

# Fredholm operators

$X, Y = \text{vec. sp.}$ ,  $T: X \rightarrow Y$  linear.

Def.  $T$  is Fredholm  $\iff \text{Ker} T$  and  $\text{Coker} T$  are fin-dim.

$\text{ind } T = \dim \text{Ker} T - \dim \text{Coker} T$ . (index)

Thm.  $X \xrightarrow{T} Y \xrightarrow{S} Z$

$$\boxed{\text{ind}(ST) = \text{ind} S + \text{ind} T.}$$

Thm (Kato).

$X, Y = \text{Ban. sp.}$ ,  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y)$ ,  $\text{Coker} T$  is fin-dim.  
 $\implies \text{Im} T$  is closed in  $Y$ .

Proof. We may assume that  $\text{Ker} T = 0$ .

(otherwise consider  $\hat{T}: X/\text{Ker} T \rightarrow Y$ ,

$$\hat{T}(x + \text{Ker} T) = T(x)).$$

$$Y = \text{Im} T \oplus Y_0, \quad \dim Y_0 < \infty.$$

Consider  $S: X \oplus_\infty Y_0 \rightarrow Y$ ,  $S(x, y) = Tx + y$ .

$S$  is bijective and bounded.  $\implies$   
(Ban.)

$\implies S$  is a top. isom.

$X \oplus 0 \subset X \oplus_\infty Y$  is closed (exer)  $\implies$

$\implies S(X \oplus 0) = \text{Im} T \subset Y$  is closed.  $\square$ .

Thm.  $X, Y = \text{Ban.sp.}$ ,  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y)$ . Then:

$T$  is Fredholm  $\Leftrightarrow T^*$  is Fredholm.

Moreover, if they are Fredholm, then

(1)  $\text{ind} T^* = -\text{ind} T$ ;

(2)  $\text{ind} T = \dim \text{Ker} T - \dim \text{Ker} T^*$ .

Proof. If either  $T$  or  $T^*$  is Fredholm  $\Rightarrow$   
(Kato)  $T$  satisfies the conditions of the closed  
image Thm.  $\Rightarrow \text{Im} T$  and  $\text{Im} T^*$  are closed,  
and  $\text{Ker} T^* \cong (\text{Coker} T)^*$ ,  $\text{Coker} T^* \cong (\text{Ker} T)^*$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  both  $T$  and  $T^*$  are Fredholm, and (1), (2) hold.  $\square$

## The Riesz-Schauder theory

F. Riesz (1918)

J. Schauder (1930)

$1 + K$  is Fredholm, and  
 $\text{ind}(1 + K) = 0$ .

$X = \text{vec.sp.}$ ,  $T: X \rightarrow X$  linear.

Notation.  $K_n = \text{Ker} T^n$ ,  $I_n = \text{Im} T^n$ . ( $n \geq 0$ )

$0 = K_0 \subset K_1 \subset K_2 \subset \dots$ ;  $X = I_0 \supset I_1 \supset I_2 \supset \dots$

Def. The ascent of  $T$  is (подъём)

$$a(T) = \min\{n : K_n = K_{n+j} \forall j \geq 0\}$$

( $a(T) = \infty$  if  $\nexists$  such  $n$ )

The descent of  $T$  is (спуск)

$$d(T) = \min\{n : I_n = I_{n+j} \forall j \geq 0\}$$

( $d(T) = \infty$  if  $\nexists$  such  $n$ ).

Lemma 1. (1) If  $K_n = K_{n+1}$ , then  $K_n = K_{n+j} \forall j \geq 0$   
(hence  $a(T) < \infty$ )

(2) If  $I_n = I_{n+1}$ , then  $I_n = I_{n+j} \forall j \geq 0$   
(hence  $d(T) < \infty$ ).

(3) If  $a(T) < \infty$  and  $d(T) < \infty$ , then  $a(T) = d(T)$ .

Proof. (1) It suff. to show that  $K_{n+1} = K_{n+2}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } x \in K_{n+2}; \quad T^{n+2}x = 0 = T^{n+1}(Tx) &\Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow Tx \in K_{n+1} = K_n &\Rightarrow T^{n+1}x = T^n(Tx) = 0 \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow x \in K_{n+1}. \end{aligned}$$

(2) exer.

(3) Let's show that  $a(T) \leq d(T)$ .

Suppose that  $a(T) > d(T)$ ; let  $n = a(T) - 1$ .

Then  $K_n \not\subseteq K_{n+1} = K_{n+2}$  and  $I_n = I_{n+1}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } x \in K_{n+1}; \quad T^n x \in I_n = I_{n+1} &\Rightarrow T^n x = T^{n+1}y \\ \text{for some } y \in X &\Rightarrow 0 = T^{n+1}x = T^{n+2}y \Rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow y \in K_{n+2} = K_{n+1} \Rightarrow 0 = T^{n+1}y = T^n x \Rightarrow x \in K_n$$

$$\Rightarrow K_{n+1} = K_n, \text{ a contr.}$$

Similarly,  $d(T) \leq a(T)$  (exer.).  $\square$

Lemma 2. (algebraic Riesz decomposition)

$T: X \rightarrow X$  linear; suppose  $a(T) < \infty, d(T) < \infty$ .

Let  $p = a(T) = d(T), K_p = \ker T^p, I_p = \text{Im } T^p$ .

Then  $K_p$  and  $I_p$  are  $T$ -invariant,

$X = K_p \oplus I_p, T|_{K_p}$  is nilpotent,

$T|_{I_p}: I_p \rightarrow I_p$  is an isomorphism.

Proof. Clearly,  $K_p$  and  $I_p$  are  $T$ -inv, and  $T|_{K_p}$  is nilpotent.

Let  $x \in X \Rightarrow T^p x \in I_p = I_{2p} \Rightarrow T^p x = T^{2p} y$   
for some  $y \in X$ .

Let  $x' = T^p y$ .

$$T^p x' = T^{2p} y = T^p x.$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x \cdot & \xrightarrow{T^p} & T^p x \cdot \\ & & \nearrow \\ y \cdot & \xrightarrow{T^p} & x' \cdot \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow x - x' \in K_p \Rightarrow x = \underbrace{(x - x')}_{\in K_p} + \underbrace{x'}_{\in I_p} \in K_p + I_p$$

$$\Rightarrow X = K_p + I_p.$$

Suppose  $x \in K_p \cap I_p \Rightarrow T^p x = 0$  and  $x = T^p z$

for some  $z \in X \Rightarrow 0 = T^p x = T^{2p} z \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow z \in K_{2p} = K_p \Rightarrow T^p z = 0$ , that is,  $x = 0$ .

$$\Rightarrow K_p \cap I_p = 0 \Rightarrow X = K_p \oplus I_p.$$

$$T(I_p) = I_{p+1} = I_p \Rightarrow T|_{I_p}: I_p \rightarrow I_p \text{ is surj.}$$

$$K_p \cap I_p = 0, \text{ and } \text{Ker} T = K_1 \subset K_p \Rightarrow \text{Ker} T \cap I_p = 0 \\ \Rightarrow T|_{I_p} \text{ is inj.} \Rightarrow T|_{I_p}: I_p \rightarrow I_p \text{ is an isom. } \square$$

Thm. (F. Riesz, 1918).

$X = \text{Ban. sp}$ ,  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X)$ ,  $T \in I_X + \mathcal{K}(X)$ . Then:

(1)  $T$  is Fredholm, and  $\text{ind} T = 0$ .

(2)  $a(T) < \infty$ ,  $d(T) < \infty$ .

(3) Let  $p = a(T) = d(T)$ ,  $K_p = \text{Ker} T^p$ ,  $I_p = \text{Im} T^p$ .

Then  $K_p$  and  $I_p$  are closed  $T$ -inv. subspaces,  $X = K_p \oplus I_p$ ,  $K_p$  is fin-dim,  $T|_{K_p}$  is nilpotent,

$T|_{I_p}: I_p \rightarrow I_p$  is a topol. isomorphism.

Proof. Let  $T = I - S$  where  $S \in \mathcal{K}(X)$ .

Step 1:  $\text{Ker} T$  is fin-dim, and  $\text{Im} T$  is closed.

Proof. Let  $K = \text{Ker} T \Rightarrow S|_K = I$ ;  $S|_K$  is comp.

$\Rightarrow K$  is fin-dim.

Consider  $\hat{T}: X/K \rightarrow X$ ,  $\hat{T}(x+K) = Tx$ .

It suff. to show that  $\hat{T}$  is top. injective,

that is,  $\exists c > 0$  s.t.  $\|\hat{T}u\| \geq c \forall u \in X/K, \|u\| = 1$ .

Assume there is no such  $c > 0$

$\Rightarrow \exists$  a seq  $(u_n)$ ,  $u_n \in X/K$ ,  $\|u_n\| = 1$ , s.t.

$\hat{T}u_n \rightarrow 0$  ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ ).

Let  $u_n = x_n + K$ ,  $x_n \in X$ ,  $\|x_n\| \leq 2$ .  $\Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow \text{dist}(x_n, K) = \|u_n\| = 1$ ,  $Tx_n \rightarrow 0$ .

We may assume that  $Sx_n \rightarrow x \in X$ .

(because  $S$  is comp). " $x_n - Tx_n$

$\Rightarrow x_n \rightarrow x \Rightarrow Tx_n \rightarrow Tx \Rightarrow Tx = 0$ ; that is,  $x \in K$ .

On the other hand,  $\text{dist}(x_n, K) = 1$ ,  $x_n \rightarrow x$

This is a contr.  $\Rightarrow \text{Im}T$  is closed.  $\square$ .

Step 2  $T$  is Fredholm.

Proof.  $\text{Im}T$  is closed  $\Rightarrow \text{Coker}T$  is a Ban. sp;

The Cl. Im. Thm  $\Rightarrow (\text{Coker}T)^* \cong \text{Ker}T^*$ .

$T^* = 1 - S^* \in 1 + \mathcal{K}(X^*) \Rightarrow \text{Ker}T^*$  is fin-dim.  $\Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow$  so is  $\text{Coker}T \Rightarrow T$  is Fredholm.  $\square$ .

Step 3  $a(T) < \infty$ .

Proof. Assume  $a(T) = \infty \Rightarrow K_n \not\subseteq K_{n+1} \forall n$

Choose  $x_n \in K_{n+1}$  which is a  $1/2$ -I to  $K_n$   
(that is,  $\|x_n\| = 1$  and  $\text{dist}(x_n, K_n) \geq 1/2$ )

Then  $\forall n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq m+1$ , we have

$\|Sx_n - Sx_m\| = \|(1-T)x_n - (1-T)x_m\| =$

$$= \|x_n - \underbrace{Tx_n}_{\in K_n} + \underbrace{x_m - Tx_m}_{\in K_{m+1} \subset K_n}\| \geq \frac{1}{2}, \text{ a contr.}$$

with the compactness of  $S$ .  $\square$

Step 4.  $d(T) < \infty$ .

Proof. We know:  $a(T^*) < \infty \Rightarrow$

$$\Rightarrow \exists n \geq 0 \text{ s.t. } \text{Ker}(T^*)^n = \text{Ker}(T^*)^{n+1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \perp \text{Ker}(T^n)^* = \perp \text{Ker}(T^{n+1})^*$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \parallel & & \parallel \\ \overline{\text{Im}(T^n)} & & \overline{\text{Im}(T^{n+1})} \end{array}$$

$\parallel$

$\parallel$

$$\text{Im}(T^n)$$

$$\text{Im}(T^{n+1})$$

(because  $T^k$  is Fred.  $\forall k \geq 0$ )  $\xRightarrow{L1} d(T) < \infty$ .

Step 5.  $T$  is Fred  $\Rightarrow$  so is  $T^p \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow K_p$  is fin-dim, and  $I_p$  is closed.

Now L2 implies (3).

(by the Banach Inv. Map. Thm.)

$$\Rightarrow \text{ind } T = \underbrace{\text{ind}(T|_{K_p})}_{=0} + \underbrace{\text{ind}(T|_{I_p})}_{=0} = 0. \quad \square \square$$

( $K_p$  is fin-dim)

Cor. 1. (Fredholm Alternative)

$T \in \mathcal{L}_X + \mathcal{K}(X)$  is inj.  $\Leftrightarrow T$  is surj.  $\Leftrightarrow$

$\Leftrightarrow T$  is bijective.

Cor. 2. (J. Schauder 1930)

(abstract Fredholm theorems)

$T \in \mathcal{L}_X + \mathcal{K}(X)$ . Then

(1)  $\dim \text{Ker } T = \dim \text{Ker } T^* < \infty$ .

(2)  $\text{Im } T = {}^\perp(\text{Ker } T^*)$

(3)  $\text{Im } T^* = (\text{Ker } T)^\perp$ .