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Feichtinger Conjecture: Let $\{f_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ be a frame s.t. $\frac{1}{B} \leq \|f_n\| \leq B$ (can assume that $B=1$)

The conjecture is that $\{f_n\}$ is a finite union of Riesz sequences.

Def: A Riesz sequence is a Riesz basis in its closed linear span.

This conjecture follows from the Paving Conjecture.

Paving Conjecture: Let $A: \ell^2 \rightarrow \ell^2$ with 0 diagonal, $\|A\|=1$, Given $0 < \varepsilon < 1$

$\exists N = N(\varepsilon)$ s.t. $\forall A$ as above $\exists \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_N$ disjoint decomposition of the set of indices s.t. $A_n = \{a_{j,k}\}_{j,k \in \sigma_n}$ $\|A_n\| \leq \varepsilon$ $\forall n=1, 2, \dots, N$.

Pf of Feichtinger Given Paving: If $\frac{1}{B} \leq \|f_n\| \leq B$ $\forall n$ $\{f_n\}$ is a frame, then

$\{\frac{f_n}{\|f_n\|}\}$ is also a frame, so WLOG $\|f_n\|=1$

If $\{f_n\}$ is a frame $\frac{1}{C} \|x\|^2 \leq \sum |(x, f_n)|^2 \leq C \|x\|^2$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \forall \{c_n\} \in \ell^2 \quad \|\sum c_n f_n\| &= \sup_{\|x\|=1} |\sum (c_n f_n, x)| = \sup_{\|x\|=1} |\sum c_n (f_n, x)| \\ &\leq \sup_{\|x\|=1} \|\{c_n\}_1^{\infty}\|_{\ell^2} \left(\sum |(f_n, x)|^2 \right)^{1/2} \quad (\text{Cauchy-Schwarz}) \\ &\leq \sup_{\|x\|=1} \|\{c_n\}_1^{\infty}\|_{\ell^2} C \|x\| \quad (\text{def. of frame}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|\sum c_n f_n\| \leq C \|\{c_n\}\|_{\ell^2}$$

As a Riesz sequence, $\frac{1}{C} \sum |c_n|^2 \leq \|\sum c_n f_n\|^2 \leq C \sum |c_n|^2$

$$\|\sum c_n f_n\|^2 = \sum_{j,k} B_{j,k} c_j \bar{c}_k \quad \text{where } B_{j,k} = (f_j, f_k)$$

$$(B \ni \{c_n\}, \{c_n\}) \leq C \|\{c_n\}_1^{\infty}\|_{\ell^2}^2$$

We want to split $\{f_n\}$ into N Riesz sequences.

split $N = \sigma_1 \cup \sigma_2 \cup \dots \cup \sigma_n$ pairwise disjoint

$$\frac{1}{C} \sum_{k \in \sigma_n} |c_k|^2 \leq \sum_{j, k \in \sigma_n} B_{jk} c_k \bar{c}_j \leq C \sum_{k \in \sigma_n} |c_k|^2$$

True if $\sum_{j, k \in \sigma_n} B_{jk}$ is invertible (call this B^σ)

$A = B - I$ has zeros on the diagonal

B^σ is invertible if $\|A^\sigma\| < 1$

So Feichtinger follows from Paving for $\varepsilon < 1$.

Invertibility: $B^\sigma = B^{\sigma*}$, $(B^\sigma x, x) \geq 0$

$$(B^\sigma x, x) \leq C \|x\|^2$$

$$(B^\sigma x, x) = (\underbrace{(B^\sigma)^{1/2} x}_y, \underbrace{(B^\sigma)^{1/2} x}_y)$$

$$(x, x) = ((B^\sigma)^{-1/2} y, (B^\sigma)^{-1/2} y) \leq C (y, y) = C ((B^\sigma)^{1/2} x, (B^\sigma)^{1/2} x) = C (B^\sigma x, x)$$

Ex: If $A = A^*$ and $(Ax, x) \geq 0$ then $\sigma(A) \subset [0, \infty)$