

# A Study of Closure of An Operator

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## ABSTRACT

In this paper first we generalize the Hilbert-Adjoint of a linear operator and showed that it is always closed for any linear operator with the condition that the domain of the operator is dense.

We also proved that "Let  $J$  be a closed operator defined in  $H$  with dense domain then  $D(J^*)$  is dense and  $J^{**} = J$ ."

We also prove Closed graph theorem for complex Hilbert spaces as a corollary of our results.

**Keywords:** Separable, Closable, Closure, Operator extension.

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## INTRODUCTION

In this Paper we take  $H$  as the complex Hilbert space and  $D(J)$  denotes the domain of a linear operator  $J$ .

In section 1 we generalize the Hilbert-Adjoint for any linear operator with dense domain in  $H$  and prove

"If  $J$  is defined everywhere on  $H$ . Then its Hilbert-adjoint is bounded."

In section 2 we first define closable operators and show with the help of an example that every operator need not be closable and if it is closable then graph of its closure is equal to the closure of its graph.

In Section 3 we proved our result "Let  $J$  be a closed operator defined in  $H$  with dense domain then  $D(J^*)$  is dense and  $J^{**} = J$ ."

As a result of which Closed graph Theorem for Complex Hilbert Spaces comes out as Corollary.

## 1 Hilbert-Adjoint

**1.1 Definition:** Let  $J : H \rightarrow H$  be a bounded operator then its Hilbert adjoint always exists [2] and is also a bounded linear operator  $J^*$  defined everywhere on  $H$  such that

$$(J\phi, \psi) = (\phi, J^*\psi) \quad \forall \phi, \psi \in H$$

or

$$(J\phi, \psi) = (\phi, \eta) \quad \text{and} \quad J^*\psi = \eta \quad (1)$$

**1.2 Remark:** We can use (1) to generalize the Hilbert Adjoint of any operator.

**1.3 Lemma:** Let  $J : D(J) \rightarrow H$  be any operator then  $J^*\psi = \eta$  in (1) is unique iff

$$\overline{D(J)} = H. \quad (\text{i.e the domain of } J \text{ is dense in } H.)$$

**Proof:** Let  $J^*\psi = \eta$  in (1) is unique. Suppose  $D(J) \neq H$

$$\Rightarrow \exists 0 \neq \mu \in H \text{ such that}$$

$$\mu \perp \overline{D(J)} \Rightarrow \mu \perp D(J)$$

$$\Rightarrow (\phi, \mu) = 0 \quad \forall \phi \in D(J)$$

From (1) we have

$$\begin{aligned} (J\phi, \psi) &= (\phi, \eta) + 0 \\ &= (\phi, \eta) + (\phi, \mu) \\ &= (\phi, \eta + \mu) \quad \forall \phi \in D(J) \end{aligned}$$

Which contradicts the uniqueness of  $J : D(J) \rightarrow H$ . Hence  $D(J) = H$ .

Conversely

Let the domain of  $J$  is dense in  $H$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} (J\phi, \psi) &= (\phi, \eta) \\ &= (\phi, \eta + \mu) \quad \forall \phi \in D(J) \\ \Rightarrow (\phi, \mu) &= 0 \quad \forall \phi \in D(J) \\ \Rightarrow \mu \perp \overline{D(J)} &= \{0\} \end{aligned}$$

Hence unique.

**1.4 Remark:** Lemma 1.3 shows that Hilbert-Adjoint of any linear operator  $J$  exists iff the domain of  $J$  is dense. Now using this Lemma we generalize the definition of Hilbert-Adjoint for any linear operator.

**1.5 Definition** Let  $J : D(J) \rightarrow H$  be any linear operator whose domain is dense then its Hilbert-Adjoint exists and is a linear operator  $J^* : D(J^*) \rightarrow H$  such that  $D(J^*)$  contains all  $\psi \in H$  such that  $\exists \eta$  with  $(J\varphi, \psi) = (\varphi, \eta) \forall \varphi \in D(J)$  and  $J^*\psi = \eta$

**Proposition 1.6:** Let  $J$  be an operator defined everywhere on  $H$ . Then  $J^*$  is bounded.

**Proof:** Suppose  $J^*$  is unbounded. Then  $\exists$  a sequence  $(v_n)$  each of norm 1 and  $\|J^*v_n\| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . For each  $n$  define a functional  $P_n$  on  $H$  by  $P_n(\varphi) = (J\varphi, v_n) = (\varphi, J^*v_n)$ . By Schwarz Lemma [2] we have

$$\begin{aligned} |P_n(\varphi)| &= |(J\varphi, v_n)| \\ &\leq \|\varphi\| \|J^*v_n\| \quad \forall \varphi \in H \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore P_n$  is bounded for all  $n$ . For each  $\varphi \in H$  again by Schwarz Lemma we have

$$\begin{aligned} |P_n(\varphi)| &= |(J\varphi, v_n)| \\ &\leq \|\varphi\| \|J^*v_n\| \quad \forall n \end{aligned}$$

Then By Uniform Boundedness Theorem [1] the sequence  $\{\|P_n\|\}$  is bounded.

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \exists K > 0 \text{ such that} \\ \|P_n\| &\leq K \quad \forall n \\ \Rightarrow |(J^*v_n, J^*v_n)| &= |P_n(J^*v_n)| \\ &\leq \|P_n\| \|J^*v_n\| \\ &\leq K \|J^*v_n\| \\ \Rightarrow \|J^*v_n\| &\leq K \quad \forall n \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  the sequence  $(\|J^*v_n\|)$  is bounded which is a contradiction. Hence  $J^*$  is bounded.

**2. Closed Linear Extension:**

**2.1 Definition (Closed operator):** An Operator  $J : D(J) \rightarrow H$  is said to be closed if its graph  $v(J) = \{(\varphi, J\varphi) : \varphi \in D(J)\}$  is closed in  $H \times H$ , where the inner product on  $H \times H$  is given by

$$(\langle \varphi, \psi \rangle, \langle \eta, \mu \rangle) = (\varphi, \eta) + (\psi, \mu)$$

**Notation**  $\mathcal{J}$  is said to be an extension of  $J$  if

$$D(J) \subset D(\mathcal{J}) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{J}|_{D(J)} = J$$

or

$$v(J) \subset v(\mathcal{J})$$

denoted by  $J \subset \mathcal{J}$

**2.2 Definition (Closable):** A linear operator  $J$  is said to be closable if  $J$  has an extension which is closed.

If  $J$  is closable then  $J$  has a minimal closed extension called closure denoted by  $\overline{J}$ . [1] **2.3 Proposition:** if  $J$  be any closable operator then

$$v(J) = v(\overline{J})$$

**Proof:** Let  $J$  be any closable operator  $\Rightarrow \overline{J}$  exists.

Let  $L$  be any closed extension of  $J$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow v(J) &\subset v(L) \\ \Rightarrow \overline{v(J)} &\subset \overline{v(L)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow v(J) \subset v(L) \quad (\because L \text{ is closed})$$

Define an operator  $P$  with domain

$$\begin{aligned} D(P) &= \{\mu : \langle \mu, \eta \rangle \in v(J)\} \\ &\text{and} \\ P\mu &= \eta \end{aligned}$$

Claim:  $P$  is well defined

Let

$$P\mu = \eta_1 \quad \text{and} \quad P\mu = \eta_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \langle \mu, \eta_1 \rangle, \langle \mu, \eta_2 \rangle &\in \overline{v(J)} \\ \Rightarrow \langle 0, \eta_1 - \eta_2 \rangle &\in \overline{v(J)} \\ \Rightarrow \eta_1 &= \eta_2 \quad (\because \overline{v(J)} \subset v(L)) \end{aligned}$$

Hence well defined. Also

$$\begin{aligned} v(P) &= \overline{v(J)} \\ \Rightarrow P &\subset L \end{aligned}$$

As  $L$  is arbitrary. Therefore  $P$  is a minimal closed extension of  $J$

$$\Rightarrow P = \overline{J}. \text{ Hence the result.}$$

**2.4 Remark** A natural question arises here that if we want to take the closure of any linear operator  $J$  then we can take the closure of  $v(J)$  in  $H \times H$  then just find a operator

whose graph is equals to  $v(J)$ . But this is not always possible we constructed an Example 2.5 below.

**2.5 Example:** Let  $H$  be any separable Hilbert Space with countable orthonormal basis  $\{\eta_k\}$ . Let  $e$  be an element of  $H$  which is not a finite linear combination of  $\{\eta_k\}$ . Let

$$e = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_{k_n} \eta_{k_n} \quad (2)$$

Define an operator  $J : D(J) \rightarrow H$ , where

$D(J) =$  set of all the finite linear combination of  $\{\eta_k\}$  and  $e$  and

$$J(ae + \sum_{i=1}^N c_i \eta_i) = ae$$

Clearly  $J$  is linear

Claim:  $\langle e, e \rangle, \langle e, 0 \rangle \in v(J)$

As

$$e \in D(J) \quad \text{and} \quad Je = e$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \langle e, e \rangle &\in \overline{v(J)} \subset \overline{v(J)} \\ \Rightarrow \langle e, 0 \rangle &\in \overline{v(J)} \end{aligned}$$

Also, for each  $N$  define

$N$

$$\psi_N = \sum_{k=1}^N c_{k_n} \eta_{k_n} \in D(J) \quad \text{and} \quad J\psi_N = 0 \quad \forall N$$

$k=1$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \|\langle \psi_N, J\psi_N \rangle - \langle e, 0 \rangle\|^2 &= \|\langle \psi_N - e, 0 \rangle\|^2 \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty \quad (\because \\ \Rightarrow \langle e, 0 \rangle &\in \overline{v(J)} \end{aligned}$$

By (2))

Suppose  $\exists$  an operator  $L$  whose graph is  $v(J)$

$\Rightarrow Le = e$  and  $Le = 0$ . Which contradicts the uniqueness.

Hence there is no operator whose graph is  $v(J)$

### 3. Main Results

**Theorem 3.1** Let  $X: H \times H \rightarrow H \times H$  be an operator given by

$$X \langle \eta, \mu \rangle = \langle \mu, -\eta \rangle$$

. Then for any linear operator  $J$  defined in  $H$  with dense domain we have

$$v(J^*) = [X(v(J))]^\perp$$

Moreover  $J^*$  is closed

**Proof:** Clearly,  $X$  is linear.

Let  $\langle \eta, \mu \rangle \in H \times H$  Then  $\exists \langle -\mu, \eta \rangle \in H \times H$  such that

$$X \langle -\mu, \eta \rangle = \langle \eta, \mu \rangle$$

$\therefore X$  is surjective Also

$$\begin{aligned} \|X \langle \eta, \mu \rangle\|^2 &= \|\langle \mu, -\eta \rangle\|^2 \\ &= \|\mu\|^2 + \|\eta\|^2 \\ &= \|\langle \eta, \mu \rangle\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore X$  is a surjective isometry hence unitary

Claim:  $v(J^*) = [X(v(J))]^\perp$

Let

$$\langle \eta, \mu \rangle \in [X(v(J))]^\perp \Leftrightarrow \langle \langle \eta, \mu \rangle, X \langle \varphi, J\varphi \rangle \rangle = 0 \quad \forall \varphi \in D(J)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \langle \langle \eta, \mu \rangle, \langle J\varphi, -\varphi \rangle \rangle = 0 \quad \forall \varphi \in D(J)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \langle \eta, J\varphi \rangle = \langle \mu, \varphi \rangle \quad \forall \varphi \in D(J)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \langle J\varphi, \eta \rangle = \langle \varphi, \mu \rangle \quad \forall \varphi \in D(J)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \eta \in D(J^*), J^*\eta = \mu$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \langle \eta, \mu \rangle \in v(J^*)$$

As the graph is closed. Hence  $J^*$  is closed

**Theorem 3.2** Let  $J$  be a closed operator defined in  $H$  with dense domain then  $D(J^*)$  is dense and  $J^{**} = J$

**Proof:** As

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{v(J)} &= [v(J)^\perp]^\perp \\ &= [X^2 v(J)^\perp]^\perp \quad (\because X^2 \\ &= \text{Identity}) \\ &= [X(Xv(J)^\perp)]^\perp \quad (\because X \text{ is unitary}) \\ &= [Xv(J^*)]^\perp \quad (\because \text{By Theorem 3.1}) \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

As  $J$  is closed

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow J &= \overline{J} \\ \Rightarrow v(J) &= \overline{v(J)} \\ &= [Xv(J^*)]^\perp \end{aligned}$$

Suppose  $D(J^*)$  is not dense. Then  $\exists 0 \neq \eta$  such that

$$\langle \eta, \phi \rangle = 0 \quad \forall \phi \in \mathcal{D}(J^*)$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle \eta, \phi \rangle + \langle 0, J\phi \rangle = 0 \quad \forall \phi \in \mathcal{D}(J^*)$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle \langle \eta, 0 \rangle, \langle \phi, J\phi \rangle \rangle = 0 \quad \forall \phi \in \mathcal{D}(J^*)$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle -\eta, 0 \rangle \in [\mathcal{D}(J^*)]^\perp$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle 0, \eta \rangle \in [Xv(J^*)]^\perp$$

$$= \overline{v(J)}$$

As  $\eta \neq 0$  then there is no linear operator with graph  $v(J)$ . which is a contradiction to  $J$  is closed.

$\therefore D(J^*)$  is dense  $\Rightarrow J^{**}$  exists. Then from Theorem 3.1 and (3) we have

$$\begin{aligned} v(J^{**}) &= [Xv(J^*)]^\perp = v(J) \\ &\Rightarrow J = J^{**} \end{aligned}$$

**Corollary 3.3: (Closed graph Theorem)** A closed operator  $J$  defined everywhere on  $H$  then  $J$  is bounded.

**Proof:** As  $J$  is a linear operator defined everywhere on  $H$ . Then  $J^*$  exists and By Proposition 1.6 it is also bounded.

Also By Theorem 3.1 we have  $J^*$  is closed  $\Rightarrow D(J^*)$  is closed [2]. By Theorem 3.2 we have

$$\overline{\mathcal{D}(J^*)} = \mathcal{H}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{D}(J^*) = \mathcal{H}$$

$$\text{and } J^{**} = J$$

$\Rightarrow J^*$  is defined everywhere on  $H$ .

Then again By Proposition 1.6 we have  $J^{**}$  is bounded

Hence  $J$  is bounded

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