

# PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

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CHAPTER  
**ONE**

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# THEORY OF (UNBOUNDED) OPERATORS

## 1.1 Preliminaries on Operators

Let  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$  be a Banach space and  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  be the Banach space of bounded linear operators.

**Definition 1.1.1.** An operator  $\mathcal{A} : D(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow X$  is called an unbounded linear operator (UBLO) if  $D(\mathcal{A})$  is a subspace of  $X$  and  $\sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|\mathcal{A}x\|}{\|x\|} = +\infty$

### Exercise 1: 1

Let  $\mathcal{A} : H^1 \rightarrow L^2$ , such that  $f \mapsto f'$  and  $D(\mathcal{A}) = \{f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : f, f' \in L^2\}$ . Show  $\mathcal{A}$  is an unbounded linear operator.

**Notation:** If  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are unbounded linear operators, then  $\mathcal{A} \supset \mathcal{B}$  if and only if  $D(\mathcal{A}) \supset D(\mathcal{B})$ . That is, for all  $x \in D(\mathcal{B})$ ,  $\mathcal{A}x = \mathcal{B}x$ .

### 1.1.1 Resolvent Operator

**Definition 1.1.2.** Let  $\mathcal{A} : D(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow X$  be a UBLO.

$$\rho(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Resolvent of } \mathcal{A} = \left\{ \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \mid \begin{array}{l} (\lambda I - \mathcal{A}) : D(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow X \text{ is bijective, and} \\ (\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^{-1} \in \mathcal{L}(X) \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\sigma(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Spectrum of } \mathcal{A} = \mathbb{C} \setminus \rho(\mathcal{A}).$$

**Definition 1.1.3.**  $\mathcal{A}$  is closed if and only if the graph of  $\mathcal{A}$ , denoted as  $G(\mathcal{A})$  is closed. Also  $\mathcal{A}$  is closable if and only if there exists  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \supset \mathcal{A}$  such that  $G(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}) = \overline{G(\mathcal{A})}$ .

Note that  $G(\mathcal{A}) = \{(x, \mathcal{A}x) \mid x \in D(\mathcal{A})\}$ .

### Exercise 2: 2

1. Prove that if it exists,  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  is unique, it then denoted by  $\overline{\mathcal{A}}$  called closure of  $\mathcal{A}$ .
2. Let  $\mathcal{A}_\ell = \frac{d}{dx}$  with  $(X = C^0([a, b], \mathbb{R}), \|\cdot\| = \sup |f(x)|)$  and  $D(\mathcal{A}_\ell) = C^\ell([a, b], \mathbb{R})$ .  
Prove  $\overline{\mathcal{A}_\ell} = \mathcal{A}_1$ .

**Lemma 1.1.1.** If  $\mathcal{A}$  an unbounded linear operator is closable, then  $\rho(\overline{\mathcal{A}}) = \rho(\mathcal{A})$ . If  $\mathcal{A}$  is closed then  $\rho(\mathcal{A}) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \mid (\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^{-1} \in \mathcal{L}(X)\}$ .

*Hints (Exercise): If  $\rho(\mathcal{A}) \neq 0$  implies  $\mathcal{A}$  is closed. (Show first that if  $T$  is a UBLO with  $T^{-1} \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  implies  $T$  is closed).*

**Corollary 1.1.1.** Let  $\mathcal{A} : D(\mathcal{A}) \subset X \rightarrow X$  be a closed UBLO then  $\sigma(\mathcal{A}) = \sigma_p(\mathcal{A}) \cup \sigma_r(\mathcal{A}) \cup \sigma_c(\mathcal{A})$  where

1.  $\sigma_p(\mathcal{A}) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : \ker(\lambda I - \mathcal{A}) \neq \{0\}\}$  (punctual spectrum and  $\lambda$ 's are the eigenvalue).
2.  $\sigma_c(\mathcal{A}) = \left\{ \lambda \in \mathbb{C} : \ker(\lambda I - \mathcal{A}) = \{0\}, \overline{Rg(\lambda I - \mathcal{A})} \subset X \right\}$  (continuous spectrum).
3.  $\sigma_r(\mathcal{A}) = \left\{ \lambda \in \mathbb{C} : \lambda I - \mathcal{A} \text{ is injective}, \overline{Rg(\lambda I - \mathcal{A})} = X, Rg(\lambda I - \mathcal{A}) \neq X \right\}$  (residual spectrum).

### Exercise 3: 1

Let

$$X = \ell^2(\mathbb{C}) = \left\{ (x_n)_{n \geq 0} : \sum_n |x_n|^2 < \infty \right\},$$

with  $(\mathcal{A}x_n)_{n \geq 1} = \left( \frac{x_n}{1+n} \right)_{n \geq 0}$ . Prove that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a BLO, injective,  $\overline{Rg(\mathcal{A})} = X$  and  $Rg(\mathcal{A}) \subset X$ .

**Theorem 1.1.1.** If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a closed UBLO then  $\rho(\mathcal{A})$  is open. If  $\mu \in \rho(\mathcal{A})$ , then for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $r := |\mu - \lambda|, \|(\mu I - \mathcal{A})^{-1}\| < 1$  then  $\lambda \in \rho(\mathcal{A})$  and

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

*To do Question: do you need  $\mathcal{A}$  closed?*

**Theorem 1.1.2** (Resolvent Identity). Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a UBLO. For  $\lambda \in \rho(\mathcal{A})$ , define the resolvent operator

$$R(\lambda) := (\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^{-1}.$$

Then for all  $\lambda, \mu \in \rho(\mathcal{A})$ ,

$$R(\lambda) - R(\mu) = (\mu - \lambda)R(\mu)R(\lambda).$$

**Corollary 1.1.2.** The mapping  $\lambda \mapsto R(\lambda)$  from  $\rho(\mathcal{A})$  into  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  is analytic. Moreover,

$$\frac{d^n}{d\lambda^n} (\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^{-1} = (-1)^n n! [(\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^{-1}]^{(n+1)}.$$

## 1.1.2 Dual Operators

Let  $X \cong X^*$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  a closed UBLO with  $\overline{D(\mathcal{A})} = X$  a dense UBLO.

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are Banach spaces with duals  $X^*$  and  $Y^*$ , then for  $x \in X$  and  $x^* \in X^*$ , we define the duality product as  $\langle x^*, x \rangle$ .

**Definition 1.1.4** (Dual Operator of  $\mathcal{A}$ ). *Let  $\mathcal{A} : D(\mathcal{A}) \subset X \rightarrow Y$  (UBLO), be such that  $\overline{D(\mathcal{A})} = X$ . The dual operator  $\mathcal{A}^* : D(\mathcal{A}^*) \subset Y^* \rightarrow X^*$  is a UBLO defined as follows:*

$$D(\mathcal{A}^*) := \{y^* \in Y^* \mid \exists z^* \in X^* \text{ such that } \langle y^*, Ax \rangle = \langle z^*, x \rangle \forall x \in D(\mathcal{A})\}.$$

and  $y^* \in D(\mathcal{A}^*)$ , the element  $z^*$  is unique and we define  $A^*y^* := z^*$ .

**Lemma 1.1.2.** *Let  $X, Y$  be Banach spaces and let  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{L}(X, Y)$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}^* \in \mathcal{L}(Y^*, X^*)$  and*

$$\|\mathcal{A}^*\|_{\mathcal{L}(Y^*, X^*)} = \|\mathcal{A}\|_{\mathcal{L}(X, Y)}.$$

**Lemma 1.1.3.** *Let  $X$  be a reflexive Banach space with  $X = X^*$  and let  $\mathcal{A} : D(\mathcal{A}) \subset X \rightarrow X$  be a closedly dense UBLO. Then  $\overline{D(\mathcal{A}^*)} = X^*(\cong X)$ , and  $\mathcal{A}^*$  is closed.*

**Theorem 1.1.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a closedly dense UBLO. Then  $\rho(\mathcal{A}) = \rho(\mathcal{A}^*)$  and for all  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$ ,*

$$[(\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^{-1}]^* = (\bar{\lambda} I - \mathcal{A}^*)^{-1}.$$

### Exercise 4: 2

1. Let  $\mathcal{A} = \frac{d}{dx}$  on  $X = L^2(\mathbb{R})$  and  $D(\mathcal{A}) = \{f \in X : f' \in L^2(\mathbb{R})\}$ . Show the following:

- a.  $\rho(\mathcal{A}) = \mathbb{C} \setminus i\mathbb{R}$  which implies  $\sigma(\mathcal{A}) = i\mathbb{R}$ .
- b.  $\mathcal{A}$  is a closed unbounded linear operator.
- c. If  $\lambda \in \rho(\mathcal{A})$  then  $(\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^{-1} : X \rightarrow D(\mathcal{A})$  is bounded.

For  $\Re(\lambda) \neq 0$ ; show for all  $g \in X$ , there exists uniquely  $f \in D(\mathcal{A})$  such that

$$(\lambda I - \mathcal{A})f = g.$$

For  $\Re(\lambda) = 0$ ; show for all  $f_n \in X$  with  $\|f_n\|_{\ell^2} = 1$  then  $(i\omega I - \mathcal{A})f_n \rightarrow 0$ .

2. Do same for  $\mathcal{A} = -i\frac{d}{dx}$ .

## 1.2 Compact Operators

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be Banach spaces on  $\mathbb{K}$ .

**Definition 1.2.1.** *Let  $K : X \rightarrow Y$  be a BLO (in  $\mathcal{L}(X, Y)$ ), then  $K$  compact iff  $K(B_1^X(0))$  is relatively compact in  $Y$  (i.e.  $\overline{K(B_1^X(0))}$  compact).*

$$\mathcal{K}(X, Y) = \{K \in \mathcal{L}(X, Y) \mid K \text{ is compact}\}.$$

### Exercise 5: 1

Let  $X = C([a, b], \mathbb{C})$  and  $k \in C^0([a, b] \times [c, d], \mathbb{C})$

Define  $K \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  by

$$(Kx)(t) = \int_a^b k(t, s)x(s) ds.$$

Show  $K \in \mathcal{K}(X)$ .

**Theorem 1.2.1.**  $\mathcal{K}(X, Y)$  is a closed subspace of  $\mathcal{L}(X, Y)$ .

*Proof.* We shall show this in two steps

1.  $\mathcal{K}(X, Y)$  is a vector space (Do it).
2. Closed:  $K_n \rightarrow K$  ([Prof. Yacine said he would send a different proof](#)).

□

### Exercise 6: 1

Let  $X = \ell^2(\mathbb{C})$ ,

$$\mathcal{A}((x_n)_{n \geq 0}) = \left( \frac{x_n}{n+1} \right)_{n \geq 0}.$$

Show that  $\mathcal{A}$  is compact.

**Theorem 1.2.2.** Let  $X, Y$  and  $Z$  be Banach spaces on  $\mathbb{K}$ .

$$X \xrightarrow{\mathcal{A}} Y \xrightarrow{\mathcal{B}} Z, \quad \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{L}(X, Y), \mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{L}(Y, Z).$$

1. If  $\mathcal{A}$  is compact or  $\mathcal{B}$  is compact, then  $\mathcal{B}\mathcal{A}$  is compact.
2. If  $\mathcal{A}$  is compact then  $\mathcal{A}^* \in \mathcal{K}(Y^*, X^*)$ .
3. If  $\mathcal{A}$  is compact and  $\text{Rg}(\mathcal{A})$  is closed (in  $Y$ ), then it is finite dimensional.

To proceed with further results on compact operators, we need the following lemma

**Lemma 1.2.1** (Riesz Lemma). Let  $E$  be a normed vector space,  $F = \overline{F} \subset E$ . Then  $\forall r \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\exists x_r \in E$ , such that

$$\|x_r\| = 1, \quad d(x_r, F) \geq r.$$

*Proof.* Since  $F \neq E$  then this implies  $\exists z \in E \setminus F$ . Let  $d = d(z, F) > 0$ .

For  $0 < r < 1$ ,  $\exists y_r \in F$  s.t.

$$0 < d \leq \|z - y_r\| < \frac{d}{r}.$$

Normalize:

$$x_r = \frac{z - y_r}{\|z - y_r\|}, \quad \|x_r\| = 1.$$

For all  $y \in F$ ,

$$\|x_r - y\| = \frac{1}{\|z - y_r\|} \|z - (y_r + \|z - y_r\| y)\| \geq \frac{d}{\|z - y_r\|} > r.$$

□

**Proposition 1.2.1.** Let  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{K}(X)$ , such that  $X$  is a Banach space on  $\mathbb{C}$ . If  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*$ , then  $\ker((\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^n)$  has finite dimension.

*Proof.* Only for  $n = 1$ . (do it for  $n \geq 2$ ). Now, let

$$\tilde{K} := \ker(\lambda I - \mathcal{A}) = \{x \in X : \mathcal{A}x = \lambda x\} = \left\{x \in X : x = \frac{1}{\lambda} \mathcal{A}x\right\} \subset \text{Rg}(\mathcal{A}).$$

So  $\tilde{K}$  is closed in  $\text{Rg}(\mathcal{A})$ . Suppose  $\dim \tilde{K} = +\infty$ . By Riesz lemma,  $\exists (x_n)$  in  $\tilde{K}$ , such that

$$\|x_n\| = 1, \quad \|x_n - x_m\| \geq \frac{1}{2}.$$

Thus,

$$\frac{1}{|\lambda|} \|\mathcal{A}x_n - \mathcal{A}x_m\| \geq \frac{1}{2}, \quad \forall n \neq m$$

and so we have  $\|\mathcal{A}x_n\| \leq \|\mathcal{A}\|$ . So  $(\mathcal{A}x_n)$  is not Cauchy, hence a contradiction.

□

### Exercise 7: 1

Let  $X$  be a Banach space on  $\mathbb{K}$ . If  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ , assume  $\exists n_0$  s.t.  $\ker(\mathcal{A}^{n_0}) = \ker(\mathcal{A}^{n_0+1})$ .

Then  $\forall n \geq n_0$ ,

$$\ker(\mathcal{A}^n) = \ker(\mathcal{A}^{n_0}).$$

**Proposition 1.2.2.** Let  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{K}(X)$  and  $X$  be a Banach space on  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\lambda \neq 0$ . Then  $\exists n_0$  such that

$$\forall n \geq n_0, \quad \ker((\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^n) = \ker((\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^{n_0}).$$

*Proof.* Using the previous exercise and arguing by contradiction, that for all  $n \geq 1$   $\ker((\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^n) \subset \ker((\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^{n+1})$  and each of them is closed.

**RL:** with  $r = \frac{1}{2}$  with  $(x_n)_{n \geq 1} \in X$ , such that  $\|x_n\| = 1$ . Then,  $x_n \in \ker((\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^{n+1})$ . Thus,

$$d(x_n, \ker((\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^n)) \geq \frac{1}{2}.$$

For  $n = 1, x \in \ker(\lambda I - \mathcal{A}) \Rightarrow x = \frac{\mathcal{A}}{\lambda} x$ . For all  $1 \leq m < n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\mathcal{A}x_n}{\lambda} - \frac{\mathcal{A}x_m}{\lambda} &= x_n - x_m + \frac{\mathcal{A}x_n}{\lambda} - \left( x_m - x_m - \frac{\mathcal{A}x_m}{\lambda} \right) \\ &= x_n - \left[ \frac{(\lambda I - \mathcal{A})x_n}{\lambda} + x_m - \frac{(\lambda I - \mathcal{A})x_m}{\lambda} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\left\| \frac{\mathcal{A}x_n}{\lambda} - \frac{\mathcal{A}x_m}{\lambda} \right\| \geq d(x_n, \ker(\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^n) \geq \frac{1}{2}.$$

which is a contradiction.  $\square$

Notice that if  $\ker(\lambda I - \mathcal{A}) \neq \{0\}$ , then  $\lambda \in \sigma_p(\mathcal{A})$ . Notice,

$$\dim \ker(\lambda I - \mathcal{A}) = \text{geometric multiplicity}.$$

With Proposition 1.2.2  $\Rightarrow \exists n_0$  (smallest one) such that

$$\ker((\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^{n_0}) = \ker((\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^n), \quad \forall n \geq n_0.$$

Note that,

$$\ker((\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^{n_0}) := \text{generalized eigenspace}.$$

$$\dim \ker((\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^{n_0}) := \text{algebraic multiplicity of } \lambda.$$

**Proposition 1.2.3** (Fredholm alternative). *Let  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{K}(X)$ , and let  $X$  be a Banach space on  $\mathbb{C}$ .*

$$\text{Rg}(\lambda I - \mathcal{A}) = X \iff \ker(\lambda I - \mathcal{A}) = \{0\}.$$

**Proposition 1.2.4.** *Let  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{K}(X)$ , and let  $X$  be a Banach space on  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\dim X = \infty$ . If  $\lambda_n \rightarrow \lambda$ ,  $\lambda_n \in \sigma(\mathcal{A}) \setminus \{0\}$ , pairwise distinct, then  $\lambda = 0$ . Hence every  $\lambda \in \sigma(\mathcal{A}) \setminus \{0\}$  is isolated.*

*Proof.* Let  $\lambda_n \in \sigma_p(\mathcal{A})$ ,  $\exists \|x_n\| = 1$  such that  $\mathcal{A}x_n = \lambda_n x_n$ . Let

$$X_n = \text{span}(x_1, \dots, x_n), \quad X_n \subset X_{n+1}.$$

Let us prove that  $\dim X_n = n$ .

By induction:  $n = 1$  is OK.

$$\dim X_n = n \Rightarrow \dim X_{n+1} = n + 1.$$

By contradiction,  $x_{n+1} \in X_n$ .

$$x_{n+1} = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i x_i, \text{ which implies } \lambda_{n+1} x_{n+1} = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \lambda_{n+1} x_i.$$

Thus,

$$\mathcal{A}x_{n+1} = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \lambda_i x_i.$$

Hence,

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i (\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_i) x_i.$$

Since  $(x_i)$  are linearly independent,

$$\alpha_i(\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_i) = 0, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

which implies  $\Rightarrow \alpha_i = 0. \Rightarrow x_{n+1} = 0$ , (Impossible).

Notice:

$$(\lambda_n I - \mathcal{A})X_n \subset X_{n-1}, \quad \forall n \geq 2.$$

**Recall:**

$$\|y_n\| = 1, \quad y_n \in X_n,$$

$$d(y_n, X_{n-1}) \geq \frac{1}{2}.$$

For  $2 \leq m < n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \frac{\mathcal{A}y_n}{\lambda_n} - \frac{\mathcal{A}y_m}{\lambda_m} \right\| &= \left\| y_n - \left[ \frac{\lambda_n I - \mathcal{A}}{\lambda_n} y_n + y_m + \frac{\lambda_m I - \mathcal{A}}{\lambda_m} y_m \right] \right\| \\ &\geq d(y_n, X_{n-1}) \geq \frac{1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Assume that

$$\lambda_n \rightarrow \lambda \quad (n \rightarrow \infty).$$

Suppose  $\lambda \neq 0$ , then

$$\left| \frac{1}{\lambda_n} \right| \leq C_0 \quad \text{for } n \text{ large enough.}$$

Then

$$\left( \frac{\mathcal{A}y_n}{\lambda_n} \right)_{n \geq 1}$$

is a bounded sequence.

Then we have built a sequence in  $\mathcal{A}(B_M^X(0))$ ,  $M > 0$  which does not admit a convergent subsequence. Which is a Contradiction.  $\square$

**Theorem 1.2.3.** Let  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{K}(X)$ , and let  $X$  be a Banach space on  $\mathbb{C}$ . Then  $\sigma(\mathcal{A}) \setminus \{0\}$  is made of eigenvalues, contains a countable number of points and the set of accumulation points contained in  $\{0\}$ .

## Main use of compact operators (in PDEs)

They appear as “inverse” of UBLO.

**Definition 1.2.2.** Let  $\mathcal{A} : D(\mathcal{A}) \subset X \rightarrow X$  UBLO, closed,  $\rho(\mathcal{A}) \neq \{0\}$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to have compact resolvent if

$$(\lambda I - \mathcal{A})^{-1} \in \mathcal{K}(X), \quad \forall \lambda \in \rho(\mathcal{A}).$$

**Main Example:**  $\mathcal{A} = -\Delta$  on  $\Omega$  with  $\mathcal{A}u = -u_{xx}$ .

## 1.3 Adjoints, Symmetric and Self-adjoint Operators

Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a Hilbert space, with inner product

$$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} : \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}.$$

$$\mathcal{A} : D(\mathcal{A}) \subset \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H} \text{ UBLO}, \overline{D(\mathcal{A})} = \mathcal{H}.$$

**Definition 1.3.1** (Adjoint Operator  $\mathcal{A}^\circ$ ).

$$D(\mathcal{A}^\circ) = \{x \in \mathcal{H} : v \mapsto \langle \mathcal{A}v, x \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} : D(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \text{ bdd operator}\}.$$

If  $x \in D(\mathcal{A}^\circ)$ , then there exists uniquely  $z \in \mathcal{H}$  such that  $\langle v, z \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \langle \mathcal{A}v, x \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$  for all  $v \in D(\mathcal{A})$ .

Observe, with Riesz representation and the fact that  $\overline{D(\mathcal{A})} = \mathcal{H}$ , we have that  $z := \mathcal{A}^\circ x$  and  $\langle v, \mathcal{A}^\circ x \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \langle \mathcal{A}v, x \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$  for all  $v \in D(\mathcal{A})$ .

**Remark 1.3.1.** Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a Hilbert space,  $E : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^*$ ,  $x \mapsto \langle x, \cdot \rangle$ . Linear isometry between  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\mathcal{H}^*$ . (One can identify  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\mathcal{H}^*$ ). Now, we define the Dual operator as the following:

$$\mathcal{A}^* : D(\mathcal{A}^*) \subset \mathcal{H}^* \rightarrow \mathcal{H}, \quad \mathcal{A}^\circ = E^{-1} \mathcal{A}^* E.$$

**Definition 1.3.2** (Symmetric and Self-adjoint Operator). Let  $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  be a Hilbert space and  $\mathcal{A} : D(\mathcal{A}) \subset \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  be a UBLO, then

1. **Symmetric:** If  $\overline{D(\mathcal{A})} = \mathcal{H}$  and  $\mathcal{A}^\circ \supset \mathcal{A}$  with  $D(\mathcal{A}^*) \supset D(\mathcal{A})$  and for all  $x, y \in D(\mathcal{A})$ ,  $\langle \mathcal{A}x, y \rangle = \langle x, \mathcal{A}y \rangle$ .
2. **Self-adjoint:** If  $\overline{D(\mathcal{A})} = \mathcal{H}$  and  $\mathcal{A}^\circ = \mathcal{A}$ .

### Exercise 8: 2

1. Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a Hilbert space,  $\mathcal{A} : D(\mathcal{A}) \subset \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ ,  $\overline{D(\mathcal{A})} = \mathcal{H}$ . If  $\mathcal{A}$  is closed, then  $\overline{D(\mathcal{A}^\circ)} = \mathcal{H}$ .
2. Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a Hilbert space,  $\mathcal{A} : D(\mathcal{A}) \subset \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ ,  $\overline{D(\mathcal{A})} = \mathcal{H}$ . Suppose  $\mathcal{A}$  is symmetric and if  $0 \in \rho(\mathcal{A})$ , then prove that  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  and

$$\inf_{\|x\|=1, x \in D(\mathcal{A})} \langle \mathcal{A}x, x \rangle \leq \lambda \leq \sup_{\|x\|=1, x \in D(\mathcal{A})} \langle \mathcal{A}x, x \rangle.$$

**Proposition 1.3.1.** Let  $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  be an Hilbert space over  $\mathbb{C}$ , If  $\mathcal{A}$  is self-adjoint, injective and  $\overline{D(\mathcal{A})} = \mathcal{H}$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}^{-1} : \text{Rg}(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  is self-adjoint.

*Proof.* Since  $\mathcal{A}$  is injective then  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$  is well defined. Now, for all  $z \in D(\mathcal{A})$ ,  $\langle \mathcal{A}x_n, z \rangle = \langle x_n, \mathcal{A}^\circ z \rangle$  which implies  $\langle y, z \rangle = \langle x, \mathcal{A}^\circ z \rangle$  and so we have  $x \in D(\mathcal{A}^\circ) = D(\mathcal{A})$  and  $y = \mathcal{A}^\circ$ . Notice  $\overline{\text{Rg}(\mathcal{A})} = \ker(\mathcal{A})^\perp$  (because of self-adjointness).

Injectivity implies  $\overline{\text{Rg}(\mathcal{A})} = \mathcal{H}$  which implies  $\overline{D(\mathcal{A}^{-1})} = \mathcal{H}$ . So  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$  is densely defined. Now, observe for all  $u, v \in D(\mathcal{A}^{-1})$ ,  $u = \mathcal{A}^\circ x$  and  $v = \mathcal{A} y$  with  $x, y \in D(\mathcal{A})$ . Hence,

$$\langle \mathcal{A}^{-1}u, v \rangle = \langle x, \mathcal{A}y \rangle = \langle \mathcal{A}x, y \rangle = \langle x, \mathcal{A}^{-1}y \rangle.$$

To this end,  $(\mathcal{A}^{-1})^\circ \subset \mathcal{A}^{-1}$ ,  $\forall z \in D((\mathcal{A}^{-1})^\circ) \exists w, \forall u \in D(\mathcal{A}^{-1}) = R(\mathcal{A})$  (i.e.  $u = \mathcal{A}x$ )

$$\langle \mathcal{A}^{-1}u, z \rangle = \langle u, w \rangle \Rightarrow \forall x \in D(\mathcal{A}) \quad \langle x, z \rangle = \langle \mathcal{A}x, w \rangle$$

By definition  $w \in D(\mathcal{A}^\circ)$  and  $\mathcal{A}^\circ w = z$ .  $\mathcal{A}w = z \Rightarrow z \in \text{Rg}(\mathcal{A}) = D(\mathcal{A}^{-1})$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 1.3.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a Hilbert space, suppose  $\mathcal{A} : D(\mathcal{A}) \subset \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  is symmetric and surjective then  $\mathcal{A}$  is self-adjoint.*

*Proof.*  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}^\circ$  are injective. Do it only for  $\mathcal{A}$ , let  $x \in D(\mathcal{A})$  and  $\mathcal{A}x = 0$ .

$$\forall y \in D(\mathcal{A}), \quad 0 = \langle \mathcal{A}x, y \rangle = \langle x, \mathcal{A}y \rangle \Rightarrow x \perp \text{Rg}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{H}.$$

which implies  $x = 0$ .

Next, we show  $\mathcal{A}$  closed.

$$(x_n)_{n \geq 1} \subset D(\mathcal{A}), \quad x_n \rightarrow x \text{ in } \mathcal{H}, \quad \mathcal{A}x_n \rightarrow y \text{ in } \mathcal{H}$$

We shall show  $y = \mathcal{A}x$ . Now,  $\forall z \in D(\mathcal{A})$  then  $\langle \mathcal{A}x_n, z \rangle = \langle x_n, \mathcal{A}z \rangle$ , which implies  $\langle y, z \rangle = \langle x, \mathcal{A}z \rangle$  which implies  $x \in D(\mathcal{A}^\circ)$  and  $y = \mathcal{A}^\circ x$ . Since  $\mathcal{A}$  surjective  $\Rightarrow \exists w \in D(\mathcal{A})$  s.t.  $\mathcal{A}w = y$  and  $\mathcal{A}^\circ x = y$ .

Since  $\mathcal{A}$  is symmetric:  $\mathcal{A}^\circ w = \mathcal{A}w$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}^\circ w = \mathcal{A}^\circ x$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  is injective  $\Rightarrow w = x$ . Hence  $\mathcal{A}x = \mathcal{A}w = y \Rightarrow y = \mathcal{A}x \Rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is closed.

By closed graph theorem both  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}^{-1} \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ . We can conclude that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a self-adjoint operator.  $\square$

### Exercise 9: 2

Let  $\mathcal{H} = L^2(0, \pi)$  with  $\mathcal{A} : D(\mathcal{A}) \subset \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  and

$$\mathcal{A}f = -f''$$

If  $D(\mathcal{A}) = \{u \in C^2 : u(0) = u(\pi) = 0\}$  is  $\mathcal{A}$  a self-adjoint operator?

Similarly, if  $D(\mathcal{A}) = \{u \in C^2 \mid u'(0) = u'(\pi) = 0\}$  is  $\mathcal{A}$  a self-adjoint operator?

**Theorem 1.3.2** (Fredrich's Extension). *Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a Hilbert space on  $\mathbb{C}$  with  $\mathcal{A} : D(\mathcal{A}) \subset \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ , symmetric then  $\mathcal{A}$  admits a unique self adjoint extension. If either*

a.  $\inf_{\|x\|=1, x \in D(\mathcal{A})} \langle \mathcal{A}x, x \rangle > -\infty$

b.  $\sup_{\|x\|=1, x \in D(\mathcal{A})} \langle \mathcal{A}x, x \rangle < +\infty$

such that,  $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{A}^\circ \subset (\mathcal{A}^\circ)^\circ \subset \dots$ . If (a) or (b) holds, then;  $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{A}^\circ = (\mathcal{A}^\circ)^\circ$ .