

ON NOETHERICITY AND INDEX OF DIFFERENTIAL OPERATORS IN
ANISOTROPIC WEIGHTED SOBOLEV SPACES

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This paper studies Noethericity and index in anisotropic weighted Sobolev spaces in \mathbb{R}^m . Sufficient conditions are established for Noethericity preservation in weighted spaces. Applying the results obtained for operators acting in weighted Sobolev spaces, sufficient condition for semi-elliptic operator to have zero index is found.

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Introduction. In this paper Noethericity preservation problem and the index of differential linear operators in anisotropic weighted Sobolev spaces in \mathbb{R}^m are studied.

Let us state some known results concerning the Noethericity and index of differential operators. Noethericity for elliptic operators on smooth compact manifolds was proved in [1], and the formula for their indices is in the topological form (see [2]). For the elliptic operators in unbounded domains Noethericity has been proved for the special class of operators in weighted Sobolev spaces in \mathbb{R}^m (see [3]), and the Noethericity in terms of limiting operators was studied (see [4]). The class of Noetherian semi-elliptic operators with constant coefficients in \mathbb{R}^m is described in [5, 6], Noethericity for a class of semi-elliptic operators with variable coefficients in weighted Sobolev spaces was obtained in [7]. Index invariance on the scale of anisotropic spaces is studied in [8], where the sufficient condition for it is established.

Basic Concepts and Definitions.

Definition 1. A linear bounded operator A acting from whole a Banach space X to a Banach space Y is called Noetherian, if the following conditions hold:

1. The image of the operator A is closed ($Im(A) = \overline{Im(A)}$).
2. The kernel of the operator A is finite dimensional ($\dim Ker(A) < \infty$).

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3. The cokernel of the operator A is finite dimensional

$$(\dim \operatorname{coker}(A) = \dim Y / \operatorname{Im}(A) < \infty).$$

The difference between the dimension of the kernel and the cokernel is called index of the operator:

$$\operatorname{ind}(A) = \dim \operatorname{Ker}(A) - \dim \operatorname{coker}(A).$$

Definition 2. A linear bounded operator A from a Banach space X to a Banach space Y is called normally solvable, if the image of operator A is closed ($\operatorname{Im}(A) = \overline{\operatorname{Im}(A)}$).

Let X_i, Y_i ($i = 1, 2$) be Banach spaces such that X_2 is dense in X_1 , Y_2 is dense in Y_1 , and the embedding operators $X_2 \subset X_1, Y_2 \subset Y_1$ are bounded.

Let $A_i : X_i \rightarrow Y_i$ be bounded linear operators such that $\operatorname{Dom}(A_i)|_{X_i} = X_i|_{i=1,2}$ and $A_1x = A_2x, \forall x \in X_2$. The operators $A_i^* : (Y_i)^* \rightarrow (X_i)^*$ are corresponding adjoint operators. Suppose that $A_i : X_i \rightarrow Y_i$ ($i = 1, 2$) are Noetherian operators. Notice that $\operatorname{Ker}(A_2) \subset \operatorname{Ker}(A_1), \operatorname{Ker}((A_1)^*) \subset \operatorname{Ker}((A_2)^*)$. From Noethericity of A_i it follows that $\dim \operatorname{coker}(A_i) = \dim \operatorname{Ker}((A_i)^*)$ (see [9]). So the following inequalities hold:

$$\dim \operatorname{Ker}(A_1) \geq \dim \operatorname{Ker}(A_2), \dim \operatorname{coker}(A_2) \geq \dim \operatorname{coker}(A_1). \quad (1)$$

From (1) it follows that $\operatorname{ind}(A_1) \geq \operatorname{ind}(A_2)$. So $\operatorname{ind}(A_1) = \operatorname{ind}(A_2)$ holds if and only if

$$\dim \operatorname{Ker}(A_1) = \dim \operatorname{Ker}(A_2), \dim \operatorname{coker}(A_2) = \dim \operatorname{coker}(A_1). \quad (2)$$

Let $m \in \mathbb{N}, \mathbb{Z}_+^m, \mathbb{N}^m, \mathbb{R}^m$ be sets of m -dimensional: multi-indices, multi-indices with natural components and Euclidean space respectively.

Set

$$Q := \left\{ g(x) \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^m) : g(x) > 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^m; \frac{|D^\beta g(x)|}{g(x)} \Rightarrow 0 \Big|_{|x| \rightarrow \infty}, \right. \\ \left. \forall \beta \in \mathbb{Z}_+^m, \beta \neq 0 \right\}.$$

For $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ and $\nu \in \mathbb{N}^m$ denote

$$C^{k,\nu}(\mathbb{R}^m) := \left\{ a(x) : D^\beta a(x) \in C(\mathbb{R}^m), \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^m} |D^\beta a(x)| < \infty, \right. \\ \left. \forall \beta \in \mathbb{Z}_+^m, \text{ s.t. } (\beta : \nu) \leq k \right\}.$$

Definition 3. For $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+, \nu \in \mathbb{N}^m$ denote by $H^{k,\nu}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ the space of measurable functions $\{u\}$ equipped with a norm

$$\|u\|_{k,\nu} = \left(\sum_{(\alpha:\nu) \leq k} \int |D^\alpha u(x)|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} < \infty.$$

Definition 4. For $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$, $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{N}^m$ and for a positive function $q(x)$ denote by $H_q^{k,\mathbf{v}}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ the space of measurable functions $\{u\}$ equipped with a norm

$$\|u\|_{k,\mathbf{v},q} = \left(\sum_{(\alpha:\mathbf{v}) \leq k} \int |D^\alpha u(x) q(x)^{(k-(\alpha:\mathbf{v}))}|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} < \infty.$$

Definition 5. For $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$, $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{N}^m$ and $\mu \in Q$ denote by $\tilde{H}_\mu^{k,\mathbf{v}}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ the space of functions u with $\mu u \in H^{k,\mathbf{v}}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ with a norm

$$\|u\|'_{k,\mathbf{v},\mu} = \|\mu u\|_{k,\mathbf{v}} < \infty.$$

Consider $k, s \in \mathbb{N}$ and $k \geq s$.

Let

$$P(x, \mathbb{D}) = \sum_{(\alpha:\mathbf{v}) \leq s} a_\alpha(x) D^\alpha, \tag{3}$$

where $m \in \mathbb{N}; \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_+^m; \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{N}^m; (\alpha : \mathbf{v}) = \frac{\alpha_1}{\mathbf{v}_1} + \dots + \frac{\alpha_m}{\mathbf{v}_m}; s \in \mathbb{N}, D^\alpha = D_1^{\alpha_1} \dots D_m^{\alpha_m}; D_j = -i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}; x = (x_1, \dots, x_m) \in \mathbb{R}^m; a_\alpha(x) \in C^{k-s,\mathbf{v}}(\mathbb{R}^m)$.

Denote the principal part of $P(x, \mathbb{D})$ and its symbol by

$$P_s(x, \mathbb{D}) = \sum_{(\alpha:\mathbf{v})=s} a_\alpha(x) D^\alpha, \quad P_s(x, \xi) = \sum_{(\alpha:\mathbf{v})=s} a_\alpha(x) \xi^\alpha. \tag{4}$$

With certain conditions on the coefficients of differential form $P(x, \mathbb{D})$ it defines a linear bounded operator acting from whole $H^{k,\mathbf{v}}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ to $H^{k-s,\mathbf{v}}(\mathbb{R}^m)$. Denote this operator by $(P; H^{k,\mathbf{v}})$.

The differential form $P(x, \mathbb{D})$ defines a bounded linear operator acting from whole $\tilde{H}_\mu^{k,\mathbf{v}}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ to $\tilde{H}_\mu^{k-s,\mathbf{v}}(\mathbb{R}^m)$. Denote it by $(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,\mathbf{v}})$.

For a function $q(x)$ with $\frac{1}{q(x)} \Rightarrow 0 \Big|_{|x| \rightarrow \infty}$, the differential form $P(x, \mathbb{D})$ defines a bounded linear operator acting from whole $H_q^{k,\mathbf{v}}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ to $H_q^{k-s,\mathbf{v}}(\mathbb{R}^m)$. Denote this operator by $(P; H_q^{k,\mathbf{v}})$.

Definition 6. The differential expression $P(x, D)$ of the form (3) is called semi-elliptic at a point $x = x_0$, if the following is satisfied:

$$P_s(x_0, \xi) \neq 0; \forall \xi \in \mathbb{R}^m; |\xi| \neq 0.$$

Definition 7. The differential expression $P(x, D)$ of the form (3) is called semi-elliptic in \mathbb{R}^m or just semi-elliptic, if it is semi-elliptic at each point $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$.

Main Results.

Lemma 1. The operator $(P; H^{k,\mathbf{v}})$ is a Noetherian operator if and only if $(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,\mathbf{v}})$ is Noetherian, and the following equalities hold:

$$\begin{aligned} \dim \text{Ker} (P; H^{k,\mathbf{v}}) &= \dim \text{Ker} (P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,\mathbf{v}}), \\ \dim \text{coker} (P; H^{k,\mathbf{v}}) &= \dim \text{coker} (P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,\mathbf{v}}), \\ \text{ind} (P; H^{k,\mathbf{v}}) &= \text{ind} (P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,\mathbf{v}}). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Let M_μ be the operator of multiplication by $\mu(x)$:

$$M_\mu : \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow H^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m), \quad M_\mu u(x) = \mu(x)u(x), \quad \forall u \in \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m);$$

$$M_\mu^{-1} : H^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m), \quad M_\mu^{-1}v(x) = v(x)/\mu(x), \quad \forall v \in H^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m).$$

Consider the following operator: $\tilde{P}u \equiv M_\mu P M_\mu^{-1}$.

It is a linear bounded operator acting from $H^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ to $H^{k-s,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$. Then for $u \in H^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ we have $\tilde{P}u = M_\mu P M_\mu^{-1}u = Pu + Tu$, where

$$Tu = \sum_{(\alpha:v) \leq s} a_\alpha(x) \sum_{\beta \leq \alpha, \beta \neq 0} C_\alpha^\beta \mu(x) D^\beta \left(\frac{1}{\mu(x)} \right) D^{\alpha-\beta} u(x).$$

The operator $T : H^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow H^{k-s,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ is linear bounded with lower order terms, and for each $0 \neq \beta \in \mathbb{Z}_+^m$ we have $\mu(x) D^\beta \left(\frac{1}{\mu(x)} \right) \Rightarrow 0 \Big|_{|x| \rightarrow \infty}$.

Taking into account the above remarks and conditions on the coefficients of the operator, it can be checked that for each $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $\phi_\varepsilon(x) \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^m)$ such that $T = T'_\varepsilon + T''_\varepsilon$, where $T'_\varepsilon = (1 - \phi_\varepsilon)T$ satisfies

$$\|T'_\varepsilon u\|_{k-s,v} \leq \varepsilon \|u\|_{k,v}, \quad \forall u \in H^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m),$$

and $T''_\varepsilon = \phi_\varepsilon T$ is a compact operator acting from $H^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ to $H^{k-s,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$.

So, applying the Theorem 8.3.2 from [10], we get that $T : H^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow H^{k-s,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ is a compact operator.

This implies that $\tilde{P}(x, \mathbb{D}) : H^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow H^{k-s,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ is Noetherian operator if and only if $P(x, \mathbb{D}) : H^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow H^{k-s,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ is Noetherian with index equality

$$\text{ind}(\tilde{P}; H^{k,v}) = \text{ind}(P; H^{k,v}) \quad (\text{see [10], 8.5.20}).$$

Consider $u \in \text{Ker}(\tilde{P}; H^{k,v})$. Then it is easy to see that $v = M_\mu^{-1}u \in \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ and $Pv = 0$. On the other hand, for $v \in \text{Ker}(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v})$ we have $u = M_\mu v \in H^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ and $\tilde{P}u = 0$. Considering similar correspondence for adjoint operator's kernel elements, we get that there are bijections between bases of kernels and adjoint operator's kernels for $(\tilde{P}; H^{k,v})$ and $(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v})$, so,

$$\dim \text{Ker}(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v}) = \dim \text{Ker}(\tilde{P}; H^{k,v}), \quad (5)$$

$$\dim \text{Ker}(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v})^* = \dim \text{Ker}(\tilde{P}; H^{k,v})^*. \quad (6)$$

If $\tilde{P}(x, \mathbb{D})$ is Noetherian, then from its normal solvability we get $\text{Im}(\tilde{P}; H^{k,v}) = \perp \left(\text{Ker}(\tilde{P}; H^{k,v})^* \right)$ (see [9]), where $\perp \left(\text{Ker}(\tilde{P}; H^{k,v})^* \right)$ is the set of elements from $H^{k-s,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$, which are orthogonal to $\text{Ker}(\tilde{P}; H^{k,v})^*$. Using this, it can be shown that for $(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v})$ holds $\text{Im}(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v}) = \perp \left(\text{Ker}(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v})^* \right)$. It implies that $(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v})$ is also normally solvable $\left(\text{Im}(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v}) = \overline{\text{Im}(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v})} \right)$. Similarly it can be shown, that if $(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v})$ is Noetherian, then from its normal solvability follows the normal solvability of $(\tilde{P}; H^{k,v})$. And taking into account (5),(6), we obtain

that from Noethericity of $(\tilde{P}; H^{k,v})$ it follows that $(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v})$ is Noetherian and vice versa. From (5),(6) for indexes we get $\text{ind}(\tilde{P}; H^{k,v}) = \text{ind}(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v})$. So it is proved that $(P; H^{k,v})$ is a Noetherian operator if and only if $(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v})$ is Noetherian, and we have $\text{ind}(P; H^{k,v}) = \text{ind}(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v})$. From (2) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \dim \text{Ker}(P; H^{k,v}) &= \dim \text{Ker}(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v}), \\ \dim \text{coker}(P; H^{k,v}) &= \dim \text{coker}(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v}). \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

Lemma 2. Let $q(x) \in Q$ be a function satisfying $\frac{1}{q(x)} \Rightarrow 0 \Big|_{|x| \rightarrow \infty}$. Let $(P; H^{k,v})$ be a Noetherian operator and $(P; H_q^{k,v})$ be normally solvable. Then $(P; H_q^{k,v})$ is also Noetherian with

$$\begin{aligned} \dim \text{Ker}(P; H_q^{k,v}) &= \dim \text{Ker}(P; H^{k,v}), \\ \dim \text{coker}(P; H_q^{k,v}) &= \dim \text{coker}(P; H^{k,v}), \\ \text{ind}(P; H_q^{k,v}) &= \text{ind}(P; H^{k,v}). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Consider $\mu(x) = (q(x))^k \in Q$. Then we will have the following embeddings:

$$\tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m) \hookrightarrow H_q^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m) \hookrightarrow H^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m).$$

Considering also the embeddings for adjoint spaces, from Lemma 1 we get

$$\dim \text{Ker}(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v}) = \dim \text{Ker}(P; H_q^{k,v}) = \dim \text{Ker}(P; H^{k,v}) < \infty, \quad (7)$$

$$\dim \text{Ker}(P; \tilde{H}_\mu^{k,v})^* = \dim \text{Ker}(P; H_q^{k,v})^* = \dim \text{Ker}(P; H^{k,v})^* < \infty. \quad (8)$$

Since $(P; H_q^{k,v})$ is normally solvable and $\dim \text{Ker}(P; H_q^{k,v})^* < \infty$, we obtain $\dim \text{coker}(P; H_q^{k,v}) = \dim \text{Ker}(P; H_q^{k,v})^* < \infty$ (see [9]).

From this and (7), (8) it follows that $(P; H_q^{k,v})$ is also Noetherian and $\text{ind}(P; H^{k,v}) = \text{ind}(P; H_q^{k,v})$. \square

Let

$$L_s(\mathbb{D}) = \sum_{(\alpha:v)=s} a_\alpha D^\alpha, \quad (9)$$

where the coefficients a_α are real numbers and suppose the the same relations after Eq. (3) are satisfied.

Denote by

$$T(x, \mathbb{D}) = \sum_{(\alpha:v)<s} b_\alpha(x) D^\alpha \quad (10)$$

the lower order terms of differential form, where the same notations are used as for Eq. (3) and $b_\alpha(x) \in C^{k-s,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$.

For a function $q(x)$ satisfying $\frac{1}{q(x)} \Rightarrow 0|_{|x| \rightarrow \infty}$ it can be checked that $T(x, \mathbb{D})$ gives a linear bounded operator, acting from $H_q^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ to $H_q^{k-s,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$. Applying Theorem 8.3.2. from [10] for $(T; H_q^{k,v})$, following lemma can be obtained.

Lemma 3. Let function $q(x)$ satisfy $\frac{1}{q(x)} \Rightarrow 0|_{|x| \rightarrow \infty}$. Then the operator $(T; H_q^{k,v})$ is a compact operator.

Consider the operator $L(x, \mathbb{D}) = L_s(\mathbb{D}) + T(x, \mathbb{D})$. It generates a linear bounded operator acting from $H^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ to $H^{k-s,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ (it is denoted by $(L; H^{k,v})$) and for function $q(x)$, which satisfies $1/q(x) \Rightarrow 0|_{|x| \rightarrow \infty}$, originates linear bounded operator acting from $H_q^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ to $H_q^{k-s,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ (denoted by $(L; H_q^{k,v})$).

Theorem. Let $q(x) \in Q$ be a function, with $\frac{1}{q(x)} \Rightarrow 0|_{|x| \rightarrow \infty}$. Let $(L; H^{k,v})$ be a semi-elliptic Noetherian operator and $(L; H_q^{k,v})$ be normally solvable. Then $\text{ind}(L; H^{k,v}) = 0$.

Proof. Applying Lemma 2, we conclude that $(L; H_q^{k,v})$ is also Noetherian and $\text{ind}(L; H^{k,v}) = \text{ind}(L; H_q^{k,v})$. Then due to semi-ellipticity of $L(x, \mathbb{D})$ and the fact that coefficients a_α of its principal part are reals, there exists c_0 such that $L(x, \mathbb{D})$ can be represented as

$$L(x, \mathbb{D}) = L^1(\mathbb{D}) + L^2(x, \mathbb{D}),$$

where $L^1(\mathbb{D}) = L_s(\mathbb{D}) + c_0$, $L^1(\xi) \neq 0$, $\forall \xi \in \mathbb{R}^m$ and $L^2(x, \mathbb{D}) = T(x, \mathbb{D}) - c_0$.

From Lemma 3 we get that $(L^2; H_q^{k,v})$ is a compact operator. It follows that $(L^1; H_q^{k,v})$ is Noetherian and $\text{ind}(L; H_q^{k,v}) = \text{ind}(L^1; H_q^{k,v})$ (see [10], 8.5.20). In [5] it is proved that $L^1(\mathbb{D}) : H^{k,v}(\mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow H^{k-s,v}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ is a Noetherian operator and $\text{ind}(L^1; H^{k,v}) = 0$. Lemma 2 can be applied for $L^1(\mathbb{D})$ and we get

$$\text{ind}(L^1; H_q^{k,v}) = \text{ind}(L^1; H^{k,v}) = 0.$$

So, $\text{ind}(L; H^{k,v}) = \text{ind}(L; H_q^{k,v}) = \text{ind}(L^1; H_q^{k,v}) = \text{ind}(L^1; H^{k,v}) = 0$. \square

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