

# Introduction to Functional Analysis

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# 1 Banach space theory

## 1.1 Quotient spaces, Baire category and uniform boundedness

**Theorem.** Let  $\|\cdot\|$  be a **seminorm** on a vector space  $V$ . If we define  $E = \{v \in V : \|v\| = 0\}$ , then  $E$  is a subspace of  $V$ , and the function on  $V/E$  defined by

$$\|v + E\| = \|v\|$$

for any  $v + E \in V/E$  defines a **norm**.

**Theorem** (Baire Category Theorem). Let  $M$  be a complete metric space, and let  $\{C_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  be a collection of closed subsets of  $M$  such that  $M = \bigcup_{n=0}^\infty C_n$ . Then at least one of the  $C_n$  contains an open ball  $B(x, r) = \{y \in M : d(x, y) < r\}$ .

**Theorem** (Uniform Boundedness Theorem). Let  $B$  be Banach space and  $V$  a normed vector space. Let  $\{T_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  be a sequence in  $\mathcal{B}(B, V)$ . Then if for all  $b \in B$  we have  $\sup_n \|T_n b\| < \infty$  (that is, this sequence is pointwise bounded), then  $\sup_n \|T_n\| < \infty$  (the operator norms are bounded).

*Proof.* For each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , define

$$C_k = \left\{ b \in B : \|b\| \leq 1, \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|T_n b\| \leq k \right\}.$$

This set is closed for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , but by assumption, we have

$$\{b \in B : \|b\| \leq 1\} = \bigcup_{k=0}^\infty C_k.$$

The left hand side is a closed subset of  $B$ , and is thus a complete metric space. By Baire Category Theorem, there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $C_k$  contains an open ball  $B(b_0, \delta_0)$ . Then, if  $b \in B(b_0, \delta_0)$ , we have  $b_0 + b \in B(b_0, \delta_0)$  and thus

$$\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|T_n(b_0 + b)\| \leq k.$$

It follows that

$$\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|T_n b\| \leq \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|T_n(b_0 + b)\| + \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|T_n b_0\| \leq 2k.$$

Suppose  $\|b\| = 1$ , then  $\frac{\delta_0}{2}b \in B(b_0, \delta_0)$  and thus for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$\left\| T_n \left( \frac{\delta_0}{2} b \right) \right\| \leq 2k.$$

Therefore,

$$\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|T_n\| \leq \frac{4k}{\delta_0}.$$

□

## 2 Hilbert space theory

### 2.1 Basic Hilbert space theory

**Definition** (Pre-Hilbert space). A **pre-Hilbert** space  $H$  is a vector space over  $\mathbb{C}$  with a **Hermitian inner product**, which is a map  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : H \times H \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  satisfying the following properties.

1. For all  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $v_1, v_2, w \in H$ , we have

$$\langle \lambda_1 v_1 + \lambda_2 v_2, w \rangle = \lambda_1 \langle v_1, w \rangle + \lambda_2 \langle v_2, w \rangle.$$

2. For all  $v, w \in H$ , we have  $\langle v, w \rangle = \overline{\langle w, v \rangle}$ .

3. For all  $v \in H$ , we have  $\langle v, v \rangle \geq 0$ , with equality if and only if  $v = 0$ .

**Definition.** Let  $H$  be a pre-Hilbert space. For all  $v \in H$ , we define

$$\|v\| = \langle v, v \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

**Theorem** (Cauchy-Schwarz inequality). Let  $H$  be a pre-Hilbert space. For all  $u, v \in H$ , we have

$$|\langle u, v \rangle| \leq \|u\| \|v\|.$$

*Proof.* Define  $f(t) = \|u + tv\|^2$ . Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} f(t) &= \langle u + tv, u + tv \rangle \\ &= \langle u, u \rangle + t^2 \langle v, v \rangle + t \langle u, v \rangle + t \langle v, u \rangle \\ &= \|u\|^2 + t^2 \|v\|^2 + 2t \operatorname{Re}(\langle u, v \rangle). \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$0 \leq f(t_{\min}) = \|u\|^2 - \frac{\operatorname{Re}(\langle u, v \rangle)^2}{\|v\|^2}.$$

It follows that

$$|\operatorname{Re}(\langle u, v \rangle)| \leq \|u\| \|v\|.$$

This is almost what we want. To finish up, first note that if  $\langle u, v \rangle = 0$  then there is nothing to prove, so suppose  $\langle u, v \rangle \neq 0$ , and define

$$\lambda = \frac{\overline{\langle u, v \rangle}}{|\langle u, v \rangle|}.$$

Note that we have  $|\lambda| = 1$  and we have the chain of equalities of real numbers:

$$|\langle u, v \rangle| = \lambda \langle u, v \rangle = \langle \lambda u, v \rangle = \operatorname{Re} \langle \lambda u, v \rangle \leq \|\lambda u\| \|v\|.$$

However,  $\|\lambda u\| = \|u\|$ , so the proof is complete. □

**Theorem.** If  $H$  is a pre-Hilbert space, then  $\|\cdot\|$  is a norm on  $H$ .

*Proof.* Note that

$$\|v\| = 0 \iff \langle v, v \rangle = 0 \iff v = 0.$$

Now if  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $v \in H$ , then

$$\langle \lambda v, \lambda v \rangle = \lambda \bar{\lambda} \langle v, v \rangle = |\lambda|^2 \|v\|^2.$$

Therefore,  $\|\lambda v\| = |\lambda| \|v\|$ .

Finally, let  $u, v \in H$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}\|u + v\|^2 &= \langle u + v, u + v \rangle \\ &= \|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2 + 2 \operatorname{Re} \langle u, v \rangle \\ &\leq \|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2 + 2 |\langle u, v \rangle| \\ &\leq \|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2 + 2 \|u\| \|v\| \\ &= (\|u\| + \|v\|)^2.\end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem.** If  $u_n \rightarrow u$  and  $v_n \rightarrow v$  in a pre-Hilbert space  $H$ , then  $\langle u_n, v_n \rangle \rightarrow \langle u, v \rangle$ .

*Proof.* If  $u_n \rightarrow u$  and  $v_n \rightarrow v$ , then  $\|u_n - u\| \rightarrow 0$  and  $\|v_n - v\| \rightarrow 0$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}|\langle u_n, v_n \rangle - \langle u, v \rangle| &= |\langle u_n - u, v_n \rangle - \langle u, v - v_n \rangle| \\ &\leq |\langle u_n - u, v_n \rangle| + |\langle u, v - v_n \rangle| \\ &\leq \|u_n - u\| \|v_n\| + \|u\| \|v - v_n\| \\ &\leq \|u_n - u\| \sup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \|v_k\| + \|u\| \|v - v_n\| \\ &\rightarrow 0\end{aligned}$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Definition** (Hilbert space). A **Hilbert space** is a pre-Hilbert space that is complete with respect to the norm  $\|\cdot\| = \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}}$ .

**Example.** Some examples of Hilbert spaces:

- $\mathbb{C}^n = \{z = (z_1, \dots, z_n) : z_j \in \mathbb{C}\}$  with  $\langle z, w \rangle = \sum_j z_j \overline{w_j}$  is a Hilbert space.
- $\ell^2 = \left\{a = \{a_k\}_{k=0}^\infty : a_k \in \mathbb{C}, \sum_{k=0}^\infty |a_k|^2 < \infty\right\}$  with  $\langle a, b \rangle = \sum_{k=0}^\infty a_k \overline{b_k}$  is a Hilbert space.
- If  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$  is measurable, then  $L^2(E) = \left\{f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \int_E |f|^2 < \infty\right\}$  with  $\langle f, g \rangle = \int_E f \overline{g}$  is a Hilbert space.

We will show that each separable Hilbert space is isometrically isomorphic to either  $\mathbb{C}^n$  or  $\ell^2$ .

Now we have seen that  $\ell^2$  and  $L^2$  spaces are Hilbert spaces. This is expected since the definition of the inner product in these spaces uses the fact that they are  $\ell^2$  or  $L^2$ . A natural question then is whether other  $\ell^p$  or  $L^p$  spaces are also Hilbert spaces with respect to some inner product? It turns out there is a simple way to decide whether a norm comes from an inner-product, and thus whether a Banach space is a Hilbert space.

**Theorem** (Parallelogram Law). If  $H$  is a pre-Hilbert space, then for all  $u, v \in H$ , we have

$$\|u + v\|^2 + \|u - v\|^2 = 2(\|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2).$$

In addition, if  $H$  is a normed vector space satisfying this equality, then  $H$  is a pre-Hilbert space.

Using the previous theorem, we can verify that  $\ell^p$  and  $L^p$  with  $p \neq 2$  are **not** Hilbert spaces.

**Definition** (Orthogonal). If  $H$  is a pre-Hilbert space,  $u, v \in H$  are **orthogonal** if  $\langle u, v \rangle = 0$ . We denote this as  $u \perp v$ .

**Definition** (Orthonormal sets). If  $H$  is a pre-Hilbert space, a subset  $\{e_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \subset H$  is **orthonormal** if for all  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , we have  $\|e_\lambda\| = 1$  and  $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$  implies  $e_{\lambda_1} \perp e_{\lambda_2}$ .

**Remark.** we will mainly be interested in the case where we have a countable orthonormal set.

**Example.** The set  $\left\{\frac{e^{inx}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\right\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  as elements in  $L^2([-\pi, \pi])$  is an orthonormal subset of  $L^2([-\pi, \pi])$ . Indeed, for any  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{imx} \overline{e^{inx}} = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{i(m-n)x} = \begin{cases} 2\pi & (m = n), \\ 0 & (m \neq n). \end{cases}$$

Therefore,  $\left\langle \frac{e^{inx}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \frac{e^{imx}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right\rangle = \delta_{mn}$ , and  $\left\{\frac{e^{inx}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\right\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is an orthonormal subset of  $L^2([-\pi, \pi])$ .

**Theorem (Bessel).** If  $\{e_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is countable orthonormal subset of a pre-Hilbert space  $H$ , then for all  $u \in H$ , we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |\langle u, e_n \rangle|^2 \leq \|u\|^2.$$

*Proof.* We first do the finite case. Suppose  $\{e_n\}_{n=1}^N$  is an orthonormal subset of  $H$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{n=0}^N \langle u, e_n \rangle e_n \right\|^2 &= \left\langle \sum_{n=0}^N \langle u, e_n \rangle e_n, \sum_{n=0}^N \langle u, e_n \rangle e_n \right\rangle \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^N \sum_{m=1}^N \langle u, e_n \rangle \overline{\langle u, e_m \rangle} \langle e_n, e_m \rangle \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^N |\langle u, e_n \rangle|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Also,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle u, \sum_{n=0}^N \langle u, e_n \rangle e_n \right\rangle &= \sum_{n=0}^N \overline{\langle u, e_n \rangle} \langle u, e_n \rangle \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^N |\langle u, e_n \rangle|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \left\| u - \sum_{n=0}^N \langle u, e_n \rangle e_n \right\|^2 \\ &= \|u\|^2 + \left\| \sum_{n=0}^N \langle u, e_n \rangle e_n \right\|^2 - 2 \operatorname{Re} \left\langle u, \sum_{n=0}^N \langle u, e_n \rangle e_n \right\rangle \\ &= \|u\|^2 - \sum_{n=0}^N |\langle u, e_n \rangle|^2, \end{aligned}$$

as desired.

For the infinite case, just take the limit as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ . □

**Definition (Maximal orthonormal subset).** An orthonormal subset  $\{e_\lambda\}_\lambda$  of a pre-Hilbert space is **maximal** if  $u \in H$  and  $\langle u, e_\lambda \rangle = 0$  for all  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  implies that  $u = 0$ .

**Theorem.** Every non-trivial pre-Hilbert space has a maximal orthonormal subset.

This can be proved using Zorn's Lemma. We will prove something less strong but often equally useful by hand, without applying Zorn's Lemma.

**Theorem.** Every non-trivial separable pre-Hilbert space has a countable maximal orthonormal subset.

*Proof.* Use the Gram-Schmidt process. Let  $\{v_j\}_{j=0}^{\infty}$  be a countable dense subset of  $H$  where  $v_0 \neq 0$ . Claim that for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists  $m(n) \leq n$  and an orthonormal subset  $\{e_1, \dots, e_{m(n)}\}$  such that

1.  $\text{span}\{e_1, \dots, e_{m(n)}\} = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ .
2. If  $v_n \in \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_{n-1}\}$ , we have

$$\{e_1, \dots, e_{m(n)}\} = \{e_1, \dots, e_{m(n-1)}\} \cup \emptyset.$$

Otherwise, we have

$$\{e_1, \dots, e_{m(n)}\} = \{e_1, \dots, e_{m(n-1)}\} \cup e_{m(n)}$$

for some  $e_{m(n)} \in H$ .

Prove this by induction. For the base case, let  $e_1 = \frac{v_1}{\|v_1\|}$ . For the inductive step, suppose the claim holds for  $n = k$ . If  $v_{k+1} \in \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$ , then

$$\text{span}\{e_1, \dots, e_{m(k)}\} = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_k\} = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_{k+1}\}.$$

Now suppose  $v_{k+1} \notin \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$ . Define

$$w_{k+1} = v_{k+1} - \sum_{j=1}^{m(k)} \langle v_{k+1}, e_j \rangle e_j.$$

Note that  $w_{k+1} \neq 0$  and define  $e_{m(k+1)} = \frac{w_{k+1}}{\|w_{k+1}\|}$ . Then,  $\|e_{m(k+1)}\| = 1$  and for all  $1 \leq l \leq m(k)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle e_{m(k+1)}, e_l \rangle &= \frac{1}{\|w_{k+1}\|} \left\langle v_{k+1} - \sum_{j=1}^{m(k)} \langle v_{k+1}, e_j \rangle e_j, e_l \right\rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{\|w_{k+1}\|} (\langle v_{k+1}, e_l \rangle - \langle v_{k+1}, e_l \rangle) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $e_{m(k+1)}$  is the desired vector we want and we have completed the proof for the claim.

Now let

$$S = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \{e_1, \dots, e_{m(n)}\}.$$

Then  $S$  is a countable orthonormal subset of  $H$ . Now we show  $S$  is maximal. Suppose  $u \in H$  and  $\langle u, e_l \rangle = 0$ . Since  $\{v_j\}_{j=0}^{\infty}$  is dense in  $H$ , there exists  $\{v_{j(k)}\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  such that  $v_{j(k)} \rightarrow u$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . By our claim, we know  $v_{j(k)} \in \text{span}\{e_1, \dots, e_{m(j(k))}\}$ . By Bessel's inequality,

$$\|v_{j(k)}\|^2 = \sum_{l=1}^{m(j(k))} |\langle v_{j(k)}, e_l \rangle|^2 = \sum_{l=1}^{m(j(k))} |\langle v_{j(k)} - u, e_l \rangle|^2 \leq \|v_{j(k)} - u\|^2,$$

where for the first equality we used the fact that  $v_{j(k)} \in \text{span}\{e_1, \dots, e_{m(j(k))}\}$ . Since  $v_{j(k)} \rightarrow u$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , the inequality implies that  $\|v_{j(k)}\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and thus  $\|u\| = 0$ , showing that  $S$  is indeed a maximal orthonormal subset of  $H$ .  $\square$

**Corollary.**  $\ell^2$  and  $L^2$  have countable maximal orthonormal subset since they are both separable.

## 2.2 Orthonormal bases and Fourier Series

**Definition** (Orthonormal basis). Let  $H$  be a Hilbert space. An **orthonormal basis** of  $H$  is a countable maximal orthonormal subset  $\{e_n\}_n$  of  $H$ .

**Theorem.** If  $\{e_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is an orthonormal basis in Hilbert space  $H$ , then for all  $u \in H$ , we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \langle u, e_n \rangle e_n = u.$$

This is the Fourier-Bessel series.

This tells us we can write each element in  $H$  as a infinite linear combination of the orthonormal basis.

*Proof.* We first prove the sequence of partial sums  $\{\sum_{n=0}^m \langle u, e_n \rangle e_n\}_m$  is Cauchy. Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . By Bessel's inequality, we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |\langle u, e_n \rangle|^2 \leq \|u\|^2 < \infty.$$

Therefore, there exists  $M \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $N \geq M$  implies  $\sum_{n=N+1}^{\infty} |\langle u, e_n \rangle|^2 < \varepsilon^2$ . Then for all  $m > l \geq M$ , we have

$$\left\| \sum_{n=0}^m \langle u, e_n \rangle e_n - \sum_{n=0}^l \langle u, e_n \rangle e_n \right\|^2 \leq \sum_{n=l+1}^m |\langle u, e_n \rangle|^2 \leq \sum_{n=l+1}^{\infty} |\langle u, e_n \rangle|^2 < \varepsilon^2.$$

Therefore, the sequence of partial sum is Cauchy. Since  $H$  is complete, there exists  $\bar{u} \in H$  such that  $\bar{u} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \langle u, e_n \rangle e_n$ . It remains to show that  $\bar{u} = u$ . By continuity of inner-product, for all  $l \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle u - \bar{u}, e_l \rangle &= \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \left\langle u - \sum_{n=0}^m \langle u, e_n \rangle e_n, e_l \right\rangle \\ &= \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \langle u, e_l \rangle - \sum_{n=0}^m \langle u, e_n \rangle \langle e_n, e_l \rangle \right] \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\{e_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is maximal, this implies that  $u - \bar{u} = 0$  and the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Theorem.** Let  $H$  be a Hilbert space. If  $H$  has an orthonormal basis, then  $H$  is separable.

*Proof.* Suppose  $\{e_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is an orthonormal basis for  $H$ . Then

$$S = \bigcup_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^m q_n e_n : q_n \in \mathbb{Q} + i\mathbb{Q} \right\}$$

is a countable set. Also, by the previous theorem,  $S$  is dense in  $H$ .  $\square$

**Remark.** Let  $H$  be a Hilbert space.  $H$  is separable if and only if  $H$  has an orthonormal basis.

**Theorem** (Parseval's identity). If  $H$  is a Hilbert space and  $\{e_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is a countable orthonormal basis, then for all  $u \in H$ , we have

$$\sum_n |\langle u, e_n \rangle|^2 = \|u\|^2$$

*Proof.* We have  $u = \sum_n \langle u, e_n \rangle e_n$ . This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \|u\|^2 &= \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \left\langle \sum_{n=0}^m \langle u, e_n \rangle e_n, \sum_{l=0}^m \langle u, e_l \rangle e_l \right\rangle \\ &= \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=0}^m \sum_{l=0}^m \langle u, e_n \rangle \overline{\langle u, e_l \rangle} \langle e_n, e_l \rangle \\ &= \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=0}^m |\langle u, e_n \rangle|^2 \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |\langle u, e_n \rangle|^2. \end{aligned}$$

$\square$

**Theorem.** If  $H$  is an infinite dimensional separable Hilbert space, then  $H$  is isometrically isomorphic to  $\ell^2$ . That is, there exists bijective bounded linear map  $T : H \rightarrow \ell^2$  such that for all  $u, v \in H$ , we have

$$\|Tu\|_{\ell^2} = \|u\|_H \quad \text{and} \quad \langle Tu, Tv \rangle_{\ell^2} = \langle u, v \rangle_H.$$



*Proof.* Since  $H$  is separable, there exists an orthonormal basis  $\{e_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ . For all  $u \in H$ , the previous theorem gives

$$\|u\| = \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |\langle u, e_n \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Define  $T : H \rightarrow \ell^2$  by

$$Tu = \{\langle u, e_n \rangle\}_{n=0}^\infty \in \ell^2.$$

It is easy to check that  $T$  is the desired isometric isomorphism.  $\square$

Next we use the theories we learned in a more concrete setting — the Fourier series.

**Theorem.** The subset  $\left\{ \frac{e^{inx}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is an orthonormal subset of  $L^2([-\pi, \pi])$ .

**Definition.** Let  $f \in L^2([-\pi, \pi])$ . Then the  $n$ -th **Fourier coefficient** of  $f$  is

$$\hat{f}(n) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) e^{-int} dt.$$

The  $N$ -th **Fourier sum** of  $f$  is

$$S_N f(x) = \sum_{|n| \leq N} \hat{f}(n) e^{inx} = \sum_{|n| \leq N} \left\langle f, \frac{e^{int}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right\rangle \frac{e^{inx}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}.$$

The **Fourier series** of  $f$  is the formal series  $\sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \hat{f}(n) e^{-inx}$ .

The natural question now is whether we have for all  $f \in L^2([-\pi, \pi])$ ,

$$f(x) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \hat{f}(n) e^{inx}.$$

That is, whether we have the following convergence in  $L^2$ .

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \|f - S_N f\|_2 = 0.$$

This question is then equivalent to whether  $\left\{ \frac{e^{inx}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is maximal in  $L^2([-\pi, \pi])$ . That is, whether  $\hat{f}(n) = 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  implies  $f = 0$ .

The answer to the question is yes, but it is going to take some work. We first do some simple calculation.

**Theorem.** For all  $f \in L^2([-\pi, \pi])$  and for all  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$S_N f(x) = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} D_N(x-t) f(t) dt,$$

where

$$D_N(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{2N+1}{2\pi} & (x = 0) \\ \frac{\sin(N+\frac{1}{2})x}{2\pi \sin \frac{x}{2}} & (x \neq 0) \end{cases}$$

it the **Dirichlet kernel**. Note that  $D_N$  is a smooth function.

*Proof.* If  $f \in L^2([-\pi, \pi])$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} S_N f(x) &= \sum_{|n| \leq N} \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) e^{-int} dt \right) e^{inx} \\ &= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{|n| \leq N} e^{in(x-t)} \right) dt. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $D_N(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{|n| \leq N} e^{in(x-t)}$ . Then for  $x \neq 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_N(x) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{n=-N}^N e^{-inx} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-iNx} \sum_{n=0}^{2N} (e^{ix})^n \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-iNx} \frac{1 - e^{i(2N+1)x}}{1 - e^{ix}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{e^{i(N+\frac{1}{2})x} - e^{-i(N+\frac{1}{2})x}}{e^{\frac{ix}{2}} - e^{-\frac{ix}{2}}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{2i \sin(N + \frac{1}{2})x}{2i \sin \frac{x}{2}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\sin(N + \frac{1}{2})x}{\sin \frac{x}{2}},
 \end{aligned}$$

as desired. For  $x = 0$ , we also clearly have  $D_N(0) = \frac{(2N+1)}{2\pi}$ . The proof is thus complete.  $\square$

**Definition.** If  $f \in L^2([-\pi, \pi])$ , we define the  $N$ -th **Cesaro-Fourier mean** of  $f$  by

$$\sigma_N f(x) = \frac{1}{N+1} \sum_{k=0}^N S_N f(x).$$

The idea behind defining the Cesaro mean is that if the original sequence converges, the Cesaro mean also converge to the same limit. However, Cesaro have even better property — the Cesaro mean can converge even if the original sequence does not converge. Therefore, it has better convergence properties and hopefully we can show it converge to  $f$  in  $L^2$  more easily. The goal now is then to show

$$\|\sigma_N f - f\|_2 \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } N \rightarrow \infty.$$

This would tell us if all Fourier coefficients are zero, then the Cesaro means are zero, and the limit above would tell us  $f$  is zero.

### 2.3 Fejer's theorem and Convergence of Fourier series