

# Operator theory

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## PART I

### Compact and Fredholm operators

#### Preliminaries

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Def:  $(X, \rho)$  - metric space if  $X$ -set, and  $\rho$  is a metric:

i)  $\rho(x, y) \geq 0 \quad \forall x, y \in X. \quad \rho(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y$

ii)  $\rho(x, y) = \rho(y, x) \quad \forall x, y \in X$

iii)  $\rho(x, z) \leq \rho(x, y) + \rho(y, z) \quad \forall x, y, z \in X$

Def:  $U \subseteq X$  is open if  $\forall x \in U. \exists \delta > 0.$

s.t.  $B(x, \delta) \subset U \quad (B(x, \delta) = \{y \in X \mid \rho(x, y) < \delta\})$

Def:  $K \subset X$  is compact if every open cover  $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$  of  $K$  has a finite subcover.

cover:  $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$  is a cover of  $K$  if  $\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} U_\alpha \supset K$

Def: A precompact set  $A \subset X$  is a set  $A \subset X$

s.t.  $\bar{A}$  is compact.  
closure of  $A$  in  $X$

Def:  $\{x_j\}_{j \geq 1}$  is **Cauchy sequence** in  $X$  if  
 $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists N = N(\varepsilon), \rho(x_j, x_k) < \varepsilon \forall j, k \geq N(\varepsilon)$ .

Def:  $X$  is **complete** if  $\forall$  Cauchy  $\{x_j\}_{j \geq 1} \subset X$   
 $\exists x \in X, \rho(x_j, x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $j \rightarrow \infty$   
 (Every Cauchy sequence converges.)

Ex.  $(\mathbb{R}^n, \rho_{\mathbb{R}^n}(\{x_i\}, \{y_i\}) := \sqrt{\sum |x_i - y_i|^2})$  - complete metric space

Ex.  $(\mathbb{Q}, \rho_{\mathbb{R}^n})$  - metric space but non-complete

Ex.  $[0, 1]$  is a compact-subset of  $(\mathbb{R}, \rho_{\mathbb{R}})$

Th:  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is compact  $\Leftrightarrow$  closed and bounded

Def:  $A \subset (X, \rho)$  is bounded if  $\exists x \in X, \exists R > 0, A \subset B(x, R)$

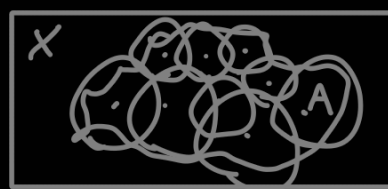
Ex:  $(X, \rho) = \ell^2(\mathbb{Z}) = (\{\{x_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} \mid \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} |x_j|^2 < \infty, \rho(\{x_j\}, \{y_j\}) = \sqrt{\sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} |x_j - y_j|^2}$

$$B[0, 1] = \{y \in \ell^2(\mathbb{Z}) : \rho(0, y) \leq 1\}$$

-bounded, closed but not compact HW

Theorem: Let  $(X, \rho)$  be a complete metric space,  
 $A \subset X$ . The following assertions are equivalent:

- i)  $A$  is precompact
- ii)  $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists$  a finite  $\varepsilon$ -net  $\{x_j\}_{j=1}^{N_\varepsilon}$  in  $A$ ,  
 that is,  $\bigcup_{j=1}^{N_\varepsilon} B(x_j, \varepsilon) \supset A$ .



(ii)  $\forall \{x_j\}_{j \geq 1} \subset A$  there is a converging subsequence to some element  $x \in X$ .

Proof: i)  $\Rightarrow$  ii)  $\{\mathcal{U}_x\}_{x \in A} = \{B(x, \varepsilon)\}_{x \in A}$  - open cover of  $A$ .

- is an open cover of  $\bar{A}$ :

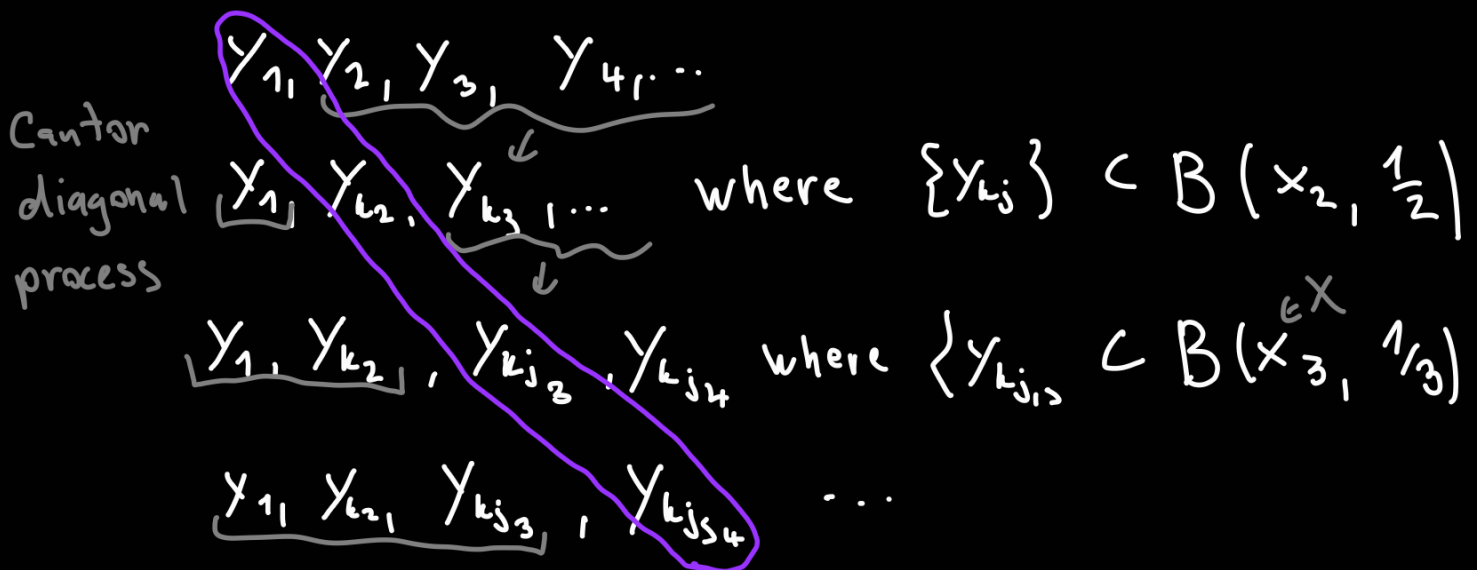
$(\forall y \in \bar{A}. \exists x \in A. d(x, y) < \varepsilon/2 \Rightarrow y \in B(x, \varepsilon))$   
 definition of closure

$\Rightarrow \exists \{U_{x_j}\}_{j=1}^N$  - finite subcover of  $\bar{A}$

$\Rightarrow \{U_{x_j}\}_j$  is a  $\varepsilon$ -net in  $A$

ii)  $\Rightarrow$  iii) Observe that  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ , any sequence  $\{y_j\} \subset A$  has an infinite subsequence that is contained in some  $B(x, \varepsilon)$ . (we have a finite  $\varepsilon$ -net)

Assume that  $\{y_k\}$  is arbitrary in  $A$ .



Consider  $z_1 = y_1$   
 $z_2 = y_{k_2}$   
 $z_3 = y_{k_{j_3}}$   
 $z_4 = y_{k_{j_4}}$   
 $\vdots$

Claim:  $\{z_j\}$  is a Cauchy sequence.

Indeed  $\rho(z_j, z_k) < \frac{1}{k}$   
 $k < j$

because  $z_j, z_k \in B(x_k, \frac{1}{k})$   $\rho(z_j, z_k) < \frac{2}{k} \Rightarrow \rho_k \rightarrow \infty$

$X$  is complete  $\Rightarrow \{z_j\}$  converges

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iii)  $\Rightarrow$  i):

Plan: a)  $A$  contains a dense countable subset

a)+b)+c) b) If  $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$  is an open cover of  $\bar{A}$   
under assumption  $\Rightarrow \exists \{U_{\alpha_j}\}_{j \in J}$  - an open countable subcover of  $\bar{A}$   
3) c)  $\Rightarrow \{U_{\alpha_j}\}_{j=1}^\infty$  is a cover of  $\bar{A}$

a) Observe that  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$  there exists at most  $N(\varepsilon)$  points  
 $A \ni \{y_j(\varepsilon)\}_{1 \leq j \leq N(\varepsilon)}$  s.t.  $\rho(y_k(\varepsilon), y_j(\varepsilon)) > \varepsilon \quad \forall k \neq j$ .

(If this is not true, then  $\exists \{y_j(\varepsilon)\}_{j=1}^\infty$  such that  
 $\rho(y_j(\varepsilon), y_k(\varepsilon)) > \varepsilon$  and it cannot contain a convergent  
subsequence by Cauchy criterion.)

Now  $E = \{y_k\{\frac{1}{n}\} \mid 1 \leq k \leq N(\frac{1}{n}), n \geq 1\}$  is a dense  
countable subset.

( $E$  is dense since  $\forall n, \forall x \in A, \min_{1 \leq k \leq N(\frac{1}{n})} (\rho(x, y_k(\frac{1}{n}))) \leq \frac{1}{n}$  by  
construction)

b) Assume that  $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$  is some open cover of  $\bar{A}$ .  
For every  $x \in \bar{A}$  define

$$\varepsilon(x) := \frac{\sup\{\varepsilon > 0 \mid B(x, \varepsilon) \subset U_\alpha \text{ for some } \alpha\}}{2} > 0$$

Claim: if  $\{y_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  is a countable dense subset in  $A$ , then

$\{B(y_j, \varepsilon(y_j))\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  is an open cover for  $\bar{A}$ .

Take  $x \in \bar{A} \exists d_x. x \in U_{d_x}$ , and let  $h(x) > 0$  such that  $B(x, h(x)) \subset U_{d_x}$  ( $U_{d_x}$  is open  $\Rightarrow h(\varepsilon) \exists$ )



Find  $y_j$  such that  $\rho(x, y_j) < \frac{h(x)}{10}$ .

Then, since  $h(x) \leq 2\varepsilon(y_j)$ ,  $x \in B(y_j, \varepsilon(y_j)) \Leftrightarrow \rho(x, y_j) < \varepsilon(y_j)$



$\varepsilon(y_j) \geq \frac{h(x)}{10}$  - Because  $B(y_j, \frac{h(x)}{5}) \subset U_{d_x}$  by triangle inequality and  $\varepsilon(y_j)$  satisfies  $\textcircled{*}$ .

Since  $\{B(y_j, \varepsilon(y_j))\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  is an open cover for  $\bar{A}$ , then  $\{U_{d_{y_j}}\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  is an open cover for  $\bar{A}$ , where  $U_{d_{y_j}}$  is the set  $U_{d_x}$  from the definition of  $\varepsilon(y_j)$  (that is,  $U_{d_{y_j}} \supset B(y_j, \varepsilon(y_j))$ ).

Since we have  $\textcircled{*}$ ,  $\bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} U_{d_{y_j}} \supset \bar{A}$ .

c) Claim:  $\exists N. \{U_{d_{y_j}}\}_{j=1}^N$  is a cover of  $\bar{A}$ .

Suppose this is not the case  $\Rightarrow \forall j \geq 1. \exists x_j \in \bar{A} \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^j U_{d_{y_k}}$ . Consider  $\{x_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ , and assume that the sequence  $\{x_{j_k}\}$  - convergent to some  $x \in X$ . Note that  $x \in \bar{A}$  ( $x_j \in \bar{A}$ ).  $\Rightarrow \exists j_*$ .  $x \in U_{d_{y_{j_*}}} \Rightarrow \exists \delta > 0$ . s.t.  $B(x, \delta) \subset U_{d_{y_{j_*}}}$ , but  $x_{j_k} \notin U_{d_{y_{j_*}}}$  for large  $k$  by construction. (in particular,  $x_{j_k} \notin B(x, \delta)$ , hence  $\rho(x, x_{j_k}) > \delta$ , but this contradicts the fact that  $x_{j_k} \rightarrow x$ ).

We have shown that  $\{x_j\} \subset \bar{A}$  cannot have a convergent subsequence.

Then if  $\tilde{x}_j \in A$ .  $\rho(\tilde{x}_j, x_j) < \frac{1}{j}$ , then  $\{\tilde{x}_j\}$  also has no convergent subsequence. So, we assumed there is no

finite subcover  $\{U_{x_j}\}$  and found a sequence  $\{\tilde{x}_j\} \subset A$  that has no converging subsequence, a contradiction with 3). Therefore  $3) \Rightarrow 1)$ .  $\square$

## Examples of compact sets and their properties:

1)  $K \subset (X, \rho)$  is compact  $\Rightarrow K$  is bounded

Indeed, if  $K$  is not bounded, then  $\{B(x, n)\}_{n \geq 1}$  is an open cover without a finite subcover.

2)  $K \subset (X, \rho)$  is compact, then it is closed  
 $(\Leftrightarrow \{x_j\} \subset K$  such that  $x_j \rightarrow x$  in  $(X, \rho)$  we also have  $x \in K)$

Let's check that  $X \setminus K$  is open. Take  $y \in X \setminus K$ , take  $x \in K$ , let  $\delta(x) > 0$ .  $B(x, \delta(x)) \cap B(y, \delta(x)) \neq \emptyset$   
 $\{B(x, \delta(x))\}_{x \in K}$  is an open cover, let  $\{B(x_j, \delta(x_j))\}_{j=1}^N$  be a finite subcover, then  $\delta := \min_{1 \leq j \leq N} \delta(x_j)$ ,  $B(y, \delta) \cap K = \emptyset$   
 $\Rightarrow X \setminus K$  is open.

Another proof: Suppose  $\{y_j\} \subset K$  s.t.  $y_j \rightarrow y$ ,  $y \notin K$ .

$$U_j = \left\{ x \in X \mid \rho(x, y) > \frac{1}{j} \right\}$$

$\{U_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  open cover,  $\{U_{j_k}\}_{k=1}^N$  finite subcover

$$\varepsilon := \min_{1 \leq k \leq N} \left( \frac{1}{j_k} \right), \quad \rho(x, y) > \varepsilon \quad \forall x \in K \quad \text{contradiction} \quad \square$$

linear space = vector space

3) Let  $X$  be a finite-dimensional complete linear normed space. Then  $E \subset X$  is compact  $\Leftrightarrow E$  is closed and bounded.

( $\Rightarrow$ ): Examples 1+2.

( $\Leftarrow$ ):  $X = \{ \sum_{k=1}^N a_k e_k \mid a_k \in \mathbb{C} \}$ ,  $N = \dim X$ ,  $\{e_k\}_{k=1}^N$  - basis

$$\varphi \left( \sum a_k e_k \right) = \max_{1 \leq k \leq N} |a_k| \text{ - norm on } X$$

Since all norms on finite dimensional vcc. spaces are equivalent.

$$\exists A, B > 0. \quad A \|x\| \leq \varphi(x) \leq B \|x\| \quad \forall x \in X.$$

in particular the set  $\left\{ \left\{ |a_k(x)| \right\}_{k=1}^N, x \in E \right\}$   
 $x = \sum a_k(x) e_k$

is bounded (=bdd) in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  for every bounded  $E \subset X$ .

$$\sup_{x \in E} \varphi(x) \leq B \cdot \sup_{x \in E} \|x\| < \infty$$

$\Rightarrow$  for any sequence  $\left\{ \left\{ |a_k(x_j)| \right\}_{k=1}^N \right\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  one can extract a converging subsequence in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , i.e.

$$a_k(x_{j_n}) \longrightarrow c_k \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

But then  $\sum_{k=1}^N c_k(x_{j_n}) e_k \longrightarrow \sum c_k e_k$  in  $X$

$\Rightarrow$  bounded subsets are precompact in  $X$

$\Rightarrow$  bdd + closed sets are compact

$$4) \ell^2(\mathbb{Z}) = \left\{ \{c_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \mid \sum |c_k|^2 < \infty \right\}$$

$$\| \{c_k\} \| = \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |c_k|^2}$$

$$B[0, 1] = \left\{ \{c_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \in \ell^2(\mathbb{Z}) \mid \| \{c_k\} \| < 1 \right\}$$

Then this set is bounded, closed, but neither compact nor precompact.

Proof: there is no finite  $\frac{1}{2}$ -net in  $B[0,1]$ ,  
 beca  $\rho(e_k, e_j) > \frac{1}{2}$  for  $e_k = (0, \dots, 0, \overset{\text{kth place}}{1}, 0, \dots, 0)$ .

Definition:  $X$  is a **Banach space** if it is a linear normed space such that  $X$  is complete with respect to this norm.

Example: Let  $(K, \rho)$  be a metric compact space.

$$C(K) := \{f: K \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid \text{cont. in the metric } \rho\}$$

$$(\Leftrightarrow) f(x_j) \rightarrow f(x) \quad \forall x_j \rightarrow x \text{ in } (K, \rho)$$

$$\|f\|_{C(K)} = \|f\| := \max_{x \in K} |f(x)| \quad - \text{norm in } C(K)$$

Theorem: [Arzela-Ascoli]: Assume that  $K$  is a complete compact metric space.  $E \subset C(K)$  is precompact  $\Leftrightarrow$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1) E \text{ is bounded in } C \\ 2) \text{ Functions in } E \text{ are equicontinuous, that is,} \\ \forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta_\varepsilon > 0. |f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon \quad \forall x, y \in K. \rho(x, y) < \delta_\varepsilon \\ \forall f \in E \end{array} \right.$$

We will need 1+2)  $\Rightarrow$  precompactness.

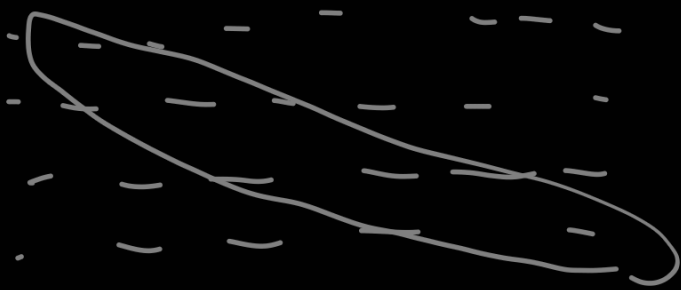
Proof: Find a dense sequence  $\{x_j\}$  in  $K$ .  
 (such sequence exists because  $K$  is compact)

Then take  $\{f_n\}$  arbitrary sequence in  $E$ .

We want to find a converging subsequence of  $\{f_n\}$   
 (then  $E$  - precompact)

For this find a subsequence  $\{f_{n_k}\}$  such that  
 $f_{n_k}(x_j) \rightarrow f(x_j)$  For every  $j$

(Cantor diagonalization process + uniform boundedness)



look at the proof from the 1st lecture

Claim:  $f_{n_k}$  is Cauchy sequence in  $C(K)$ .

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Aim:  $\|f_{n_s} - f_{n_m}\|_{C(K)} \rightarrow 0$  as  $s, m \rightarrow \infty$

For simplicity let  $g_s = f_{n_s}$   $s \geq 1$ .

Idea:

$$|g_s(x) - g_m(x)| \leq |g_s(x) - g_s(x_j)| + |g_s(x_j) - g_m(x_j)| + |g_m(x_j) - g_m(x)|$$

$\leq \epsilon/3$       take  $s, m$  large enough:  $\leq \epsilon/3$        $\leq \epsilon/3$   
 For all  $s$  if  $x_j$  is close to  $x$       For all  $s$  if  $x_j$  is close to  $x$  (equiv. continuity)

To make the idea work we need to check that in this construction we can deal only with finite number of points  $x_j$ ,  $j=1, \dots, N(\epsilon)$ .

For this it suffices to find  $N(\delta_\epsilon)$  such that  $\rho(x, x_j) < \delta_\epsilon$  for every  $x \in K$  and  $x_j$ ,  $j=1 \dots N_\epsilon$ .  
 ( $\{x_j\}_{j=1}^{N(\delta_\epsilon)}$  is  $\delta_\epsilon$ -net).

So, it remains to show that if  $\{x_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  is dense then  $\forall \delta_\epsilon > 0. \exists N(\delta_\epsilon). \{x_j\}_{j=1}^{N(\delta_\epsilon)}$  is a  $\delta_\epsilon$ -net.

To this end, let  $\{y_k\}_{k=1}^N$  is a  $\delta_{\epsilon/2}$ -net in  $K$  ( $K$  is compact)  
 Let  $\{x_j\}_{j=1}^{N(\delta_\epsilon)}$  be the part of  $\{x_j\}$  such that

$$\text{dist}(\{x_j\}_{j=1}^{N(\delta_\epsilon)}, y_k) \leq \delta_{\epsilon/2} \quad \forall 1 \leq k \leq N.$$

$\Rightarrow$  then  $\{x_j\}_{j=1}^{N(\delta_\epsilon)}$  is a  $\delta_\epsilon$ -net by triangle inequality.  $\square$

( $\|g_s - g_m\|_{C(K)} \leq \epsilon/3 + \epsilon/3 + \epsilon/3$  for  $s, m$  large enough)

Example:  $K = [0, 1]$ ,  $E_A = \left\{ f \in C[0, 1], f(0) = 0, f \text{ is Lipschitz with constant at most } A \right\}, A > 0$

$E_A$  is compact

i)  $E_A$  is bounded in  $C[0, 1]$ :

$$|f(x)| \leq |f(x) - f(0)| \leq A|x| \leq A$$

$$E_A \subset B(0, A)$$

ii)  $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq A|x - y| \leq A\delta = \varepsilon$  if  $\varepsilon > 0, \delta := \frac{\varepsilon}{A}, x, y \in [0, 1]: |x - y| \leq \delta$

i + ii + AA theorem  $\Rightarrow E_A$  is precompact

iii)  $E_A$  is closed

if  $f_n \rightarrow f$  in  $C(K)$  then  $f_n(0) \rightarrow f(0) \Rightarrow f(0) = 0$

$$|f_n(x) - f_n(y)| \leq A|x - y|$$

$\downarrow$

$$|f(x) - f(y)| \Rightarrow f \text{ is Lip}(A)$$

Example: Let  $E = \left\{ \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} c_k e^{2\pi i k x}, \text{ where } c_k \in \mathbb{C}: |c_k| \leq \frac{1}{k^2 + 1} \right\}$

Then  $E$  is compact as well in  $C[0, 1]$ .

i) obs:  $f \in E, \|f\| \leq \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \frac{1}{k^2 + 1}$

Details: exercise

ii) equicontinuity  $f = \underbrace{\sum_{|k| \leq N}}_{\text{Lipschitz with some constant}} + \underbrace{\sum_{|k| > N}}_{\text{Small if } N \text{ large}}$   
 $A_N$  - does not depend on  $f$

# Compact operators: basic properties

Definition: Let  $X, Y$  be Banach spaces,  $T: X \rightarrow Y$  a linear map.  $T$  is called **bounded** if  $T(B(0,1))$  is a bounded set in  $Y$ .  $T$  is called **compact** if  $T(B(0,1))$  is a precompact set in  $Y$ . ( $B(0,1) = \{ \|x\|_X < 1 \}$ ) bounded linear operator

## Some observations:

1) If  $S \subset X$  is bdd then  $T(S)$  is precompact bdd for any compact bounded operator

2)  $T$  is compact  $\Rightarrow T$  is bounded  
(precompact sets are bounded)

3) with the norm  $\|T\| = \sup_{x \in B(0,1)} \|Tx\|_Y$ , the set of bdd linear operators becomes a linear normed space, to be denoted by  $B(X, Y)$  or  $B(X)$  if  $X=Y$ .

4) A linear map between Banach spaces  $X, Y$  is continuous if and only if it is bounded.

Hint:  $\|T_x - T_y\| \leq \|T\| \cdot \|x - y\|$ , so bounded operators are Lipschitz.

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Definition: **Banach algebra** is an associative algebra which is a linear space with a norm  $\|\cdot\|$  such that it's a Banach space with respect to this norm (it is complete with respect to this norm) and  $\|T_1 T_2\| \leq \|T_1\| \|T_2\|$  for any elements in this algebra.

Proposition: Let  $X$  be a Banach space. Then  $B(X, X)$  is a Banach algebra.

Proof:  $\alpha_1 T_1 + \alpha_2 T_2 \in \mathcal{B}(X, X) \quad \forall T_1, T_2 \in \mathcal{B}(X, X)$  (proved)

$T_1 \cdot T_2 \in \mathcal{B}(X, X)$ , since  $\forall x \in X, \|T_1 T_2 x\| \leq \|T_1\| \cdot \|T_2 x\|$

$$\Rightarrow \|T_1\| \cdot \|T_2\| \leq \|T_1 T_2\|$$

$$\sup_{\substack{y \in X \\ \|y\| = 1}} \|T_1 T_2 y\|$$

since  $T_1 \in \mathcal{B}(X, X)$  we have

$$\|T_1 y\| \leq \|T_1\| \|y\| \quad \forall y \in X$$

We see that  $T_1 T_2 \in \mathcal{B}(X, X)$  and  $\|T_1 T_2\| \leq \|T_1\| \|T_2\|$ .

Now let us prove that  $\mathcal{B}(X, X)$  is Banach.

Let us show that  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} B_k$  converges if  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \|B_k\| < \infty$ .

$$T_n = \sum_{k=1}^n B_k, \quad x \in X, \quad \|T_N x - T_M x\| = \left\| \sum_{k=M+1}^N B_k x \right\| \leq \sum_{k=M+1}^N \|B_k\| \cdot \|x\| \xrightarrow{M, N \rightarrow \infty} 0,$$

because of (\*).

$\Rightarrow \{T_N x\}_N$  Cauchy in  $X$ , but  $X$ -Banach  $\Rightarrow \exists T x = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} T_N x$

Moreover,  $\|T x\| = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \|T_N x\| \leq \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^N \|B_k\| \|x\| \leq \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \|B_k\| \right) \|x\|$ .

$$\Rightarrow T \in \mathcal{B}(X, X), \quad \|T\| \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \|B_k\|$$

$$\sup_{\substack{x \in X \\ \|x\| < 1}} \|T x - T_N x\| = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \|T_N x - T_M x\| \leq \sup_{\|x\| < 1} \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=M+1}^N \|B_k\| \cdot \|x\| = \sum_{k=M+1}^{\infty} \|B_k\| \xrightarrow{M \rightarrow \infty} 0 \quad (*) \quad \square$$

$= S_{\infty}(X, X)$  (index  $\infty$  will be explained later)

Proposition: The set  $S_{\infty}(X)$  of all compact operators on  $X$  is a two-sided ideal in  $\mathcal{B}(X) = \mathcal{B}(X, X)$ :  $\forall T_1 \in S_{\infty}(X), \forall T_2 \in \mathcal{B}(X), T_1 T_2 \in S_{\infty}(X)$  and  $T_2 T_1 \in S_{\infty}(X)$ .

Proof: Take  $\{x_n\}_n$  s.t.  $\|x_n\| \leq 1$ , and let us check that there is a subsequence  $\{x_{n_k}\}$ :  $T_1 T_2 x_{n_k}$  converges.

Note that  $\{T_2 x_{n_k}\} \subset B_X(0, \|T_2\|)$ .  $T_1$  takes  $B_X(0, \|T_2\|)$  into a precompact subset of  $X \Rightarrow \exists \{T_1 T_2 x_{n_k}\}$ -convergent subsequence

Now let's consider  $\{T_2 T_1 x_n\}$ . Note that  $\{T_1 x_{n_k}\}$ -convergent subsequence ( $T_1 \in S_{\infty}(X)$ ). Then  $\{T_2 T_1 x_{n_k}\}$  converges, since  $T_2$  is continuous. \(\square\)

Proposition:  $S_\infty(X, Y)$  is a closed subset in  $\mathcal{B}(X, Y)$ , i.e.  $T_n \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y), T_n \rightarrow T$  in  $\mathcal{B}(X, Y) \Rightarrow T \in S_\infty(X, Y)$ .

Proof: Let's find a finite  $\varepsilon$ -net in  $T(B_X[0, 1])$ .

Take finite  $\varepsilon/3$ -net for  $T_n B_X(0, 1)$  for  $n$ :  $\|T - T_n\| \leq \varepsilon/2$ ; denote it by  $\{x_k\}_{k=1}^N$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \|Tx - Tx_k\| &\leq \underbrace{\|Tx - T_n x\|}_A + \underbrace{\|T_n x - T_n x_k\|}_B \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\|T_n x_k - Tx_k\|}_C \\ &\leq \varepsilon/3 + \varepsilon/3 + \varepsilon/3 \leq \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

for any  $1 \leq k \leq N$   
so choose  $k$ :  $B \leq \varepsilon/2$   
and note  $A \leq \|T - T_n\| \leq \varepsilon/2$   
for every  $x \in B_X(0, 1)$   
 $C \leq \varepsilon/3$

Corollary: If  $T$  is a limit of finite-rank operators in  $\mathcal{B}(X, Y)$ , then  $T \in S_\infty(X, Y)$ .

Proof: Since finite-rank operators are in  $S_\infty(X, Y)$ , we have  $T \in S_\infty(X, Y)$  by the previous proposition.  $\square$

Remark: At a general Banach space  $\exists T \in S_\infty(X, Y)$  such that  $\nexists \{T_n\}_n$ :  $\text{rank } T_n < \infty$  and  $\|T - T_n\| \rightarrow 0$ .

Definition: Let  $X$  be a Banach space.  $\{e_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$  is a **Schauder basis** if  $\forall x \in X. \exists! \{c_k(x)\}_{k=1}^\infty$  such that  $x = \sum_{k=1}^\infty c_k(x) e_k$ , where the series converges in  $X$ .

Theorem: Let  $X$  be a Banach space with Schauder basis. Then  $T \in S_\infty(X) \Leftrightarrow \exists T_n. \text{rank } T_n \leq n$  and  $\|T - T_n\| \rightarrow 0$ . (here  $\text{rank } S = \dim S(X) \quad \forall S \in \mathcal{B}(X)$ )

Proof: ( $\Leftarrow$ ): we already know

( $\Rightarrow$ ): Let  $T \in S_\infty(X)$ , and let  $P_n: X \rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^n C_k(x) e_k$ .

$P$  is linear:  $\forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}, \forall x, y \in X. P_n(\alpha x + \beta y) = \alpha P_n(x) + \beta P_n(y)$ ?

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{If } x = \sum C_k(x) e_k \\ y = \sum C_k(y) e_k \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \alpha x + \beta y = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\alpha C_k(x) + \beta C_k(y)) e_k$$

$$\alpha x + \beta y = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} C_k(\alpha x + \beta y) e_k$$

by uniqueness

by def. of Schauder basis

$$C_k(\alpha x + \beta y) = \alpha C_k(x) + \beta C_k(y) \quad \forall k$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } P_n(\alpha x + \beta y) &= \sum_{k=1}^n C_k(\alpha x + \beta y) e_k = \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha C_k(x) e_k + \sum_{k=1}^n \beta C_k(y) e_k \\ &= \alpha P_n(x) + \beta P_n(y) \quad \Rightarrow P_n \text{ linear} \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $T_n := P_n T$  are such that  $\text{rank}(T_n) \leq n$  because  $\dim P_n T(x) \leq \dim P_n(x) \leq n$ .

It remains to show that  $T_n \rightarrow T$  in  $\mathcal{B}(X)$ . Since  $T$  is compact,  $\forall \varepsilon > 0. \exists \{x_k\}_{k=1}^N$  such that  $\|x_k\| \leq 1 \quad \forall k$  and  $\{T x_k\}_{k=1}^N$  is a  $\varepsilon$ -net in  $T(B_X(0, 1))$ . Now take  $x \in B_X(0, 1)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and write } \|T x - T_n x\| &\leq \|T x - T x_k\| + \|T x_k - T_n x\| + \|T_n x_k - T_n x\| \\ &\leq \underbrace{\|T x - T x_k\|}_{\leq \varepsilon \text{ for some } k} + \underbrace{\|T x_k - P_n T x_k\|}_{\leq \varepsilon \text{ if } n \text{ large enough for any fixed } k} + \underbrace{\|P_n T x_k - P_n T x\|}_{\leq \|P_n\| \cdot \|T x_k - T x\|} \\ &\leq \varepsilon + \varepsilon + \underbrace{\sup \|P_n\|}_{\leq \infty} \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

$\sup \|P_n\| < \infty$  by Banach-Steinhaus theorem on uniform point-wise convergence.

$$\|T - T_n\| \leq \varepsilon (2 + \sup \|P_n\|) \quad \text{for } n \text{ large enough} \quad \square$$

Theorem [Banach-Steinhaus]: Assume that  $\{T_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset \mathcal{B}(X)$  where  $X$  is a Banach space such that

$$\sup_n \|T_n x\| \leq C(x) < \infty \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{local information} \\ \sim \text{uniform estimate} \end{array}$$

for every  $x \in X$ . Then  $\sup_n \|T_n\| < \infty$ . In particular, one can take  $C$  in place of  $f^n C(x)$ .

Remark: In our situation  $\sup_{1 \leq n < \infty} \|P_n\| < C(x) < \infty$  because  $P_n x \rightarrow x$  in  $X$ .

## Banach adjoint operators

October 15, 2025

Definition: Let  $X$  be a Banach space. Then  $X^* = \mathcal{B}(X, \mathbb{C})$  is called the dual space to  $X$ . The elements of  $X^*$  are called functionals.   
  $\{\phi: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid \begin{array}{l} \phi \text{ linear} \\ \|\phi\| < \infty \end{array}\}$

Examples: (can ignore, if one does not know measure theory)

i)  $L^p(\mu) = \left\{ f: S \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid \begin{array}{l} f \text{ is measurable with} \\ \text{respect to } \sigma\text{-algebra} \\ \text{of } \mu \end{array}, \int_S |f|^p d\mu < \infty \right\}$    
  $1 \leq p < \infty$    
  $f = g$  if  $|f(x)| = |g(x)|$  for  $\mu$ -a.e.  $x \in S$

$$\|f\|_{L^p(\mu)} = \left( \int_X |f|^p d\mu \right)^{1/p}$$

$$(L^p(\mu))^* = L^q(\mu) \quad \text{where} \quad \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$$

ii)  $l^p(\mathbb{Z}) = \left\{ \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \mid \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} |x_n|^p < \infty \right\}, \|x\|_{l^p(\mathbb{Z})} = \left( \sum |x_n|^p \right)^{1/p}$    
  $1 \leq p < \infty$

$$l^p(\mathbb{Z})^* = l^q(\mathbb{Z}), \quad \text{where} \quad \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$$

In these examples, the following identification is assumed:

$$i) g \in L^q(\mu) \leftrightarrow \phi_g : f \mapsto \int f g d\mu, \quad \phi_g : L^p(\mu) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$ii) \{x_k\}_{k=1}^\infty \text{ in } \ell^q(\mathbb{Z}) \leftrightarrow \phi_{\{x_k\}} : \{x_k\} \mapsto \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} x_k y_k$$

$$\phi_{\{x_k\}} : \ell^p(\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

Remark: i) is non-trivial measure theory

More examples:

$$iii) C_0(\mathbb{Z}) = \left\{ \{x_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \mid x_k \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } |k| \rightarrow \infty \right\}$$

$$C_0^*(\mathbb{Z}) = \ell^1(\mathbb{Z})$$

same identification

(Hahn-Banach is actually sufficient  $\leftrightarrow$  hard)

iv) Let  $K$  be a compact metric space, and  $X = C(K)$ .

Then  $X^* = \mathcal{M}(K)$ .

set of  
cont. maps  
 $(K, \mathcal{B}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{the set of Borel} \\ \text{measures on } K \\ \text{(complex valued)} \end{array} \mid \|\mu\| = \sup_{\substack{K = \cup E_n \\ E_n \cap E_j = \emptyset \\ n \neq j}} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} |\mu(E_n)| < \infty \right\}$$

$$\|\mu\| = |\mu|(K)$$

Riesz - Markov representation theorem

$$\text{Here } \mu \in \mathcal{M} \xleftrightarrow{(\cong)} \phi_\mu : f \mapsto \int_K f d\mu$$

We can also define  $\ell^p, L^p$  for  $p = \infty$ :

$$\cdot \ell^\infty(\mathbb{Z}) := \left\{ \{x_k\} \subset \mathbb{C} : \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} |x_k| < \infty \right\}$$

$$\cdot L^\infty(\mu) := \left\{ f : \text{---} : \text{ess sup } |f| < \infty \right\}$$

Remark: If  $1 < p < \infty$  then  $(L^p)^* = L^q, (L^q)^* = L^p$

Bvt for  $p=1$   $(L^1)^* = L^\infty$ ,  $(L^\infty)^* \neq L^1$   
 $l^1(\mathbb{Z})^* = l^\infty(\mathbb{Z})$ , bvt  $(l^\infty(\mathbb{Z}))^* \neq l^1(\mathbb{Z})$

Definition: Let  $X, Y$  be Banach spaces,  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y)$ . Then  $T^* \in \mathcal{B}(Y^*, X^*)$  is defined by

$$T^*: \Psi \longmapsto \left( (T^*\Psi): X \mapsto \langle Tx, \Psi \rangle \right),$$

where  $\langle x, \phi \rangle = \phi(x)$  for  $x \in X, \phi \in X^*$ .  $\Psi(Tx)$

Remark:  $\langle Tx, \Psi \rangle = \langle x, T^*\Psi \rangle \rightarrow$  this formula is equivalent to the definition of  $T^*$

Remark: Operation that sends  $x, \phi$  into  $\phi(x) = \langle x, \phi \rangle$  for  $x \in X, \phi \in X^*$  is called a **pairing** of Banach spaces  $X, X^*$ .

Example: For  $f \in C[0, 1], \mu$  on  $[0, 1]$  then the pairing is  $\langle f, \mu \rangle = \int_0^1 f d\mu$ , see (\*).

Theorem: Let  $X, Y$  be Banach spaces,  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y)$ . Then the map  $T^*: Y^* \rightarrow X^*$  defined by  $\langle x, T^*\Psi \rangle := \langle Tx, \Psi \rangle, x \in X$ , is an element of  $\mathcal{B}(Y^*, X^*)$ .  
 $(\Leftrightarrow (T^*\Psi)(x) = \Psi(Tx))$

Lemma 1 [Hahn-Banach theorem]: Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $E \subset X$  - subspace in  $X, \phi_0: E \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is linear and bdd ( $\Leftrightarrow \phi_0 \in E^*$ ). Then  $\exists \phi \in X^*$  such that  $\phi|_E = \phi_0$  and  $\|\phi\| = \|\phi_0\|$ .

Lemma 2 ["sufficient amount of functionals"]:

Let  $x \in X$ , then  $\|x\| = \sup_{\|\phi\| \leq 1} |\phi(x)|$ .

Proof:  $|\phi(x)| \leq \|\phi\| \cdot \|x\| \leq \|x\|$ , so  $\|x\| \geq \sup_{\|\phi\| \leq 1} |\phi(x)|$

To prove " $\leq$ ", define  $E = \text{span}\{x\} = \{\lambda x, \lambda \in \mathbb{C}\}$ ,  
 $\phi_0: Y \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  if  $y = c_y x \in E$ .

Assume that  $\|x\| = 1$ , then  $\|\phi_0\|_{E^*} = \sup_{\|y\| \leq 1} |c_y| =$  (from (\*\*),  $|c_y| = \|y\|$  if  $\|x\| = 1$ )  $= \sup_{\|y\| \leq 1} \|y\| = 1$ .

Hahn-Banach theorem  $\Rightarrow \exists \tilde{\phi}_0 \in X^*: \|\tilde{\phi}_0\| = 1, \tilde{\phi}_0|_E = \phi_0$ .

In particular  $\sup_{\|\phi\| \leq 1} |\phi(x)| \geq |\tilde{\phi}_0(x)| = 1 = \|x\|$ .

We have proved " $\leq$ " in the case where  $\|x\| = 1$ .  
 The general case follows from consideration of  $\frac{x}{\|x\|}$  in place of  $x$ .

October 21, 2025

We are proving that  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y) \Rightarrow T^* \in \mathcal{B}(Y^*, X^*)$  and  $\|T\| = \|T^*\|$ .

Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y)$ , consider

$$\|T^*\| = \sup_{\substack{\psi \in Y^* \\ \|\psi\| \leq 1}} \|T^*\psi\|_{X^*} = \sup_{\substack{\psi \in Y^* \\ \|\psi\| \leq 1}} \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} |(T^*\psi)(x)|$$

$$= \sup \sup |\langle x, T^*\psi \rangle|$$

$$= \sup \sup |\langle T x, \psi \rangle|$$

$$= \sup_{\substack{\psi \in Y^* \\ \|\psi\| \leq 1}} \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} |\psi(Tx)|$$

$$= \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} \left( \sup_{\|\psi\| \leq 1} |\psi(Tx)| \right)$$

$= \|Tx\|$  Lemma "sufficient amount of functionals"

$$= \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} \|Tx\| = \|T\| < \infty$$

The claim follows. ▣

Corollary:  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y)$  is invertible ( $\exists T^{-1} \in \mathcal{B}(Y, X)$ ) iff  $T^* \in \mathcal{B}(Y^*, X^*)$  is invertible ( $\exists (T^*)^{-1} \in \mathcal{B}(X^*, Y^*)$ ).

We prove just  $\Rightarrow$ .

Proof: Assume that  $T$  is invertible  $\Leftrightarrow T^{-1}T = I_X$   
 $TT^{-1} = I_Y$

Let's take adjoint operators and see:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} (T^{-1}T)^* = (I_X)^* \\ (TT^{-1})^* = (I_Y)^* \end{array} \right\} \Leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} T^*(T^{-1})^* = I_X^* \\ (T^{-1})^*T^* = I_Y^* \end{array} \right.$$

Exercise:  $(AB)^* = B^*A^*$

It remains to check that  $I_X^* = I_{X^*}$ ,  $I_Y^* = I_{Y^*}$ . Then, by the previous theorem,  $(T^{-1})^* \in \mathcal{B}(X^*, Y^*)$ , hence  $T^*$  is invertible and its bounded inverse is  $(T^*)^{-1} = (T^{-1})^*$ .

Let's check that  $I_X^* = I_{X^*}$ . Take  $\Phi \in X^*$ ,  $x \in X$ .

$$(I_X^* \Phi)(x) = \langle x, I_X^* \Phi \rangle = \langle I_X x, \Phi \rangle = \langle x, \Phi \rangle = \Phi(x)$$

$$(I_X^* \Phi)(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\Phi)(x) = \Phi(x).$$

Similarly,  $I_Y^* = I_{Y^*}$ . ▣

The "pairing notation" is often not used in literature, but it is very useful to not make mistakes.

Theorem [Schauder]: We have  $T \in S_\infty(X, Y) \Leftrightarrow T^* \in S_\infty(Y^*, X^*)$ .

Proof: We will prove just " $\Rightarrow$ ".

Consider  $K = \overline{TB_X(0,1)}$  - a compact set. Let  $C(K)$  be the Banach space of continuous functions on  $K$  with

$$\|f\|_{C(K)} = \max_{s \in K} |f(s)|, \quad f: K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

Let  $E := \{\psi \in Y^* \mid \|\psi\|_{Y^*} \leq 1, \psi \text{ is considered as a function on } K\}$

$K \subset Y$ ,  $K$  metric space with respect to the metric  $\rho(y_1, y_2) = \|y_2 - y_1\|_Y$

So,  $E \subset C(K)$  and we claim that  $E$  is precompact.

1) Uniform boundedness:

$$\psi \in E \Rightarrow \|\psi\|_{C(K)} = \max_{s \in K} |\psi(s)| = \max_{s \in \overline{TB_X(0,1)}} |\psi(s)| \stackrel{\psi \text{ cont.}}{=} \sup_{x \in B_X(0,1)} |\psi(Tx)|$$

$$\leq \|\psi\| \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} \|Tx\| \leq \|\psi\| \cdot \|T\| \leq \|T\| < \infty$$

does not depend on  $\psi$

2) Equicontinuity: take  $s_1, s_2 \in K$ , let's estimate

$$|\psi(s_1) - \psi(s_2)| = |\psi(s_1 - s_2)| \leq \|\psi\| \cdot \|s_1 - s_2\| \leq \|s_1 - s_2\|,$$

so maps from  $E$  are Lipschitz with constant 1, hence equicontinuous.

$\Rightarrow$  By Arzela-Ascoli theorem,  $E$  is precompact.

We are now ready to prove  $T^* \in S_\infty(Y^*, X^*)$ . For this, we need to check that if  $\{\psi_n\}$  is a sequence in  $B_{Y^*}(0,1)$ , then  $\exists \{\psi_{n_k}\}$  such that  $T^*_{\psi_{n_k}}$  converges in  $X^*$ . So, take  $\{\psi_n\} \subset B_{Y^*}(0,1)$  and consider it as elements  $E \subset C(K)$ .

Let  $\{\psi_{n_k}\}$  be such that  $\psi_{n_k} \xrightarrow{w^*} \psi$  in  $C(K)$ . ( $E$  is precompact!)

Let's prove that  $\{T^* \psi_{n_k}\}$  is Cauchy in  $X^*$ , then the theorem will follow.

Take  $x \in X, \|x\| \leq 1$ , and consider

$$\begin{aligned} \|(T^* \psi_{n_k})(x) - (T^* \psi_{n_j})(x)\| &= \|\langle x, T^* \psi_{n_k} \rangle - \langle x, T^* \psi_{n_j} \rangle\| \\ &= \|\langle Tx, \psi_{n_k} \rangle - \langle Tx, \psi_{n_j} \rangle\| \\ &= \|\psi_{n_k}(Tx) - \psi_{n_j}(Tx)\| \\ &\leq \sup_{s \in K} |\psi_{n_k}(s) - \psi_{n_j}(s)| \\ &= \underbrace{\|\psi_{n_k} - \psi_{n_j}\|_{C(K)}}_{\varepsilon_{k,j} \text{ - does not depend on } x} \longrightarrow 0 \text{ by } (*). \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|T^* \psi_{n_k} - T^* \psi_{n_j}\| \leq \varepsilon_{k,j} \longrightarrow 0. \quad \square$$

## Fredholm alternative

Example: Consider the equation  $f(t) - \int_0^1 e^{t-s} f(s) ds = g(t)$  in  $L^2[0,1]$ .

Question: For which  $g \in L^2[0,1]$  do we have a solution  $f \in L^2[0,1]$ ?

Observation:  $g$  has to satisfy  $\int_0^1 e^{-t} g(t) dt = 0$

$$\text{Indeed, } \int_0^1 e^{-t} g(t) dt = \int_0^1 e^{-t} f(t) dt - \int_0^1 e^{-t} \left( \int_0^1 e^{t-s} f(s) ds \right) dt = 0$$

It is not clear so far if there are other restrictions.

Theorem [Fredholm alternative]: Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $T = I - K$  for  $K \in \mathcal{L}_\infty(X, X)$ . Then

$$\text{Ran } T = \{x \in X \mid \langle x, \phi \rangle = 0 \forall \phi \in \ker T^*\}.$$

In other words, either:

- (1)  $\ker T^* = \{0\}$  and the equation  $Tf = g$  has solution  $\forall g \in X$ .
- (2)  $\ker T^* \neq \{0\}$  and the equation  $Tf = g$  has solutions only for  $g$  s.t.  $\langle g, \phi \rangle = 0 \forall \phi \in \ker T^*$ .

Let's complete the consideration of the example: we need to check that  $K: f \rightarrow \int_0^1 e^{t-s} f(s) ds$  is compact (exercise) and find  $\text{Ker } T^*$ .

$$\phi \in \text{Ker } T^* \Leftrightarrow T^* \phi = 0$$

Adjoint operator  $T^*$  is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Tf, g \rangle &= \langle f, T^*g \rangle && f, g \in L^2[0,1] \\ &&& (L^2[0,1]^* = L^2[0,1]) \\ \Leftrightarrow \langle f - \int_0^1 e^{t-s} f(s) ds, g \rangle &= \int_0^1 f(t)g(t) dt - \int_0^1 \int_0^1 e^{t-s} f(s) ds g(t) dt \\ &= \int_0^1 f(t)g(t) dt - \int_0^1 f(s) \left( \int_0^1 e^{t-s} g(t) dt \right) ds \\ &= \langle f, g - \int_0^1 e^{t-s} g(t) dt \rangle_{L^2[0,1]} \end{aligned}$$

$$(T^*g): s \mapsto g(s) - \int_0^1 e^{t-s} g(t) dt, \quad s \in [0,1].$$

$$T^*g = 0 \Leftrightarrow g(s) = \int_0^1 e^{t-s} g(t) dt \quad \text{a.e. on } [0,1]$$

$$\Leftrightarrow e^s g(s) = \underbrace{\int_0^1 e^t g(t) dt}_{\text{constant}} \quad \text{for almost every } s \in [0,1]$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{So, } \text{ker } T^* = \{ c \cdot e^{-s}, c \in \mathbb{C} \}, \quad \dim(\text{ker } T^*) = 1.$$

By Fredholm theorem, equation (\*\*\*) is solvable  $\Leftrightarrow \forall c \in \mathbb{C}. \langle g, c \cdot e^{-s} \rangle = 0 \Leftrightarrow \int_0^1 g(s) e^{-s} ds = 0$ , which is (\*\*\*).

## Preliminaries

Lemma [almost orthogonality in Banach spaces]: Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $E \subseteq X$  - a linear closed subspace,  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then  $\exists x_0 \in X$  such that  $\|x_0\| = 1$ ,  $\text{dist}(x_0, E) \geq 1 - \varepsilon$ .

Proof: Since  $E \neq X$ , then  $\exists \tilde{x}_0 \in X \setminus E$ . Since  $E$  is closed, we have  $\text{dist}(\tilde{x}_0, E) = \delta > 0$  for some  $\delta > 0$ . Now consider  $\tilde{y}_0 \in E$  such that  $\delta \leq \|\tilde{x}_0 - \tilde{y}_0\| \leq (1+\eta)\delta$  for some  $\eta \in (0,1)$ .

Now let  $x_\eta := \frac{\tilde{x}_0 - \tilde{y}_0}{\|\tilde{x}_0 - \tilde{y}_0\|}$ ,  $\|x_\eta\| = 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dist}(x_\eta, E) &= \frac{1}{\|\tilde{x}_0 - \tilde{y}_0\|} \text{dist}(\tilde{x}_0 - \tilde{y}_0, E) \\ &= \frac{1}{\|\tilde{x}_0 - \tilde{y}_0\|} \text{dist}(\tilde{x}_0, E) \\ &= \frac{\delta}{\|\tilde{x}_0 - \tilde{y}_0\|} \geq \frac{1}{1+\eta} \end{aligned}$$

Choosing  $\eta$  so that  $\frac{1}{1+\eta} = 1 - \varepsilon$ , we are done.

October 22, 2025

Lemma: Let  $X$  be a Banach space. Then  $I: x \mapsto x$  is compact on  $X \Leftrightarrow \dim X < \infty$ .

Proof:  $\dim X < \infty \Rightarrow I \in S_\infty(X)$  - we already know  $I \in S_\infty(X) \Rightarrow \dim X < \infty$ :

Suppose  $\dim X = +\infty$ , find a sequence  $\{e_n\}$ :  $\|e_n\| = 1 \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

$e_1 \in X$  - arbitrary

$e_2$ :  $\text{dist}(e_2, \text{span}\{e_1\}) \geq 1/2$

$e_3$ :  $\text{dist}(e_3, \text{span}\{e_1, e_2\}) \geq 1/2$

$e_4$ : etc

existence of  $\{e_n\}$  follows from previous lemma, because  $\text{span}\{e_1, \dots, e_k\} \neq X \forall k \in \mathbb{N}$

Then  $\{e_n\} \subset B_X[0,1] = I(B_X[0,1])$  but there is no convergent subsequence, because  $\|e_k - e_j\| \geq 1/2 \forall k, j$ .  $\square$

Lemma: Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $K \in S_{\infty}(X)$ ,  $T = I - K$ .

Then: 1)  $\dim(\ker T) < \infty$ .

2)  $\text{Ran } T$  is closed in  $X$ . [closed range Lemma]

Proof: 1): We have  $I|_{\ker T} = \underbrace{(I-K)|_{\ker T}}_0 + \underbrace{K|_{\ker T}}_{\in S_{\infty}(\ker T, S)}$

$I|_{\ker T} \in S_{\infty}(\ker T, X) \Rightarrow I \in S^{\infty}(\ker T) \Rightarrow \dim(\ker T) < \infty$

2): The statement is equivalent to the fact that if  $\{x_n\} \subset X$  s.t.  $Tx_n \rightarrow y$  in  $X$  then  $\exists x \in X$ .  $Tx = y$ .

2.a) Let  $\{x_n\} : \|x_n\| \leq C \quad \forall n$ .

Then  $(I-K)(x_n) \rightarrow y$ ,  $(I-K)(x_{n_k}) \xrightarrow{(*)} y$   
For every subsequence  $x_{n_k}$

Let's choose  $x_{n_k} : Kx_{n_k}$  converges to  $z \in X$   
(use  $K \in S_{\infty}(X)$ )

Then  $x_{n_k} \rightarrow y+z$  by  $(*)$ , take  $x = y+z$ :

$T(y+z) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} Tx_{n_k} = y$ , so  $Tx = y$ .  $\checkmark$

2.b)  $\text{dist}(x_n, \ker T) \leq C \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$

Take  $\tilde{x}_n := x_n - w_n$ , where  $w_n \in \ker T : \|\tilde{x}_n\| \leq 2C$ .

We have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T\tilde{x}_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Tx_n$  by step 2a)  $\exists \tilde{x} : T\tilde{x} = y \checkmark$

2.c)  $\text{dist}(x_n, \ker T) \rightarrow +\infty$ . Let us show that this situation does not occur. Suppose the converse:

Consider  $\tilde{x}_n = x_n - \underbrace{w_n}_{\in \ker T} : \text{dist}(x_n, \ker T) \leq \|\tilde{x}_n\| \leq 2 \text{dist}(x_n, \ker T)$   
 $(**)$

For  $z_n = \frac{\tilde{x}_n}{\|\tilde{x}_n\|}$  we have  $Tz_n \rightarrow 0$ .

$$Tz_n = T \frac{\tilde{x}_n}{\|\tilde{x}_n\|} = T \frac{x_n}{\|x_n\|} = \frac{Tx_n}{\|x_n\|} \rightarrow y \Rightarrow Tx_n \text{ is bdd in } X$$

$$\Rightarrow \|Tx_n\| \leq \frac{2\|y\|}{\|x_n\|} \rightarrow 0 \text{ for } n \text{ large enough}$$

At the same time,  $Tz_n = z_n - Kz_n$   
 $\Rightarrow \exists \{z_{n_k}\}$  s.t.  $\{Kz_{n_k}\}$  converges to some  $z \in X$   
 $\Rightarrow z_{n_k} = \underbrace{Tz_{n_k}}_{\rightarrow 0} + \underbrace{Kz_{n_k}}_{\rightarrow z} \rightarrow z$

We have  $Tz = 0$  ( $= \lim Tz_{n_k} = \lim Tz_n = 0$ )

$$\Leftrightarrow z \in \ker T, \quad 0 = \text{dist}(z, \ker T) =$$

$$= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \text{dist}(z_{n_k}, \ker T)$$

$$= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \text{dist}\left(\frac{\tilde{x}_{n_k}}{\|\tilde{x}_{n_k}\|}, \ker T\right)$$

$$= \lim \frac{\text{dist}(\tilde{x}_{n_k}, \ker T)}{\|\tilde{x}_{n_k}\|}$$

$$= \lim \frac{\text{dist}(x_{n_k}, \ker T)}{\|\tilde{x}_{n_k}\|}$$

$$\stackrel{(**)}{\geq} \frac{1}{2} \leadsto \text{contradiction} \quad \square$$

Lemma: Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X)$ :  
 $\ker(T) = \{0\}$  and  $T^{k+1}X = T^kX$  for some  $k \geq 0$ .  
 Then  $\text{Ran } T = X$ .

Proof: We need to prove that  $\forall a \in X. \exists \tilde{a} \in X. T\tilde{a} = a$ .  
 We know that:  $T^{k+1}a = T^k \tilde{a}$  for every  $a$  and some  $\tilde{a}$  depending on  $a$ .  
 $\Rightarrow T^k(a - T\tilde{a}) = 0 \Rightarrow a - T\tilde{a} = 0 \Rightarrow a = T\tilde{a}$ .  $\square$

Theorem [Fredholm]: Let  $X$  be a Banach space.

$K \in S_\infty(X)$ ,  $T = I - K$ . Then TFAE:

1)  $T$  is invertible in  $\mathcal{B}(X)$  2)  $\text{Ker } T = \{0\}$  3)  $\text{Ran } T = X$

1)  $T^*$  is invertible in  $\mathcal{B}(X)$  2)  $\text{Ker } T^* = \{0\}$  3)  $\text{Ran } T^* = X^*$

Proof: We will prove  $2 \Rightarrow 3 \Rightarrow 2' \Rightarrow 3' \Rightarrow 2$ ,  $1 \Rightarrow 1' \Rightarrow 2'$ ,  $2 \& 3 \Rightarrow 1$

(2) = (3): If  $T^k X = T^{k+1} X$  for some  $k$ , we are done by the lemma.

Define  $X_k := T^k X$ ,  $k \geq 0$ , and note that  $X_0 \supset X_1 \supset X_2 \supset X_3 \dots$

Assume that all inclusions are strict, i.e.  $X_k \supsetneq X_{k+1} \forall k$ .

The subspaces  $X_k$  are closed by the closed range lemma (by induction). By the almost orthogonality lemma:  $\exists \{y_k\}_0^\infty$  s.t.

i)  $y_k \in X_k \forall k$  ii)  $\|y_k\| = 1 \forall k$  iii)  $\text{dist}(y_k, X_{k+1}) \geq \frac{1}{2}$

Since  $K$  is compact  $\{K y_k\}$  contains a convergent subsequence  $\{K y_{k_j}\}_{j=1}^\infty$ . On the other hand, if  $j < m$

$$\begin{aligned} K y_{k_j} - K y_{k_m} &= (K y_{k_j} - y_{k_j}) - (K y_{k_m} - y_{k_m}) + y_{k_j} - y_{k_m} \\ &= y_{k_j} - y_{k_m} - \underbrace{(T y_{k_j} - T y_{k_m})}_{\in X_{k_j+1}} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $y_{k_m} \in X_{k_m}$ ,  $j < m$ ,  $k_j < k_m$ ,  $k_j+1 < k_m$ ,  $X_{k_m} \subset X_{k_j+1}$

$\Rightarrow y_{k_m} \in X_{k_j+1}$ ;  $T y_{k_m} \in T X_{k_j+1} \subset X_{k_j+1}$ ;  $T y_{k_j} \in T(X_{k_j}) = X_{k_j+1}$

$\Rightarrow K y_{k_j} - K y_{k_m} = y_{k_j} + R$ ,  $R \in X_{k_j+1}$ . Since  $\|y_{k_j} + R\| \geq \frac{1}{2}$  by (iii),

we get a contradiction ( $\{K y_{k_j}\}$  is not Cauchy).

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): Take  $\phi \in \text{Ker } T^*$ . We have

$$T^* \phi = 0 \Leftrightarrow \langle x, T^* \phi \rangle = 0 \forall x \in X \Leftrightarrow \langle T x, \phi \rangle = 0 \forall x \in X \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \langle y, \phi \rangle = 0 \forall y \in X \text{ (by 3)} \Leftrightarrow \phi = 0$$

(2')  $\Rightarrow$  (3'): (the same as  $2 \Rightarrow 3$  using Schauder's theorem)

(3')  $\Rightarrow$  (2): Assume that  $\text{Ran } T^* = X^*$  and take  $x \in \ker T$ .  
 We have  $Tx = 0 \Leftrightarrow \langle Tx, \phi \rangle = 0 \forall \phi \in X^* \Leftrightarrow \langle x, T^*\phi \rangle \forall \phi \in X^* \Leftrightarrow \langle x, \psi \rangle = 0 \forall \psi \in X^*$  (by 3')  $\Leftrightarrow x = 0$  lemma on sufficient amount of functionals

Conclusion:  $(2) \Leftrightarrow (3) \Leftrightarrow (2') \Leftrightarrow (3')$

(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (1'): We already know for arbitrary  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X)$ .

(1')  $\Rightarrow$  (2'): Invertible operators are injective.

$(2') \Leftrightarrow (2), (3)$

(2 & 3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): This holds for every  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X)$  by the following fundamental theorem from general F.A.:

Theorem [linear mapping theorem]: Let  $X, Y$  be a Banach space,  $T: X \rightarrow Y$  - linear bijection. Then  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X, Y) \Leftrightarrow T^{-1} \in \mathcal{B}(Y, X)$ .

Check injectivity:  $Tx_1 = Tx_2 \Leftrightarrow T(x_1 - x_2) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x_1 - x_2 = 0$  (by 4)  $\Leftrightarrow x_1 = x_2$   
 surjectivity:  $\text{Ran } T = X$  (by 3) ▣

Remark: If  $T = I - K$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{S}_{\infty}(X)$ , and  $\ker T = \{0\}$  then the equation  $Tx = y$  has a unique solution for every  $y \in X$ .

Remark:  $\ker T = \{0\} \Leftrightarrow \ker T^* = \{0\}$ , so we have proved half of Fredholm Alternative.

Theorem: Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X)$ . Then  $\overline{TX} = \{x \in X \mid \langle x, \phi \rangle = 0 \forall \phi \in \ker T\}$ .

Remark: This implies the other half of Fredholm alternative since  $\overline{TX} = TX$  for  $T = I - K$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{S}_{\infty}(X)$ .

Lemma [separation lemma]: Let  $Y$  be a Banach space,  $Y_0 \subsetneq Y$  - a closed subspace, then  $\exists \phi \in Y^* : \phi|_{Y_0} = 0, \phi(y) \neq 0$  for some  $y \in Y \setminus Y_0$ .

Proof: Take  $y \in Y \setminus Y_0$ , define  $\phi_0 : \text{span}\{y, Y_0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  by  $\phi_0(cy + y_0) \mapsto c$ , for  $c \in \mathbb{C}, y_0 \in Y_0$ .

1)  $\{cy + y_0 \mid c \in \mathbb{C}, y_0 \in Y_0\} = \text{span}\{y, Y_0\}$  - clear  $\checkmark$

2)  $\underbrace{cy + y_0}_e = \underbrace{\tilde{c}y + \tilde{y}_0}_{\tilde{e}} \Leftrightarrow (c - \tilde{c})y = y_0 - \tilde{y}_0 \in Y_0 \Leftrightarrow c = \tilde{c} \Rightarrow \phi(e) = \phi(\tilde{e})$   
 $\Rightarrow$  correctness ok

3)  $\phi_0$  is linear - clear

4)  $\phi_0|_{Y_0} = 0$  ( $c=0$  on  $Y$ )

5)  $|\phi_0(cy + y_0)| \stackrel{!}{\leq} A \|cy + y_0\| \quad \forall c, y_0$

$$|\phi_0(cy + y_0)| = |c| = \left( \text{dist}(y, \underbrace{Y_0}_{\text{closed}}) \right)^{-1} \cdot |c| \cdot \text{dist}(y, Y_0)$$

$$= \text{dist}(y, Y_0)^{-1} \cdot \text{dist}(|c|y, Y_0) = \text{dist}(y, Y_0)^{-1} \cdot \text{dist}(cy, Y_0)$$

$$\uparrow$$

$$|c|y = d \cdot e \cdot y_0, |d|=1$$

$$\text{dist}(|c|y, Y_0) = \text{dist}\left(\underbrace{d|c|}_{\mathbb{C}} y_0, \underbrace{Y_0}_{Y}\right)$$

$$\leq \text{dist}(y, Y_0)^{-1} \|cy + y_0\|, \quad \text{so } A = \text{dist}(y, Y_0)^{-1} \text{ works}$$

6)  $\phi_0(y) = 1 \neq 0$

$\Rightarrow$  Use the Hahn-Banach theorem and extend  $\phi_0$  to the whole  $Y$ . □

We actually proved that the lemma holds  $\forall y \in Y \setminus Y_0$ .

We can now prove the theorem from above.

Theorem: Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X)$ . Then  $\overline{TX} = \{x \in X \mid \langle x, \phi \rangle = 0 \ \forall \phi \in \text{Ker } T^*\}$ .

Proof: We have  $TX \subset E$ ,  $E = \{x \mid \langle x, \phi \rangle = 0 \ \forall \phi \in \text{Ker } T^*\}$ , because  $\langle Tx, \phi \rangle = \langle x, T^*\phi \rangle = 0 \ \forall \phi \in \text{Ker } T^*$ .

Then  $\overline{TX} \subset \overline{E} = E$  since  $E$  is closed.

( $x_n \rightarrow x$  and  $\langle x_n, \phi \rangle = 0$  for some  $\phi \in X^*$ )  
 then  $\langle x, \phi \rangle = \lim \langle x_n, \phi \rangle = 0$

We now need to check  $\overline{TX} \supset X$ . If not, the inclusion  $\overline{TX} \subset E$  is proper and by the separation lemma  $\exists \phi: \phi|_{\overline{TX}} = 0$  but  $\phi(e) \neq 0$  for some  $e \in E$ .

(\*)  $\Rightarrow \phi|_{TX} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \langle Tx, \phi \rangle = 0 \ \forall x \in X \Leftrightarrow \langle x, T^*\phi \rangle = 0 \ \forall x \in X$   
 $\Leftrightarrow \phi \in \text{Ker } T^* \Rightarrow \phi(e) = 0 \ \forall e \in E$  by definition of  $E$ , contradiction.  $\square$

### Classical Form of Fredholm alternative for integral equations

Theorem: Let  $(S, \mu)$  be a space with measure  $\mu$ , and let  $K(x, y): S \times S \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ :

$$\iint_{S \times S} |K(x, y)|^2 d\mu(x) d\mu(y) < \infty.$$

Then either equation  $f(y) + \int_S K(x, y) f(x) d\mu(x) = 0$  has only the trivial solution  $f=0$  and the equation

$$f(y) + \int_S K(x, y) f(x) d\mu(x) = g(y)$$

is solvable for every  $g \in L^2(S, \mu)$  or the equation (\*) has a non-trivial solution in  $L^2(S, \mu)$ .

Remark: Uniqueness implies existence.

Proof: Let's define  $T = I - K$ ,  $(Kf)(y) = \int_S K(x, y) f(x) d\mu(x)$ . Consider  $T$  as an operator on  $L^2(S, \mu)$ .

Then  $(**) \Leftrightarrow \ker T = \{0\} \Leftrightarrow T L^2(S, \mu) = L^2(S, \mu)$  by Fredholm alternative, modulo the fact that  $K \in S_{\infty}(L^2(S, \mu))$ .  $\square$

↑ This we postpone until Hilbert spaces theory.

Remarks: Further reading:

1)  $\dim \ker T = \dim \ker T^*$  if  $T = I - K$ ,  $K \in S_{\infty}$ , it coincides with the dimension of the space of solutions

2) There is a version of Fredholm theory for general operators  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X)$ :  $\dim(\ker T) < \infty$ ,  $\dim(X/\text{Ran } T) < \infty$ .

## Spectrum of compact operators

October 29, 2025

Definition: Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X)$ ,  $X$  Banach space.

$\sigma(T) := \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \mid \lambda I - T \text{ is not invertible in } \mathcal{B}(X)\}$

is called the **spectrum** of  $T$ .

Definition: A number  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  is called an **eigenvalue** of  $T$  if  $\exists e \in X \setminus \{0\}$ .  $Te = \lambda e$ .

Definition:  $\sigma_p(T) := \{\lambda \text{ eigenvalue of } T\}$  ... **point spectrum** of  $T$ .

Remark: We have  $\sigma_p(T) \subset \sigma(T)$  for every  $T \in \mathcal{B}(X)$ .

Proof:  $\lambda \in \sigma_p(T) \Rightarrow \lambda I - T$  is not injective because  $\ker(\lambda I - T) \neq \{0\}$ .

Remark: In general, we might have  $\sigma_p(T) \neq \sigma(T)$  and even  $\sigma_p(T) = \emptyset$ .

Theorem: Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $\dim X = +\infty$ , and let  $K \in S_{\infty}(X)$ . Then  $0 \in \sigma(K)$ ,  $\sigma(K) \setminus \{0\} \subset \sigma_p(K)$ . Moreover, each eigenvalue has a finite multiplicity, and  $\#\{\lambda \in \sigma_p(K) \mid |\lambda| \geq r\} < \infty$  for every  $r > 0$ .

Proof:  $0 \in \sigma(K)$  since  $0 \notin \sigma(K)$ , then  $\exists K^{-1} \in B(X)$ :  
 $I = \underset{S_{\infty}(X)}{K} \underset{B(X)}{K^{-1}} = K^{-1}K$ , but then  $I \in S_{\infty}(X) \Rightarrow \dim X < \infty$ , contradiction.

Now let's prove that  $\sigma(K) \setminus \{0\} \subset \sigma_p(K)$ .

Take  $\lambda \in \sigma(K)$  and assume that  $\lambda \notin \sigma_p(K)$ . Then

$$\text{Ker}(\lambda I - K) = \{0\} \Leftrightarrow \text{Ker}(I - \frac{1}{\lambda}K) = \{0\}$$

$\Rightarrow I - \frac{1}{\lambda}K$  is invertible by Fredholm theorem - contradiction.

Now let's prove that  $\dim E_{\lambda} < \infty$ .

$$E_{\lambda} := \{e \in X \mid Ke = \lambda e\} \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{definition for:} \\ \lambda \text{ has finite multiplicity} \end{array} \right)$$

If this is not the case, there is a sequence  $\{e_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  such that  $\text{dist}(e_n, \text{span}\{e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}\}) \geq 1/2$ ,  $\|e_n\| = 1$ .

Consider  $\{Ke_n\} = \{\lambda e_n\}$ : we cannot choose a convergent subsequence from this sequence - contradiction with  $K \in S_{\infty}(X)$ .

To prove  $\#\{\lambda \in \sigma_p(K) \mid |\lambda| \geq r\} < \infty$  for every  $r > 0$ , assume the converse and let  $e_n \in X$ :  $Ke_n = \lambda_n e_n$ ,  $\|e_n\| = 1$ ,  $\lambda_n \in \sigma_p(K)$ ,  $\lambda_n \neq \lambda_k$  for  $k \neq n$ .

Define  $E_n := \text{span}\{e_1, \dots, e_n\} \forall n$ .

Observation:  $E_{n+1} \supsetneq E_n \forall n$ .

Clearly  $E_{n+1} \supset E_n$ . If  $E_{n+1} = E_n$  for some  $n$ , there exists the first such  $n$ . Then

$$\lambda_{n+1} e_{n+1} = \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_{n+1} \alpha_k e_k$$

$$\lambda_{n+1} e_{n+1} = \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_k \lambda_k e_k$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_k (\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_k) e_k \Rightarrow \alpha_{n+1} - \lambda_n = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_{n+1} = \lambda_n \dots \text{contradiction}$$

$\Rightarrow$  The observation is true.

Let's choose  $y_{n+1} \in E_{n+1}$  such that  $\|y_{n+1}\| = 1$ ,  $\text{dist}(y_{n+1}, E_n) \geq \frac{1}{2}$

It remains to prove that  $\{K y_n\}$  does not have a convergent subsequence.

$$y_{n+1} = \alpha_{n+1} e_{n+1} + R_n, \text{ where } R_n \in E_n$$

$$K y_{n+1} - K y_{m+1} = \lambda_{n+1} \alpha_{n+1} e_{n+1} + \tilde{R}_n - \lambda_{m+1} \alpha_{m+1} e_{m+1} - \tilde{R}_m$$

Assume that  $n \geq m+1$ , then

$$\underbrace{\tilde{R}_n}_{\hat{E}_n} - \underbrace{\lambda_{m+1} \alpha_{m+1} e_{m+1}}_{\hat{E}_{m+1} \subset E_n} + \underbrace{\tilde{R}_m}_{\hat{E}_m \subset E_n} \in E_n$$

$$\Rightarrow \|K y_{n+1} - K y_{m+1}\| \geq \text{dist}(\lambda_{n+1} \alpha_{n+1} e_{n+1}, E_n)$$

$$= |\lambda_{n+1}| \text{dist}(\alpha_{n+1} e_{n+1}, E_n)$$

$$= |\lambda_{n+1}| \text{dist}(y_{n+1}, E_n)$$

$$\geq r \cdot \frac{1}{2} > 0$$

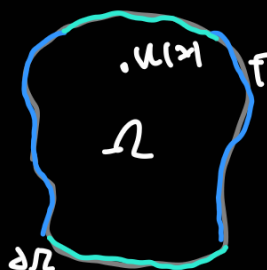


**Scheme of the solution of Dirichlet problem in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ , by means of Fredholm theory**

Dirichlet problem: Find  $u \in C^2(\Omega) \cap C(\bar{\Omega})$  ( $\Omega$  is a domain in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ )  
 $\partial\Omega \in C^2$

such that

$$\begin{cases} \Delta u = 0 \\ u|_{\partial\Omega} = f \end{cases} \text{ where } f \in C(\partial\Omega)$$



Physics interpretation: heat

Scheme for solution: we search for a solution of the form

$$u(x) = \int_{\partial\Omega} K(x,y) \varphi(y) dy, \quad K(x,y) = c_n \frac{(x-y, n_y)}{\|x-y\|_{\mathbb{R}^n}^n}$$

$n_y$  is the outward unit normal,  $c_n \in \mathbb{R}$

$\Delta u = 0$  for every  $\varphi \in C(\partial\Omega)$ , we only need to find good  $\varphi$  (such that (\*) will hold)

$$u_\varphi(x) = -\varphi(x) + \int_{\partial\Omega} K(x,y) \varphi(y) dy \quad \text{if } x \in \partial\Omega$$

$$u_\varphi = (-I + K)\varphi, \quad K\varphi = \int_{\partial\Omega} K(x,y) \varphi(y) dy$$

To check that  $\exists \varphi: u_\varphi = f$  on  $\partial\Omega$  we just check that  $K \in S_\infty(C(\partial\Omega))$  and  $\text{Ker}(-I + K) = \{0\}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  we are done by Fredholm alternative.

This is hard to prove (course on PDEs)