

Introduction to Noncommutative Geometry Spectral Triples and Dirac Operators

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Spectral Triples

Definition (Baaj-Julg, Connes)

A **spectral triple** $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{H}, D)$ consists of

- A Hilbert space \mathcal{H} .
- A **unital** $*$ -subalgebra $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$.
- A **selfadjoint** operator D on \mathcal{H} such that:
 - (i) It has compact resolvent, i.e., $(D + i)^{-1}$ is a compact operator.
 - (ii) $a(\text{dom}(D)) \subseteq \text{dom}(D)$ and $[D, a] \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ for all $a \in \mathcal{A}$.

Remark

- The compactness of the resolvent of D and its selfadjointness ensure that the spectrum of D consists of isolated real eigenvalues with finite multiplicity.
- In particular, $\dim \ker D < \infty$, and so D is a Fredholm operator.

Definition

A spectral triple $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{H}, D)$ is **p -summable** with $p > 0$ if $|D|^{-1} \in \mathcal{L}^{p,\infty}$, i.e., $\lambda_j(|D|^{-1}) = O(j^{-1/p})$.

Remark

- p -summability implies that $\text{Tr}[|D|^{-q}] < \infty$ for all $q > p$.
- Degree of summability \simeq dimension of $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{H}, D)$.

Spectral Triples – Dirichlet/Neumann Examples

Setup

$\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, $n \geq 2$, bounded domain with smooth boundary.

Example

$$\left(C_c^\infty(\Omega) \oplus \mathbb{C}, L^2(\Omega), \sqrt{\Delta} \right),$$

where Δ is the (positive) Dirichlet/Neumann Laplacian.

Reminder

- The Dirichlet problem is the boundary value problem,

$$\Delta u = v \quad \text{on } \Omega, \quad u = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega.$$

- The Neumann problem is the boundary value problem,

$$\Delta u = v \quad \text{on } \Omega, \quad \partial_\nu u = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega,$$

where ∂_ν is the normal derivative.

Spectral Triples – Riemannian Examples

Setup

(M^n, g) closed Riemannian manifold.

Example

$$\left(C^\infty(M), L^2(M), \sqrt{\Delta_g} \right),$$

where $\Delta_g = d^*d$ is the Laplacian of (M, g)

Example (Pseudodifferential Operators)

$$\left(\Psi^0(M), L^2(M), \sqrt{\Delta_g} \right),$$

where $\Psi^0(M)$ = algebra of **pseudodifferential operators** of order 0.

Remark

These spectral triples are n -summable.

Example (Dirichlet to Neumann)

If $M = \partial X$ and $\Lambda_g = \text{Dirichlet to Neumann operator}$, then

$$(C^\infty(M), L^2(M), \Lambda_g)$$

is a spectral triple.

Remark

If $u \in C^\infty(M)$, then by definition

$$\Lambda_g u = \partial_\nu \tilde{u} \quad \text{on } M = \partial X,$$

where \tilde{u} is the unique harmonic extension of u to X .

Even Spectral Triples

Definition

A spectral $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{H}, D)$ is called an **even spectral triple** if there is a \mathbb{Z}_2 -grading operator $\gamma \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ such that

$$\gamma^2 = -1, \quad \gamma^* = \gamma, \quad D\gamma = -\gamma D, \quad a\gamma = \gamma a \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{A}.$$

Remark

- Equivalently, there is an orthogonal splitting $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}^+ \oplus \mathcal{H}^-$ s.t.

$$\gamma|_{\mathcal{H}^\pm} = \text{id}_{\mathcal{H}^\pm}, \quad D(\text{dom}(D) \cap \mathcal{H}^\pm) \subseteq \mathcal{H}^\mp, \quad a(\mathcal{H}^\pm) \subseteq \mathcal{H}^\pm.$$

- With respect to this splitting D takes the form,

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & D^- \\ D^+ & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad D^\pm : \text{dom}(D) \cap \mathcal{H}^\pm \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^\mp.$$

- The selfadjointness of D then means that $(D^\pm)^* = D^\mp$.

Remark

Let $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{H}, D)$ be an even spectral triple.

- With respect to the splitting $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}^+ \oplus \mathcal{H}^-$ the operator D takes the form,

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & D^- \\ D^+ & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad D^- = (D^+)^*.$$

- We then have

$$\ker D = \ker D^+ \oplus \ker D^-.$$

Definition

The (Fredholm) **index** of D is

$$\text{ind}(D) := \dim \ker D^+ - \dim \ker D^-.$$

de Rham Spectral Triple

Setup

- M^n is a compact oriented Riemannian manifold (n even).
- $d : C^\infty(M, \Lambda^k T^*M) \rightarrow C^\infty(M, \Lambda^{k+1} T^*M)$ is the de Rham differential with adjoint d^* .

Remark

$$\Lambda^* T^*M = \Lambda^{\text{ev}} T^*M \oplus \Lambda^{\text{odd}} T^*M.$$

Proposition

The following is an even spectral triple,

$$(C^\infty(M), L^2(M, \Lambda^* T^*M), d + d^*),$$

with $L^2(M, \Lambda^ T^*M) = L^2(M, \Lambda^{\text{ev}} T^*M) \oplus L^2(M, \Lambda^{\text{odd}} T^*M)$.*

Remark

We have

$$\operatorname{ind}(d + d^*) := \dim \ker \left[(d + d^*)|_{\Lambda^{\text{ev}}} \right] - \dim \ker \left[(d + d^*)|_{\Lambda^{\text{odd}}} \right].$$

Definition (Euler Characteristic $\chi(M)$)

$$\chi(M) := \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \dim H^k(M),$$

where $H^k(M)$ is the de Rham cohomology of M .

Chern-Gauss-Bonnet Theorem

Theorem (Chern-Gauss-Bonnet)

We have

$$\chi(M) = \text{ind}(d + d^*) = (2i\pi)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \int_M \text{Pf}(R^M),$$

where $\text{Pf}(R^M)$ is the *Pfaffian* of the curvature R^M of M .

Remark

In particular, for $n = 2$ we recover the Gauss-Bonnet theorem,

$$\chi(M) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_M \kappa_g(x) dv_g(x),$$

where $\kappa_g(x)$ is the scalar curvature of M .

Signature Spectral Triple

Setup

- (M^n, g) compact oriented Riemannian manifold (n even).

Definition (Hodge Operator)

The operator $\star : \Lambda^k T^*M \rightarrow \Lambda^{n-k} T^*M$ is defined by

$$\star \alpha \wedge \beta = \langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \text{Vol}_g(x) \quad \forall \alpha, \beta \in \Lambda^k T_x^*M,$$

where $\text{Vol}_g(x)$ is the volume form of M .

Remark

As $\star^2 = 1$, there is a splitting

$$\Lambda^* T^*M = \Lambda^+ \oplus \Lambda^-, \quad \text{with } \Lambda^\pm := \{\alpha; \star \alpha = \pm \alpha\}.$$

Proposition

The following is an even spectral triple,

$$(C^\infty(M), L^2(M, \Lambda^* T^* M), d - \star d \star),$$

with $L^2(M, \Lambda^ T^* M) = L^2(M, \Lambda^+) \oplus L^2(M, \Lambda^-)$.*

Remark

We have

$$\text{ind}(d - \star d \star) := \dim \ker \left[(d - \star d \star)_{|\Lambda^+} \right] - \dim \ker \left[(d - \star d \star)_{|\Lambda^-} \right].$$

Definition (Signature $\sigma(M)$)

If $n = 4p$, then $\sigma(M)$ of M is the signature of the bilinear form,

$$H^{\frac{n}{2}}(M) \times H^{\frac{n}{2}}(M) \ni (\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow \int_M \alpha \wedge \beta.$$

Theorem (Hirzebruch)

We have

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma(M) &= \text{ind}(d - \star d \star) \quad \text{if } n = 4p, \\ &= (i\pi)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \int_M L(R^M),\end{aligned}$$

where $L(R^M) := \det^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[\frac{R^M/2}{\tanh(R^M/2)} \right]$ is the *L-form* of the curvature R^M .

Setup

- M^n compact Kähler manifold ($n =$ complex dimension).
- $\Lambda^{0,q} T^* M := \text{Span} \{ d\bar{z}_{k_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge d\bar{z}_{k_q} \}$ is the bundle of anti-holomorphic q -forms.
- $\bar{\partial} : C^\infty(M, \Lambda^{0,q} T^* M) \rightarrow C^\infty(M, \Lambda^{0,q+1} T^* M)$ is the Dolbeault differential with adjoint $\bar{\partial}^*$.

Remark

$$\Lambda^{0,*} T^* M = \Lambda^{0,\text{ev}} T^* M \oplus \Lambda^{0,\text{odd}} T^* M.$$

Proposition

The following is an even spectral triple,

$$\left(C^\infty(M), L^2(M, \Lambda^{0,*} T^*M), \bar{\partial} + \bar{\partial}^* \right),$$

with $L^2(M, \Lambda^{0,} T^*M) = L^2(M, \Lambda^{0,\text{ev}} T^*M) \oplus L^2(M, \Lambda^{0,\text{odd}} T^*M)$.*

Remark

We have

$$\mathrm{ind}(\bar{\partial} + \bar{\partial}^*) := \dim \ker \left[(\bar{\partial} + \bar{\partial}^*)|_{\Lambda^{0,\mathrm{ev}}} \right] - \dim \ker \left[(\bar{\partial} + \bar{\partial}^*)|_{\Lambda^{0,\mathrm{odd}}} \right].$$

Definition (Holomorphic Euler Characteristic)

$$\chi(M) := \sum_{q=0}^n (-1)^q \dim H^{0,q}(M),$$

where $H^{0,q}(M)$ is the Dolbeault cohomology of M .

Hirzebruch-Riemann-Roch Theorem

Theorem (Hirzebruch-Riemann-Roch)

We have

$$\chi(M) = \operatorname{ind} \left(\bar{\partial} + \bar{\partial}^* \right) = (2i\pi)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \int_M \operatorname{Td} (R^{1,0}),$$

where $\operatorname{Td} (R^{1,0}) := \det \left[\frac{R^{1,0}}{e^{R^{1,0}} - 1} \right]$ is the *Todd form* of the holomorphic curvature $R^{1,0}$ of M .

The Dirac Operator

Fact

On \mathbb{R}^n the square root $\sqrt{\Delta}$ is a Ψ DO, but not a differential operator.

Dirac's Idea

Seek for a square root of Δ as a differential operator with **matrix** coefficients,

$$\mathcal{D} = \sum c^j \partial_j.$$

Dirac Operator on \mathbb{T}^n

Setup

- n is even and $N = 2^{[n/2]}$.
- $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n$ are skew-adjoint matrices in $M_N(\mathbb{C})$ satisfying the **Clifford relations**,

$$\gamma_j \gamma_k + \gamma_k \gamma_j = -2\delta_{jk}, \quad j, k = 1, \dots, n.$$

- $L^2(\mathbb{T}^n; \mathbb{C}^N)$ is a Hilbert space with inner-product,

$$\langle u | v \rangle = (2\pi)^{-n} \int_{\mathbb{T}^n} (u(x) | v(x)) dx,$$

where $(\cdot | \cdot)$ is the standard Hermitian inner-product of \mathbb{C}^N .

Remark

The Clifford relations mean that

$$\gamma_j^2 = -1, \quad \gamma_j \gamma_k = -\gamma_k \gamma_j, \quad j \neq k.$$

Definition

The **Dirac operator** $\mathcal{D} : C^\infty(\mathbb{T}^n; \mathbb{C}^N) \rightarrow C^\infty(\mathbb{T}^n; \mathbb{C}^N)$ is defined by

$$\mathcal{D} := \gamma_1 \partial_{x_1} + \cdots + \gamma_n \partial_{x_n}.$$

Proposition

- ① We have

$$\mathcal{D}^2 = \Delta,$$

where $\Delta := -(\partial_{x_1}^2 + \cdots + \partial_{x_n}^2)$ is the (positive) Laplacian.

- ② The Dirac operator \mathcal{D} is a (formally) selfadjoint first order elliptic differential operator.

Dirac Operator on \mathbb{T}^n

Definition

Assume n is even. The **chirality operator** is

$$\gamma := i^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_n.$$

Lemma

Assume n is even. We have

$$\gamma^2 = 1, \quad \gamma^* = \gamma, \quad \not{D}\gamma = -\gamma\not{D}.$$

Remark

- We then get splitting $\mathbb{C}^N = \mathcal{S}^+ \oplus \mathcal{S}^-$, where

$$\mathcal{S}^\pm := \{\xi \in \mathbb{C}^N; \gamma\xi = \pm\xi\}.$$

- This yields an orthogonal splitting,

$$L^2(\mathbb{T}^n; \mathbb{C}^N) = L^2(\mathbb{T}^n; \mathcal{S}^+) \oplus L^2(\mathbb{T}^n; \mathcal{S}^-).$$

Dirac Spectral Triple for \mathbb{T}^n

Proposition

- ① *The following is a spectral triple,*

$$\left(C^\infty(\mathbb{T}^n), L^2(\mathbb{T}^n; \mathbb{C}^N), \not{D} \right),$$

- ② *If n is even, then this is an even spectral triple, with*

$$L^2(\mathbb{T}^n; \mathbb{C}^N) = L^2(\mathbb{T}^n; \mathcal{S}^+) \oplus L^2(\mathbb{T}^n; \mathcal{S}^-).$$

Remark

- $\ker \not{D} = (\ker \Delta) \otimes \mathbb{C}^N$ consists of constant maps $u : \mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^N$.
- If n is even, then $\ker \not{D}^\pm \simeq \mathcal{S}^\pm$.
- As $\dim \mathcal{S}^- = \dim \mathcal{S}^+$, we then get

$$\text{ind } \not{D} = \dim \ker \not{D}^+ - \dim \ker \not{D}^- = \dim \mathcal{S}^+ - \dim \mathcal{S}^- = 0.$$

The Dirac Operator

Definition

The **Clifford algebra** of \mathbb{R}^n is the \mathbb{C} -algebra $\text{Cl}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ generated by the canonical basis vectors e^1, \dots, e^n of \mathbb{R}^n with relations,

$$e^i e^j + e^j e^i = -2\delta^{ij}.$$

Remark

Any Euclidean space $(V, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ defines a Clifford algebra.

Denote by $\Lambda_{\mathbb{C}}^{\bullet} \mathbb{R}^n$ the complexified exterior algebra of \mathbb{R}^n .

Proposition

There is a linear isomorphism $c : \Lambda_{\mathbb{C}}^{\bullet} \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \text{Cl}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ given by

$$c(e^{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge e^{i_k}) = e^{i_1} \cdots e^{i_k}, \quad 1 \leq i_1 < \cdots < i_k \leq n.$$

Remark

This is not an isomorphism of algebras, e.g., for all $\xi, \eta \in \mathbb{R}^n$, we have $c^{-1}(c(\xi)c(\eta)) = \xi \wedge \eta - \langle \xi, \eta \rangle$.

Corollary

There is a \mathbb{Z}_2 -grading,

$$\mathrm{Cl}(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathrm{Cl}^+(\mathbb{R}^n) \oplus \mathrm{Cl}^-(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad \mathrm{Cl}^\pm(\mathbb{R}^n) := c(\Lambda_{\mathbb{C}}^{\mathrm{ev}/\mathrm{odd}} \mathbb{R}^n).$$

Remark

$\mathrm{Cl}^+(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is a subalgebra of $\mathrm{Cl}(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

Theorem

- ① $Cl(\mathbb{R}^n)$ has a unique irreducible representation,

$$\rho : Cl(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \text{End}(\mathcal{S}_n),$$

where \mathcal{S}_n is the space of spinors of \mathbb{R}^n .

- ② If n is even, then this rise to an algebra-isomorphism,

$$Cl(\mathbb{R}^n) \simeq \text{End}(\mathcal{S}_n).$$

- ③ If n is odd, then we get an algebra-isomorphism,

$$Cl^+(\mathbb{R}^n) \simeq \text{End}(\mathcal{S}_n).$$

Remark

- If n is even, then, as $\text{Cl}(\mathbb{R}^n) \simeq \text{End}(\mathcal{S}_n)$, we have

$$\dim \text{Cl}(\mathbb{R}^n) = \dim \text{End}(\mathcal{S}_n) = (\dim \mathcal{S}_n)^2.$$

- As $\dim \text{Cl}(\mathbb{R}^n) = 2^n$, we deduce that

$$\dim \mathcal{S}_n = (\dim \text{Cl}(\mathbb{R}^n))^{\frac{1}{2}} = 2^{\frac{n}{2}}.$$

- If n is odd, then, as $\text{End}(\mathcal{S}_n) \simeq \text{Cl}^+(\mathbb{R}^n)$, we have

$$\dim \mathcal{S}_n = (\dim \text{Cl}^+(\mathbb{R}^n))^{\frac{1}{2}} = 2^{\frac{n-1}{2}}.$$

Chirality Operator

Definition

Assume n is even. The **chirality operator** is

$$\gamma := i^{\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)} c(e^1) \cdots c(e^n).$$

Proposition

- ① *The chirality operator defines a \mathbb{Z}_2 -grading,*

$$\mathcal{S}_n = \mathcal{S}_n^+ \oplus \mathcal{S}_n^-, \quad \mathcal{S}_n^\pm := \{\xi \in \mathcal{S}_n; \gamma\xi = \pm\xi\}.$$

- ② *This \mathbb{Z}_2 -grading is preserved by the action of $\text{Cl}^+(\mathbb{R}^n)$.*
- ③ *The action of $\text{Cl}^-(\mathbb{R}^n)$ maps \mathcal{S}_n^\pm to \mathcal{S}_n^\mp .*

Spin Group $\text{Spin}(n)$

Definition

The spin group $\text{Spin}(n)$ is the double cover of $\text{SO}(n)$,

$$\{\pm 1\} \rightarrow \text{Spin}(n) \rightarrow \text{SO}(n) \rightarrow \{1\}.$$

Remark

The spin group $\text{Spin}(n)$ can be realized as the Lie group of some Lie algebra contained in $\text{Cl}^+(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

Proposition

The spinor representation splits into the half-spin representations,

$$\rho_{\pm} : \text{Spin}(n) \longrightarrow \text{End}(\mathcal{S}_n^{\pm}).$$

The Dirac Operator

Setup

(M^n, g) is an oriented Riemannian manifold.

Definition

The **Clifford bundle** of M is the bundle of algebras,

$$\text{Cl}(M) = \bigsqcup_{x \in M} \text{Cl}(T_x^* M),$$

where $\text{Cl}(T_x^* M)$ is the Clifford algebra of $(T_x^* M, g^{-1})$.

Remarks

- There is a quantization map,

$$c : \Lambda_{\mathbb{C}}^{\bullet} T^*M \longrightarrow \text{Cl}(M).$$

- This is an isomorphism of vector bundles, but not an isomorphism of algebra bundles.
- There is also a splitting,

$$\text{Cl}(M) = \text{Cl}^+(M) \oplus \text{Cl}^-(M), \quad \text{Cl}^{\pm}(M) = c \left(\Lambda^{\text{ev/odd}} T_{\mathbb{C}}^*M \right).$$

- Here $\text{Cl}^+(M)$ is a sub-bundle of algebras of $\text{Cl}(M)$.

Spin Structure

Definition

A **spin structure** on M is a reduction of its structure group from $SO(n)$ to $Spin(n)$.

Remark

This means there is a $Spin(n)$ -principal bundle such that T^*M is isomorphic to the associated bundle $Spin(M) \times_{Spin(n)} \mathbb{R}^n$.

Proposition

Assume M is oriented. Then M has a spin structure if and only if its 2nd Stieffel-Whitney characteristic class vanishes.

Spin Structure

Theorem

If M has a spin structure, then there is an associated spinor bundle $\mathcal{S} = \text{Spin}(M) \times_{\text{Spin}(n)} \mathcal{S}_n$ (called *spinor bundle*) such that:

- 1 If n is even, then $\text{Cl}(M) \simeq \text{End } \mathcal{S}$.
- 2 If n is odd, then $\text{Cl}^+(M) \simeq \text{End } \mathcal{S}$.
- 3 The Riemannian metric lifts to a Hermitian metric on \mathcal{S} .
- 4 The Levi-Civita connection lifts to a connection $\nabla^{\mathcal{S}}$ on \mathcal{S} (called *spin connection*) compatible with its Hermitian metric.

Theorem

Assume n is even. Then:

- 1 We have an orthogonal \mathbb{Z}_2 -grading $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{S}^+ \oplus \mathcal{S}^-$, with $\mathcal{S}^{\pm} = \text{Spin}(M) \times_{\text{Spin}(n)} \mathcal{S}_n^{\pm}$.
- 2 The spin connection $\nabla^{\mathcal{S}}$ preserves this \mathbb{Z}_2 -grading.

The Dirac Operator

Setup

(M^n, g) is a spin oriented Riemannian manifold.

Definition (Dirac operator)

The **Dirac operator** $\not{D} : C^\infty(M, \mathcal{S}) \rightarrow C^\infty(M, \mathcal{S})$ is the composition,

$$\begin{aligned} \not{D} : C^\infty(M, \mathcal{S}) &\xrightarrow{\nabla^{\mathcal{S}}} C^\infty(M, \mathcal{S} \otimes T^*M) \longrightarrow C^\infty(M, \mathcal{S}) \\ \sigma \otimes \xi &\longrightarrow c(\xi)\sigma, \end{aligned}$$

where $c(\xi) \in \text{Cl}_x(M)$ is identified with an element of $\text{End } \mathcal{S}_x$.

Remark

- If n is even, then $\not{D}\gamma = -\gamma\not{D}$.
- Thus, with respect to the splitting $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{S}^+ \oplus \mathcal{S}^-$, the Dirac operator takes the form,

$$\not{D} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \not{D}^- \\ \not{D}^+ & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \not{D}^\pm : C^\infty(M, \mathcal{S}^\pm) \rightarrow C^\infty(M, \mathcal{S}^\mp).$$

The Dirac Operator

Proposition (Lichnerowicz Formula)

We have

$$\not{D}^2 = (\nabla^g)^* \nabla^g + \frac{1}{4} \kappa_g,$$

where $(\nabla^g)^* \nabla^g$ is the connection Laplacian and κ_g is the scalar curvature of (M, g) .

Proposition

The Dirac operator \not{D} is a (formally) selfadjoint first order elliptic differential operator.

Remark

If n is even, then \not{D}^- is the (formal) adjoint of \not{D}^+ .

Proposition

Assume M is a compact spin oriented Riemannian manifold. Then:

- ① The following is a spectral triple,

$$(C^\infty(M), L^2(M, \mathcal{S}), \mathcal{D}).$$

- ② If n is even, then this is an even spectral triple, with

$$L^2(M, \mathcal{S}) = L^2(M, \mathcal{S}^+) \oplus L^2(M, \mathcal{S}^-).$$

Theorem (Atiyah-Singer)

If n is even, then

$$\text{ind } \mathcal{D} = (2i\pi)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \int_M \hat{A}(R^M),$$

where $\hat{A}(R^M) := \det^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[\frac{R^M/2}{\sinh(R^M/2)} \right]$ is the \hat{A} -form of the curvature R^M .

Non-Unital Spectral Triples

Definition

A **non-unital spectral triple** $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{H}, D)$ consists of

- A Hilbert space \mathcal{H} .
- A (possibly non-unital) $*$ -subalgebra $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$.
- A **selfadjoint** operator D on \mathcal{H} such that:
 - (i) $a(1 + D^2)^{-1}$ is a compact operator for all $a \in \mathcal{A}$.
 - (ii) $a(\text{dom}(D)) \subseteq \text{dom}(D)$ and $[D, a] \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ for all $a \in \mathcal{A}$.

Remark

If \mathcal{A} is unital, we recover the definition of a (unital) spectral triple.

Definition

A non-unital spectral triple $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{H}, D)$ is **p -summable** if

$$a(1 + D^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \in \mathcal{L}^{p, \infty} \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{A}.$$

Spectral Triples on \mathbb{R}^n

Proposition

The following are n -summable non-unital spectral triples:

- $(C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n), L^2(\mathbb{R}^n), (1 + \Delta)^{1/2})$.
- $(C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n), L^2(\mathbb{R}^n), \sqrt{\Delta})$ if $n \geq 2$.

Definition

$\Psi_c^0(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is the algebra of compactly supported Ψ DOs on \mathbb{R}^n of order 0.

Proposition

The following are n -summable non-unital spectral triples:

- $(\Psi_c^0(\mathbb{R}^n), L^2(\mathbb{R}^n), (1 + \Delta)^{1/2})$.
- $(\Psi_c^0(\mathbb{R}^n), L^2(\mathbb{R}^n), \sqrt{\Delta})$ if $n \geq 2$.

Proposition

Let $\mathcal{D} : C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n; \mathcal{S}_n) \rightarrow C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n; \mathcal{S}_n)$ be the Dirac operator on \mathbb{R}^n .

- ① The following is an n -summable non-unital spectral triple,

$$(C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n), L^2(\mathbb{R}^n; \mathcal{S}_n), \mathcal{D}).$$

- ② If n is even, then this is an even spectral triple, with

$$L^2(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{S}_n) = L^2(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{S}_n^+) \oplus L^2(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{S}_n^-).$$