

Research Article

Stability Theory for Nullity and Deficiency of Linear Relations

Silas Luliro Kito¹ and Gerald Wanjala²

¹Department of Mathematics, Makerere University, P.O. Box 7062, Kampala, Uganda

²Department of Mathematics, Sultan Qaboos University, P.O. Box 36, PC 123 Al Khoud, Oman

Correspondence should be addressed to Gerald Wanjala; wantalag@yahoo.com

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Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two closed linear relations acting between two Banach spaces X and Y , and let λ be a complex number. We study the stability of the nullity and deficiency of \mathcal{A} when it is perturbed by $\lambda\mathcal{B}$. In particular, we show the existence of a constant $\rho > 0$ for which both the nullity and deficiency of \mathcal{A} remain stable under perturbation by $\lambda\mathcal{B}$ for all λ inside the disk $|\lambda| < \rho$.

1. Introduction

For purposes of introduction, we shall consider bounded linear operators A and B with domain X and range in Y . As usual, let $N(A)$ and $R(A)$ denote the null space and range of A respectively. The dimensions of $N(A)$ and $Y/R(A)$ are called the nullity and the deficiency of A respectively and denoted by $\alpha(A)$ and $\beta(A)$. It is well known that $\alpha(A)$ and $\beta(A)$ have some kind of stability when A is subjected to some kind of perturbation (see for example [1]). More precisely, $\alpha(A)$ and $\beta(A)$ are unchanged when A is perturbed by some bounded linear operator B under certain prescribed conditions. This stability can be described in the form

$$\alpha(A - B) - \beta(A - B) = \alpha(A) - \beta(A). \quad (1)$$

Another convenient way of describing this stability is to put it in the form

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(A - B) &= \alpha(A), \\ \beta(A - B) &= \beta(A). \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

The stability concept described here is very useful in studying eigenvalue problems of the form $Ax = \lambda Bx$ and $A^*y = \lambda B^*y$, where A^* denotes the adjoint operator.

This paper deals with the stability theory for nullity and deficiency of linear relations, and it can be seen as a generalization of the classical theory for the corresponding quanti-

ties for linear operators. The theory and exposition developed here goes along the lines of the classical texts on the perturbation theory for linear operators (see for example [1, 2]), but in a more general setting. Some stability theorems for multivalued linear operators or what we refer to here as linear relations have been considered in [3] and more recently in [4]. In either of these cases, the perturbing multivalued linear operator \mathcal{B} does not vary with the varying λ as the case we consider here.

2. Preliminaries

2.1. Relations on Sets. In this section, we introduce some notation and consider some basic concepts concerning relations on sets. Let U and V be two nonempty sets. By a *relation* \mathcal{T} from U to V , we mean a mapping whose domain $D(\mathcal{T})$ is a nonempty subset of U and, taking values in $2^V \setminus \emptyset$, the collection of all nonempty subsets of V . Such a mapping \mathcal{T} is also referred to as a *multivalued* operator or at times as a *set-valued function*. If \mathcal{T} maps the elements of its domain to singletons, then \mathcal{T} is said to be a *single valued* mapping or operator. Let \mathcal{T} be a relation from U to V , and let $\mathcal{T}(u)$ denote the image of an element $u \in U$ under \mathcal{T} . If we define $\mathcal{T}(u) = \emptyset$ for $u \in U$ and $u \notin D(\mathcal{T})$, then the domain $D(\mathcal{T})$ of \mathcal{T} is given by

$$D(\mathcal{T}) = \{u \in U : \mathcal{T}(u) \neq \emptyset\}. \quad (3)$$

Denote by $R(U, V)$ the class of all relations from U to V . If \mathcal{T} belongs to $R(U, V)$, the graph of \mathcal{T} , which we denote by $G(\mathcal{T})$, is the subset of $U \times V$ defined by

$$G(\mathcal{T}) = \{(u, v) \in U \times V : u \in D(\mathcal{T}), v \in \mathcal{T}(u)\}. \quad (4)$$

A relation $\mathcal{T} \in R(U, V)$ is uniquely determined by its graph, and conversely, any nonempty subset of $U \times V$ uniquely determines a relation $\mathcal{T} \in R(U, V)$.

For a relation $\mathcal{T} \in R(U, V)$, we define its inverse \mathcal{T}^{-1} as the relation from V to U whose graph $G(\mathcal{T}^{-1})$ is given by

$$G(\mathcal{T}^{-1}) = \{(v, u) \in V \times U : (u, v) \in G(\mathcal{T})\}. \quad (5)$$

Let $\mathcal{T} \in R(U, V)$. Given a subset M of U , we define the image of M , $\mathcal{T}(M)$ to be

$$\mathcal{T}(M) = \bigcup \{\mathcal{T}(m) : m \in M \cap D(\mathcal{T})\}. \quad (6)$$

With this notation we define the range of \mathcal{T} by

$$R(\mathcal{T}) := \mathcal{T}(U). \quad (7)$$

Let N be a nonempty subset of V . The definition of \mathcal{T}^{-1} given in (5) above implies that

$$\mathcal{T}^{-1}(N) = \{u \in D(\mathcal{T}) : N \cap \mathcal{T}(u) \neq \emptyset\}. \quad (8)$$

If in particular $v \in R(\mathcal{T})$, then

$$\mathcal{T}^{-1}(v) = \{u \in D(\mathcal{T}) : v \in \mathcal{T}(u)\}. \quad (9)$$

For a detailed study of relations, we refer to [3, 5–8], and [9].

2.2. Linear Relations. Let X and Y be linear spaces over a field $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}$ (or \mathbb{C}), and let $\mathcal{T} \in R(X, Y)$. We say that \mathcal{T} is a *linear relation* or a *multivalued linear operator* if for all $x, z \in D(\mathcal{T})$ and any nonzero scalar α we have

$$(1) \quad T(x) + \mathcal{T}(z) = \mathcal{T}(x + z)$$

$$(2) \quad \alpha\mathcal{T}(x) = \mathcal{T}(\alpha x)$$

The equalities in items (1) and (2) above are understood to be set equalities. These two conditions indirectly imply that the domain of a linear relation is a linear subspace. The class of linear relations in $R(X, Y)$ will be denoted by $L R(X, Y)$. If $X = Y$, then we denote $LR(X, X)$ by $LR(X)$. We say that \mathcal{T} is a linear relation in X if $\mathcal{T} \in LR(X)$. We shall use the term *operator* to refer to a single valued linear operator while a multivalued linear operator will be generally referred to as a *linear relation*.

If X and Y are normed linear spaces, we say that $\mathcal{T} \in LR(X, Y)$ is closed if its graph $G(\mathcal{T})$ is a closed subspace of $X \times Y$. The collection of all such \mathcal{T} will be denoted by $CLR(X, Y)$.

We conclude this section with the following theorems which are taken from [3].

Theorem 1. Let $\mathcal{T} \in R(X, Y)$. The following properties are equivalent.

(i) \mathcal{T} is a linear relation

(ii) $G(\mathcal{T})$ is a linear subspace of $X \times Y$

(iii) \mathcal{T}^{-1} is a linear relation

(iv) $G(\mathcal{T}^{-1})$ is a linear subspace of $Y \times X$

Corollary 2. Let $\mathcal{T} \in R(X, Y)$.

(i) Then, \mathcal{T} is a linear relation if and only if

$$\mathcal{T}(\alpha x_1 + \beta x_2) = \alpha\mathcal{T}(x_1) + \beta\mathcal{T}(x_2) \quad (10)$$

holds for all $x_1, x_2 \in D(\mathcal{T})$ and some nonzero scalars α and β

(ii) If \mathcal{T} is a linear relation, then $\mathcal{T}(0)$ and $\mathcal{T}^{-1}(0)$ are linear subspaces

For a linear relation \mathcal{T} , the subspace $\mathcal{T}^{-1}(0)$ is called the *null space* (or *kernel*) of \mathcal{T} and is denoted by $N(\mathcal{T})$.

Theorem 3. Let \mathcal{T} be a linear relation in a linear space X , and let $x \in D(\mathcal{T})$. Then, $y \in \mathcal{T}(x)$ if and only if

$$\mathcal{T}(x) = \mathcal{T}(0) + y. \quad (11)$$

Theorem 3 shows that \mathcal{T} is single valued if and only if $\mathcal{T}(0) = \{0\}$.

Theorem 4. Let $\mathcal{T} \in R(X, Y)$. Then, \mathcal{T} is a linear relation if and only if for all $x_1, x_2 \in D(\mathcal{T})$ and all scalars α and β

$$\alpha\mathcal{T}(x_1) + \beta\mathcal{T}(x_2) \subset \mathcal{T}(\alpha x_1 + \beta x_2). \quad (12)$$

Theorem 5. Let $\mathcal{T} \in LR(X, Y)$. Then,

(a) $\mathcal{T}(M + N) = \mathcal{T}M = \mathcal{T}N$ for $M \subset X$ and $N \subset D(\mathcal{T})$

(b) $\mathcal{T}\mathcal{T}^{-1}(M) = M \cap R(\mathcal{T}) + \mathcal{T}(0)$ for $M \subset Y$

(c) $\mathcal{T}^{-1}\mathcal{T}(M) = M \cap D(\mathcal{T}) + \mathcal{T}^{-1}(0)$ for $M \subset X$

2.3. Normed Linear Relations. Let X be a normed linear space. By B_X , we shall mean the set

$$B_X := \{x \in X : |x| \leq 1\}. \quad (13)$$

For a closed linear subspace E of X , we denote by Q_E the natural quotient map with domain X and null space E . For $\mathcal{T} \in LR(X, Y)$, we shall denote $Q_{\mathcal{T}^{-1}(0)}$ by $Q_{\mathcal{T}}$. It is well known that for $\mathcal{T} \in LR(X, Y)$, the operator $Q_{\mathcal{T}}\mathcal{T}$ is single valued (see [3]).

For $\mathcal{F} \in LR(X, Y)$, we set $\|\mathcal{F}(x)\| = \|Q_{\mathcal{F}}\mathcal{F}(x)\|$ for $x \in D(\mathcal{F})$ and $\|\mathcal{F}\| = \|Q_{\mathcal{F}}\mathcal{F}\|$. Note that these notions do not define a norm since nonzero relations can have zero norm.

Lemma 6. *Let $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \in CLR(X, Y)$ be such that $D(\mathcal{B}) \supset D(\mathcal{A})$ and $\mathcal{B}(0) \subset \mathcal{A}(0)$. If $x_1, x_2 \in D(\mathcal{A})$ are such that $\mathcal{A}(x_1) \cap \mathcal{B}(x_2) \neq \emptyset$, then $\mathcal{A}(x_1) - \mathcal{B}(x_2) \subset \mathcal{A}(0)$.*

Proof. Let $z \in \mathcal{A}(x_1) \cap \mathcal{B}(x_2)$. Since $Q_{\mathcal{A}}$ and $Q_{\mathcal{B}}$ are single valued, we see that

$$Q_{\mathcal{A}}(\mathcal{A}(x_1) - \mathcal{B}(x_2)) = Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(x_1) - Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{B}(x_2) = \tilde{z} - \tilde{z} = \hat{0}. \tag{14}$$

Hence, $\mathcal{A}(x_1) - \mathcal{B}(x_2) \in \mathcal{A}(0)$. □

The following lemma is proved in [3].

Lemma 7. *The following properties are equivalent for a linear relation \mathcal{A} .*

- (i) \mathcal{A} is closed
- (ii) $Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}$ is closed and $\mathcal{A}(0)$ is closed

Lemma 8.

- (a) Let $\mathcal{F} \in LR(X, Y)$ be bounded. Then, $\|\mathcal{F}x\| \leq \|\mathcal{F}\|\|x\|$
- (b) For $\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T} \in LR(X, Y)$ with $D(\mathcal{S}) \subset D(\mathcal{T})$ and $\mathcal{T}(0) \subset \mathcal{S}(0)$, we have

$$\|\mathcal{S}(x) + \mathcal{T}(x)\| \geq \|\mathcal{S}(x)\| - \|\mathcal{T}(x)\|. \tag{15}$$

Proof.

- (a) From ([3], II.1.6), we have $\|\mathcal{F}\| = \sup_{x \in B_{D(\mathcal{F})}} \|\mathcal{F}(x)\|$ so that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{F}\| &= \sup_{x \in D(\mathcal{F})} \left\| \frac{1}{\|x\|} \mathcal{F}(x) \right\|, \\ \|\mathcal{F}\| &\geq \left\| \frac{1}{\|x\|} \mathcal{F}(x) \right\|, \quad x \in D(\mathcal{F}). \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

The inequality $\|\mathcal{F}\|\|x\| \geq \|\mathcal{F}(x)\|$, for all $x \in D(\mathcal{F})$, then follows from ([3], II.1.5).

- (b) Since $\mathcal{T}(0) \subset \mathcal{S}(0)$, we see that $(\mathcal{S} + \mathcal{T})(0) = \mathcal{S}(0) + \mathcal{T}(0) = \mathcal{S}(0)$ since $\mathcal{S}(0)$ is a subspace (linear subset). For $x \in D(\mathcal{S})$, let $s \in \mathcal{S}(x)$ and let $t \in \mathcal{T}(x)$. Then, $s + t \in (\mathcal{S} + \mathcal{T})(x) = \mathcal{S}(x) + \mathcal{T}(x)$, and so by ([3], II.1.4), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{S}(x) + \mathcal{T}(x)\| &= \text{dist}(s + t, (\mathcal{S} + \mathcal{T})(0)) \\ &= \text{dist}(s + t, \mathcal{S}(0)) \\ &\geq \text{dist}(s, \mathcal{S}(0)) - \text{dist}(t, (\mathcal{S}(0))) \\ &\geq \text{dist}(s, \mathcal{S}(0)) - \text{dist}(t, (\mathcal{T}(0))) \\ &= \|\mathcal{S}(x)\| - \|\mathcal{T}(x)\|. \end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

□

Let X be a normed space. By X' , we denote the norm dual of X , that is, the space of all continuous linear functionals x' defined on X , with norm

$$\|x'\| = \inf \left\{ \lambda : \left| [x, x'] \right| \leq \lambda \|x\|, \quad \text{for all } x \in X \right\}, \tag{18}$$

where $[x, x'] := x'(x)$ denotes the action of $x' \in X'$ on $x \in X$. If $M \subset X$ and $N \subset X'$, we write M^\perp and N^\top to mean

$$\begin{aligned} M^\perp &:= \left\{ x' \in X' : [x, x'] = 0, \quad \text{for all } x \in M \right\}, \\ N^\top &:= \left\{ x \in X : [x, x'] = 0, \quad \text{for all } x' \in N \right\}. \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

Let \mathcal{F} be a linear relation with $D(\mathcal{F}) \subset X$ and $R(\mathcal{F}) \subset Y$. We define the adjoint \mathcal{F}' of \mathcal{F} by

$$G(\mathcal{F}') := G(-\mathcal{F}^{-1})^\perp \subset Y' \times X', \tag{20}$$

where

$$[(y, x), (y', x')] = [x, x'] + [y, y']. \tag{21}$$

This means that

$$\begin{aligned} (y', x') \in G(\mathcal{F}') &\text{ if and only if } [y, y'] - [x, x'] = 0, \\ &\text{for all } (x, y) \in G(\mathcal{F}). \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

From (22), we see that $y'(y) = x'(x)$ for all $y \in \mathcal{F}(x)$, $x \in D(\mathcal{F})$. Hence,

$$x' \in \mathcal{F}'(y'), \quad \text{if and only if } y'\mathcal{F}(x) = x'(x), \text{ for all } x \in D(\mathcal{F}). \tag{23}$$

This means that x' is an extension of $y'\mathcal{F}(x)$, and therefore, the adjoint \mathcal{F}' can be characterized as follows:

$$G(\mathcal{F}') = \left\{ (y', x') \in Y' \times X' \text{ such that } x' \text{ is an extension of } y'\mathcal{F}. \right\} \tag{24}$$

Please note that $\mathcal{F}' \in CLR(Y', X')$ (see [3], III.1.2).

Lemma 9 ([3], III.1.4). *Let \mathcal{F} be a closed linear relation. Then,*

- (1) $N(\mathcal{F}') = R(\mathcal{F})^\perp$
- (2) $\mathcal{F}'(0) = D(\mathcal{F})^\perp$
- (3) $N(\mathcal{F}) = R(\mathcal{F}')^\top$
- (4) $\mathcal{F}(0) = D(\mathcal{F}')^\top$

Remark 10. If \mathcal{F} and \mathcal{S} are closed linear relations with $D(\mathcal{F}) \subset D(\mathcal{S})$ and $\mathcal{S}(0) \subset \mathcal{F}(0)$, then $\mathcal{S}'(0) \subset \mathcal{F}'(0)$ by Lemma 9(2).

3. Lower Bound of a Closed Linear relation

Consider a closed linear relation \mathcal{A} on a Banach space X , and let $N(\mathcal{A})$ denote the null space of \mathcal{A} which is closed since \mathcal{A} is closed. Since $N(\mathcal{A}) \subset D(\mathcal{A})$, a coset $\tilde{x} \in \tilde{X} = X/N(\mathcal{A})$ which contains a point of $x \in D(\mathcal{A})$ consists entirely of points of $D(\mathcal{A})$. To see that this is the case, let $\tilde{x} \in \tilde{X}$ and let $x, y \in \tilde{x}$ with $x \in D(\mathcal{A})$. Then, $y - x \in N(\mathcal{A}) \subset D(\mathcal{A})$ and the linearity of $D(\mathcal{A})$ implies that $y = x + (y - x) \in D(\mathcal{A})$. Let \tilde{D} denote the collection of all such cosets \tilde{x} . On setting,

$$A(\tilde{x}) := Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(x), \quad \text{for } \tilde{x} \in \tilde{D}, \quad (25)$$

we define a linear operator $A : \tilde{X} \rightarrow \tilde{X}$, where $\tilde{X} := X/\mathcal{A}(0)$. To see that (25) is well defined, let $x, y \in \tilde{x}$. Then, $x - y \in N(\mathcal{A})$, and therefore,

$$0 \in \mathcal{A}(0) = \mathcal{A}(x - y) = \mathcal{A}(x) - \mathcal{A}(y). \quad (26)$$

We see from (26) that $\mathcal{A}(x) \cap \mathcal{A}(y) \neq \emptyset$. So, let $u \in \mathcal{A}(x) \cap \mathcal{A}(y)$. Then,

$$\mathcal{A}(x) = \mathcal{A}(0) + u = \mathcal{A}(y), \quad (27)$$

so that $Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(x) = Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(y)$. We have

$$D(A) = \tilde{D}, R(A) = R(Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}), N(A) = \{\tilde{0}\}. \quad (28)$$

Remark 11. Since $\mathcal{A}(0) \subset R(\mathcal{A})$, we also have that a coset $\tilde{x} \in \tilde{X}$ that contains a point of $R(\mathcal{A})$ consists entirely of element of $R(\mathcal{A})$. To see that this is the case, let \tilde{x} be a coset in \tilde{X} and let $u, v \in \tilde{x}$ with $u \in R(\mathcal{A})$. Then, $v - u \in \mathcal{A}(0) \subset R(\mathcal{A})$. The linearity of $R(\mathcal{A})$ implies that $v = u + (v - u) \in R(\mathcal{A})$.

Lemma 12. *The linear operator A defined by (25) is closed.*

Proof. Let $\{\tilde{x}_n\}$ be a sequence in \tilde{D} such that $\tilde{x}_n \rightarrow \tilde{x} \in \tilde{X}$, and let $\{Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(x_n)\}$ be a sequence in $R(A)$ such that $Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(x_n) \rightarrow \hat{y} \in \tilde{X}$. Let $x_n \in \tilde{x}_n$ and $x \in \tilde{x}$. Since $\tilde{x}_n \rightarrow \tilde{x}$, we see that $\text{dist}(x_n - x, N(\mathcal{A})) \rightarrow 0$. This means that $x_n - x$ converges to some element of $N(\mathcal{A})$, say,

$$x_n - x \rightarrow u \in N(\mathcal{A}). \quad (29)$$

From (29), we see that $x_n \rightarrow x + u = w \in \tilde{x}$.

Since $Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(x_n) \rightarrow \hat{y} \in \tilde{X}$, that is, $\tilde{z}_n \rightarrow \hat{y}$, we see that $\text{dist}(z_n - y, \mathcal{A}(0)) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ and so $z_n \rightarrow y + v = z \in \hat{y}$ for some $v \in \mathcal{A}(0)$ (where $z_n \in \mathcal{A}(x_n)$ for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$). The closedness of \mathcal{A} implies that $w \in D(\mathcal{A})$ and $z \in \mathcal{A}(w)$. Hence, $\tilde{x} \in \tilde{D}$ and $A(\tilde{x}) = Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(x) = \hat{y}$, showing that A is closed. \square

We see that A^{-1} is single valued since $A^{-1}(\tilde{0}) = \{\tilde{0}\}$. We now introduce the quantity $\gamma(\mathcal{A})$ called the lower bound of the linear relation \mathcal{A} . By definition,

$$\gamma(\mathcal{A}) = \frac{1}{\|A^{-1}\|}, \quad (30)$$

with the understanding that $\gamma(\mathcal{A}) = 0$ if A^{-1} is unbounded and that $\gamma(\mathcal{A}) = \infty$ if $A^{-1} = 0$. It follows from (30) that

$$\gamma(\mathcal{A}) = \sup \{ \gamma \in \mathbb{R} : \|\mathcal{A}(x)\| \geq \gamma \|\tilde{x}\| = \text{dist}(x, N(\mathcal{A})), \quad \forall x \in D(\mathcal{A}) \}. \quad (31)$$

Note that $\gamma(\mathcal{A}) = \infty$ if and only if $\mathcal{A}(x) = \mathcal{A}(0)$ for all $x \in D(\mathcal{A})$. In order for (31) to hold even for this case, one should stipulate that $\infty \times 0 = 0$. Obviously, $\gamma(\mathcal{A}) = \gamma(A)$.

Please note that characterization (31) implies that if $\gamma(\mathcal{A}) = 0$ then the domain of \mathcal{A} cannot consist of the zero element alone.

The fact that $\gamma(\mathcal{A}) = \infty$ if and only if $\mathcal{A}(x) = \mathcal{A}(0)$ for all $x \in D(\mathcal{A})$ leads to Lemma 13 (see also [3], Proposition II.2.2).

Lemma 13. *For $\mathcal{A} \in \text{CLR}(X, Y)$, we have*

$$\gamma(\mathcal{A}) = \begin{cases} \infty, & \text{if } D(\mathcal{A}) \subset N(\mathcal{A}), \\ \inf \left\{ \frac{\|\mathcal{A}(x)\|}{\|\tilde{x}\|} : x \in D(\mathcal{A}) \& x \notin N(\mathcal{A}) \right\}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (32)$$

Remark 14. A bounded linear operator T is closed if and only if $D(T)$ is closed.

Proof. Suppose that $u_n \rightarrow u$ with $u_n \in D(T)$. The boundedness of T implies that $T(u_n)$ is a Cauchy sequence and therefore converges, say $T(u_n) \rightarrow v$. The closedness of T implies that $u \in D(T)$ and $T(u) = v$. This shows that $D(T)$ is closed.

If \mathcal{S} is a closed linear relation from X to Y , the graph of \mathcal{S} , $G(\mathcal{S})$ is a closed subset of $X \times Y$. Sometimes, it is convenient to regard it as a subset of $Y \times X$. More precisely, let $G^I(\mathcal{S})$ be the linear subset of $Y \times X$ consisting of all pairs of the form (v, u) , where $u \in D(\mathcal{S})$ and $v \in \mathcal{S}(u)$. We shall call $G^I(\mathcal{S})$ the inverse graph of \mathcal{S} . As in the case of the graph $G(\mathcal{S})$, $G^I(\mathcal{S})$ is closed if and only \mathcal{S}^{-1} is closed. Clearly, $G(\mathcal{S}) = G^I(\mathcal{S}^{-1})$. Thus, \mathcal{S}^{-1} is closed if and only \mathcal{S} is closed.

Lemma 15. *If \mathcal{A} is a closed linear relation in a Banach space X , then $R(\mathcal{A})$ is closed if and only if $\gamma(\mathcal{A}) > 0$.*

Proof. By definition, $\gamma(\mathcal{A}) > 0$ if and only if A^{-1} is bounded (where A is the operator defined in (25)), and this is true if and only if $D(A^{-1}) = R(A) = R(Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A})$ is closed (we use the fact that A^{-1} is closed because A is closed, and then apply Remark (14)).

Now, assume that $\gamma(\mathcal{A}) > 0$ and let $\{y_n\}$ be a convergent sequence in $R(\mathcal{A})$ with

$$y_n \longrightarrow y. \quad (33)$$

Since $Q_{\mathcal{A}}$ is a bounded linear operator, the sequence $\{Q_{\mathcal{A}}(y_n)\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in $R(Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A})$ and therefore converges to a point $\hat{z} \in R(Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}) \subset \tilde{X} = X/\mathcal{A}(0)$ since $R(Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A})$ is closed. We see that $\text{dist}(y_n - z, \mathcal{A}(0)) \longrightarrow 0$ as $n \longrightarrow \infty$ so that $y_n - z \longrightarrow v$ for some $v \in \mathcal{A}(0)$, that is,

$$y_n \longrightarrow z + v \in \hat{z}. \quad (34)$$

Since $\mathcal{A}(0) \subset R(\mathcal{A})$, a coset $\hat{x} \in \tilde{X}$ that contains a point of $R(\mathcal{A})$ consists entirely of element of $R(\mathcal{A})$. To see that this is the case, let \hat{x} be a coset in \tilde{X} and let $u, v \in \hat{x}$ with $u \in R(\mathcal{A})$. Then, $v - u \in \mathcal{A}(0) \subset R(\mathcal{A})$. The linearity of $R(\mathcal{A})$ implies that $v = u + (v - u) \in R(\mathcal{A})$.

We see from (33) and (34) that $y \in \hat{z}$ and that $y \in R(\mathcal{A})$ since $z \in R(\mathcal{A})$ and $y \in \hat{z}$. This shows that $R(\mathcal{A})$ is closed.

On the other hand, assume that $R(\mathcal{A})$ is closed. Since A^{-1} is closed (since A is closed), it is enough, by the closed graph theorem, to show that $D(A^{-1}) = R(A) = R(Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A})$ is closed. So, assume that $\{\hat{z}_n\}$ is a sequence in $R(Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A})$ such that $\hat{z}_n \longrightarrow \hat{z} \in \tilde{X}$. Then, $\text{dist}(z_n - z, \mathcal{A}(0)) \longrightarrow 0$ as $n \longrightarrow \infty$. Hence, there exists an element $w \in \mathcal{A}(0)$ such that $z_n \longrightarrow z + w \in \hat{z}$. The closedness of $R(\mathcal{A})$ implies that $z + w \in R(\mathcal{A})$ so that $\hat{z} \in R(Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A})$.

Please see ([3], III.5.3) for another proof of Lemma 15.

For the definition of continuity and openness of a linear relation \mathcal{T} mentioned in Lemmas 16 and 17, please refer to [3].

Lemma 16 ([3], II.3.2, III.1.3, III.1.5, III.4.6). *Let $\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T} \in LR(X, Y)$. Then,*

- (a) \mathcal{T} is continuous if and only if $\|T\| < \infty$
- (b) $(\lambda\mathcal{T})' = \lambda\mathcal{T}'$ (for $\lambda \neq 0$)
- (c) \mathcal{T} is open if and only if $\gamma(\mathcal{T}) > 0$
- (d) If $D(\mathcal{S}) \supset D(\mathcal{T})$ and $\|\mathcal{S}\| < \infty$ then $(\mathcal{T} + \mathcal{S})' = \mathcal{T}' + \mathcal{S}'$

Lemma 17 ([3], III.4.6).

- (a) \mathcal{T} is continuous if and only if $D(\mathcal{T}') = \mathcal{T}'(0)^\perp$
- (b) \mathcal{T} is open if and only if $R(\mathcal{T}') = N(\mathcal{T})^\perp$
- (c) If \mathcal{T} is continuous, then $\|\mathcal{T}'\| = \|\mathcal{T}\|$
- (d) If \mathcal{T} is open, then $\gamma(\mathcal{T}) = \gamma(\mathcal{T}')$

4. The Gap between Closed Linear Manifolds and Their Dimensions

Let Z be a Banach space, and let L be a closed subspaces of Z . We denote by S_L the unit sphere of L , that is, $S_L := \{u \in L : \|u\| = 1\}$. For any two closed linear manifolds M and N of Z with $M \neq \{0\}$, define the gap between M and N , denoted by $\delta(M, N)$ to be

$$\delta(M, N) := \sup_{u \in S_M} \text{dist}(u, N), \quad (35)$$

and set $\delta(M, N) = 0$ if $M = \{0\}$. $\delta(M, N)$ can also be characterized as the smallest number δ for which

$$\text{dist}(u, N) \leq \delta\|u\|, \quad \text{for all } u \in M. \quad (36)$$

It can be seen from the definition that $0 \leq \delta(M, N) \leq 1$. See [1] for Lemma 18.

Lemma 18. *Let M and N be linear manifolds in a Banach space Z . If $\dim M > \dim N$, then there exists an $x \in M$ such that*

$$\text{dist}(x, N) = \|x\| > 0. \quad (37)$$

Lemma 18 can be expressed in the language of the quotient space as follows.

Lemma 19. *Let M and N be linear manifolds in a Banach space Z . If $\dim M > \dim N$, then there exists an $x \in M$ such that*

$$\|\tilde{x}\| = \|x\| > 0, \quad \tilde{x} \in \tilde{X} := X/N \text{ (} N \text{ is closed since } \dim N < \infty \text{)}. \quad (38)$$

Lemma 20 is a direct consequence of the preceding one.

Lemma 20. *If $\|\tilde{x}\| < \|x\|$ for every none zero $x \in M$, where $\tilde{x} \in \tilde{X} = X/N$, then $\dim M \leq \dim N$.*

See ([1], Page 200) and [2] for Lemmas 21 and 22 respectively.

Lemma 21. *Let M and N be closed linear manifolds of a Banach space Z . If $\delta(M, N) < 1$, then $\dim M \leq \dim N$.*

Lemma 22. *Let x be an element of a normed linear space X , and let M and N be closed linear subspaces of X . Consider the quotient space $\tilde{X} := X/N$, and let \tilde{x} denote the quotient class of x . For any $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $x_0 \in \tilde{x}$ such that*

$$\text{dist}(x_0, M) \geq (1 - \varepsilon) \left(\frac{1 - \delta(M, N)}{1 + \delta(M, N)} \right) \|x_0\|. \quad (39)$$

5. The Quantity $\nu(\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{B})$

Let X and Y be two linear spaces and let $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \in LR(X, Y)$ with $\mathcal{B}(0) \subset \mathcal{A}(0)$. For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let M_n and N_n be the linear manifolds of X and M'_n and N'_n be the linear manifolds of Y' defined inductively as follows:

$$M_0 = X, M_n = \mathcal{B}^{-1}(\mathcal{A}(M_{n-1})), \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2, \dots, \quad (40)$$

$$N_1 = \mathcal{A}^{-1}(0), N_n = \mathcal{A}^{-1}(\mathcal{B}(N_{n-1})), \quad \text{for } n = 2, 3, \dots, \quad (41)$$

$$M'_0 = Y', M'_n = \mathcal{B}'^{-1}(\mathcal{A}'(M'_{n-1})), \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2, \dots, \quad (42)$$

$$N'_1 = \mathcal{A}'^{-1}(0), N'_n = \mathcal{A}'^{-1}(\mathcal{B}'(N'_{n-1})), \quad \text{for } n = 2, 3, \dots. \quad (43)$$

If $M_k \supset M_{k+1}$, then $\mathcal{A}(M_k) \supset \mathcal{A}(M_{k+1})$, and therefore,

$$M_{k+1} = \mathcal{B}^{-1}(\mathcal{A}(M_k)) \supset \mathcal{B}^{-1}(\mathcal{A}(M_{k+1})) = M_{k+2}. \quad (44)$$

Since $M_0 = X \supset D(\mathcal{B}) \supset M_1$, we conclude by induction that

$$M_0 \supset M_1 \supset M_2 \supset \dots \supset N(\mathcal{B}). \quad (45)$$

Similarly,

$$N_1 \subset N_2 \subset N_3 \subset \dots \subset D(\mathcal{A}). \quad (46)$$

Note that

$$N_1 = N(\mathcal{A}). \quad (47)$$

Lemma 23. *Let n be a positive integer. The following first n conditions are equivalent to one another, and they in turn imply that condition (κ) holds.*

- (1) $N_1 \subset M_n$
- (2) $N_2 \subset M_{n-1}$
- \vdots
- (n) $N_n \subset M_1$,
- (κ) $\mathcal{A}(N_{k+1}) \cap \mathcal{B}(N_k) \neq \emptyset, N_k \subset D(\mathcal{B}), \text{ for } k = 1, 2, \dots, n.$

Proof. First, we prove the equivalence of the conditions (1) to (n). For each $r = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$, (r) implies ($r + 1$). In fact if $N_r \subset M_{n-r+1}$, then (44), (45), and (47) imply that $N_{r+1} = \mathcal{A}^{-1}(\mathcal{B}(N_r)) \subset \mathcal{A}^{-1}(\mathcal{B}(M_{n-r+1})) \subset \mathcal{A}^{-1}(\mathcal{A}(M_{n-r}) + \mathcal{B}(0)) \subset \mathcal{A}^{-1}(\mathcal{A}(M_{n-r}) + \mathcal{A}(0)) = \mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathcal{A}(M_{n-r}) + \mathcal{A}(N(\mathcal{A}))] = \mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathcal{A}(M_{n-r}) + N(\mathcal{A})] \subset M_{n-r} + N(\mathcal{A}) + \mathcal{A}^{-1}(0) = M_{n-r} + \mathcal{A}^{-1}(0) = M_{n-r} + N_1 \subset M_{n-r} + N_r \subset M_{n-r} + M_{n-r+1} = M_{n-r}$.

Conversely, ($r + 1$) implies r . In fact, if $N_{r+1} \subset M_{n-r}$, then

$$N_r \subset N_{r+1} \subset M_{n-r} = \mathcal{B}^{-1}(\mathcal{A}(M_{n-r-1})), \quad (48)$$

so that each $x \in N_r$ has the property that there exists a $z \in$

$\mathcal{B}(x)$ such that $z \in \mathcal{A}(y)$ for some $y \in M_{n-r-1}$. Then, $y \in \mathcal{A}^{-1}(\mathcal{B}(N_r)) = N_{r+1} \subset M_{n-r}$ and so $x \in \mathcal{B}^{-1}(\mathcal{A}(M_{n-r})) = M_{n-r+1}$. This proves that $N_r \subset M_{n-r+1}$.

Next, we prove that (n) implies (κ). So, suppose that (n) is satisfied. Then, $N_k \subset N_n \subset M_1 = \mathcal{B}^{-1}(\mathcal{A}X) \subset D(\mathcal{B})$ for $k < n$, so that for each $x \in N_k$, there exists a $z \in \mathcal{B}(x)$ such that $z \in \mathcal{A}(y)$ for some $y \in X$. Then, $y \in \mathcal{A}^{-1}(\mathcal{B}(N_k)) = N_{k+1}$ and so $\mathcal{A}(N_{k+1}) \cap \mathcal{B}(N_k) \neq \emptyset$. \square

If $N_1 \subset M_n$, then $N_1 \subset M_{n'}$, for all $n' < n$ since M_n is a nonincreasing sequence. We denote by $\nu(\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{B})$ the smallest number n for which the condition $N_1 \subset M_n$ (or any one of the other equivalent conditions) is not satisfied. We set $\nu(\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{B}) = \infty$ if there is no such n . This is the case if for example $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(0) \subset \mathcal{B}^{-1}(0)$.

Lemma 24. *Let X and Y be Banach spaces and let $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \in CLR(X, Y)$ with $D(\mathcal{A}) = D(\mathcal{B}) = X$. Then,*

$$\begin{aligned} M'_n &\subset (\mathcal{B}(N_n))^\perp, \\ N'_n &\subset (\mathcal{A}(M_{n-1}))^\perp, \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

Proof. First, we show that (49) holds for $n = 1$. To begin with, let $y' \in M'_1$ and let $x \in D(\mathcal{B}) \cap N_1$. Then, by definition, $y' \in \mathcal{B}'^{-1}[\mathcal{A}'(Y')]$ and $x \in \mathcal{A}^{-1}(0) \cap D(\mathcal{B})$. Hence, there exists an element $x' \in \mathcal{A}'(Y') \cap R(\mathcal{B}')$ such that $(y', x') \in G(\mathcal{B}')$. Since $x' \in \mathcal{A}'(Y')$, there exists an element $f' \in D(\mathcal{A}') \subset Y'$ such that $(f', x') \in G(\mathcal{A}')$. Since $(x, 0) \in G(\mathcal{A})$, (22) implies that $f'(0) = x'(x)$ so that $x'(x) = 0$. So, for $y \in \mathcal{B}(x)$, $y'(y) = x'(x) = 0$, showing the $y' \in [\mathcal{B}(N_1)]^\perp$.

The second inclusion follows from (see Lemma 9(1)).

$$N'_1 = N(\mathcal{A}') = R(\mathcal{A})^\perp = [\mathcal{A}(M_0)]^\perp \quad (50)$$

We shall therefore assume that (49) has been proved for $n = k$ and prove it for $n = k + 1$. So, let $g' \in M'_{k+1}$ and let $z \in D(\mathcal{B}) \cap N_{k+1}$. Then, $g' \in \mathcal{B}'^{-1}[\mathcal{A}'(M'_k)]$ and $z \in \mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathcal{B}(N_k)] \cap D(\mathcal{B})$. Hence, there exists an element $h' \in \mathcal{A}'(M'_k)$ such that $(g', h') \in G(\mathcal{B}')$. Since $h' \in \mathcal{A}'(M'_k)$, it follows that there exists an element $l' \in M'_k$ such that (l', h') $\in G(\mathcal{A}')$. The fact that $z \in N_{k+1}$ means that there is an element $w \in \mathcal{B}(N_k)$ such that $(z, w) \in G(\mathcal{A})$. This means that $l'(w) = h'(z)$ and $h'(z) = 0$ since $l' \in [\mathcal{B}(N_k)]^\perp$. So, for $u \in \mathcal{B}(z)$, $g'(u) = h'(z) = 0$ meaning that $g' \in [\mathcal{B}(N_{k+1})]^\perp$ and that $M'_{k+1} \subset [\mathcal{B}(N_{k+1})]^\perp$. This proves the first inclusion in (49). The second inclusion can be proved in a similar way. \square

Lemma 25. *Let $\mathcal{A} \in CLR(X, Y)$. For every $f' \in N(\mathcal{A})^\perp$, there exists $g' \in Y'$ such that $g'(y) = f'(x)$, for all $y \in \mathcal{A}(x)$, and all $x \in D(\mathcal{A})$.*

Proof. Define a linear functional g' on Y' by setting $g'(y) = f'(x)$ for all $y \in \mathcal{A}(x)$ and all $x \in D(\mathcal{A})$. Then, g' is defined on $R(\mathcal{A})$ and is bounded. To show that g' is indeed bounded, we first note that for $y \in \mathcal{A}(x)$,

$$|g'(y)| = |f'(x)| \leq \|f\| \|x\|, \quad (51)$$

and consider the quotient space $\tilde{X} := X/N(\mathcal{A})$. Let $x_1 \in \tilde{x}$. Then, $x - x_1 = u$ for some $u \in N(\mathcal{A})$ so that $f(x) = f(x_1)$. This equality means that $\|x\|$ in (51) can be replaced with $\|x_1\|$, for any $x_1 \in \tilde{x}$ without changing the inequality. This therefore means that

$$\begin{aligned} |g'(y)| &\leq \|f'\| \|\tilde{x}\| \leq \|f'\| \|\gamma(\mathcal{A})^{-1}\| \|\mathcal{A}x\| \\ &= \|f'\| \|\gamma(\mathcal{A})^{-1}\| \|Q_{\mathcal{A}}y\| \\ &\leq \|f'\| \|\gamma(\mathcal{A})^{-1}\| \|Q_{\mathcal{A}}\| \|y\|, \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

that is, g' is bounded on $R(\mathcal{A})$. The Hahn-Banach extension theorem implies that g' can be extended to the whole of Y' without changing its bound. \square

Remark 26. Lemma 25 above implies that $N(\mathcal{A})^\perp \subset R(\mathcal{A}')$ and that $N(\mathcal{A})^\perp = R(\mathcal{A}')$ by Lemma 9(3).

Lemma 27. *Let $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \in \text{CLR}(X, Y)$ with $D(\mathcal{A}) = D(\mathcal{B}) = X$, $R(\mathcal{A})$ closed and \mathcal{B} bounded. If $\mathcal{B}(0) \subset \mathcal{A}(0)$, then*

$$M'_1 = [\mathcal{B}(N_1)]^\perp \quad (53)$$

$$v(\mathcal{A}' : \mathcal{B}') = v(\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{B}) \quad (54)$$

Proof. Let $f' \in [\mathcal{B}(N_1)]^\perp = (\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(0)))^\perp$. Since $\mathcal{B}(0) \subset \mathcal{B}(N_1)$, Lemma 16 (a) together with Lemma 17 (a) imply that $f' \in D(\mathcal{B}')$. So, let $g' \in \mathcal{B}'(f')$, that is, $(f', g') \in G(\mathcal{B}')$. This means that for $x \in N_1$ and $y \in \mathcal{B}(x)$, $g'(x) = f'(y) = 0$, which shows that $g' \in N_1^\perp = N(\mathcal{A})^\perp$ and therefore $g' \in R(\mathcal{A}')$ and so $g' \in R(\mathcal{A}')$ by Remark 26. It follows that $f' \in \mathcal{B}'^{-1}[\mathcal{A}'(Y')] = M'_1$. This shows that $[\mathcal{B}(N_1)]^\perp \subset M'_1$. Equality (53) then is followed by (49). To prove the second equality, let $v = v(\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{B})$. Then, $N_1 \subset M_n$ for all $n < v$. Since $M_n = \mathcal{B}^{-1}[\mathcal{A}(M_{n-1})]$, we see that

$$\mathcal{B}(N_1) \subset \mathcal{B}(M_n) \subset \mathcal{A}(M_{n-1}) + \mathcal{B}(0) \subset \mathcal{A}(M_{n-1}) + \mathcal{A}(0) = \mathcal{A}(M_{n-1}), \quad (55)$$

where the last equality follows from the fact that $\mathcal{A}(0) \subset \mathcal{A}(M_{n-1})$ and $\mathcal{A}(M_{n-1})$ is a linear space. We see from (55) that $[\mathcal{A}(M_{n-1})]^\perp \subset [\mathcal{B}(N_1)]^\perp$. It then follows from (49) and (53) that $N'_n \subset M'_1$. This means that $v' = v(\mathcal{A}' : \mathcal{B}') > n$ and that $v' \geq v$.

To prove the opposite inequality, let $n < v'$. Then, we have $N'_1 \subset M'_n$. It follows from Lemmas 9(1), (47), and (49) that $[\mathcal{A}(X)]^\perp \subset [\mathcal{B}(N_n)]^\perp$. Since $R(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{A}(X)$ is closed, this implies that $\mathcal{B}(N_n) \subset \mathcal{A}(X)$. Since $D(\mathcal{B}) = X$, we see that

$N_n \subset N_n + \mathcal{B}(0) \subset \mathcal{B}^{-1}[\mathcal{A}(X)] = M_1$. This shows that $v > n$ and therefore $v \geq v'$. \square

6. Nullity and Deficiency

In this section, we study the behaviour of the nullity and deficiency for linear relations under some perturbations. For $\mathcal{A} \in L R(X, Y)$, the nullity $\alpha(\mathcal{A})$ and the deficiency $\beta(\mathcal{A})$ are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(\mathcal{A}) &:= \dim N(\mathcal{A}), \\ \beta(\mathcal{A}) &:= \dim Y/R(\mathcal{A}). \end{aligned} \quad (56)$$

Lemma 28 ([3], III.7.2). *Let \mathcal{T} be a closed linear relation with $\gamma(\mathcal{T}) > 0$. Then $\alpha(\mathcal{T}') = \beta(\mathcal{T})$.*

Let X and Y be Banach spaces, and let \mathcal{A} be a closed linear relation with $D(\mathcal{A}) \subset X$ and $R(\mathcal{A}) \subset Y$. Let $n \in \{\mathbb{N} \cup \infty\}$ be such that for any $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists an n -dimensional closed linear subset N_ε of $N(\mathcal{A})$ such that

$$\|\mathcal{A}(x)\| \leq \varepsilon \|x\|, \quad \text{for all } x \in N_\varepsilon, \quad (57)$$

while this is not true if n is replaced by a larger number. In such a case, we set $\alpha'(\mathcal{A}) := n$ and define $\beta'(\mathcal{A})$ to be

$$\beta'(\mathcal{A}) := \alpha'(\mathcal{A}'). \quad (58)$$

Lemmas 29 and 30 show that $\alpha'(\mathcal{A})$ is defined for every closed linear relation \mathcal{A} .

Lemma 29. *Assume that for every $\varepsilon > 0$ and any closed linear subset \mathcal{M} of X of finite codimension; there is an $x \in \mathcal{M} \cap D(\mathcal{A})$ such that $\|x\| = 1$ and $\|\mathcal{A}(x)\| \leq \varepsilon$, then $\alpha'(\mathcal{A}) = \infty$.*

Proof. We have to show that for each $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists an infinite dimensional closed linear subset $N_\varepsilon \subset D(\mathcal{A})$ with the property (57). First, we construct two sequences $x_n \in D(\mathcal{A})$ and $f_n \in X'$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_n\| = 1, \|f_n\| = 1, f_n(x_n) = 1, f_k(x_n) = 0, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1, \\ \|\mathcal{A}(x_n)\| \leq 3^{-n}\varepsilon, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}. \end{aligned} \quad (59)$$

For $n = 1$, the result holds by ([1], III-Corollary 1.24). Suppose that x_n, f_k have been constructed for $k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$. Then, x_n and f_n can be constructed in the following way. Let $M \subset X$ be the collection of all $x \in X$ such that $f_k(x) = 0, k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$. Since M is a closed linear subset of X with finite codimension ($\dim M^\perp \leq n-1$ and use $\text{codim } M = \dim M^\perp$), there is an $x_n \in M \cap D(\mathcal{A})$ such that $\|x_n\| = 1$ and $\|\mathcal{A}(x_n)\| \leq 3^{-n}\varepsilon$. For this x_n , there exists an $f_n \in X'$ such that $\|f_n\| = 1$ and $f_n(x_n) = 1$ (see [1], III-Corollary 1.24). It follows from (59) that the x_n are linearly independent so that $M'_\varepsilon := \text{span}\{x_1, x_2, \dots\}$ is infinite dimensional. Each $x \in M'_\varepsilon$ has the form

$$x = \xi_1 x_1 + \xi_2 x_2 + \dots + \xi_n x_n, \tag{60}$$

for some positive integer n . Hence, for $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$f_k(x) = \xi_1 f_k(x_1) + \xi_2 f_k(x_2) + \dots + \xi_{k-1} f_k(x_{k-1}) + \xi_k. \tag{61}$$

We show that the coefficients ξ_k satisfy the inequality

$$|\xi_k| \leq 2^{k-1} \|x\|, k = 1, 2, \dots, n. \tag{62}$$

For $k = 1$, this is clear from (59) and (61). If we assume that (62) has been proved for $k < j$, we see from (61) that

$$\begin{aligned} |\xi_j| &\leq |f_j(x)| + |\xi_1| |f_j(x_1)| + \dots + |\xi_{j-1}| |f_j(x_{j-1})| \\ &\leq \|x\| + |\xi_1| + |\xi_2| + \dots + |\xi_{j-1}| \\ &\leq \|x\| + \|x\| + 2\|x\| + \dots + 2^{j-2} \|x\| \\ &= \|x\| [2 + 2(1 + 2 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^{j-1})] = 2^{j-1} \|x\|. \end{aligned} \tag{63}$$

It follows from (59), (61), and (62) that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{A}(x)\| &\leq |\xi_1| \|\mathcal{A}x_1\| + \dots + |\xi_n| \|\mathcal{A}x_n\| \\ &\leq \left(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{3^2} + \frac{2^2}{3^3} + \dots + \frac{2^{n-1}}{3^n} \right) \varepsilon \|x\| \leq \varepsilon \|x\|. \end{aligned} \tag{64}$$

Let $u \in \bar{M}'_\varepsilon$ and let $\{u_n\}$ be a sequence in M'_ε such that $u_n \rightarrow u$. The boundedness of $Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}$ on M'_ε implies that $\{Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(x_n)\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in $\tilde{Y} := Y/\mathcal{A}(0)$ and therefore converges, say $Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(x_n) \rightarrow \tilde{v} \in \tilde{Y}$. This means that $\text{dist}(x_n - v, \mathcal{A}(0)) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, that is, $x_n - v \rightarrow z \in \mathcal{A}(0)$ for some $z \in \mathcal{A}(0)$. In other words, $x_n \rightarrow v + z = w \in \tilde{v}$. The closedness of \mathcal{A} implies that $x \in D(\mathcal{A})$ and $w \in \mathcal{A}(x)$. Hence, $Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}$ is defined and bounded on the closure of M'_ε with the same bound. \square

Lemma 30. *If \mathcal{A} is a closed linear relation with closed range (that is, $\gamma(\mathcal{A}) > 0$), then $\alpha'(\mathcal{A}) = \alpha(\mathcal{A})$ and $\beta'(\mathcal{A}) = \beta(\mathcal{A})$.*

Proof. By Lemma 16, $\gamma(\mathcal{A}) > 0$ implies $\gamma(\mathcal{A}') > 0$ while Lemma 28 implies that $\alpha(\mathcal{A}') = \beta(\mathcal{A})$. In view of (58), it is enough to show that $\alpha'(\mathcal{A}) = \alpha(\mathcal{A})$. It is clear that $\alpha'(\mathcal{A}) \geq \alpha(\mathcal{A})$. Now suppose that there exists a closed linear manifold N_ε with $\dim N_\varepsilon > \alpha(\mathcal{A}) = \dim N(\mathcal{A})$ and with property (57). Pick $x \in N_\varepsilon$ such that $\|\tilde{x}\| = \|x\| = 1$ where $\tilde{x} \in \tilde{X} := X/N(\mathcal{A})$ (this is possible by ([2], Lemma 241). For this x , $\|\mathcal{A}(x)\| \geq \gamma(\mathcal{A})$ on the one hand and $\|\mathcal{A}(x)\| \leq \varepsilon$ on the other hand, leading to the inequality $\gamma(\mathcal{A}) \leq \varepsilon$. In other words, there is no N_ε with $\dim N_\varepsilon > \alpha(\mathcal{A}) = \dim N(\mathcal{A})$ for $\varepsilon < \gamma(\mathcal{A})$. This proves that $\alpha'(\mathcal{A}) \leq \alpha(\mathcal{A})$ and that $\alpha'(\mathcal{A}) = \alpha(\mathcal{A})$. The second equality follows from (58) and Lemma 28. \square

Lemma 31. *Let $\mathcal{T} \in \text{CLR}(X)$ with nonclosed range (that is, $\gamma(\mathcal{T}) = 0$), then*

$$\alpha'(\mathcal{T}) = \infty. \tag{65}$$

Proof. Let M be any closed linear manifold of X with finite codimension, and let $Q_{\mathcal{T}}$ be denoted by Q . Consider the mapping $T : X/M \rightarrow Q\mathcal{T}(X)/Q\mathcal{T}(M)$ defined by setting $T(\tilde{x}) = Q\widetilde{\mathcal{T}}(x)$. Then, T is clearly well defined and linear. It is well defined since

$$T(\widetilde{x+v}) = Q\widetilde{\mathcal{T}}(x+v) = Q\widetilde{\mathcal{T}}(x) + Q\widetilde{\mathcal{T}}(v) = Q\widetilde{\mathcal{T}}(x) = T\tilde{x}, \tag{66}$$

for any $v \in M$. It follows that $Q\mathcal{T}(X)/Q\mathcal{T}(M)$ is a finite dimensional space since M has finite codimension. ([1], III-Lemma 1.9) implies that $Q\mathcal{T}(X)$ is a closed subset of $\tilde{Y} := Y/\mathcal{T}(0)$ if $Q\mathcal{T}(M)$ is a closed subspace of the same space. This would mean that $\mathcal{T}(X)$ is a closed subset of Y . To see why this is true, let $\{y_n\}$ be a convergent sequence in $\mathcal{T}(X)$ with $y_n \rightarrow y \in Y$. Then, $\{Qy_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in \tilde{Y} and therefore converges to some point $\tilde{z} \in Q\mathcal{T}(X)$. In other words, $y_n - z \rightarrow w \in \mathcal{T}(0)$, so that $y_n \rightarrow z + w \in \tilde{z}$. The uniqueness of the limit implies that $y = z + w \in \tilde{z}$ and that $y \in R(\mathcal{T})$ since $z \in R(\mathcal{T})$ and every coset that contains and element of $R(\mathcal{T})$ consists entirely of elements of $R(\mathcal{T})$. Next, we show that if $\mathcal{T}(M)$ is closed then $Q\mathcal{T}(M)$ is closed. So, assume that $\mathcal{T}(M)$ is closed and let $\{\tilde{z}_n\}$ be a sequence in $Q\mathcal{T}(M)$ that converges to an element $\tilde{z} \in \tilde{Y}$. Then, $z_n - z \rightarrow v \in \mathcal{T}(0)$ and so $z_n \rightarrow z + v \in \tilde{z}$. The closedness of $\mathcal{T}(M)$ implies that $z + v \in \mathcal{T}(M)$ and that $\tilde{z} \in Q\mathcal{T}(M)$.

The contradiction that $\mathcal{T}(X)$ is both open and closed means that $Q\mathcal{T}(M)$ is not closed and that $\mathcal{T}(M)$ is not closed and therefore $\gamma(\mathcal{T}_M) = 0$. Hence, there exists, for any $\varepsilon > 0$, an $x \in M \cap D(\mathcal{T})$ such that $\|x\| = 1$ and $\|\mathcal{T}(x)\| \leq \varepsilon \|\tilde{x}\| \leq \varepsilon \|x\| = \varepsilon$, where $\tilde{x} \in \tilde{X} = X/N(\mathcal{T})$. This shows that the conditions of Lemma 29 are satisfied and therefore $\alpha'(\mathcal{T}) = \infty$. \square

Theorem 32. *Let X and Y be Banach spaces, and let \mathcal{A} be a closed linear relation with $D(\mathcal{A}) \subset X$, having closed range $R(\mathcal{A}) \subset Y$, and with $\alpha(\mathcal{A})$ finite. Let \mathcal{B} be a closed bounded linear relation such that $D(\mathcal{B}) \supset D(\mathcal{A})$, $\mathcal{B}(0) \subset \mathcal{A}(0)$, and*

$$\|\mathcal{B}\| < \gamma(\mathcal{A}). \tag{67}$$

Then, the linear relation $\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}$ is closed and has closed range. Moreover,

$$\alpha(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}) \leq \alpha(\mathcal{A}), \beta(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}) \leq \beta(\mathcal{A}). \tag{68}$$

Proof. Let $\{x_n\}$ be a sequence in $D(\mathcal{A})$ such that $x_n \rightarrow x \in X$, and let $\{y_n\}$ be a sequence in $R(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B})$ such that $y_n \rightarrow y \in Y$, where $y_n = u_n + v_n$ with $u_n \in \mathcal{A}(x_n)$ and $v_n \in \mathcal{B}(x_n)$ for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$. In other words,

$$u_n + v_n \rightarrow y. \tag{69}$$

Note that (67) implies that $\{Q_{\mathcal{B}}\mathcal{B}(x_n)\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in $\tilde{Y} := Y/\mathcal{B}(0)$ and therefore converges to a point of \tilde{Y} , say $Q_{\mathcal{B}}\mathcal{B}(x_n) \rightarrow \tilde{v} \in \tilde{Y}$. Hence, $\text{dist}(v_n - v, \mathcal{B}(0)) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, that is, $v_n - v \rightarrow z$ for some $z \in \mathcal{B}(0)$. Hence, $v_n \rightarrow v + z \in \tilde{v}$. The closedness of \mathcal{B} implies that $x \in D(\mathcal{B})$ and $v + z \in \mathcal{B}(x)$. Hence, $y = y - v - z + (v + z) \in \mathcal{A}(x) + \mathcal{B}(x)$ and so $\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}$ is closed.

To complete the proof, it is enough to show that

$$\alpha'(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}) \leq \alpha(\mathcal{A}), \beta'(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}) \leq \beta'(\mathcal{A}), \quad (70)$$

and then apply Lemma 31 to conclude that $\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}$ has closed range and Lemma 30 to establish the inequalities in the theorem since $\alpha'(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}) \geq \alpha(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B})$ by definition and $\beta'(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}) \geq \alpha(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B})$ by (58) and Lemma 28.

To prove (70), suppose that for a given $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a closed linear manifold $N_\varepsilon \subset D(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}) = D(\mathcal{A})$ such that

$$\|(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B})(x)\| \leq \varepsilon \|x\|, \quad \text{for every } x \in N_\varepsilon. \quad (71)$$

It then follows from (71) and Lemma 8 that

$$\begin{aligned} (\|\mathcal{B}\| + \varepsilon)\|x\| &\geq \|\mathcal{B}(x)\| + \|(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B})(x)\| \geq \|\mathcal{B}(x)\| \\ &+ (\|\mathcal{A}x\| - \|\mathcal{B}(x)\|) \geq \|\mathcal{A}(x)\| \geq \gamma(\mathcal{A})\|\tilde{x}\|, \end{aligned} \quad (72)$$

where $\tilde{x} \in \tilde{X} := X/N(\mathcal{A})$. If we pick ε such that $0 < \varepsilon < \gamma(\mathcal{A}) - \|\mathcal{B}\|$, we see from (72) that $\|\tilde{x}\| < \|x\|$ for all nonzero $x \in D(\mathcal{A})$. It therefore follows from Lemma 20 that

$$\dim N_\varepsilon \leq \dim N(\mathcal{A}) = \alpha(\mathcal{A}), \quad (73)$$

which means that $\alpha'(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}) \leq \alpha(\mathcal{A})$.

To prove the second inequality, we note that Lemma 16 together with Lemma 17 implies that $\|\mathcal{B}'\| = \|\mathcal{B}\|$, $\gamma(\mathcal{A}') = \gamma(\mathcal{A})$, and $(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B})' = \mathcal{A}' + \mathcal{B}'$. It therefore follows that $\|\mathcal{B}'\| \leq \gamma(\mathcal{A}')$. Applying what has been proved above to the pair $\mathcal{A}', \mathcal{B}'$, we see that

$$\beta'(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}) = \alpha'((\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B})') = \alpha'(\mathcal{A}' + \mathcal{B}') \leq \alpha(\mathcal{A}') = \beta(\mathcal{A}'), \quad (74)$$

where the last equality follows from Lemma 28. \square

Lemma 33. *Let X and Y be Banach spaces and let \mathcal{T} be a closed linear relation with $D(\mathcal{T}) \subset X$ and $R(\mathcal{T}) \subset Y$. Set*

$$\|x\|_{D(\mathcal{T})} := \|x\| + \|\mathcal{T}(x)\|, \quad x \in D(\mathcal{T}). \quad (75)$$

Then, $D(\mathcal{T})$ becomes a Banach space if $\|\cdot\|_{D(\mathcal{T})}$ is chosen as the norm.

Proof. That $\|\cdot\|_{D(\mathcal{T})}$ defines a norm on $D(\mathcal{T})$ is clear. To prove completeness, assume that $\{x_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in $D(\mathcal{T})$. Then, $\{x_n\}$ and $\{Q_{\mathcal{T}}\mathcal{T}(x_n)\}$ are Cauchy sequences in X and $\tilde{Y} = Y/\mathcal{T}(0)$, respectively, and therefore converge,

say $x_n \rightarrow x \in X$ and $Q_{\mathcal{T}}\mathcal{T}(x_n) \rightarrow \tilde{u} \in \tilde{Y}$. Let $u_n \in \mathcal{T}(x_n)$ for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then, $\tilde{u}_n \rightarrow \tilde{u}$ and so $\text{dist}(u_n - u, \mathcal{T}(0)) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, that is, $u_n - u \rightarrow v \in \mathcal{T}(0)$. We therefore see that $u_n \rightarrow u + v = s \in \tilde{u}$. The closedness of \mathcal{T} implies that $x \in D(\mathcal{T})$ and that $s \in \mathcal{T}(x)$. Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_n - x\|_{D(\mathcal{T})} &= \|x_n - x\| + \|Q_{\mathcal{T}}\mathcal{T}(x_n - x)\| \\ &= \|x_n - x\| + \|Q_{\mathcal{T}}u_n - Q_{\mathcal{T}}s\| \\ &= \|x_n - x\| + \|\tilde{u}_n - \tilde{u}\| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned} \quad (76)$$

This shows that $D(\mathcal{T})$ is complete. \square

Let X and Y be Banach spaces, and let $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \in \text{CLR}(X, Y)$ be such that $D(\mathcal{A}) \subset D(\mathcal{B})$ and $\mathcal{B}(0) \subset \mathcal{A}(0)$. In Theorem 34, we write $\|\mathcal{B}(x)\|_{\mathcal{A}}$ to mean the quantity $\|Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{B}(x)\|$. The quantities $\|\mathcal{A}(x)\|_{\mathcal{A}}$ and $\|\mathcal{B}(x)\|_{\mathcal{B}}$ are defined in a similar way

Theorem 34. *Let X and Y be Banach spaces, and let \mathcal{A} be a closed linear relation with $D(\mathcal{A}) \subset X$ and with closed range $R(\mathcal{A}) \subset Y$. Let \mathcal{B} be a closed linear relation such that $D(\mathcal{A}) \subset D(\mathcal{B}) \subset X$, $R(\mathcal{B}) \subset Y$, $\mathcal{B}(0) \subset \mathcal{A}(0)$, and*

$$\|\mathcal{B}(x)\|_{\mathcal{B}} \leq \sigma \|x\| + \tau \|\mathcal{A}(x)\|_{\mathcal{A}}, \quad \forall x \in D(\mathcal{A}), \quad (77)$$

where σ and τ are nonnegative constants such that

$$\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}) < \gamma(\mathcal{A}). \quad (78)$$

Then, the linear relation $\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}$ is closed and has closed range. If $\alpha(\mathcal{A}) < \infty$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}) &\leq \alpha(\mathcal{A}), \\ \beta(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}) &\leq \beta(\mathcal{A}). \end{aligned} \quad (79)$$

Proof. Let $\{x_n\}$ be a sequence in $D(\mathcal{A})$ such that $x_n \rightarrow x \in X$, and let $\{y_n\}$ be a sequence in $R(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B})$ such that $y_n \rightarrow y \in Y$, where $y_n = u_n + v_n$ with $u_n \in \mathcal{A}(x_n)$ and $v_n \in \mathcal{B}(x_n)$ for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Note that (77) implies that

$$\|\mathcal{A}(x)\|_{\mathcal{A}} - \|\mathcal{B}(x)\|_{\mathcal{B}} \geq (1 - \tau)\|\mathcal{A}(x)\|_{\mathcal{A}} - \sigma\|x\|. \quad (80)$$

Since $\|\mathcal{B}(x)\|_{\mathcal{B}} = \|Q_{\mathcal{B}}\mathcal{B}(x)\|_{\mathcal{B}} \geq \|Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{B}(x)\|_{\mathcal{A}}$, we see that

$$\|Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(x)\|_{\mathcal{A}} - \|Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{B}(x)\|_{\mathcal{A}} \geq (1 - \tau)\|\mathcal{A}(x)\|_{\mathcal{A}} - \sigma\|x\| \quad (81)$$

and that

$$\|Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(x) + Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{B}(x)\|_{\mathcal{A}} \geq (1 - \tau)\|Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(x)\|_{\mathcal{A}} - \sigma\|x\|. \quad (82)$$

Inequality (82) and the linearity of $Q_{\mathcal{A}}$ imply that

$$\|Q_{\mathcal{A}}(u_n + v_n)\|_{\mathcal{A}} \geq (1 - \tau)\|Q_{\mathcal{A}}u_n\|_{\mathcal{A}} - \sigma\|x_n\|, \quad (83)$$

so that

$$\|y_n\| = \|u_n + v_n\| \geq (1 - \tau)\|Q_{\mathcal{A}}u_n\| - \sigma\|x_n\|. \quad (84)$$

It therefore follows that for $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\|y_n - y_m\| \geq (1 - \tau)\|Q_{\mathcal{A}}u_n - Q_{\mathcal{A}}u_m\| - \sigma\|x_n - x_m\|. \quad (85)$$

Since $1 - \tau > 0$ by (78) and both $\{x_n\}$ and $\{y_n\}$ are Cauchy sequences, it follows by (85) that $\{Q_{\mathcal{A}}u_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence and therefore converges, say

$$\tilde{u}_n \longrightarrow \tilde{u}, \quad (86)$$

where we denote $Q_{\mathcal{A}}u_n$ by \tilde{u}_n in $Y/\mathcal{A}(0)$. The convergence in (86) implies that $\text{dist}(u_n - u, \mathcal{A}(0)) \longrightarrow 0$ as $n \longrightarrow \infty$. This means that $u_n - u$ converges to an element of $\mathcal{A}(0) = \mathcal{A}(0)$, say $u_n - u \longrightarrow z \in \mathcal{A}(0)$. This means that $u_n \longrightarrow z - u = s$. The closedness of \mathcal{A} implies that $x \in D(\mathcal{A})$ and $s \in \mathcal{A}(x)$. Since $u_n \longrightarrow s$, we see that $Q_{\mathcal{A}}u_n = Q_{\mathcal{A}}s$. Applying (77) to $x_n - x$, we see that $Q_{\mathcal{B}}\mathcal{B}(x_n) \longrightarrow Q_{\mathcal{B}}\mathcal{B}(x)$, that is, $\text{dist}(v_n - v, \mathcal{B}(0)) \longrightarrow 0$ as $n \longrightarrow \infty, v \in \mathcal{B}(x)$. This shows that $v_n - v$ converges to an element say w of $\mathcal{B}(0)$, that is, $v_n \longrightarrow w - v = r \in \mathcal{B}(x)$ since $\mathcal{B}(x) = \mathcal{B}(0) + v$. Hence, $y = s + r \in (\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B})(x)$, showing that $\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}$ is closed.

We introduce a norm on $D(\mathcal{A})$ by

$$\|x\|_{\check{D}} := (\sigma + \varepsilon)\|x\| + (\tau + \varepsilon)\|\mathcal{A}(x)\| \geq \varepsilon\|x\|, \quad (87)$$

for some arbitrary but fixed positive constant ε . Note that the space $D(\mathcal{A})$ becomes a Banach space by Lemma 33, which we denote by \check{D} . We now regard \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} as linear relations with $D(\mathcal{A}) = D(\mathcal{B}) = \check{D}$ and denote them by $\check{\mathcal{A}}$ and $\check{\mathcal{B}}$ respectively. Since $\|x\|_{\check{D}} = (\sigma + \varepsilon)\|x\| + (\tau + \varepsilon)\|\mathcal{A}(x)\| > \sigma\|x\| + \tau\|\mathcal{A}(x)\| \geq \|B(x)\|$ for every $x \in \check{D}$ and $\|\check{\mathcal{B}}\| := \sup_{x \in \check{D}} \|\check{\mathcal{B}}(x)\|$, we see that $\|\check{\mathcal{B}}\| \leq 1$. From $\|\mathcal{A}(x)\| \leq (\tau + \varepsilon)^{-1}\|x\|_{\check{D}}$ and the definition of $\|\check{\mathcal{A}}\|$, we also see that $\|\check{\mathcal{A}}\| \leq (\tau + \varepsilon)^{-1}$.

It is clear that $R(\check{\mathcal{A}}) = R(\mathcal{A})$ is closed and that

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(\check{\mathcal{A}}) &= \alpha(\mathcal{A}), \beta(\check{\mathcal{A}}) = \beta(\mathcal{A}), \\ \alpha(\check{\mathcal{A}} + \check{\mathcal{B}}) &= \alpha(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}), \beta(\check{\mathcal{A}} + \check{\mathcal{B}}) = \beta(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}). \end{aligned} \quad (88)$$

Please note that $\gamma(\check{\mathcal{A}}) = \gamma(\mathcal{A})$ if $\gamma(\mathcal{A}) = \infty$. In order to relate $\gamma(\check{\mathcal{A}})$ to $\gamma(\mathcal{A})$ in the other case, we recall that in this case,

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma(\check{\mathcal{A}}) &= \inf \left\{ \frac{\|\check{\mathcal{A}}(x)\|}{\|\tilde{x}\|_{\check{D}}} : x \in \check{D}, x \notin N(\check{\mathcal{A}}) \right\} \\ &= \inf \left\{ \frac{\|\mathcal{A}(x)\|}{\|\tilde{x}\|_{\check{D}}} : x \in \check{D}, x \notin N(\check{\mathcal{A}}) \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (89)$$

where $\tilde{x} \in \check{X} := X/N(\mathcal{A})$.

But

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{x}\|_{\check{D}} &= \inf_{z \in N(\mathcal{A})} \|x - z\|_{\check{D}} = \inf_{z \in N(\mathcal{A})} [(\sigma + \varepsilon)\|x - z\| + (\tau + \varepsilon)\|\mathcal{A}(x - z)\|] \\ &= (\sigma + \varepsilon)\|\tilde{x}\| + (\tau + \varepsilon)\|\mathcal{A}(x)\|, \end{aligned} \quad (90)$$

where we have used the linearity of the natural quotient map and the fact that $\mathcal{A}(z) = \mathcal{A}(0)$.

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma(\check{\mathcal{A}}) &= \inf \left\{ \frac{\|A(x)\|}{(\sigma + \varepsilon)\|\tilde{x}\| + (\tau + \varepsilon)\|\mathcal{A}(x)\|} : x \in D(\mathcal{A}), x \notin N(\mathcal{A}) \right\} \\ &= \frac{\gamma(\mathcal{A})}{(\sigma + \varepsilon) + (\tau + \varepsilon)\gamma(\mathcal{A})}, \end{aligned} \quad (91)$$

where we have used the fact that $f(t) = t/(\alpha + t)$ is an increasing function for any constant α .

In view of (78), we can make $\gamma(\check{\mathcal{A}}) > 1$ by choosing ε small enough. Since $\|\check{\mathcal{B}}\| \leq 1$, we can apply Theorem 32 to the pair $\check{\mathcal{A}}, \check{\mathcal{B}}$ with the result that $R(\check{\mathcal{A}} + \check{\mathcal{B}}) = R(\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B})$ is closed and (68) holds with \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} replaced with $\check{\mathcal{A}}, \check{\mathcal{B}}$. The result then follows (88). \square

7. Stability Theorems

Consider an eigenvalue problem of the form

$$Ax = \lambda B, \quad (92)$$

where A and B are linear operators from X to Y and the associated problem

$$A^*f' = \lambda B^*f', \quad (93)$$

where the adjoints A^* and B^* exist. The null space $N(A - \lambda B)$ of the linear operator $A - \lambda B$ is the solution set of the eigenvalue problem (92). Similarly, $N(A^* - \lambda B^*) = R(A - \lambda B)^\perp$ is the solution set of the eigenvalue problem (93). In studying the above eigenvalue problems, one therefore gets interested in the behaviour of $N(A - \lambda B)$ and $N(A^* - \lambda B^*)$.

In the setting of linear relations, the eigenvalue problems (92) and (93) can be formulated as

$$\mathcal{A}(x) \cap \lambda \mathcal{B}(x) \neq \emptyset, \quad (94)$$

$$\mathcal{A}'(x') \cap \lambda \mathcal{B}'(x') \neq \emptyset, \quad (95)$$

where $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \in LR(X, Y)$. Conditions (94) and (93) are equivalent to

$$(\mathcal{A} - \lambda \mathcal{B})(x) = (\mathcal{A} - \lambda \mathcal{B})(0), \quad (96)$$

$$(\mathcal{A}' - \lambda\mathcal{B}') (x') = (\mathcal{A}' - \lambda\mathcal{B}') (0), \quad (97)$$

respectively.

As before, the solution sets of (96) and (97) are $N(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})$ and $N(\mathcal{A}' - \lambda\mathcal{B}') = R(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})^\perp$, respectively. In this last section, we study the stability of the dimensions of the null spaces of $\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}$ and $\mathcal{A}' - \lambda\mathcal{B}'$ as λ varies in some specified subset of the complex plane.

Theorem 35. *Let X and Y be Banach spaces and let $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \in \text{CLR}(X, Y)$ be such that \mathcal{A} has closed range, $D(\mathcal{B}) \supset D(\mathcal{A})$, $\mathcal{B}(0) \subset \mathcal{A}(0)$, and*

$$\|\mathcal{B}(x)\| \leq \sigma\|x\| + \tau\|\mathcal{A}(x)\|, \quad \text{for every } x \in D(\mathcal{A}), \quad (98)$$

where σ and τ are nonnegative constants. Then $\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}$ is closed for $|\lambda| < \gamma(\mathcal{A})/(\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))$, and if $R(\mathcal{A}) \setminus \mathcal{A}(0) \neq \emptyset$, then $\gamma(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}) < \infty$ for $|\lambda| \geq \gamma(\mathcal{A})/(\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))$.

Proof. It follows from Theorem 34 that $\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}$ is closed if $|\lambda| < \gamma(\mathcal{A})/(\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))$.

If $\gamma(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}) = \infty$, then $(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})(x) = (\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})(0) = \mathcal{A}(0)$. The fact that $(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})(x) = (\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})(0)$ for every $x \in D(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}) = D(\mathcal{A})$ implies that $\mathcal{A}(x) \cap \lambda\mathcal{B}(x) \neq \emptyset$ for every $x \in D(\mathcal{A})$. Since $\mathcal{B}(0) \subset \mathcal{A}(0)$, it follows that $\|\mathcal{A}(x)\| \leq \|\lambda\mathcal{B}(x)\|$ for every $x \in D(\mathcal{A})$ and therefore

$$\|\mathcal{A}(x)\| \leq |\lambda| \|\mathcal{B}(x)\| \leq |\lambda|(\sigma\|x\| + \tau\|\mathcal{A}(x)\|), \quad (99)$$

so that

$$(1 - |\lambda|\tau)\|\mathcal{A}(x)\| \leq \sigma|\lambda|\|x\|. \quad (100)$$

Since $R(\mathcal{A}) \neq \mathcal{A}(0)$, we see that there exists at least one $\tilde{x} \in \tilde{X} = X/N(\mathcal{A})$ with $\tilde{x} \neq 0$. Inequality (100) implies that

$$\gamma(\mathcal{A})\|\tilde{x}\| \leq \|\mathcal{A}(x)\| \leq \sigma|\lambda|\|x\|/(1 - |\lambda|\tau). \quad (101)$$

Since x can vary freely in \tilde{x} , we conclude that $\gamma(\mathcal{A}) \leq \sigma|\lambda|/(1 - |\lambda|\tau)$ and that $|\lambda| \geq \gamma(\mathcal{A})/(\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))$. \square

Theorem 36. *Let X and Y be Banach spaces, and let $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \in \text{CLR}(X, Y)$ be such that \mathcal{A} has closed range, $D(\mathcal{B}) \supset D(\mathcal{A})$, $\mathcal{B}(0) \subset \mathcal{A}(0)$, and*

$$\|\mathcal{B}(x)\| \leq \sigma\|x\| + \tau\|\mathcal{A}(x)\|, \quad \text{for every } x \in D(\mathcal{A}), \quad (102)$$

where σ and τ are nonnegative constants. If $\nu(\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{B}) = \infty$, then

$$\delta(N(\mathcal{A}), N(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})) \leq \frac{\sigma|\lambda|}{\gamma(\mathcal{A}) - |\lambda|(\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))}. \quad (103)$$

Proof. Let N_k be as defined in (41) and consider a sequence z_k with the following properties:

$$\begin{aligned} z_k &\in N_k, \mathcal{A}(z_{k+1}) \cap \mathcal{B}(z_k) \neq \emptyset, \\ \xi\|z_{k+1}\| &\leq \|\mathcal{A}(z_{k+1})\|, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, \end{aligned} \quad (104)$$

where ξ is a positive constant. We show that for each $z \in N(\mathcal{A})$ and $\xi < \gamma(\mathcal{A})$, there is a sequence z_k that satisfies (104) such that $z = z_1$. We set $z = z_1$ and construct z_k by induction. Suppose z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k have been constructed with properties (104). Since $z_k \in N_k \subset M_1 = \mathcal{B}^{-1}(\mathcal{A}(X))$, there exists a $z_{k+1} \in D(\mathcal{A})$ such that $\mathcal{A}(z_{k+1}) \cap \mathcal{B}(z_k) \neq \emptyset$. Since $\gamma(\mathcal{A})\|\tilde{z}_{k+1}\| \leq \|\mathcal{A}(z_{k+1})\|$ and z_{k+1} can be replaced by any other element of \tilde{z}_{k+1} , we can choose z_{k+1} such that $\xi\|z_{k+1}\| \leq \|\mathcal{A}(z_{k+1})\|$. Since $\mathcal{A}(z_{k+1}) \cap \mathcal{B}(z_k) \neq \emptyset$, we see that $z_{k+1} \in \mathcal{A}^{-1}(\mathcal{B}(N_n)) = N_{k+1}$. This completes the induction process.

Since $\mathcal{A}(z_{k+1}) \cap \mathcal{B}(z_k) \neq \emptyset$ and $\mathcal{A}(0) \supset \mathcal{B}(0)$, we see that

$$\|\mathcal{A}(z_{k+1})\| \leq \|\mathcal{B}(z_k)\| \leq \sigma\|z_k\| + \tau\|\mathcal{A}(z_k)\|. \quad (105)$$

For $k = 1$, (105) gives $\|\mathcal{A}(z_2)\| \leq \|\mathcal{B}(z_1)\| \leq \sigma\|z_1\|$ since $z_1 \in N(\mathcal{A})$. For $k \geq 2$, (104) implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{A}(z_{k+1})\| &\leq \|\mathcal{B}(z_k)\| \leq \sigma\|z_k\| + \tau\|\mathcal{A}(z_k)\| \\ &\leq (\sigma\xi^{-1} + \tau)\|\mathcal{A}(z_k)\| \leq (\sigma\xi^{-1} + \tau)^2\|\mathcal{A}(z_{k-1})\| \\ &\leq \dots \leq (\sigma\xi^{-1} + \tau)^{k-1}\|\mathcal{A}(z_2)\| \\ &= \xi^{-(k-1)}(\sigma + \xi\tau)^{k-1}\|\mathcal{A}(z_2)\| \\ &\leq \sigma\xi^{-(k-1)}(\sigma + \xi\tau)^{k-1}\|z_1\|. \end{aligned} \quad (106)$$

We also see from (104) and (106) that

$$\|z_{k+1}\| \leq \sigma\xi^{-k}(\sigma + \xi\tau)^{k-1}\|z_1\|, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \quad (107)$$

The bounds in (106) and (107) imply that the series

$$\begin{aligned} u(\lambda) &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda^{k-1} z_k, \\ \lambda(\mathcal{A}) &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda^k Q_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{A}(z_{k+1}), \\ \lambda(\mathcal{B}) &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda^{k-1} Q_{\mathcal{B}} \mathcal{B}(z_k), \\ \lambda(\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{A}}) &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda^{k-1} Q_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{B}(z_k) \end{aligned} \quad (108)$$

are absolutely convergent for $|\lambda| < \xi/(\sigma + \xi\tau)$. The convergence of the last series follows from the fact that $\|Q_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{B}(z_k)\| \leq \|Q_{\mathcal{B}} \mathcal{B}(z_k)\|$ since $\mathcal{B}(0) \subset \mathcal{A}(0)$.

Let $u_n(\lambda)$, $\lambda_n(\mathcal{A})$, $\lambda_n(\mathcal{B})$, and $\lambda_n(\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{A}})$ denote the sequences of the partial sums of the above series in that order. Then, for each n , $u_n(\lambda) \in D(\mathcal{A})$ and $\lambda_n(\mathcal{A}) \in \tilde{Y} := Y/\mathcal{A}(0)$. Furthermore, $u_n(\lambda) \rightarrow u(\lambda)$ and $\lambda_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \lambda(\mathcal{A})$. Since $Q_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{A}$ is closed by Lemma 7, we see that $u(\lambda) \in D(Q_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{A}) = D(\mathcal{A})$ and that

$$Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(u(\lambda)) = \lambda(\mathcal{A}) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda^k Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(z_{k+1}). \quad (109)$$

Since $\mathcal{A}(z_{k+1}) \cap \mathcal{B}(z_k) \neq \emptyset$, a similar argument shows that

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{B}(u(\lambda)) &= \lambda(\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{A}}) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda^{k-1} Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{B}(z_k) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda^k Q_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{A}(z_{k+1}) = \lambda(\mathcal{A}). \end{aligned} \quad (110)$$

One also obtains the equality $Q_{\mathcal{B}}\mathcal{B}(u(\lambda)) = \lambda(\mathcal{B}) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda^k Q_{\mathcal{B}}\mathcal{B}(z_k)$ using the closedness of \mathcal{B} . From (109) and (110), we see that

$$Q_{\mathcal{A}}[\mathcal{A}(u(\lambda)) - \lambda\mathcal{B}(u(\lambda))] = \tilde{0}, \quad (111)$$

and so $u(\lambda) \in N(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})$. Furthermore,

$$\|u(\lambda) - z_1\| \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \boxtimes |\lambda|^{k-1} \|z_k\| \leq \left(\frac{\sigma|\lambda|}{\xi - |\lambda|(\sigma + \tau\xi)} \right) \|z_1\|. \quad (112)$$

Since there is such a $u(\lambda) \in N(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})$ for every $z - z_1 \in N(\mathcal{A})$, we conclude that

$$\delta(N(\mathcal{A}), N(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})) \leq \frac{\sigma|\lambda|}{\gamma(\mathcal{A}) - |\lambda|(\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))}. \quad (113)$$

□

We observe that if $\alpha(\mathcal{A}) < \infty$ then Theorem 34 can be used to conclude that $\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}$ has closed range if $|\lambda| < \gamma(\mathcal{A})/(\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))$. However, this conclusion is not possible if no restriction is imposed on $\alpha(\mathcal{A})$. This case is considered in Lemma 37.

Lemma 37. *Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be as in Theorem 36 with $\nu(\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{B}) = \infty$. Then, $\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}$ has closed range for $|\lambda| < \gamma(\mathcal{A})/(3\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))$.*

Proof. In the present case, let $x \in X$ and set $y = x - u$ for any $u \in N(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})$. Lemma 22 implies that for any $\varepsilon > 0$,

$$\|\tilde{y}\| = \text{dist}(y, N(\mathcal{A})) \geq \frac{1 - \delta(N(\mathcal{A}), N(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}))}{1 + \delta(N(\mathcal{A}), N(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}))} (1 - \varepsilon) \|y\|. \quad (114)$$

Suppose that $x \in D(\mathcal{A}) = D(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})$, and let $\delta := \delta(N(\mathcal{A}) : N(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}))$. Since $(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})(u) = (\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})(0) = \mathcal{A}(0)$, we see that,

$$\begin{aligned} \|(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})(x)\| &= \|(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})(y)\| \geq \|\mathcal{A}(y)\| - |\lambda|\|\mathcal{B}(y)\| \\ &\geq \|\mathcal{A}(y)\| - |\lambda|(\sigma\|y\| + \tau\|\mathcal{A}(y)\|) \\ &= (1 - \tau|\lambda|)\|\mathcal{A}(y)\| - \sigma|\lambda|\|y\| \\ &\geq (1 - \tau|\lambda|)\gamma(\mathcal{A})\|\tilde{y}\| - \sigma|\lambda|\|y\| \\ &\geq (1 - \tau|\lambda|)\gamma(\mathcal{A})\left(\frac{1 - \delta}{1 + \delta}\right)(1 - \varepsilon)\|y\| - \sigma|\lambda|\|y\| \text{ (by (115))} \\ &\geq [\gamma(\mathcal{A}) - (2\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))|\lambda|](1 - \varepsilon)\|y\| - \sigma|\lambda|\|y\| \text{ (by (104))} \\ &= [(\gamma(\mathcal{A}) - (2\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))|\lambda|)(1 - \varepsilon) - \sigma|\lambda|]\|y\|. \end{aligned} \quad (115)$$

Let \tilde{X} denote the quotient space $X/N(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})$. Since $x - y = u \in N(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})$, we see that $\|y\| \geq \|\tilde{y}\| = \|\tilde{x}\|$, and therefore, (115) implies that

$$\|(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})(x)\| \geq [(\gamma(\mathcal{A}) - (2\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))|\lambda|)(1 - \varepsilon) - \sigma|\lambda|]\|\tilde{x}\|. \quad (116)$$

Letting $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ in (116) leads to the inequality

$$\|(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})(x)\| \geq [(\gamma(\mathcal{A}) - (2\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))|\lambda|) - \sigma|\lambda|]\|\tilde{x}\|, \quad (117)$$

from which we conclude that

$$\gamma(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}) \geq (\gamma(\mathcal{A}) - (3\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))|\lambda|). \quad (118)$$

It therefore follows that $\gamma(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}) > 0$, and therefore, $R(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})$ is closed if $|\lambda| < \gamma(\mathcal{A})/(3\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))$. □

Finally, we establish the stability of both the nullity and deficiency of $\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}$ for λ inside the disk $|\lambda| < \rho$ for some constant ρ .

Theorem 38. *Let X and Y be Banach spaces, and let $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \in \text{CLR}(X, Y)$ be such that \mathcal{A} has closed range, $D(\mathcal{B}) \supset D(\mathcal{A})$, $\mathcal{B}(0) \subset \mathcal{A}(0)$, and*

$$\|\mathcal{B}(x)\| \leq \sigma\|x\| + \tau\|\mathcal{A}(x)\|, \quad \text{for every } x \in D(\mathcal{A}), \quad (119)$$

where σ and τ are nonnegative constants. If $\nu(\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{B}) = \infty$, then $\alpha(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})$ and $\beta(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})$ are constants for all λ for which $|\lambda| < \gamma(\mathcal{A})/(3\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))$.

Proof. Let $u \in N(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})$. Then, $\mathcal{A}(u) \cap \lambda\mathcal{B}(u) \neq \emptyset$ and we see from (101) that

$$\|\tilde{u}\| \leq \sigma|\lambda| \frac{\|u\|}{(1 - |\lambda|\tau)\gamma(\mathcal{A})}. \quad (120)$$

Since $\|\tilde{u}\| = \text{dist}(u, N(\mathcal{A}))$, we see from characterization (36) that

$$\delta(N(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}), N(\mathcal{A})) \leq \frac{\sigma|\lambda|}{(1 - |\lambda|\tau)\gamma(\mathcal{A})}. \quad (121)$$

Since $\sigma|\lambda|/((1 - |\lambda|\tau)\gamma(\mathcal{A})) < 1$ if $|\lambda| < \gamma(\mathcal{A})/(\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))$, Lemma 21 implies that

$$\alpha(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}) \leq \alpha(\mathcal{A}), \quad \text{for } |\lambda| < \frac{\gamma(\mathcal{A})}{\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A})}. \quad (122)$$

The reverse inequality follows from Theorem 36 by noting that the right-hand side of (103) is less than one if $|\lambda| < \gamma(\mathcal{A})/(2\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))$. We therefore conclude by Lemma 21 that $\alpha(\mathcal{A}) \leq \alpha(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B})$ if $|\lambda| < \gamma(\mathcal{A})/(2\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A}))$. Combined with (122), we conclude that

$$\alpha(\mathcal{A}) = \alpha(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}), \quad \text{for } |\lambda| < \frac{\gamma(\mathcal{A})}{2\sigma + \tau\gamma(\mathcal{A})}. \quad (123)$$

To show that $\beta(\mathcal{A} - \lambda) = \beta(\mathcal{A})$, we make use of the linear relations $\check{\mathcal{A}}$ and $\check{\mathcal{B}}$ as defined in the proof of Theorem 34. Since $\check{\mathcal{A}}$ is bounded, Lemmas 16 (c), 17 (d), and 15 imply that $R(\check{\mathcal{A}}')$ has closed range. Since $\check{\mathcal{B}}(0)' \subset \check{\mathcal{A}}(0)'$ by Remark 10 and $\nu(\check{\mathcal{A}}' : \check{\mathcal{B}}') = \infty$ by Lemma 27, all the assumptions of Theorem 38 are satisfied by the pair $\check{\mathcal{A}}'$ and $\check{\mathcal{B}}'$. Since $\|\check{\mathcal{B}}'\| = \|\check{\mathcal{B}}\| < 1$ by Lemmas 16 (a) and 17 (c), it follows from (123) that

$$\alpha(\check{\mathcal{A}}' - \lambda\check{\mathcal{B}}') = \alpha(\check{\mathcal{A}}'), \quad \text{for } |\lambda| < \frac{\gamma(\check{\mathcal{A}}')}{2\|\check{\mathcal{B}}'\|}. \quad (124)$$

Since $(\check{\mathcal{A}} - \lambda\check{\mathcal{B}})' = (\check{\mathcal{A}}' - \lambda\check{\mathcal{B}}')$ by Lemma 16 (b) and (d) and $(\check{\mathcal{A}} - \lambda\check{\mathcal{B}})$ has closed range (since $\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}$ has closed range), it follows from (88), Lemma 28, and (124) that

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathcal{B}) &= \beta(\check{\mathcal{A}} - \lambda\check{\mathcal{B}}) = \alpha(\check{\mathcal{A}}' - \lambda\check{\mathcal{B}}') \\ &= \alpha(\check{\mathcal{A}}') = \beta(\check{\mathcal{B}}) = \beta(\mathcal{B}). \end{aligned} \quad (125)$$

□

Theorem 38 remains true if we replace the requirement $\nu(\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{B}) = \infty$ with $\mathcal{B}^{-1}(0) \subset \mathcal{A}^{-1}(0)$.

Data Availability

The data in terms of references used in this manuscript can be publicly accessed.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

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