

# Traces and eigenvalue asymptotics

Let  $M$  be closed, oriented, Riemannian with Laplacian  $\Delta$  on  $L^2(M)$ .

Last talk:  $e^{-t\Delta} : L^2(M) \rightarrow L^2(M)$  is a smoothing operator:

$$\forall f \in L^2(M): e^{-t\Delta} f(p) = \int_M k_t(p, q) f(q) \text{vol}_g$$

with  $k_t$  smooth in  $p, q$  (heat kernel)

Today: Study the Spectrum of  $\Delta$ :  $0 \leq \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots$

use  $\text{tr}(e^{-t\Delta})$ ; will show:  $\text{tr}(e^{-t\Delta}) = \sum_i e^{-t\lambda_i}$  &  $\text{tr}(e^{-t\Delta}) = \int_M k_t(p, p) \text{vol}_g$

$\Rightarrow$  can relate the Spectrum of  $\Delta$  to the heat kernel  $k_t$

Remark: Most results can be generalized for  $D^2$  with  $D = \text{Dirac-operator}$  on Clifford bundle

## 1. Trace class operators

Let  $H, H'$  be separable,  $\dim = \infty$  Hilbert space with ONBs  $(e_i)$  &  $(e'_j)$

$$A: H \rightarrow H' \text{ (linear bounded)} \rightsquigarrow c_{ij}(A) := \langle Ae_i, e'_j \rangle$$

"infinite matrix of coefficients"

Def:  $\|A\|_{HS}^2 := \sum_{i,j} |c_{ij}(A)|^2 \in [0, \infty]$  is the Hilbert-Schmidt norm of  $A$ .

Prop:  $\|A\|_{HS}$  is independent of  $(e_i)$  &  $(e'_j)$ .

Proof: Parseval:  $\|A\|_{HS}^2 = \sum_{i,j} |\langle Ae_i, e'_j \rangle|^2 = \sum_i \|Ae_i\|^2$

$\Rightarrow$  independent of  $(e'_j)$

use  $c_{ij}(A) = \overline{c_{ji}(A^*)}$ , hence  $\|A\|_{HS} = \|A^*\|_{HS} \Rightarrow$  independent of  $(e_i)$   $\square$

Def:  $A$  is a Hilbert-Schmidt operator:  $\Leftrightarrow \|A\|_{HS} < \infty$

Prop: Properties of Hilbert-Schmidt operators

(i) The inner product  $\langle A, B \rangle_{HS} := \sum_{i,j} \overline{c_{ij}(A)} c_{ij}(B)$  induces  $\|\cdot\|_{HS}$

(ii) The Hilbert-Schmidt operators form a Hilbert space.

(iii)  $\|A\|_{\mathcal{L}(H,H)} \leq \|A\|_{HS}$  ( $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{L}(H,H)}$  = operator norm)

(iv) Hilbert-Schmidt  $\Rightarrow$  compact

(v)  $A$  bounded,  $B$  Hilbert-Schmidt  $\Rightarrow AB, BA$  Hilbert-Schmidt

Proof: (iii)  $\|Av\| = \|\sum_i \langle v, e_i \rangle Ae_i\| \stackrel{CSI}{\leq} \sum_i |\langle v, e_i \rangle| \|Ae_i\| \leq \|v\| \cdot \|A\|_{HS}$

(ii) follows from (iii): every  $\|\cdot\|_{HS}$ -Cauchy sequence is a  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{L}}$ -Cauchy sequence, hence converges

(iv)  $A_n: H \rightarrow H', v \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^n \langle v, e_i \rangle A e_i$   $\dim A_n = n < \infty$

Then  $\|A - A_n\|_{\mathcal{L}} \leq \|A - A_n\|_{HS} = \left( \sum_{i>n} \|A e_i\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \rightarrow 0$

$\Rightarrow A_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} A$  in  $\mathcal{L}(H, H')$ , i.e.  $A$  is compact

(v)  $\|BA\|_{HS}^2 = \sum_i \|BA e_i\|^2 \leq \|B\|_{\mathcal{L}}^2 \|A\|_{HS}^2 < \infty$  and  $\|AB\|_{HS} = \|(AB)^*\|_{HS} = \|B^*A^*\|_{HS} < \infty \quad \square$

Def:  $T: H \rightarrow H$  is of trace class  $\Leftrightarrow T = AB$  with  $A, B: H \rightarrow H$  HS-operators.

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

independent of choice of  $A, B$ :

$$\text{Tr}(T) = \sum_{i,j} \bar{c}_{ij}(A) c_{ij}(B) = \sum_{i,j} c_{ji}(A) c_{ij}(B) = \sum_j c_{jj}(T) \quad (*)$$

Remark: Trace class  $\subseteq$  Hilbert-Schmidt  $\subseteq$  compact  $\subseteq$  bounded operators

$$\hat{=} \quad \ell^1 \quad \subseteq \quad \ell^2 \quad \subseteq \quad c_0 \quad \subseteq \quad \ell^\infty \quad (\text{sequence spaces})$$

(see also Simon, Trace ideals and ~~related~~ their applications)

Prop:  $T$  trace class and self-adjoint  $\Rightarrow \text{Tr}(T) = \sum_{\lambda \in \text{Spec}(T)} \lambda$

Proof:  $T$  compact and self-adjoint  $\Rightarrow \exists$  ONB of eigenvectors, use formula  $*$   $\square$

Remark: Still holds if  $T$  is not self-adjoint; "Lidskii's theorem"

Prop:  $T$  trace class,  $B: H \rightarrow H$  bounded  $\Rightarrow BT, TB$  trace class

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

Proof: product of HS and bounded operator is again HS  $\leadsto$  1st statement

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}(TB) &= \sum_j \langle TB e_j, e_j \rangle = \sum_j \langle B e_j, T^* e_j \rangle = \sum_j \sum_i \bar{c}_{ij}(B) c_{ij}(T^*) \\ &= \sum_j \sum_i \bar{c}_{ij}(B) c_{ji}(T) \\ &\quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{symmetric in } B, T} = \text{Tr}(BT) \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Integral operators on  $L^2(M)$

Prop: For  $k \in C^0(M \times M)$  define  $A: L^2(M) \rightarrow L^2(M)$ ,  $Au(p) = \int_M k(p, q) u(q) \text{vol } q$ .

$A$  is a Hilbert-Schmidt operator with  $\|A\|_{HS}^2 = \int_M \int_M |k(p, q)|^2 \text{vol } q \text{vol } p$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Proof: } \|A\|_{HS}^2 &= \sum_i \|A e_i\|^2 = \sum_i \int_M |A e_i(p)|^2 \text{vol } p \\ &= \sum_i \int_M \left| \int_M k(p, q) e_i(q) \text{vol } q \right|^2 \text{vol } p \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{|\langle k(p, \cdot), e_i \rangle|^2} \\ (\text{Parseval}) &= \int_M \|k(p, \cdot)\|_{\ell^2}^2 \text{vol } p = \int_M \int_M |k(p, q)|^2 \text{vol } q \text{vol } p < \infty \end{aligned}$$

Theorem: Now let  $k \in C^\infty(M \times M)$ ,  $A$  as before.

$\Rightarrow A$  is trace class with  $\text{Tr}(A) = \int_M k(p,p) \text{vol } p$ .

Proof: 1.)  $A = BC$  with (cont.) integral operators  $B, C$  on  $L^2(M)$ :

Take  $f(x) = (1+x^2)^{-N}$ , for  $N$  suff. big:  $f(D) = (1+\Delta)^{-N}$  has a continuous kernel (with  $D^2 = \Delta$ ), see talk 8.1 (functional calculus).

$\Rightarrow$  Take  $B = (1+\Delta)^{-N}$  and  $C = (1+\Delta)^N A$  (smoothing operator  $\Rightarrow$  HS)

2.) Compute  $\text{Tr}(A)$ :  $A = BC \rightarrow k_A(p,r) = \int_M k_B(p,q) k_C(q,r) \text{vol } q$

$$\text{Tr}(A) = \langle B^*; C \rangle_{\text{HS}} = \int_M \int_M k_B(p,q) k_C(q,p) \text{vol } q \text{vol } p = \int_M k_A(p,p) \text{vol } p \quad \square$$

Theorem: Let  $S$  be a Clifford bundle,  $k \in \Gamma(S \otimes S^*)$  (i.e.  $k(p,q) \in \text{Hom}(S_q, S_p)$ )

$A: L^2(S) \rightarrow L^2(S)$ ,  $As(p) = \int_M k(p,q) s(q) \text{vol } q$

is trace class with  $\text{Tr}(A) = \int_M \text{tr } k(p,p) \text{vol } p$

[with  $\text{tr}: \text{Hom}(S_p, S_p) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  = trace of endomorphisms on  $S_p$ ].

Proof: trivializations & partition of unity & last theorem  $\square$

## 2. Weyl's asymptotic formula

goal: relate Spectrum of  $\Delta$  to geometry of  $M$

[can replace  $\Delta$  by  $D^2$  for a Dirac operator on  $S \rightarrow M$ ]

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}(e^{-t\Delta}) &= \sum_i \text{eigenvalues of } e^{-t\Delta} = \sum_i e^{-t\lambda_i} \\ &= \int_M k_t(p,p) \text{vol } p \end{aligned}$$

asymptotic expansion of  $k_t$  ( $\rightarrow$  talk 8)

$$h_t(p,q) := (4\pi t)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \exp\left(\frac{d(p,q)^2}{4t}\right)$$

$$k_t(p,q) \sim h_t(p,q) \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \Theta_j(p,q) t^j \quad \text{with } \Theta_j \in C^\infty(M \times M) \quad [\Theta_j \in \Gamma(S \otimes S^*)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \text{Tr}(e^{-t\Delta}) &= \sum_i e^{-t\lambda_i} \sim \int_M h_t(p,p) \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \Theta_j(p,p) t^j \text{vol } p \\ &= (4\pi t)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} t^j \underbrace{\int_M \Theta_j(p,p) \text{vol } p}_{a_j} \end{aligned}$$

•  $\Theta_0(p,p) = 1 \Rightarrow a_0 = \text{vol } M$  [for  $D$ :  $\Theta_0(p,p) = 1 \in \text{Hom}(S_p, S_p) \Rightarrow a_0 = \text{rk } S \cdot \text{vol } M$ ]

•  $\Theta_1(p,p) = \frac{1}{6} R(p) \Rightarrow a_1 = \frac{1}{6} \int_M R(p) \text{vol } p = \frac{1}{6} \cdot \text{total scalar curvature}$

Prop: (Spectrum  $\sim$  Geometry)

$\text{Spec}(\Delta)$  determines  $n = \dim M$ ,  $\text{vol } M$  and  $\int_M R$  = total scalar curvature.

If  $n=2$ , this determines the topology of  $M$ .

Converse direction: Geometry  $\rightsquigarrow$  Spectrum

Let  $N(\lambda) = \# \text{ Eigenvalues } \leq \lambda$

goal: asymptotic (for  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ ) estimate of  $N(\lambda)$ .

Karamata's theorem

$$t^\alpha \sum_j e^{-t\lambda_j} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow 0} A \text{ with } \alpha, A > 0 \Rightarrow N(\lambda) \sim A \lambda^\alpha \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \text{ as } \lambda \rightarrow \infty$$

(holds for any counting function  $N(\lambda)$  of a sequence  $0 \leq \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots$ )

Proof: To show:  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(\lambda)}{\lambda^\alpha} = \frac{A}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}$ .

Step 1: For continuous  $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  let  $\varphi_f(t) := \sum_j f(e^{-t\lambda_j}) e^{-t\lambda_j}$

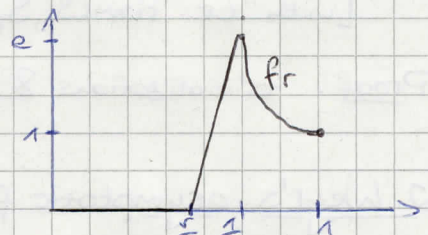
$$\text{Then } \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} t^\alpha \varphi_f(t) = \frac{A}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\infty f(e^{-s}) s^{\alpha-1} e^{-s} ds.$$

Suffices to check for  $f = t^n$  (polynomials are dense in  $C^0([0, 1])$ ).

$$\begin{aligned} t^\alpha \varphi_f(t) &= t^\alpha \sum_j e^{-n\lambda_j t} e^{-\lambda_j t} = t^\alpha \sum_j e^{-(n+1)\lambda_j t} = (n+1)^\alpha (nt)^\alpha \sum_j e^{-(n+1)t\lambda_j} \rightarrow (n+1)^\alpha A \\ \frac{A}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\infty f(e^{-s}) s^{\alpha-1} e^{-s} ds &= \frac{A}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\infty e^{-(n+1)s} s^{\alpha-1} ds \stackrel{t=(n+1)s}{=} \frac{A}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\infty e^{-t} (n+1)^{\alpha-1} t^{\alpha-1} (n+1)^{-1} dt \\ &= \frac{A}{\Gamma(\alpha)} (n+1)^{-\alpha} \Gamma(\alpha) = A (n+1)^{-\alpha} \end{aligned}$$

Step 2: ( $r < 1$ ) Take

$$f_r(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \in [0, \frac{r}{2}] \\ \text{linear interpolation} & x \in [\frac{r}{2}, \frac{1}{2}] \\ \frac{1}{x} & x \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1] \end{cases}$$



$$f_r(e^{-\frac{\lambda_j}{x}}) = \begin{cases} \geq 0 & , e^{-\frac{\lambda_j}{x}} < \frac{r}{2} \Leftrightarrow \lambda_j > \lambda \\ e^{\frac{\lambda_j}{x}} & , e^{-\frac{\lambda_j}{x}} \geq \frac{r}{2} \Leftrightarrow \lambda_j \leq \lambda \end{cases} \Rightarrow f_r(e^{-\frac{\lambda_j}{x}}) e^{-\frac{\lambda_j}{x}} = \begin{cases} \geq 0 & , \lambda_j > \lambda \\ 1 & , \lambda_j \leq \lambda \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \varphi_{f_r}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) &\geq N(\lambda) \text{ and } \lambda^\alpha \varphi_{f_r}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \stackrel{\lambda \rightarrow \infty}{\text{Step 1}} \frac{A}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\infty f_r(e^{-s}) s^{\alpha-1} e^{-s} ds \\ &\leq \frac{A}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^1 e^s s^{\alpha-1} e^{-s} ds = \frac{A}{\Gamma(\alpha) \cdot \alpha} = \frac{A}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \limsup_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \lambda^\alpha N(\lambda) \leq \frac{A}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}$$

• Similarly:  $\varphi_{f_r}\left(\frac{1}{rx}\right) \leq N(\lambda)$  and  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_{f_r} \lambda^\alpha \varphi_{f_r}\left(\frac{1}{rx}\right) \geq \frac{Ar^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}$

$$\Rightarrow \liminf_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \lambda^{-\alpha} N(\lambda) \geq \frac{Ar^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}$$

$r < 1$  arbitrary  $\Rightarrow \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \lambda^\alpha N(\lambda) = \frac{A}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}$

Theorem: ( $N$  is now counting function of  $\text{Spec}(\Delta)$ )

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

Proof: asymptotic expansion:  $t^{\frac{n}{2}} \sum_j e^{-t\lambda_j} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{(4\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}}} a_0$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha = \frac{n}{2}, A = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}}} \text{vol}(M)$$