Operator Algebras Lecture Avinash Iyer

We let \mathbb{C}^n be defined as follows:

$$\mathbb{C}^n = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_n \end{pmatrix} \mid z_j \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$$

with vector addition and scalar multiplication. \mathbb{C}^n is a **vector space**, in which there is an inner product, defined as follows:

$$\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_n \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_n \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle = \sum z_i \overline{w}_i$$

With this definition, we are able to have a **norm**, defined as follows:

$$||v||_2 = \langle v, v \rangle^{1/2}$$

with the given norm properties:

- $\bullet \ \|v+w\| \leq \|v\| + \|w\|$
- $\bullet \ \|\alpha v\| = |\alpha| \|v\|$
- $||v|| = 0 \Rightarrow v = \vec{0}$

We also have the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality

$$|\langle v, w \rangle| \le ||v|| ||w||$$

With these defined, we have

$$(\mathbb{C}^n, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$$

denoted ℓ_2^n .

With this settled, we will look at

$$\mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{C}) = \{(a_{ij}) \mid a_{ij} \in \mathbb{C}\}\$$

 $\mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{C})$ also has

- Matrix Addition
- Matrix Multiplication
- Scalar Multiplication

Remember that $AB \neq BA$, matrices in \mathbb{C} are still non-commutative. There is also the **adjoint** operation, which occurs when you take transpose and complex conjugate.

$$A = (a_{ij})$$
$$A^* = (\overline{a}_{ji})_{ij}$$

The adjoint operation has the following properties:

- $(A+B)^* = A^* + B^*$
- $(\alpha A)^* = \alpha A^*$
- $(AB)^* = B^*A^*$
- $\bullet \ A^{**} = A$
- $\langle Av, w \rangle = \langle v, A^*w \rangle$

With these properties, $M_n(\mathbb{C})$ is a *-algebra.

A matrix is a linear transformation:

$$T_A: \ell_2^n \to \ell_2^n$$

$$T_A(v) = Av$$

for some matrix A.

Given $A \in \mathbb{M}_n$, we have $||A||_{\text{op}}$, for the **operator norm**, defined as:

$$||A||_{\text{op}} = \max\{||Av||_2 \mid ||v||_2 \le 1\}$$

Exercise: Show that $||A||_{\text{op}} \leq \left(\sum_{i,j=1}^{n} |a_{ij}|^2\right)^{1/2}$

Properties of $\|\cdot\|_{op}$:

- $||A + B|| \le ||A|| + ||B||$
- $\bullet \ \|\alpha A\| = |\alpha| \|A\|$
- $\bullet \ \|A\| = 0 \Rightarrow A = \mathbf{0}$
- $||AB|| \le ||A|| ||B||$
- $\bullet ||I_n|| = 1$
- $||A^*|| = ||A||$
- $||A^*A|| = ||A||^2$ (known as the c^* -property)
- $\bullet \ \|A\| = \max |\langle Av,v\rangle|, \|v\| \leq 1$
- $\bullet \ \|Av\| \le \|A\| \cdot \|v\|$
- A is **normal** if $AA^* = A^*A$.
- A is self-adjoint if $A = A^*$.
- A is **positive** if $\langle Av, v \rangle \geq 0$
- A is a **projection** if $A^2 = A^* = A$.
- A is an **isometry** if $A^*A = I$.
- A is a unitary if $A^*A = I$ and $AA^* = I$.
- A is a contraction if $||A||_{op} \le 1$.

Why use the word "isometry?"

$$||Av||^2 = \langle Av, Av \rangle$$

$$= \langle v, A^*Av \rangle$$

$$= \langle v, Iv \rangle$$

$$= \langle v, v \rangle$$

$$= ||v||^2$$

So,

$$||Av|| = ||v||$$

Spectral Theorem: $A \in \mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{C})$ normal is always diagonalizable via a unitary (i.e., \exists unitary matrix U with $U^*AU = \operatorname{diag}(\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n)$), where $\{\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n\}$ are the eigenvalues (or the point spectrum $\sigma_p(A)$)

Therefore, $A=UDU^*$.

- $A^2 = (UDU^*)(UDU^*) = UD^2U^* = U\text{diag}(\lambda_1^2, \dots, \lambda_n^2)U^*$
- $A^m = U \operatorname{diag}(\lambda_1^m, \dots, \lambda_n^m) U^*$
- $p(A) = U \operatorname{diag}(p(\lambda_1), \dots, p(\lambda_n)) U^*$ for any polynomial p

We have $f: \sigma_p(A) \to \mathbb{C}$, $f(A) \mapsto U \operatorname{diag}(f(\lambda_1), \dots, f(\lambda_n))U^*$.

Von Neumann's Inequality Given $A \in \mathbb{M}_n$, $||A|| \le 1$, then $||p(A)||_{\text{op}} \le \max_{z \le 1} |p(z)|$, where p is any polynomial.