text{Im}(A - \lambda I)}$$

So  $\mathcal{H} = \overline{\text{Im}(A - \lambda I)}$ .

(2) When  $\lambda < \gamma$ , by (2) in the above proposition,  $A - \lambda I$  is injective and its inverse is bounded. Similarly,  $\mathcal{H} = \overline{\text{Im}(A - \lambda I)}$ .

(3) For  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\mathcal{H} = \ker(A - \lambda I) \oplus \overline{\text{Im}(A - \lambda I)}$$

Then if  $\ker(A - \lambda I) = 0$ ,  $\text{Im}(A - \lambda I)$  is dense.

(4) Fix  $\lambda \in \sigma(A)$ . Assume there exists a  $C > 0$  such that

$$\|(A - \lambda I)x\| \geq C\|x\|, \quad \forall x \in D(A)$$

Therefore,  $A - \lambda I$  is injective and its inverse is bounded. But because  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , by (3),  $\text{Im}(A - \lambda I)$  is dense.  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$ , which induces a contradiction. So  $\lambda \in \sigma_{ap}(A)$

Conversely, it is by the following remark.

□

*Remark 4.12.* (i) It is clear that  $\sigma_p(A) \subset \sigma_{ap}(A)$ .

(ii)  $\sigma_c(A) \subset \sigma_{ap}(A)$ : If  $\lambda \in \sigma_c(A)$ , for  $1/n$ , choose  $x_n$  with  $\|x_n\| = 1$  such that

$$\|(A - \lambda)x_n\| \leq \frac{1}{n}\|x_n\|.$$

So  $\lambda \in \sigma_{ap}(A)$ .

(iii)  $\sigma_{ap}(A) \subset \sigma(A)$ : If  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$ , then  $(A - \lambda I)^{-1}$  is bounded, which implies that

$$\exists C > 0, \quad \forall x \in D(A), \quad \|(A - \lambda I)x\| \geq C\|x\|$$

It follows that  $\lambda \notin \sigma_{ap}(A)$ .

(iv) For self-adjoint operator,  $\sigma = \sigma_p \cup \sigma_c = \sigma_{ap}$ .

**Theorem 4.13.** *Let  $A$  be a symmetric operator. TFAE.*

(1)  $A$  is self-adjoint.

(2)  $A$  is closed and  $\ker(A^* \pm iI) = 0$ .

(3)  $\text{Im}(A \pm iI) = \mathcal{H}$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): Clearly,  $A$  is closed.  $\sigma_p(A) = \sigma_p(A^*) \subset \mathbb{R}$ , so  $\ker(A^* \pm iI) = 0$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3): Because  $A$  is closed,  $A^*$  is densely defined. And  $A^*$  is closed. So

$$\mathcal{H} = \ker(A^* \pm iI) \oplus \overline{\text{Im}(A^{**} \mp iI)}.$$

Closedness of  $A$  implies that  $A = \overline{A} = A^{**}$ . So  $\text{Im}(A \pm iI)$  is dense.

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): It suffices to prove  $D(A^*) \subset D(A)$ . For any  $x \in D(A^*)$ , let  $y \in D(A)$  such that

$$(A^* - iI)x = (A - iI)y.$$

Since  $A \subset A^*$ ,  $(A^* - iI)(x - y) = 0$ . Because  $\text{Im}(A + iI) = \mathcal{H}$  and  $\ker(A^* - iI) \perp \text{Im}(A + iI)$ ,  $\ker(A^* - iI) = 0$ . Therefore,  $x = y$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.14.** *Let  $A$  be a closed and symmetric operator. TFAE.*

(1)  $A$  is self-adjoint.

(2)  $\sigma(A) \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

*Proof.* (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): Because  $A$  is closed and  $\pm i \in \rho(A)$ ,  $\text{Im}(A \pm iI) = \mathcal{H}$ . By above theorem,  $A$  is self-adjoint.  $\square$

**Definition 4.15** (Essentially Self-adjoint). Let  $A$  be a symmetric operator. If  $\overline{A}$  is self-adjoint, then  $A$  is called essentially self-adjoint.

**Proposition 4.16.** *Let  $A$  be essentially self-adjoint. If  $A \subset B$  and  $B$  is a closed symmetric operator, then  $B = \overline{A}$ .*

*Proof.*  $A \subset B$  implies that  $\overline{A} \subset B$ . Then

$$B \subset B^* \subset \overline{A}^* = \overline{A}$$

Therefore,  $B = \overline{A}$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.17.** *Let  $A$  be a symmetric operator. TFAE.*

(1)  $A$  is essentially self-adjoint.

(2)  $\ker(A^* \pm iI) = 0$ .

(3)  $\overline{\text{Im}(A \pm iI)} = \mathcal{H}$ .

*Proof.* By replacing  $A$  with  $\overline{A}$  in the proof of above theorem, it can get the desired results.  $\square$

## 5 Resolution of Identity

**Definition 5.1** (Operator Topology). Consider  $A_n \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , the space of bounded linear operators.

(1) Strong operator topology (SOT):  $A_n \rightarrow A$  in SOT if

$$\forall x \in \mathcal{H}, \quad \|A_n x - Ax\| \rightarrow 0.$$

(2) Weak operator topology (WOT):  $A_n \rightarrow A$  in WOT if

$$\forall x, y \in \mathcal{H}, \quad \langle A_n x, y \rangle \rightarrow \langle Ax, y \rangle.$$

*Remark 5.2.* By the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, convergence in SOT implies convergence in WOT.

**Proposition 5.3.** Let  $A_n, B_n \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . Let  $A, B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ .

(1) If  $A_n \rightarrow A$  and  $B_n \rightarrow B$  in SOT, then  $A_n B_n \rightarrow AB$  in SOT.

(2) If  $A_n \rightarrow A$  in WOT,  $A_n^* \rightarrow A^*$  in WOT.

*Proof.* (1) For any  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , because  $\{A_n x\}$  is convergent, it is bounded. By the principle of uniform boundedness,  $\{\|A_n\|\}$  is bounded. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|A_n B_n x - ABx\| &\leq \|A_n B_n x - A_n Bx\| + \|A_n Bx - ABx\| \\ &\leq \left( \sup_n \|A_n\| \right) \|B_n x - Bx\| + \|A_n Bx - ABx\| \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

(2) For  $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$ ,

$$\langle A_n^* x, y \rangle = \langle x, A_n y \rangle = \overline{\langle A_n y, x \rangle} \rightarrow \overline{\langle Ay, x \rangle} = \langle x, Ay \rangle = \langle A^* x, y \rangle. \quad \square$$

*Remark 5.4.* Note that (1) is not true for WOT and (2) is not true for SOT.

**Proposition 5.5.** Let  $\{P_n\}$  be a sequence of orthogonal projections and  $P \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ .

(1) If  $P_n \rightarrow P$  in SOT, then  $P$  is also an orthogonal projection.

(2) If  $P_n \rightarrow P$  in WOT and  $P^2 = P$ , then  $P$  is also an orthogonal projection and  $P_n \rightarrow P$  in SOT.

*Proof.* (1) By above proposition,  $P_n = P_n^* \rightarrow P^*$  in WOT, so  $P = P^*$ . Similarly,  $P_n = P_n^2 \rightarrow P^2$  in SOT, so  $P = P^2$ .

(2)  $P$  is an orthogonal projection by similar reason as above. For  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|P_n x - Px\|^2 &= (P_n x, x) - 2 \operatorname{Re}(P_n x, Px) + (Px, x) \\ &\rightarrow (Px, x) - 2 \operatorname{Re}(Px, Px) + (Px, x) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

**Proposition 5.6.** Let  $\{P_n\}$  be a sequence of orthogonal projections with  $P_n \leq P_{n+1}$ . Then there is a  $P$  such that  $P_n \rightarrow P$  in SOT. It is also true when  $P_n \geq P_{n+1}$ .

*Proof.* For  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ ,  $\langle P_n x, x \rangle$  is a monotone increasing sequence with bound  $\|x\|^2$ . Therefore, it has a limit. For  $m > n$ ,

$$\|P_m x - P_n x\|^2 = \langle P_m x, x \rangle - \langle P_n x, x \rangle \rightarrow 0$$

Therefore, define  $Px := \lim_n P_n x$ , which is clearly a bounded linear operator, so it is an orthogonal projection by above proposition. The same results can be obtained for  $P_n \geq P_{n+1}$ .  $\square$

**Definition 5.7** (Resolution of Identity). Let  $\{E(\lambda)\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}$  be a family of orthogonal projections such that

- (1) if  $\lambda \leq \mu$ , then  $E(\lambda) \leq E(\mu)$ ,
- (2) when  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $E(\lambda) \rightarrow I$  in SOT, meanwhile  $E(\lambda) \rightarrow 0$  as  $\lambda \rightarrow -\infty$ ,
- (3) when  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0+$ ,  $E(\lambda + \varepsilon) \rightarrow E(\lambda)$  in SOT.

Then it is called a resolution of the identity.

*Remark 5.8.* Note that if  $\{E(\lambda)\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}$  is a resolution of the identity, then  $E(\lambda - \varepsilon)$  is also convergent to an orthogonal projection as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0+$ .

Fix  $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$ . Because  $\lambda \mapsto \langle E(\lambda)x, x \rangle$  is monotone increasing and right-continuous, it can consider the Lebesgue-Stieltjes integral  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \cdot d\langle E(\lambda)x, x \rangle$ , which can be extended to  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \cdot d\langle E(\lambda)x, y \rangle$  by the polarization

$$\langle E(\lambda)x, y \rangle = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=0}^3 i^k \langle E(\lambda)(x + i^k y), x + i^k y \rangle.$$

For a complex-valued continuous function  $f$ , consider  $A(f)$ , whose domain is defined as

$$D(A(f)) := \left\{ x \in \mathcal{H} : \int_{\mathbb{R}} |f(\lambda)| d\langle E(\lambda)x, x \rangle < \infty \right\}.$$

**Theorem 5.9.** *As above settings,*

- (1)  $D(A(f))$  is a dense subspace of  $\mathcal{H}$ .
- (2) for  $x \in D(A(f))$  and  $y \in \mathcal{H}$ , the operator  $A(f)$  is well-defined as

$$\langle A(f)x, y \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(\lambda) d\langle E(\lambda)x, y \rangle.$$

- (3) for  $x \in D(A(f))$ ,

$$\|A(f)x\|^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}} |f(\lambda)|^2 d\langle E(\lambda)x, x \rangle.$$

- (4)  $E(\lambda)A(f) \subset A(f)E(\lambda)$ .

- (5)  $A(f)^* = A(\bar{f})$ .

- (6)  $A(f)$  is closed.

- (7) if  $f$  is real-valued, then  $A(f) = A(f)^*$ .

- (8) if  $f$  is bounded,  $A(f)$  is bounded and  $\|A(f)\| \leq \|f\|_{\infty}$ .

(9) if  $|f(\lambda)| \equiv 1$ ,  $A(f)$  is a unitary.

*Proof.* (1) For  $x \in D(A(f))$ , it is clear  $\alpha x \in D(A(f))$ . For  $x, y \in D(A(f))$ ,

$$\langle (E(\lambda) - E(\mu))(x + y), x + y \rangle \leq 2 \langle (E(\lambda) - E(\mu))(x), x \rangle + 2 \langle (E(\lambda) - E(\mu))(y), y \rangle$$

Therefore,  $x + y \in D(A(f))$ . So  $D(A(f))$  is a subspace.

For any  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $x_n = (E(n) - E(-n))x$ . Then  $x_n \in D(A(f))$  and  $x_n \rightarrow x$ . So  $D(A(f))$  is dense.

(2) It is sufficient to prove that for a fixed  $x \in D(A(f))$

$$y \mapsto \int_{\mathbb{R}} \overline{f(\lambda)} d \langle E(\lambda)y, x \rangle$$

is a linear functional. First, linearity is clear. For any  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $y \in \mathcal{H}$ , let  $a = \lambda_0 < \dots < \lambda_n = b$  be a partition of  $[a, b]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \sum_{j=1}^n \overline{f(\lambda_j)} \langle (E(\lambda_j) - E(\lambda_{j-1}))y, x \rangle \right| \\ & \leq \sum_{j=1}^n |f(\lambda_j)| |\langle (E(\lambda_j) - E(\lambda_{j-1}))y, x \rangle| \\ & \leq \sum_{j=1}^n |f(\lambda_j)| \| (E(\lambda_j) - E(\lambda_{j-1}))y \| \| (E(\lambda_j) - E(\lambda_{j-1}))x \| \\ & \leq \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^n |f(\lambda_j)|^2 \| (E(\lambda_j) - E(\lambda_{j-1}))x \|^2} \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^n \| (E(\lambda_j) - E(\lambda_{j-1}))y \|^2} \\ & \leq \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^n |f(\lambda_j)|^2 \langle E(\lambda_j) - E(\lambda_{j-1})x, x \rangle} \|y\| \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\left| \int_a^b \overline{f(\lambda)} d \langle E(\lambda)y, x \rangle \right| \leq \sqrt{\int_a^b |f(\lambda)|^2 d \langle E(\lambda)x, x \rangle} \|y\|.$$

$x \in D(A(f))$  implies that the right-hand side is bounded. So  $y \mapsto \int_{\mathbb{R}} \overline{f(\lambda)} d \langle E(\lambda)y, x \rangle$  is bounded. By Riesz representation theorem, there is a unique element, defined as  $A(f)x$ , such that

$$\langle y, A(f)x \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \overline{f(\lambda)} d \langle E(\lambda)y, x \rangle,$$

which is clear linear in  $x$ .

(3) For  $x \in D(A(f))$ , let  $y = A(f)x$ . Then

$$\|A(f)x\|^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(\lambda) d \langle E(\lambda)x, A(f)x \rangle.$$

Furthermore,

$$\langle E(\lambda)x, A(f)x \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \overline{f(\mu)} d \langle E(\lambda)x, E(\mu)x \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\lambda} \overline{f(\mu)} d \langle E(\mu)x, x \rangle$$

Therefore, we have  $\|A(f)x\|^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}} |f(\mu)|^2 d \langle E(\lambda)x, x \rangle$ .

(4) For  $x \in D(A(f))$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}} |f(\mu)|^2 d \langle E(\mu)E(\lambda)x, E(\lambda)x \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{\lambda} |f(\mu)|^2 d \langle E(\mu)x, x \rangle \\ &\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}} |f(\mu)|^2 d \langle E(\mu)x, x \rangle < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

So  $E(\lambda)x \in D(A(f))$ . Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle E(\lambda)A(f)x, y \rangle &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(\mu) d \langle E(\mu)x, E(\lambda)y \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(\mu) d \langle E(\mu)E(\lambda)x, y \rangle \\ &= \langle A(f)E(\lambda)x, y \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

So  $E(\lambda)A(f) \subset A(f)E(\lambda)$ .

(5) Clearly,  $D(A(f)) = D(A(\bar{f}))$ . For any  $x, y \in D(A(f))$ ,

$$\overline{\langle A(f)x, y \rangle} = \overline{\int_{\mathbb{R}} f(\lambda) d \langle E(\lambda)x, y \rangle} = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \overline{f(\lambda)} d \langle E(\lambda)y, x \rangle = \langle A(\bar{f})y, x \rangle$$

Therefore,  $A(\bar{f}) \subset A(f)^*$ . Conversely, for  $x \in D(A(f)^*)$ ,  $y \in \mathcal{H}$ , and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let

$$x_n = (E(n) - E(-n))x, \quad y_n = (E(n) - E(-n))y.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|A(f)^*x\| &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|(E(n) - E(-n))A(f)^*x\| \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{\|y\| \leq 1} |\langle (E(n) - E(-n))A(f)^*x, y \rangle| \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{\|y\| \leq 1} |\langle A(f)^*x, y_n \rangle| \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{\|y\| \leq 1} |\langle x, A(f)y_n \rangle| \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{\|y\| \leq 1} |\langle x_n, A(f)y_n \rangle| \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{\|y\| \leq 1} |\langle A(\bar{f})x_n, y \rangle| \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|A(\bar{f})x_n\| \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\int_{\mathbb{R}} |f(\lambda)|^2 d \langle x_n, E(\lambda)x_n \rangle} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\int_{-n}^n |f(\lambda)|^2 d \langle x, E(\lambda)x \rangle} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $x \in D(A(f)) = D(A(\bar{f}))$ .

(6) By (5),  $A(f) = A(\bar{f})^*$  is closed.

(7) It is also by (5).

(8) It is by (3).

(9) First,  $A(f)$  is bounded and  $\|A(f)x\|^2 = \|x\|^2$  by (3). So  $A(f)^*A(f) = I$  and  $A(\bar{f})^*A(\bar{f}) = I$ , which implies that  $A(f)A(f)^* = I$ .  $\square$

Such  $A(f)$  is denoted by

$$A(f) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(\lambda) dE(\lambda).$$

*Remark 5.10.* Note that if  $A = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \lambda dE(\lambda)$ , then one can see

$$A^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \lambda^2 dE(\lambda)$$

So by induction, we have  $A^n = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \lambda^n dE(\lambda)$ . So by linearity, for any analytic function  $f(\lambda) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \lambda^n$ ,

$$A(f) = \sum_n^{\infty} a_n A^n.$$

**Definition 5.11.** Let  $\{E(\lambda)\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}$  be a resolution of the identity. If there are  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  such that  $E(\lambda_1) = 0$  and  $E(\lambda_2) = I$ , then  $\{E(\lambda)\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}$  is called bounded.

**Proposition 5.12.**  $A = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \lambda dE(\lambda)$  is bounded if and only if  $\{E(\lambda)\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}$  is bounded.

*Proof.* If  $A$  is bounded, for any  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ ,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \lambda^2 d\langle E(\lambda)x, x \rangle = \|Ax\|^2 \leq \|A\|^2 \|x\|^2.$$

Assume there is a sequence  $\lambda_n < 0$  with  $\lambda_n \rightarrow -\infty$  such that  $E(\lambda_n) \neq 0$ . Choose a sequence  $x_n \in E(\lambda_n)\mathcal{H}$  with  $\|x_n\| = 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \lambda^2 d\langle E(\lambda)x_n, x_n \rangle &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \lambda^2 d\langle E(\lambda)E(\lambda_n)x_n, x_n \rangle \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\lambda_n} \lambda^2 d\langle E(\lambda)x_n, x_n \rangle \\ &\geq \lambda_n^2 \langle E(\lambda_n)x_n, x_n \rangle = \lambda_n^2, \end{aligned}$$

which induces a contradiction. And the similar reasoning for  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ .

Conversely, if  $E(\lambda_1) = 0$  and  $E(\lambda_2) = I$ , then

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \lambda^2 d\langle E(\lambda)x, x \rangle \leq \int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} \lambda^2 d\langle E(\lambda)x, x \rangle \leq \max\{\lambda_1^2, \lambda_2^2\} \|x\|^2.$$

Therefore,  $D(A) = \mathcal{H}$  and  $\|A\| \leq \max\{|\lambda_1|, |\lambda_2|\}$ . □

**Definition 5.13.** Let  $\{E(\lambda)\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}$  be a resolution of the identity.

$$E(\{\lambda\}) = E(\lambda) - E(\lambda - 0).$$

If  $E(\{\lambda\}) \neq 0$ , then  $E(\lambda)$  is called uncontinuous at  $\lambda$ .

**Proposition 5.14.** Let  $\{E(\lambda)\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}}$  be a resolution of the identity and  $A = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \lambda dE(\lambda)$ .

- (1)  $x \in \ker(A - \mu I)$  if and only if the function  $\lambda \mapsto \|E(\lambda)x\|^2$  is constant except for  $\lambda = \mu$ .
- (2)  $E(\{\mu\})$  is the orthogonal projection onto  $\ker(A - \mu I)$ .

*Proof.* (1) For  $x \in D(A)$ ,

$$\|(A - \mu I)x\|^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}} (\lambda - \mu)^2 d\langle E(\lambda)x, x \rangle.$$



(2) Let  $x \in \ker(A - \mu I)$ . By (1), when  $\lambda < \mu$ ,

$$\|E(\lambda)x\| = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow -\infty} \|E(\lambda)x\| = 0,$$

and when  $\lambda > \mu$ ,

$$\|E(\lambda)x\| = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \|E(\lambda)x\| = \|x\|^2.$$

Therefore,  $E(\mu - 0)x = 0$  and  $E(\mu)x = x$ .

Conversely, for any  $x \in \text{Im } E(\{\mu\})$ ,

$$E(\lambda)x = \begin{cases} x, & \lambda > \mu \\ 0, & \lambda < \mu. \end{cases}$$

Therefore, by (1),  $x \in \ker(A - \mu I)$ .

□

**Lemma 5.15.** For a  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , if  $0 \leq A \leq 1$ , then  $\|A\| \leq 1$ .

*Proof.* Because  $A$  is self-adjoint and  $A \geq 0$ , the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality implies that

$$\langle Ax, y \rangle \leq \langle Ax, x \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \langle Ay, y \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Choose  $y = Ax$  and  $A \leq 1$ ,

$$\langle Ax, Ax \rangle = |\langle Ax, x \rangle|^{1/2} |\langle A^2x, Ax \rangle|^{1/2} \leq |\langle x, x \rangle|^{1/2} |\langle Ax, Ax \rangle|^{1/2}$$

Therefore,  $\|Ax\| \leq \|x\|$ .

□

**Lemma 5.16.** Let  $\{A_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  such that

$$0 \leq A_1 \leq \cdots \leq A_n \leq \cdots \leq A.$$

Then  $A_n$  is convergent in SOT.

*Proof.* It can assume  $A = \alpha I$ . Furthermore, by replacing  $A_n$  by  $\frac{1}{\alpha}A_n$ , we can assume  $\alpha = 1$ .

For  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ ,  $\{\langle A_n x, x \rangle\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a bounded and monotone increasing sequence, so it converges. Furthermore, if  $m > n$ , by Cauchy-Schwarz inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle (A_m - A_n)x, (A_m - A_n)x \rangle &\leq \langle (A_m - A_n)x, x \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \langle (A_m - A_n)^2 x, (A_m - A_n)x \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq \langle (A_m - A_n)x, x \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \langle (A_m - A_n)x, (A_m - A_n)x \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}}, \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality is because  $A_m - A_n \leq 1$  and above lemma. Therefore,

$$\|(A_m - A_n)x\| \leq \langle (A_m - A_n)x, x \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \rightarrow 0,$$

and it is Cauchy. Let  $Bx := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n x$ . Moreover,  $\|A_n x\| \leq \|x\|$  by above lemma implies that  $\|Bx\| \leq \|x\|$ . So  $B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $A_n \rightarrow B$  in SOT. □

**Theorem 5.17.** Let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  with  $A \geq 0$ . Then there exists a unique  $X \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  with  $X \geq 0$  such that  $X^2 = A$ . Moreover, if  $AT = TA$  for  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , then  $XT = TX$ .

*Proof.* Constructing a sequence of polynomials  $\{P_n(t)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  as  $P_0(t) = 0$  and  $P_{n+1}(t) = (t + P_n(t)^2)/2$ . Therefore,

$$P_{n+1}(t) - P_n(t) = (P_n(t) - P_{n-1}(t))(P_n(t) + P_{n-1}(t))/2.$$

WLTG, assume  $0 \leq A \leq 1$ . Let  $B = I - A$ . Then  $0 \leq B \leq 1$  and  $B^{2k}, B^{2k+1} \geq 0$ . Let  $B_n = P_n(B) \geq 0$  and so  $B_{n+1} - B_n = P_{n+1}(B) - P_n(B) \geq 0$ . By

$$\langle B_{n+1}x, x \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \langle Bx, x \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \langle B_nx, B_nx \rangle \leq \langle x, x \rangle,$$

$B_n \leq 1$  and  $\|B_n\| \leq 1$ . Therefore,

$$0 \leq B_1 \leq B_2 \leq \cdots \leq \cdots \leq I$$

By above lemma,  $B_n \rightarrow B_\infty$  in SOT and  $0 \leq B_\infty \leq 1$ . Let  $X = I - B_\infty$ . Because  $B_\infty = (B_\infty + B_\infty^2)/2$ ,

$$X^2 = (I - B_\infty)^2 = I - 2B_\infty + B_\infty^2 = I - B_\infty = A.$$

Moreover, for any  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  with  $TA = AT$ ,  $TB_n = B_nT$  and so  $TB_\infty = B_\infty T$  and  $XT = TX$ .

If there is another  $Y \geq 0$  such that  $Y^2 = A$ . Because  $YA = AY$ ,  $XY = YX$ . Therefore,  $(X + Y)(X - Y) = X^2 - Y^2 = 0$ . Let  $X = X_1^2$  and  $Y = Y_1^2$  with  $X_1, Y_1 \geq 0$ . For  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , let  $y = (X - Y)x$ .

$$\|X_1y\|^2 + \|Y_1y\|^2 = \langle (X_1^2 + Y_1^2)y, y \rangle = \langle (X + Y)(X - Y)x, y \rangle = 0.$$

So  $X_1y = Y_1y = 0$  and  $Xy = Yy = 0$ . Then

$$\|Xx - Yx\|^2 = \langle y, (X - Y)x \rangle = \langle (X - Y)y, x \rangle = 0.$$

Therefore,  $X = Y$ . □

**Definition 5.18** (Root and Absolute). For  $A \geq 0$ , let  $X = A^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . For any  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , let  $|A| = (A^*A)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ .

**Definition 5.19** (Partial Isometry). Let  $U \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . If  $U: (\ker U)^\perp \rightarrow \text{Im } U$  is an isometry, then  $U$  is called a partial isometry.

**Theorem 5.20** (Polar Decomposition). Let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . Then there exists a unique partial isometry  $U$  such that  $\ker U = \ker A = \ker |A|$ ,  $\text{Im } U = \overline{\text{Im } A}$ , and  $A = U|A|$ .

*Proof.* For  $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$ , by

$$\langle Ax, Ay \rangle = \langle |A|x, |A|y \rangle,$$

$\ker A = \ker |A|$ . Define  $U_0: \text{Im } |A| \rightarrow \text{Im } A$  by

$$U_0|A|x = Ax.$$

So it is well-defined and inner product-preserving. Then it can be extended to  $U: \overline{\text{Im } |A|} \rightarrow \overline{\text{Im } A}$ . Moreover, let  $U|_{\overline{\text{Im } |A|}^\perp} = 0$ . So  $U$  is a partial isometry and  $\text{Im } U = \overline{\text{Im } A}$ . Because

$$\overline{\text{Im } |A|}^\perp = \ker |A| = \ker A,$$

$\ker U = \ker A$ . So  $A = U|A|$ . The uniqueness is obvious. □

**Definition 5.21.** Let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . Let  $K \subset \mathcal{H}$  be a closed subspace and  $P$  is the orthogonal projection onto  $K$ . If  $PD(A) \subset D(A)$  and  $PA \subset AP$ , then  $P$  (or  $K$ ) is called reducing  $A$ .

*Remark 5.22.* In such case,  $(I-P)A \subset A(I-P)$ , i.e.,  $K$  reducing  $A$  is equivalent to  $K^\perp$  reducing  $A$ . Then consider  $A_K: D(A_K) \rightarrow K$  for  $D(A_K) = D(A) \cap K$ , which is a linear operator on  $K$ .

**Proposition 5.23.** *Let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . Let  $K \subset \mathcal{H}$  be a closed subspace and  $P$  is the orthogonal projection onto  $K$ . If  $K$  reduces  $A$ , the the following statements are true.*

- (1) *If  $A$  is closed, then  $A_K$  is closed.*
- (2) *If  $D(A)$  is dense in  $\mathcal{H}$ , then  $D(A_K)$  is dense in  $K$ . In such case,  $(A^*)_K = (A_K)^*$ .*
- (3) *If  $A$  is unitary, then  $A_K$  is unitary.*
- (4) *If  $A$  is self-adjoint, then  $A_K$  is self-adjoint.*
- (5)  $\sigma(A) = \sigma(A_K) \cup \sigma(A_{K^\perp})$ .

*Proof.* (1) Let  $x_n \in K \cap D(A)$  with  $x_n \rightarrow x$  and  $Ax_n \rightarrow y$ . Because  $K$  is closed,  $x, y \in K$ . Furthermore, because  $A$  is closed,  $Ax = y$ .

- (2) Let  $x \in K$ . There exists  $x_n \in D(A)$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow x$  and so  $Px_n \rightarrow x$ . Because  $Px_n \in D(A_K)$ ,  $D(A_K)$  is dense.

$PA \subset AP$  implies that  $PA^* \subset A^*P$ . For  $x \in D((A_K)^*) \subset K$  and  $y \in D(A)$ ,

$$\langle (A_K)^*x, y \rangle = \langle (A_K)^*x, Py \rangle = \langle x, A_KPy \rangle = \langle x, APy \rangle = \langle x, PAy \rangle = \langle x, Ay \rangle$$

Therefore,  $x \in D(A^*) \cap K$  and  $(A_K)^* \subset (A^*)_K$ .

Conversely, if  $x \in D(A^*) \cap K$ , for any  $y \in D(A_K)$ ,

$$\langle (A^*)_Kx, y \rangle = \langle A^*x, y \rangle = \langle x, Ay \rangle = \langle x, A_Ky \rangle,$$

so  $x \in D((A_K)^*)$ .

- (3) It is directly by (2).
- (4) It is by (2).
- (5) Let  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$ . Then  $A_K - \lambda I_K$  and  $A_{K^\perp} - \lambda I_{K^\perp}$  are injective. For any  $y \in \mathcal{H}$ , let  $x_n \in D(A)$  with  $(A - \lambda I)x_n \rightarrow y$ . If  $y \in K$ , because  $PA \subset AP$ ,  $(A - \lambda I)Px_n \rightarrow Py = y$ . So  $\overline{\text{Im}(A_K - \lambda I_K)} = K$ . Similarly,  $\overline{\text{Im}(A_{K^\perp} - \lambda I_{K^\perp})} = K^\perp$ . Moreover, let  $\|(A - \lambda)^{-1}\| = C$ . Therefore, it is clearly

$$\begin{aligned} \|(A_K - \lambda I_K)x\| &\geq C\|x\|, \quad \forall x \in D(A_K), \\ \|(A_{K^\perp} - \lambda I_{K^\perp})x\| &\geq C\|x\|, \quad \forall x \in D(A_{K^\perp}), \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $\rho(A) \subset \rho(A_K) \cup \rho(A_{K^\perp})$ .

Conversely, let  $\lambda \in \rho(A_K) \cap \rho(A_{K^\perp})$ . Then  $A_K - \lambda I_K$  and  $A_{K^\perp} - \lambda I_{K^\perp}$  are injective. So  $A - \lambda I$  is also injective. For any  $y \in \mathcal{H}$ , there exist  $x'_n \in D(A) \cap K$  such that  $(A - \lambda I)x'_n \rightarrow Py$ , and  $x''_n \in D(A) \cap K^\perp$  such that  $(A - \lambda I)x''_n \rightarrow (I - P)y$ . Therefore,  $x_n = x'_n + x''_n \in D(A)$  and  $(A - \lambda I)x_n \rightarrow y$ . It follows that  $\overline{\text{Im}(A - \lambda I)} = \mathcal{H}$ . Furthermore, let  $C_1 = \|(A_K - \lambda I_K)^{-1}\|$  and  $C_2 = \|(A_{K^\perp} - \lambda I_{K^\perp})^{-1}\|$ . Then

$$\|(A - \lambda I)x\|^2 \geq C_1^2\|Px\|^2 + C_2^2\|(I - P)x\|^2,$$

which implies that  $(A - \lambda I)^{-1}$  is bounded. □

## 6 Spectral Decomposition for Bounded Self-adjoint Operator

**Theorem 6.1.** *Let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  be self-adjoint and  $A = U|A|$  be its polar decomposition.*

- (1)  $\text{Im } A = \text{Im } |A|$  and  $U = U^*$ .
- (2) If  $A$  is commutative with all bounded operators, so is  $U$ .
- (3) Therefore are reducing spaces  $\mathcal{H}_\pm$  such that

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_+ \oplus \mathcal{H}_- \oplus \ker A$$

and  $A_+ \geq 0$  and  $A_- \leq 0$ .

- (4) If  $K$  reduces  $A$  and  $A_K \geq 0$ , then  $K \subset \mathcal{H}_+ \oplus \ker A$ . So is  $\mathcal{H}_-$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $A = A^* = |A|U^*$ . So  $\text{Im } A \subset \text{Im } |A|$ . Conversely,

$$A^2 = AA^* = U|A|^2U^* = (U|A|U^*)^2$$

By the uniqueness of root,  $|A| = U|A|U^* = AU^*$ . So  $\text{Im } |A| \subset \text{Im } A$ .

Furthermore, we have

$$U^*|A| = U^*U|A|U^* = |A|U^*$$

and

$$\ker U^* = (\text{Im } U)^\perp = (\text{Im } A)^\perp = \ker A.$$

So by the uniqueness of the polar decomposition,  $U = U^*$ .

- (2) If  $AB = BA$ , then  $|A|B = B|A|$  because  $A$  is self-adjoint. So

$$BU|A| = U|A|B.$$

Therefore,  $BU = UB$  on  $\text{Im } |A|$ . On the other hand, for any  $x \in \ker |A| = (\text{Im } |A|)^\perp$ , because  $\ker |A| = \ker U$ ,  $BUx = 0$ . Moreover,  $ABx = BAx = 0$ , i.e.,  $Bx \in \ker A = \ker U$ . It follows that  $UBx = 0$ . Therefore,  $UB = BU$ .

- (3) First,  $\mathcal{H} = \ker A \oplus \overline{\text{Im } A}$ .  $U^2 = U^*U$  is the identity on  $\overline{\text{Im } A}$ . Let  $\mathcal{H}_+$  be the image of  $(I+U)/2$  on  $\overline{\text{Im } A}$  and  $\mathcal{H}_-$  be the image of  $(I-U)/2$  on  $\overline{\text{Im } A}$ . It follows that  $\mathcal{H}_- \perp \mathcal{H}_+$ , and  $\overline{\text{Im } A} = \mathcal{H}_+ \oplus \mathcal{H}_-$ . Because  $UA = AU$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_\pm$  reduces  $A$ . For  $x \in \mathcal{H}_+$ ,  $Ux = x$ , so

$$Ax = U|A|x = |A|Ux = |A|x$$

and for  $x \in \mathcal{H}_-$ ,  $Ux = -x$ , so

$$Ax = U|A|x = |A|Ux = -|A|x.$$

- (4) Let  $Q$  and  $P_\pm$  be the corresponding orthogonal projections onto  $K$  and  $\mathcal{H}_\pm$  respectively. Because  $AQ = QA$ ,  $UQ = QU$ , i.e.,  $P_\pm$  also commutative with  $Q$ . So  $QP_-$  is also an orthogonal projection and it suffices to show  $QP_- = 0$ . For any  $x \in \text{Im } QP_- = \text{Im } P_-Q$ ,

$$\langle Ax, x \rangle \geq 0, \quad \langle Ax, x \rangle \leq 0,$$

so  $\langle Ax, x \rangle = 0$ . On  $K$ , because  $A_K \geq 0$ , Cauchy-Schwarz inequality implies that

$$\langle Ax, Ax \rangle \leq \langle Ax, x \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \langle A^2x, Ax \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} = 0$$

It follows that  $x \in \ker A \cap \mathcal{H}_- = 0$ . □

**Theorem 6.2.** Let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  be self-adjoint. There is a unique resolution of the identity  $\{E(\lambda)\}$  such that

$$A = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \lambda dE(\lambda).$$

Furthermore, when  $\lambda < -\|A\|$ ,  $E(\lambda) = 0$ , and  $E(\lambda) = I$  for  $\lambda > \|A\|$ .

*Proof.* For  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , let

$$A - \lambda I = U(\lambda) |A - \lambda I|$$

be the polar decomposition and let

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_+(\lambda) \oplus \mathcal{H}_-(\lambda) \oplus \ker(A - \lambda I).$$

Denote  $A_{\pm}(\lambda)$  be  $A|_{\mathcal{H}_{\pm}}$ , and thus  $A_+(\lambda) \geq \lambda$  and  $A_-(\lambda) \leq \lambda$ . Denote  $P_0(\lambda)$  and  $P_{\pm}(\lambda)$  be orthogonal projections onto  $\ker(A - \lambda I)$  and  $\mathcal{H}_{\pm}(\lambda)$ . Let  $E(\lambda) := P_0(\lambda) + P_-(\lambda)$ .

$$H(\lambda) := E(\lambda)H = H_-(\lambda) \oplus \ker(A - \lambda I).$$

and so  $H(\lambda)$  reduces  $A$ .

- (1) For  $x \in \mathcal{H}(\lambda)$ , if  $\lambda < \mu$ , by  $\langle (A - \lambda I)x, x \rangle \leq 0$ ,  $\langle (A - \mu I)x, x \rangle \leq 0$ . Therefore,  $E(\lambda) \leq E(\mu)$  by (4) in above theorem.
- (2) If  $\lambda < -\|A\|$ , for  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  with  $x \neq 0$ ,

$$\langle (A - \lambda I)x, x \rangle > \langle Ax, x \rangle + \|A\| \|x\|^2 \geq \langle Ax, x \rangle + |\langle Ax, x \rangle| \geq 0,$$

which implies that  $E(\lambda) = 0$ . Similarly,  $\lambda > \|A\|$  implies that  $E(\lambda) = I$ .

- (3) When  $\lambda < \mu$ , by  $(A - \mu I)E(\mu) \leq 0$  and  $(A - \lambda I)(I - E(\lambda)) \geq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (A - \mu I)(E(\mu) - E(\lambda)) &\leq 0, \\ (A - \lambda I)(E(\mu) - E(\lambda)) &\geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\lambda(E(\mu) - E(\lambda)) \leq A(E(\mu) - E(\lambda)) \leq \mu(E(\mu) - E(\lambda)).$$

As  $\mu \rightarrow \lambda + 0$ ,  $(A - \lambda I)(E(\lambda + 0) - E(\lambda)) = 0$ . So

$$(E(\lambda + 0) - E(\lambda))\mathcal{H} \subset \ker(A - \lambda I) \subset E(\lambda)\mathcal{H},$$

which implies that  $E(\lambda + 0) - E(\lambda) = 0$ .

- (4) choose  $\lambda_0 < -\|A\|$ ,  $\lambda_n > \|A\|$ , and  $\lambda_0 < \lambda_1 < \dots < \lambda_n$ , by above

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_{k-1} (E(\lambda_k) - E(\lambda_{k-1})) &\leq \sum_{k=1}^n A(E(\lambda_k) - E(\lambda_{k-1})) = A \\ &\leq \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_k (E(\lambda_k) - E(\lambda_{k-1})). \end{aligned}$$

Then, for  $\lambda'_k \in (\lambda_{k-1}, \lambda_k]$  and  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} -\sum_{k=1}^n (\lambda'_k - \lambda_{k-1}) \langle (E(\lambda_k) - E(\lambda_{k-1}))x, x \rangle &\leq \left\langle \left( A - \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda'_k (E(\lambda_k) - E(\lambda_{k-1})) \right) x, x \right\rangle \\ &\leq \sum_{k=1}^n (\lambda_k - \lambda'_k) \langle (E(\lambda_k) - E(\lambda_{k-1}))x, x \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\Delta = \max_{1 \leq k \leq n} |\lambda_k - \lambda_{k-1}|$ . So

$$-\Delta \|x\|^2 \leq \left\langle A - \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda'_k (E(\lambda_k) - E(\lambda_{k-1})) x, x \right\rangle \leq \Delta \|x\|^2.$$

It follows that

$$A = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \lambda dE(\lambda).$$

(5) If  $A = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \lambda dF(\lambda)$  for another  $F(\lambda)$ . Let

$$A_\lambda = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\mu - \lambda| dF(\mu).$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle A_\lambda^2 x, x \rangle &= \langle A_\lambda x, A_\lambda x \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\mu - \lambda|^2 d\langle F(\mu)x, x \rangle \\ &= \langle (A - \lambda I)x, (A - \lambda I)x \rangle = \langle (A - \lambda I)^2 x, x \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $A_\lambda^2 = (A - \lambda I)^2$ . Because  $A_\lambda \geq 0$ , by the uniqueness of root,  $A_\lambda = |A - \lambda I|$ . Let  $V(\lambda) = I - F(\lambda) - F(\lambda - 0)$ . For  $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle V(\lambda)A_\lambda x, y \rangle &= \int_{\mu < \lambda} |\mu - \lambda| d\langle F(\mu)x, (I - F(\lambda) - F(\lambda - 0))y \rangle \\ &\quad + \int_{\mu > \lambda} |\mu - \lambda| d\langle F(\mu)x, (I - F(\lambda) - F(\lambda - 0))y \rangle \\ &= - \int_{\mu < \lambda} (\lambda - \mu) d\langle F(\mu)x, y \rangle + \int_{\mu > \lambda} (\mu - \lambda) d\langle F(\mu)x, y \rangle \\ &= \langle (A - \lambda I)x, y \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

So  $A - \lambda I = V(\lambda)A_\lambda$ . Furthermore,

$$V(\lambda)^2 = I - F(\lambda) + F(\lambda - 0) = I - F(\{\lambda\})$$

is a projection,  $V(\lambda)$  is a partial isometry. Because  $\ker(A - \lambda I) = F(\{\lambda\}) = \ker V(\lambda)$ ,  $A - \lambda I = V(\lambda)|A - \lambda I|$  is the polar decomposition. So  $U(\lambda) = V(\lambda)$  and thus  $E(\lambda) = F(\lambda)$ .  $\square$

## 7 Spectral Measure

**Definition 7.1** (Spectral Measure). Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a Hilbert space and  $(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathcal{B}^d)$  be the Borel measure space. If a family of orthogonal projections  $\{E(B)\}_{B \in \mathcal{B}^d}$  satisfies

- (1)  $E(\emptyset) = 0$  and  $E(\mathbb{R}^d) = I$ ,
- (2) for  $B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{B}^d$ ,  $E(B_1)E(B_2) = E(B_1 \cap B_2)$ ,
- (3) for disjoint  $\{B_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset \mathcal{B}^d$ ,

$$\sum_{n=1}^N E(B_n) \rightarrow E(\cup_n B_n)$$

in SOT as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ ,

then  $E$  is called a  $d$ -dimensional spectral measure.

*Remark 7.2.* By (2),  $\sum_{n=1}^N E(B_n)$  is still an orthogonal projection. By (3), for  $B_1 \subset B_2$ ,  $E(B_2) = E(B_1) + E(B_2 \setminus B_1)$ , so  $E(B_1) \leq E(B_2)$ .

**Proposition 7.3.** *Let  $E$  be a 1-dimensional spectral measure. Then denote  $E(\lambda) = E((-\infty, \lambda])$ , which is a resolution of the identity. Furthermore, the integral with respect to  $\langle E(\lambda)x, x \rangle$  is as same as  $\langle E(B)x, x \rangle$ .*

**Proposition 7.4.** *For  $F: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , if it satisfies*

- (1) *there exists  $C$  such that  $|F(x)| \leq C\|x\|^2$ ,*
- (2)  *$F(x+y) + F(x-y) = 2F(x) + 2F(y)$ ,*
- (3) *for  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ ,  $F(\alpha x) = |\alpha|^2 F(x)$ ,*

*then there exists  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  that is self-adjoint such that  $F(x) = \langle Ax, x \rangle$ .*

*Proof.* For  $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$ ,

$$B(x, y) = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=0}^3 i^k F(x + i^k y),$$

which implies that  $B(y, x) = \overline{B(x, y)}$  and  $B(x, 0) = 0$ . By (2) and (3),

$$F(x + \alpha y) + F(x + \alpha z) = \frac{1}{2}(F(2x + \alpha(y + z)) + F(\alpha(y - z)))$$

Choose  $\alpha = \pm 1, \pm i$  and add them all, we get

$$4B(x, y) + 4B(x, z) = 2(B(2x, y + z) + B(0, y - z)) = 2B(2x, y + z).$$

Let  $z = 0$ , so  $2B(x, y) = B(2x, y)$  and

$$B(x, y) + B(x, z) = B(x, y + z).$$

Furthermore, it can be extended to

□