

16 Vector spaces with topology

16.1 Topological vector spaces

Let $\mathbb{C} = \mathbb{R} + \mathbb{R}i$ with $i^2 = -1$ be the field of complex numbers with complex conjugation

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{C} & \rightarrow & \mathbb{C} \\ c & \mapsto & \bar{c} \end{array} \quad \text{given by} \quad \overline{a + bi} = a - bi,$$

and absolute value

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{C} & \rightarrow & \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \\ c & \mapsto & |c| \end{array} \quad \text{given by} \quad |c|^2 = c\bar{c}.$$

Let \mathbb{K} be either \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C} . A \mathbb{K} -vector space is a set V with functions

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V \times V & \rightarrow & V \\ (v_1, v_2) & \mapsto & v_1 + v_2 \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{K} \times V & \rightarrow & V \\ (c, v) & \mapsto & cv \end{array}$$

(*addition and scalar multiplication*) such that

- (a) If $v_1, v_2, v_3 \in V$ then $(v_1 + v_2) + v_3 = v_1 + (v_2 + v_3)$,
- (b) There exists $0 \in V$ such that if $v \in V$ then $0 + v = v$ and $v + 0 = v$,
- (c) If $v \in V$ then there exists $-v \in V$ such that $v + (-v) = 0$ and $(-v) + v = 0$,
- (d) If $v_1, v_2 \in V$ then $v_1 + v_2 = v_2 + v_1$,
- (e) If $c \in \mathbb{K}$ and $v_1, v_2 \in V$ then $c(v_1 + v_2) = cv_1 + cv_2$,
- (f) If $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{K}$ and $v \in V$ then $(c_1 + c_2)v = c_1v + c_2v$,
- (g) If $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{K}$ and $v \in V$ then $c_1(c_2v) = (c_1c_2)v$,
- (h) If $v \in V$ then $1v = v$.

A *topological field* is a field \mathbb{K} with a topology such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{K} \times \mathbb{K} & \rightarrow & \mathbb{K} \\ (a, b) & \mapsto & a + b \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{K} \times \mathbb{K} & \rightarrow & \mathbb{K} \\ (a, b) & \mapsto & ab \end{array} \quad \text{are continuous.}$$

Let \mathbb{K} be a topological field. A *topological \mathbb{K} -vector space* is a \mathbb{K} -vector space V with a topology such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V \times V & \rightarrow & V \\ (v_1, v_2) & \mapsto & v_1 + v_2 \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{K} \times V & \rightarrow & V \\ (c, v) & \mapsto & cv \end{array} \quad \text{are continuous.}$$

16.1.1 Normed vector spaces and Banach spaces

A *normed vector space* is a \mathbb{K} -vector space V with a function $\| \cdot \|: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ such that

- (a) If $x, y \in V$ then $\|x + y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|$,
- (b) If $c \in \mathbb{K}$ and $v \in V$ then $\|cv\| = |c| \|v\|$,
- (c) If $v \in V$ and $\|v\| = 0$ then $v = 0$.

Let $(V, \| \cdot \|)$ be a normed vector space. The *norm metric* on V is the function

$$d: V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \quad \text{given by} \quad d(x, y) = \|x - y\|.$$

A *Banach space* is a normed vector space V which is complete (as a metric space with the norm metric).

16.1.2 Inner product spaces and Hilbert spaces

Let \mathbb{K} be either \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C} .

A *positive definite symmetric inner product space* is a \mathbb{K} -vector space V with a function

$$\begin{aligned} V \times V &\rightarrow \mathbb{K} \\ (v_1, v_2) &\mapsto \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \end{aligned} \quad \text{such that}$$

- (a) (symmetry condition) If $v_1, v_2 \in V$ then $\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle = \langle v_2, v_1 \rangle$,
- (b) (linearity in the first coordinate) If $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{K}$ and $v_1, v_2, v_3 \in V$ then $\langle c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2, v_3 \rangle = c_1 \langle v_1, v_3 \rangle + c_2 \langle v_2, v_3 \rangle$,
- (c) (linearity in the second coordinate) If $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{K}$ and $v_1, v_2, v_3 \in V$ then $\langle v_3, c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 \rangle = c_1 \langle v_3, v_1 \rangle + c_2 \langle v_3, v_2 \rangle$,
- (d) (diagonal condition) If $v \in V$ and $\langle v, v \rangle = 0$ then $v = 0$.
- (e) (norm condition) If $v \in V$ then $\langle v, v \rangle \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$.

A *positive definite Hermitian inner product space* is a \mathbb{K} -vector space V with a function

$$\begin{aligned} V \times V &\rightarrow \mathbb{K} \\ (v_1, v_2) &\mapsto \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \end{aligned} \quad \text{such that}$$

- (a) (symmetry condition) If $v_1, v_2 \in V$ then $\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle = \overline{\langle v_2, v_1 \rangle}$,
- (b) (linearity in the first coordinate) If $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{K}$ and $v_1, v_2, v_3 \in V$ then $\langle c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2, v_3 \rangle = c_1 \langle v_1, v_3 \rangle + c_2 \langle v_2, v_3 \rangle$,
- (c) (conjugate linearity in the second coordinate) If $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{K}$ and $v_1, v_2, v_3 \in V$ then $\langle v_3, c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 \rangle = \overline{c_1} \langle v_3, v_1 \rangle + \overline{c_2} \langle v_3, v_2 \rangle$,
- (d) (diagonal condition) If $v \in V$ and $\langle v, v \rangle = 0$ then $v = 0$.
- (e) (norm condition) If $v \in V$ then $\langle v, v \rangle \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$.

An *inner product space* is a positive definite symmetric inner product space or a positive definite Hermitian inner product space.

Let (V, \langle, \rangle) be an inner product space. The *length norm* on V is the function

$$\begin{aligned} V &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \\ v &\mapsto \|v\| \end{aligned} \quad \text{given by} \quad \|v\|^2 = \langle v, v \rangle.$$

A *Hilbert space* is an inner product space V which is complete (as a metric space with the norm metric for the length norm).

Theorem 16.1. *Let (V, \langle, \rangle) be an inner product space.*

- (a) (*Pythagorean theorem*) If $x, y \in V$ and $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$ then $\|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2 = \|x + y\|^2$.
- (b) (*Parallelogram law*) If $x, y \in V$ $\|x + y\|^2 + \|x - y\|^2 = 2\|x\|^2 + 2\|y\|^2$.
- (c) (*Cauchy-Schwarz*) If $x, y \in V$ then $|\langle x, y \rangle| \leq \|x\| \cdot \|y\|$.
- (d) (*triangle inequality*) If $x, y \in V$ then $\|x + y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|$.

16.2 Bounded linear operators

Let \mathbb{K} be either \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C} . Let $(V, \|\cdot\|_V)$ and $(W, \|\cdot\|_W)$ be normed \mathbb{K} -vector spaces. The space of *bounded linear operators from V to W* is

$$B(V, W) = \{T: V \rightarrow W \mid T \text{ is linear and } \|T\| \text{ exists in } \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}\},$$

where

$$\|T\| = \sup \left\{ \frac{\|Tx\|_W}{\|x\|_V} \mid x \in H \right\}.$$

Proposition 16.2. *Let \mathbb{K} be either \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C} . Let $(V, \|\cdot\|_V)$ and $(W, \|\cdot\|_W)$ be normed \mathbb{K} -vector spaces. Let $T: V \rightarrow W$ be a linear operator. The following are equivalent.*

- (a) T is bounded.
- (b) T is continuous.
- (c) T is uniformly continuous.

16.2.1 Duals and adjoints

Let \mathbb{K} be either \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C} . Let V be a normed \mathbb{K} -vector space. The space of *bounded linear functionals on V* , or the *dual of V* , is

$$V^* = B(V, \mathbb{K}) = \{\text{bounded linear operators } \varphi: V \rightarrow \mathbb{K}\}.$$

Let $(V, \|\cdot\|_V)$ and $(W, \|\cdot\|_W)$ be normed vector spaces. Let $T: V \rightarrow W$ be a linear operator. The *adjoint of T* is the linear transformation

$$T^*: W^* \rightarrow V^* \quad \text{given by} \quad (T^*\varphi)(v) = \varphi(T(v)).$$

Proposition 16.3. *Let H be a Hilbert space. Then*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Psi: & H & \longrightarrow & H^* \\ & x & \longmapsto & \Psi_x \end{array} \quad \text{where} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \Psi_x: & H & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{K} \\ & h & \longmapsto & \langle h, x \rangle \end{array}$$

is a skew-linear bijective isometry and $\|\Psi\| = 1$.

The dual H^* does not have a natural inner product so it is not naturally a Hilbert space until it is identified with H . The proof of Proposition [24.1](#) uses Theorem [17.2](#).

16.3 Bases

Let \mathbb{K} be \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C} . Let V be a \mathbb{K} -vector space.

A *basis of V* is a subset $B \subseteq V$ such that

- (a) $\mathbb{K}\text{-span}(B) = V$,
- (b) B is linearly independent,

where

$$\mathbb{K}\text{-span}(B) = \{a_1b_1 + \cdots + a_\ell b_\ell \mid \ell \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}, b_1, \dots, b_\ell \in B, a_1, \dots, a_\ell \in \mathbb{K}\}$$

and B is *linearly independent* if B satisfies

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{if } \ell \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0} \text{ and } b_1, \dots, b_\ell \in B \text{ and } a_1, \dots, a_\ell \in \mathbb{K}, \text{ and} \\ a_1b_1 + \cdots + a_\ell b_\ell = 0 \quad \text{then} \quad a_1 = 0, a_2 = 0, \dots, a_\ell = 0. \end{array}$$

Let V be a topological \mathbb{K} -vector space. A *topological basis of V* is a subset $B \subseteq V$ such that

(a) $\overline{\mathbb{K}\text{-span}(B)} = V$,

(b) B is linearly independent,

Proposition 16.4. *Let \mathbb{K} be \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C} and let $(V, \| \cdot \|)$ be a normed \mathbb{K} -vector space. Then V has a countable dense set C if and only if V has a sequence $B = (b_1, b_2, \dots)$ with $\overline{\mathbb{K}\text{-span}(B)} = V$.*

Let V be a topological \mathbb{K} -vector space. A *Schauder basis* of V is a sequence (b_1, b_2, \dots) in V such that

$$\text{if } v \in V \text{ then there exists a unique sequence } (a_1, a_2, \dots) \in \mathbb{K} \text{ such that } \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}} a_i b_i = v,$$

where $v = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}} a_i b_i$ means

$$v = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n \quad \text{where} \quad s_1 = a_1 b_1, \quad s_2 = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2, \quad s_3 = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + a_3 b_3, \quad \dots$$

16.4 Orthogonality

16.4.1 Orthonormal sequences and Gram-Schmidt

Let V be a Hilbert space.

An *orthonormal sequence* in V is a sequence (a_1, a_2, \dots) in V such that

$$\text{if } i, j \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0} \quad \text{then} \quad \langle a_i, a_j \rangle = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } i \neq j, \\ 1, & \text{if } i = j. \end{cases}$$

Proposition 16.5. *Let V be an inner product space.*

(a) *An orthonormal sequence (a_1, a_2, \dots) in V is linearly independent.*

(b) *(Gram-Schmidt) Let (v_1, v_2, \dots) be a sequence of linearly independent vectors in V . Let*

$$a_1 = \frac{v_1}{\|v_1\|}, \quad \text{and} \quad a_{n+1} = \frac{v_{n+1} - \langle v_{n+1}, a_1 \rangle a_1 - \dots - \langle v_{n+1}, a_n \rangle a_n}{\|v_{n+1} - \langle v_{n+1}, a_1 \rangle a_1 - \dots - \langle v_{n+1}, a_n \rangle a_n\|}.$$

Then (a_1, a_2, \dots) is an orthonormal sequence of linearly independent vectors in V .

Theorem 16.6. *Let H be a Hilbert space. If H has a countable dense set then $H \cong \ell^2$.*

16.4.2 Orthogonals and projections in Hilbert spaces

Let V be an inner product space and let $S \subseteq V$. The *orthogonal* to S is

$$S^\perp = \{v \in V \mid \text{if } w \in S \text{ then } \langle v, w \rangle = 0\}.$$

Let $x \in V$. The *distance from x to S* is

$$d(x, S) = \inf\{d(x, w) \mid w \in S\}.$$

Proposition 16.7. *Let H be a Hilbert space and let W be a closed subspace of H .*

(a) *If $x \in H$ then there exists a unique $y \in W$ such that $d(x, y) = d(x, W)$.*

(b) Define $P: H \rightarrow H$ by setting $P(x) = y$ where y is as in (a). Then P is a linear transformation,

$$P(x) \in W, \quad (\text{id} - P)(x) \in W^\perp, \quad \|P\| = 1,$$

$$P^2 = P, \quad (\text{id} - P)^2 = (\text{id} - P), \quad \text{and} \quad \text{id} = P + (\text{id} - P).$$

Let H be a Hilbert space, let W be a closed subspace. The *projection onto W* is the bounded linear transformation $P_W: H \rightarrow H$ given by

$$P_W(x) = y, \quad \text{where } y \in W \text{ is such that } d(x, y) = d(x, W).$$

Theorem 16.8. Let V be a Hilbert space. Let W be a subset of V .

(a) W^\perp is a closed subspace of V .

(b) W is a closed subspace of V if and only if $V = W \oplus W^\perp$.

Theorem 16.9. Let H be a Hilbert space. Let (a_1, a_2, \dots) be an orthonormal sequence in H , let

$$W = \mathbb{K}\text{-span}\{a_1, a_2, \dots\}, \quad \overline{W} \text{ the closure of } W, \quad \text{and} \quad P_{\overline{W}}: H \rightarrow H$$

the projection onto \overline{W} . If $x \in H$ then

$$P_{\overline{W}}(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \langle x, a_n \rangle a_n,$$

16.5 Eigenvectors and eigenspaces

16.5.1 Eigenvalues and compact operators

Let H be a complex vector space and let $T: H \rightarrow H$ be a linear operator. Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$. The λ -*eigenspace* of T is

$$X_\lambda = \{v \in H \mid Tv = \lambda v\} = \ker(T - \lambda) \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_p(T) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \mid X_\lambda \neq 0\}.$$

is the *point spectrum* of T .

Let X be a normed vector space and let $T: X \rightarrow X$ be a bounded linear operator.

- T is *compact* if T satisfies:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{if } (x_1, x_2, \dots) \text{ is a sequence in } \{x \in H \mid \|x\| = 1\} \\ &\text{then } (Tx_1, Tx_2, \dots) \text{ has a cluster point in } X. \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 16.10. Let H be a Hilbert space and let $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$.

(a) Let $T: H \rightarrow H$ be a linear operator. Then

$$T \text{ has an eigenvector of eigenvalue } \lambda \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \lambda - T \text{ is not injective.}$$

(b) (Fredholm's theorem) Let $T: H \rightarrow H$ be a compact linear operator. Then

$$\lambda - T \text{ is injective} \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \lambda - T \text{ is bijective.}$$

16.5.2 Existence of eigenvectors

Let H be a Hilbert space and let $T: H \rightarrow H$ be a bounded linear operator.

- T is *self adjoint* if T satisfies: if $x, y \in H$ then $\langle Tx, y \rangle = \langle x, Ty \rangle$.
- T is an *isometry* if T satisfies: if $x, y \in H$ then $\langle Tx, Ty \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle$.
- T is *unitary* if T is an isometry and T is invertible.

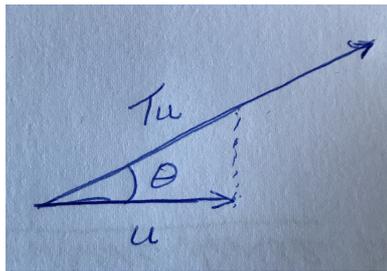
If $T: H \rightarrow H$ is a self adjoint operator and $u \in H$ then

$$\langle Tu, u \rangle = \langle u, Tu \rangle = \overline{\langle Tu, u \rangle} \quad \text{so that} \quad \langle Tu, u \rangle \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The Cauchy-Schwarz inequality gives

$$|\langle Tu, u \rangle| \leq \|Tu\| \cdot \|u\| \quad \text{and} \quad \theta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{\langle Tu, u \rangle}{\|Tu\| \cdot \|u\|} \right)$$

is the “angle between Tu and u ”. If $\theta = 0$ or $\theta = \pi$ then there exists $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ such that $Tu = \lambda u$ and u is an eigenvector of T . The angle θ will be 0 or π when $\|\langle Tu, u \rangle\|$ achieves the maximum possible value $\|Tu\| \cdot \|u\|$. This intuition is made precise by the following two theorems.



Theorem 16.11. Let H be a Hilbert space and let $T: H \rightarrow H$ be a bounded self adjoint linear operator. Let

$$\lambda = \sup\{|\langle Tu, u \rangle| \mid \|u\| = 1\}.$$

Then

$$\lambda = \|T\| \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda - T \text{ is not a bijection.}$$

Theorem 16.12. Let H be a Hilbert space and let $T: H \rightarrow H$ be a compact self adjoint linear operator. Let (u_1, u_2, \dots) be a sequence in $\{u \in H \mid \|u_n\| = 1\}$ such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |\langle Tu_n, u_n \rangle| = \|T\| \quad \text{and let } y \text{ be a cluster point of } Tu_1, Tu_2, \dots$$

Then

$$\|y\| = \|T\|, \quad \frac{|\langle Ty, y \rangle|}{\|y\|^2} = \|T\| \quad \text{and} \quad Ty = \|T\| y.$$

Let H be a Hilbert space and let $b_0 \in H$. The *Rayleigh quotient* is

$$\mu_{k+1} = \frac{\langle Ab_k, b_k \rangle}{\langle b_k, b_k \rangle} = \frac{\langle b_{k+1}, b_k \rangle}{\|b_k\|^2}, \quad \text{where} \quad b_{k+1} = \frac{Ab_k}{\|Ab_k\|} = \frac{A^{k+1}b_0}{\|A^{k+1}b_0\|}. \quad (16.1)$$

Theorem 16.13. Let H be a Hilbert space, let $b_0 \in H$ and let (b_1, b_2, \dots) and (μ_1, μ_2, \dots) be defined by (18.1). Then

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} b_{k+1} = b \quad \text{is an eigenvector of eigenvalue} \quad \lambda_1 = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mu_k.$$

16.5.3 Eigenspace decomposition and the spectral theorem

Let H be a vector space and let $T: H \rightarrow H$ be a linear operator. Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{K}$. The λ -eigenspace of T is

$$H_\lambda = \{v \in H \mid Tv = \lambda v\}, \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_p(T) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{K} \mid H_\lambda \neq 0\}$$

is the *point spectrum* of T .

Proposition 16.14. *Let $T: H \rightarrow H$ be a self adjoint operator. For $\lambda \in \mathbb{K}$ let H_λ be the λ -eigenspace of T .*

- (a) *If $H_\lambda \neq 0$ then $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$.*
- (b) *If $\lambda \neq \gamma$ then $H_\lambda \perp H_\gamma$.*
- (c) *If T is compact and $\lambda \neq 0$ then H_λ is finite dimensional.*
- (c) *If T is compact and $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots$ is a sequence of distinct eigenvalues of T then*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_n = 0.$$

Theorem 16.15. *(Hilbert-Schmidt spectral theorem) Let H be a Hilbert space. Let $T: H \rightarrow H$ be a bounded compact self adjoint linear operator.*

(a) *Then*

$$H = \overline{W}, \quad \text{where} \quad W = \bigoplus_{\lambda \in \sigma_p(T)} H_\lambda.$$

(b) *If H has a countable dense set then there exists a countable orthonormal basis of eigenvectors of T .*

16.6 Notes and references

Proposition [24.1](#) is often called the ‘‘Reisz representation theorem’’ (see [Bre](#) Theorem 5.7), but should not be confused with another similar theorem which is also often called the Reisz representation theorem (see [Ru](#) Theorem 2.14). An alternative source for the initial results of this chapter, including the results on orthogonality and the Reisz representation theorem, is [Bre](#) Ch. 5].

The Hilbert-Schmidt theorem, Theorem [18.6](#), establishes that compact self adjoint operators are diagonalizable. Proposition [18.5](#) provides an outline for the proof. The crucial step that compact self adjoint operators have an eigenvector with eigenvalue equal to the norm is the content of Theorem [18.3](#). An alternative reference for these results and Fredholm’s theorem is [Bre](#) Ch. 6]. References for power iteration and the Rayleigh quotient are [Wil](#) and [TB](#) (see also https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_numerical_analysis_topics#Eigenvalue_algorithms).

In functional analysis nonseparable Hilbert spaces (Hilbert spaces which do not have a countable dense set) are relatively rare (see [mathoverflow](#) and other resources for examples).

There are four kinds of conditions:

- (a) bilinearity
- (b) symmetry conditions: symmetric, skew-symmetric, unitary
- (c) isotropy conditions
- (d) positive definiteness

The purpose of a condition like $\langle v, v \rangle \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ is to make sure that $\| \cdot \| : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ defined by

$$\|v\|^2 = \langle v, v \rangle \quad \text{has image in } \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \quad \text{to give us a norm.}$$

Many people (Pete Clark) take norms to have values in $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ and valuations (logs of norms) to be in a totally ordered abelian group (Atiyah-Macdonald).

The motivation for the discovery of the Baire category theorem and the corresponding results about bounded linear operators was from the attempt to try to extend the derivative map from a subspace where it is defined to the whole Hilbert space. GET A GOOD REFERENCE/SUMMARY.

THERE ARE GOOD FORMULAS FOR THE SECOND LARGEST ETC EIGENVALUES AS $\text{SUP } |\langle Tu, u \rangle|$ FOR u RUNNING OVER 2-DIMENSIONAL SUBSPACES.