

## CARLEMAN INTEGRAL OPERATORS AS MULTIPLICATION OPERATORS AND PERTURBATION THEORY

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we introduce a multiplication operation that allows us to give to the Carleman integral operator of second class [3, 8] the form of a multiplication operator. Also we establish the formal theory of perturbation of such operators.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

It is well known that the multiplication operators [1, 2] possess a very rich structure theory, such that these operators played an important role in the study of operators on Hilbert Spaces.

In this paper, we introduce a multiplication operation that allows us to give to the Carleman integral operator of second class [3, 8] the form of a multiplication operator.

In what follows, we shall assume that the reader is familiar with the fundamental results and the standard notation of the Integral operators theory [8–12]. Let  $X$  be an arbitrary set,  $\mu$  a  $\sigma$ -finite measure on  $X$  ( $\mu$  is defined on a  $\sigma$ -algebra of subsets of  $X$ , we don't indicate this  $\sigma$ -algebra),  $L_2(X, \mu)$  the Hilbert space of square integrable functions with respect to  $\mu$ . Instead of writing " $\mu$ -measurable", " $\mu$ -almost everywhere" and " $d\mu(x)$ " we write "measurable", "a.e." and " $dx$ ".

A linear operator  $A : D(A) \rightarrow L_2(X, \mu)$ , where the domain  $D(A)$  is a dense linear manifold in  $L_2(X, \mu)$ , is said to be integral if there exists a measurable function  $K$  on  $X \times X$ , a kernel, such that, for every  $f \in D(A)$ ,

$$(1.1) \quad Af(x) = \int_X K(x, y) f(y) dy \quad \text{a.e.}$$

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A kernel  $K$  on  $X \times X$  is said to be Carleman if  $K(x, y) \in L_2(X, \mu)$  for almost every fixed  $x$ , that is to say

$$\int_X |K(x, y)|^2 dy < \infty \text{ a.e.}$$

An integral operator  $A$  with a kernel  $K$  is called Carleman operator if  $K$  is a Carleman kernel. Every Carleman kernel  $K$  defines a Carleman function  $k$  from  $X$  to  $L_2(X, \mu)$  by  $k(x) = \overline{K(x, \cdot)}$  for all  $x$  in  $X$  for which  $K(x, \cdot) \in L_2(X, \mu)$ .

Now we consider the Carleman integral operator (1.1) of second class [3,8] generated by the following symmetric kernel

$$K(x, y) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \psi_n(x) \overline{\psi_n(y)},$$

where the overbar denotes the complex conjugation,  $(\psi_n(x))_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is an orthonormal sequence in  $L^2(X, \mu)$  such that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |\psi_n(x)|^2 < \infty \text{ a.e.,}$$

and  $(a_n)_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is a real number sequence verifying

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n^2 |\psi_n(x)|^2 < \infty \text{ a.e.}$$

We call  $(\psi_n(x))_{n=0}^{\infty}$  a Carleman sequence.

Moreover, we assume that there exists a numeric sequence  $(\gamma_n)_{n=0}^{\infty}$  such that

$$(1.2) \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \gamma_n \psi_n(x) = 0 \text{ a.e.,}$$

and

$$(1.3) \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left| \frac{\gamma_n}{a_n - \lambda} \right|^2 < \infty.$$

With the conditions (1.2) and (1.3), the symmetric operator  $A = (A^*)^*$  admits the defect indices (1, 1) (see [3–6]), and its adjoint operator is given by

$$A^* f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (f, \psi_n) \psi_n(x),$$

$$D(A^*) = \left\{ f \in L^2(X, \mu) : \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (f, \psi_n) \psi_n(x) \in L^2(X, \mu) \right\}.$$

Moreover, we have

$$\begin{cases} \varphi_\lambda(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\gamma_n}{a_n - \lambda} \psi_n(x) \in \mathfrak{N}_{\overline{\lambda}}, & \lambda \in \mathbb{C}, \lambda \neq a_n, n = 1, 2, \dots, \\ \varphi_{a_n}(x) = \psi_n(x), \end{cases}$$

$\mathfrak{N}_{\bar{\lambda}}$  being the defect space associated to  $\lambda$  (see [3,4]).

## 2. POSITION OPERATOR

Let  $\psi = (\psi_n)_{n=0}^{\infty}$  be a fixed Carleman sequence in  $L^2(X, \mu)$ . It is clear from the foregoing that  $\psi$  is not a complete sequence in  $L^2(X, \mu)$ . We set  $\mathfrak{L}_{\psi}$  the closure of the linear span of the sequence  $(\psi_n(x))_{n=0}^{\infty}$

$$\mathfrak{L}_{\psi} = \overline{\text{span} \{ \psi_n : n \in \mathbb{N} \}}.$$

We start this section by defining some formal spaces.

### 2.1. Formal Elements.

**Definition 2.1** ([7]). We call formal element any expression of the form

$$(2.1) \quad f = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} a_n \psi_n,$$

where the coefficients  $a_n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) are scalars.

The sequence  $(a_n)_n$  is said to generate the formal element  $f$ .

**Definition 2.2.** We say that  $f$  is the zero formal element and we note  $f = 0$  if  $a_n = 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

We say that two formal elements  $f = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} a_n \psi_n$  and  $g = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} b_n \psi_n$  are equal if  $a_n = b_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

If  $\varphi$  is a scalar function defined for each  $a_n$ , we set

$$\varphi \left( \sum_n a_n \psi_n \right) = \sum_n \varphi(a_n) \psi_n,$$

or in another form,

$$\varphi(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, \dots) = (\varphi(a_1), \varphi(a_2), \dots, \varphi(a_n), \dots).$$

For example let

$$\varphi(x) = \frac{1}{x}, \quad x \neq 0.$$

If  $a_n \neq 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then the formal element

$$\varphi \left( \sum_n a_n \psi_n \right) = \sum_n \frac{1}{a_n} \psi_n$$

is called inverse of the formal element  $f = \sum_n a_n \psi_n$ .

Furthermore, we define the conjugate of a formal element  $f$  by

$$\bar{f} = \sum_n \bar{a}_n \psi_n.$$

Denotes by  $\mathcal{F}_{\psi}$  the set of all formal elements (2.1). On  $\mathcal{F}_{\psi}$ , we define the following algebraic operations:

(a) the sum

$$+ : \quad \mathcal{F}_\psi \times \mathcal{F}_\psi \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_\psi \\ \left( \sum_n a_n \psi_n \right) + \left( \sum_n b_n \psi_n \right) = \sum_n (a_n + b_n) \psi_n ,$$

(b) and the product

$$\cdot : \quad \mathbb{C} \times \mathcal{F}_\psi \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_\psi \\ \lambda \cdot \left( \sum_n a_n \psi_n \right) = \sum_n (\lambda \cdot a_n) \psi_n .$$

Hence, we obtain a complex vector space structure for  $\mathcal{F}_\psi$ .

## 2.2. Bounded Formal Elements.

**Definition 2.3.** A formal element  $f = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} a_n \psi_n$  is bounded if its sequence  $(a_n)_n$  is bounded.

We denote by  $\mathcal{B}_\psi$  the set of all bounded formal elements. It's clear that  $\mathcal{B}_\psi$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{F}_\psi$ . We claim that:

- (a)  $\mathcal{L}_\psi$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{B}_\psi$ .
- (b) Furthermore we have the strict inclusions:

$$\mathcal{L}_\psi \subset \mathcal{B}_\psi \subset \mathcal{F}_\psi .$$

We define a linear form  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  on  $\mathcal{F}_\psi$  by setting

$$(2.2) \quad \left\langle \sum_n a_n \psi_n, \sum_n b_n \psi_n \right\rangle = \sum_n a_n \bar{b}_n ,$$

with the series converging on the right side.

**Proposition 2.1.** *The form (2.2) verifies the properties of scalar product.*

*Proof.* Indeed, let

$$f = \sum_n a_n \psi_n, \quad g = \sum_n b_n \psi_n, \quad f_1 = \sum_n a_n^1 \psi_n \quad \text{and} \quad f_2 = \sum_n a_n^2 \psi_n,$$

in  $\mathcal{F}_\psi$ .

We have then:

(a)

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \sum_n a_n \bar{b}_n = \overline{\sum_n b_n \bar{a}_n} = \overline{\langle g, f \rangle},$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \lambda f, g \rangle &= \left\langle \lambda \left( \sum_n a_n \psi_n \right), \sum_n b_n \psi_n \right\rangle = \left\langle \sum_n (\lambda a_n) \psi_n, \sum_n b_n \psi_n \right\rangle \\ &= \sum_n (\lambda a_n) \bar{b}_n = \lambda \left\langle \sum_n a_n \psi_n, \sum_n b_n \psi_n \right\rangle = \lambda \langle f, g \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

(c)

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f_1 + f_2, g \rangle &= \left\langle \sum_n (a_n^1 + a_n^2) \psi_n, \sum_n b_n \psi_n \right\rangle \\ &= \sum_n (a_n^1 + a_n^2) \bar{b}_n = \sum_n a_n^1 \bar{b}_n + \sum_n a_n^2 \bar{b}_n = \langle f_1, g \rangle + \langle f_2, g \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

(d)

$$\langle f, f \rangle = \sum_n |a_n|^2 \geq 0 \text{ and } \langle f, f \rangle > 0, \text{ if } f \neq 0.$$

□

*Remark 2.1.* On  $\mathcal{L}_\psi$ , the scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  coincides with the scalar product  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  of  $L^2(X, \mu)$ .

**2.3. The Multiplication Operation.** Here, we introduce the crucial tool of our work.

**Definition 2.4.** We call multiplication with respect to the Carleman sequence  $(\psi_n)_n$ , the operation denoted “ $\circ$ ” and defined by

$$f \circ g = \sum_n \langle f, \psi_n \rangle \langle g, \psi_n \rangle \psi_n = \sum_n a_n b_n \psi_n, \text{ for all } (f, g) \in \mathcal{F}_\psi^2.$$

**Definition 2.5.** We call position operator in  $\mathcal{L}_\psi$  any unitary selfadjoint operator satisfying

$$U(f \circ g) = Uf \circ Ug, \text{ for all } f, g \in \mathcal{L}_\psi.$$

The term “position operator” comes from the fact (as it will be shown in the following theorem) that for the elements of the sequence  $\psi = (\psi_n)_n$ , the operator  $U$  acts as operator of change of position of these elements.

#### 2.4. Main Results.

**Theorem 2.1.** *A linear operator defined on  $\mathcal{L}_\psi$  is a position operator if and only if there exists an involution  $j$  (i.e.  $j^2 = Id$ ) of the set  $\mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$*

$$(2.3) \quad U\psi_n = \psi_{j(n)}.$$

*Proof.*

- (a) It is easy to see that if (2.3) holds, then  $U$  is a position operator.
- (b) Let  $U$  be a position operator. According to Proposition 2.1 we can write:

$$U\psi_n = \sum_k \alpha_{n,k} \psi_k, \text{ with } \sum_k |\alpha_{n,k}|^2 = 1$$

since  $U\psi_n \in \mathcal{L}_\psi$ .

On the other hand, we have

$$(2.4) \quad \sum_k \alpha_{n,k} \psi_k = \sum_k \alpha_{n,k}^2 \psi_k$$

as

$$U\psi_n = U(\psi_n \circ \psi_n) = U\psi_n \circ U\psi_n.$$

The equalities (2.4) lead to the resolution of the system:

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{cases} \sum_n |\alpha_{n,k}|^2 = 1, \\ \alpha_{n,k}^2 = \alpha_{n,k}, \end{cases} \quad k \in \mathbb{N}.$$

We get then

$$\text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ there exists only one } k_n \in \mathbb{N} : \begin{cases} \alpha_{n,k_n} = 1, \\ \alpha_{n,k} = 0, \end{cases} \quad \text{for all } k \neq k_n.$$

Let us now consider the following application

$$\begin{aligned} j : \mathbb{N} &\rightarrow \mathbb{N}, \\ n &\mapsto j(n) = k_n. \end{aligned}$$

It's clear that  $j$  is injective.

Now let  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $U^2 = I$ , then

$$U(U\psi_m) = U\psi_{j(m)} = \psi_{j(j(m))} = \psi_m.$$

Hence

$$j(j(m)) = m.$$

Finally  $j$  is well defined as involution.  $\square$

*Remark 2.2.*

- (a) We emphasize that involution  $j$  depends of the operator  $U$ , i.e.  $j = j_U$ . We then write

$$U\psi_n = \psi_{j(n)} = \psi_{j_U(n)}$$

and

$$Uf = U\left(\sum_n a_n \psi_n\right) = \sum_n a_n \psi_{j(n)} = f_U.$$

- (b) The position operator  $U$  can be extended over  $\mathcal{F}_\psi$  as follows. If  $f = \sum_n a_n \psi_n \in \mathcal{F}_\psi$ , then

$$Uf = f_U = \sum_n a_n \psi_{j_U(n)}.$$

### 3. CARLEMAN OPERATOR IN $\mathcal{F}_\psi$

**3.1. Case of Defect Indices (1, 1).** Let  $\alpha = \sum_n \alpha_p \psi_p \in \mathcal{F}_\psi$ , we introduce the operator  $\overset{\circ}{A}_\alpha$  defined in  $\mathcal{L}_\psi$  by

$$\overset{\circ}{A}_\alpha f = \alpha \circ f = \sum_n \langle \alpha, \psi_n \rangle \langle f, \psi_n \rangle \psi_n.$$

It is clear that  $\overset{\circ}{A}_\alpha$  is a Carleman operator induced by the kernel

$$K(x, y) = \sum_n \alpha_n \psi_n(x) \overline{\psi_n(y)},$$

with domain

$$D(\overset{\circ}{A}_\alpha) = \left\{ f \in \mathcal{L}_\psi : \sum_n |\alpha_n(f, \psi_n)|^2 < \infty \right\}.$$

Moreover, if  $\alpha = \bar{\alpha}$ , then  $\overset{\circ}{A}_\alpha$  is selfadjoint.

Now let  $\Theta = \sum_n \gamma_n \psi_n \in \mathcal{F}_\psi$  and  $\Theta \notin \mathcal{L}_\psi$  (i.e.,  $\sum_n |\gamma_n|^2 = \infty$ ). We introduce the following set

$$(3.1) \quad \mathcal{H}_\Theta = \{f + \mu\Theta : f \in \mathcal{L}_\psi, \mu \in \mathbb{C}\},$$

which verify the following properties.

**Proposition 3.1.**

- (a)  $\mathcal{H}_\Theta$  is a subset of  $\mathcal{F}_\psi$ .
- (b)  $\mathcal{H}_\Theta = \mathcal{L}_\psi \oplus \mathbb{C}\Theta$ , i.e. direct sum of  $\mathcal{L}_\psi$  with  $\mathbb{C}\Theta = \{\mu\Theta : \mu \in \mathbb{C}\}$ .

*Proof.* The first property is easy to establish. We show the uniqueness for the second.

Let  $g_1 = f_1 + \mu_1\Theta$  and  $g_2 = f_2 + \mu_2\Theta$  two formal elements in  $\mathcal{H}_\Theta$ . Then

$$g_1 = g_2 \Leftrightarrow f_1 - f_2 = (\mu_2 - \mu_1)\Theta.$$

This last equality is verified only if  $\mu_2 = \mu_1$ . Therefore  $f_1 = f_2$ . □

Denote by  $Q$  the projector of  $\mathcal{H}_\Theta$  on  $\mathcal{L}_\psi$ , that is to say: if  $g \in \mathcal{H}_\Theta$ ,  $g = f + \mu\Theta$  with  $f \in \mathcal{L}_\psi$  and  $\mu \in \mathbb{C}$  then  $Qg = f$ .

We define the operator  $B_\alpha$  by

$$B_\alpha f = Q(\alpha \circ f), \quad f \in \mathcal{L}_\psi.$$

It is clear that,

$$D(B_\alpha) = \{f \in \mathcal{L}_\psi : \alpha \circ f \in \mathcal{H}_\Theta\}.$$

**Theorem 3.1.**  $B_\alpha$  is a densely defined and closed operator.

*Proof.*

(a) Since

$$\text{span} \{ \psi_n : n \in \mathbb{N} \} \subset D(B_\alpha)$$

and that  $(\psi_n)_n$  is complete in  $\mathcal{L}_\psi$ , then

$$\overline{D(B_\alpha)} = \mathcal{L}_\psi.$$

(b) Let  $(f_n)_n$ , be a sequence of elements in  $D(B_\alpha)$ . Checking

$$\begin{cases} f_n & \rightarrow f, \\ B_\alpha f_n & \rightarrow g, \end{cases} \quad (\text{convergence in the } L^2 \text{ sense}).$$

We have then

$$B_\alpha f_n = Q(\alpha \circ f_n),$$

with

$$\alpha \circ f_n = g_n + \mu_n \Theta, g_n \in \mathcal{L}_\psi.$$

Then

$$g_n = \alpha \circ f_n - \mu_n \Theta \in \mathcal{L}_\psi,$$

This implies that:

$$\langle g_n, \psi_m \rangle = \alpha_m \langle f_n, \psi_m \rangle - \mu_n \gamma_m \psi_m, \quad \text{for all } m \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Or, when  $n$  tends to  $\infty$ , we have:

$$g_n \rightarrow g \quad \text{and} \quad f_n \rightarrow f.$$

Therefore, there exist  $\mu \in \mathbb{C}$  such that:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu_n = \mu.$$

And as  $Q$  is a closed operator, then we can write

$$\alpha \circ f \in \mathcal{H}_\Theta \quad \text{and} \quad g = Q(\alpha \circ f).$$

Finally  $f \in D(B_\alpha)$  and  $g = B_\alpha f$ . □

It follows from this theorem that the adjoint operator  $B_\alpha^*$  exists and  $B_\alpha^{**} = B_\alpha$ . Let us denote by  $A_\alpha$ , the operator adjoint of  $B_\alpha$

$$A_\alpha = B_\alpha^*.$$

In the case  $\alpha = \bar{\alpha}$ , the operator  $A_\alpha$  is symmetric and we have the following results.

**Theorem 3.2.**  $A_\alpha$  admits defect indices  $(1, 1)$  if and only if

$$\varphi_\lambda = (\alpha - \lambda)^{-1} \circ \Theta \in \mathcal{L}_\psi.$$

In this case  $\varphi_\lambda \in \mathcal{N}_{\bar{\lambda}}$  (defect space associated with  $\lambda$ , [3]).

*Proof.* We know (see [3]) that  $A_\alpha$  has the defect indices  $(1, 1)$  if and only if, its defect subspaces  $\mathcal{N}_{\bar{\lambda}}$  and  $\mathcal{N}_\lambda$  are unidimensional.

We have

$$\mathcal{N}_{\bar{\lambda}} = \ker(A_\alpha^* - \lambda I) = \ker(B_\alpha - \lambda I).$$

So it suffices to solve the system

$$\begin{cases} B_\alpha \varphi_\lambda = \lambda \varphi_\lambda, \\ \varphi_\lambda \in \mathcal{L}_\psi, \end{cases}$$

i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{cases} Q(\alpha \circ \varphi_\lambda) = \lambda \varphi_\lambda, \\ \varphi_\lambda \in \mathcal{L}_\psi, \end{cases} & \iff \begin{cases} (\alpha \circ \varphi_\lambda) = \lambda \varphi_\lambda + \mu \Theta, \mu \in \mathbb{C}, \\ \varphi_\lambda \in \mathcal{L}_\psi, \end{cases} \\ & \iff \begin{cases} (\alpha - \lambda) \circ \varphi_\lambda = \Theta, \\ \varphi_\lambda \in \mathcal{L}_\psi, \end{cases} \\ & \iff \begin{cases} \varphi_\lambda = (\alpha - \lambda)^{-1} \circ \Theta, \\ \varphi_\lambda \in \mathcal{L}_\psi. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

□

**3.2. Case of Defect Indices  $(m, m)$ .** In this section we give the generalization for the case of defect indices  $(m, m)$ , where  $m > 1$ .

Let  $\Theta_1, \Theta_2, \dots, \Theta_m$ , (where  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ) formal elements not belonging to  $\mathcal{L}_\psi$  and let

$$\mathcal{H}_\Theta = \left\{ f + \sum_{k=1}^m \mu_k \Theta_k, \quad f \in \mathcal{L}_\psi, \mu_k \in \mathbb{C}, \quad k = 1, \dots, m \right\}.$$

We consider the operator  $B_\alpha$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} B_\alpha f &= Q(\alpha \circ f), \quad \text{for } f \in D(B_\alpha), \\ D(B_\alpha) &= \{f \in \mathcal{L}_\psi : \alpha \circ f \in \mathcal{H}_\Theta\}. \end{aligned}$$

We assume that  $\alpha = \bar{\alpha}$  and we set

$$A_\alpha = B_\alpha^*.$$

By analogy to the case of defect indices  $(1, 1)$  we also have the following.

**Theorem 3.3.** *The operator  $B_\alpha$  is densely defined and closed.*

**Theorem 3.4.** *The operator  $A_\alpha$  admits defect indices  $(m, m)$  if and only if*

$$\varphi_\lambda^{(k)} = (\alpha - \lambda) \circ \Theta_k \in \mathcal{L}_\psi, \quad k = 1, \dots, m.$$

*In this case the functions  $\varphi_\lambda^{(k)}$  ( $k = 1, \dots, m$ ) are linearly independent and generate the defect space  $\mathcal{N}_{\bar{\lambda}}$ .*

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