

Hadamard's definition: a (direct/inverse) problem  $data \rightarrow result$  is well-posed if it

- 1) has a solution;
- 2) the solution is unique;
- 3) the solution depends continuously on the data.

Classical examples by Hadamard: (1923)

consider the Cauchy problem for Laplace eqn

$$\nabla^2 u(x,y) = 0 \quad \begin{cases} u(x,0) = \frac{1}{2} \cos x \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x,0) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$u(x,y) = \frac{1}{2} \cos x \cosh y$$
 But when  $w \rightarrow 0$ :  $u(x,0) \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow u(x,y) \rightarrow 0$  "smooth"  $\Rightarrow$  the solution is not continuous (in any reasonable topology).

$\Rightarrow$  so for many years people thought such examples to be "non-physical" problems were called "ill-posed", "improperly posed" etc. [Turns out this problem appears in ECG :-)]

Another example: Inverse heat propagation

Forward problem:  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$   $u(x,0) = f(x)$  [initial heat dist.]  
 $t > 0$   $u(x,t) = u(x,0) = 0$

Solution by Fourier series expansion.

$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n \sin(n\pi x)$ ,  $f_n = 2 \int_0^1 f(x) \sin(n\pi x) dx$   
 $(\text{sep. of var.}) \Rightarrow u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n e^{-(n\pi)^2 t} \sin(n\pi x)$

Note: If we want  $u(x,0) \rightarrow 0$  the initial  $u(x,T)$  must be extremely smooth,  $f_n \rightarrow 0$  super-exponentially. This is not expected to occur in practice but this shows about the property of conductivity crucially depends on the spaces/norms chosen.

Integral Equations

In the last example:  $u(x,T) = \int_0^1 u(y,T) K(x,y) dy$   
 $u(x,0) = \int_0^1 u(y,0) K(x,y) dy$

$u(x,0) = \sum f_n \sin(n\pi x)$   
 $u(x,t) = \sum f_n \sin(n\pi x) e^{-t(n\pi)^2}$   
 $f_n = 2 \int_0^1 u(y,0) \sin(n\pi y) dy$   
 $K(x,y) = 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-t(n\pi)^2} \sin(n\pi x) \sin(n\pi y)$

This is a general form of problems of the form (heat kernel) (example of Fredholm function)

direct:  $\int_0^1 K(s,t) f(s) ds = g(t)$   $0 \leq t \leq 1$   
 inverse: find  $f$  given  $g$  (and  $K$ )

More generally, we want to analyze operator equations  $Af = g$ ,  $Ax = y$ ,  $x \in X$ ,  $y \in Y$  (function spaces)

we need some functional analysis (but not too heavy...)

Luckily, when  $A$  is an integral operator  $Af = \int K(s,t) f(s) ds$  it behaves "like an infinite matrix" with diagonal elements  $\rightarrow 0$ .

Hilbert space setting (rigorous treatment  $\Rightarrow$  FMA class)

$X$  is a Hilbert space of functions  $X = \{f \in [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ (or } \mathbb{C}) \mid \int |f|^2 dt < \infty\} = L^2[0,1]$

Inner product:  $f, g \in X$   $\langle f, g \rangle = \int fg$   
 completeness: even Cauchy seq. converges to an element of the space. Norm:  $\|f\| = \sqrt{\langle f, f \rangle} \geq 0$   
 $\|f\| = 0$  iff  $f = 0$  a.e.

Bounded operators  $X, Y$  Hilbert spaces (Banach or Banach sp.)  
 $A: X \rightarrow Y$  bounded if  $\exists C > 0$  s.t.  $\|Ax\| \leq C \|x\|$   $\forall x \in X$ .  
 operator norm:  $\|A\| = \sup_{\|x\|=1} \|Ax\| = \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|}{\|x\|}$

unbounded operators are much more difficult to treat [but e.g. Quantum Mechanics has a lot of them...]  
 Example: derivative op.

Continuous operators: if  $x \rightarrow y_n$  (i.e.  $\|x - y_n\| \rightarrow 0$ ) then  $Ax \rightarrow Ay$  (not intuitive)  
 Lemma:  $A$  linear op. is continuous iff it is continuous at 0 (or at  $x_0$ )  
 If:  $\Rightarrow A$  bdd  $\Rightarrow \|Ax\| \leq C \|x\| \rightarrow 0$   
 $\Leftarrow$  Suppose  $A$  is unbounded, then  $\exists \{x_n\}$  with  $\|x_n\| = 1$  but  $\|Ax_n\| \geq n$   
 Define  $y_n = \frac{x_n}{\|Ax_n\|}$   
 $\Rightarrow \|y_n\| \rightarrow 0$  but  $\|Ay_n\| = 1$

Compact operators:  $A$  is compact if  $\{Ax_n\}$  bdd,  $\{Ax_n\}$  contains a converging subsequence.  
 This is an extremely important notion. Effectively, analysis of compact operators can be reduced to linear algebra.  
 Non-compact example: identity op (provided  $X$  is infinite dimensional)

Orthonormal bases: we assume there exists an orthonormal basis  $\{e_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  of  $X$  (then the space is called separable)  
 Examples on  $L^2[0,1]$ : Fourier basis, orthogonal polynomials, ...  
 $\{ \|g_n - g_m\| = \sqrt{\langle g_n - g_m, g_n - g_m \rangle} = \sqrt{\|g_n\|^2 + \|g_m\|^2} = \sqrt{2}$   
 [Remark: compact  $\Rightarrow$  bounded] (but not vice versa.)

Adjoint operator  $A: X \rightarrow Y$ ,  $X, Y$  Hilbert spaces  
 $A$  bdd  $\Rightarrow \exists$  unique  $A^*: Y \rightarrow X$  s.t.  
 $\forall x \in X, y \in Y: \langle Ax, y \rangle_Y = \langle x, A^*y \rangle_X$

Lemma: Let  $K(s,t) \in L^2([0,1] \times [0,1])$ ,  $K$  real-valued (i.e.  $\int_0^1 \int_0^1 K(s,t) ds dt < \infty$ )  
 Then the op  $A: L^2[0,1] \rightarrow L^2[0,1]$  given by  $Af = \int_0^1 K(s,t) f(t) ds$  is a (bounded) compact operator.  
 Its adjoint is given by  $A^*g = \int_0^1 K(t,s) g(s) dt$   $a.s. \leq b$

Definition: a bdd op  $A$  is of finite rank if its range (i.e. the linear subspace  $\{Ax: x \in X\}$ ) is finite-dimensional.  
 Example: projection onto a finite  $k$  coordinates.  
 Proper: If  $\{A_n\}$  are compact and  $A_n \rightarrow A$  (in the operator norm) then  $A$  is compact.

Proof of lemma: consider the square of finite rank operators  $K_n(s,t) = \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^n c_{kl} e_k(s) e_l(t)$   
 $A_n f = \int_0^1 K_n(s,t) f(t) ds$   
 where  $\{e_k\}$  is an orthon. basis for  $L^2[0,1]$  ( $\langle e_k, e_l \rangle = \delta_{kl}$ )

Proposition:  $A: X \rightarrow Y$  compact,  $B: Y \rightarrow Z$  bounded  $\Rightarrow BA$  is compact ( $X \rightarrow Z$ )  
 Corollary: If  $A: X \rightarrow Y$  is compact then  $K^{-1}$  if exists, cannot be continuous (bounded).

Important tool - Operator SVD

Reminder:  $A$  normal ( $AA^* = A^*A$ )  $\in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  iff  $A$  has a complete set of orthonormal eigenvectors  $\{v_i\}$   
 $A v_i = \lambda_i v_i$

Singular value decomposition:  
 $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  ( $m \geq n$ )  $A: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$   
 $B = A^*A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  normal  
 $\{v_i, w_i\}$  orthonormal eigenvectors with  $\lambda_i$  values  $\{\lambda_i\}$   
 Take  $\lambda_i > 0$ , define  $u_i = \frac{A v_i}{\|A v_i\|}$   
 $\Rightarrow \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n: x = \sum_{i=1}^n \langle x, v_i \rangle v_i + Qx$ ,  $Q: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow N(A)$   
 $Ax = \sum_{i=1}^n \langle x, v_i \rangle u_i \|A v_i\|$   
 $\|A v_i\| = \|A^* v_i\| = \|A^* A v_i\| = \|\lambda_i v_i\| = |\lambda_i| \|v_i\|$   
 $A^* u_i = \frac{1}{\|A v_i\|} A^* A v_i = \frac{\lambda_i}{\|A v_i\|} v_i = \frac{\lambda_i}{|\lambda_i|} v_i = \pm v_i$   
 $\langle A v_i, u_j \rangle = \|A v_i\| \delta_{ij}$   
 $\langle \pm v_i, u_j \rangle = \pm \delta_{ij} = \delta_{ij}$   
 $\Rightarrow \langle v_i, u_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$   
 $\Rightarrow \{u_i\}$  orthonormal.

$$Ax = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \langle x, v_i \rangle u_i$$

$$A = U \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \lambda_n & \\ & & 0 \end{bmatrix} V^T$$
 (orth. columns) (orth. columns)

Analogue of eigendecomposition.  
 Spectral theorem for compact self-adjoint operators  
 $A: X \rightarrow X$ ,  $A^* = A$  ( $X$ -separable Hilbert sp.)  
 Then  $\exists$  orth. basis for  $X$ ,  $\{e_k\}$ , and a sequence  $\lambda_k \rightarrow 0$   
 s.t.  $A e_k = \lambda_k e_k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$   
 All eigenspaces for  $\lambda > 0$  are finite-dimensional.  
 $\{\lambda_k\}$  is called the spectrum ( $0 \in \text{Sp}(A)$  if  $A$  has a non-trivial kernel).  
 $\mathbb{R}$  plays the role of "frequency".

Proof: FMA class  
 Theorem (Operator SVD)  
 Let  $A: X \rightarrow Y$  compact. Let  $\{\mu_i\}$  be the non-zero singular values (square roots of the non-zero eigenvalues of  $A^*A$ ), repeated according to multiplicity.  
 $\text{mult}(\mu_i) = \dim X / (\mu_i^2 I - A^*A)$   
 Then  $\exists$  orth. sequences  $\{e_n\} \subset X$ ,  $\{f_n\} \subset Y$  s.t.  
 $A e_n = \mu_n f_n$ ,  $A^* f_n = \mu_n e_n$   
 right singular functions left singular functions

for each  $\varphi \in X$  there holds the SVD expansion  
 $\varphi = \sum \langle \varphi, e_n \rangle e_n + Q\varphi$ , where  $Q: X \rightarrow N(A)$  is the orthogonal projection onto  $N(A)$ , and  
 $A\varphi = \sum \mu_n \langle \varphi, e_n \rangle f_n$   
 Proof: proceeding as in the finite-dim. case, take  $\{e_k\}$  to be the orthonormal basis of eigenfunctions (non-zero eigenvalues  $\mu_k^2$ ) of  $A^*A$ , and put  $f_k = \frac{1}{\mu_k} A e_k$ .