

Functionaal Analysis Stein: Chapter 1. Exercises.

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Xiamen University Malaysia, Asia Pacific University Malaysia — November 30, 2024

1 Problems

1. Consider $L^p = L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)$ with Lebesgue measure. Let $f_0(x) = |x|^{-\alpha}$ if $|x| < 1$. $f_0(x) = 0$ for $|x| \geq 1$, also let $f_\infty(x) = |x|^{-\alpha}$ if $|x| \geq 1$, $f_\infty(x) = 0$ when $|x| < 1$.

Show that

- (a) $f_0 \in L^p$ if and only if $p\alpha < d$.

Solution: Let S_{d-1} be the surface area of the open unit ball $B_d = \{|x| < 1 : x \in \mathbb{R}^d\}$ in \mathbb{R}^d , then if $f_0 \in L^p$ we can write

$$\|f_0\|_{L^p}^p = \int_{B_d} |x|^{-p\alpha} dx = S_{d-1} \int_0^1 \frac{1}{r^{p\alpha}} \cdot r^{d-1} dr = S_{d-1} \int_0^1 \frac{1}{r^{1-d+p\alpha}} dr.$$

Since the integral converges, we must have $1 - d + p\alpha < 1$ so $p\alpha < d$. We saw that the converse is also true. \square

- (b) $f_\infty \in L^p$ if and only if $d < p\alpha$.

Solution: Similar to the previous part, we have

$$\|f_\infty\|_{L^p}^p = S_{d-1} \int_1^\infty \frac{1}{r^{1-d+p\alpha}} dr$$

which is finite iff $d < p\alpha$. \square

- (c) What happens if in the definitions of f_0 and f_∞ we replace $|x|^{-\alpha}$ by $|x|^{-\alpha}/(\log(2/|x|))$ for $|x| < 1$, and $|x|^{-\alpha}/(\log(2|x|))$ for $|x| \geq 1$?

Solution: If the definition of f_0 changed to

$$f_0(x) = \begin{cases} |x|^{-\alpha}/\log(2/|x|) & \text{if } |x| < 1, \\ 0 & \text{if } |x| \geq 1, \end{cases}$$

Then we want to show that $f_0 \in L^p$ iff $p\alpha < d$, or $p\alpha = d$ with $p > 1$, which is a little bit more nuanced than the previous part. When $p\alpha < d$, we see that $|f|_0 \leq \frac{1}{\log 2} |x|^{-\alpha}$, so that $f_0 \in L^p$ as it is absolutely bounded above by another function in L^p .

When $p\alpha = d$, we have

$$S_{d-1}^{-1} \|f_0\|_p^p = \int_0^1 \frac{dr}{r(\log(2/r))^p}.$$

Using substitution $u = \log(2/r)$, the RHS becomes $\int_{\log 2}^\infty \frac{du}{u^p}$, which converges when $p > 1$ and diverges when $p \leq 1$.

When $p\alpha > d$, we want to prove $f_0 \notin L^p$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} S_{d-1}^{-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |f_0|^p dx &= \int_0^1 \frac{r^{-p\alpha} r^{d-1}}{(\log(2/r))^p} dr \\ &\geq \int_0^{1/2} \frac{dr}{r^{1+p\alpha-d} (\log(2/r))^p} \\ &\geq \int_0^{1/2} \frac{dr}{r^{1+p\alpha-d} 2^p (\log(1/r))^p}. \end{aligned}$$

The last step is because $2/r \leq 1/r^2$ whenever $0 < r < 1/2$. We now using $u = 1/r$, RHS can be

$$RHS \geq \int_2^\infty \frac{du}{2^p u^{1-p\alpha+d} (\log u)^p}.$$

By assumption, $1 - p\alpha + d < 1$, we can now choose $\theta > 0$ so that $1 - p\alpha + d + \theta < 1$, then choose $K > 2$ big enough such that $(\log u)^p < u^\theta$ for all $u \geq K$, hence

$$RHS \geq \int_K^\infty \frac{du}{2^p u^{1-p\alpha+d+\theta}} = +\infty,$$

hence $f_0 \notin L^p$.

If the definition of f_∞ changed to

$$f_\infty(x) = \begin{cases} |x|^{-\alpha} / \log(2|x|) & \text{if } |x| \geq 1, \\ 0 & \text{if } |x| < 1, \end{cases}$$

then by a similar argument, we have $f_\infty \in L^p$ whenever $d < p\alpha$. When $p\alpha = d$, we can similarly prove that $f_\infty \in L^p$ iff $p > 1$. Moreover, $f_\infty \notin L^p$ when $p\alpha < d$. \square

2. Consider the spaces $L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)$, when $0 < p < \infty$

(a) Show that if $\|f + g\|_{L^p} \leq \|f\|_{L^p} + \|g\|_{L^p}$ for all f and g , then necessarily $p \geq 1$.

Solution: We only need to show there are $f, g \in L^p$ such that $\|f + g\|_{L^p} > \|f\|_{L^p} + \|g\|_{L^p}$ when $0 < p < 1$. Let $K_1 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : x_i \in (0, 1) \forall 1 \leq i \leq d\}$ be a unit square in \mathbb{R}^d , and also $K_{-1} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : x_i \in (-1, 0) \forall 1 \leq i \leq d\}$ be its mirror.

We then have $\|f\|_{L^p} = \|g\|_{L^p} = 1$, but then $\|f + g\|_{L^p} = 2^{1/p} > 2 = \|f\|_{L^p} + \|g\|_{L^p}$. \square

(b) Consider $L^p(\mathbb{R})$ where $0 < p < 1$. Show that there are no bounded linear functionals on this space. In other words, if ℓ is a linear functional $L^p(\mathbb{R}) \mapsto \mathbb{C}$ that satisfies

$$|\ell(f)| \leq M \|f\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R})} \quad \text{for all } f \in L^p(\mathbb{R}) \text{ and some } M > 0,$$

then $\ell = 0$.

Solution: For each $x > 0$, we let χ_x be the characteristic function of $[0, x]$ on \mathbb{R} , then extends it naturally to $x \leq 0$ where it is the characteristic function of $[x, 0]$. Let $F(x) = \ell(\chi_x)$.

Suppose ℓ is a bounded linear functional with the constant M as stated in the question, then for any $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ we must have

$$|F(x) - F(y)| = |\ell(\chi_x - \chi_y)| \leq M \|\chi_x - \chi_y\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R})} = M|x - y|^{1/p}.$$

This means that F is a continuous function, but then since

$$\left| \frac{F(x) - F(y)}{x - y} \right| \leq M|x - y|^{1/p-1},$$

F is then differentiable and has derivative 0 everywhere, hence F is a constant function, and must be zero too because $F(0) = \ell(\chi_0) = 0$. This shows ℓ can only be zero. \square

3. If $f \in L^p$ and $g \in L^q$, both not identically equal to zero, show that equality holds in Hölder's inequality if and only if there exist two non-zero constants $a, b \geq 0$ such that $a|f(x)|^p = b|g(x)|^q$ for almost every x .

Solution: Since we have to prove $a|f(x)|^p = b|g(x)|^q$, we assume p, q are both finite, that means if $\theta = 1/p$, then $\theta \in (0, 1)$. From the proof of Hölder's inequality, we also write $\hat{f} = f/\|f\|_p$ and $\hat{g} = g/\|g\|_q$, these are well-defined because f, g are not identically zero (we assume it means not equal to zero almost everywhere).

Again from the proof of Hölder's inequality, we have an inequality $A^\theta B^{1-\theta} \leq \theta A + (1-\theta)B$ when A, B are non-negative numbers. Since $\theta \in (0, 1)$, the inequality is strict iff $A \neq B$, thus by assumption we must have $A = B$, which means $|\hat{f}(x)|^p = |\hat{g}(x)|^q$. Since the equality $\|fg\|_1 = \|f\|_p \|g\|_q$ only holds when the above mentioned inequality holds for almost every x , we must have $|\hat{f}(x)|^p = |\hat{g}(x)|^q$ for almost every x .

Unnormalize we have $\|g\|_q^q |f(x)|^p = \|f\|_p^p |g(x)|^q$, which proves the statement because $\|f\|_p$ and $\|g\|_q$ are both positive. \square

4. Suppose X is a measure space and $0 < p < 1$

- (a) Prove that $\|fg\|_{L^1} \geq \|f\|_{L^p} \|g\|_{L^q}$. Note that q , the conjugate exponent of p , is negative.

Solution: If either $\|f\|_{L^p} = 0$, $\|g\|_{L^q} = 0$, or $fg \notin L^1$, then there is nothing to prove. Thus we may assume $fg \in L^1$ and that $\|f\|_{L^p} > 0$, $\|g\|_{L^q} > 0$, and that $\|g\|_{L^q}$ is finite, from here we note that it is easier to assume $g \neq 0$ a.e.

By taking $p' = 1/p > 1$ and let q' be the conjugate exponent of p' , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int |f|^p &= \int |fg|^p |g|^{-p} \\ &\leq \left(\int |fg|^{pp'} \right)^{1/p'} \left(\int |g|^{-pq'} \right)^{-1/q'} \\ &= \left(\int |fg| \right)^p \left(\int |g|^q \right)^{p-1} \\ \therefore (|fg|)^p &\geq (|f|^p) \left(\int |g|^q \right)^{1-p} \\ \|fg\|_{L^1} &\geq \|f\|_{L^p} \|g\|_{L^q}. \end{aligned}$$

\square

- (b) Suppose f_1 and f_2 are non-negative. Then $\|f_1 + f_2\|_{L^p} \geq \|f_1\|_{L^p} + \|f_2\|_{L^p}$.

Solution: We have

$$\begin{aligned} \int |f_1 + f_2|^p &= \int f_1 (f_1 + f_2)^{p-1} + \int f_2 (f_1 + f_2)^{p-1} \\ &\geq \|f_1\|_{L^p} \|(f_1 + f_2)^{p-1}\|_{L^q} + \|f_2\|_{L^p} \|(f_1 + f_2)^{p-1}\|_{L^q} \\ &= (\|f_1\|_{L^p} + \|f_2\|_{L^p}) \|(f_1 + f_2)\|_{L^p}^{p-1} \end{aligned}$$

which proves the statement. \square

- (c) The function $d(f, g) = \|f - g\|_{L^p}^p$ for $f, g \in L^p$ defines a metric on $L^p(X)$.

Solution: The function d obviously satisfies $d(f, g) = 0$ iff $f = g$ a.e., and that it is symmetric. If a, b are non-negative numbers, then we have $a^p + b^p \geq (a + b)^p$ for $0 < p < 1$. This means that for $f, g, h \in L^p$, we have

$$d(f, h) = \|f - g + g - h\|_{L^p}^p \leq \|f - g\|_{L^p}^p + \|g - h\|_{L^p}^p = d(f, g) + d(g, h),$$

hence d defines a metric on $L^p(X)$. □

5. Let X be a measure space. Using the argument to prove the completeness of $L^p(X)$, show that if the sequence $\{f_n\}$ converges to f in the L^p norm, then a subsequence of $\{f_n\}$ converges to f almost everywhere.

Solution: Let $\{f_n\}$ be a sequence in $L^p(X)$ that converges to f in the L^p norm. We can choose a subsequence $\{f_{n_k}\}$ such that $\|f_{n_{k+1}} - f_{n_k}\|_{L^p} < 2^{-k}$ for each $k \geq 1$.

Now we define

$$g(x) = f_{n_1}(x) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (f_{n_{k+1}}(x) - f_{n_k}(x))$$

$$h(x) = |f_{n_1}(x)| + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |f_{n_{k+1}}(x) - f_{n_k}(x)|,$$

following a similar argument when proving the completeness of $L^p(X)$, we see $f_{n_k} \rightarrow g$ a.e. on X .

Now we want to show $\|g - f\|_{L^p} = 0$, which could in turn prove that $g = f$ a.e. on X .

Given $\varepsilon > 0$, we choose K_0 such that $2^{-K_0} < \varepsilon$. Then for any $K > K_0$ we have $\|g - f_{n_K}\|_{L^p} \leq \sum_{k=K}^{\infty} \|f_{n_{k+1}}(x) - f_{n_k}(x)\|_{L^p} \leq 2^{-K_0} < \varepsilon$. By letting K to also be big enough to satisfy $\|f - f_{n_K}\|_{L^p} < \varepsilon$, we have $\|g - f\|_{L^p} < 2\varepsilon$. Subsequently we have $f_{n_k} \rightarrow f$ a.e. on X . □

6. Let (X, \mathcal{F}, μ) be a measure space. Show that,

- (a) The simple functions are dense in $L^\infty(X)$ if $\mu(X) < \infty$, and;

Solution: (Note: The definition of simple function is not completely clear in the context of this book, but it is reasonable to assume it means "finite sum of indication functions with finite support", else the problem statement assuming $\mu(X) < \infty$ doesn't make sense)

Let f be any function in $L^\infty(X)$. WLOG we can assume $|f| \leq M = \|f\|_{L^\infty}$ everywhere on X (instead of almost everywhere). Given a positive integer j , choose any integer ℓ satisfying $-j \leq \ell \leq j$, we define

$$E_{\ell,j} = \left\{ x \in X : \frac{M\ell}{j} \leq f(x) < \frac{M(\ell+1)}{j} \right\}.$$

There are $2j+1$ such sets, they are mutually disjoint and that $X = \bigcup_{\ell=-j}^j E_{\ell,j}$. We then let

$$f_j(x) = \frac{M\ell}{j} \quad \text{if } x \in E_{\ell,j},$$

which is a simple function that is well-defined everywhere on X .

We then see that $\|f_j - f\|_{L^\infty} \leq 1/j$, hence $\{f_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ converges to f in the L^∞ norm. □

- (b) The simple functions are dense in $L^p(X)$ for $1 \leq p < \infty$.

Solution: Let $f \in L^p(X)$, without loss of generality we assume f is nonnegative, as a general f can be decomposed into the difference of two non-negative functions in $L^p(X)$. We do not assume f is bounded.

For each positive integer n , we define for each $k = 1, \dots, n2^n - 1$ such that

$$E_{k,n} = \left\{ x \in X : \frac{k}{2^n} \leq f(x) < \frac{k+1}{2^n} \right\}$$

Note that each $E_{k,n}$ is of finite measure. We now define

$$f_n(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{k}{2^n} & \text{if } x \in E_{k,n}, \\ 0 & \text{if } x \notin \bigcup_{k=1}^{n2^n-1} E_{k,n}. \end{cases}$$

Note that $f_n(x) = 0$ can happen when $f(x) \geq n$ or $f(x) < 1/2^n$. Nevertheless, $f_n \nearrow f$ a.e. on X , hence $|f_n(x)| \leq f(x)$ a.e. on X . By the Dominated Convergence Theorem, we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_X |f_n(x) - f(x)|^p dx = 0$, thus $\{f_n\}$ converges to f in the L^p norm. \square

7. Consider the L^p spaces, $1 \leq p < \infty$, on \mathbb{R}^d with Lebesgue measure. Prove that

- (a) The family of continuous functions with compact support is dense in L^p , and in fact:
- (b) The family of indefinitely differentiable functions with compact support is dense in L^p .

Solution: Since an indefinitely differentiable function is also continuous, it suffices to prove the last statement.

From 6(b), we only need to prove that if f is a simple function in $L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)$ and given $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a indefinitely differentiable function g with compact support such that $\|f - g\|_{L^p} < \varepsilon$.

The construction is as follows: We let $\psi(x)$ be a function on \mathbb{R} such that

$$\psi(x) = \begin{cases} \exp(-\frac{1}{1-x^2}), & \text{if } |x| < 1, \\ 0, & \text{if } |x| \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

This is a bump function that is indefinitely differentiable and has compact support on $(-1, 1)$. Simply define $\Psi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $\Psi(x) = \prod_{i=1}^d \psi(x_i)$, then Ψ is an indefinitely differentiable function with compact support on the unit cube. Using a suitable scaling, we can construct a function, name it g , such that g is a nonnegative, indefinitely differentiable function with compact support, that also satisfies $\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} g(x) dx = 1$.

For each positive integer n , we define $g_n(x) = n^d g(nx)$, then g_n is indefinitely differentiable with support $E_n := (-1/n, 1/n)^d$. We define the convolution $f * h$ such that

$$(f * h)(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(t) h(x - t) dt.$$

It can be shown that $h \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ implies $f * h \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)$, and that $\|f * h\|_{L^p} \leq \|f\|_{L^p} \|h\|_{L^1}$. It is also true that if h is indefinitely differentiable, then so is $f * h$.

We now define $f_n = f * g_n$, then f_n is indefinitely differentiable with compact support, and that $f_n \rightarrow f$ in L^p (see this answer). \square