Hilbert spaces*

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Contents

List of Definitions, Propositions and Theorems		iii
1.	Inner-product spaces	1
2.	Hilbert spaces	4
3.	Projection theorems	5
4.	Orthonormal sets	7
5.	Conditional expectations	11
6.	Sources and additional references	11

List of Assumptions, Propositions and Theorems

1.1	Definition: Inner product space	1
1.3	Definition: Norm associated with an inner product	1
1.4	Example: Euclidean space	1
1.5	Example : Complex Euclidean space	2
1.6	Example: Real-valued square integrable random variables	2
1.7	Example: Complex-valued square integrable random variables	2
1.8	Proposition: Cauchy-Schwarz inequality	3
1.9	Definition: Angle and orthogonality	3
1.10	Proposition: Properties of the norm	3
1.11	Proposition: Convergence in norm	4
1.12	Proposition: Continuity of inner product	4
1.13	Example: Mean square convergence	4
2.1	Definition: Cauchy sequence	4
2.2	Definition: Hilbert space	4
2.3	Proposition: Norm convergence and Cauchy criterion	5
2.4	Theorem : Completeness of $L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$	5
3.1	Definition: Closed subspace	5
3.2	Definition: Orthogonal complement	5
3.3	Proposition: Closure of orthogonal complement	5
3.4	Theorem: Projection theorem	5
3.5	Corollary: Existence of projection mapping of $\mathcal H$ onto $\mathcal M$	6
3.6	Theorem: Properties of projection mappings	6
4.1	Definition: Closed span	7
4.2	Proposition: Closed span of a finite set	7
4.3	Definition: Orthogonal and orthonormal sets	7
4.4	Theorem: Projections on finite orthonormal sets	7
4.6	Corollary: Projection on a unidimensional subspace	8
4.7	Corollary: Projections on finite orthogonal sets	8

9
9
9
10
11
11

1. Inner-product spaces

1.1 Definition INNER PRODUCT SPACE. Let \mathcal{H} be a vector space on a set scalars S, where $S = \mathbb{R}$ or $S = \mathbb{C}$. An inner product on H is an application which associates to each pair of elements x and y in \mathcal{H} a complex number $\langle x, y \rangle$ such that, for all $x, y, z \in \mathcal{H}$,

(a)
$$\langle x, y \rangle = \overline{\langle y, x \rangle}$$
;

(b)
$$\langle x+y,z\rangle = \langle x,z\rangle + \langle y,z\rangle$$
;

(c)
$$\langle \alpha x, y \rangle = \alpha \langle x, y \rangle$$
, for all $\alpha \in S$;

$$(d) \langle x, x \rangle \geq 0;$$

(e)
$$\langle x, x \rangle = 0$$
 if and only if $x = 0$.

If $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is an inner product on \mathscr{H} , the pair $(\mathscr{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ is called an inner product space, and the elements of \mathscr{H} are also called elements of the inner-product space $(\mathscr{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$. When there is no ambiguity on the definition of the inner product, the inner-product space $(\mathscr{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ may simply be denoted \mathscr{H} .

1.2 Remark If $S = \mathbb{R}$, condition (a) reduces to

$$(a)' \langle x, y \rangle = \langle y, x \rangle.$$

1.3 Definition NORM ASSOCIATED WITH AN INNER PRODUCT. The norm of an element x of an inner-product space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ is defined by

$$||x|| = \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle} \ . \tag{1.1}$$

1.4 Example EUCLIDEAN SPACE. \mathbb{R}^n with the usual scalar product

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i y_i \tag{1.2}$$

where $x = (x_1, ..., x_x)'$ $y = (y_1, ..., y_x)'$, where $x_i \in \mathbb{R}$ and $y_j \in \mathbb{R}$ for all i and j, is an inner-product space whose norm is the usual Euclidean norm

$$||x|| = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i^2\right)^{1/2}.$$
 (1.3)

1.5 Example COMPLEX EUCLIDEAN SPACE. \mathbb{C}^n with the scalar product

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i \overline{y}_i \tag{1.4}$$

where $x = (x_1, ..., x_n)'$ $y = (y_1, ..., y_n)'$, where $x_i \in \mathbb{C}$ and $y_j \in \mathbb{C}$ for all i and j, is an inner-product space. The associated norm is:

$$||x|| = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} |x_i|^2\right)^{1/2}.$$
 (1.5)

1.6 Example REAL-VALUED SQUARE INTEGRABLE RANDOM VARIABLES. The set $L^2 = L^2(\Omega, \mathscr{A}, P)$ of all the random variables $X : \Omega \to \mathbb{R}$ such that $E(X^2) < \infty$ with, for any $X, Y \in L^2$,

$$\langle X, Y \rangle = E(XY) \tag{1.6}$$

is an inner-product space. The associated norm is:

$$||X|| = [E(X^2)]^{1/2}$$
. (1.7)

1.7 Example Complex-valued square integrable random variables. The set $L^2_{\mathbb{C}}(\Omega, \mathscr{A}, P)$ of all the random variables $X: \Omega \to \mathbb{C}$ such that $E(|X|^2) < \infty$ with

$$\langle X, Y \rangle = E(X\overline{Y}) \tag{1.8}$$

is an inner-product space. The associated norm is:

$$||X|| = [E(|X|^2)]^{1/2}.$$
 (1.9)

1.8 Proposition Cauchy-Schwarz inequality. Let $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ be an inner-product space. Then, for all $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$,

$$|\langle x, y \rangle| \le ||x|| \, ||y|| \tag{1.10}$$

and

$$|\langle x, y \rangle| = ||x|| \, ||y|| \iff x = \left(\frac{\langle x, y \rangle}{\langle y, y \rangle}\right) y$$
 (1.11)

1.9 Definition ANGLE AND ORTHOGONALITY. Let x and y be two elements of an inner product space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$. The angle between the vectors x and y is defined by

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}[\langle x, y \rangle / (\|x\| \|y\|)]. \tag{1.12}$$

x and y are said to be orthogonal (denoted $x \perp y$) if and only if

$$\langle x, y \rangle = 0. \tag{1.13}$$

1.10 Proposition PROPERTIES OF THE NORM. Let $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ be an inner-product space with the norm $||x|| = \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle}$. Then the following properties hold for all $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$:

(a)
$$||x+y||^2 = ||x||^2 + ||y||^2 + \langle x, y \rangle + \langle y, x \rangle$$
;

(b)
$$||x+y|| \le ||x|| + ||y||$$
; (Triangle inequality)

- (c) $\|\alpha x\| \leq |\alpha| \|x\|$, for all $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$;
- $(d) ||x|| \ge 0;$
- (e) ||x|| = 0 if and only if x = 0;

$$(f) ||x+y||^2 + ||x-y||^2 = 2||x||^2 + 2||y||^2.$$
 (Parallelogram law)

1.11 Proposition Convergence in Norm. Let $\{x_n : n = 1, 2, ...\}$ be a sequence of elements of an iner product space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$. We say that x_n converges to $x \in \mathcal{H}$ if and only if

$$||x_n - x|| \underset{n \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} 0. \tag{1.14}$$

1.12 Proposition CONTINUITY OF INNER PRODUCT. Let $\{x_n : n = 1, 2, ...\}$ and $\{y_n : n = 1, 2, ...\}$ be two sequences of elements of an inner-product space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ such that $||x_n - x|| \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 0$ and $||y_n - y|| \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 0$, where $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$. Then

$$||x_n|| \underset{n \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} ||x|| \tag{1.15}$$

and

$$\langle x_n, y_n \rangle \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} \langle x, y \rangle$$
 (1.16)

1.13 Example MEAN SQUARE CONVERGENCE. Let $\{X_n : n = 1, 2, ...\}$ a sequence of real random variables in $L^2 \equiv L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$. If we define $\langle X, Y \rangle = E(XY)$, then the convergence in norm represents mean-square convrgence:

$$||X_n - X|| \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 0 \Leftrightarrow E[(X_n - X)^2] \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 0.$$
 (1.17)

2. Hilbert spaces

2.1 Definition Cauchy sequence. Let $\{x_n : n = 1, 2, ...\}$ be a sequence of elements of an inner-product space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$. Then x_n is a Cauchy sequence of $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ if and only if

$$||x_n - x_m|| \underset{m, n \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} 0. \tag{2.1}$$

2.2 Definition HILBERT SPACE. Let $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ an inner-product space. Then $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ is a Hilbert space if and only if every Cauchy sequence of $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ converges in norm to an element of \mathcal{H} ,

$$||x_n - x_m|| \underset{m,n \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} 0 \Rightarrow \exists x \in \mathscr{H} \text{ such that } ||x_n - x|| \underset{n \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} 0.$$
 (2.2)

- **2.3 Proposition** NORM CONVERGENCE AND CAUCHY CRITERION. Let $\{x_n : n = 1, 2, ...\}$ be a sequence of elements of a Hilbert space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$. Then x_n converges in norm if and only if x_n is a Cauchy sequence.
- **2.4 Theorem** COMPLETENESS OF $L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$. The inner-product space $L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$ with $\langle X, Y \rangle = E(XY)$ is complete and thus constitutes a Hilbert space.

PROOF. See Brockwell and Davis (1991, Section 2.10).

3. Projection theorems

3.1 Definition CLOSED SUBSPACE. A linear subspace \mathcal{M} of a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} is a closed subspace of \mathcal{H} if and only if \mathcal{M} contains all its limit points, i.e.

$$x_n \in \mathcal{M}, \forall n, \text{ and } ||x_n - x|| \underset{n \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} 0 \Rightarrow x \in \mathcal{M}.$$
 (3.1)

3.2 Definition ORTHOGONAL COMPLEMENT. The orthogonal complement \mathcal{M}^{\perp} of a subset \mathcal{M} of \mathcal{H} is the set of all $x \in \mathcal{H}$ which are orthogonal to all the elements of \mathcal{M} , i.e.

$$x \in \mathcal{M}^{\perp} \Leftrightarrow \langle x, y \rangle = 0 , \forall y \in \mathcal{M} .$$
 (3.2)

- **3.3 Proposition** CLOSURE OF ORTHOGONAL COMPLEMENT. If \mathcal{M} is any subset of a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , then \mathcal{M}^{\perp} is a closed subspace of \mathcal{H} .
- **3.4 Theorem** PROJECTION THEOREM. Let \mathcal{M} be a closed subspace of a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} . Then, for any $x \in \mathcal{H}$,
- (a) there is a unique element $\hat{x} \in \mathcal{M}$ such that

$$||x - \hat{x}|| = \inf_{y \in \mathcal{M}} ||x - y||$$
 (3.3)

and

(b)
$$\widehat{x} \in \mathcal{M} \text{ and } ||x - \widehat{x}|| = \inf_{y \in \mathcal{M}} ||x - y|| \\ \Leftrightarrow \widehat{x} \in \mathcal{M} \text{ and } x - \widehat{x} \in \mathcal{M}^{\perp}.$$
 (3.4)

- **3.5 Corollary** Existence of Projection Mapping of \mathcal{H} onto \mathcal{M} . Let \mathcal{M} be a closed subspace of a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , and let I be the identity mapping on \mathcal{H} . Then there is a unique mapping $P_{\mathcal{M}}$ of \mathcal{H} onto \mathcal{M} such that $I-P_{\mathcal{M}}$ maps \mathcal{H} onto \mathcal{M}^{\perp} . $P_{\mathcal{M}}$ is called the projection mapping of \mathcal{H} onto \mathcal{M} .
- **3.6 Theorem** PROPERTIES OF PROJECTION MAPPINGS. Let \mathscr{H} be a Hilbert space and $P_{\mathscr{M}}$ the projection mapping onto the closed subspace \mathscr{M} . Then the following properties hold for all $x, y \in \mathscr{H}$:
- (a) each element $x \in \mathcal{H}$ has a unique representation as the sum of an element of \mathcal{M} and an element of \mathcal{M}^{\perp} ,

$$x = P_{\mathscr{M}}x + (I - P_{\mathscr{M}})x; (3.5)$$

(b)
$$||x||^2 = ||P_{\mathcal{M}}x||^2 + ||(I - P_{\mathcal{M}})x||^2$$
;

(c)
$$P_{\mathcal{M}}(\alpha x + \beta y) = \alpha P_{\mathcal{M}} x + \beta P_{\mathcal{M}} y$$
, for all $\alpha, \beta \in S$;

$$(d) \|x_n - x\| \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 0 \Rightarrow P_{\mathscr{M}} x_n \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} P_{\mathscr{M}} x;$$

- (e) $x \in \mathcal{M} \Leftrightarrow P_{\mathcal{M}}x = x$;
- $(f) x \in \mathcal{M}^{\perp} \Leftrightarrow P_{\mathcal{M}} x = 0;$
- (g) if \mathcal{M}_1 and \mathcal{M}_2 are two subspaces of \mathcal{H} such that $\mathcal{M}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{M}_2$, then

$$P_{\mathcal{M}_1}(P_{\mathcal{M}_2}x) = P_{\mathcal{M}_1}x. \tag{3.6}$$

4. Orthonormal sets

- **4.1 Definition** CLOSED SPAN. Let \mathcal{M} be a subset of a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} . The closed span of \mathcal{M} , denoted $\overline{sp}(\mathcal{M})$, is the smallest closed subspace of \mathcal{H} that contains \mathcal{M} . If $\mathcal{M} = \{e_t : t \in T\}$, we can also denote $\overline{sp}(\mathcal{M})$ by $\overline{sp}\{e_t : t \in T\}$.
- **4.2 Proposition** CLOSED SPAN OF A FINITE SET. The closed span of a finite set $\mathcal{M} = \{x_1, ..., x_n\}$ is the set of all linear combinations

$$y = \alpha_1 x_1 + \dots + \alpha_n x_n, \ \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in S$$
 (4.1)

where $S = \mathbb{R}$ or $S = \mathbb{C}$.

4.3 Definition ORTHOGONAL AND ORTHONORMAL SETS. Let $\{e_t : t \in T\}$ be a subset of an inner-product space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$. Then $\{e_t : t \in T\}$ is said to be orthogonal if and only if

$$\langle e_s, e_t \rangle = 0$$
, for $s \neq t$. (4.2)

Further, $\{e_t : t \in T\}$ is said to be orthonormal if and only it is orthogonal and $\langle e_t, e_t \rangle = 1$ for all $t \in T$.

4.4 Theorem PROJECTIONS ON FINITE ORTHONORMAL SETS. If $\{e_1, ..., e_n\}$ is an orthonormal subset of a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} and $\mathcal{M} = \overline{sp}\{e_1, ..., e_n\}$, then the following properties hold for all $x \in \mathcal{H}$:

(a)
$$P_{\mathscr{M}}x = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \langle x, e_i \rangle e_i$$
;

$$(b) ||P_{\mathcal{M}}x||^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, e_i \rangle|^2;$$

(c)
$$\left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \langle x, e_i \rangle e_i \right\| \le \left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i e_i \right\|$$
, for all $c_1, \dots, c_n \in S$;

(d)

$$\left\|x - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \langle x, e_i \rangle e_i \right\| = \left\|x - \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i e_i \right\| \Leftrightarrow c_i = \langle x, e_i \rangle, \ i = 1, \dots, n; \tag{4.3}$$

(e)
$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} |\langle x, e_i \rangle|^2 \le ||x||^2$$
. (Bessel's inequality)

- **4.5 Remark** The coefficients $c_i = \langle x, e_i \rangle$, i = 1, ..., n, are called the *Fourier coefficients* relative to the set $\{e_1, ..., e_n\}$.
- **4.6 Corollary** PROJECTION ON A UNIDIMENSIONAL SUBSPACE. Suppose $\mathcal{M} = \overline{sp}\{e_1\}$ where $e_1 \in \mathcal{H}$ and $e_1 \neq 0$. Then

$$P_{\mathcal{M}}x = \frac{\langle x, e_1 \rangle}{\langle e_1, e_1 \rangle} e_1 = \frac{\langle x, e_1 \rangle}{\|e_1\|^2} e_1$$
 (4.4)

4.7 Corollary PROJECTIONS ON FINITE ORTHOGONAL SETS. Let $\{e_1, ..., e_n\}$ be a finite set of non-zero orthogonal vectors in a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , let $\mathcal{M} = \overline{sp}\{e_1, ..., e_n\}$, and let $\beta_i(x) = \langle x, e_i \rangle / \langle e_i, e_i \rangle$, i = 1, ..., n. Then the following properties hold for all $x \in \mathcal{H}$:

(a)
$$P_{\mathcal{M}}x = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \beta_i(x)e_i$$
;

(b)
$$||P_{\mathcal{M}}x||^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, e_i \rangle|^2 / ||e_i||^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, e_i \rangle|^2 / \langle e_i, e_i \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n |\beta_i(x)|^2 ||e_i||^2$$
;

$$(c) \|x - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \beta_i(x)e_i\| \le \|x - \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i e_i\|, \text{ for all } c_1, \dots, c_n \in S;$$

(d)
$$\left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \beta_{i}(x)e_{i} \right\| = \left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_{i}e_{i} \right\| \Leftrightarrow c_{i} = \beta_{i}, i = 1, ..., n;$$
 (4.5)

(e)
$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} |\langle x, e_i \rangle|^2 / \|e_i\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n} |\beta_i(x)|^2 \|e_i\|^2 \le \|x\|^2$$
. (Bessel's inequality)

- **4.8 Definition** SEPARABILITY. The Hilbert space \mathcal{H} is separable if and only if $\mathcal{H} = \overline{sp}\{e_t : t \in T\}$ where T is a finite or countable infinite set.
- **4.9 Theorem** ORTHONORMAL REPRESENTATIONS IN SEPARABLE HILBERT SPACES. Let $\mathcal{H} = \overline{sp}\{e_1, e_2, ...\}$ be a separable Hilbert space where $\{e_1, e_2, ...\}$ is an orthonormal set. Then the following properties hold for all $x \in \mathcal{H}$:
- (a) the set of all finite linear combinations of $\{e_1, e_2, ...\}$ is dense in \mathcal{H} , i.e., for any $\varepsilon > 0$, there is an n > 0 and constants $c_1, ..., c_n \in S$ such that

$$\left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i e_i \right\| < \varepsilon ; \tag{4.6}$$

(b)
$$x = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \langle x, e_i \rangle e_i$$
, i.e.

$$\left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \langle x, e_i \rangle e_i \right\| \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 0; \tag{4.7}$$

$$(c) ||x||^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x, e_i \rangle|^2;$$

$$(d) \langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \langle x, e_i \rangle \langle e_i, y \rangle , \forall y \in \mathcal{H} ;$$
 (Parseval's identity)

$$(e)$$
 $x = 0 \Leftrightarrow \langle x, e_i \rangle = 0, , i = 1, 2,$

- **4.10 Corollary** Orthogonal representations in Separable Hilbert Spaces. Let $\mathscr{H} = \overline{sp}\{e_1, e_2, ...\}$ be a separable Hilbert space where $\{e_1, e_2, ...\}$ is a set of non-zero orthogonal vectors, and let $\beta_i(x) = \langle x, e_i \rangle / \langle e_i, e_i \rangle$, i = 1, ..., n. Then the following properties hold for all $x \in \mathscr{H}$:
- (a) the set of all finite linear combinations of $\{e_1, e_2, ...\}$ is dense in \mathscr{H} , i.e.,

for any $\varepsilon > 0$, there is an n > 0 and constants $c_1, \ldots, c_n \in S$ such that

$$\left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i e_i \right\| < \varepsilon ; \tag{4.8}$$

(b)
$$x = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \beta_{i}(x)e_{i}$$
, i.e.

$$\left\| x - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \beta_{i} e_{i} \right\| \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 0; \tag{4.9}$$

$$(c) \|x\|^{2} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} |\langle x, e_{i} \rangle|^{2} / \|e_{i}\|^{2} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} |\langle x, e_{i} \rangle|^{2} / \langle e_{i}, e_{i} \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{n} |\beta_{i}(x)|^{2} \|e_{i}\|^{2};$$

$$(d) \qquad \langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \langle x, e_{i} \rangle \langle e_{i}, y \rangle / \|e_{i}\|^{2} = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \langle x, e_{i} \rangle \langle e_{i}, y \rangle / \langle e_{i}, e_{i} \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \beta_{i}(x) \overline{\beta_{i}(y)} \|e_{i}\|^{2}, \forall y \in \mathcal{H}; \qquad (Parseval's identity)$$

(e)
$$x = 0 \Leftrightarrow \langle x, e_i \rangle = 0, i = 1, 2, \dots$$

4.11 Corollary PROJECTIONS IN SEPARABLE HILBERT SPACES. Under the assumptions of Theorem **4.9**, we have for each $x \in \mathcal{H}$:

(a) for any $\varepsilon > 0$, there is an n > 0 such that

$$||x - P_{E_n}x|| < \varepsilon \tag{4.10}$$

where $E_n = \overline{sp}\{e_1, ..., e_n\};$

 $(b) P_{E_n} x \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} x.$

5. Conditional expectations

5.1 Definition CONDITIONAL EXPECTATION WITH RESPECT TO A CLOSED SUBSPACE. Let \mathcal{M} be a closed subspace of $L^2 \equiv L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$ containing the constant functions and let $Y \in L^2$. Then the conditional expectation of Y given \mathcal{M} is the projection of Y on \mathcal{M} :

$$E_{\mathscr{M}}Y = P_{\mathscr{M}}Y. \tag{5.1}$$

5.2 Definition CONDITIONAL EXPECTATION WITH RESPECT TO A RANDOM VECTOR. Let $X = (X_1, ..., X_k)'$ be a vector of random variables in $L^2 \equiv L^2(\Omega, \mathscr{A}, P)$ and let $L^2(X)$ be the closed subspace of $L^2(\Omega, \mathscr{A}, P)$ consisting of all the random variables in L^2 of the form $\phi(X)$ for some function ϕ . Then the conditional expectation of Y given X is the projection of Y on $L^2(X)$:

$$E(Y|X) = E(Y|X_1, ..., X_k) = P_{L^2(X)}Y$$
. (5.2)

6. Sources and additional references

A good summary of Hilbert space theory aimed at applications in time series analysis may be found in Brockwell and Davis (1991, Chapter 2). Other good reviews appear in: Debnath and Mikusiński (1990) for general applications, Small and McLeish (1994) for applications in statistical theory, and Young (1988) for a more mathematically oriented presentation.

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