

## Some characterization of Atkinson & Fredholm operators

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### Abstract

In this paper, we study the Atkinson operator and Fredholm operator. We showed that every Atkinson operator with a nonpositive index could be represented as a finite-dimensional perturbation of a left-invertible Atkinson operator. Similar theorems can then be proved for Atkinson operators with non-negative index and Fredholm operators with zero and arbitrary index. With the help of these theorems, we gave a unique characterization of the index except for a rational factor.

*Key words:* Atkinson operator, Fredholm operator, index

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### Introduction

In 1999, Christoph Schmoegeer proved that  $T$  is a generalized Fredholm operator if and only if  $T = T_1 \oplus T_2$ , where  $T_1$  is a Fredholm operator with jump  $j(T_1) = 0$  and  $T_2$  is a finite-dimensional nilpotent operator[8]. In 2000, A.G. Ramm defined the Fredholm operator  $T$  as one that satisfies the following conditions:

Index stability: The index of  $T$ , defined as  $\dim N(T) - \dim N(T^*)$ , remains constant under small perturbations of  $T$ .

Finite-rank perturbations:  $T$  can be modified by a compact operator of finite rank without changing its Fredholm property[7].

These conditions imply that the set of Fredholm operators is open in the Banach space  $L(X, Y)$  of bounded linear operators, equipped with the operator norm, and the index is locally constant [8].

Some of the tasks in Murphy's  $C$ -algebras and operator theory that deal with compact operators and Fredholm theory were solved by A. Delfn in 2018[3]. J. Milošević and D. Cvetković-Ilić also provided necessary and sufficient conditions for the Fredholmness of a sum of two idempotents in 2018[1].

The Fredholm alternative theorem is a classical well-known result in functional analysis and can be found in most texts on the subject. Fredholm has proved in his work (19000, 1903) that the alternative theorem is valid for a certain class of linear integral equations,

$$x(s) - \int_a^b K(s,t)x(t)dt = y(s).$$

These equations are known as Fredholm integral equations of the second kind. where,  $K(s,t)$  is a continuous function on  $[a,b] \times [a,b]$  and is called the kernel of the integral equation,  $y(t)$  is continuous on  $[a,b]$ , and solutions are only allowed from the space  $C[a, b]$ .

Throughout this paper, we take  $X$  as a linear space over the field  $\Phi$  of real or complex numbers,  $\mathcal{R}$  a saturated and therefore also a normal algebra of operators on  $X$ , which contains  $I$ .

## 2. Definitions

**2.1. Definition:**  $T \in \mathcal{R}$  is called *Atkinson Operator*(relative to  $\mathcal{R}$ ), if  $\widehat{T}$  is left or right invertible.

**2.2. Definition:**  $K \in L(X)$  is known as of *finite rank* or of finite dimensional if  $\dim B(K) < \infty$ [7].

Or

A linear map  $T: X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be of finite rank if it is continuous and its image is a finite dimensional space [5].

**2.3. Definition:** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be Banach spaces. A linear operator  $T$  from  $X$  to  $Y$  is called a *Fredholm Operator* if (i)  $T$  is closed. (ii) The Domain of  $T$  is dense in  $X$ .

(iii)  $\sigma(T)$ , the dimension of the null space  $N(T)$  of  $T$  is finite.

(iv) **The range of  $T$  is closed in  $y$ .** (v)  $B(T)$ , the co-dimension of  $R(T)$  in  $y$  is finite[9].

**OR**

$T \in \mathcal{R}$  is called *Fredholm Operator* or  $\sigma$  – **transformation** (relative to  $\mathcal{R}$ ), if  $\widehat{T}$  is invertible[10].

**2.4. Definition:** If  $T \in L(X)$  and if at least one of the defects  $\alpha(T), \beta(T)$  is finite, then  $\text{ind}(T) = \alpha(T) - \beta(T)$  is called the *index of  $T$* .  $\text{ind}(T)$  is  $+\infty$  if and only if  $\alpha(T) = \infty$  and  $\beta(T) < \infty$ ,  $\text{ind}(T) = -\infty$  if and only if  $\alpha(T) < \infty$  and  $\beta(T) = \infty$ . We then say that  $T$  possesses an index[4,8].

**2.5. Definition:** Let  $A$  be an algebra with a unit  $e$ . An element  $x$  of  $A$  is called *regular* if there is an element  $b$  of  $A$  such that  $xbx = x$ [2].

## 3. Lemmas/Theorems

**3.1. Lemma:** If  $\mathcal{R}$  is an operator algebra on  $X$  containing  $I$  and  $T \in \mathcal{R}$  is relatively  $\mathcal{R}$  - regular, then there exist  $S \in \mathcal{R}$  such that  $TS$  is a projection on  $B(T)$ .  $I-ST$  is a projection on  $N(T)$ . If  $S$  is so chosen that  $STS = S$  then  $E = B(T) \oplus N(S)$ , where  $TS$  is the projection of  $X$  onto  $B(T)$  along  $N(S)$ .

**Proof:** Since  $T \in \mathcal{R}$  is relatively - regular, then there exist  $S \in \mathcal{R}$  such that  $TST = T$ ; and so  $T$  and  $ST$  are projections. Also,  $N(T) \subset N(ST) \subset N(TST) = N(T)$

and  $B(T) \supset B(TS) \supset B(TST) = B(T)$ . So,  $N(T) = N(ST)$  and  $B(T) = B(TS)$  hence  $TS$  is a projection of  $X$  onto  $B(T)$  and  $I - ST$  is a projection of  $X$  onto  $N(T)$ .

Hence,  $X = B(TS) \oplus N(TS) = B(T) \oplus N(TS)$ , ..... (A)

Moreover, if  $STS = S$ , then from  $N(S) \subset N(TS) \subset N(STS) = N(S)$  and from (A), we have,

$$X = B(T) \oplus N(S).$$

**3.2. Lemma:** If  $T \in \mathcal{R}$  is relatively regular, therefore  $TST = T$  for some  $S \in \mathcal{R}$ , then  $TS$  and  $ST$  are idempotent elements of  $\mathcal{R}$ . If  $\mathcal{R}$  possesses a unit element  $e$ , then  $ST = e - P_1$  - and  $TS = e - P_2$  holds with the idempotent elements  $P_1, P_2$ , given by  $P_1 = e - ST, P_2 = e - TS$ .

**Proof:** From the relative regularity of  $T$  it follows that:  $(TS)^2 = TST = TS$  and  $(ST)^2 = STST = ST$ ; from which it follows that  $P_1, P_2$  are idempotent.

**3.3. Theorem:**

- (a)  $a_\alpha, a_\beta$  and  $\sum$  are semi-groups.
- (b) If  $ST \in a_\alpha$ , then  $T \in a_\alpha$ ; in particular, if  $T^n \in a_\alpha$ , for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $T \in a_\alpha$ .
- (c) If  $ST \in a_\beta$ , then  $S \in a_\beta$ ; in particular, if  $T^n \in a_\beta$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $T \in a_\beta$ .
- (d) If  $ST \in a_\alpha$ , and  $T \in \sum$ , then  $T \in a_\alpha$ .
- (e) If  $ST \in a_\beta$  and  $S \in \sum$ , then  $T \in a_\beta$ .
- (f) If  $ST \in \sum$  and  $T \in \sum$ , then  $S \in \sum$ .
- (g) If  $ST \in \sum$  and  $S \in \sum$ , then  $T \in \sum$ .
- (h) If  $T \in a_\alpha - a_\beta$  resp,  $a_\beta - a_\alpha$  resp.  $\sum$  and  $K \in \mathfrak{S}(\mathcal{R})$ , then  $T + K$  lies in  $a_\alpha - a_\beta$  resp,  $a_\beta - a_\alpha$  resp.  $\sum$ .

The proofs follow from the definitions (2.1 & 2.3)[10]

**3.4. Theorem (Index theorem):** If  $S, T \in L(X)$  are operators with finite index, then  $ST$  has also a finite index and we have,  $\text{ind}(ST) = \text{ind}(S) + \text{ind}(T)$ .

**Proof:** For  $S, T \in \sum(L(X))$ , we have  $ST \in \sum(L(X))$ , we prove the index equation.

If  $N(ST) = N(T) \oplus A$ , then the operator  $T$  is injective on  $A$  and  $A \cong T(A) = T(A \oplus N(T)) = T(N(ST))$ . We then prove that  $T(N(ST)) = T(X) \cap N(S)$ , in fact if  $y \in T(N(ST))$ , then  $y = Tx$ ,  $x \in N(ST)$  or  $Tx \in N(S)$  and hence  $y \in T(X) \cap N(S)$ .

Conversely, if  $y \in T(X) \cap N(S)$ , then  $y = Tx, Tx \in N(S)$  and so  $y \in T(N(ST))$ . We then obtain

$$\alpha(ST) = \dim N(ST) = \dim A + \dim N(T) = \dim(T(X) \cap N(S)) + \alpha(T). \dots\dots(i)$$

We can write the vector space X as the direct sum

$$X = X_1 \oplus T(X) \cap N(S) \oplus X_2 \oplus X_3, \dots\dots(ii)$$

where  $T(X) = X_1 \oplus T(X) \cap N(S)$  and  $N(S) = S(X) \cap N(S) \oplus X_2$ .

Since  $S(N) = S(X_1) \oplus S(X_3)$ , X can also be written as

$$X = S(X_1) \oplus S(X_3) \oplus X_4. \dots\dots(iii)$$

Since by (ii)  $S(X_1) = ST(X)$ , we have  $\beta(ST) = \dim S(X_3) + \dim X_4$ .

From (ii) we obtain further:  $S(X_3) \cong X_3$ , so  $\dim S(X_3) + \dim X_3$ .

Since by (iii),  $\dim X_4 = \text{co-dim } S(X) = \beta(S)$ .  $\beta(ST) = \dim X_3 + \beta(S)$ .

From (ii) it follows that

$$\dim(X_2 + X_3) = \dim X_2 + \dim X_3 = \text{co-dim } T(X) = \beta(T), \text{ so } \dim X_3 = \beta(T) - \dim X_2$$

and

$$\beta(ST) = \beta(S) + \beta(T) - \dim X_2. \dots\dots(iv)$$

From (ii) it follows that  $\dim(T(X) \cap N(S)) = \dim N(S) - \dim X_2$  and by (i)

$$\alpha(ST) = \alpha(S) + \alpha(T) - \dim X_2. \text{ Then we have}$$

$$\text{ind } ST = \alpha(ST) - \beta(ST) = \alpha(S) - \beta(S) + \alpha(T) - \beta(T) = \text{ind } S + \text{ind } T.$$

We now wish to generalize the index theorem to Atkinson operators.

**3.5. Theorem (Generalized index theorem):** If  $S, T \in L(X)$  are operators with finite null defects resp. finite image defects then  $\text{ind}(S T) = \text{ind}(S) + \text{ind}(T)$ [10].

**3.6. Theorem:** If  $T \in L(X)$  has an index and  $K \in \sum(X)$  then  $\text{ind}(T + K) = \text{ind}(T)$ .

**Proof:** If  $T \in L(X)$  has a finite index, then there exist  $S \in L(X)$  and  $F \in \mathfrak{F}(X)$  such that

$$ST = I - F. \text{ We then have } \text{ind}(S) = -\text{ind}(T). \text{ Since } S(T + K) = ST + SK = I - F + SK = I - F_1,$$

$$F_1 \in \sum(X) \text{ and } T + K \in \sum(L(X))(b), \text{ we have, } \text{ind}(S) + \text{ind}(T + K) = \text{ind}(I - F_1) = 0,$$

$$\therefore \text{ind}(T + K) = -\text{ind}(S) = \text{ind}(T).$$

**3.7. Theorems:**  $T \in \mathcal{R}$  is an Atkinson operator with  $\alpha(T) \leq \beta(T)$ , i.e.  $\text{ind}(T) \leq 0$  if  $T = R + K$ , where  $R \in \mathcal{R}$  possesses left inverse  $S \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $K \in \mathfrak{F}(\mathcal{R})$ .

**Proof:** By (Lemma-3.1) for  $T \in a(\mathcal{R})$  there exist projections  $P \in \mathcal{R}$  onto  $N(T)$  and  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$  onto a complement space to  $B(T)$ . Since  $\alpha(T) \leq \beta(T)$  we have  $\alpha(T) < \infty$ , so  $P \in \mathfrak{F}(\mathcal{R})$ . If  $\alpha(T) = 0$ , then we can choose  $R = T$  and  $K = 0$ . Then  $R$  is relatively  $\mathcal{R}$ -regular and hence

$\mathcal{R}$  possesses a left inverse in  $\mathcal{R}$ . So, we can let  $\alpha(T) > 0$ . If  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  is a basis of  $N(T)$ , then since  $\alpha(T) \leq \beta(T)$ , there exist a linearly independent set,  $\{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n\}$  in  $B(Q)$ . Since  $\mathcal{R}$  is saturated, there exist  $S \in \mathcal{R}$  with  $Sx_i = y_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

We then set  $K = QSP$  and  $R = T - K$ , then since  $Q \in \mathfrak{S}(\mathcal{R})$  we have  $K \in \mathfrak{S}(\mathcal{R})$ . It follows that  $R \in \alpha(\mathcal{R})$ , therefore  $R$  is relatively  $\mathcal{R}$ -regular. If we also show that  $\beta(\mathcal{R}) = 0$ , then  $R$  possesses a right inverse in  $\mathcal{R}$ . If  $y \in X$ , then

$$y = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i + Tx_o, x_o \in X.$$

Then there exist  $U \in \mathcal{R}$  with  $Uy_i = x_i, 1 \leq i \leq n$ . If we put  $z = UKx_o$ , then since  $Kx_o \in B(Q)$  we have  $Kx_o = \beta_1 y_1 + \dots + \beta_n y_n$ .

$$\text{So, } z = UKx_o = \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i x_i \in N(T) \text{ and } Kz = QSP(\beta_1 x_1 + \dots + \beta_n x_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i y_i = Kx_i,$$

If we put  $u = x_o - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i x_i - z$ , then we have

$$Ru = Tu - Ku = Tx_o - Kx_o + \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i Kx_i + Kz = Tx_o + \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i = y.$$

Thus,  $\beta(T) = 0$ .

In the following theorem we show that index is uniquely determined except for rational factor.

**3.8. Theorem:** Let  $d$  be an integral valued function on  $\sum$  with the following properties:

- (a)  $d(ST) = d(S) + d(T)$
- (b)  $d(S + T) = d(T)$ , provided  $K \in \mathfrak{S}(\mathcal{R})$
- (c)  $d(T) = 0$  if  $T$  possesses an inverse in  $\mathcal{R}$ .

Then there exists a rational number  $r$  such that  $d(T) = r \text{ ind}(T)$  for all  $T \in \sum$ .

**Proof:** If  $\sum_n = \{T \in \sum : \text{ind}(T) = n\}$ , then for  $T \in \sum_n$ , we have  $T = T_n R + K$  [10] and by the Index theorem and the above index properties (i), (ii), we also have  $d(T) = d(T_n)$ ; hence  $d$  is constant on  $\sum_n$ . We wish to denote by  $d$  resp.  $\tilde{\text{ind}}$  maps of the set  $\{\sum_n\}$ , defined as follows:

$$\tilde{d}(E_n) = d(T_n), T_n \in \sum_n$$

$$\tilde{\text{ind}}(\sum_n) = \text{ind}(T_n) = n, T_n \in \sum_n :$$

The  $\tilde{\text{ind}}$ ex is one-one. On account of the index theorem we have  $T_n T_m \in \sum_{n+m}$ , from which it follows that  $h = \tilde{d} \circ \tilde{\text{ind}}^{-1}$  is a homomorphism of the subgroup

$\mathcal{U} = \{ \text{ind}(T) : T \in \sum \}$  of the additive group  $\mathbb{Z}$  of integers into  $\mathbb{Z}$ . In fact if  $n, m \in \mathcal{U}$  and hence

$$\begin{aligned} h(n + m) &= \tilde{d}(\tilde{\text{ind}}^{-1}(n + m)) = \tilde{d}(\sum_{n+m}) = d(T_n T_m) = d(T_n) + d(T_m) = \\ &= \tilde{d}(\sum_n) + \tilde{d}(\sum_m) \\ &= \tilde{d}(\tilde{\text{ind}}^{-1}(n)) + \tilde{d}(\tilde{\text{ind}}^{-1}(m)) = h(n) + h(m). \end{aligned}$$

In  $\mathcal{U}$  there exists a smallest positive number  $n_o$  such that  $u = \{kn_o : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . For  $n \in \mathcal{U}$ , we have  $n = k(n) n_o$ . If  $T$  lies in  $\Sigma$ , then  $T \in \Sigma$ , for an  $n = K(n) n_o \in \mathcal{U}$  and it follows that

$$d(T) = \tilde{d}(E_n) = (h \circ \tilde{ind})(\Sigma_n) = h(\tilde{ind})(\Sigma_n) = h(n) = h(K(n)(n_o)) = K(n) h(n_o) = \frac{h(n_o)}{n_o} n$$

$$= \frac{h(n)}{n_o} \text{ind}(T) = r \text{ind}(T), \text{ where } r = \frac{h(n)}{n_o}.$$

If  $\mathcal{U} = \mathbb{Z}$ , therefore  $n_o = 1$ , then  $d$  is an integral multiple of  $\text{ind}$ .

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