



# ON ALGEBRAS OF HAUSDORFF OPERATORS ON THE REAL LINE

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## Abstract

The aim of this work is to derive a symbol calculus on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  for one-dimensional Hausdorff operators in apparently the most general form.

**Keywords** Hausdorff operator · Fourier transform · Symbol calculus · Commutative Banach algebra · Holomorphic functions · Spectrum

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## Introduction and preliminaries

Modern theory and growing interest in Hausdorff operators can be traced back to [4] and, especially, to [8]. One of the simplest properties of such an operator in one of its traditional forms

$$\mathcal{H}_K f(x) := \int_{\mathbb{R}} K(u) f\left(\frac{x}{u}\right) du \quad (1.1)$$

is the fact that it is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  if  $K(u)|u|^{\frac{1}{2}} \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$ .

However, there is a feeling that the study of this traditional form is somewhat exhausted. A more general form of the Hausdorff operator has been recently suggested in [6] and [7]; we present it in a slightly different manner:

$$\mathcal{H}_{K,a} f(x) := \int_{\mathbb{R}} K(u) f(xa(u)) du, \quad (1.2)$$

where the given functions  $K$  and  $a$  are measurable and  $a(u) \neq 0$  for a.e.  $u \in \mathbb{R}$ . Similarly, it is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  if

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$$\frac{K(u)}{|a(u)|^{\frac{1}{2}}} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}). \quad (1.3)$$

This follows by straightforward application of generalized Minkowski's inequality.

To make the setting meaningful, we shall assume that  $a$  is an odd function, monotonously decreasing to zero on  $\mathbb{R}_+$ . It may have a singularity at the origin. In other words, this function mimics the usual  $\frac{1}{u}$ . Throughout, we shall also assume that the condition (1.3) holds.

The aim of this work is to derive a symbol calculus for one-dimensional Hausdorff operators on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  of the form (1.2). The notion of a symbol for (generalized) multidimensional Hausdorff operators was introduced in [10] and extended in [11]. In our case, the construction of a symbol induces the map

$$\text{Smb} : \mathcal{H}_{K,a} \mapsto \Phi, \mathcal{A}_a \rightarrow \text{Mat}_2(C_0(\mathbb{R})), \quad (1.4)$$

which is injective and multiplicative. Here

$$\mathcal{A}_a := \left\{ \mathcal{H}_{K,a} : \frac{K(u)}{|a(u)|^{\frac{1}{2}}} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}) \right\},$$

$C_0(\mathbb{R})$  stands for the algebra of continuous functions on  $\mathbb{R}$  vanishing at infinity, and  $\text{Mat}_2(C_0(\mathbb{R}))$  denotes the algebra of matrices of order 2 with the entries in  $C_0(\mathbb{R})$ .

It is noteworthy that in some important cases (see, e.g., (1.1)) the symbol of a one-dimensional Hausdorff operator in a sense of [10] is closely related to the notion of a symbol of an integral operator with homogeneous kernel introduced and studied in [5].

There are two main results in this work, Theorems 2.2 and 3.4. We prove and discuss them in the two following sections, respectively.

## The algebra $\mathcal{A}_a$

We begin with a property of the map defined in (1.4).

**Lemma 2.1** *The map  $\text{Smb} : \mathcal{A}_a \rightarrow \text{Mat}_2(C_0(\mathbb{R}))$  is an isometry, if we endow the algebra  $\text{Mat}_2(C_0(\mathbb{R}))$  with the norm  $\|\Phi\| = \sup_{s \in \mathbb{R}} \|\Phi(s)\|_{op}$ .*

Here  $\|\cdot\|_{op}$  stands for the operator norm of a matrix as the norm of the operator of multiplication by this matrix.

**Proof** Let  $M_\Phi$  denote the operator of multiplication by the matrix function  $\Phi \in \text{Mat}_2(C_0(\mathbb{R}))$  in the space of vector valued functions  $L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}^2)$ . It is known from [10] and [11] that the map  $\mathcal{H}_{K,a} \mapsto M_\Phi$  is an isometry (with respect to operator norms) if  $\Phi = \text{Smb}(\mathcal{H}_{K,a})$ . On the other hand,  $\|M_\Phi\| = \|\Phi\|$  by [11, Corollary 3].

We are now in a position to present our first main result.

**Theorem 2.1** *The set  $\mathcal{A}_a$  is a non-closed commutative subalgebra of the algebra  $\mathcal{L}(L^2(\mathbb{R}))$  of bounded operators on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  without unit.*

**Proof** Straightforward calculations yield the commutativity of  $\mathcal{A}_a$ .

Further, the matrix symbol  $\text{Smb}(\mathcal{H}_{K,a}) = \Phi$  of an operator  $\mathcal{H}_{K,a}$  can be defined as in [10] by

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_+ & \varphi_- \\ \varphi_- & \varphi_+ \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.1)$$

where in our case

$$\varphi_+(s) = \int_{(0,\infty)} \frac{K(u)|u|^{is}}{|a(u)|^{\frac{1}{2}}} du = \widehat{K}_+(s), \tag{2.2}$$

$$\varphi_-(s) = \int_{(-\infty,0)} \frac{K(u)|u|^{is}}{|a(u)|^{\frac{1}{2}}} du = \widehat{K}_-(s), \tag{2.3}$$

with  $K_{\pm}(t) := \frac{K(\pm e^{-t})e^{-t}}{|a(e^{-t})|^{\frac{1}{2}}} \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$  (the ‘‘hat’’ stands for the Fourier transform).

Since the map (1.4) is an isometry (and therefore, injective) and multiplicative, to prove that  $\mathcal{A}_a$  is an algebra, it suffices to show that the product of two symbols is also a symbol. More precisely, it suffices to show that if  $\text{Smb}(\mathcal{H}_{K,a}) = \Phi$  and  $\text{Smb}(\mathcal{H}_{L,a}) = \Psi$ , then  $\Phi\Psi = \text{Smb}(\mathcal{H}_{Q,a})$  for some  $\mathcal{H}_{Q,a} \in \mathcal{A}_a$ .

But

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi\Psi &= \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_+ & \varphi_- \\ \varphi_- & \varphi_+ \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_+ & \psi_- \\ \psi_- & \psi_+ \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_+\psi_+ + \varphi_-\psi_- & \varphi_+\psi_- + \varphi_-\psi_+ \\ \varphi_+\psi_- + \varphi_-\psi_+ & \varphi_+\psi_+ + \varphi_-\psi_- \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} (K_+ * L_+ + K_- * L_-)^\wedge & (K_+ * L_- + K_- * L_+)^\wedge \\ (K_+ * L_- + K_- * L_+)^\wedge & (K_+ * L_+ + K_- * L_-)^\wedge \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $*$  denotes the convolution in  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$ .

Defining the functions  $Q_{\pm}$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  by

$$Q_+(t) := K_+ * L_+(t) + K_- * L_-(t),$$

$$Q_-(t) := K_+ * L_-(t) + K_- * L_+(t),$$

we obtain

$$\Phi\Psi = \begin{pmatrix} \widehat{Q}_+ & \widehat{Q}_- \\ \widehat{Q}_- & \widehat{Q}_+ \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $Q$  be a function on  $\mathbb{R}$  satisfying

$$Q_{\pm}(t) = \frac{Q(\pm e^{-t})e^{-t}}{|a(e^{-t})|^{\frac{1}{2}}}. \tag{2.4}$$

Then  $\Phi\Psi = \text{Smb}(\mathcal{H}_{Q,a})$  by the formulas similar to (2.1), (2.2), and (2.3). Since  $Q_{\pm} \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$ , we have  $\frac{Q(u)}{|a(u)|^{\frac{1}{2}}} \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$ .

Hence,  $\mathcal{H}_{Q,a} \in \mathcal{A}_a$ .

Choosing a sequence of kernels  $K_n$  satisfying (1.3), we enjoy the property that the sequence of Fourier transforms  $\widehat{K}_{n+}$  converges to a function from  $C_0(\mathbb{R}) \setminus W_0(\mathbb{R})$  uniformly on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Here  $W_0(\mathbb{R})$  denotes the Wiener algebra of Fourier transforms of functions from  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$ ; for a comprehensive survey, see [9]. Assume that the sequence of operators  $\mathcal{H}_{K_n,a}$  converges to an operator  $\mathcal{H}_{L,a}$  from  $\mathcal{A}_a$  in the operator norm. Then by Lemma 2.1, the sequence of symbols  $\text{Sym}(\mathcal{H}_{K_n,a})$  converges in the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{op}$  to  $\text{Sym}(\mathcal{H}_{L,a})$  uniformly on  $\mathbb{R}$ . But this implies that  $\widehat{K}_{n+}$  converges to  $\widehat{L}_+ \in W_0(\mathbb{R})$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ , and we arrive at a contradiction.

Finally, let  $\mathcal{H}_{K,a} = I$ , the identity operator for some  $\mathcal{H}_{K,a} \in \mathcal{A}_a$ . Then  $\text{Smb}(\mathcal{H}_{K,a}) = E_2$  (the unit matrix of order two) and therefore  $\widehat{K}_+(s) = 1$ , which leads to a contradiction. This completes the proof.

**Corollary 2.1** *The algebra  $\mathcal{A}_a$  is not Banach.*

The particular case  $a(u) = \frac{1}{u}$  reduces to

**Example 1** The set

$$\mathcal{A} := \{\mathcal{H}_K : K(u)|u|^{\frac{1}{2}} \in L^1(\mathbb{R})\}$$

is a non-closed commutative subalgebra of  $\mathcal{L}(L^2(\mathbb{R}))$  without unit.

## Functions of Hausdorff operators

In the sequel, let  $\sigma(\mathcal{H}_{K,a})$  denote the spectrum of  $\mathcal{H}_{K,a}$  in  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ .

**Theorem 3.1** *Let  $\mathcal{H}_{K,a} \in \mathcal{A}_a$ . If a function  $F$  is holomorphic in the neighborhood  $N$  of the set  $\sigma(\mathcal{H}_{K,a}) \cup \{0\}$  and  $F(0) = 0$ , then  $F(\mathcal{H}_{K,a}) \in \mathcal{A}_a$ .*

**Proof** Let  $\Phi = \text{Smb}(\mathcal{H}_{K,a})$ . Then  $\mathcal{H}_{K,a} = \mathcal{U}^{-1}M_\Phi\mathcal{U}$ , where  $\mathcal{U}$  is a unitary operator taking the space  $L^2(\mathbb{R}_-) \times L^2(\mathbb{R}_+)$  (which is isomorphic to  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ ) into  $L^2(\mathbb{R}) \times L^2(\mathbb{R}) = L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}^2)$  [10]. Moreover, the spectrum of  $\mathcal{H}_{K,a}$  equals to the spectrum of  $\Phi$  in the matrix algebra  $\text{Mat}_2(C_0(\mathbb{R}))$  [11]. This implies (see, e.g., [1])

$$\begin{aligned} F(\mathcal{H}_{K,a}) &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} F(\lambda)(\lambda - \mathcal{H}_{K,a})^{-1} d\lambda \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} F(\lambda)(\lambda - \mathcal{U}^{-1}M_\Phi\mathcal{U})^{-1} d\lambda \\ &= \mathcal{U} \left( \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} F(\lambda)(\lambda - M_\Phi)^{-1} d\lambda \right) \mathcal{U}^{-1} \\ &= \mathcal{U}F(M_\Phi)\mathcal{U}^{-1} = \mathcal{U}M_{F(\Phi)}\mathcal{U}^{-1}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Gamma$  is the boundary of any open neighborhood  $U$  of the set  $\sigma(\mathcal{H}_{K,a}) \cup \{0\}$  such that  $N$  contains its closure. To finish the proof, it remains to show that  $F(\Phi)$  is the symbol of an operator in  $\mathcal{A}_a$ . For all regular  $\lambda$ , we have

$$(\lambda - \Phi)^{-1} = \frac{1}{\Delta} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda - \varphi_+ & -\varphi_- \\ -\varphi_- & \lambda - \varphi_+ \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $\Delta := (\lambda - \varphi_+(s))^2 - \varphi_-(s)^2 \neq 0$  for all  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} F(\Phi) &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} F(\lambda)(\lambda - \Phi)^{-1} d\lambda \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} F(\lambda) \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\lambda - \varphi_+}{\Delta} & \frac{-\varphi_-}{\Delta} \\ \frac{-\varphi_-}{\Delta} & \frac{\lambda - \varphi_+}{\Delta} \end{pmatrix} d\lambda \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} F(\lambda) \frac{\lambda - \varphi_+}{\Delta} d\lambda & \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} F(\lambda) \frac{-\varphi_-}{\Delta} d\lambda \\ \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} F(\lambda) \frac{-\varphi_-}{\Delta} d\lambda & \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} F(\lambda) \frac{\lambda - \varphi_+}{\Delta} d\lambda \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} F_1(\varphi_-, \varphi_+) & F_2(\varphi_-, \varphi_+) \\ F_2(\varphi_-, \varphi_+) & F_1(\varphi_-, \varphi_+) \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$F_1(z_1, z_2) := \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} F(\lambda) \frac{\lambda - z_2}{(\lambda - z_2)^2 - z_1^2} d\lambda,$$

and

$$F_2(z_1, z_2) := \frac{-z_1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} \frac{F(\lambda)}{(\lambda - z_2)^2 - z_1^2} d\lambda.$$

Functions  $\varphi_{\pm} = \widehat{K_{\pm}}$  belong to  $W_0(\mathbb{R})$ . We are going to prove that  $F_1(\varphi_-, \varphi_+)$  and  $F_2(\varphi_-, \varphi_+)$  belong to  $W_0(\mathbb{R})$ , too. To this end, we employ the functional calculus of several elements of a commutative Banach algebra with unit (see [3, §13] or, e.g., [2, Ch. III, §4]). However, the convolution algebra  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$  is a commutative Banach algebra without unit. Let

$$\mathcal{V} := \{z = \lambda e + f : \lambda \in \mathbb{C}, f \in L^1(\mathbb{R})\}$$

be a Banach algebra obtained by the formal adjunction of a unit element  $e$  to  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$  (see [3, §16]). Each non-zero complex homomorphism of  $\mathcal{V}$  is  $\psi_s(\lambda e + f) = \widehat{f}(s)$ , where  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  or  $\psi_{\infty}(\lambda e + f) = \lambda$  [3, §17]. In particular,  $z \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$  if and only if  $\psi_{\infty}(z) = 0$ . We denote by  $\text{Spec}(\mathcal{V})$  the Gelfand spectrum (the space of all non-zero complex homomorphisms) of the algebra  $\mathcal{V}$ . The map  $\mathcal{G}_z(\psi) := \psi(z)$  ( $\psi \in \text{Spec}(\mathcal{V})$ ) is called the Gelfand transform. Then

$$\mathcal{G}(\lambda e + f) = \lambda + \widehat{f}.$$

The joint spectrum of elements  $K_{\pm}$  of the commutative Banach algebra  $\mathcal{V}$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{\mathcal{V}}(K_-, K_+) &:= \{(\mathcal{G}K_-)(\psi), (\mathcal{G}K_+)(\psi) : \psi \in \text{Spec}(\mathcal{V})\} \\ &= \{(\widehat{K_-}(s), \widehat{K_+}(s)) : s \in \mathbb{R}\} \cup \{(0, 0)\} \\ &= \{(\varphi_-(s), \varphi_+(s)) : s \in \mathbb{R}\} \cup \{(0, 0)\}. \end{aligned}$$

We claim that the functions  $F_1(z_1, z_2)$  and  $F_2(z_1, z_2)$  are holomorphic in a neighborhood of  $\sigma_{\mathcal{V}}(K_-, K_+)$ . Indeed, it is known [10, Theorem 2] that

$$\sigma(\mathcal{H}_{K,a}) = \text{cl}(\varphi(\mathbb{R}) \cup \varphi^*(\mathbb{R})),$$

where  $\varphi = \varphi_+ + \varphi_-$ ,  $\varphi^* = \varphi_+ - \varphi_-$ . It follows that for all  $\lambda \in \Gamma$  and  $z_1 \in \text{cl}(\varphi_-(\mathbb{R}))$ ,  $z_2 \in \text{cl}(\varphi_+(\mathbb{R}))$ , we have  $(\lambda - z_2)^2 - z_1^2 \neq 0$  (since  $\lambda \neq z_2 \pm z_1$ ). Therefore,

$$\min\{|(\lambda - z_2)^2 - z_1^2| : \lambda \in \Gamma, (z_1, z_2) \in \sigma_{\mathcal{V}}(K_-, K_+)\} > 0,$$

and thus both functions  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are holomorphic on some neighborhood of the joint spectrum. The functional calculus in commutative Banach algebras implies that there are  $Q_{\pm} \in \mathcal{V}$  such that  $F_{1,2}(\widehat{K_-}, \widehat{K_+}) = \mathcal{G}Q_{\pm}$ , respectively.

Observing that  $F_1(0, 0) = F_2(0, 0) = 0$ , we conclude (see, e.g., [2, p. 78, Theorem 4.5]) that  $\psi_{\infty}(Q_{\pm}) = F_{1,2}(\psi_{\infty}(K_-), \psi_{\infty}(K_+)) = 0$ , and so  $Q_{\pm} \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$ . It follows that  $F_1(\varphi_-, \varphi_+) = \widehat{Q_-} \in W_0(\mathbb{R})$  and  $F_2(\varphi_-, \varphi_+) = \widehat{Q_+} \in W_0(\mathbb{R})$ . If the function  $Q$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  is given by (2.4), then  $F(\Phi) = \text{Smb}(\mathcal{H}_{Q,a})$ , as desired.

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**Data availability** This manuscript has no associated data.

## Declarations

**Competing interests** The authors declare no competing interests.

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