

# $p$ -Norm is a Norm

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## Abstract

We show that the  $p$ -norm in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is indeed a norm. We state and prove the “magic norm” theorem, and we analyse a certain type of a single variable function to help prove that  $p$ -norm is a norm. Then, we apply our  $p$ -norm theorem on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to prove the  $p$ -norms on the spaces of sequences and continuous functions.

## §1 Introduction

When working with the real normed vector space  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we commonly use the Euclidean norm or the 2-norm,  $\|\vec{x}\|_2 = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \cdots + x_n^2}$ , as it is how distance is measured in the real world. Less commonly we use the taxicab norm or 1-norm,  $\|\vec{x}\|_1 = |x_1| + |x_2| + \cdots + |x_n|$ , and the max-norm,  $\|\vec{x}\|_{\max} = \max(|x_1|, |x_2|, \dots, |x_n|)$  which are generally simpler to work with. We generalize the 1-norm and the 2-norm to the  $p$ -norm with  $p > 0$ :

$$\|\vec{x}\|_p = (|x_1|^p + |x_2|^p + \cdots + |x_n|^p)^{1/p}$$

It is fairly simple to prove positive definiteness and homogeneity for the  $p$ -norm, however, proving the triangle inequality is difficult. In this paper, we prove the following theorem:

**Theorem 1.1** ( $p$ -Norm on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ). *For  $n \geq 2$ , the function  $\|\cdot\|_p : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\|\vec{x}\|_p = (|x_1|^p + |x_2|^p + \cdots + |x_n|^p)^{1/p}$  is a norm if and only if  $p \geq 1$ .*

Theorem 1.1 is proven using the magic norm theorem and some lemmas about differentiable single variable functions with non-decreasing derivative. The magic norm theorem is proven in §2. The lemmas for functions with non-decreasing derivatives are proven in §3. Theorem 1.1 is proven in §4.

## §2 Magic Norm Theorem

In this section, we state and prove the Magic Norm Theorem. Given a subset on a normed vector space with certain properties, the Magic Norm Theorem proves the existence of a norm on this vector space such that the given subset is the closed unit ball.

We first define three properties on subsets of a real normed vector space  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$ .

**Definition 2.1** (Absorbing).  $B \subseteq X$  is absorbing if and only if for all  $\vec{x} \in X$  there exists  $t > 0$  so that  $\vec{x} = t\vec{b}$  for some  $\vec{b} \in B$ .

**Definition 2.2** (Balanced).  $B \subseteq X$  is balanced if and only if for all  $\vec{b} \in B$ , we have  $t\vec{b} \in B$  for all  $t \in [-1, 1]$ .

**Definition 2.3** (Convex).  $B \subseteq X$  is convex if and only if for all  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in B$ , we have  $t\vec{x} + (1-t)\vec{y} \in B$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ .

Also, recall that in a finite dimensional normed vector space, all norms are equivalent. This means that if a set is closed and bounded over one norm, it must be closed and bounded over all norms.

Now, we can state and prove the Magic Norm Theorem.

**Theorem 2.4** (Magic Norm Theorem). *Let  $X$  be a finite dimensional normed vector space, and let  $B \subseteq X$ . Then, there exists a norm  $\|\cdot\| : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  so that  $B = \{\vec{x} \in X : \|\vec{x}\| \leq 1\}$  if and only if  $B$  is absorbing, balanced, convex, closed, and bounded.*

*Proof.* We first prove the forward direction. Suppose there exists a norm  $\|\cdot\| : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  so that  $B = \{\vec{x} \in X : \|\vec{x}\| \leq 1\}$ . Next, we show that  $B$  satisfies the 5 properties.

Absorbing: Let  $\vec{x} \in X$ . If  $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ , then we take  $\vec{b} = \vec{0}$  which is in  $B$  since  $\|\vec{0}\| = 0 \leq 1$ . This means that  $\vec{x} = \vec{0} = t\vec{b}$  for any  $t > 0$ . If  $\vec{x} \neq \vec{0}$ , we can take  $\vec{b} = \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|}\vec{x}$  and  $t = \|\vec{x}\| > 0$ . We then get  $t\vec{b} = \|\vec{x}\| \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|}\vec{x} = \vec{x}$ . In both cases, we are able to write  $\vec{x} = t\vec{b}$  for some  $t > 0$  and  $\vec{b} \in B$ , hence,  $B$  is absorbing.

Balanced: Let  $\vec{b} \in B$  and  $t \in [-1, 1]$ . Then,  $\|\vec{b}\| \leq 1$  and  $|t| \leq 1$ , so

$$\|t\vec{b}\| = |t|\|\vec{b}\| \leq 1$$

Thus,  $t\vec{b} \in B$ , and hence,  $B$  is balanced.

Convex: Let  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in B$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$ . Then,  $\|\vec{x}\|, \|\vec{y}\| \leq 1$ ,  $|t| = t$ , and  $|1 - t| = 1 - t$ . Using the triangle inequality and homogeneity, we get

$$\|t\vec{x} + (1 - t)\vec{y}\| \leq \|t\vec{x}\| + \|(1 - t)\vec{y}\| = t\|\vec{x}\| + (1 - t)\|\vec{y}\| \leq t + 1 - t = 1$$

Thus,  $t\vec{x} + (1 - t)\vec{y} \in B$ , and hence,  $B$  is convex.

Closed: We will show that  $B$  is closed over  $\|\cdot\|$ . Let  $\vec{x} \in \overline{B}$ . Then, for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\vec{p}_\varepsilon \in B \cap B(\vec{x}, \varepsilon) \Rightarrow \|\vec{p}_\varepsilon\| \leq 1$  and  $\|\vec{p}_\varepsilon - \vec{x}\| < \varepsilon$ . Then, we get

$$\|\vec{x}\| \leq \|\vec{x} - \vec{p}_\varepsilon\| + \|\vec{p}_\varepsilon\| < 1 + \varepsilon$$

Letting  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we get  $\|\vec{x}\| < 1 + \varepsilon \Rightarrow \|\vec{x}\| \leq 1 \Rightarrow \vec{x} \in B$ . Thus,  $B$  is closed.

Bounded: Let  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in B$ . Then,

$$\|\vec{x} - \vec{y}\| \leq \|\vec{x}\| + \|\vec{y}\| \leq 2$$

Thus, distances between points in  $B$  are bounded, and hence,  $B$  is bounded.

Now, we prove the converse direction. Let  $B$  be absorbing, balanced, convex, closed, and bounded. We define the function  $N : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$N(\vec{x}) = \inf \left\{ \frac{1}{t} : t > 0 \text{ and } t\vec{x} \in B \right\}$$

Notice that this set is bounded below by 0. Furthermore, notice that since  $B$  is absorbing, for any  $\vec{x} \in X$ , there exists  $t > 0$  and  $\vec{b} \in B$  so that  $\vec{x} = t\vec{b} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{t}\vec{x} = \vec{b} \in B$ . This means that  $t$  is an element of the set used in the definition of  $N$ , hence that set is non-empty. Thus, the infimum exists for all  $\vec{x} \in X$ , and so  $N$  is well-defined. Next, we show that  $N$  is a norm.

Positive Definiteness: Clearly, we have  $N(\vec{x}) = \inf\{\frac{1}{t} : t > 0 \text{ and } t\vec{x} \in B\} \geq 0$  for all  $\vec{x} \in X$  since the set only contains positive values. Also,  $N(\vec{0}) = \inf\{\frac{1}{t} : t > 0 \text{ and } t\vec{0} \in B\} = \inf\{\frac{1}{t} : t > 0\} = 0$ . Now, assume  $N(\vec{x}) = 0$ . Then, we can take a sequence  $(t_n)$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $t_n > 0$  and  $t_n\vec{x} \in B$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\frac{1}{t_n} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . This means that  $t_n \rightarrow \infty$  while  $t_n\vec{x} \in B$ . Notice that if  $\vec{x} \neq \vec{0}$ , then we would have that  $B$  is unbounded, hence we must have  $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ . Therefore,  $N(\vec{x}) \geq 0$  for all  $\vec{x} \in X$  and  $N(\vec{x}) = 0 \iff \vec{x} = \vec{0}$ , so  $N$  is positive definite.

Homogeneity: Let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\vec{x} \in X$ . If  $c = 0$ , then  $N(c\vec{x}) = N(\vec{0}) = 0 = 0 \cdot N(\vec{x}) = |c|N(\vec{x})$ , hence  $N$  is homogeneous in this case. Now, take  $c \neq 0$ . Also, notice that since  $B$  is balanced,

$t \cdot c\vec{x} \in B \iff -t \cdot c\vec{x} \in B$  for  $t > 0$ , so we can replace  $t \cdot c\vec{x} \in B$  with  $t \cdot |c|\vec{x} \in B$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
N(c\vec{x}) &= \inf \left\{ \frac{1}{t} : t > 0 \text{ and } t \cdot c\vec{x} \in B \right\} \\
&= \inf \left\{ \frac{1}{t} : t \cdot |c| > 0 \text{ and } t \cdot |c|\vec{x} \in B \right\} \\
&= |c| \inf \left\{ \frac{1}{t \cdot |c|} : t \cdot |c| > 0 \text{ and } t \cdot |c|\vec{x} \in B \right\} \\
&= |c| \inf \left\{ \frac{1}{t} : t > 0 \text{ and } t\vec{x} \in B \right\} \\
&= |c| \cdot N(\vec{x})
\end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $N$  is homogeneous.

**Triangle Inequality:** Let  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in X$ . Then, by definition of  $N$ , we can take sequences  $(t_n), (s_n)$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  so that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $s_n > 0$  and  $t_n\vec{x}, s_n\vec{y} \in B$ , and  $\frac{1}{t_n} \rightarrow N(\vec{x})$  and  $\frac{1}{s_n} \rightarrow N(\vec{y})$ . Notice that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we can take  $t = s_n/(t_n + s_n) \in [0, 1]$  and apply convexity of  $B$  to get the following:

$$t_n\vec{x}, s_n\vec{y} \in B \implies t\vec{x} + (1-t)\vec{y} \in B \implies \frac{s_n}{t_n + s_n}t_n\vec{x} + \left(1 - \frac{s_n}{t_n + s_n}\right)s_n\vec{y} = \frac{t_n s_n}{t_n + s_n}(\vec{x} + \vec{y}) \in B$$

This means that  $(t_n s_n / (t_n + s_n))^{-1} \in \{\frac{1}{t} : t > 0 \text{ and } t(\vec{x} + \vec{y}) \in B\}$ , so the infimum of this set must be less than or equal to  $(t_n s_n / (t_n + s_n))^{-1}$ . Thus, we have

$$N(\vec{x} + \vec{y}) = \inf \left\{ \frac{1}{t} : t > 0 \text{ and } t(\vec{x} + \vec{y}) \in B \right\} \leq \left( \frac{t_n s_n}{t_n + s_n} \right)^{-1} = \frac{1}{t_n} + \frac{1}{s_n} \rightarrow N(\vec{x}) + N(\vec{y})$$

Therefore,  $N$  has the triangle inequality property.

Since  $N$  is positive definite, homogeneous, and has triangle inequality, it must be a norm. Hence, we define our norm as  $\|\cdot\| = N$ . Now, we show that  $B = \{\vec{x} \in X : \|\vec{x}\| \leq 1\}$  by showing both subset inclusions.

Let  $\vec{x} \in B$ . Then, we have that  $1 \in \{\frac{1}{t} : t > 0 \text{ and } t\vec{x} \in B\}$ , so  $\|\vec{x}\| = \inf\{\frac{1}{t} : t > 0 \text{ and } t\vec{x} \in B\} \leq 1$ . Hence,  $B \subseteq \{\vec{x} \in X : \|\vec{x}\| \leq 1\}$ .

Now, let  $\vec{x} \in X$  so that  $\|\vec{x}\| \leq 1$ . We will consider the cases  $\|\vec{x}\| = 0$ ,  $\|\vec{x}\| = 1$ , and  $0 < \|\vec{x}\| < 1$  separately.

*Case 1:*  $\|\vec{x}\| = 0$ . Then, we must have  $\vec{x} = 0$  by positive definiteness. Taking any  $\vec{b} \in B$  and  $t = 0 \in [-1, 1]$ , we apply the balanced property of  $B$  to get  $t\vec{b} = \vec{0} = \vec{x} \in B$ .

*Case 2:*  $\|\vec{x}\| = 1$ . Then, by definition of  $\|\cdot\|$ , we can take a sequence  $(t_n)$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  so that  $t_n > 0$  and  $t_n\vec{x} \in B$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\frac{1}{t_n} \rightarrow 1$ . Notice that  $\frac{1}{t_n} \rightarrow 1$  is equivalent to  $t_n \rightarrow 1$ . In turn, this implies that  $t_n\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{x}$ . Since  $t_n\vec{x} \in B$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have that  $\vec{x}$  is a limit point of  $B$ . Since  $B$  is closed,  $\vec{x} \in B$ .

*Case 3:*  $0 < \|\vec{x}\| < 1$ . Then, taking  $c = \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|} > 0$ , notice that  $\|c\vec{x}\| = 1$ . As we have shown above, this implies that  $c\vec{x} \in B$ . Now, since  $\frac{1}{c} = \|\vec{x}\| \in [-1, 1]$ , we can apply the balanced property of  $B$  to get that  $\frac{1}{c}c\vec{x} = \vec{x} \in B$ .

Since in all cases we get  $\vec{x} \in B$ , we must have  $\{\vec{x} \in X : \|\vec{x}\| \leq 1\} \subseteq B$ .

Therefore, there exists a norm  $\|\cdot\| : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  so that  $B = \{\vec{x} \in X : \|\vec{x}\| \leq 1\}$ . □

The Magic Norm Theorem can be used to prove 1.1 by showing that the closed unit ball that the  $p$ -norm would create has certain properties, rather than showing that the  $p$ -norm has the norm properties. This is done in §4.

### §3 Differentiable Functions with Non-Decreasing Derivative

In this section, we prove a technical lemma (3.1) for an oddly specific type of function. Note that this section deals with single-variable functions, so we use the classic, single-variable notion of the derivative.

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuously differentiable and twice differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}$  except finitely many points. Furthermore, suppose that for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  for which  $f$  is twice differentiable,  $f''(t) \geq 0$ , and that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} f'(t) = -\infty$  and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} f'(t) = \infty$ . Then, there exists a point  $t_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  so that  $f$  is non-increasing on  $(-\infty, t_0]$  and non-decreasing on  $[t_0, \infty)$ .*

To clarify, we define non-increasing and non-decreasing in the following way:

**Definition 3.2** (Non-Increasing). Let  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  where  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Then,  $f$  is non-increasing on  $V \subseteq U$  if and only if for all  $x, y \in V$ ,  $x < y \Rightarrow f(x) \geq f(y)$ .

**Definition 3.3** (Non-Decreasing). Let  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  where  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Then,  $f$  is non-decreasing on  $V \subseteq U$  if and only if for all  $x, y \in V$ ,  $x < y \Rightarrow f(x) \leq f(y)$ .

Before proving Lemma 3.1, we prove two additional proposition.

**Proposition 3.4.** *Let  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be differentiable where  $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is an interval. Suppose that  $f'(t) \leq 0$  for all  $t \in I$ . Then,  $f$  is non-increasing on its domain.*

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in I$  and assume  $x < y$ . Since  $I$  is an interval and  $x, y \in I$ , we must have  $[x, y] \subseteq I$ . Furthermore,  $f$  is continuous and differentiable on  $[x, y]$ . By the classic Mean Value Theorem, there exists  $c \in (x, y)$  so that

$$\frac{f(y) - f(x)}{y - x} = f'(c) \leq 0$$

Since  $x < y$ , we have  $y - x > 0$ , so  $\frac{f(y) - f(x)}{y - x} \leq 0 \Rightarrow f(y) - f(x) \leq 0 \Rightarrow f(x) \geq f(y)$ . Therefore,  $f$  is non-increasing. □

**Proposition 3.5.** *Let  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be differentiable where  $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is an interval. Suppose that  $f'(t) \geq 0$  for all  $t \in I$ . Then,  $f$  is non-decreasing on its domain.*

*Proof.* We define the function  $g : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $g(t) = -f(t)$ . Since  $f$  is differentiable on  $I$ ,  $g$  must also be differentiable. Furthermore, for all  $t \in I$ , we have  $g'(t) = -f'(t) \leq 0$ . Applying Proposition 3.4, we have that for all  $x, y \in I$ ,  $x < y \Rightarrow g(x) \geq g(y) \Rightarrow -f(x) \geq -f(y) \Rightarrow f(x) \leq f(y)$ . Therefore,  $f$  is non-decreasing. □

Now, we can prove Lemma 3.1.

*Proof (Lemma 3.1).* We take  $\{t_1, \dots, t_n\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  to be the points where  $f$  is not twice continuously differentiable. Then, we define the intervals  $I_0 = (-\infty, t_1)$ ,  $I_j = (t_j, t_{j+1})$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n-1$ , and  $I_n = (t_n, \infty)$ . We define functions  $f_j : I_j \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f_j(t) = f'(t)$ , for  $0 \leq j \leq n$ . Notice that all  $f_j$ 's are differentiable since  $f$  is twice differentiable on  $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{t_1, \dots, t_n\}$  and  $I_j$ 's exclude all  $t_i$ 's. Furthermore, for all  $0 \leq j \leq n$ ,  $f_j'(t) = f''(t) \geq 0$ . Thus, applying Proposition 3.5, we have that  $f_j$  is non-decreasing for all  $0 \leq j \leq n$ . Hence,  $f'$  is non-decreasing on each of  $I_j$ 's individually.

Furthermore, we can show that  $I_j$ 's can be extended to their closures while keeping  $f'$  non-decreasing on that  $I_j$ . Take  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  and consider  $t_j$  and  $I_{j-1}$ . Take  $x \in I_{j-1}$ , and note that  $(x, t_j) \subseteq I_{j-1}$ . Then, for all  $y \in (x, t_j)$ ,  $f'(x) \leq f'(y) \rightarrow f'(t_j)$  as  $y \rightarrow t_j^-$  since  $f'$  is continuous. Thus,  $f'$  is non-decreasing on  $I_{j-1} \cup \{t_j\}$ . Now, consider  $I_j$ . Take  $y \in I_j$ , and note that  $(t_j, y) \subseteq I_j$ . Then,

for all  $x \in (t_j, y)$ ,  $f'(y) \geq f'(x) \rightarrow f'(t_j)$  as  $x \rightarrow t_j^+$  since  $f'$  is continuous. Thus,  $f'$  is non-decreasing on  $\{t_j\} \cup I_j$ .

Now, we take  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  and assume  $x < y$ . If  $x \in I_n = (t_n, \infty)$ , then also  $y \in I_n$ . Since  $f'$  is non-decreasing on  $I_n$ , we have  $f'(x) \leq f'(y)$  in this case. Otherwise, we take  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$  so that  $x \in I_i \cup \{t_{i+1}\}$ . If  $y \in I_i \cup \{t_{i+1}\}$ , then since  $f'$  is non-decreasing on  $I_i \cup \{t_{i+1}\}$ , we have  $f'(x) \leq f'(y)$  in this case as well. Now, we can take  $i+1 \leq j \leq n$  so that  $y \in \{t_j\} \cup I_j$ . Since  $f'$  is non-decreasing on  $I_{k-1} \cup \{t_k\}$  and  $\{t_k\} \cup I_k$  for all  $1 \leq k \leq n$ , we have

$$f'(x) \leq f'(t_{i+1}) \leq f'(c_{i+1}) \leq f'(t_{i+2}) \leq \cdots \leq f'(c_{j-1}) \leq f'(t_j) \leq f'(y)$$

where  $c_k$  is some element of  $I_k$ . Thus, in all cases,  $f'(x) \leq f'(y)$ , hence  $f'$  is non-decreasing on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Since  $\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} f'(t) = -\infty$  and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} f'(t) = \infty$ , there are some  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  so that  $f'(a) < 0$  and  $f'(b) > 0$ . Since  $f'$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$ , by the single variable Intermediate Value Theorem, there exists some  $t_0 \in (a, b)$  so that  $f'(t_0) = 0$ . Since  $f'$  is non-decreasing, we have that for all  $x \in (-\infty, t_0]$ ,  $f'(x) \leq f'(t_0) = 0$ . Similarly, for all  $x \in [t_0, \infty)$ ,  $f'(x) \geq f'(t_0) = 0$ . Applying Proposition 3.4,  $f$  is non-increasing on  $(-\infty, t_0]$ , and applying Proposition 3.5,  $f$  is non-decreasing on  $[t_0, \infty)$ , which is exactly what we wanted to prove.  $\square$

## §4 Proof of the $p$ -norm Theorem

In this section, we prove Theorem 1.1.

*Proof (Theorem 1.1).* We prove the theorem by showing that if  $p < 1$ , then  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is not a norm, and that if  $p \geq 1$ , then  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is a norm.

Let  $p < 1$ , and consider the function  $\|\cdot\|_p : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\|\vec{x}\|_p = (|x_1|^p + |x_2|^p + \cdots + |x_n|^p)^{1/p}$$

Notice that for  $p \leq 0$ ,  $\|\vec{0}\|_p = (0^p + 0^p + \cdots + 0^p)^{1/p}$  is undefined, since  $0^p$  is undefined for  $p \leq 0$ .

This means that  $N$  is not a norm for such  $p$ .

For  $0 < p < 1$ , consider the unit vectors  $\vec{e}_1 = (1, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\vec{e}_2 = (0, 1, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then we get

$$\|\vec{e}_1 + \vec{e}_2\|_p = \|(1, 1, 0, \dots, 0)\|_p = (1^p + 1^p + 0^p + \cdots + 0^p)^{1/p} = 2^{1/p}$$

and

$$\|\vec{e}_1\|_p = \|\vec{e}_2\|_p = (1^p)^{1/p} = 1$$

Since  $0 < p < 1$ ,  $\frac{1}{p} > 1$ , so

$$\|\vec{e}_1 + \vec{e}_2\|_p = 2^{1/p} > 2 = 1 + 1 = \|\vec{e}_1\|_p + \|\vec{e}_2\|_p$$

which means that  $\|\cdot\|_p$  does not satisfy the triangle inequality. Therefore,  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is not a norm for  $p < 1$ .

Now, let  $p \geq 1$ . We will handle the  $p = 1$  case separately.

Positive Definiteness: Let  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then,  $\|\vec{x}\|_1 = (|x_1|^1 + \cdots + |x_n|^1)^{1/1} = |x_1| + \cdots + |x_n|$ . Notice that for all  $i$ ,  $|x_i| \geq 0$ , so we must have  $\|\vec{x}\|_1 \geq 0$ . Also,  $\|\vec{0}\|_1 = |0| + \cdots + |0| = 0$ . Now, assume  $\|\vec{x}\|_1 = 0$ . Then,

$$\|\vec{x}\|_1 = |x_1| + \cdots + |x_n| = 0$$

$|x_1| + \cdots + |x_n|$  is a sum of non-negative terms, so it can only be 0 if each individual term is 0. Thus, for all  $i$ ,  $x_i = 0$ , hence  $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ . Thus,  $\|\vec{x}\|_1 \geq 0$  for all  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\|\vec{x}\|_1 = 0 \iff \vec{x} = \vec{0}$ , so  $\|\cdot\|_1$  is positive definite.

Homogeneity: Let  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned}\|c\vec{x}\|_1 &= (|cx_1|^1 + \cdots + |cx_n|^1)^{1/1} \\ &= |cx_1| + \cdots + |cx_n| \\ &= |c||x_1| + \cdots + |c||x_n| \\ &= |c|(|x_1| + \cdots + |x_n|) \\ &= |c| \|\vec{x}\|_1\end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\|\cdot\|_1$  is homogeneous.

Triangle Inequality: Let  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned}\|\vec{x} + \vec{y}\|_1 &= |x_1 + y_1| + \cdots + |x_n + y_n| \\ &\leq |x_1| + |y_1| + \cdots + |x_n| + |y_n| \quad (\text{By Triangle Inequality for Absolute Value}) \\ &= |x_1| + \cdots + |x_n| + |y_1| + \cdots + |y_n| \\ &= \|\vec{x}\|_1 + \|\vec{y}\|_1\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\|\cdot\|_1$  has triangle inequality property.

Therefore,  $\|\cdot\|_1$  is a norm.

Now, we handle the  $p > 1$  case. For this, we will use the Magic Norm Theorem. Consider the set  $B = \{\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|\vec{x}\|_p \leq 1\}$ . Next, we show that  $B$  is absorbing, balanced, bounded, closed, and convex.

Absorbing: Let  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . If  $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ , then  $\|\vec{x}\|_p = (|0|^p + \cdots + |0|^p)^{1/p} = 0 \leq 1$ , so  $\vec{x} \in B$ . Thus, we take  $t = 1 > 0$  and  $\vec{b} = \vec{x} \in B$ , and we write  $\vec{x} = 1\vec{x} = t\vec{b}$ . Now, we assume  $\vec{x} \neq \vec{0}$ . This means that for some  $i$ ,  $x_i \neq 0$ , so  $|x_i|^p > 0 \Rightarrow |x_1|^p + \cdots + |x_n|^p > 0 \Rightarrow (|x_1|^p + \cdots + |x_n|^p)^{1/p} > 0 \Rightarrow \|\vec{x}\|_p > 0$ . Now, we take  $t = \|\vec{x}\|_p > 0$  and  $\vec{b} = \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|_p} \vec{x}$ . Notice that

$$\begin{aligned}\|\vec{b}\|_p &= \left\| \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|_p} \vec{x} \right\|_p \\ &= \left( \left| \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|_p} x_1 \right|^p + \cdots + \left| \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|_p} x_n \right|^p \right)^{1/p} \\ &= \left( \left( \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|_p} \right)^p |x_1|^p + \cdots + \left( \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|_p} \right)^p |x_n|^p \right)^{1/p} \\ &= \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|_p} (|x_1|^p + \cdots + |x_n|^p)^{1/p} \\ &= \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|_p} \|\vec{x}\|_p \\ &= 1\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\|\vec{b}\|_p = 1 \leq 1$ ,  $\vec{b} \in B$ . Now, notice that  $\vec{x} = \|\vec{x}\|_p \cdot \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|_p} \vec{x} = t\vec{b}$ . In both cases, we get  $\vec{x} = t\vec{b}$  for some  $t > 0$  and  $\vec{b} \in B$ , hence,  $B$  is absorbing.

Balanced: Let  $\vec{b} \in B$  and  $t \in [-1, 1]$ . Then,  $\|\vec{b}\|_p \leq 1$  and  $|t| \leq 1$ . Now, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\|t\vec{b}\|_p &= (|tb_1|^p + \dots + |tb_n|^p)^{1/p} \\ &= (|t|^p |b_1|^p + \dots + |t|^p |b_n|^p)^{1/p} \\ &= |t|(|b_1|^p + \dots + |b_n|^p)^{1/p} \\ &= |t|\|\vec{b}\|_p \\ &\leq 1\end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\|t\vec{b}\|_p \leq 1$ , so  $t\vec{b} \in B$ . Hence,  $B$  is balanced.

Bounded: We will show that  $B$  is bounded over the 1-norm, which by equivalence of norms, would mean that  $B$  is bounded over all norms. Let  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in B$ . Notice that for any  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $|x_i|^p \leq |x_1|^p + \dots + |x_n|^p \Rightarrow |x_i| \leq (|x_1|^p + \dots + |x_n|^p)^{1/p} = \|\vec{x}\|_p \leq 1$ . Similarly,  $|y_i| \leq 1$  for any  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Thus,  $\|\vec{x}\|_1 = |x_1| + \dots + |x_n| \leq n$  and  $\|\vec{y}\|_1 = |y_1| + \dots + |y_n| \leq n$ . Now, we have  $\|\vec{x} - \vec{y}\|_1 \leq \|\vec{x}\|_1 + \|\vec{y}\|_1 \leq 2n$ . This means that distances between elements of  $B$  are bounded above by a constant  $2n$ , hence  $B$  must be bounded.

Closed: We will show that  $B$  is closed over the 1-norm, which by equivalence of norms, would mean that  $B$  is closed over all norms. To do so, we will show that  $\|\cdot\|_p : (\mathbb{R}^n, \|\cdot\|_1) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, |\cdot|)$  is continuous, and then apply topological continuity.

Define  $f_a : ([0, \infty), |\cdot|) \rightarrow ([0, \infty), |\cdot|)$ ,  $f_a(t) = t^a$ ,  $g : (\mathbb{R}, |\cdot|) \rightarrow ([0, \infty), |\cdot|)$ ,  $g = |\cdot|$ , and  $h_i : (\mathbb{R}^n, \|\cdot\|_1) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, |\cdot|)$ ,  $h_i(\vec{x}) = x_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Then, notice that we can write the following:

$$\|\cdot\|_p = f_{1/p} \circ (f_p \circ g \circ h_1 + \dots + f_p \circ g \circ h_n)$$

Notice that  $g$  is continuous, and for  $p > 1$ ,  $f_{1/p}$  and  $f_p$  are continuous. Furthermore,  $h_i$ 's are linear functions with finite dimensional domain, hence are also continuous. Thus,  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is continuous as a combination of continuous functions. Now,  $B = \{\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|\vec{x}\|_p \leq 1\} = \|(-\infty, 1]\|_p^{-1}$  is the pre-image of a closed set, so  $B$  must also be closed by topological continuity.

Convex: Let  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in B$ . Define the function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$f(t) = (\|t\vec{x} + (1-t)\vec{y}\|_p)^p = |(x_1 - y_1)t + y_1|^p + \dots + |(x_n - y_n)t + y_n|^p$$

Notice that  $t\vec{x} + (1-t)\vec{y} \in B$  if and only if  $f(t) \leq 1$ , so if we show that  $f(t) \leq 1$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ , we will have that  $B$  is convex.

We first show that  $f$  satisfies the conditions of Lemma 3.1. Define the functions  $g_i : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $g_i(t) = |(x_i - y_i)t + y_i|^p$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Notice that if  $x_i - y_i = 0$ , then  $g_i$  is constant, so it is twice differentiable with  $g_i''(t) = 0 \geq 0$ . Otherwise, take  $a = |x_i - y_i| > 0$  and  $b = y_i$  if  $x_i - y_i > 0$  and  $b = -y_i$  otherwise. Notice that  $g_i(t) = |(x_i - y_i)t + y_i|^p = |at + b|^p$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . (Trust me bro)

On the interval  $(-\infty, -\frac{b}{a})$ , we have  $g_i(t) = (-at - b)^p$  which is differentiable with a continuous derivative of  $g_i'(t) = -pa(-at - b)^{p-1} = -pa|at + b|^{p-1}$ . Furthermore,  $g_i$  is twice differentiable on this interval with  $g_i''(t) = p(p-1)(-a)^2(-at - b)^{p-2} = p(p-1)a^2|at + b|^{p-2} \geq 0$  since  $p > 1$ .

Similarly, on the interval  $(-\frac{b}{a}, \infty)$ ,  $g_i(t) = (at + b)^p$  which is continuously differentiable with  $g_i'(t) = pa(at + b)^{p-1} = pa|at + b|^{p-1}$ . Furthermore,  $g_i''(t) = p(p-1)a^2(at + b)^{p-2} = p(p-1)a^2|at + b|^{p-2} \geq 0$ .

Now, notice that

$$\frac{-(at + b)^p}{t + \frac{b}{a}} \leq \frac{|at + b|^p}{t + \frac{b}{a}} \leq \frac{(at + b)^p}{t + \frac{b}{a}}$$

and that for  $p > 1$ , both the left and the right terms go to 0 as  $t \rightarrow -\frac{b}{a}$ . By the Squeeze Theorem, this means that

$$g_i' \left( -\frac{b}{a} \right) = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\frac{b}{a}} \frac{|at + b|^p}{t + \frac{b}{a}} = 0$$

Furthermore, notice that as  $t \rightarrow (-\frac{b}{a})^-$ ,  $g_i'(t) = -pa|at + b|^{p-1} \rightarrow 0$  and as  $t \rightarrow (-\frac{b}{a})^+$ ,  $g_i'(t) = pa|at + b|^{p-1} \rightarrow 0$ . Thus,  $g_i'(t)$  is continuously differentiable.

Now, we have that  $g_i$  is continuously differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}$  and twice differentiable on all  $\mathbb{R}$  except, possibly, for a single point. Furthermore, for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  where  $g_i$  is twice differentiable,  $g_i''(t) \geq 0$ . Also, as  $t \rightarrow -\infty$ ,  $g_i'(t) = -pa|at + b|^{p-1} \rightarrow -\infty$ , and as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $g_i'(t) = pa|at + b|^{p-1} \rightarrow \infty$ .

Now, notice that  $f = g_1 + g_2 + \dots + g_n$ . Since each  $g_i$  is continuously differentiable,  $f$  is also continuously differentiable. Since each  $g_i$  is twice differentiable on all  $\mathbb{R}$  but a single point,  $f$  is twice differentiable on all  $\mathbb{R}$  but finitely many points. Since where all  $g_i$ 's exist,  $g_i''(t) \geq 0$ , we also have  $f''(t) = g_1''(t) + \dots + g_n''(t) \geq 0$  as a sum of non-negative terms. Finally, since  $\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} g_i(t) = -\infty$  and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} g_i(t) = \infty$  for all  $i$ , we also have  $\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} f(t) = -\infty$  and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} f(t) = \infty$ . This allows us to apply Lemma 3.1 to get some  $t_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  so that  $f$  is non-increasing on  $(-\infty, t_0]$  and non-decreasing on  $[t_0, \infty)$ .

Next, we show that the maximum of  $f$  on  $[0, 1]$  is either  $f(0)$  or  $f(1)$ . Consider the cases  $t_0 \leq 0$ ,  $0 < t_0 < 1$ , and  $1 \leq t_0$ .

*Case 1:*  $t_0 \leq 0$ . In this case, we have that  $f$  is non-decreasing on  $[0, 1] \subseteq [t_0, \infty)$ . This means that  $f(1) \geq f(t)$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ , so  $f(1)$  is the maximum of  $f$  on  $[0, 1]$ .

*Case 2:*  $t_0 \geq 1$ . In this case, we have that  $f$  is non-increasing on  $[0, 1] \subseteq (-\infty, t_0]$ . This means that  $f(0) \geq f(t)$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ , so  $f(0)$  is the maximum of  $f$  on  $[0, 1]$ .

*Case 3:*  $0 < t_0 < 1$ . In this case, we have that  $f$  is non-increasing on  $[0, t_0] \subseteq (-\infty, t_0]$  and non-decreasing on  $[t_0, 1] \subseteq [t_0, \infty)$ . This means that  $f(0) \geq f(t)$  for all  $t \in [0, t_0]$  and  $f(1) \geq f(t)$  for all  $t \in [t_0, 1]$ . This implies that  $\max\{f(0), f(1)\} \geq f(t)$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ , hence either  $f(0)$  or  $f(1)$  is the maximum of  $f$  on  $[0, 1]$ .

Now, we have that for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ ,

$$f(t) \leq \max\{f(0), f(1)\} = \max\{(\|\vec{y}\|_p)^p, (\|\vec{x}\|_p)^p\} \leq 1$$

since  $\|\vec{x}\|_p, \|\vec{y}\|_p \leq 1$  as  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in B$ . As was mentioned previously, this means that  $t\vec{x} + (1-t)\vec{y} \in B$ , hence  $B$  is convex.

We have shown that  $B$  is absorbing, balanced, convex, bounded, and closed, so by the Magic Norm Theorem, there exists a norm  $\|\cdot\| : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  so that  $B = \{\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|\vec{x}\| \leq 1\}$ . We soon show that  $\|\cdot\|_p = \|\cdot\|$ , but before that, it is helpful to show that  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is homogeneous.

Let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|c\vec{x}\|_p &= (|cx_1|^p + \dots + |cx_n|^p)^{1/p} \\ &= (|c|^p|x_1|^p + \dots + |c|^p|x_n|^p)^{1/p} \\ &= |c|(|x_1|^p + \dots + |x_n|^p)^{1/p} \\ &= |c| \|\vec{x}\|_p \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is homogeneous.

Now, by way of contradiction, suppose that  $\|\cdot\|_p \neq \|\cdot\|$ . Then, there exists some  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}$  so that  $\|\vec{x}\|_p \neq \|\vec{x}\|$ . Notice that  $\vec{x} \neq \vec{0}$ , because if that was the case, we would have  $\|\vec{x}\| = 0 = \|\vec{x}\|_p$ . Then, we can take  $c = \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|} > 0$  and get

$$\|c\vec{x}\| = |c| \|\vec{x}\| = \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|} \|\vec{x}\| = 1$$

which means that  $c\vec{x} \in B$ . Since  $c\vec{x} \in B$ , we must have  $\|c\vec{x}\|_p \leq 1$ . Now, notice that if  $\|c\vec{x}\|_p = 1$ , then  $\|c\vec{x}\|_p = \|c\vec{x}\| \Rightarrow |c| \|\vec{x}\|_p = |c| \|\vec{x}\| \Rightarrow \|\vec{x}\|_p = \|\vec{x}\|$ , but that is a contradiction. Hence,  $\|c\vec{x}\|_p < 1$ . Furthermore, since  $\vec{x} \neq \vec{0}$  and  $c \neq 0$ , we have  $\|c\vec{x}\|_p > 0$ , so we take  $t = \frac{1}{\|c\vec{x}\|_p}$ . Since  $0 < \|c\vec{x}\|_p < 1$ , we have  $t > 1$ . Now, we have

$$\|tc\vec{x}\|_p = t \|c\vec{x}\|_p = \frac{1}{\|c\vec{x}\|_p} \|c\vec{x}\|_p = 1$$



so  $t\vec{c\vec{x}} \in B$ . However, we also have

$$\|t\vec{c\vec{x}}\| = t \|c\vec{x}\| = t > 1$$

so  $t\vec{c\vec{x}} \notin B$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $\|\cdot\|_p = \|\cdot\|$ , so  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is a norm. □

## §5 Applications

The  $p$ -norm theorem is not widely applicable, but it can be used to prove the  $p$ -norms on  $C[0, 1]$  and  $l^p$ , the spaces of continuous functions on  $[0, 1]$  and  $p$ -summable sequences in  $\mathbb{R}$ , respectively.

**Definition 5.1** ( $p$ -Summable Sequences). We define  $l^p$  to be the space of  $p$ -summable sequences in  $\mathbb{R}$  – that is,  $l^p$  is the space of all sequences  $(x_n)$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  so that  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |x_n|^p$  converges. You can verify that this is a linear subspace of the space of all sequences in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**Corollary 5.2** ( $p$ -Norm on  $l^p$ ). For  $p > 1$ , the function  $\|\cdot\|_p : l^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\|\vec{x}\|_p = (\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |x_n|^p)^{1/p}$  is a norm.

*Proof.* To prove that  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is a norm on  $l^p$ , we need to show that it is positive definite, homogeneous, and has triangle inequality. Also, where needed, we will use the fact that  $\|\cdot\|_p$  on  $\mathbb{R}_n$  is a norm.

Positive Definiteness: Let  $X = (x_n) \in l^p$ . Notice that

$$\|X\|_p = \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |x_i|^p \right)^{1/p}$$

is a sum of non-negative terms, so  $\|X\|_p \geq 0$ . Thus, we have  $\|X\|_p \geq 0$  for all  $X \in l^p$ .

Notice that  $\|0\|_p = (\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |0|^p)^{1/p} = 0$ . Now, assume that  $\|X\|_p = 0$  for some  $X = (x_n) \in l^p$ . Then, notice that  $0 = (\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |x_i|^p)^{1/p} \geq |x_n|$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . This means that  $x_n = 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , hence  $X = 0$ . Thus, we have  $\|X\|_p = 0 \iff X = 0$ . Therefore,  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is positive definite.

Homogeneity: Let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $X = (x_n) \in l^p$ . Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|cX\|_p &= \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |cx_i|^p \right)^{1/p} \\ &= \left( |c|^p \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |x_i|^p \right)^{1/p} \\ &= |c| \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |x_i|^p \right)^{1/p} \\ &= |c| \|X\|_p \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is homogeneous.

Triangle Inequality: Let  $X = (x_n), Y = (y_n) \in l^p$ . Furthermore, we define  $\vec{x}_n = (x_1, \dots, x_n), \vec{y}_n = (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  for  $n \geq 2$ . By Theorem 1.1, for all  $n \geq 2$ , we have

$$\|\vec{x}_n + \vec{y}_n\|_p \leq \|\vec{x}_n\|_p + \|\vec{y}_n\|_p \implies \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i + y_i|^p \right)^{1/p} \leq \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^p \right)^{1/p} + \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |y_i|^p \right)^{1/p}$$

Taking  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |x_i + y_i|^p \right)^{1/p} \leq \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |x_i|^p \right)^{1/p} + \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |y_i|^p \right)^{1/p} \implies \|X + Y\|_p \leq \|X\|_p + \|Y\|_p$$

Thus,  $\|\cdot\|_p$  has triangle inequality. Therefore,  $\|\cdot\|_p : l^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a norm. □

**Corollary 5.3** (*p*-Norm on  $C[0, 1]$ ). *For  $p > 1$ , the function  $\|\cdot\|_p : C[0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,*

*$\|f\|_p = \left( \int_0^1 |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p}$  is a norm. Note that this integral exists since continuous functions are integrable.*

*Proof.* To prove that  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is a norm on  $C[0, 1]$ , we need to show that it is positive definite, homogeneous, and has triangle inequality. Also, where needed, we will use the fact that  $\|\cdot\|_p$  on  $\mathbb{R}_n$  is a norm.

Positive Definiteness: Let  $f \in C[0, 1]$ . Notice that

$$\|f\|_p = \left( \int_0^1 |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p}$$

is an integral of a non-negative function, so  $\|f\|_p \geq 0$ . Thus, we have  $\|f\|_p \geq 0$  for all  $f \in C[0, 1]$ .

Notice that  $\|0\|_p = \left( \int_0^1 0 dx \right)^{1/p} = 0$ . Now, let  $f \neq 0 \in C[0, 1]$ . That means that for some  $x_0 \in [0, 1]$ ,  $f(x_0) \neq 0$ . Then,  $|f(x_0)| > 0$ , so we can find an  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that for all  $x \in [0, 1] \cap (x_0 - \varepsilon, x_0 + \varepsilon)$ ,  $|f(x)| > \frac{1}{2}|f(x_0)|$ . Now, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_p &= \left( \int_0^1 |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &= \left( \int_0^{\max\{0, x_0 - \varepsilon\}} |f(x)|^p dx + \int_{\max\{0, x_0 - \varepsilon\}}^{\min\{x_0 + \varepsilon, 1\}} |f(x)|^p dx + \int_{\min\{x_0 + \varepsilon, 1\}}^1 |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &> \left( \int_0^{\max\{0, x_0 - \varepsilon\}} 0 dx + \int_{\max\{0, x_0 - \varepsilon\}}^{\min\{x_0 + \varepsilon, 1\}} \left( \frac{1}{2}|f(x_0)| \right)^p dx + \int_{\min\{x_0 + \varepsilon, 1\}}^1 0 dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{2^p} |f(x_0)|^p (\min\{x_0 + \varepsilon, 1\} - \max\{0, x_0 - \varepsilon\}) \right)^{1/p} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} |f(x_0)| (\min\{x_0 + \varepsilon, 1\} + \min\{0, \varepsilon - x_0\})^{1/p} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} |f(x_0)| (\min\{2\varepsilon, 1, 1 + \varepsilon - x_0\})^{1/p} \\ &> \frac{1}{2} |f(x_0)| \cdot \varepsilon^{1/p} \\ &> 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\|f\|_p \neq 0$ . Now, we have  $f = 0 \Rightarrow \|f\|_p = 0$  and  $f \neq 0 \Rightarrow \|f\|_p \neq 0$ . Hence,  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is positive definite.

Homogeneity: Let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $f \in C[0, 1]$ . Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|cf\|_p &= \left( \int_0^1 |cf(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &= \left( |c|^p \int_0^1 |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &= |c| \left( \int_0^1 |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &= |c| \|f\|_p \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is homogeneous.

Triangle Inequality: Let  $f, g \in C[0, 1]$ . Furthermore, we define  $\vec{x}_n = (f(\frac{1}{n}), f(\frac{2}{n}), \dots, f(\frac{n}{n}))$ ,  $\vec{y}_n = (g(\frac{1}{n}), g(\frac{2}{n}), \dots, g(\frac{n}{n})) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  for  $n \geq 2$ . By Theorem 1.1, for all  $n \geq 2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{x}_n + \vec{y}_n\|_p &\leq \|\vec{x}_n\|_p + \|\vec{y}_n\|_p \\ \Rightarrow \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \left| f\left(\frac{i}{n}\right) + g\left(\frac{i}{n}\right) \right|^p \right)^{1/p} &\leq \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \left| f\left(\frac{i}{n}\right) \right|^p \right)^{1/p} + \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \left| g\left(\frac{i}{n}\right) \right|^p \right)^{1/p} \\ \Rightarrow \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \left| f\left(\frac{i}{n}\right) + g\left(\frac{i}{n}\right) \right|^p \right)^{1/p} &\leq \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \left| f\left(\frac{i}{n}\right) \right|^p \right)^{1/p} + \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \left| g\left(\frac{i}{n}\right) \right|^p \right)^{1/p} \end{aligned}$$

Now, notice that for a continuous function  $h : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , the integral of  $h$  on  $[0, 1]$  can be written as a limit of the Riemann sums. Written using the right rule, we get

$$\int_0^1 h(x) dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} h\left(\frac{i}{n}\right)$$

Taking  $n \rightarrow \infty$  on the previous inequality, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \left| f\left(\frac{i}{n}\right) + g\left(\frac{i}{n}\right) \right|^p \right)^{1/p} &\leq \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \left| f\left(\frac{i}{n}\right) \right|^p \right)^{1/p} + \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \left| g\left(\frac{i}{n}\right) \right|^p \right)^{1/p} \\ \Rightarrow \left( \int_0^1 |f(x) + g(x)|^p \right)^{1/p} &\leq \left( \int_0^1 |f(x)|^p \right)^{1/p} + \left( \int_0^1 |g(x)|^p \right)^{1/p} \\ \Rightarrow \|f + g\|_p &\leq \|f\|_p + \|g\|_p \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\|\cdot\|_p$  has triangle inequality. Therefore,  $\|\cdot\|_p : C[0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a norm. □