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# Atiyah-Singer Index Theorem Seminar.

## Traces & Eigenvalue Asymptotics

(Çagri Karakurt).

### Overview.

Let:  $M$  - closed Riem. mfld  
 $\Delta$  - Laplace on  $L^2(M)$

Last time:  $e^{-t\Delta}$  is a smoothing operator,

$$e^{-t\Delta} f(x_1) = \int_M k_t(x_1, x_2) f(x_2) dx_2$$

$\uparrow$  smooth on  $M \times M$

Asymptotic expansion

$$k_t(x_1, x_2) \sim \frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{m/2}} (\Theta_0(x_1, x_2) + t\Theta_1(x_1, x_2) + \dots),$$

Along the diagonal,  $\Theta_i(x, x)$  are alg. expressions of metric and connection coefficients, e.g.

$$\Theta_0(x, x) = 1, \quad \Theta_1(x, x) = \frac{1}{6} K(x) + \cancel{K}$$

$\swarrow$  scalar curvature  
 $\uparrow$  Clifford contracted curvature operator

Today: Use the asymptotic expansion to study the spectrum of  $\Delta$ .

Recall: Spectrum of  $\Delta$  is a discrete set  $0 \leq \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots$ .

Want to say  $\text{Tr}(e^{-t\Delta}) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} e^{-t\lambda_i}$ . \*

We will see

$$\text{Tr}(e^{-t\Delta}) = \int_M k_t(x, x) dx. \quad **$$

Use the asymptotic expansion, combine \* with \*\*, to get

$$(4\pi t)^{\frac{n}{2}} \sum_i e^{-t\lambda_i} \sim a_0 + a_1 t + a_2 t^2 + \dots \quad ***,$$

$$a_i = \int_M \Theta_i(x, x) dx.$$

\*\*\* tells us that the spectrum of  $\Delta$  and the set  $\{n, a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots\}$  determine each other.

Example:  $a_0 = \int_M 1 dx = \text{Vol}(M)$ ;  $a_1 = \frac{1}{6} \int_M K(x) dx = \text{"total curvature"}$ .

Corollary:

For  $n=2$ , the spectrum determines the topology of  $M$ .

## Application: Weyl's Asymptotics.

Define  $n(\lambda) = \max\{j \mid \lambda_j \leq \lambda\}$ .

$\exists h^m$ :

$$n(\lambda) \sim \frac{1}{(4\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}} \Gamma(\frac{n}{2} + 1)} \text{vol}(M) \lambda^{\frac{n}{2}} \text{ as } \lambda \rightarrow \infty.$$

Here  $\Gamma$  is Euler's Gamma function  $\Gamma(z) = \int_0^{\infty} t^{z-1} e^{-t} dt$  ( $\Gamma(n) = (n-1)!$ )

$$A(\lambda) \sim B(\lambda) \text{ if } \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \frac{A(\lambda)}{B(\lambda)} = 1$$

## "Crude" estimate for $n(\lambda)$ .

Let  $j = n(\lambda)$ ,  $s_1, \dots, s_j$  ON eigenf<sup>ncs</sup> with eigenvalues less than  $\lambda$ . Let

$$s = \sum_{i=1}^j \alpha_i s_i \text{ (for some } \alpha_i),$$

and let  $k = \min\{\tilde{k} \in 2\mathbb{Z} \mid \tilde{k} > n\}$ . Fix  $x \in M$ .

$$\begin{aligned} |s(x)| &\leq \|s\|_{C^0} \leq C_1 \|s\|_{W^{\frac{k}{2}}} \leq C_2 (\|s\|_{W^{\frac{k}{2}-1}} + \|\Delta s\|_{W^{\frac{k}{2}-1}}) \\ &\leq C_2 (1+\lambda) \|s\|_{W^{\frac{k}{2}-1}} \leq \dots \leq C (1+\lambda)^{\frac{k}{2}} \|s\|_{L^2} \\ &\leq C (1+\lambda)^{\frac{k}{2}} \left( \sum |\alpha_i|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

Choose  $\alpha_i = \bar{s}_i(x)$ , so

$$\sum_{i=1}^j |s_i(x)|^2 \leq C(1+\lambda)^{\frac{k}{2}} \left( \sum_{i=1}^j |s_i|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Divide by  $\left( \sum |s_i|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  then square both sides.

$$\begin{aligned} \int_M \sum |s_i(x)|^2 &\leq \int_M C(1+\lambda)^k \leq C^2(1+\lambda)^k \text{Vol}(M) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^j \|s_i\|_{L^2}^2 = j = n(\lambda). \end{aligned}$$

So:  $n(\lambda) \leq C^2(1+\lambda)^k \text{Vol}(M)$ . //

## Trace Class Operators.

Slogan: Smoothing operators are trace class.

Let  $H, H'$  be separable Hilbert spaces,  $A: H \rightarrow H'$  a bounded operator.

Represent  $A$  by an infinite matrix: fix bases  $\{e_i\}$  for  $H$ ,  
 $\{e'_j\}$  for  $H'$ ,  
and let  $c_{ij}(A) = \langle Ae_i, e'_j \rangle$ .

Definition: The Hilbert-Schmidt norm of  $A$  is defined by

$$\|A\|_{HS}^2 = \sum_{i,j} |c_{ij}(A)|^2 \in [0, \infty].$$

$A$  is called a Hilbert-Schmidt operator if  $\|A\|_{HS} < \infty$ .

Proposition:

$\|A\|_{HS}$  is independent of the choice of  $\{e_i\}$  and  $\{e'_j\}$ .

Proof:

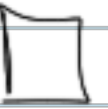
Fix  $i$ , write  $Ae_i = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \langle Ae_i, e'_j \rangle e'_j$ .

$$\text{Parseval's } \mathcal{H}^n \Rightarrow \|Ae_i\|^2 = \sum_j |\langle Ae_i, e'_j \rangle|^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_i \|Ae_i\|^2 = \|A\|_{HS}^2$$

indep. of choice of  $\{e'_j\}$

For converse, replace  $A$  with  $A^*$  and observe  $\|A\|_{HS} = \|A^*\|_{HS}$ .



Break  
time

## Proposition:

(1)  $\|\cdot\|_{HS}$  is induced by an inner product

$$\langle A, B \rangle_{HS} = \sum_{i,j} \bar{c}_{ij}(A) c_{ij}(B).$$

(2) The space of HS operators with  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{HS}$  is a Hilbert space.

(3)  $\|\cdot\| \leq C \|\cdot\|_{HS}$

(4) HS operators are compact.

(5) If  $A, B$  are HS and  $C$  is bounded, then  $A+B, A \circ C, C \circ A$  are HS.

Remark: Trace Class  $\subseteq$  HS  $\subseteq$  Compact  $\subseteq$  Bounded

$$l_1 \subseteq l_2 \subseteq c_0 \subseteq l_\infty$$

$\swarrow$  c.f.

Def<sup>n</sup>:  $T: H \rightarrow H$  is said to be of trace class if there exist HS operators  $A, B$  s.t.  $T = AB$ . In this case we define

$$\text{Tr}(T) = \langle A^*, B \rangle_{HS}.$$

Fact:  $\text{Tr}(T)$  is independent of the decomposition  $T = AB$ .

## Proposition:

If  $T$  is self-adjoint and trace class then  $\text{Tr}(T)$  is the sum of eigenvalues of  $T$ .

### Proposition:

Let  $T, B: H \rightarrow H$  be bounded operators, and suppose

(a)  $T$  is trace class or (b) both  $T$  and  $B$  are HS.

Then: (i) Both  $TB$  and  $BT$  are trace class.

(ii)  $\text{Tr}(TB) = \text{Tr}(BT)$ .

### Proof (of (ii)):

Choose an ON basis,

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Tr}(TB) &= \sum \langle TB e_i, e_i \rangle = \sum \langle B e_i, T^* e_i \rangle \\ &= \sum_{i,j} \overline{c_{ij}}(B) c_{ij}(T) \quad (\text{by Parseval's Th}^m),\end{aligned}$$

sum is abs. convergent & symmetric in  $T$  and  $B$ .  $\square$

### Proposition (cts kernel $\Rightarrow$ HS):

Let  $A$  be the bounded operator on  $L^2(M)$  defined by

$$Au(x_1) = \int_M k(x_1, x_2) u(x_2) dx_2$$

where  $k$  is continuous on  $M \times M$ . Then  $A$  is HS and

$$\|A\|_{\text{HS}} = \int_M \int_M |k(x_1, x_2)|^2 dx_1 dx_2.$$



Proof:

Choose ON basis  $\{e_j\}$  for  $L^2(M)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\|A\|_{HS}^2 &= \sum_j \|Ae_j\|^2 = \sum_j \int_M |Ae_j(x)|^2 dx \\ &= \sum_j \int_M \left| \int_M k(x, x_2) e_j(x_2) dx_2 \right|^2 dx_1 \\ &= \int_M \sum_j \left| \int_M k(x, x_2) e_j(x_2) dx_2 \right|^2 dx_1 \\ &= \iint_{M \times M} |k(x, x_2)|^2 dx_2 dx_1 \quad \square\end{aligned}$$

$\langle k(x, \cdot), e_j \rangle$  Parseval's Th<sup>m</sup>

Theorem (smooth kernel  $\Rightarrow$  Trace Class):

Let  $A$  be a bounded operator on  $L^2(M)$ ,

$$Au(x_1) = \int_M k_t(x_1, x_2) u(x_2) dx_2$$

with  $k_t$  smooth on  $M \times M$ . Then  $A$  is trace class and

$$\text{Tr}(A) = \int_M k_t(x, x) dx.$$

Proof:

Assume  $A$  is of trace class with  $A = BC$ ,  $B, C$  are HS operators with continuous kernels  $k_B, k_C$ . Then

$$k(x_1, x_3) = \int_M k_B(x_1, x_2) k_C(x_2, x_3) dx_2.$$

$\text{Tr}(A) = \langle B^*, C \rangle_{\text{HS}}$  and  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\text{HS}}$  is determined by  $\|\cdot\|_{\text{HS}}$  and the polarization identity

$$\langle A, B \rangle = \frac{1}{4} (\|A+B\|^2 + \|A-B\|^2).$$

So,

$$\text{Tr}(A) = \iint_{M \times M} k_B(x_1, x_2) k_C(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2 = \int_M k(x, x) dx.$$

Now: why should a smoothing operator be of trace class?

In [Roe, Ch. 5] we saw  $B = (1 + \Delta)^{-N}$  has continuous kernel (hence Hilbert-Schmidt). Hence, write

$$A = BC, \quad C = (1 + \Delta)^N A \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{smoothing operator (in particular} \\ \text{has cts kernel} \Rightarrow \text{HS)} \end{array}$$

So  $A$  is a product of two HS operators, thus is trace class.  $\square$

Remark:

If general Laplacian on  $\begin{array}{c} S \\ \downarrow \\ M \end{array}$ ,  $e^{-t\Delta}$  has smooth kernel  $k \in \Omega^0(S \boxtimes S^*)$ .

$\downarrow$   
 $M \times M$

$$S \boxtimes S^* = \pi^* S \otimes \pi^* (S^*)$$

$$\text{Diag}: M \rightarrow M \times M \\ x \mapsto (x, x)$$

$$\text{Diag}^*(S \boxtimes S^*) = S \otimes S^* = \text{End}(S).$$

Theorem:

If  $A$  is a smoothing operator on  $L^2(S)$  with kernel  $k \in \Omega^0(S \boxtimes S^*)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr} A &= \int_M \text{tr}(\text{Diag}^*(k)) dx \\ &= \int_M \text{tr}(k(x, x)) dx. \end{aligned}$$