

# Eta-invariant and index of elliptic

(1)

## operators in subspaces

B.-W. Schulze, B. Sternin, A. Savin

### 1. $\eta$ -invariant of Atiyah-Patodi-Singer.

$$\eta(A, \delta) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{\lambda_i} |\lambda_i|^{-\frac{1}{2}} \operatorname{sgn} \lambda_i + \dim \ker A \right) \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} A - \text{elliptic, self-} \\ \text{adjoint, } \operatorname{ord} A > 0 \\ \text{on a closed mfd.} \end{array} \right.$$

$\operatorname{Re} \delta \gg 0$

Th (APS & Gilkey)  $\eta(A) = \eta(A, 0)$  well-defined.

Example  $A_t = -i \frac{d}{d\varphi} + t$  on  $S^1$ ,  $\lambda_n = n + t$

$\eta(A_t) = \frac{1}{2} - \{t\}$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2}$  - spectral symmetry  
 $t \in \mathbb{Z}$  - jumps

smooth family  
 $A_t$

$\Rightarrow$

$\eta(A_t)$  - piecewise smooth  
jumps at points where  
some eigenvalue changes  
sign

$\Rightarrow$

$\{\eta(A_t)\}$  -  
smooth

P. Gilkey for differential  
operators

parity condition

$$\operatorname{ord} A + \dim M \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

- differentials  
- orders

$\eta(A_t)$  - piecewise constant

$\{\eta(A)\}$  - homotopy invariant  
of principal symbol

Problem

Compute  $\{\eta(A)\}$  in terms of  $\sigma(A)$

Method: Reduce the computation to a certain index problem

## 2. Subspaces defined by $\psi$ D projections

$\eta(A)$  - homotopy invariant, provided no eigenvalue changes sign

Notation  $\hat{L}_+(A) \subset C^\infty(M, E)$  - nonnegative spectral subspace

$$\eta(A) = f(\hat{L}_+(A))$$

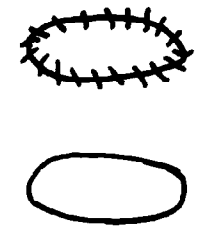
- homotopy invariant of subspace

Def.  $\hat{L} \subset C^\infty(M, E)$  -  $\psi$ D subspace  
if  $\hat{L} = \text{Im } P$ ,  $P: C^\infty(M, E) \rightarrow C^\infty(M, E)$   
 $P^2 = P$

$L = \text{Im } \sigma(P) \in \text{Vect}(S^*M)$   
- symbol of subspace  
 $\text{Im } \sigma(P) \subset \pi^*E$   
 $\pi: S^*M \rightarrow M$

symbol of spectral subspace  
 $L_+(A) = L_+(\sigma(A)) \in \text{Vect}(S^*M)$

Examples: 1)  $A = -i \frac{d}{d\varphi}$ ,  $\hat{L}_+(A) = \left\{ \sum_{k=0}^{+\infty} a_k z^k \right\}$  - Hardy space

$S^*S^1 = S^1_+ \sqcup S^1_-$ ,  $L_+(A) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{C}, & \text{on } S^1_+ \\ \emptyset, & \text{on } S^1_- \end{cases}$  

2)  $A = \Delta$ ,  $\hat{L}_+(\Delta) = C^\infty(M, E)$   
 $L_+(\Delta) = \pi^*E.$

### 3. Subspaces and parity conditions

(3)

ord A - even	ord A - odd
$\sigma(A)(-\xi) = \sigma(A)(\xi)$	$\sigma(A)(-\xi) = -\sigma(A)(\xi)$
$L_+(A)(-\xi) = L_+(A)(\xi)$	$L_+(A)(-\xi) \oplus L_+(A)(\xi) = \pi^*E$

differ. operator

$$d: T^*M \rightarrow d(x, \xi) = (x, -\xi)$$

$$\begin{array}{l|l} \text{Def Subspace } \hat{L} - \text{even} & L = d^*L \\ \text{- odd} & L \oplus d^*L = \pi^*E \end{array} \left| \begin{array}{l} \widehat{\text{Even}}(M) \\ \widehat{\text{Odd}}(M) \end{array} \right.$$

Th  $\exists!$  homotopy invariant

$$d: \widehat{\text{Even}}(M^{\text{odd}}) \text{ and } \widehat{\text{Odd}}(M^{\text{ev}}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

(relative dimension)  $\dim K < \infty$

$$d(\hat{L} + K) - d(\hat{L}) = \dim K$$

(complement)

$$d(\hat{L}) + d(\hat{L}^\perp) = 0.$$

dimension functional

Additional properties

$$d(K) = \dim K, \quad d(C^\infty(M, E)) = 0.$$

$$d(\hat{L}) \in \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{2}]$$

$$A\text{-differential operator, } \text{ord} A + \dim M \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \Rightarrow$$

$$\eta(A) = d(\hat{L}_+(A))$$

Problem:  
restated

$$\text{Find } \{d(\hat{L})\}$$

#### 4. Index of elliptic operators in subspaces

(4)

$$\hat{L}_{1,2} \subset C^\infty(M, E_{1,2}), D: C^\infty(M, E_1) \rightarrow C^\infty(M, E_2) - \psi D$$

$$D \hat{L}_1 \subset \hat{L}_2$$

Def.  $D: \hat{L}_1 \rightarrow \hat{L}_2$  - operator in subspaces

$\sigma(D): L_1 \rightarrow L_2$   
- symbol

Def.  $D$ -elliptic  $\Leftrightarrow \sigma(D)$  - isomorphism

Th  $D$ -elliptic  $\Rightarrow$  Fredholm operator in the closures of subspaces w.r.t. Sobolev norms

Th (index formula in subspaces)

$$\text{ind}(D, \hat{L}_1, \hat{L}_2) = \frac{1}{2} \text{ind} \tilde{D} + d(\hat{L}_1) - d(\hat{L}_2)$$

$$\hat{L}_{1,2} \in \widehat{\text{Even}}(M^{\text{odd}}) \text{ or } \widehat{\text{Odd}}(M^{\text{ev}})$$

index is not determined by principal symbol

Even:

$$\tilde{D}: C^\infty(M, E_1) \rightarrow C^\infty(M, E_1)$$

$$\pi^* E_1 = L_1 \oplus L_1^\perp$$

$$\sigma(\tilde{D})(\xi) = \sigma^\perp(D)(-\xi) \oplus \sigma(D)(\xi) \oplus 1$$

Odd:

$$\tilde{D}: C^\infty(M, E_1) \rightarrow C^\infty(M, E_2)$$

$$E_i = L_i(\xi) \oplus L_i(-\xi)$$

$$\sigma(\tilde{D})(\xi) = \sigma(D)(\xi) \oplus \sigma(D)(-\xi)$$

## 5. Expression of $d(\hat{L})$ in terms of index in subspaces (5)

A. Special case

$$\hat{L}_2 = C^\infty(M, F) \Rightarrow \{d(\hat{L}_1)\} = \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \text{ind } \hat{D} \right\}$$

B. General case

$$[L] \in K(S^*M) / K(M) \simeq K^1(T^*M)$$

Th  $\hat{L}$  with parity conditions  $\Rightarrow [L]$  - 2-torsion element

$$\Downarrow$$
$$\exists N, \sigma \quad 2^N \hat{L} \xrightarrow{\hat{\sigma}} C^\infty(M, F) \text{ - elliptic}$$

From the index formula:

$$\text{ind } \hat{\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} \text{ind } \hat{\tilde{\sigma}} + 2^N d(\hat{L})$$

usual

$$\text{mod } 2^N \text{-ind}(\hat{\sigma}, 2^N \hat{L}, C^\infty(M, F)) \in \mathbb{Z}_{2^N}$$

determined by principal symbol

⑥

6. Modulo  $n$ -index computation

$$D: n\hat{L} \rightarrow C^\infty(M, F) \mid \begin{array}{l} X, \gamma \in \text{Vect}(X), \dim \gamma = 1, \\ \text{mod } n\text{-ind } D \in \mathbb{Z}_n \mid n([\gamma] - 1) = 0 \in \tilde{K}(X), \quad n\gamma \cong \mathbb{C}^n \end{array}$$

Elliptic families

$$\text{ind } D \otimes 1_{\gamma-1} = (\text{ind } D)([\gamma] - 1) \in \tilde{K}(X).$$

$$\mathcal{D} = C^\infty(M, F) \xrightarrow{D^\perp} n\hat{L} \xrightarrow{1 \otimes \beta^\perp} n\hat{L} \otimes \gamma \xrightarrow{D \otimes 1_\gamma} C^\infty(M, F) \otimes \gamma$$

isomorphism

$$\text{ind } D([\gamma] - 1) = \text{ind } \mathcal{D}, \quad [\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{D})] \in K_c(T^*M \times X).$$

We take  $X = M_n$  - Moore space of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ ,  $\tilde{K}(M_n) = \mathbb{Z}_n$   
 $K^1(M_n) = 0.$

Th  $\text{mod } n\text{-ind } D = p_! [\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{D})]$

$$[\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{D})] \in K(T^*M \times M_n, T^*M \times \text{pt}) \cong K(T^*M, \mathbb{Z}_n)$$

$$p_! : K(T^*M, \mathbb{Z}_n) \rightarrow K(\text{pt}, \mathbb{Z}_n) = \mathbb{Z}_n$$

### 7. Computation of $\{d(\hat{L})\}$

For operator  $2^N \hat{L} \xrightarrow{\hat{\sigma}} C^\infty(M, F)$   
 the index formula gives

$$\boxed{\{d(\hat{L})\} = \frac{1}{2^{N+1}} p! [(1 \mp d^*) \sigma]} \quad \text{for } \hat{L} \in \widehat{\text{Even/Odd}}$$

$$d: T^*M \rightarrow T^*M$$

$$(x, \xi) \mapsto (x, -\xi)$$

$$p!: K(T^*M, \mathbb{Z}_{2^{N+1}}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{2^{N+1}}$$

stabilization  $N \rightarrow \infty$

$$\mathbb{Z}_{2^N} \subset \mathbb{Z}_{2^{N+1}} \subset \dots \subset \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{2}] / \mathbb{Z}$$

$$K(T^*M, \mathbb{Z}_{2^N}) \rightarrow K(T^*M, \mathbb{Z}_{2^{N+1}}) \rightarrow \dots \quad \lim_{\rightarrow} K(T^*M, \mathbb{Z}_{2^N}) = K(T^*M, \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{2}] / \mathbb{Z})$$

The element  $[L] = [(1 \mp d^*) \sigma] \in K(T^*M, \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{2}] / \mathbb{Z})$  is well-defined, and independent of  $\sigma$

$$\boxed{\{d(\hat{L})\} = p! [L] \in \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{2}] / \mathbb{Z}}$$

Expression via linking form (joint work B. Sternin, A. Savin) ⑧

$$\text{in } \boxed{\{2d(\hat{L})\} = [L] \cap ([\Lambda] - 1)}$$

$\Lambda = \Lambda^n(M^n)$  -  
orientation  
bundle

linking form in K-theory  $\text{Tor } K^1(T^*M) \times \text{Tor } K^0(M) \xrightarrow{\cap} \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$

Example 1

$$\boxed{M = \mathbb{R}P^{2n}, \tilde{K}^0(\mathbb{R}P^{2n}) = \mathbb{Z}_{2^n}$$

$[\Lambda] - 1$  - generator

$D = \text{pin}^c$  - Dirac operator

$[D]$  generates  $K^1(T^*\mathbb{R}P^{2n})$

nondegeneracy  
of linking form

$$\Rightarrow \{2^n \eta(D)\} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Example 2

$\exists$  differential operators  $D^{ev}$  on  $\mathbb{R}P^{2n} \times S^1$   
with  $\{\eta(D^{ev})\} \neq 0$ .

Question: Find a geometric operator of even order

Example "Hirzebruch operator" on  $M^{2n}$

$$\boxed{D = d\delta - \delta d: \Lambda^+ \cap \Lambda^n(M) \rightarrow \Lambda^- \cap \Lambda^n(M)}$$

$$\Lambda^\pm = \ker(d \mp \delta), \quad d = i^{k(k-1)+n} *$$

Branson 1983

Conn, Sullivan,  
Teleman 1994

$$\ker D = \Lambda^+ \cap \ker \Delta \cap \Lambda^n(M)$$

$$\ker D^* = \Lambda^- \cap \ker \Delta \cap \Lambda^n(M)$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\boxed{\text{ind } D = \text{sign } M}$$

## References

1. A. Savin, B. Sternin Elliptic operators in even subspaces. Sb.: Mathematics, 1999, v.190, n.8
2. A. Savin, B. Sternin Elliptic operators in odd subspaces. Sb.: Mathematics, 2000, v.191, n.8 (to appear)
3. A. Savin, B.-W. Schulze, B. Sternin Elliptic operators in subspaces and the Eta-invariant. Univ. Potsdam. Preprint 99/14, 1999, math.DG/9907047
4. A. Savin, B. Sternin Eta-invariant and Pontrjagin duality in K-theory. Univ. Potsdam. Preprint 00/ , 2000, math.KT/0006046