

# Diachrony of Spectra

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Postech - Unist - Kaist Joint Seminar

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# Introduction

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## Question

Why is it defined like this?

# Contents

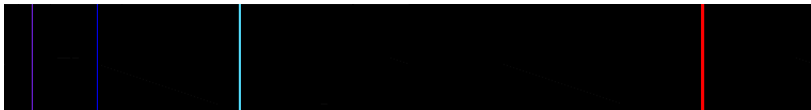
Hydrogen atom

Spectral theory on Hilbert spaces

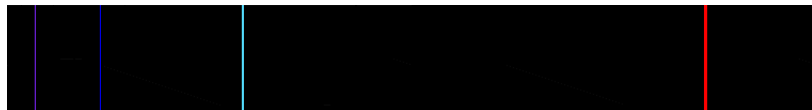
Gelfand theory

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# Hydrogen spectral series



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410.2nm

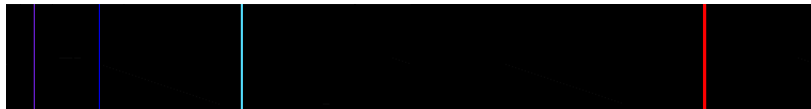
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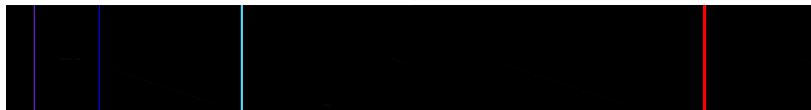
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How can we explain and compute this phenomenon?

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**A:** By the following formula!

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} = R \left( \frac{1}{n_1^2} - \frac{1}{n_2^2} \right), \quad \text{for } n_1, n_2 \in \mathbb{N}.$$

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The constant  $h$  is called the Planck constant and  $\hbar := \frac{h}{2\pi}$ .

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From the three relations

$$mvr = n\hbar, \quad \frac{mv^2}{r} = -k \frac{(+e)(-e)}{r^2}, \quad E = K + V = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 - k \frac{e^2}{r},$$



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## Proposition (Rydberg formula)

*The wavelengths  $\lambda$  of absorbed or emitted photons from a hydrogen atom is estimated by the following formula:*

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} = R \left( \frac{1}{n_1^2} - \frac{1}{n_2^2} \right), \quad \text{for } n_1, n_2 \in \mathbb{N},$$

where  $R := \frac{k^2 e^4 m}{4\pi\hbar^3 c}$  is the Rydberg constant.

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Let's solve.



# Separation of variables and Eigenvalue problems

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$\therefore$  We have two *eigenvalue problems* with *shared eigenvalue*  $E$ :

$$i\frac{d}{dt}\phi(t) = E\phi(t), \quad (-\Delta + V(x))\psi(x) = E\psi(x).$$

(Solutions may or may not exist according to  $E$ !)

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- ▶ Since  $\phi_E(t) \propto e^{-iEt}$  is easily solved, the main difficulty is  $\psi_E$ .

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Don't be so pedantic in doing physics.

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Anyway, with long long calculations and hard hard mathematics, experts have found the following result:

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- ▶ This result explains not only the discretized energy spectrum but also the number of orbitals in each electron shell!
- ▶ We call the set of eigenvalues by **spectrum** of  $\mathcal{H}$ .

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The simultaneous equation is solved when  $E = -\frac{1}{n^2}$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ :

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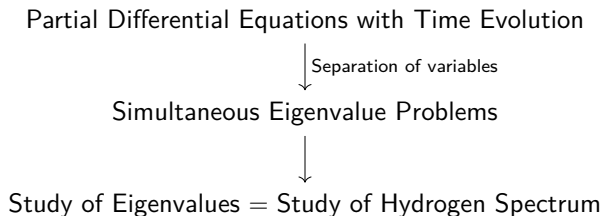
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General solution of the Schrödinger equation is like

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi(t, x) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \phi_n(t) \psi_n(x) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{i\frac{1}{n^2}t} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n^2} c_{n,i} \psi_{n,i}(x) \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{i\frac{1}{n^2}t} \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} \sum_{m=-l}^l c_{nlm} \psi_{nlm}(x).\end{aligned}$$



# Conclusion of Section 1



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In this section, we

- ▶ review the spectral theory on finite dimensional vector spaces,
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From now, we basically assume the scalar field as  $\mathbb{C}$ .

# Spectral theorem for matrices

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## Definition

Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional complex inner product space and  $A : V \rightarrow V$  be linear. (i.e., let  $A$  be a complex square matrix.) Then,  $A$  is said to be *normal* if  $AA^* = A^*A$ , and *Hermitian* if  $A = A^*$

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Note that the conjugate transpose depends on the inner product structure:  $A^*$  is defined by

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

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## Theorem (Spectral theorem for normal matrices)

*A complex square matrix  $A$  is normal if unitarily diagonalizable.*

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Remind what we did in the previous section. The purpose of separation of variables is to *construct an orthonormal basis for the solution space.*

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- ▶ The vector space  $C^n \Leftrightarrow$  Finite dimensional Hilbert space.
- ▶ The space  $L^2(X)$  is a Hilbert space with  $\langle f, g \rangle := \int_X fg \, dx$ .

# Hilbert space

## Definition

An inner product space, possibly infinite dimensional, is called a *Hilbert space* if it is complete; the metric

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- ▶ Conversely, Hilbert space usually means the  $L^2$  space of wave functions, by physicists.
- ▶ The space  $\ell^2(\mathbb{C})$  of square summable sequences is a Hilbert space with  $\langle (a_n), (b_n) \rangle := \sum_n a_n \overline{b_n}$ .

# Bounded operators

## Theorem (?)

*In finite dimensions, something linear is always continuous.*

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A linear operator  $T : H \rightarrow H$  on a Hilbert space is called *bounded* if there is a constant  $C > 0$  such that for all  $x \in H$

$$\|Ax\| \leq C\|x\|.$$

The set of bounded operators on  $H$  is denoted by  $B(H)$ .

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## Theorem

*A linear operator on a Hilbert space is bounded iff continuous.*



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Bounded operators are not enough.

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The closed ball in infinite dimensional Hilbert space is not compact: we can find a sequence not having any convergent subsequence.

## Example

An operator  $T : \ell^2 \rightarrow \ell^2$  defined by

$$T(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots) = (a_1, \frac{a_2}{2}, \frac{a_3}{3}, \dots)$$

is compact, but the identity  $I : \ell^2 \rightarrow \ell^2$

$$I(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots) = (a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots),$$

which is clearly bounded, is not compact.

# Spectral theorem for compact normal operators

## Theorem (Spectral theorem for compact normal operators)

*Let  $T$  be a compact normal operator on a separable Hilbert space. Then, there exists a countable orthonormal basis consisting of eigenvectors, with corresponding eigenvalues that converges to 0.*

## Theorem (Spectral theorem for compact self-adjoint operators)

*Let  $T$  be a compact self-adjoint operator on a separable Hilbert space. Then, there exists a countable orthonormal basis consisting of eigenvectors, with corresponding eigenvalues that are reals and converges to 0.*

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## Remark

There are some concepts we will skip:

- ▶ we did not define “separable” space,
- ▶ we did not define “countable (Schauder) basis”.

# Discrete spectrum

The operator  $-\Delta - 2|x|^{-1}$  is an example of what we call *elliptic operators* with discrete spectrum.

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The eigenvalues are distributed like

$$0 < \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \cdots \rightarrow \infty.$$

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For a free particle  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{H} = -\Delta + V = -\Delta$ , we cannot; eigenvectors exist for  $E \geq 0$ , and they are “linear combinations” of

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- ▶ Energy spectrum of free particle is not *quantized* = *discretized*.
- ▶ We want to say  $-\Delta$  has the spectrum  $[0, \infty)$ .

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## Definition

Let  $T$  be an operator on a Hilbert space  $H$ . The *spectrum* of  $T$  is defined by

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In particular,

## Definition

The *point spectrum* of  $T$  is defined by the set of eigenvalues:

$$\sigma_p(T) := \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : T - \lambda I \text{ is not injective}\}.$$

## Definition

The *continuous spectrum* of  $T$  is defined by

$$\sigma_c(T) := \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : T - \lambda I \text{ is injective but has proper dense image}\}.$$



## Conclusion of Section 2

- ▶ In infinite dimensional spaces, the spectral theorems are generalized for compact operators.
- ▶ The spectrum of an operator  $T$  is defined by

$$\{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : T - \lambda I \text{ is not invertible} \}.$$

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# $C^*$ -algebras

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## Pseudo-definition

An *algebra* is a vector space with vector multiplication.

Equivalently, a ring with scalar multiplication.

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Let  $H$  be a complex Hilbert space. Then,  $B(H)$  is a  $C^*$ -algebra.

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$C^*$ -algebras are invented to learn the abstract study of  $B(H)$ .

## Example (2)

Let  $X$  be a compact space. Then, the set of complex-valued continuous functions  $C(X, \mathbb{C})$  is a commutative  $C^*$ -algebra.

# Gelfand theory (1): continuous function space

Assumption: unless mentioned otherwise, we will only discuss *commutative unital*  $C^*$ -algebras.



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## Definition

Let  $A$  be (possibly non-commutative)  $C^*$ -algebra. A complex number  $\lambda$  is in the *spectrum* of  $a \in A$  if  $a - \lambda e$  is not invertible. The spectrum is denoted by  $\sigma(a)$ .

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What can be told for a continuous function on a compact  $X$ ? For  $C(X)$ ,

- ▶  $\sigma(f) = \text{im}(f)$ ,
- ▶ every maximal ideal is of the form  $\{f : f(x) = 0\}$  for a single point  $x \in X$ .

## Gelfand theory (2): generated $C^*$ -subalgebra

The following is also an important example to formulate functional calculus:

### Definition

Let  $A$  be a (possibly non-commutative)  $C^*$ -algebra. An element  $a \in A$  is called *normal* if  $a^*a = aa^*$ . For a normal element, a  $C^*$ -subalgebra defined by

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- ▶ the maps above are inverses of each other.

Therefore,

# Gelfand theory (2): generated $C^*$ -subalgebra

## Proposition

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## Definition

Let us define the *spectrum* of general commutative unital  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$  as the **set of maximal ideals** and denote it by  $\sigma(A)$ .

# Spectrum as a topological space

Let  $\sigma(A)$  be the spectrum of a comm. unit.  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$ .

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We set up the topology of pointwise convergence on  $\sigma(A)$ :  
for example, consider  $C(X)$ . Since  $X$  is naturally corresponded to  $\sigma(C(X))$   
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## Example

For the space  $\ell^1$  of summable sequences, the spectrum is the unit circle:  
 $\sigma(\ell^1) = \mathbb{T}$ .

## Example

Let  $X$  be compact Hausdorff. Then,  $\sigma(C(X))$  is homeomorphic to  $X$ .



# Gelfand-Naimark theorem

Finally, we state the Gelfand-Naimark theorem.

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## Theorem (Gelfand-Naimark, 1943)

*Let  $A$  be a commutative unital  $C^*$ -algebra. Then, we have a  $C^*$ -algebra isomorphism*

$$A \rightarrow C(\sigma(A)).$$

*This map is called Gelfand representation.*

# Conclusion of Section 3

Transitions of definition:

- ▶ Spectrum of  $a \in A \rightarrow$  generalized eigenvalues;
  - ▶ Spectrum of  $a \in C(X) \rightarrow$  image of function;
  - ▶ Spectrum of  $a \in C^*(a) \rightarrow$  maximal ideals;
- $\Downarrow$
- ▶ Spectrum of  $C(X) :=$  maximal ideals = domain = image of  $\text{inj}$ ,
  - ▶ Spectrum of  $A :=$  maximal ideals ( $\approx$  domain(?)).

$$\text{Spectrum} \iff \{\text{Maximal ideals}\} \iff \{\text{Points}\}$$

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In this section, assume that a “ring” is a commutative and unital one.

# Algebraic variety

## Remark

We give basic definitions here. For simplicity, we will do everything in the three dimension  $\mathbb{C}^3$ . Every concept is directly generalized to arbitrary dimensions.

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## Definition

Let  $T \subset \mathbb{C}[x, y, z]$  and define

$$Z(T) := \{p \in \mathbb{C}^3 : f(p) = 0 \text{ for all } f \in T\}.$$

An *algebraic set* is a subset  $V$  of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  satisfying  $V = Z(T)$  for some  $T$ .

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## Definition

Let  $Y \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  and define

$$I(Y) := \{f \in \mathbb{C}[x, y, z] : f(p) = 0 \text{ for all } p \in Y\}.$$

This is always a radical(square-free) ideal.

# Algebraic variety

## Proposition

- ▶ For an algebraic set  $V \subset \mathbb{C}^3$ , we have  $\mathcal{V}(\mathcal{I}(V)) = V$ .
- ▶ For a radical ideal  $I \subset \mathbb{C}[x, y, z]$ , we have  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{V}(I)) = I$ .

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If an algebraic set is not a union of two proper algebraic subsets, then it is called *algebraic variety*.

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algebraic sets  $\iff$  radical ideals,

algebraic varieties  $\iff$  prime ideals.

# Coordinate ring

Consider an algebraic variety  $S^2 = \{x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1\}$ . The following two functions are same on  $S^2$ :

$$f = x + 1, \quad g = x + x^2 + y^2 + z^2.$$

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## Main Philosophy of AG:

analyze the *function space* to study geometric objects!

# Krull dimension

Let us see an example that shows the power of structure rings.

Equation	Ideal	Dimension
$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	3
$x = 1$	$(x - 1)$	2 (plane)
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Coordinate rings are

$$\mathbb{C}[x, y, z], \quad \mathbb{C}[x, y, z]/(x - 1), \\ \mathbb{C}[x, y, z]/(x - 1, y - 2), \quad \mathbb{C}[x, y, z]/(x - 1, y - 2, z - 3).$$

## Definition

The *Krull dimension* of a ring  $R$  is the maximal length of chain of prime ideals.

$\therefore$  The Krull dimension of coordinate ring is same with the “dimension” of the corresponding algebraic sets.

# Maximal ideal is a point

Second example.

## Theorem

*The ideal  $(x - a, y - b, z - c)$  is maximal in  $\mathbb{C}[x, y, z]$ .*

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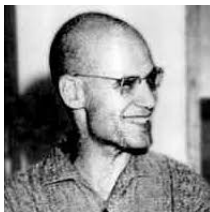
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This theorem implies that we have the following correspondence:

points  $\iff$  maximal ideals.

# Alexander Grothendieck

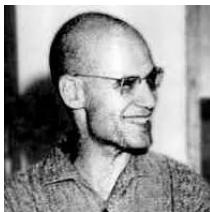


Alexander Grothendieck (1928 - 2014)

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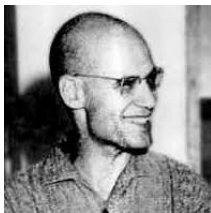


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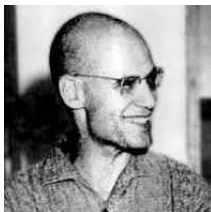


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*original major: functional analysis!!!*

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# Problems of maximal ideals

First trial:

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But it had two problems:

1. The codomain is not unified;
2. We want the spectrum to have a *functoriality*.

# Gelfand-Mazur theorem

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## Proposition

*Inverse image of prime ideal under a ring homomorphism is prime.*

# Conclusion

When Grothendieck transplanted the idea of spectrum from functional analysis to algebraic geometry, the following definition comes up:

## Definition

Let  $R$  be a ring. The spectrum of  $R$  is the set of prime ideals.