

Functional Analysis

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Chapter 1 Prep work

We will start from the beginning and take baby steps. It's going to be okay.

An algebra is a vector space (with addition and scalar multiplication, usually over \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}), with an extra multiplication operation such that it is associative, and distributive. Then a normed algebra is an algebra with a sub-multiplicative norm, such that for all $a, b \in \mathcal{A}$, we have

$$||ab|| \le ||a|| ||b||$$

A Banach algebra is a normed algebra that is complete under the metric induced by the norm. And we can form a Banach algebra by starting with a normed algebra and form its completion and by uniform continuity of addition and multiplication extend to the completion of the algebra to form a Banach algebra.

We will begin with some important examples of Banach algebras. Let X be a compact topological space, and let C(X) be the space of continuous functions, equip it with $\|\cdot\|_{L^{\infty}}$ norm, then $(C(X), \|\cdot\|_{L^{\infty}})$ is a Banach algebra. Similarly, if X is only locally compact, then $C_b(X)$, the space of bounded continuous functions under the $\|\cdot\|_{L^{\infty}}$ norm is also a Banach algebra.

Proposition 1.1

Multiplication is continuous in Banach algebras.

Proof Multiplication $\cdot: \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}$, hence if we have x_n, y_n such that $x_n \to x, y_n \to y$, then we have

$$||x_n y_n - xy|| \le ||x_n - x|| ||y_n|| + ||x|| ||y_n - y|| < \epsilon$$

Hence multiplication is continuous.

Definition 1.1 (Unital Banach algebra and invertibility)

A Banach algebra (let's repeat, a complete vector space with addition, scalar multiplicatin, and multiplication such that the norm is sub-multiplicative) is called unital if there exists a multiplicative inverse.

An element $a \in A$ is called invertible if there exists an element $a^{-1} \in A$ such that

$$aa^{-1} = a^{-1}a = e$$

Another important example is that let X be a Banach space, and the space of all bounded/continuous operators on X, denoted by $\mathcal{B}(X)$ is a Banach algebra with the operator norm. Any closed subalgebra of B(X) is also Banach.

If X is a Hilbert space, then we also have the operation of taking adjoints, namely $||T|| = ||T^*||$.

Definition 1.2

A C^* algebra is a closed subalgebra of the space of bounded (equivalently) functions defined on a Hilbert space, $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$.

Remark The space of continuous/bdd operators on a Hilbert space, under the operator norm, then closed under the norm topology and taking adjoints of the operators. On wikipedia, C* algebra is defined to be a Banach algebra equipped with an involution that acts like a adjoint.

One of the goals of this course is to develop the following theorem.

Theorem 1.1

Let A be a commutative C^* -algebra of $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, then A is isometrically and * -algebraically isomorphic to some C(X), where X is some locally compact space.

We will mostly follow the lecture and the previous lecture notes.

Definition 1.3 (Algebra homomorphism)

An algebra homomorphism is a homomorphism between two algebras. For example, consider X a compact space, and C(X) the space of continuous functions, hence if we define the evaluation map as follows:

$$\varphi_x(f) = f(x)$$

This is an algebra homomorphism between C(X) and (\mathbb{C}) . Namely, the homomorphism property is justified as: (under both addition and multiplication)

$$\varphi_x(f+g) = f + g(x) = f(x) + g(x) = \varphi_x(f) + \varphi_x(g)$$
$$\varphi_x(fg) = (fg)(x) = f(x)g(x) = \varphi_x(f)\varphi_x(g)$$

And of course, same thing follows for scalar multiplication.

Remark We need to check all three conditions to make sure such φ preserves the structures between the algebras.

An algebra homomorphism is called unital if if maps the (multiplicative identity) unity to unity. In the above example, a unital homomorphism would be $\varphi(1) = 1$, where the left 1 is the constant 1 function, and the right 1 is the number.

Now we will introduce the proposition that every multiplicative linear functional on C(X). Note we can use algebra homomorphism and multiplicative linear functional synonomously on C(X), hence they entail the same information.

Proposition 1.2

Let φ be a multiplicative linear functional on C(X), i.e. a nontrivial algebra homomorphism, then $\varphi(f) = f(x_0)$ for some $x_0 \in X$. In other words, a multiplicative linear functional always takes this form.

Proof It suffices to show the following lemma:

Lemma 1.1

There exists x_0 such that if $\varphi(f) = 0$, then we have $f(x_0) = 0$.

We will first show how the lemma implies $\varphi(f) = f(x_0)$. Consider the function $f - \varphi(f) \cdot 1$, then we know

$$\varphi(f - \varphi(f) \cdot 1) = 0$$

Then there exists x_0 such that $f(x_0) - \varphi(f) = 0$, this gives $\varphi(f) = f(x_0)$.

Now we prove the lemma.

Proof Our claim is that there exists x_0 such that if $\varphi(f) = 0$, then we have $f(x_0) = 0$.

This is different Suppose the contrary, i.e., if $\varphi(f)=0$, then for all x, we have $f(x)\neq 0$. We shall use compact of X to finish this proof. Denote open neighborhoods of x as O_x , then we can extract a finite subcover such that $X=\bigcup_{n=1}^k O_{x_n}$, and for

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