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# A PERTURBATION THEORY OF RESONANCES

SHMUEL AGMON\*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The notion of a resonance of an operator was introduced in quantum mechanics for Schrödinger operators. The notion had several definitions. It is now accepted to identify resonances of an operator with poles of the associated resolvent operator function taken in some generalized sense. The resonance poles are hidden spectral objects. They are uncovered by analytic continuation of the generalized resolvent through the continuous spectrum.

Problems on resonances arise in mathematical physics and in other fields such as geometry and number theory. There are many recent studies dealing with such problems (see [5] for many references). These studies indicate that resonances should be treated in some formal way like eigenvalues. The question arises whether one can push this analogy further and show that resonances of an operator are in fact eigenvalues of some closely related operators. In this paper we show that in some general abstract setup this is indeed the case - resonances can be equated with eigenvalues. We note that in the special case of a Schrödinger operator with a dilation analytic potential there is a well known procedure which identifies resonances with eigenvalues. However, our approach is different and it applies in various concrete situations where the dilation analyticity “trick” is not available.

Our study was motivated by a quest for a good perturbation theory for resonances. The resonance-eigenvalue connection established in this paper yields such a theory. The theory is as good, and it is essentially the same, as the classical perturbation theory for eigenvalues. (For other theories of perturbation of resonances see Howland [3], Albeverio and Høegh-Krohn [1], Gesztesy [2] and references given there).

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The plan of this paper is as follows. The main definitions and hypotheses are given in Section 2. The resonance-eigenvalue connection is established in Section 3. Some more details on this connection are given in Section 4. Finally, a perturbation theory for resonances of holomorphic families of operators is outlined in Section 5.

## 2. THE SETUP

We consider a closed linear operator  $P$  in a given Banach space  $B$ . We assume that  $\sigma(P)$  (the spectrum)  $\neq \mathbb{C}$ . We denote by  $D$  a domain in  $\mathbb{C}$  such that  $D \cap \sigma(P) \subset \sigma_{\text{dis}}(P)$ . Thus the resolvent  $R(\lambda) := (P - \lambda)^{-1}$  is a well defined meromorphic operator function in  $D$  with values in  $\mathcal{L}(B)$ . Its poles in  $D$  (the isolated eigenvalues of  $P$ ) are of a finite rank. Next we introduce a notion of a generalized resolvent. To this end we assume that in addition to  $B$  there are given two Banach spaces  $B_0$  and  $B_1$  with  $B_0 \subset B \subset B_1$  such that the injections:

$$(2.1) \quad J_0 : B_0 \hookrightarrow B \text{ and } J : B \hookrightarrow B_1$$

are continuous. For  $\lambda \in D \setminus \sigma_{\text{dis}}(P)$ , we set

$$(2.2) \quad \tilde{R}(\lambda) = JR(\lambda)J_0.$$

Clearly  $\tilde{R}(\lambda)$  is a meromorphic operator function in  $D$  with values in  $\mathcal{L}(B_0, B_1)$ . We refer to  $\tilde{R}(\lambda)$  as the **generalized resolvent** of  $P$ . We shall assume that the following basic condition holds.

**Hypothesis 2.1.** *The operator function  $\tilde{R}(\lambda)$  admits a meromorphic continuation with finite rank poles from  $D$  to a domain  $D_+ \supset D$ , where*

$$(D_+ \cap \sigma(P)) \setminus \sigma_{\text{dis}}(P) \neq \emptyset.$$

(The last restriction is of course the statement that  $R(\lambda)$  does not admit such a meromorphic continuation to  $D_+$ ).

We note that in the following the term “generalized resolvent” will apply to the meromorphic extension of  $\tilde{R}(\lambda)$  from  $D$  to  $D_+$ . The function in  $D_+$  will also be denoted by  $\tilde{R}(\lambda)$ . The domains  $D$  and  $D_+$  will be fixed throughout.

We are in a position to define the notion of a resonance.

**Definition.** *A resonance of  $P$  is a pole  $\lambda_0$  of  $\tilde{R}(\lambda)$ ,  $\lambda_0 \in D_+ \setminus D$ , which verifies one of the following conditions. Either*

- (i)  $\lambda_0 \notin \sigma_{\text{dis}}(P)$ , or
- (ii)  $\lambda_0 \in \sigma_{\text{dis}}(P)$  but the relation (2.2) does not hold (identically) in any deleted neighborhood of  $\lambda_0$ .

**Remark.** The definition of resonances clearly depends on the auxiliary spaces  $B_0, B_1$ . In this paper we don't investigate the “uniqueness problem” for resonances.

The set of all poles of  $\tilde{R}(\lambda)$  in  $D_+$  will be denoted by  $\Lambda(P)$ . It is clear that  $\Lambda(P)$  is composed of the following two disjoint sets. (i) Resonances of  $P$  in  $D_+$ . (ii) Isolated eigenvalues of  $P$  in  $D_+$ .

We impose a second condition of  $P$  which is also basic for the theory. We assume

**Hypothesis 2.2.** Consider  $P$  as an operator in  $B_1$ . Denote this operator by  $\mathcal{P}$ , i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Dom}(\mathcal{P}) &= \text{Dom}(P) \subset B_1 \\ \mathcal{P}u &= Pu \quad \text{for } u \in \text{Dom}(\mathcal{P}). \end{aligned}$$

The following holds.

- (i)  $\mathcal{P}$  is a closable operator in  $B_1$ .
- (ii) Denote by  $P_1$  the closure of  $\mathcal{P}$  in  $B_1$ . Then the resolvent  $R_1(\lambda) := (P_1 - \lambda)^{-1} \in \mathcal{L}(B_1)$  exists for  $\lambda$  in some open set  $O$  in  $D$ .

We conclude this section with a simple lemma which will be very useful later on.

**Lemma 2.3.** For any  $\lambda_1 \in D_+ \setminus \Lambda(P)$  and  $\lambda_2 \in O$  ( $O$  as above), the following formula holds:

$$(2.3) \quad R_1(\lambda_2)\tilde{R}(\lambda_1) = (\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)^{-1}(\tilde{R}(\lambda_2) - \tilde{R}(\lambda_1)),$$

with the obvious interpretation of (2.3) when  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2$ .

*Proof.* If  $\lambda_1 \in O$  then (2.3) is (essentially) the resolvent equation for  $R_1(\lambda)$  in  $O$ . The validity of (2.3) for any  $\lambda_1$  in  $D_+ \setminus \Lambda(P)$  follows from its validity in  $O$  by analytic continuation in  $\lambda_1$ .

### 3. THE RESONANCE-EIGENVALUE CONNECTION

In this section we shall establish that resonances of  $P$  are in fact eigenvalues of some closely related operators acting in different Banach spaces. To this end we introduce certain Banach spaces, depending on the operator  $P$ , which are intermediate spaces between  $B_0$  and  $B_1$ . The construction is as follows. We pick a bounded domain  $\Delta$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ , with a boundary  $\Gamma$  of class  $C^1$ , satisfying (i)  $\bar{\Delta} \subset D_+$ . (ii)  $\Gamma \cap \Lambda(P) = \emptyset$ . Having chosen  $\Delta$  we denote by  $B_\Gamma$  the linear set of elements  $f$  in the Banach space  $B_1$ , admitting a representation of the form:

$$(3.1) \quad f = g + \int_{\Gamma} \tilde{R}(\zeta)\Phi(\zeta)d\zeta$$

where  $g$  is some element in  $B_0$  and  $\Phi(\zeta)$  is some continuous function on  $\Gamma$  with values in  $B_0$  (the integration in (3.1) is over the positively oriented boundary with respect to  $\Delta$ ). Next we introduce a norm in  $B_\Gamma$ , setting for  $f \in B_\Gamma$ :

$$(3.2) \quad \|f\|_{B_\Gamma} = \inf_{g, \Phi} (\|g\|_{B_0} + \|\Phi\|_{C(\Gamma; B_0)})$$

where the infimum in (3.2) is taken over all  $g \in B_0$  and  $\Phi \in C(\Gamma; B_0)$  which verify (3.1) ( $C(\Gamma; B_0)$  denotes the Banach space of continuous functions on  $\Gamma$  with values in  $B_0$ ). It is easy to see that under the norm (3.2)  $B_\Gamma$  is complete. Hence  $B_\Gamma$  is a Banach space. We have the following inclusion relations with continuous injections:

$$(3.3) \quad B_0 \subset B_\Gamma \subset B_1.$$

Next we associate with any  $\lambda \in D_+ \setminus \Lambda(P)$  a linear operator  $T_\Gamma(\lambda) : B_\Gamma \rightarrow B_1$  defined as follows. For any  $f \in B_\Gamma$ , where  $f$  is given by (3.1), we set

$$(3.4) \quad T_\Gamma(\lambda)f = \tilde{R}(\lambda)g + \int_\Gamma (\zeta - \lambda)^{-1}(\tilde{R}(\zeta) - \tilde{R}(\lambda))\Phi(\zeta)d\zeta.$$

We have to show that  $T_\Gamma(\lambda)$  is well defined on  $B_\Gamma$  (i.e.  $T_\Gamma(\lambda)f$  is independent of the special representation of  $f$ ).

Suppose first that  $\lambda \in O$  ( $O$  defined in Hypothesis 2.2). Applying  $R_1(\lambda)$  to (3.1) and using (2.3) we have:

$$(3.5) \quad T_\Gamma(\lambda)f = R_1(\lambda)f \quad \text{for } f \in B_\Gamma$$

which shows that  $T_\Gamma(\lambda)f$  is well defined for any  $\lambda$  in the open set  $O$ . From (3.5) it follows by analytic continuation in  $\lambda$  that if  $f = 0$  then  $T_\Gamma(\lambda)f = 0$  for any  $\lambda \in D_+ \setminus \Lambda(P)$ . Thus the operator  $T_\Gamma(\lambda)$  is well defined for all  $\lambda$ . Also, it follows readily from (3.4) that  $T_\Gamma(\lambda) \in \mathcal{L}(B_\Gamma, B_1)$ .

We shall now show that if  $\lambda \in \Delta \setminus \Lambda(P)$  then  $\text{Ran}T_\Gamma(\lambda) \subset B_\Gamma$  and that  $T_\Gamma(\lambda)$  is in fact an operator in  $\mathcal{L}(B_\Gamma)$ . To see this let  $f \in B_\Gamma$  be given by (3.1) and rewrite (3.4) in the form

$$(3.6) \quad T_\Gamma(\lambda)f = \tilde{R}(\lambda)g_\lambda + \int_\Gamma \tilde{R}(\zeta)((\zeta - \lambda)^{-1}\Phi(\zeta))d\zeta$$

where

$$g_\lambda = g - \int_\Gamma (\zeta - \lambda)^{-1}\Phi(\zeta)d\zeta \in B_0.$$

Let  $p(\zeta) \neq 0$  be a polynomial of minimal order such that  $p(\zeta)\tilde{R}(\zeta)$  is holomorphic in  $\Delta$ . By Cauchy's formula:

$$(3.7) \quad \tilde{R}(\lambda)g_\lambda = (2\pi ip(\lambda))^{-1} \int_\Gamma \tilde{R}(\zeta)((\zeta - \lambda)^{-1}p(\zeta)g_\lambda)d\zeta.$$

Combining (3.6) and (3.7), we get:

$$(3.8) \quad T_\Gamma(\lambda)f = \int_\Gamma \tilde{R}(\zeta)((\zeta - \lambda)^{-1}\Psi_\lambda(\zeta))d\zeta$$

where

$$\Psi_\lambda(\zeta) = \Phi(\zeta) + (2\pi ip(\lambda))^{-1}p(\zeta)g_\lambda.$$

Hence:  $T_\Gamma(\lambda)f \in B_\Gamma$ . It is also readily checked that  $T_\Gamma(\lambda)$  is in fact a continuous operator in  $B_\Gamma$ .

We are going to use the following notation. For any  $\lambda \in \Delta \setminus \Lambda(P)$  we shall write  $R_\Gamma(\lambda)$  for the operator  $T_\Gamma(\lambda)$  when considered as an operator in  $\mathcal{L}(B_\Gamma)$ . It is clear from the above that  $\Delta \ni \lambda \mapsto R_\Gamma(\lambda) \in \mathcal{L}(B_\Gamma)$  is a meromorphic operator function in  $\Delta$  with poles contained in the set  $\Lambda(P)$ .

**Proposition 3.1.** *The following equation holds:*

$$(3.9) \quad R_\Gamma(\lambda_1)R_\Gamma(\lambda_2) = (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^{-1}(R_\Gamma(\lambda_1) - R_\Gamma(\lambda_2))$$

for any  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \Delta \setminus \Lambda(P)$ .

*Proof.* (3.9) follows from the following more general relation which we shall need later on:

$$(3.10) \quad T_\Gamma(\lambda)R_\Gamma(\mu)f = (\lambda - \mu)^{-1}(T_\Gamma(\lambda)f - T_\Gamma(\mu)f)$$

for any  $\lambda \in D_+ \setminus \Lambda(P)$ ,  $\mu \in \Delta \setminus \Lambda(P)$  and  $f \in B_\Gamma$ .

To prove (3.10) we consider the resolvent equation for the operator  $P_1$ :

$$(3.11) \quad R_1(\lambda)R_1(\mu) = (\lambda - \mu)^{-1}(R_1(\lambda) - R_1(\mu))$$

which holds for all  $\lambda, \mu$  in  $O$ . From (3.11) and (3.5) it follows that

$$(3.12) \quad R_1(\lambda)T_\Gamma(\mu)f = (\lambda - \mu)^{-1}(T_\Gamma(\lambda)f - T_\Gamma(\mu)f)$$

for  $\lambda, \mu \in O$  and any  $f \in B_\Gamma$ . By analytic continuation in  $\mu$  it follows that (3.12) holds for all  $\mu$  in  $D_+ \setminus \Lambda(P)$ . Restricting  $\mu$  to  $\Delta$ , using (3.5), yields (3.10) for  $\lambda \in O$ . Finally, an analytic continuation in  $\lambda$  establishes (3.10) for all  $\lambda \in D_+ \setminus \Lambda(P)$  and  $\mu \in \Delta \setminus \Lambda(P)$ .

**Proposition 3.2.**  *$R_\Gamma(\mu)$  is an injective operator in  $B_\Gamma$  for every  $\mu \in \Delta \setminus \Lambda(P)$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose by way of contradiction that  $R_\Gamma(\mu)f = T_\Gamma(\mu)f = 0$  for some  $\mu \in \Delta \setminus \Lambda(P)$ ,  $f \in B_\Gamma$ ,  $f \neq 0$ . Applying (3.10) it follows that  $T_\Gamma(\lambda)f = 0$  for all  $\lambda \in D_+ \setminus \Lambda(P)$ . Using (3.5) it follows that  $R_1(\lambda)f = 0$  for all  $\lambda \in O$ . This, however, contradicts the injectivity of  $R_1(\lambda)$ .  $\square$

It follows from Proposition 3.1 and Proposition 3.2 that  $R_\Gamma(\lambda)$  is the resolvent of an operator  $P_\Gamma$  in  $B_\Gamma$ :

$$(3.13) \quad R_\Gamma(\lambda) = (P_\Gamma - \lambda)^{-1} \quad \text{for } \lambda \in \Delta \setminus \Lambda(P),$$

where  $P_\Gamma$  is a closed linear operator in  $B_\Gamma$  defined as follows:

$$(3.14) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{Dom}(P_\Gamma) &= \text{Ran}R_\Gamma(\lambda_0), \\ P_\Gamma u &= \lambda_0 u + f \end{aligned}$$

for  $u = R_\Gamma(\lambda_0)f \in \text{Dom}(P_\Gamma)$ ,  $f \in B_\Gamma$ . Here  $\lambda_0$  is some fixed point in  $\Delta \setminus \Lambda(P)$ .

One should note that (3.14), (3.10) and (3.5) imply that  $P_1$  is an extension of  $P_\Gamma$  in the sense that

$$(3.15) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{Dom}(P_\Gamma) &\subset \text{Dom}(P_1), \\ P_\Gamma u &= P_1 u \quad \text{for } u \in \text{Dom}(P_\Gamma). \end{aligned}$$

From (3.5) it follows, by analytic continuation, that

$$(3.16) \quad R_\Gamma(\lambda)f = \tilde{R}(\lambda)f \quad \text{for } f \in B_0,$$

for any  $\lambda \in \Delta \setminus \Lambda(P)$ .

From (3.16) and (3.15) it follows in particular that

$$(3.17) \quad \text{Ran}\tilde{R}(\lambda) \subset \text{Dom}(P_\Gamma) \subset \text{Dom}(P_1)$$

for any  $\lambda \in \Delta \setminus \Lambda(P)$ .

From (3.16) and (3.8) it follows that  $R_\Gamma(\lambda)$  and  $\tilde{R}(\lambda)$  possess the same poles in  $\Delta$ . This yields

**Theorem 3.3.** *The operator  $P_\Gamma$  has a discrete spectrum in  $\Delta$  given by*

$$(3.18) \quad \sigma(P_\Gamma) \cap \Delta = \Lambda(P) \cap \Delta.$$

*In particular, all resonances of  $P$  in  $\Delta$  are eigenvalues of  $P_\Gamma$ .*

#### 4. MORE ON THE RESONANCE-EIGENVALUE CONNECTION

We continue with the discussion of the last section. We shall assume now that the domain  $\Delta$  was chosen to contain a given resonance  $\lambda_0$  of  $P$ . By Theorem 3.3  $\lambda_0$  is an isolated eigenvalue of  $P_\Gamma$ . We wish to explore this relation more closely.

Now,  $\lambda_0$  is a pole of  $\tilde{R}(\lambda)$  of order  $r$  and also a pole of  $R_\Gamma(\lambda)$  of order  $n$ . From (3.16) it follows that  $n \geq r$  (later we show that  $n = r$ ). We consider the Laurent expansions about  $\lambda_0$ :

$$(4.1) \quad \tilde{R}(\lambda) = \sum_{j \geq -r} (\lambda - \lambda_0)^j S_j,$$

$$(4.1)_\Gamma \quad R_\Gamma(\lambda) = \sum_{j \geq -n} (\lambda - \lambda_0)^j S_j^\Gamma,$$

where  $S_j \in \mathcal{L}(B_0, B_1)$  for  $j \geq -r$ ,  $S_j^\Gamma \in \mathcal{L}(B_\Gamma)$  for  $j \geq -n$ ;  $S_{-r}$  and  $S_{-n}^\Gamma \neq 0$ .

The relation (3.16) implies that

$$(4.2) \quad S_j f = S_j^\Gamma f \quad \text{for } f \in B_0$$

and all  $j \geq -n$  (if  $n > r$  we set  $S_j = 0$  for  $-n \leq j < -r$ ). From (4.2) and (3.17) it follows that

$$(4.3) \quad \text{Ran} S_j \subset \text{Ran} S_j^\Gamma \subset \text{Dom}(P_\Gamma) \subset \text{Dom}(P_1).$$

We now claim that

$$(4.4) \quad \text{Ran} S_j = \text{Ran} S_j^\Gamma$$

for  $-n \leq j \leq -1$ . (Note that this proves that  $n = r$ ). In this connection we recall that  $S_j$  and  $S_j^\Gamma$  are finite rank operators for  $j \leq -1$ , and that (by spectral theory)

$$(4.5) \quad \text{Ran} S_j^\Gamma \subset \text{Ran} S_{j+1}^\Gamma$$

for  $-n \leq j \leq -2$ .

*Proof of (4.4) (sketch).* Let  $f \in B_\Gamma$  and suppose that  $f$  is given by (3.1). Using (3.4) one finds by integration over a small circle  $\gamma$  centered at  $\lambda_0$  that

$$(4.6) \quad \int_\gamma (\lambda - \lambda_0)^{-j-1} R_\Gamma(\lambda) f d\lambda = \int_\gamma (\lambda - \lambda_0)^{-j-1} \tilde{R}(\lambda) F(\lambda) d\lambda$$

for  $-n \leq j \leq -1$  where  $F(\lambda)$  is some analytic function in  $\Delta$  with values in  $B_0$ . From (4.6) it follows that

$$(4.7) \quad \text{Ran}S_j^\Gamma \subset \bigoplus_{-n \leq k \leq j} \text{Ran}S_k$$

for  $-n \leq j \leq -1$ . Combining (4.7), (4.5) and (4.3) yields (4.4).  $\square$

Recall that by standard spectral theory  $-S_{-1}^\Gamma$  is a projection operator in  $B_\Gamma$  which projects on the set of generalized eigenvectors (“root vectors”) of  $P_\Gamma$  at  $\lambda_0$  and that

$$(4.8) \quad \begin{aligned} (P_\Gamma - \lambda_0)S_j^\Gamma &= S_{j-1}^\Gamma \quad \text{for } j > -n, j \neq 0, \\ (P_\Gamma - \lambda_0)S_{-n}^\Gamma &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Taking account of (4.3), (4.4), (4.5), (4.8) and (3.15), we obtain

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $\lambda_0 \in D_+$  be a resonance of  $P$ ,  $\lambda_0$  a pole of  $\tilde{R}(\lambda)$  of order  $r$ . Let  $S_j \in \mathcal{L}(B_0, B_1)$  be the coefficients in the Laurent expansion of  $\tilde{R}(\lambda)$  about  $\lambda_0$  given by (4.1). The following holds.*

- (i)  $\text{Ran}S_j$  is a finite dimensional invariant subspace of  $P_1$  for any  $j \leq -1$ .
- (ii) If  $r \geq 2$  then  $\text{Ran}S_{j-1} \subset \text{Ran}S_j$  for  $-r + 1 \leq j \leq -1$ .

$$(iii) \quad \begin{aligned} (P_1 - \lambda_0)S_j &= S_{j-1} \quad \text{for } j > -r, j \neq 0, \\ (P_1 - \lambda_0)S_{-r} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition.** *Let  $\lambda_0$  be a resonance of  $P$ . Denote by  $S_{-1}$  the residue of  $\tilde{R}(\lambda)$  at  $\lambda_0$  as above. Then*

- (i) *The integer  $\dim \text{Ran}S_{-1}$  is called the multiplicity (or the algebraic multiplicity) of  $\lambda_0$ .*
- (ii) *An element  $u \in \text{Ran}S_{-1}$  such that*

$$(P_1 - \lambda_0)u = 0$$

*is called a resonance vector of  $P$  at  $\lambda_0$ . Any element in  $\text{Ran}S_{-1}$  is called a generalized resonance vector at  $\lambda_0$ .*

**Remark.** *In this paper we adopt the convention that a resonance vector is also a generalized resonance vector and that an eigenvector is also a generalized eigenvector.*

Finally, we elaborate on the relation between resonances of  $P$  and eigenvalues of  $P_\Gamma$  given in Theorem 3.3.

**Theorem 4.2.** *With the same notation as above, let  $\mathcal{E}$  denote the space of resonance vectors (resp. generalized resonance vectors) of  $P$  at  $\lambda_0$ . Then  $\mathcal{E}$  coincides with the space of eigenvectors (resp. generalized eigenvectors) of  $P_\Gamma$  at  $\lambda_0$ . Also,  $\mathcal{E} \subset \text{Dom}(P_1)$  and  $P_1 = P_\Gamma$  on  $\mathcal{E}$ .*

Theorem 4.2 follows readily from (4.4), (4.8) and Theorem 4.1.

**Remark 4.3.** *If  $\lambda_0 \in \Delta$  is an isolated eigenvalue of  $P$  then the same arguments used in this section show that Theorem 4.2 holds with  $\mathcal{E}$  replaced by the space of eigenvectors (resp. generalized eigenvectors) of  $P$ .*



## 5. PERTURBATION THEORY

We turn to perturbation problems. With  $P$  the operator studied before, we consider a family of operators  $\mathcal{P}(t)$  in  $B$ , defined for  $t$  in a connected open neighborhood  $\Omega$  of the origin in  $\mathbb{C}$ , of the form:

$$(5.1) \quad \mathcal{P}(t) = P + V(t)$$

where  $V(t) : B \rightarrow B$  is a closable linear operator for any  $t$  in  $\Omega$ , verifying the following conditions.

(i)  $\text{Dom}(V(t)) = \text{Dom}(P)$ ,  $\forall t$ .

(ii)  $V(0) = 0$ .

(iii)  $V(t)u$  is a holomorphic function of  $t$  in  $\Omega$  (with values in  $B$ ) for any  $u \in \text{Dom}(P)$ .

Our first observation is that  $\mathcal{P}(t)$  is a holomorphic family of operators of type  $A$  in the sense of Kato ([4]) if  $t$  is restricted to some sufficiently small neighborhood of the origin.

To prove this we need only to show that  $\mathcal{P}(t)$  is a closed operator for all  $t$  sufficiently small. Now, since the resolvent set of  $P$  is not empty it follows by standard arguments (closed graph theorem) that  $V(t)$  is a  $P$  bounded operator for each  $t$ . More precisely, we find that

$$(5.2) \quad \|V(t)u\|_B \leq \varepsilon(t)(\|Pu\|_B + \|u\|_B)$$

for any  $u \in \text{Dom}(P)$  where  $\varepsilon(t) \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow 0$ . By a well known theorem it follows that if  $\varepsilon(t) < 1$  then  $P + V(t)$  is a closed operator. Hence the result.

Replacing  $\Omega$ , if necessary, by a smaller domain we may assume without loss of generality that  $\mathcal{P}(t)$  is a holomorphic family in  $\Omega$  of type  $A$ . let  $\lambda_0$  be a simple isolated eigenvalue of  $P$ . A classical result in perturbation theory asserts that for  $t$  sufficiently small  $\mathcal{P}(t)$  has a unique simple eigenvalue  $\lambda(t)$  near  $\lambda_0$ ,  $\lambda(t)$  being an analytic function of  $t$ . Moreover the theory furnishes "explicit" formulas for the derivatives of  $\lambda(t)$  at  $\lambda_0$ . When  $\lambda_0$  is a degenerate eigenvalue similar results hold for  $\hat{\lambda}(t)$  which is the mean of the "eigenvalue group" of  $\mathcal{P}(t)$  near  $\lambda_0$  (see [4]).

The question arises whether similar perturbation results hold for resonances of  $\mathcal{P}(t)$ . We shall show that this is indeed the case under a suitable restriction on the perturbation  $V(t)$ . We introduce the following assumption.

**Hypothesis 5.1.** *There exists a family of closable operators  $V_1(t) : B_1 \rightarrow B_1$ , defined for  $t \in \Omega$ , with  $V_1(0) = 0$ , such that the following holds.*

(i)  $\text{Dom}(V_1(t)) = \text{Dom}(P_1)$  and  $\text{Ran}V_1(t) \subset B_0$ ,  $\forall t$ .

(ii)  $V_1(t)u$  is a holomorphic function with values in  $B_0$  for  $t \in \Omega$ , for any  $u \in \text{Dom}(P_1)$ .

(iii)  $V(t)u = V_1(t)u$  for  $u \in \text{Dom}(P)$ ,  $\forall t$ .

Let  $\lambda_0 \in D_+$  be a resonance of  $P$ . We propose to study resonances of  $\mathcal{P}(t)$  near  $\lambda_0$  (for small  $t$ ). To this end we pick a domain  $D'$  satisfying: (i)  $D' \subset\subset D$ . (ii)  $D' \cap O \neq \emptyset$  where  $O$  is the set in Hypothesis 2.2. Then we choose an open set  $O'$  such that  $O' \subset\subset D' \cap O$ . Next we pick a domain  $D'_+$ , containing the resonance  $\lambda_0$ , verifying:  $D'_+ \subset\subset D_+$  and  $D'_+ \supset D'$ . Finally we fix some domain  $\Delta$ , with a boundary  $\Gamma$  of class  $C^1$ , satisfying: (i)  $\bar{\Delta} \subset D_+$ . (ii)  $\Delta \supset D'_+$ . (iii)  $\Gamma \cap \Lambda(P) = \emptyset$ .

With  $P$  and  $\Delta$  fixed, we denote by  $B_\Gamma$  and  $P_\Gamma$  the Banach space and the operator introduced in Section 3. We recall that  $B_0 \subset B_\Gamma \subset B_1$  and that  $\text{Dom}(P_\Gamma) \subset \text{Dom}(P_1)$ . Next we consider two families of operators  $\mathcal{P}_1(t) : B_1 \rightarrow B_1$  and  $\mathcal{P}_\Gamma(t) : B_\Gamma \rightarrow B_\Gamma$ , defined for any  $t \in \Omega$ , as follows:

$$(5.3) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{Dom}(\mathcal{P}_1(t)) &= \text{Dom}(P_1), \\ \mathcal{P}_1(t)u &= P_1u + V_1(t)u \quad \text{for } u \in \text{Dom}(P_1). \end{aligned}$$

$$(5.3)_\Gamma \quad \begin{aligned} \text{Dom}(\mathcal{P}_\Gamma(t)) &= \text{Dom}(P_\Gamma), \\ \mathcal{P}_\Gamma(t)u &= P_\Gamma u + V_1(t)u \quad \text{for } u \in \text{Dom}(P_\Gamma). \end{aligned}$$

We have

**Proposition 5.2.**  $\mathcal{P}_1(t)$  and  $\mathcal{P}_\Gamma(t)$  are holomorphic families of type A in  $\Omega_0$ , with  $\mathcal{P}_1(0) = P_1$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_\Gamma(0) = P_\Gamma$ , where  $\Omega_0 \subset \Omega$  is some domain in  $\mathbb{C}$  containing the origin.

The proof of the proposition is similar to the proof of the same result for the family  $\mathcal{P}(t)$ .

Applying well known perturbation results for holomorphic families of closed operators ([4]) we find that for  $t$  in some sufficiently small disc  $\omega$  centered at the origin the following holds:

- (i)  $\mathcal{P}(t)$  has a discrete spectrum in  $D'$ .
- (ii)  $\mathcal{P}_1(t)$  has no spectrum in  $O'$ .
- (iii)  $\mathcal{P}_\Gamma(t)$  has a discrete spectrum in  $D'_+$ .

For any  $t \in \omega$  we introduce the resolvents:

$$(5.4) \quad \begin{aligned} R(t; \lambda) &:= (\mathcal{P}(t) - \lambda)^{-1}, \\ R_1(t; \lambda) &:= (\mathcal{P}_1(t) - \lambda)^{-1}, \\ R_\Gamma(t; \lambda) &:= (\mathcal{P}_\Gamma(t) - \lambda)^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

$R(t; \lambda)$  is meromorphic in  $\lambda$  in  $D'$ ;  $R_1(t; \lambda)$  is holomorphic in  $O'$  and  $R_\Gamma(t; \lambda)$  is meromorphic in  $\lambda$  in  $D'_+$  (all poles are of finite rank). We also introduce the generalized resolvent of  $\mathcal{P}(t)$  defined by

$$(5.5) \quad \tilde{R}(t; \lambda) = JR(t; \lambda)J_0$$

where  $J, J_0$  are the injection operators (2.1).  $\tilde{R}(t; \lambda)$  takes its values in  $\mathcal{L}(B_0, B_1)$ . It is meromorphic in  $\lambda$  in  $D'$ .

Since  $\mathcal{P}(t)$  is a restriction of  $\mathcal{P}_1(t)$  to  $B$  and  $P_\Gamma(t)$  is a restriction of  $\mathcal{P}_1(t)$  to  $B_\Gamma$  (see (3.15)), we find that for any  $t \in \omega$  and  $\lambda \in O'$  the following relations hold:

$$(5.6) \quad R_1(t; \lambda)f = R(t; \lambda)f \quad \text{for } f \in B, \quad R_1(t; \lambda)f = R_\Gamma(t; \lambda)f \quad \text{for } f \in B_\Gamma.$$

Since  $B_0 \subset B$  and  $B_0 \subset B_\Gamma$ , it follows from (5.6) and (5.5) that for any  $t \in \omega$  and  $\lambda \in O'$ :

$$(5.7) \quad \tilde{R}(t; \lambda)f = R_\Gamma(t; \lambda)f \quad \text{for } f \in B_0.$$

Finally, since  $R_\Gamma(t; \lambda)$  is meromorphic in  $\lambda$  in  $D'_+$  (recall that  $D'_+ \supset D' \supset O'$ ), it follows that  $\tilde{R}(t; \lambda)f$  admits a meromorphic continuation from  $O'$  to  $D'_+$  given by the r.h.s. of (5.7). This shows that Hypothesis 2.1. holds for the operator  $\mathcal{P}(t)$ , any  $t \in \omega$ . Also, the first relation (5.6) shows that Hypothesis 2.2 holds for the operators  $\mathcal{P}(t)$ .

Let  $\tilde{D}_+$  be a domain in  $\mathbb{C}$  such that  $\tilde{D}_+ \subset\subset D_+$ ,  $\tilde{D}_+ \supset \bar{\Delta}$ . The above considerations show that by choosing  $\omega$  sufficiently small we may further assume that  $\tilde{R}(t; \lambda)$  admits a meromorphic continuation in  $\lambda$  from  $O'$  to  $\tilde{D}_+$ , for any  $t \in \omega$ . Now, using the relation (5.7) it is not difficult to show (by arguments similar to those used in the proof of (4.4)) that  $\tilde{R}(t; \lambda)$  and  $R_\Gamma(t; \lambda)$  possess the same poles in  $D'_+$  for any  $t \in \omega$  and that if  $\mu \in D'_+$  is a pole of  $\tilde{R}(t; \lambda)$  and  $R_\Gamma(t; \lambda)$  for some  $t \in \omega$ , then:

$$\text{RanRes}\tilde{R}(t; \lambda)|_{\lambda=\mu} = \text{RanRes}R_\Gamma(t; \lambda)|_{\lambda=\mu}.$$

This yields the following

**Theorem 5.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{P}(t)$  and  $\mathcal{P}_\Gamma(t)$ ,  $t \in \omega$ , be as above. The following holds.*

- (i) *The operator functions (in  $\lambda$ )  $\tilde{R}(t; \lambda)$  and  $R_\Gamma(t; \lambda)$  possess the same poles in  $D'_+$ .*
- (ii) *Let  $\mu \in D'_+$  be a pole of  $\tilde{R}(t; \lambda)$  and  $R_\Gamma(t; \lambda)$ . Denote by  $\mathcal{E}$  the space of generalized eigenvectors of  $\mathcal{P}_\Gamma(t)$  at the eigenvalue  $\mu$ . Then  $\mathcal{E}$  coincides with the space of generalized resonance vectors of  $\mathcal{P}(t)$  at the resonance  $\mu$ . (If  $\mu$  is an isolated eigenvalue of  $\mathcal{P}(t)$  then  $\mathcal{E}$  coincides with the space of generalized eigenvectors of  $\mathcal{P}(t)$  at  $\mu$ .)*
- (iii)  *$\mathcal{E}$  is a finite dimensional invariant subspace for the operators  $\mathcal{P}_1(t)$  and  $\mathcal{P}_\Gamma(t)$ . The two operators coincide on  $\mathcal{E}$ .*

It follows from Theorem 5.3 that perturbation problems for resonances of the family  $\mathcal{P}(t)$  can be translated into perturbation problems for isolated eigenvalues of the family  $\mathcal{P}_\Gamma(t)$ . Thus perturbation theory for resonances (in our setup) is reduced to classical perturbation theory for eigenvalues. Using this reduction we can obtain perturbation series formulas for resonances which are essentially the same as those obtained for eigenvalues in the classical theory.

In conclusion we remark that the perturbation theory for resonances described in this paper is applicable to many concrete differential problems. Here are some examples of operators  $P$  to which the theory is applicable (with a suitable choice of perturbations).

- (i)  *$P$  the operator  $-\Delta + V$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \Omega$  where  $V$  is an exponentially decaying potential and  $\Omega$  is a compact obstacle.*
- (ii)  *$P$  the operator  $-\Delta + V_1 + V_2$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , where  $V_1$  is a periodic potential and  $V_2$  an exponentially decaying potential.*
- (iii)  *$P$  the Laplace-Beltrami operator on a non-compact hyperbolic manifold with a finite volume.*

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