

Abstract intersection theory and operators in Hilbert space

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For an operator in Hilbert space of a certain class, we introduce axioms of an abstract intersection theory, which we prove to be equivalent to the Riemann hypothesis regarding the spectrum of that operator. In particular, if the nontrivial zeros of the Riemann zeta-function arise from an operator of this class, the original Riemann hypothesis is equivalent to the existence of an abstract intersection theory.

1. Introduction

Let A be a linear operator acting on a Hilbert space H such that its spectrum $\sigma(A)$ consists only of the point spectrum $\sigma_p(A)$ (i.e., eigenvalues). We say that the operator A satisfies the Riemann hypothesis (RH, shortly) if $\operatorname{Re}(s) = \frac{1}{2}$ for all $s \in \sigma(A) = \sigma_p(A)$.

We introduce a set of axioms ((INT1) to (INT3) in Section 3.1), which we show to be equivalent to the RH for the operator A . The axioms constitute a theory that is analogous to Weil's classical intersection theory on a surface over a finite field \mathbb{F}_q and to his explicit formulae [12] (see also [4, 6, 10]). Recall that Weil developed his intersection theory to prove the RH for curves over \mathbb{F}_q . In this regard, we call our axioms an abstract intersection theory.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we impose some reasonable conditions (OP1) to (OP5) on operators in Hilbert space to be considered. Then we introduce a functional calculus for them, which has a role of cutting off their spectra. Our abstract intersection theory consists of conditions (INT1) to (INT2) on some specific vectors including what we call a Hodge vector, and the Lefschetz type formula (INT3). We describe this in Section 3.1. In Section 3.2, we give a model of the abstract intersection theory, using a construction similar to the GNS (Gelfand–Naimark–Segal) representation (e.g., [9]). Interestingly, Weil himself reviewed Segal's work [9] in the Mathematical Reviews. Using this model, we show in Theorem 3.1 (main theorem) that the RH for the operator A is equivalent to the existence of an intersection theory in our sense.

One of the key ideas of our paper is that an \mathbb{R} -linear structure is introduced in the abstract intersection theory while an operator regarding RH acts on a \mathbb{C} -Hilbert space. We also introduce \mathbb{R} -valued functions $q = q(Y)$ and $g = g(Y)$ of the Y -coordinate of the critical strip. These can be seen as analogs of $q = \sharp\mathbb{F}_q$ and the genus number g of a curve C , respectively, in the classical intersection theory on a surface $C \times C$, which was used to prove the RH for C over \mathbb{F}_q . Moreover, we introduce an operator valued function $\Phi = \Phi(Y)$, which is an analog of the operator acting on the Picard group of $C \times C$ induced by the classical Frobenius morphism. For further comparison of our constructions with the classical theory, see Section 4.

We note that there is a program by Connes and Marcolli [1] to adapt Weil's proof to the case of number fields. There is also a conjectural cohomology theory by Deninger [2] for the interpretation of L -functions analogous to the étale cohomology theory of varieties over finite fields.

2. Functional calculus for closed operators

Let $A: H \supset \text{dom}(A) \rightarrow H$ be a possibly unbounded operator on a separable \mathbb{C} -Hilbert space H . We assume the following properties of A .

(OP1) A is closed.

(OP2) The spectrum $\sigma(A)$ consists only of the point spectrum (i.e., eigenvalues) $\sigma_p(A)$ (i.e., $\sigma(A) = \sigma_p(A)$), which accumulates at most at infinity.

(OP3) (a) $\text{Image}(P_{\{s_\alpha\}})$ (see Lemma 2.1 below for definition) is finite dimensional for any $s_\alpha \in \sigma_p(A)$.

(b) The Riesz index $\nu(s_\alpha) = 1$ for any $s_\alpha \in \sigma_p(A)$. (See the paragraph following Lemma 2.1 for definition.)

(OP4) $\sigma(A) \subset \Omega_\infty$, where $\Omega_\infty := \{s \in \mathbb{C}; 0 < \text{Re}(s) < 1\}$.

(OP5) (a) $\text{Re}(s_\alpha) < \frac{1}{2}$ for some $s_\alpha \in \sigma(A)$ if and only if there is $s_\beta \in \sigma(A)$ such that $\text{Re}(s_\beta) > \frac{1}{2}$.

(b) If $s_\alpha \in \sigma(A)$ then $\overline{s_\alpha} \in \sigma(A)$ with the same multiplicity $\text{mult}(\overline{s_\alpha}) = \text{mult}(s_\alpha)$. (See the paragraph following Lemma 2.1 for definition.)

Automorphic scattering theory can provide a closed operator that satisfies the above conditions except for (OP3-b). The operator of this theory gives a spectral interpretation of the nontrivial zeros of the Dirichlet

L -function. Hinted by Gelfand, the theory was initiated by Pavlov and Faddeev [7] using the Lax–Phillips scattering theory, and refined by Lax and Phillips themselves [5]. Recently, in [11, Theorem 4.1], directly based on the properties of Eienstein series over a modular curve, an algebraic method of construction of a Dirac-type operator A_0 for automorphic scattering that satisfies (OP1) to (OP5) except for (OP3-b) has been developed for Dirichlet L -functions including the Riemann zeta-function. The eigenvalues of the operator A_0 in [11] are shown to correspond, counted with multiplicity, to the nontrivial zeros of the associated Dirichlet L -function. The construction in [11] does not appeal to either RH or GRH. The operator A_0 satisfies also (OP3-b) if and only if the multiplicity of nontrivial zeros of the L -function corresponding to A_0 constructed there is one (Theorem 4.1 (iii), (iv) of [11]). See Corollary 3.1 in Section 3 for our result concerning the operator A_0 .

By (OP1) we can use the following lemma from [3, XV.2, Theorem 2.1, p. 326].

Lemma 2.1. *Suppose that $A: H \supset \text{dom}(A) \rightarrow H$ is a closed operator. For a bounded subset W of $\sigma(A)$, let $P_W: H \rightarrow H$ be the Riesz projection*

$$P_W = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\partial\Delta} (s - A)^{-1} ds,$$

where Δ is a bounded domain of \mathbb{C} such that $W \Subset \Delta$ (i.e., $\overline{W} \subset \Delta^\circ$) and $\overline{\Delta} \cap \tau = \emptyset$ for $\tau = \sigma(A) \setminus W$. Then

- (i) $M = \text{Image}(P_W)$ and $N = \text{Ker}(P_W)$ are A -invariant (i.e. $A(N \cap \text{dom}(A)) \subset N$ etc.).
- (ii) $M \subset \text{dom}(A)$ and $A|_M$ (the restriction of A to M) is bounded.
- (iii) $\sigma(A|_M) = W$ and $\sigma(A|_N) = \tau$.

By (OP3) and Lemma 2.1 (i) and (iii), the resolvent $(s - A)^{-1}$ has a pole of order $\nu(s_\alpha) = 1$ at $s = s_\alpha \in \sigma_p(A)$. Here $\nu(s_\alpha)$ denotes the Riesz index of s_α defined as the smallest positive integer such that $\text{Ker}((s_\alpha - A)^{\nu(s_\alpha)}) = \text{Image}(P_{\{s_\alpha\}})$. We call $\text{mult}(s_\alpha) := \dim \text{Image}(P_{\{s_\alpha\}})$ the (algebraic) multiplicity of s_α . By (OP2), $(s - A)^{-1}$ is meromorphic in \mathbb{C} .

For $Y > 0$ let $\sigma_Y(A) := \{s \in \sigma(A); |\text{Im}(s)| \leq Y\}$. By (OP2) one can take some $\epsilon_Y > 0$ and $\Omega_Y = \{s \in \mathbb{C}; 0 < \text{Re}(s) < 1, |\text{Im}(s)| < Y + \epsilon_Y\}$ so that $\overline{\Omega_Y} \cap (\sigma(A) \setminus \sigma_Y(A)) = \emptyset$. Note that $\Omega_Y \cap \sigma(A) = \sigma_Y(A)$ by (OP4).

Let \mathcal{F} be an \mathbb{R} -algebra defined by

$$\mathcal{F} := \{\phi; \phi(s) \text{ is analytic in an open set } \ni \Omega_\infty \text{ and } \overline{\phi(\bar{s})} = \phi(s)\}.$$

Note that no topological structure is imposed on \mathcal{F} .

Given $\phi \in \mathcal{F}$, let $\phi(A): H \supset \text{dom}(\phi(A)) \rightarrow H$ be defined by

$$\phi(A)x = \lim_{Y \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \left(\oint_{\partial\Omega_Y} \phi(s)(s - A)^{-1} ds \right) x$$

for $x \in \text{dom}(\phi(A)) := \{x \in H; \text{the limit } \phi(A)x \text{ exists in } H\}$. By (OP3-b), Lemma 2.1 and the functional calculus for *bounded* operators, we have $\phi(A) = \sum_{s_\alpha \in \sigma(A)} \phi(s_\alpha) P_{\{s_\alpha\}}$.

We define $\text{tr}(\phi(A))$ as a functional on \mathcal{F} as follows: define

$$\text{tr}(\cdot(A)): \mathcal{F} \supset \text{dom}(\text{tr}(\cdot(A))) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

by

$$\text{tr}(\phi(A)) = \sum_{s_\alpha \in \sigma(A)} \text{mult}(s_\alpha) \phi(s_\alpha),$$

where

$$\text{dom}(\text{tr}(\cdot(A))) := \{ \phi \in \mathcal{F}; \sum_{s_\alpha \in \sigma(A)} \text{mult}(s_\alpha) \phi(s_\alpha) < \infty \}.$$

Let $q: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $q(\phi) = \phi(1)$.

Lemma 2.2. *Suppose that $q_Y \in (0, 1) \cup (1, \infty)$ is given for each $Y > 0$. Then for each $Y > 0$ there is a $\phi_Y \in \mathcal{F}$ such that*

- (i) $\phi_Y(0) = 1$,
- (ii) $q(\phi_Y) = q_Y$,
- (iii) $\phi_Y(s) = q_Y^s$, if $s \in \sigma_Y(A)$,
- (iv) $\phi_Y(s) = 0$, if $s \in \sigma(A) \setminus \sigma_Y(A)$.

Proof. Let

$$\{s_n\}_{n=1}^N := [\sigma(A) \setminus \sigma_Y(A)] \cap \{s \in \mathbb{C}; \text{Im}(s) > 0\} \quad (N \leq \infty).$$

Note that we have $N = \infty$ if the operator A has an infinite spectrum. Let $h_Y(s)$ be an entire function which has zeros of order one only at s_n and $\overline{s_n}$

($1 \leq n \leq N$). For example, one can set

$$h_Y(s) := \prod_{n=1}^N E_{n-1}\left(\frac{s}{s_n}\right) E_{n-1}\left(\frac{s}{s_n}\right),$$

where $E_0(s) = 1 - s$ and $E_p(s) = (1 - s) \exp\left(\sum_{k=1}^p \frac{s^k}{k}\right)$ for $p \geq 1$ (see e.g. [8, Theorem 15.9, p. 324]). Then by (OP5-b) $h_Y(s_\alpha) = 0$ if and only if $s_\alpha \in \sigma(A) \setminus \sigma_Y(A)$. Note that $\overline{h_Y(\bar{s})} = h_Y(s)$. Observe that $\sigma_Y(A)$ is a finite set by (OP2) and (OP4). Thus one can take a Lagrange polynomial $\ell_Y(s)$ so that $\ell_Y(0) = \frac{1}{h_Y(0)}$, $\ell_Y(1) = \frac{q_Y}{h_Y(1)}$, and $\ell_Y(s_\alpha) = \frac{q_Y^{s_\alpha}}{h_Y(s_\alpha)}$ if $s_\alpha \in \sigma_Y(A)$. Note that by (OP5-b) we have $\overline{\ell_Y(\bar{s})} = \ell_Y(s)$. Then $\phi_Y(s) := \ell_Y(s)h_Y(s)$ is a desired function. \square

Although it seems that the information of the spectrum of A is needed to calculate $\phi_Y(A)$, $\phi_Y(A)x$ is actually obtained from (OP4) as

$$\phi_Y(A)x = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \left(\oint_{\partial\Omega_Y} q_Y^s (s - A)^{-1} ds \right) x \text{ for all } x \in H,$$

provided that one can take $\epsilon_Y = 0$ in the definition of Ω_Y (This is generically possible). From this expression we see that $\phi_Y(A)$ is bounded.

We define $g: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ by $g(\phi) = \frac{1}{2} \dim \text{Image}(\phi(A))$. Note that $g(\phi_Y) < \infty$ for each $Y > 0$. Let us write

$$q = q(Y) := q(\phi_Y)(= q_Y) \text{ and } g = g(Y) := g(\phi_Y).$$

3. Abstract intersection theory

3.1. Axioms of abstract intersection theory

Let V be an \mathbb{R} -linear space, endowed with a symmetric bilinear form $\beta: V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Let $\text{End}_{\mathbb{R}}(V)$ denote the \mathbb{R} -algebra of \mathbb{R} -linear operators on V . Suppose that there are nonzero vectors v_{01}, v_{10} and h_a in V , a mapping $v_\delta: \mathcal{F} \supset \text{dom}(v_\delta) \rightarrow V$, and an \mathbb{R} -algebra homomorphism $\Phi: \mathcal{F} \supset \text{dom}(\Phi) \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbb{R}}(V)$ that satisfy the conditions listed below, which we call an *abstract intersection theory*. v_δ and Φ are associated with the operator A in Section 2. We assume that $\text{dom}(v_\delta) = \text{dom}(\Phi) = \text{dom}(\text{tr}(\cdot(A)))$ and that it is an \mathbb{R} -subalgebra of \mathcal{F} . We also assume that $\phi_Y \in \mathcal{F}$ introduced in Lemma 2.2 belongs to $\text{dom}(v_\delta)$. Let us write

$$v_\delta = v_\delta(Y) := v_\delta(\phi_Y) \text{ and } \Phi = \Phi(Y) := \Phi(\phi_Y).$$

- (INT1)** (a) $\beta(y, x) = \beta(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}$ for $x, y \in V$,
 (b) $\beta(v_{01}, v_{01}) = 0$, (c) $\beta(v_{10}, v_{10}) = 0$, (d) $\beta(v_{01}, v_{10}) = 1$,
 (e) $\beta(\Phi^n v_\delta, v_{01}) = 1$, (f) $\beta(\Phi^n v_\delta, v_{10}) = O(q^n)$,
 (g) $\beta(\Phi^n v_\delta, \Phi^n v_\delta) = O(q^n)$.

(INT2) For $x \in V$, if $\beta(x, h_a) = 0$ then $\beta(x, x) \leq 0$.

Note that (INT1) is assumed to hold for each $Y > 0$. The Bachmann–Landau notation $O(q^n)$ in (INT1) is with respect to $n \gg 0$ for $q = q(Y)$ fixed. We call (INT2) the *Hodge property*, and h_a a *Hodge vector*.

Lemma 3.1. *Under the assumptions (INT1-a) to (INT1-d) and (INT2), we have*

$$\beta(x, x) \leq 2\beta(x, v_{01})\beta(x, v_{10}) \quad (x \in V).$$

Proof. Given any $x \in V$, define $\hat{\cdot} : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow V$ by $\hat{r} = r_1 v_{01} + r_2 v_{10} + r_3 x$ for $r = \sum_{j=1}^3 r_j e_j$. Here $e_1 = (1, 0, 0)^t$, $e_2 = (0, 1, 0)^t$ and $e_3 = (0, 0, 1)^t$. Let $E_1 = e_1 + e_2$ and $E_2 = e_1 - e_2$. Then by (INT1-b) to (INT1-d), $\beta(\hat{E}_1, \hat{E}_1) = 2$, $\beta(\hat{E}_2, \hat{E}_2) = -2$ and $\beta(\hat{E}_1, \hat{E}_2) = 0$. Let $E_3 = e_3 + k_1 E_1 + k_2 E_2$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(\hat{E}_3, \hat{E}_1) &= \beta(x, v_{01}) + \beta(x, v_{10}) + 2k_1 \quad \text{and} \\ \beta(\hat{E}_3, \hat{E}_2) &= \beta(x, v_{01}) - \beta(x, v_{10}) - 2k_2. \end{aligned}$$

Hence one can set

$$k_1 = -\frac{1}{2}\{\beta(x, v_{01}) + \beta(x, v_{10})\} \quad \text{and} \quad k_2 = \frac{1}{2}\{\beta(x, v_{01}) - \beta(x, v_{10})\}$$

so that $\beta(\hat{E}_3, \hat{E}_1) = \beta(\hat{E}_3, \hat{E}_2) = 0$. Then one can check that

$$\beta(\hat{E}_3, \hat{E}_3) = \beta(x, x) - 2\beta(x, v_{01})\beta(x, v_{10}).$$

Now suppose $\beta(\hat{E}_3, \hat{E}_3) > 0$. Then $m := \beta(\hat{E}_3, h_a) \neq 0$ by the Hodge property in (INT2) and for $n := -\beta(\hat{E}_1, h_a)$,

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(m\hat{E}_1 + n\hat{E}_3, m\hat{E}_1 + n\hat{E}_3) &= m^2\beta(\hat{E}_1, \hat{E}_1) + n^2\beta(\hat{E}_3, \hat{E}_3) \geq m^2\beta(\hat{E}_1, \hat{E}_1) \\ &= 2m^2 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

But we have $\beta(m\hat{E}_1 + n\hat{E}_3, h_a) = 0$, which contradicts the Hodge property. Hence we get the claim. □

For $x, y \in V$ let

$$(*) \quad \langle x, y \rangle_V = \beta(x, v_{01})\beta(y, v_{10}) + \beta(x, v_{10})\beta(y, v_{01}) - \beta(x, y).$$

By Lemma 3.1, $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_V$ is positive semidefinite, i.e., $\langle x, x \rangle_V \geq 0$ for $x \in V$. Indeed, as we will see soon below, this bilinear form must be positive semidefinite, not positive definite.

It is easy to see that from (INT1) and (*) the following conditions follow.

- (IP) (a) $\langle y, x \rangle_V = \langle x, y \rangle_V \in \mathbb{R}$ for $x, y \in V$.
- (b) $\langle v_{01}, v_{01} \rangle_V = 0$. (c) $\langle v_{10}, v_{10} \rangle_V = 0$. (d) $\langle v_{01}, v_{10} \rangle_V = 0$.
- (e) $\langle \Phi^n v_\delta, v_{01} \rangle_V = 0$. (f) $\langle \Phi^n v_\delta, v_{10} \rangle_V = 0$.
- (g) $\langle \Phi^n v_\delta, \Phi^n v_\delta \rangle_V = O(q^n)$.

Here v_δ, Φ and q are parameterized by Y as in (INT1).

From the positive semidefinite property, we obtain the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality:

$$|\langle x, y \rangle_V| \leq \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle_V \langle y, y \rangle_V}, \quad (x, y \in V).$$

Note that by this inequality, $\langle x, y_0 \rangle_V = 0$ for all $x \in V$ if $\langle y_0, y_0 \rangle_V = 0$. Accordingly, $\langle x, v_{01} \rangle_V = \langle x, v_{10} \rangle_V = 0$ for $x \in V$.

Now we introduce axiom (INT3), which we call the Lefschetz type formula.

(INT3) For any $\phi \in \text{dom}(v_\delta)$ and any $n \geq 0$,

$$\text{tr}(\phi(A)^n) = \langle \Phi(\phi)^n v_\delta(\phi), v_\delta(\phi) \rangle_V.$$

3.2. A model of abstract intersection theory and main theorem

The following construction, which we call a *model* of abstract intersection theory, is hinted by the GNS (Gelfand–Naimark–Segal) construction [9].

Let $\{e_j\}_{j=1}^{\dim H}$ ($1 \leq \dim H \leq \infty$) be a complete orthonormal basis of H . Embed H into a bigger Hilbert space K , so that $K \ominus H = \mathbb{C}^2$. Here $K \ominus H$ is the orthogonal complement of H in K . In our convention the inner product on $X = H$ or \mathbb{C}^2 satisfies the equality $\langle \lambda h_1, h_2 \rangle_X = \lambda \langle h_1, h_2 \rangle_X$. Hence we have $\langle \lambda k_1, k_2 \rangle_K = \lambda \langle k_1, k_2 \rangle_K$. We understand that e_j is embedded in K as

$e_j \mapsto e'_j = \begin{pmatrix} e_j \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$. Let $B(K)$ denote a set of bounded operators on K . Put

$$V_1 = \left\{ x \in B(K); \|x\|_{V_1}^2 := \sum_{j=1}^{\dim H} \langle x^* x e'_j, e'_j \rangle_K < \infty \right\}$$

as an \mathbb{R} -linear space of Hilbert–Schmidt type class with a semidefinite inner product $\langle x, y \rangle_{V_1} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{\dim H} \langle (y^* x + x^* y) e'_j, e'_j \rangle_K$ for $x, y \in V_1$.

Define some elements of V_1 in block diagonal form (acting on $K = \begin{smallmatrix} H \\ \oplus \\ K \oplus H \end{smallmatrix}$) as follows (blank = 0):

$$\begin{aligned} v_{01} &:= \left(\begin{array}{c|cc} 0 & & \\ \hline & 0 & 1 \\ & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right), & v_{10} &:= \left(\begin{array}{c|cc} 0 & & \\ \hline & 0 & 0 \\ & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right), \\ v_{\delta 1}(\phi) &:= \left(\begin{array}{c|cc} P_{H^\phi}^* P_{H^\phi} & & \\ \hline & 0 & 0 \\ & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right), \\ v_\delta(\phi) &:= v_{\delta 1}(\phi) + v_{01} + v_{10} \quad (\phi \in \text{dom}(v_\delta)). \end{aligned}$$

Here $H^\phi := \text{Image}(\phi(A))$ and $P_{H^\phi}: H \rightarrow H^\phi$ denotes the orthogonal projection of H onto H^ϕ (not a Riesz projection in Lemma 2.1). In this model of abstract intersection theory we let

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dom}(v_\delta) &= \text{dom}(\Phi) = \text{dom}(\text{tr}(\cdot(A))) \\ &:= \{ \phi \in \mathcal{F}; \phi \text{ has zeros at all but a finite number of } s_\alpha \in \sigma(A) \}. \end{aligned}$$

If $\phi \in \text{dom}(v_\delta)$ then $g(\phi) < \infty$. Note that $\phi_Y \in \text{dom}(v_\delta)$. It is easy to see that v_{01}, v_{10} belong to V_1 , and that $v_\delta(\phi) \in V_1$ for $\phi \in \text{dom}(v_\delta)$.

Lemma 3.2. *Suppose that an operator $A: H \supset \text{dom}(A) \rightarrow H$ that satisfies (OP1) to (OP4) and (OP-5b) is given. Let ϕ_Y ($Y > 0$) be as defined in Section 2. Then for the above \mathbb{R} -linear space V_1 there exists an \mathbb{R} -algebra homomorphism $\Phi: \mathcal{F} \supset \text{dom}(v_\delta) \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbb{R}}(V_1)$, so that*

- (i) *The conditions (IP-a) to (IP-f) with V replaced by V_1 hold.*
- (ii) *The Lefschetz type formula (INT3) with V replaced by V_1 holds.*

Proof. (i) (IP-a) is obvious from definition. Define $\Phi: \mathcal{F} \supset \text{dom}(v_\delta) \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbb{R}}(V_1)$ by

$$\Phi(\phi)x = \left(\begin{array}{c|cc} \phi(A) & & \\ \hline & \phi(1) & 0 \\ & 0 & \phi(0) \end{array} \right) x$$

for $\phi \in \text{dom}(v_\delta)$ and $x \in V_1$. It is easy to check that $\Phi(\phi)x \in V_1$ if $x \in V_1$. Note that $\text{dom}(v_\delta)$ is an \mathbb{R} -subalgebra of \mathcal{F} . Observe that if $\phi_1, \phi_2 \in \text{dom}(v_\delta)$ then $\phi_1(A)$ and $\phi_2(A)$ are bounded, and that $(\phi_1\phi_2)(A) = \phi_1(A)\phi_2(A)$. Hence one can easily see that Φ is a well-defined \mathbb{R} -algebra homomorphism. It is easy to check that $\Phi(\phi)^n v_\delta(\phi) \in V_1$ ($n \geq 0$) provided that $\phi \in \text{dom}(v_\delta)$. We recall that $\phi_Y \in \text{dom}(v_\delta)$. It is also easy to see that the vectors v_{01}, v_{10} and v_δ satisfy the conditions (IP-b) to (IP-f). For example, $\langle v_{01}, v_{01} \rangle_{V_1} = \sum_{j=1}^{\dim H} \langle v_{01}^* v_{01} e'_j, e'_j \rangle_K$. However, since $v_{01} e_j = 0$ one gets (IP-b). To check (IP-e) and (IP-f) note that

$$\Phi(\phi)^n v_\delta(\phi) = \Phi(\phi)^n v_{\delta 1}(\phi) + \phi(1)^n v_{01} + \phi(0)^n v_{10}.$$

(ii) For $\phi \in \text{dom}(v_\delta)$ let $\{e_j\}_{j=1}^{2g(\phi)}$ be an orthonormal basis of H^ϕ . Then, since $\phi(A)H^\phi \subset H^\phi$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Phi(\phi)^n v_\delta(\phi), v_\delta(\phi) \rangle_{V_1} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{2g(\phi)} \{ \langle \phi(A)^n e_j, e_j \rangle_{H^\phi} + \langle \phi(A)^{*n} e_j, e_j \rangle_{H^\phi} \} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{2g(\phi)} \{ \langle \phi(A)^n e_j, e_j \rangle_{H^\phi} + \overline{\langle \phi(A)^n e_j, e_j \rangle_{H^\phi}} \} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\text{tr}(\phi(A)^n) + \overline{\text{tr}(\phi(A)^n)}), \end{aligned}$$

which is $\text{tr}(\phi(A)^n)$ provided that $\text{tr}(\phi(A)^n) \in \mathbb{R}$. This condition is satisfied by (OP5-b) and the definition of \mathcal{F} . □

The following lemma says that given V_1 as above, one can find *many* V 's and β 's satisfying (INT1) and (INT2).

Lemma 3.3. *In the same situation as in Lemma 3.2 and its proof, suppose that $\Phi = \Phi(Y)(= \Phi(\phi_Y))$ further satisfies (IP-g). Let V be an \mathbb{R} -linear subspace of V_1 such that v_{01}, v_{10} and $\Phi^n v_\delta = \Phi(Y)^n v_\delta(Y)$ all belong to V for any $Y > 0$.*

Then there is a bilinear form $\beta: V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and a Hodge vector $h_a \in V$ which satisfy (INT1) and (INT2) and ().*

Proof. (INT1) and (*): In (*) let $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_V$ be the inner product on V inherited from $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{V_1}$. Given $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_V$, one can determine $\beta(x, y)$ from $\beta(x, v_{01}), \beta(x, v_{10}), \beta(y, v_{01})$ and $\beta(y, v_{10})$ via (*). Decompose V into a (not necessarily orthogonal) direct sum of W_1 and W_2 , where W_1 is the \mathbb{R} -linear span of $\{v_{01}, v_{10}, \Phi(Y)^n v_\delta(Y); Y > 0, n \geq 0\}$.

Let us write $v_{\delta 1} = v_{\delta 1}(Y) := v_{\delta 1}(\phi_Y)$. Note that

$$\text{span}_{\mathbb{R}}\{\Phi(Y)^n v_{\delta 1}(Y) : Y > 0, n \geq 0\} \cap \text{span}_{\mathbb{R}}\{v_{01}, v_{10}\} = \{0\}.$$

Hence one can define $\beta(\cdot, v_{01})$, $\beta(\cdot, v_{10})$, $\beta(v_{01}, \cdot)$ and $\beta(v_{10}, \cdot)$ on W_1 so as to satisfy (INT1-a) to (INT1-d) and

$$\beta(\Phi^n v_{\delta 1}, v_{01}) = 0 \quad (n \geq 0), \quad \beta(\Phi^n v_{\delta 1}, v_{10}) = 0 \quad (n \geq 0).$$

Then, since $\Phi^n v_{\delta} = \Phi^n v_{\delta 1} + q^n v_{01} + v_{10}$ for all $n \geq 0$, we see that β satisfies (INT1-e) and (INT1-f). (INT1-g) also follows from (IP-g), (INT1-e) and (INT1-f) via (*).

Assign arbitrary \mathbb{R} -linear mappings $\beta(\cdot, v_{01})$ and $\beta(\cdot, v_{10})$ of W_2 to \mathbb{R} . Then one can determine β on $V \times V$ via (*). One can check (INT1-a) since (IP-a) holds in (*).

(INT2): Let $h_a = v_{01} + v_{10}$. If $\beta(x, h_a) = 0$, then $\beta(x, v_{10}) = -\beta(x, v_{01})$. Thus $\beta(x, x) = 2\beta(x, v_{01})\beta(x, v_{10}) - \langle x, x \rangle_V = -2\beta(x, v_{01})^2 - \langle x, x \rangle_V \leq 0$. Therefore h_a is a Hodge vector. \square

We use the following lemma (e.g. [6, Lemma 2.2, p. 20]) in the proof of Theorem 3.1 below.

Lemma 3.4. *Let λ_j ($1 \leq j \leq 2g$) be complex numbers. Then there exist infinitely many integers $n \geq 1$ such that $|\lambda_1|^n \leq |\sum_{j=1}^{2g} \lambda_j^n|$.*

Theorem 3.1. *Let $A: H \supset \text{dom}(A) \rightarrow H$ be an operator satisfying (OP1) to (OP5). The following conditions are equivalent.*

- (i) *The Riemann hypothesis holds for A .*
- (ii) *There exist an \mathbb{R} -linear space V , a symmetric bilinear \mathbb{R} -valued form β on V , a mapping v_{δ} of $\text{dom}(v_{\delta}) \subset \mathcal{F}$ into V , and an \mathbb{R} -algebra homomorphism Φ of $\text{dom}(v_{\delta}) \subset \mathcal{F}$ into $\text{End}_{\mathbb{R}}(V)$ associated with the operator A , giving vectors $v_{01}, v_{10}, h_a, \Phi^n v_{\delta} = \Phi(Y)^n v_{\delta}(Y)$ ($Y > 0$) in V so that axioms (INT1) to (INT3) of the abstract intersection theory hold.*

Proof. (ii) \implies (i): Suppose that the RH for A does not hold. Then by (OP5-a) one can find and fix $Y > 0$ so that $\sigma_Y(A)$ as described in Section 2 contains $s_{\alpha}, s_{\beta} \in \sigma(A)$ with $\text{Re}(s_{\alpha}) < \frac{1}{2}, \text{Re}(s_{\beta}) > \frac{1}{2}$. Therefore $\sigma_Y(A)$ contains s_1 such that $q^{\text{Re}(s_1)} > q^{\frac{1}{2}}$, where $q = q(Y)$. Actually, if $0 < q < 1$ (re)set $s_1 = s_{\alpha}$, while if $q > 1$ (re)set $s_1 = s_{\beta}$.

Recall that $\sigma_Y(A)$ is a finite set. Let s_j ($2 \leq j \leq 2g = 2g(Y) = \dim H^{\phi_Y}$) be all the other eigenvalues of A in $\sigma_Y(A)$, counted with algebraic multiplicities. (Note that $\text{Image}(P_{\sigma_Y(A)}) = H^{\phi_Y}$ since $\phi_Y(s) \neq 0$ for $s \in \sigma_Y(A)$.) Let $\lambda_j = \phi_Y(s_j) = q^{s_j}$ ($1 \leq j \leq 2g$). Then by Lemma 3.4, $\nu_n = \sum_{j=1}^{2g} \lambda_j^n$ is not $O(q^{\frac{n}{2}})$, since we could choose s_1 so that $|\lambda_1|^n = |q^{s_1}|^n = q^{\frac{n}{2}}(1 + \epsilon)^n$ for some $\epsilon > 0$. By the spectral mapping theorem, $\sigma(\phi_Y(A)^n) = \sigma_p(\phi_Y(A)^n) = \phi_Y(\sigma_Y(A)^n \cup \{0\}) = \{\lambda_j^n; 1 \leq j \leq 2g\} \cup \{0\}$. However, by (INT3), the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality and (IP-g), we see that ν_n is $O(q^{\frac{n}{2}})$. This is a contradiction.

(i) \implies (ii): By Lemma 3.2, we have (IP-a) to (IP-f) and (INT3) for vectors in V_1 and $\Phi = \Phi(Y)$. All we have to do now is to verify (IP-g). Let us take a constant $q > 1$ so that $q = q(Y)$ for all $Y > 0$. If the RH for the operator A holds, then each eigenvalue λ_ℓ ($1 \leq \ell \leq 2g$) besides 0, counted with algebraic multiplicities, of $\phi_Y(A)$ can be written as $\lambda_\ell = q^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{i\theta_\ell}$ ($\theta_\ell \in \mathbb{R}$). By (OP3-b) one can choose eigenvectors w_ℓ associated with λ_ℓ so that $\phi_Y(A)w_\ell = \lambda_\ell w_\ell$. Let $\{e_j\}_{j=1}^{2g}$ be an orthonormal basis of H^{ϕ_Y} . Now one can write e_j as $e_j = \sum_{\ell=1}^{2g} \alpha_{j\ell} w_\ell$ for some $\alpha_{j\ell} = \alpha_{j\ell}(Y) \in \mathbb{C}$. Then in a similar way as in the proof of Lemma 3.2 (ii),

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Phi(Y)^n v_\delta(Y), \Phi(Y)^n v_\delta(Y) \rangle_V &= \sum_{j=1}^{2g} \langle \phi_Y(A)^n e_j, \phi_Y(A)^n e_j \rangle_{H^{\phi_Y}} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{2g} \left\langle \sum_{\ell=1}^{2g} \alpha_{j\ell} \phi_Y(A)^n w_\ell, \sum_{m=1}^{2g} \alpha_{jm} \phi_Y(A)^n w_m \right\rangle_{H^{\phi_Y}}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\phi_Y(A)^n w_\ell = \lambda_\ell^n w_\ell$, we have (IP-g). Therefore by Lemma 3.3, we have (INT1) and (INT2) for a subspace $V \subset V_1$. We have of course (INT3) by restricting to V . □

Remark 3.1. Note that (OP3-b) is used only in the proof of (i) \implies (ii). To prove the RH for A from the existence of an abstract intersection theory one does not need (OP3-b).

As mentioned in Section 2, the operator A_0 constructed in [11] satisfies all the conditions except for (OP3-b). Thus we have the following corollary.

Corollary 3.1. *Assume that the operator A_0 in [11, Theorem 4.1] satisfies additionally the condition (OP3-b), or equivalently, the order of every nontrivial zero of the corresponding Dirichlet L-function is one. Then the following conditions are equivalent.*

- (i) *The Riemann Hypothesis holds for A_0 (and for the corresponding Dirichlet L -function).*
- (ii) *There exists an abstract intersection theory as described in Theorem 3.1 for A_0 .*

4. Analogy with the intersection theory on a surface over \mathbb{F}_q

Let C be a smooth projective curve over a finite field \mathbb{F}_q , and $S = C \times C$ the surface over \mathbb{F}_q . Let $\text{Pic}(S) (\simeq H^1(S, \mathcal{O}_S^\times))$ be its Picard group, which we regard as a \mathbb{Z} -module, so as to preserve the analogy with Weil divisors. V in Section 3 is modeled on $\text{Pic}(S) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$, and $\beta(\cdot, \cdot)$ in Section 3 is modeled on the \mathbb{R} -tensoring intersection pairing $i(\cdot, \cdot)$ on $\text{Pic}(S) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$. $\Phi = \Phi(Y)$ in (INT1) is an analog of the linear mapping on $\text{Pic}(S) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$ induced by the morphism $\text{Frob} \times \text{id}$ on S . Then one may regard v_{01}, v_{10}, v_δ and $\Phi^n v_\delta$ in (INT1) as analogs of cycles $\text{pt} \times C, C \times \text{pt}, \Delta$ and Γ_{Frob^n} , respectively. The Hodge property comes from the Hodge index theorem. A Hodge vector h_a corresponds to an (ample) hyperplane section of S , thereby $\beta(\cdot, h_a)$ gives an analog of the degree function $\text{deg} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} 1: \text{Pic}(S) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Lemma 3.1 is an analog of Castelnuovo’s inequality.

If $\varphi = \text{Frob}^n$, then it turns out that

$$\text{tr}(\varphi^*|_{H_{\text{ét}}^0}) = 1 = i(\Gamma_\varphi, \text{pt} \times C)i(\Delta, C \times \text{pt})$$

and

$$\text{tr}(\varphi^*|_{H_{\text{ét}}^2}) = q^n = i(\Gamma_\varphi, C \times \text{pt})i(\Delta, \text{pt} \times C).$$

So the Lefschetz fixed-point formula for the ℓ -adic cohomology reads for $\varphi = \text{Frob}^n$ as

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}(\varphi^*|_{H_{\text{ét}}^1}) &= i(\Gamma_\varphi, \text{pt} \times C)i(\Delta, C \times \text{pt}) + i(\Gamma_\varphi, C \times \text{pt})i(\Delta, \text{pt} \times C) - i(\Gamma_\varphi, \Delta) \\ &=: \langle \Gamma_\varphi, \Delta \rangle_{\text{Pic}(S) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}}. \end{aligned}$$

(INT3) is modeled on this, and $\phi(A)^n$ acting on H is an analogy of $\varphi^*|_{H_{\text{ét}}^1}$ acting on the first ℓ -adic étale cohomology group $H_{\text{ét}}^1(C \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_q} \overline{\mathbb{F}_q}, \mathbb{Q}_\ell)$.

Introducing a cutoff function ϕ is modeled on Weil’s explicit formula [1952b], [1972] in [12].

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