

Geometry of Differential operators

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This is very preliminary version of lectures which I plan to have on the School to
Workshop. Lectures contain textbook stuff+ something that I did with Ted Voronov
(mostly the first part) and something that I did with Adam Biggs (end of the second
part)).

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1 Differential operators and algebra of densities

1.1 Differential operators on functions

M is a manifold.

We say that Δ is an operator on functions on M of the order $\leq n$ if for an arbitrary function g $\Delta_g = g \circ \Delta - \Delta \circ g$ is an operator of the order $\leq n - 1$. (non-zero operator L has order 0 if it is linear with respect to algebra of functions: $L(fg) = fL(g)$)

$\mathbf{X}(fg) = f\mathbf{X}(g) + g\mathbf{X}(f)$. Every linear operator that obeys this identity is a vector field. One can see that L is first order operator if $L = \mathbf{X} + R$ where $R = L(1)$ is a function (scalar). What about higher order operators?

If Δ is n -th order operator on functions then

$$\Delta = S^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} \partial_{i_1} \dots \partial_{i_n} + T^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_{n-1}} \partial_{i_1} \dots \partial_{i_{n-1}} + \dots$$

The first term $S^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} \partial_{i_1} \dots \partial_{i_n}$ transforms in the following way under changing of coordinates:

$$S^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} = \frac{\partial x^{i'_1}}{\partial x^{i_1}} \frac{\partial x^{i'_2}}{\partial x^{i_2}} \dots \frac{\partial x^{i'_n}}{\partial x^{i_n}} S^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n}$$

This is symmetric n -th order contravariant tensor *principal symbol* of operator Δ .

What about the next terms?

Consider this question in more detail for second order operators

1.1.1 Second order operators on functions and connections

Let Δ be second order operator. In local coordinates $\Delta = S^{ij} \partial_i \partial_j + T^i \partial_i$.

We already know that first order operator is vector field+scalar. Use it. Consider a scalar product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_\rho = \int_M fg \rho$, where $\rho = \rho(x)|Dx|$ is an arbitrary volume form. Then with respect to this scalar product consider conjugate operator:

$$\Delta^+ = \frac{1}{\rho} \partial_i \partial_j S^{ij} - \frac{1}{\rho} \partial_i T^i + R.$$

We see that

$$\Delta^+ - \Delta = 2\partial_r S^{ri} + 2S^{ik} \partial_k \log \rho \partial_i - 2T^i \partial_i + \dots$$

is first order operator. Hence

$$K^i = 2\partial_r S^{ri} + 2S^{ik}\partial_k \log \rho \partial_i - 2T^i \partial_i$$

is the vector field.

$\gamma_k = \partial_k \log \rho$ defines connection...

What is it a connection? It defines derivative of an arbitrary volume form:

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}(f\boldsymbol{\rho}') = \partial_{\mathbf{x}} f \boldsymbol{\rho}' + f \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \boldsymbol{\rho}'$$

Denote by γ_k : $\gamma_k = \nabla_k |Dx|$ in given coordinates. Then

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}(f\boldsymbol{\rho}') = \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}(f\rho'(x)|Dx|) = X^i (\partial_i(f\rho') + \gamma_i f \rho'(x)) |Dx|.$$

An arbitrary volume $\boldsymbol{\rho}$ form defines flat connection ∇ :

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}: \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\rho}}(\boldsymbol{\rho}') = \partial_{\mathbf{x}} \left(\frac{\boldsymbol{\rho}'}{\boldsymbol{\rho}} \right)$$

with $\Gamma_k = -\partial_k \log \boldsymbol{\rho}$.

Returning to our second order operator we see that

$$T^i = \partial_r S^{ri} + S^{ik} \partial_k \log \rho - \frac{1}{2} K^i = \partial_r S^{ri} + \Gamma^i - \frac{1}{2} K^i = \partial_r S^{ri} + \gamma^i$$

Fact $T^i - \partial_r S^{ri}$ is *upper connection* or in the other words: An arbitrary second order operator Δ has an appearance:

$$\Delta f = \partial_i (S^{ik} \partial_k f) - \gamma^i \partial_i + R$$

where γ^i upper connection, R scalar. We see that connection appears....

Example In Riemannian manifold one can consider connection $\gamma_i = -\Gamma_{ik}^k$. This connection with Riemannian metrics defines the well-known Beltrami-Laplace operator:

$$\Delta_{B.L} f = \partial_i (g^{ik} \partial_k f) - \gamma^i \partial_i. \quad (1.1)$$

1.2 Algebra of densities.

We will go to densities. (This is very useful.) Density $\mathbf{s} = s(x)|Dx|^\lambda$ of the weight λ . Under changing of coordinates it is multiplied on λ -th power of Jacobian. (M is orientable manifold with chosen class of orientation.)

Examples of densities

Functions –densities of weight $\lambda = 0$.

Volume forms –densities of the weight $\lambda = 1$

Wave function –densities of the weight $\lambda = \frac{1}{2}$

Schwarzian of diffeomorphism F –densities of the weight $\lambda = 2$...

1.2.1 Lie derivative of densities

In local coordinates

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}(s) = (X^i \partial_i s(x) + \lambda \partial_i X^i s(x)) |Dx|$$

One can easily check its invariance. If $\lambda = 1$ we come to divergence

$$\operatorname{div}_{\rho} \mathbf{X} = \frac{1}{\rho} \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}(\rho) = (X^i \partial_i \rho(x) + \lambda \partial_i X^i \rho(x)) |Dx| = \frac{1}{\rho(x)} \partial_i (\rho(x) X^i)$$

Exercise In Riemannian case where $\rho = \sqrt{\det g}$. Compare with covariant divergence.

Exercise For Beltrami Laplace operator

$$\Delta_{B.L} f = \operatorname{div}_{\rho} \operatorname{grad} f = \frac{1}{\rho(x)} \partial_i (\rho(x) g^{ik} \partial_k f)$$

1.2.2 Algebra of densities. Scalar product. Extended manifold \widehat{M} .

Density on M is a polynomial function on \widehat{M} .

Local coordinates on \widehat{M} – (x^i, t) . Globally defined operator

$$\widehat{\lambda} = t \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$$

Fact This is first order operator, vector field on \widehat{M} .

1.2.3 Conjugate operators. Vector fields on \widehat{M}

Vector fields of weight δ :

$$\widehat{\mathbf{X}} = t^{\delta} (X^i \partial_i + X^0 \widehat{\lambda})$$

definition

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{X} = - \left(\widehat{\mathbf{X}}^+ + \widehat{\mathbf{X}} \right) = t^\delta \left(\partial_i X^i \partial_i + (\delta - 1) \right) X^0$$

Fact: Lie derivative—divergence less vector field:

$$\widehat{\mathbf{X}} = X^i \partial_i - \widehat{\lambda} \partial_i X^i$$

Exercise A connection on M defines lifting

$$\mathbf{X} \mapsto \widehat{\mathbf{X}}_\gamma = X^i \partial_i + \gamma_i X^i \widehat{\lambda}$$

Thus we come to

$$\operatorname{div}_\gamma = \widehat{\mathbf{X}}_\gamma$$

remark The divergence possesses curvature:

$$\operatorname{div}_\gamma [\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}] = \partial_{\mathbf{X}} \operatorname{div}_\gamma \mathbf{Y} - \partial_{\mathbf{Y}} \operatorname{div}_\gamma \mathbf{X} + \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$$

where $\mathcal{F}_{ik} = \partial_i \gamma_k - \partial_k \gamma_i$ is a curvature of connection. (Recall that Ricci tensor for general affine connection is not symmetric.)

Exercise: An arbitrary vector field $\widehat{\mathbf{X}}$ is a sum of Lie derivative and vertical vector fields.

One can consider another lifting $\mathbf{X} \mapsto \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}} \dots$. Difference of these two liftings is $\widehat{\lambda} \operatorname{div}_\gamma \mathbf{X}$

1.3 Second order operators on \widehat{M}

Operator pencil $\{\Delta_\lambda\}$ —operator on \widehat{M} of the order...??? (it is polynomial on λ).

Consider useful example. Let $\boldsymbol{\rho}$ be an arbitrary volume form and S^{ik} second order principal symbol. One can define the pencil of operators:

$$\Delta_\lambda: \Delta_\lambda \sigma = \boldsymbol{\rho}^{\lambda-1} \partial_i \left[\boldsymbol{\rho} S^{ik} \partial_k \left(\frac{\sigma}{\boldsymbol{\rho}^\lambda} \right) \right] =$$

$$S^{ik} \partial_i \partial_k + (\partial_r S^{ri} + (2\lambda - 1) \Gamma^i) \partial_i + (\lambda \partial_i \Gamma^i + \lambda(\lambda - 1) \Gamma^i \Gamma_i) \quad (1.2)$$

where $\Gamma_i = -\partial_i \log \rho(x)$ is flat connection defined by the volume form.

One can see that this is self-adjoint operator: $\Delta^+ \lambda = \Delta_{1-\lambda}$ or in terms of operator on \widehat{M} :

$$\widehat{\Delta} = S^{ik} \partial_i \partial_k + \left(\partial_r S^{ri} + (2\widehat{\lambda} - 1) \Gamma^i \right) \partial_i + \left(\widehat{\lambda} \partial_i \Gamma^i + \widehat{\lambda} (\widehat{\lambda} - 1) \Gamma^i \Gamma_i \right)$$

$\widehat{\Delta}^+ = \widehat{\Delta}$ Note that the operator $(2\widehat{\lambda} - 1) \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}$ is second order self-adjoint operator on M too.

One can show that we come to the operator: $\widehat{\Delta} + (2\widehat{\lambda} - 1) \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}} =$

$$S^{ik} \partial_i \partial_k + \left(\partial_r S^{ri} + (2\lambda - 1) \Gamma^i \right) \partial_i + \left(\lambda \partial_i \Gamma^i + \lambda (\lambda - 1) \Gamma^i \Gamma_i \right) + (2\widehat{\lambda} - 1) X^i \partial_i + \widehat{\lambda} (2\widehat{\lambda} - 1) \partial_i X^i =$$

$$S^{ik} \partial_i \partial_k + \left(\partial_r S^{ri} + (2\lambda - 1) \gamma^i \right) \partial_i + \left(\lambda \partial_i \gamma^i + \lambda (\lambda - 1) \theta \right)$$

where

$$\gamma^i = \Gamma^i + X^i, \quad \theta = (\Gamma_i \Gamma^i + 2\Gamma_i X^i) + 2\operatorname{div}_{\Gamma} \mathbf{X}$$

In the case if symbol is invertible

$$\theta = (\Gamma_i \Gamma^i + 2\Gamma_i X^i) + 2\operatorname{div}_{\Gamma} \mathbf{X} = \gamma_i \gamma^i + 2\operatorname{div}_{\Gamma} \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}^2.$$

This is basic example....

Theorem (Vor. Kh.2003) Let $\Delta \in \mathcal{D}_{\lambda_0}^{(2)}(M)$ be second order operator defined on densities of weight λ_0 . In the case if $\lambda_0 \neq 0, 1, \frac{1}{2}$ there exists unique operator pencil Δ_{λ} of the order 2, i.e. the second order operator $\widehat{\Delta}$ on \widehat{M} such that

- $\widehat{\Delta}|_{\lambda=\lambda_0} = \Delta_{\lambda_0}$.
- $\widehat{\Delta} = \widehat{\Delta}^+$, i.e. $\Delta_{\lambda}^+ = \Delta_{1-\lambda}$
- $\widehat{\Delta} 1 = 0$.

The Lie derivative of self-adjoint operator is self-adjoint hence:

$$\operatorname{ad}_{\mathbf{K}} \circ T_{\lambda, \mu} = T_{\lambda, \mu} \operatorname{ad}_{\mathbf{K}}$$

This implies **Corollary**. There exists equivariant map

$$\Delta_{\lambda} \xrightarrow{T_{\lambda, \mu}} \Delta_{\lambda} \tag{1.3}$$

for $\lambda, \mu \neq 0, 1/2, 1$. The "bare hand" proof is difficult....

In general case this map has very ugly appearance

If an operator $\Delta_\lambda \in \mathcal{D}_\lambda(M)$ is given in local coordinates by the expression $\Delta_\lambda = A^{ij}(x)\partial_i\partial_j + A^i(x)\partial_i + A(x)$ then its image $T_{\lambda,\mu}(\Delta_\lambda) = \Delta_\mu \in \mathcal{D}_\mu(M)$ is given in the same local coordinates by the expression $\Delta_\mu = B^{ij}(x)\partial_i\partial_j + B^i(x)\partial_i + B(x)$ where

$$\begin{cases} B^{ij} &= A^{ij} , \\ B^i &= \frac{2\mu-1}{2\lambda-1}A^i + \frac{2(\lambda-\mu)}{2\lambda-1}\partial_j A^{ji} , \\ B &= \frac{\mu(\mu-1)}{\lambda(\lambda-1)}A + \frac{\mu(\lambda-\mu)}{(2\lambda-1)(\lambda-1)}(\partial_j A^j - \partial_i\partial_j A^{ij}) . \end{cases} \quad (1.4)$$

At the exceptional cases $\lambda, \mu = 0, \frac{1}{2}, 1$, non-isomorphic modules occur.

Very beautiful example (Matthonet, Lecompte:)

$$T_{\lambda,\mu}(\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}^{(\lambda)} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}^{(\lambda)}) = \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}^{(\mu)} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}^{(\mu)} + \frac{\mu - \lambda}{2\lambda - 1} \mathcal{L}_{[\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}]}$$

Our beautiful proof:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}^{(\lambda)} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}^{(\lambda)} = \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}^{(\lambda)} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}^{(\lambda)} + \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}^{(\lambda)} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}^{(\lambda)}] \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}^{(\lambda)} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}^{(\lambda)} - \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}^{(\lambda)} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}^{(\lambda)}] +$$

The first operator is self-conjugate, the second antiself conjugate hence we draw the following self-conjugate pencil through this operator

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\Delta} &= \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}} + \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}] + \frac{1}{2} \frac{2\widehat{\lambda} - 1}{2\lambda - 1} [\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}} - \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}] = \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}} + \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}] + \frac{2\widehat{\lambda} - 1}{4\lambda - 2} \mathcal{L}_{[\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}]} \end{aligned}$$

We see that $\widehat{\Delta}|_{\widehat{\lambda}=\lambda} = \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}^{(\lambda)} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}^{(\lambda)}$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\Delta}|_{\widehat{\lambda}=\mu} &= \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}^{(\mu)} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}^{(\mu)} + \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}^{(\mu)} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}^{(\mu)}] + \frac{1}{2} [\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}^{(\mu)} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}^{(\mu)} - \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}^{(\mu)} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}^{(\mu)}] - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}_{[\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}]} + \frac{2\mu - 1}{4\lambda - 2} \mathcal{L}_{[\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}]} \\ &= \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}^{(\mu)} \circ \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{Y}}^{(\mu)} + \frac{\mu - \lambda}{2\lambda - 1} \mathcal{L}_{[\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}]} \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

Prove of the theorem. First we construct Beltrami-Laplas pencil (1.2) such that second order terms coincide, then add the operator $(2\widehat{\lambda} - 1)\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}$ choosing \mathbf{X} such that first terms coincide, then add scalar. Thus we come to self-adjoint pencil $\widehat{\Delta}$ passing through the operator.

Most important to prove the uniqueness (Without uniqueness we will not have the equivariant map (1.3)).

If $\widehat{\Delta}'$ is an arbitrary operator which obeys the condition of theorem then

$$\widehat{\Delta}' = \widehat{\Delta} + (\widehat{\lambda} - \lambda_0)(L_1 + \widehat{\lambda}F)$$

Step by step we prove that it vanishes.

1.4 Canonical pencil in general case

:

$$\Delta = t^\delta [S^{ik} \partial_i \partial_k + (\partial_r S^{ri} + (2\lambda + \delta - 1)\gamma^i) \partial_i + (\lambda \partial_i \gamma^i + \lambda(\lambda + \delta - 1)\theta)]$$

- $\mathbf{S} = t^\delta S^{ab}(x) = S^{ab}(x) \mathcal{D}x^\delta$ is symmetric contravariant tensor field-density of the weight δ . Under changing of local coordinates $x^{a'} = x^{a'}(x^a)$ it transforms in the following way:

$$S^{a'b'} = J^{-\delta} x_a^{a'} x_b^{b'} S^{ab},$$

- γ^a is a symbol of upper connection-density of weight δ . Under changing of local coordinates $x^{a'} = x^{a'}(x^a)$ it transforms in the following way:

$$\gamma^{a'} = J^{-\delta} x_a^{a'} (\gamma^a + S^{ab} \partial_b \log J),$$

- and θ transforms in the following way:

$$\theta' = J^{-\delta} (\theta + 2\gamma^a \partial_a \log J + \partial_a \log J S^{ab} \partial_b \log J)$$

$$(\theta = \gamma^a \gamma_a + \text{scalar in the case if symbol is invertible})$$

1.5 Special cases.

Consider $\lambda = \frac{1-\delta}{2}$. Then

$$\Delta = t^\delta \left[S^{ik} \partial_i \partial_k + \partial_r S^{ri} \partial_i + \frac{1-\delta}{2} \left(\partial_i \gamma^i + \frac{\delta-1}{2} \theta \right) \right]$$

Example. $\delta = 0$. S^{ik} defines Poisson structure. —Batalin-Vilkovisky formalism.

Next example $\delta = 2$, $n = 1$. $S = 1$ (invariant) We come to

$$\Delta = t^2 \left[\partial_x^2 - \frac{1}{2} U(x) \right] = |Dx|^2 \left[\partial_x^2 - \frac{1}{2} U(x) \right],$$

$$\Delta \left(\Psi(x) |Dx|^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) = \left(\Psi_{xx}(x) - \frac{1}{2} U(x) \Psi(x) \right) |Dx|^{\frac{3}{2}}. \quad (1.5)$$

This operator leads us to Schwarzian.

2 Schwarzian , Projective geometry

See how operator (1.5) transforms the operator above under diffeomorphisms.

If $f = y(x)$ is diffeomorphism then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^f \left(\Psi(x) |Dx|^2 \right) &= \left\{ |Dy|^2 \left[\partial_y^2 - \frac{1}{2} U(y) \right] \left[\Psi(x(y)) |Dx|^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right] \right\} \Big|_{y=y(x)} = \\ &= \left\{ |Dy|^2 \left[\partial_y^2 - \frac{1}{2} U(y) \right] \left[\Psi(x(y)) x_y^{-\frac{1}{2}} |Dy|^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right] \right\} \Big|_{y=y(x)} = \\ &= \left[\Psi_{xx}(x) x_y^{\frac{3}{2}} + \frac{3}{4} \Psi(x) x_y^{-\frac{5}{2}} x_{yy}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \Psi(x) x_y^{-\frac{3}{2}} x_{yyy} - \frac{1}{2} [U(y(x)) + \Psi(x)] y_x^{\frac{3}{2}} |Dx|^{\frac{3}{2}} \right] = \\ &= \left[\Psi_{xx}(x) + \frac{3}{4} \Psi(x) x_y^{-4} x_{yy}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \Psi(x) x_y^{-3} x_{yyy} - \frac{1}{2} U(y(x)) \Psi(x) \right] |Dx|^{\frac{3}{2}} = \\ &= \left[\Psi_{xx}(x) + \frac{3}{4} \Psi(x) x_y^{-4} x_{yy}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \Psi(x) x_y^{-3} x_{yyy} - \frac{1}{2} U(y(x)) \Psi(x) \right] |Dx|^{\frac{3}{2}} = \\ &= \left[\Psi_{xx}(x) + \frac{3}{4} \Psi(x) x_y^{-4} x_{yy}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \Psi(x) x_y^{-3} x_{yyy} - \frac{1}{2} \left[U(y(x)) + \left(\frac{x_{yyy}}{x_y} - \frac{3}{2} \frac{x_{yy}^2}{x_y^2} \right) y_x^2 \right] \Psi(x) \right] |Dx|^{\frac{3}{2}} = \end{aligned}$$

Sorry for these calculations but *Paris vaut bien une messe*:

$$\Delta^f = \Delta - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x_{yyy}}{x_y} - \frac{3}{2} \frac{x_{yy}^2}{x_y^2} \right) |Dy|^2 \quad (2.1)$$

The cocycle

$$\mathcal{S}(f^{-1}) = \left(\frac{x_{yyy}}{x_y} - \frac{3}{2} \frac{x_{yy}^2}{x_y^2} \right) |Dy|^2 \quad (2.2)$$

is Schwarzian.

2.1 Meaning of Schwartzian

2.2 Projective structures on curves in $\mathbf{R}P^n$ and Schwarzian

2.3 Curves in $\mathbf{R}P^n$ and $n + 1$ -th order operators.

We consider the following construction.

let $C: u^i(x)$ be an arbitrary curve in \mathbf{R}^{n+1} . Let ρ be an arbitrary density and ∇ an arbitrary connection.

Let $\mathcal{D} = |Dx|(\partial_x + \gamma)$

We consider the following pencil of operators For an arbitrary density $s = s(x)|Dx|^\lambda$ of weight λ we consider operator

$$\Delta_\lambda(s) = \frac{\det \begin{pmatrix} u^1 \rho^\lambda & u^2 \rho^\lambda & \dots u^{n+1} \rho^\lambda & s_\lambda \\ \mathcal{D}u^1 \rho^\lambda & \mathcal{D}u^2 \rho^\lambda & \dots \mathcal{D}u^{n+1} \rho^\lambda & \mathcal{D}s_\lambda \\ \mathcal{D}^2 u^1 \rho^\lambda & \mathcal{D}^2 u^2 \rho^\lambda & \dots \mathcal{D}^2 u^{n+1} \rho^\lambda & \mathcal{D}^2 s_\lambda \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \mathcal{D}^{n+1} u^1 \rho^\lambda & \mathcal{D}^{n+1} u^2 \rho^\lambda & \dots \mathcal{D}^{n+1} u^{n+1} \rho^\lambda & \mathcal{D}^{n+1} s_\lambda \end{pmatrix}}{\det \begin{pmatrix} u^1 \rho^\lambda & u^2 \rho^\lambda & \dots u^{n+1} \rho^\lambda \\ \mathcal{D}u^1 \rho^\lambda & \mathcal{D}u^2 \rho^\lambda & \dots \mathcal{D}u^{n+1} \rho^\lambda \\ \mathcal{D}^2 u^1 \rho^\lambda & \mathcal{D}^2 u^2 \rho^\lambda & \dots \mathcal{D}^2 u^{n+1} \rho^\lambda \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \mathcal{D}^n u^1 \rho^\lambda & \mathcal{D}^n u^2 \rho^\lambda & \dots \mathcal{D}^n u^{n+1} \rho^\lambda \end{pmatrix}} \quad (2.3)$$

This operator sends density of weight λ to the density of the weight $\lambda + n + 1$

E.g. for curve $C: u(x), v(x)$ in \mathbf{R}^2

$$\Delta_\lambda(s) = \frac{\det \begin{pmatrix} u \rho^\lambda & v \rho^\lambda & s_\lambda \\ \mathcal{D}u \rho^\lambda & \mathcal{D}v \rho^\lambda & \mathcal{D}s_\lambda \\ \mathcal{D}^2 u \rho^\lambda & \mathcal{D}^2 v \rho^\lambda & \mathcal{D}^2 s_\lambda \end{pmatrix}}{\det \begin{pmatrix} u \rho^\lambda & v \rho^\lambda \\ \mathcal{D}u \rho^\lambda & \mathcal{D}v \rho^\lambda \end{pmatrix}} \quad (2.4)$$

This operator sends density of weight λ to the density of the weight $\lambda + 2$

Densities prportional to linear combination of functions $u^i(t)$ eblong to kernel.

Remark Note that in components all terms proportioanl to γ and ρ dissappear....

Consider the projection of curve C in $\mathbf{R}P^n$.

Denominator is the density of the weight $n\lambda+1+\dots+n = (n+1)\lambda + \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$.
We may choose multiplier such that for $\lambda = -\frac{1}{n+1}$ denominator equals to 1.
We come to Schwarzian in third terms for operator.....

2.4 (Anti)-self conjugate operator of order n on \mathbf{R}

Example

$$\Delta = t^n \mathcal{D}^n, \quad \text{where } \mathcal{D} = t^n (\partial_x + \widehat{\lambda} \gamma_-) \quad (2.5)$$

Calculations show that...

Example

$$\Delta = t^{n+\delta'} \left[s(x) \partial_x^n + \frac{n}{2} (s_x + 2s\gamma_- \widehat{\lambda}_{n+\delta'}) \partial_x^{n-1} + B_n \partial_x^{n-1} + \dots \right]$$

where

$$B_n = \frac{n(n-1)}{2} [\gamma_x^- + s(\gamma_-^2 + \tau)] + \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \left[\frac{n-2}{6} s_x \gamma_- - \frac{n+1+3\delta'}{6} s U_\gamma - \frac{\delta'^2}{4} s \gamma^2 + s \rho \right] \quad (2.6)$$

Here ρ, τ are densities of weight 2, $U_\gamma = \gamma_x - \frac{1}{2} \gamma^2$ is related with Schwarzian
“antiderivative” $\widehat{\lambda}_k = \widehat{\lambda} + \frac{k-1}{2}$

We see here how Schwarzian appears in critical dimensions....

2.5 Projective symbol of operators