

ALGEBRA OF PSEUDO-DIFFERENTIAL C*-OPERATORS(*)

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SOMMARIO.- *In questo lavoro si studia l'algebra degli operatori pseudo-differenziali nel contesto delle C*-algebre. In particolare si fa vedere che lo spazio di tutti gli operatori pseudo-differenziali su una varietà compatta è un'algebra involutiva.*

SUMMARY.- *In this paper we study the algebra of pseudo-differential operators in the context of C*-algebras. We essentially show that the space of all pseudo-differential operators on a compact manifold is an involutive algebra.*

1. Introduction

Various functional methods have been intensively applied to topology during the last decade. The technique of C*-algebras is quite useful in a number of problems connected with topological properties of manifolds. In particular, C*-algebras and their representations play an important role in K-theory and problems associated with it. Several authors have obtained interesting results concerning pseudo-differential operators in the framework of C*-algebras. Mishenko [5] and [6] interpreted several versions of the theory of pseudo-differential operators in terms of C*-algebras, that is, elliptic pseudo-differential operators on a compact manifold; pseudo-differential operators on a Euclidian space, operators with almost periodic functions etc. Mishenko and Fomenko [7] derived analogues of the well-known Atiyah-Singer index formulas in this situation.

In this paper we study the algebra of pseudo-differential operators in the framework of C*-algebras. We essentially prove that every pseudo-differential operator of order m admits an adjoint operator, in this case, which is again a pseudo-differential operator. Consequently, we get that the space of all pseudo-differential operators on a compact manifold is an involutive algebra. This kind of problem has been discussed, in the classical case, by Hörmander [1], Kohn and Nirenberg [2] and Kumano-go [3]

(*) Pervenuto in Redazione il 9 settembre 1988.

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and [4] among many others. The formulation of such a problem naturally arises when one seeks analogues of the Atiyah-Bott formulas for this case.

Regarding the general theory of pseudo-differential operators we refer to [10].

2. Preliminaries

Let A be any C^* -algebra with an identity and K a right A -module. Recall the definition of a Hilbert C^* -module as in ([9] and [5]).

DEFINITION 2.1. A pre-Hilbert C^* -module is a right A -module K equipped with an inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : K \times K \rightarrow A$ satisfying $\forall x, y, z \in K, a \in A, \lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ the following conditions:

- i) $\langle x, x \rangle \geq 0$; $\langle x, x \rangle = 0$ only if $x = 0$;
- ii) $\langle x, y \rangle = \langle y, x \rangle^*$;
- iii) $\langle x, y + z \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle + \langle x, z \rangle$; $\langle x, \lambda y \rangle = \lambda \langle x, y \rangle$;
- iv) $\langle xa, y \rangle = a^* \langle x, y \rangle$; $\langle x, ya \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle a$.

For all $x \in K$, $\|x\|_K^2 = \|\langle x, x \rangle\|$ defines a norm on a pre-Hilbert C^* -module K . Moreover, it satisfies $\|xa\|_K \leq \|x\|_K \cdot \|a\|$ and $\|\langle x, y \rangle\| \leq \|x\|_K \cdot \|y\|_K$, $\forall x, y \in K, a \in A$. The inner product gives the homomorphism

$$\varphi : K \rightarrow K^* = \text{Hom}_A(K, A)$$

which is not, however, an isomorphism for an arbitrary C^* -algebra A , in contrast to the case where A is the field of complex numbers.

For this reason, a supplementary condition is imposed.

- v) the homomorphism $\varphi : K \rightarrow K^* = \text{Hom}_A(K, A)$ is an isomorphism. This guarantees the existence of an adjoint to any bounded homomorphism of Hilbert C^* -modules.

We shall use the following terminology. A pre-Hilbert C^* -module K which is complete with respect to the norm $\|\cdot\|_K$, together with an inner product satisfying (i)-(iv), is called a Hilbert C^* -module. If (v) is also satisfied, then K is called self-dual. The inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ will be called a Hermitian product. Denote by $\text{Hom}_A^*(K_1, K_2)$ the space of A -homomorphisms $T : K_1 \rightarrow K_2$ having adjoints, that is, homomorphisms T^* such that

$$\langle Tx, y \rangle = \langle x, T^*y \rangle, x \in K_1, y \in K_2.$$

It is clear that $\text{Hom}_A^*(K_1, K_2) \subset \text{Hom}_A(K_1, K_2)$ is a closed subspace in the operator norm. Also, the space $\text{End}_A^*(K) = \text{Hom}_A^*(K, K)$ is a C^* -algebra. If we denote by $K^\# = \text{Hom}_A^*(K, A)$, then the homomorphism $\varphi : K \rightarrow K^*$ induced by the inner product $\langle x, y \rangle$ realizes the isomorphism $\varphi : K \rightarrow K^\# \subset K^*$.

Thus we have a natural category \mathcal{M} whose objects are Hilbert C^* -modules and whose morphisms are operators in $\text{Hom}_A^*(K_1, K_2)$.

Examples of such objects are numerous. For instance, the C^* -algebra A itself as well as the direct sum A^k of k copies of A , with the Hermitian product given by $\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^k x_i^* y_i$, is a Hilbert C^* -module. Also, these modules are self-dual. Furthermore, A^k is projective relative to epimorphisms.

Denote by $l_2(A)$ the space of sequences $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n, \dots) \forall x_n \in A$, which satisfy the condition that $\sum_{n=1}^\infty x_n^* x_n$ converges in A . We can define a Hermitian product in $l_2(A)$ by putting

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{n=1}^\infty x_n^* y_n \tag{2.1}$$

and hence the norm by

$$\|x\|^2 = \left\| \sum_{n=1}^\infty x_n^* x_n \right\|. \tag{2.2}$$

The convergence of the series (2.1) follows from an analogue of Cauchy's inequality for C^* -algebras (see [7]):

$$\left\| \sum_{n=1}^\infty x_n^* y_n \right\|^2 < \left\| \sum_{n=1}^\infty x_n^* x_n \right\| \cdot \left\| \sum_{n=1}^\infty y_n^* y_n \right\|. \tag{2.3}$$

Then $l_2(A)$ is a Hilbert C^* -module ([7]).

For the sake of simplicity we also assume that each Hilbert C^* -module K has at most a countable set of generators, that is, a countable subset whose A -linear span is dense in K .

THEOREM 2.1 ([6]). *Every countably generated Hilbert C^* -module is a projective object in the category \mathcal{M} relative to epimorphisms.*

If the Hilbert C^* -module K is finitely generated, then K is self-dual, for there is an epimorphism $f: A^k \rightarrow K$ having an adjoint. Then by Theorem 2.1, K is a direct summand in the module A^k and is, therefore, self-dual.

3. Vector A -bundles and pseudo-differential operators over C^* -algebras

DEFINITION 3.1. Let A be a C^* -algebra. By a vector A -bundle we mean a locally trivial fibre bundle $\xi = (E, p, M, F, G)$ where E is a total space, M is the base of the fibre bundle, $p: E \rightarrow M$ is a projection, F is a fibre of the fibre bundle which is finitely generated projective Hilbert C^* -module and G is the structural group equal to $\text{Aut}_A(F)$, the group of A -automorphisms of the Hilbert C^* -module F . If F is a free, k -dimensional Hilbert C^* -module, then $\text{Aut}_A(F)$ is the same as the group of invertible k^{th} -order matrices with coefficients in A .

Suppose that the base M is a compact smooth manifold (of class C^∞). Denote by $\Gamma(\xi)$ the space of continuous sections of the bundle ξ . The space $\Gamma(\xi)$ is endowed with the natural structure of Hilbert C^* -module, coinciding with the structure of the Hilbert C^* -module in each fibre F when $\Gamma(\xi)$ is restricted to F . Each A -bundle ξ admits a fibre Hermitian product with values in A . Thus if $u_1, u_2 \in \Gamma(\xi)$ are two sections, then a continuous function $\langle u_1, u_2 \rangle \in C(M, A)$ is defined, $C(M, A)$ being the algebra of continuous functions on M with values in A . Without loss of generality we can assume that the gluing functions of the vector bundle are smooth sections (of class C^∞), and denote by $\Gamma^\infty(\xi)$ the space of smooth sections (of class C^∞) of the bundle ξ . We can then choose the fibre Hermitian product to be smooth, i.e. for any two sections $u_1, u_2 \in \Gamma^\infty(\xi)$, the function $\langle u_1, u_2 \rangle \in C^\infty(M, A)$, where $C^\infty(M, A)$ is the space of smooth functions (of class C^∞) with values in A .

We now want to introduce Sobolev norms in $\Gamma^\infty(\xi)$. First we consider the local situation.

Let $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be a bounded open set, and $C_0^\infty(X, A)$ the ring of smooth functions (of class C^∞) with compact supports and with values in A . Let

$S(\mathbb{R}^n, A)$ denote the space of C^∞ -functions whose derivatives decrease

faster than any power of $\|x\| = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 \right)^{1/2}$ as $\|x\| \rightarrow \infty$.

For $u \in S(\mathbb{R}^n, A)$ we define the Fourier transform $\hat{u}(\xi)$ by

$$\hat{u}(\xi) = \int e^{-ix \cdot \xi} u(x) dx, \quad (3.1)$$

where $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $x \cdot \xi = x_1 \xi_1 + \dots + x_n \xi_n$ and dx is the Lebesgue measure on \mathbb{R}^n .

The inverse Fourier transform can be defined as

$$u(x) = \int e^{ix \cdot \xi} \hat{u}(\xi) d\xi, \quad (3.2)$$

where $d\xi = (2\pi)^{-n} d\xi$.

We denote by Δ the operator

$$\Delta = - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial^2}{(\partial x_i)^2}.$$

For $u \in C_0^\infty(X, A)$ we put

$$\|u\|_s^2 = \left\| \int_X ((1 + \Delta)^s u^*(x)) u(x) dx \right\|. \quad (3.3)$$

where s is any real number, and denote by $H_0^s(X, A)$ the completion of $C_0^\infty(X, A)$ relative to the Sobolev norm (3.3). Then

LEMMA 3.1 ([7]). *The space $H_0^s(X, A)$ is isomorphic to $l_2(A)$ as a Hilbert C^* -module.*

Note that a Hermitian product in $H_0^s(X, A)$ is given by

$$\langle u, v \rangle_s = \int_X ((1 + \Delta)^s u^*(x)) v(x) dx. \quad (3.4)$$

For $s = 0$, $H_0^s(X, A)$ equals $L_2(X, A)$ where $L_2(X, A)$ denotes the space of such measurable functions (i.e. classes) f , for which the integral $\int_X f^*(x)$

$f(x) dx$ converges. Likewise, in $L_2(X, A)$ we have a Hermitian product defined by

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_X f^*(x) g(x) dx, \quad (3.5)$$

and denote the induced norm by $\|\cdot\|_{L_2}$.

Let E be trivial A -bundle on the domain X with fibre P , where P is a finitely generated projective Hilbert C^* -module with a nondegenerate, positive definite inner product with values in A . For the sake of simplicity, we assume that P is A^k , where A^k is a direct sum of k -copies of A . Analogous to (3.3) we define Sobolev norms in the space $\Gamma_0^\infty(X, A^k)$ of sections with compact support by

$$\|u\|_s^2 = \left\| \int_X \langle (1 + \Delta)^s u(x), u(x) \rangle dx \right\|. \quad (3.6)$$

The completion of the space relative to the Sobolev norm is denoted by $H_0^s(X, A^k)$. Then it follows trivially from Lemma 3.1 that the Hilbert C^* -module $H_0^s(X, A^k)$ is isomorphic to the module $l_2(A^k)$, the direct sum in the module $l_2(A) \times \dots \times l_2(A)$.

Similarly one can verify that, $L_2(X, A^k)$ is the same as $H_0^s(x, A^k)$ for $s = 0$, in which the Hermitian product is given by

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int \langle f(x), g(x) \rangle dx; \quad \langle f(x), g(x) \rangle = : \sum_{i=1}^k f_i^*(x) g_i(x). \quad (3.7)$$

We now define pseudo-differential A -operators in spaces of sections of A -bundles E_1 and E_2 . Let $\pi : T^*X \rightarrow X$ be the natural projection of a cotangent bundle. Consider the pre-images of the bundles $\pi^*(E_i)$, $i = 1, 2$, taking account of the fact that the inner product in each fibre is induced by the inner product in the fibres of E_i . Without loss of generality, we assume that $E_i = E$, $i = 1, 2$, with fibre A^k . We consider the A -homomorphisms of the bundles $a : \pi^*(E) \rightarrow \pi^*(E)$ as a family of A -homomorphisms

$$a(x, \xi) : A^k \rightarrow A^k$$

parametrized by points of the cotangent bundle $(x, \xi) \in T^*X$. Suppose that $a(x, \xi)$ satisfy the following conditions:

$$(a) \quad \|\partial_{\xi}^{\alpha} \partial_x^{\beta} a(x, \xi)\| \leq C_{\alpha, \beta} \langle \xi \rangle^{m-|\alpha|} \quad (3.8)$$

where $\langle \xi \rangle$ stands for $(1 + \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i^2)^{1/2}$, α, β are multi-indices of non-negative integers and m being any real number.

(b) $a(x, \xi)$ have compact support in the variable x , that is, $\pi(\text{supp } a) \subset X$ is a compact set.

We shall call the homomorphism satisfying conditions (a) and (b) the *symbol of the pseudo-differential A -operator T* , which is defined by:

$$T u(x) = \int e^{ix \cdot \xi} a(x, \xi) \hat{u}(y) d\xi, \quad (3.9)$$

where $u \in \Gamma_0^{\infty}(X, A^k)$.

The number m is called the *order of the operator T* . We shall denote by S^m the class of symbols satisfying the properties (a) and (b) as given above.

THEOREM 3.1. *The operator T defined by (3.9) is a continuous map from $\Gamma_0^{\infty}(X, A^k)$ into itself.*

The proof of Theorem 3.1 is an easy computation (see [8]).

By means of Theorem 3.1, we can extend the operator T as a continuous map of $S(\mathbb{R}^n, A^k)$ into $S(\mathbb{R}^n, A^k)$.

THEOREM 3.2. ([7]). *Every pseudo-differential A -operator T of order m :*

$$T : H_0^s(X, A^k) \rightarrow H_0^{s-m}(X, A^k)$$

is a bounded operator in the Sobolev norms.

It now follows trivially from Theorem 3.2 the following:

THEOREM 3.3. (L_2 -continuity). *A pseudo-differential A -operator T of order zero can be extended to a bounded map of $L_2(\mathbb{R}^n, A^k)$ into $L_2(\mathbb{R}^n, A^k)$, i.e., there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that*

$$\|Tu\|_{L_2} \leq C\|u\|_{L_2}, \quad u \in \Gamma_0^{\infty}(X, A^k).$$

Next we consider the adjoint of a pseudo-differential A -operator. Note that

$$\langle u, v \rangle = \int \langle u(x), v(x) \rangle dx,$$

where $u, v \in \Gamma_0^\infty(X, A^k)$ and $\langle u(x), v(x) \rangle$ equals $\sum_{i=1}^k u_i^*(x) v_i(x)$.

THEOREM 3.4. *Every pseudo-differential A -operator T of order m admits an adjoint operator, T^* , given by*

$$\langle Tu, v \rangle = \langle u, T^*v \rangle, \quad u, v \in \Gamma_0^\infty(X, A^k), \quad (3.10)$$

which is again a pseudo-differential A -operator.

Proof (see also [8]): We can write for $u, v \in \Gamma_0^\infty(X, A^k)$,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Tu, v \rangle &= \iiint e^{-i(x-y) \cdot \xi} u^*(y) a^\#(x, \xi) v(x) dy d\xi dx. \\ &= \int u^*(y) \left\{ \iint e^{i(y-x) \cdot \xi} a^\#(x, \xi) v(x) dx d\xi \right\} dy, \end{aligned}$$

where $a^\#(x, \xi) = (a_{ji}^*(x, \xi))$, the matrix of the symbol $a(x, \xi)$ being $a_{ij}(x, \xi)$. Hence it follows that

$$T^*v(x) = \iint e^{i(x-y) \cdot \xi} a^\#(y, \xi) v(y) dy d\xi, \quad (3.11)$$

which is evidently a pseudo-differential A -operator. One can see easily that (3.10) determines T^* uniquely.

Thus a pseudo-differential A -operator is a morphism in the category \mathcal{M} , described in the preceding section.

THEOREM 3.5. *Let T be a pseudo-differential A -operator with symbol $a(x, \xi)$ and let T^* be its adjoint operator. Then the symbol of T^* has the following expansion:*

$$a^*(x, \xi) \sim \sum_{\alpha} \frac{1}{\alpha!} \partial_{\xi}^{\alpha} D_x^{\alpha} a^\#(x, \xi) \quad (3.12)$$

where the asymptotic sum runs over all multi-indices α .

THEOREM 3.6. (Composition). *Let S and T be pseudo-differential A -operators with symbols $a(x, y) \in S^{m_1}$ and $b(x, \xi) \in S^{m_2}$, respectively. Then $R = ST$ is a pseudo-differential A -operator with symbol $r(x, \xi) \in S^{m_1+m_2}$, and one has the analogue of Leibniz's formula:*

$$r(x, \xi) \sim \sum_{\alpha} \frac{1}{\alpha!} \partial_{\xi}^{\alpha} b(x, \xi) \cdot D_{\beta}^{\alpha} a(x, \xi) . \quad (3.13)$$

Proof of Theorem 3.6.: One can write

$$\begin{aligned} R u(x) &= \iint e^{i(x-y)\xi} b(x, \xi) \int e^{iy\cdot\eta} a(y, \eta) \hat{u}(\eta) \, d\eta dy d\xi \\ &= \int r(x, \eta) e^{ix\cdot\eta} \hat{u}(\eta) \, d\eta, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$r(x, \eta) = \iint e^{i(x-y)\cdot(\xi-\eta)} b(x, \xi) a(y, \eta) \, dy d\xi.$$

It can be shown easily, as in the classical case, that $r(x, \xi) \in S^{m_1+m_2}$, and by Taylor's formula

$$r(x, \eta) = \iint \left(\sum_{|\alpha| \leq N} \frac{1}{\alpha!} \partial_{\eta}^{\alpha} b(x, \eta) (\xi - \eta)^{\alpha} \right) \cdot a(y, \eta) e^{i(x-y)(\xi-\eta)} \, dy d\xi + r_N.$$

Integrating first with respect to y and then with respect to ξ , one verifies that

$$\iint e^{i(x-y)(\xi-\eta)} a(y, \eta) (\xi, \eta)^{\alpha} \, dy d\xi = D_x^{\alpha} a(x, \eta).$$

Hence

$$r(x, \eta) = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N} \frac{1}{\alpha!} \partial_{\eta}^{\alpha} b(x, \eta) D_x^{\alpha} a(x, \eta) + r_N.$$

It remains to show that $r_N \in S^{m_1+m_2-N}$. This can be done in a similar way as the corresponding assertion in the case of classical pseudo-differential operators, provided we take into consideration the standard estimates while applying to a C^* -algebra.

The proof of Theorem 3.5. uses Taylor's formula as above, and can be proved as in the classical case. Therefore, we omit the proof.

As a consequence of Theorems 3.2., 3.4., 3.5. and 3.6., the class $S^\infty = \bigcup_{m \in \mathbb{R}} S^m$ makes an involutive algebra in the sense that if $T_i \in S^{m_i}$, $i = 1, 2$, then $T_1 + T_2 \in S^m$ for $m = \max(m_1, m_2)$ and $T_1 \cdot T_2 \in S^{m_1+m_2}$.

In order to define a pseudo-differential A -operator in sections of the A -bundles E_1 and E_2 on a compact manifold M , we consider the atlas $\{X_\alpha\}$ of charts of the manifold M , in each of which the bundles E_1 and E_2 are trivial. Let $a : \pi^*(E_1) \rightarrow \pi^*(E_2)$ be a A -homomorphism satisfying (3.8). Let $\{\varphi_\alpha\}$ be a partition of unity subordinated to the covering $\{X_\alpha\}$, and let ψ_α be functions such that $\psi_\alpha|_{\text{supp } \varphi_\alpha} \equiv 1$ and $\text{supp } \psi_\alpha \subset X_\alpha$. We then put

$$Tu(x) = \sum_{\alpha} [T_{\alpha}(\varphi_{\alpha} u)](x); \quad (3.14)$$

where $u \in \Gamma^\infty(M, E_1)$ and T_α is the pseudo-differential A -operator defined by (3.9) in the chart X_α by means of the symbol $a_\alpha(x, \xi) = a(x, \xi) \psi_\alpha(x)$.

Using the partition of unity φ_α and (3.4), we define Sobolev norms in the space of sections $\Gamma^\infty(M, E_i)$. Let $u_1, u_2 \in \Gamma^\infty(M, E_i)$ be arbitrary sections. We put

$$\langle u_1, u_2 \rangle_s = \sum_{\alpha} \int ((1 + \Delta_{\alpha})^s \varphi_{\alpha}(x) u_1(x), \varphi_{\alpha}(x) u_2(x)) dx,$$

$$\|u\|_s^2 = \|\langle u, u \rangle_s\|. \quad (3.15)$$

The completion, relative to the Sobolev norm, of the space of sections $\Gamma^\infty(M, E_i)$ will be denoted by $H^s(M, E_i)$. In general, if an operator $T : H^s(M, E_1) \rightarrow H^{s-m}(M, E_2)$ is bounded for all s , then we shall say that the operator T is of order m . We now formulate some necessary propositions for later use.

THEOREM 3.7. *The pseudo-differential A -operator $T : H^s(M, E_1) \rightarrow H^{s-m}(M, E_2)$ of order m defined by (3.14) is bounded in the Sobolev norms.*

THEOREM 3.8. *The definition of pseudo-differential A -operator (3.14) does not depend on the partition of unity φ_α , the functions ψ_α , or the local coordinates system to within operators of smaller order.*

THEOREM 3.9. *Let a_1 and a_2 be symbols of the pseudo-differential A -operator T_1 and T_2 respectively. Then the operator T_3 and $T_2 T_1$, where $a_3 = a_2 a_1$, (i.e., composition of symbols), differ by an operator of lower order.*

The proof of Theorems 3.7.-3.9. is entirely analogous to that of the same propositions for the case of classical pseudo-differential operators, provided account is taken of the special features in applying the standard estimates in case of a C^* -algebra, for instance, which were introduced in the proof of Lemma 3.2. [7].

Likewise, with obvious modifications one can extend Theorem 3.4. to a compact manifold:

THEOREM 3.10. *Every pseudo-differential A -operator T ,*

$$T : H^s(M, E_1) \rightarrow H^{s-m}(M, E_2)$$

of order m has an adjoint, T^ , which is also a pseudo-differential A -operator.*

Summarizing all this, we have

THEOREM 3.11. *The class $S^\infty = \bigcup_m S^m$ of pseudo-differential A -operators on a compact manifold M , is an involutive algebra. Here S^m denotes the class of pseudo-differential A -operators $T : H^s(M, E_1) \rightarrow H^{s-m}(M, E_2)$ of order m .*

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