

On the buckling operator of an unbounded operator

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Let S be a densely defined, closed and linear operator in a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , let \mathcal{G}_S denote its graph equipped with the graph norm and let i_S denote the canonical injection $\mathcal{G}_S \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$.

The buckling operator of S is given as

$$S_B = i_S^* S i_S : \mathcal{G}_S \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_S.$$

It follows easily that S_B is bounded and has the same numerical range as S ; therefore S is symmetric if and only if S_B is selfadjoint. [M. S. Ashbaugh, F. Gesztesy, M. Mitrea, R. Shterenberg and G. Teschl: The Krein-von Neumann Extension and its connection to an abstract buckling problem. *Math. Nachr.* 283, No. 2, 165-179 (2010)] proved : If S is positive definite then S_B is (for an appropriate scalar product on \mathcal{G}_S) unitarily equivalent to the inverse of the reduced Krein-von Neumann extension of S .

We extend this result to the von Neumann extension S_N where

$$\text{Dom}(S_N) = \text{Dom}(S) + \text{Ker}(S^*) \quad S_N(u + v) = Su.$$

for a symmetric operator S bounded from below.

This is a joint work with N. Lubrich.