

# Elliptic Operators and Topology: Lecture 8

Recall: last time we spoke about

- the Schwartz kernels theorem
- oscillatory integrals
- asymptotic series

Today we will work locally on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Def: let  $a \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n)$ . Then  $a$  is an amplitude of order  $\leq m$  if for any indices  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  and  $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n$  compact,  $\exists C = C(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, K)$  s.t.

$$|\partial_x^\alpha \partial_y^\beta \partial_z^\gamma a(x, y, z)| \leq C (1 + |z|)^{m - |\gamma|} \quad \forall (x, y) \in K.$$

A symbol is an amplitude which is independent of  $y$ .

Examples: (i) if  $a$  is a polynomial in  $\xi$  whose coefficients are functions of  $x, y$  then it is an amplitude of order = ~~order~~ <sup>degree</sup> of  $a$  in  $\xi$ .

(ii)  $(1 + |\xi|^2)^{-1}$  has order  $-2$ , as  $\frac{d}{d\xi} \frac{1}{1 + \xi^2} = \frac{-2\xi}{(1 + \xi^2)^2}$  and so on.

(iii) amplitudes form a filtered algebra under pointwise multiplication, by the product rule.

(iv)  $\partial_x, \partial_y, \partial_z$  map amplitudes to amplitudes.

Def: a pseudo-differential operator (denote these by  $\Psi$ -DO) on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a linear map  $C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  defined by a Schwartz kernel

$$k(x, y) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{i(x-y) \cdot \xi} a(x, y, \xi) d\xi$$

where  $a$  is an amplitude.

So  $Tu(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n} e^{i(x-y) \cdot \xi} a(x, y, \xi) u(y) d\xi dy$  gives such a map  ~~$T: C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$~~

$$T: C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

What must we do to make sense of this? If  $a$  has order  $\leq -n$ , then the integrand lies in  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n) \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and so it converges (by the dominated convergence theorem and Fubini), hence it defines a continuous function on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

If  $a$  has an amplitude of order  $\leq -n-k$ , then we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Therefore } & \frac{T_u(x+he_j) - T_u(x)}{h} = \frac{\iint_{\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n} (1)^n u(y) e^{i(x-y) \cdot \xi} (e^{ih \cdot \xi} - 1)}{\iint_{\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n}} \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \right)^n \iint_{\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n} u(y) e^{i(x-y) \cdot \xi} \left( e^{ih \cdot \xi} \frac{a(x+y+he_j, y, \xi) - a(x, y, \xi)}{h} \right) d\xi dy, \end{aligned}$$

and as

$$\left| \frac{a(x+he_j, y, \xi) - a(x, y, \xi)}{h} \right| \leq |e_j| |\alpha(x+he_j, y, \xi)| + (\partial_x \alpha)(x+he_j, y, \xi)$$

for  $|t| < h$ , by the dominated convergence theorem we have that

$T_u$  is differentiable  $k$  times, i.e.  $T_u \in C^k(\mathbb{R}^n)$ .

Let  $L = I + i \sum_{j=1}^n \xi_j \frac{\partial}{\partial y_j}$ . Then  $L e^{i(x-y) \cdot \xi} = (1 + |\xi|^2) e^{i(x-y) \cdot \xi}$ , so

$$T_u(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{L e^{i(x-y) \cdot \xi}}{1 + |\xi|^2} a(x, y, \xi) u(y) d\xi dy$$

and integrating by parts yields (provided we can do this legitimately)

$$\begin{aligned} T_u(x) &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{e^{i(x-y) \cdot \xi}}{1 + |\xi|^2} L(a(x, y, \xi) u(y)) d\xi dy \\ &\quad \text{"improves" by } 1 \text{ degree worse} \\ &\quad \Rightarrow \text{overall, an improvement.} \end{aligned}$$

Thm: the formal adjoint of a  $\Psi$ DO is a  $\Psi$ DO.

Pf: if  $T$  has kernel  $k(x,y)$ , then  $T^*$  has kernel  $\overline{k(y,x)}$ ; i.e.

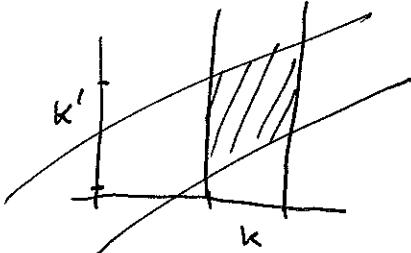
$$\langle Tu, v \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n} u(y) k(x,y) \overline{v(y)} dx dy = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n} u(y) (\overline{k(x,y)} v(y)) dy dx \\ = \langle u, T^* v \rangle. \blacksquare$$

In our case,  $k(x,y) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{i(x-y) \cdot \xi} a(x,y,\xi) d\xi$

$$\Rightarrow \overline{k(y,x)} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{i(x-y) \cdot \xi} \overline{a(y,x,\xi)} d\xi$$

and (addition) let  $a(x,y,\xi) = \overline{a(y,x,-\xi)}$ .

Cor: if  $a$  is properly supported then the corresponding  $\Psi$ DO acts on distributions.



Note:  $a \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n)$  is properly supported if  $\forall K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  compact,  $\exists K' \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  compact s.t.  $K \times \mathbb{R}^n \cap \text{supp}(a) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \times K'$  and vice-versa (not necessarily same  $K, K'$ ).

Thm:  $\Psi$ DO are pseudo-local, i.e.  $k(x,y)$  is a smooth function away from the diagonal  $\Delta = \{x=y\}$ . Equivalently,  $T \in \Psi$ DO iff the singular support of  $Tu$  is contained in the singular support of  $u$ , i.e.

$\text{sing supp}(Tu) \subseteq \text{sing supp}(u)$ ,  
where  $\text{sing supp}(u) = \{x \mid \{u \neq 0\} \text{ for all } \psi \in C^\infty_0(U), U \ni x\}$ .

Pf: (Suppose  $a$  is supported away from the diagonal.)

$$k(x,y) = \int e^{i(x-y) \cdot \xi} a(x,y,\xi) d\xi \quad \text{and let } M = -i \sum_{j=1}^n (x_j - y_j) \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi_j}.$$

$$\text{Then } M(e^{i(x-y)\cdot \vec{s}}) = |x-y|^2 e^{i(x-y)\cdot \vec{s}}$$

$$\Rightarrow k(x,y) = \int \frac{M(e^{i(x-y)\cdot \vec{s}})}{|x-y|^2} a(x,y, \vec{s}) d\vec{s}, \quad \text{and integrate by parts}$$

$$= \int \frac{e^{i(x-y)\cdot \vec{s}}}{|x-y|^2} \underbrace{M(a(x,y, \vec{s}))}_{\substack{\text{1 degree better} \\ \text{good away} \\ \text{from } \Delta}} d\vec{s} *$$

$\Rightarrow k$  is smooth.

Doing this repeatedly will give a function that decreases as  $x$  or  $y \rightarrow \infty$ . So  $k(x,y)$  is smooth in  $x$  &  $y$ . So the singular contribution only comes from values of  $a$  along the diagonal.

Relation to differential operations:

$$\mathcal{D} = \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha}(x) \partial_x^{\alpha}$$

$$\text{Recall: } \widehat{\partial_x u}(\vec{s}) = (i\vec{s})^{\alpha} \widehat{u}(\vec{s})$$

$$\Rightarrow Du(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{ix\vec{s}} \left( \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha}(x) (i\vec{s})^{\alpha} \right) \widehat{u}(\vec{s}) d\vec{s} = \int u(y) e^{-i\vec{s}\cdot y} dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n} e^{i(x-y)\cdot \vec{s}} \left( \sum_{\alpha} \underbrace{c_{\alpha}(x) (i\vec{s})^{\alpha}}_{\substack{\text{amplitude} \\ (\text{no } y \text{ dependence})}} \right) u(y) dy d\vec{s}$$

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is a PDO with symbol  $\sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha}(x) (i\vec{s})^{\alpha}$ , which agrees with our previous definition of the symbol of a differential operator.

Thm: for any PDO  $T$  with amplitude  $a(x,y,\vec{s})$   $\exists$  a symbol  $p(x,\vec{s})$  of the same order and defining the same operator, up to smoothing terms.

$$\text{Moreover, } p(x,\vec{s}) \approx \sum_{\alpha} \frac{i^{|\alpha|}}{\alpha!} \left( \partial_{\vec{s}}^{\alpha} \partial_y^{\alpha} a(x,y, \vec{s}) \right) \Big|_{y=x} .$$