# Lecture Notes in Finite Frames

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## Introduction

This is a set of lecture notes which I took for reviewing stuff that I typed after taking class from  $Dr \ P \ Devaraj$ . All the typos and errors are of mine.

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We start by reviewing the elementary notions from Linear Algebra.

# §1.1 Inner Product Spaces

**Definition §1.1.1.** A vector space V over a field F ( $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ ) is called an *inner product space* if there exists a function  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : V \times V \to F$  satisfying the following:

- 1.  $\langle x, x \rangle \ge 0$  for all  $x \in V$ .
- 2.  $\langle x, x \rangle = 0$  iff x = 0.
- 3. (linear in the first argument) for all  $x, y, z \in V$ ,  $\langle x + y, z \rangle = \langle x, z \rangle + \langle y, z \rangle$

4. (conjugate) for all  $x, y \in V$ ,  $\langle x, y \rangle = \overline{\langle y, x \rangle}$ 

**Definition §1.1.2.** A norm on a vector space V over  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$  is a function  $\|\cdot\|: V \to [0, +\infty)$  satisfying

- 1. for all  $x \in V$ ,  $||x|| = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$
- 2.  $||x + y|| \le ||x|| + ||y||$  for all  $x, y \in V$
- 3.  $\|\alpha x\| = |\alpha| \|x\|$  for all  $x \in V$  and  $\alpha \in F$

It is easy to check that if V is an inner product space then  $\|\cdot\|$  defined by  $\|x\| = \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle}$  is a norm on V. To verify the triangle inequality, use Cauchy Schwarz inequality.

**Definition §1.1.3.** A vector space together with a norm is called a normed linear space.

Note that every normed linear space  $(V, \|\cdot\|)$  is a metric space. The metric is given by  $d(x, y) = \|x - y\|$  for all  $x, y \in V$ .

#### §1.2 Hilbert Spaces & Frames

**Definition §1.2.1.** An inner product space which is complete wrt the induced norm is called Hilbert Space.

We will only be considering finite dimensional Hilbert spaces in this course!

**Example §1.2.2.** 1.  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with the usual inner product is a Hilbert Space.

2.  $\mathbb{C}^n$  with the usual inner product is a Hilbert Space.

**Definition §1.2.3.** A sequence  $\{f_n\}$  in H is called a frame for H if there exists positive constants A and B such that

$$A||f||^{2} \le \sum_{i} |\langle f, f_{i} \rangle|^{2} \le B||f||^{2} \tag{1}$$

for all  $f \in H$ .

Remark §1.2.4. It is possible to have that a frame in a finite dimensional Hilbert space consisting of infinitely many elements. However, it is rather artificial to have infinite number of frame elements in a finite dimensional space. We therefore consider only frames with finite number of elements.

# §2 Lecture 2 — 12th August, 2022 — A hell lot of definitions! (and some examples)

### §2.1 Some definition and remarks on the definition of Frames

- 1. In 1, A, B are called the frame bounds.
- 2. The infimum (corr. supremum) over all the upper (corr. lower) frame bounds is called the optimal upper (corr. lower) frame bound.
- 3. The optimal frame bounds are also frame bounds! We can verify this in this fashion: Let  $\beta$  be the optimal upper frame bound. Note that in equation (1) holds trivially for f=0. So, we need to only consider the case when  $f \neq 0$ . Let B be any upper frame bound and f be any nonzero vector. Then  $\sum_i ||\langle f, f_i \rangle||^2 \leq B||f||^2$ . Since  $f \neq 0$  by our choice,  $\sum_i ||\langle f, f_i \rangle||^2 / ||f||^2 \leq B$ . Since B is arbitrary, we have that  $\sum_i ||\langle f, f_i \rangle||^2 / ||f||^2 \leq \beta$ . Now since f was arbitrary, out result follows. The almost same proof works for optimal lower bound as well!
- 4. If A = B in equation 1 then frame is called a *tight frame*.
- 5. If A = B = 1 in equation 1 then the frame is called a *Parseval frame* (as it will then satisfy the Parseval's identity).
- 6. A frame  $\{f_i\}$  is called equiangular if there is a constant C such that  $|\langle f, f_i \rangle| = C$  for all  $i \neq j$ .
- 7. A frame  $\{f_i\}_{i\in I}$  is called equal norm frame if there is a constant C such that  $||f_i|| = C$  for all  $i \in I$ .
- 8. A frame  $\{f_i\}_{i\in I}$  is called a exact frame if for any  $j\in I$ ,  $\{f_i\}_{i\in I\setminus\{j\}}$  is no longer a frame!
- 9. Let  $\{f_i\}_{i\in I}$  be a frame and  $x\in H$ . Then the values  $\{\langle x, f_i\rangle\}_{i\in I}$  are called the *frame coefficients* of x.
- 10. A sequence  $\{f_i\}_{i=1}^N$  is called a *Bessel sequence* if there is a positive constant B such that  $\sum_{i=1}^N |\langle f, f_i \rangle| \leq B \|f\|^2$  for all  $f \in H$ .

## §2.2 Examples of Frames

In the following examples, let  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$  be orthonormal basis for H.

1. Consider the list  $\{e_1/\sqrt{2}, e_1/\sqrt{2}, e_2/\sqrt{2}, \dots, e_n/\sqrt{2}, e_n/\sqrt{2}\}$ . Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} |\langle f, f_i \rangle|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} |\langle f, e_i \rangle| + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} |\langle f, e_i \rangle|$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} |\langle f, e_i \rangle|^2 = ||f||$$

The last equality holds because  $\{e_i\}_{i=1}^n$  is an orthonormal basis. So the aforementioned list of vectors is a Parseval frame.

2. Consider the list  $\{e_1, e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$ . Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} |\langle f, f_i \rangle|^2 = |\langle f, e_1 \rangle|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n} |\langle f, e_i \rangle|^2$$

$$\leq ||f||^2 + ||f||^2$$

$$= 2||f||^2$$

and

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} |\langle f, f_i \rangle|^2 = |\langle f, e_1 \rangle|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n} |\langle f, e_i \rangle|^2$$
$$\geq ||f||^2$$

Thus,  $\{e_1, e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_n\}$  is a frame for H with frame bounds 1 and 2. In fact the frame bounds are optimal, consider  $f = e_1$  and  $f = e_2$  and note the frame bounds are actually achieved!

3. Consider  $\{e_1, e_1, e_2, e_2, \dots, e_n, e_n\}$ . Then this is a tight frame bound with bound 2.

## §2.3 Properties of frames in finite dimensional Hilbert spaces

Note that the following lemma only holds for finite dimensional Hilbert space H.

**Lemma §2.3.1.** Let  $\{f_i\}_{i\in I}$  be a family of vectors in H. Then

- (1) If  $\{f_i\}_{i\in I}$  is an orthonormal basis, then  $\{f_i\}_{i\in I}$  is a Parseval frame but the converse may not be true!
- (2)  $\{f_i\}_{i\in I}$  is a frame for H iff span  $\{f_i\} = H$
- (3) If  $\{f_i\}$  is a unit norm Parseval frame iff  $\{f_i\}_{i\in I}$  is an orthonormal basis for H.
- (4)  $\{f_i\}$  is exact then  $\{f_i\}$  is linearly independent.