

Introductory Functional Analysis

Chapter 1 Exercises

Top Maths

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1.1. Prove¹ the reverse triangle inequality: For vectors x and y in any normed linear space,

$$\|x - y\| \geq \left| \|x\| - \|y\| \right|.$$

Proof.

□

¹There is a typo in the book. The reverse triangle inequality is as I stated here.

1.2. Show that $C[0, 1]$ is a Banach space in the supremum norm. Hint: if $\{f_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in $C[0, 1]$, then for each fixed $x \in [0, 1]$, $\{f_n(x)\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in \mathbb{C} , which is complete.

Proof. Suppose $\{f_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in $C[0, 1]$. That means, for all $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for $n, m \geq N$ we have

$$\|f_n - f_m\| = \sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| < \varepsilon.$$

We also get that, for $m, n \geq N$, for all $a \in [0, 1]$,

$$|f_n(a) - f_m(a)| \leq \sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| < \varepsilon. \quad (1)$$

In particular, since $\{f_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in $C[0, 1]$, $\{f_n(a)\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in \mathbb{C} for all $a \in [0, 1]$. Since \mathbb{C} is complete, $\{f_n(a)\}$ converges (because it is Cauchy) for all $a \in [0, 1]$. For each $a \in [0, 1]$, define

$$f(a) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(a).$$

Considering (1) again, we have by the continuity of $|\cdot|$,

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} |f_n(a) - f_m(a)| = |f_n(a) - \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} f_m(a)| = |f_n(a) - f(a)| < \varepsilon.$$

Since this ε is independent of our choice of $a \in [0, 1]$, it follows that

$$\sup |f_n(a) - f(a)| = \|f_n - f\| < \varepsilon$$

giving that $f_n \rightarrow f$ in $C[0, 1]$. To establish the continuity of f , pick $a \in [0, 1]$ and let $\varepsilon > 0$ arbitrary. Since each f_n is continuous, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that

$$|x - a| < \delta \implies |f_n(x) - f_n(a)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$

Also, pick n large enough so that

$$\sup_{p \in [0, 1]} |f_n(p) - f(p)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f(a)| &= |f(x) - f(a) + f_n(x) - f_n(x) + f_n(a) - f_n(a)| \\ &= |f(x) - f_n(x) + f_n(x) - f_n(a) + f_n(a) - f(a)| \\ &\leq |f(x) - f_n(x)| + \underbrace{|f_n(x) - f_n(a)|}_{< \varepsilon/3} + |f_n(a) - f(a)| \\ &\leq \|f - f_n\| + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + \|f_n - f\| \\ &\leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} = \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

□

1.3. Let $C^1[0, 1]$ be the space of continuous, complex-valued functions on $[0, 1]$ with continuous first derivative. Show that with the supremum norm $\|\cdot\|_\infty$, $C^1[0, 1]$ is not a Banach space, but that in the norm defined by $\|f\| = \|f\|_\infty + \|f'\|_\infty$ it does become a Banach space.

Proof. Let $\{f_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq C^1[0, 1]$ be defined by

$$f_n(x) = \sqrt{x + \frac{1}{n}} \quad (x \in [0, 1]).$$

Observe that \sqrt{x} is uniformly continuous² on $[0, 1]$, and so for all $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $\delta > 0$ such that for any two points $p_1, p_2 \in [0, 1]$,

$$|p_1 - p_2| < \delta \implies |f(p_1) - f(p_2)| < \varepsilon.$$

Take $p_1 = x + 1/n$ and $p_2 = x$, then the uniform continuity condition yields

$$\frac{1}{n} < \delta \implies \left| \sqrt{x + 1/n} - \sqrt{x} \right| < \varepsilon.$$

There exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ large enough so that $1/n < \delta$, and so there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}$ large enough so that

$$\left| \sqrt{x + 1/n} - \sqrt{x} \right| < \varepsilon.$$

Since this ε comes from the uniform continuity condition, it is independent of the choice of x , as is N , and therefore there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for $n \geq N$,

$$\sup_{x \in [0, 1]} \left| \sqrt{x + 1/n} - \sqrt{x} \right| < \varepsilon.$$

While $\sqrt{x + 1/n}$ converges to \sqrt{x} in the supremum norm, we find that $\sqrt{x} \notin C^1[0, 1]$ because the derivative of \sqrt{x} :

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sqrt{x} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

is not differentiable at 0, and hence $(C^1[0, 1], \|\cdot\|_\infty)$ is not a Banach space.

We'll consider the new norm $\|\cdot\|$ as defined above. Suppose $\{f_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a Cauchy sequence in $(C^1[0, 1], \|\cdot\|)$. And so for all $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for $m, n \geq N$,

$$\|f_n - f_m\| = \|f_n - f_m\|_\infty + \|f'_n - f'_m\|_\infty < \varepsilon.$$

It follows immediately that $\{f_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ and $\{f'_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ are Cauchy sequences in $C[0, 1]$, and from our previous work we know $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n = f$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f'_n = g$, where

$$f(x) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x), \quad g(x) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f'_n(x)$$

for all $x \in [0, 1]$. In fact, since this convergence is in the sup-norm, it follows³ that $\{f_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ uniformly converges to f and $\{f'_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ uniformly converges to g . But, we now have the conditions acquired⁴ to say that

$$g(x) = f'(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f'_n(x).$$

Therefore,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|f_n - f\| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|f_n - f\|_\infty + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|f'_n - f'\|_\infty = 0.$$

Hence, $C^1[0, 1]$ is complete under this new norm. □

²Continuous functions on compact sets, such as $[0, 1]$ in question here, are always uniformly continuous

³See *Principles of Mathematical Analysis* (PMA) by Walter Rudin, 3rd Edition, Theorem 7.9 on p. 148

⁴See PMA, Theorem 7.17, p. 152

1.4. Show that the space ℓ^1 of Example 1.5 is complete.

Proof. Writing down the definition of ℓ^1 for convenience, we have:

$$\ell^1 = \left\{ \{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq \mathbb{C} : \|\{a_n\}\|_1 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n| < \infty \right\}.$$

Let $\{\{a_m^n\}_{m \in \mathbb{N}}\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a notations nightmare, but also let it be a Cauchy sequence in ℓ^1 , and so for all $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for $k, \ell \geq N$,

$$\|\{a_n^\ell\} - \{a_n^k\}\| = \|\{a_n^\ell - a_n^k\}\| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n^\ell - a_n^k| < \varepsilon.$$

For a fixed n^* , we have

$$|a_{n^*}^\ell - a_{n^*}^k| < \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n^\ell - a_n^k| < \varepsilon$$

and so, for each fixed $n^* \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\{a_{n^*}^\ell\}_{\ell \in \mathbb{N}}$$

is a Cauchy sequence in \mathbb{C} . For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be the sequence defined by

$$a_n = \lim_{\ell \rightarrow \infty} a_n^\ell$$

for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. First, we check that $\sum |a_n| < \infty$. We have,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n| = \lim_{\ell \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n^\ell|$$

Is this limit finite? In terms of the reverse triangle inequality for norms, we have,

$$\left| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n^\ell| - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n^k| \right| \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n^\ell - a_n^k| < \infty$$

by our Cauchy condition we obtained earlier. This result gives that the sequence of sums

$$\left\{ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n^\ell| \right\}_{\ell \in \mathbb{N}}$$

is a Cauchy sequence of complex numbers, and therefore converges. Hence, $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \ell^1$. Now, to prove $\lim_{\ell \rightarrow \infty} \{\{a_n^\ell\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}\} = \{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\ell \rightarrow \infty} \|\{a_n^\ell\} - \{a_n\}\|_1 &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n^\ell - a_n| \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lim_{\ell \rightarrow \infty} |a_n^\ell - a_n| \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

We have shown ℓ^1 is complete, as desired. □