



Functional Analysis

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0.1 Lecture 1

Today is a very hot and sunny day, here we go.

0.1.1 Course Overview and Logistics

Some administrative things. OH are Monday, Fridays 1:45 to 2:45, Wednesdays 12:45-1:45 in Evans 811.

Textbook: an introduction to functional analysis by Conway. We will be talking about operators on Hilbert spaces, and more generally, Banach spaces, and Frechet spaces (defined by a countable number of seminorms).

Remark Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, then the dual space \mathcal{H}^* is itself. $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}^*$. Hilbert spaces are the best spaces to work with. They are self-dual, and identified with themselves.

Then in the next section, we will look at groups, motivated by their actions on Banach spaces, connected with Fourier transforms.

0.1.2 Motivation

Let X be a compact Hausdorff space. Let $C(X) = \{f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f \text{ continuous}\}$ be the algebra of continuous functions on X mapping in to \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C} . Define the norm as the sup norm $\|\cdot\|_{L^\infty}$.

We will develop the spectral theorem of operators on the Hilbert space, i.e. self-adjoint operators can be diagonalized.

If T is a self-adjoint operator on a Hilbert space, then we take the product of T (polynomials of T), let $C^*(T, I_{\mathcal{H}})$ be the sub-algebra of operators generated by T and I the identity operator, then take the closure, i.e. making it closed in the operator norm.

Remark The $*$ is to remind us, T is self-adjoint and when you take the adjoint and generate with it, it gets back into the same space.

Proposition 0.1

We have the next two algebra isomorphic to each other.

$$C^*(T, I_{\mathcal{H}}) \cong C(X) \quad (1) \quad \spadesuit$$

This is what we are aiming for. We can generalize this even further to finitely many self-adjoint operators, in some sense, we are diagonalizing finitely many operators at the same time. If T_1, \dots, T_n is a collection of self-adjoint operators on \mathcal{H} , and such all commute with each other, then we also have


$$C^*(T_1, \dots, T_n, I_{\mathcal{H}}) \cong C(X) \quad (2)$$

0.1.3 Groups

Let G be a group, B be a Banach space, for example, groups of automorphisms. Let

$$\text{Aut}(B) = \{T : T \text{ is isometric, onto, invertible on } B\}$$

Definition 0.1

Suppose that α is a group homomorphism, and $\alpha : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(B)$, is called a representation on B or an action of the group G on B . 

Then we can consider the subalgebra $\mathcal{L}(B)$, consisting of the bounded linear operators on B , generated by

$$\{\alpha_x : x \in G\}$$

Remark The identity on G should be mapped into the identity operator on B , hence no need to include it.

Elements of the form $\sum_{z_x} \alpha_x, z_x \in \mathbb{C}$, (where Σ is a finite sum.)

Let's introduce, $f \in C_c(G)$ are functions with compact support and in discrete groups, imply they are of finite support.

$$\sum_{x \in G} f(x) \alpha_x = \alpha_f$$

note for except finitely many x , $f(x) = 0$.

Let $f, g \in C_c(G)$, then for

$$\alpha_f \alpha_g = \left(\sum f(x) \alpha_x \right) \left(\sum g(y) \alpha_y \right) = \sum_{x,y} f(x) g(y) \alpha_x \alpha_y = \sum_{x,y} f(x) g(y) \alpha_{xy}$$

The last inequality follows from α being a group homomorphism. And the sums are finite hence are able to exchange the orders. We further have,

$$\alpha_f \alpha_g = \sum_x \sum_y f(x) g(x^{-1}y) \alpha_y = \sum (f * g)(y) \alpha_y$$

where we define $f * g(y) = \sum f(x) g(x^{-1}y)$ as the convolution operator.

We get

$$\alpha_f \alpha_g = \alpha_{f * g}$$

This is how we define convolution on $C_c(G)$ Notice we have, by $\|\alpha_x\| = 1$,

$$\|\alpha_f\| = \left\| \sum f(x) \alpha_x \right\| \leq \sum |f(x)| \|\alpha_x\| = \sum |f(x)| = l^1(f) = \|f\|_{l^1}$$

It is therefore, easy to check

$$\|f * g\|_{l^1} \leq \|f\|_{l^1} \|g\|_{l^1}$$

We get $l^1(G)$ is an algebra with ??

For G commutative, it is easily connected with the Fourier transform.

Consider $l^2(G)$ with the counting measure on the group. For $x \in G$, let $\xi \in l^2(G)$ define $\alpha_x \xi(y) = \xi(x^{-1}y)$, α_x being unitary. $l^1(G)$ acts on operators in $l^2(G)$ via α .

If G is commutative, then we have

$$\overline{\alpha_{l^1(G)}} \cong C(X)$$

where X is some compact space. Note that $C_c(G)$ operators on $l^2(G)$, and $\|\alpha_f\| \leq \|f\|_{l^1}$.