

Dual Operators

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Abstract

This seminar paper provides a foundational overview of Dual-/Adjunct-Operators in functional analysis.

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1 Revision

Definition 1. The following basic definitions:

- i): Banach Space
- ii): Hilbert Space

Definition 2. Let $(X, \|\cdot\|_X)$ and $(Y, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ be normed vector spaces on \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C} .
Let $T : X \rightarrow Y$ be linear.

T is a **linear operator**. T is **bounded**, if $\exists C > 0, \forall x \in X : \|Tx\|_Y \leq C\|x\|_X$.

Definition 3. The (topological) dual space is defined as $X^* := \mathcal{L}(X, \mathbb{R})$.

Theorem 1. *The topological dual space $\mathcal{L}(X, Y)$ is a Banach space.*

Proof Idea.

□

Theorem 2. *For linear operators, continuous and bounded are equivalent.*

Proof Idea. TOOD

□

Definition 4. i):

ii):

Theorem 3. i): *Let $p \in [1, \infty)$. Then*

ii):

Proof Idea. TOOD

□

Theorem 4.

Proof. See functional analysis lecture of SS/25.

□

2 The Adjunct Operator

2.1 Definitions and Basic Properties

Remark 1. The terms **adjunct** and **dual** are often used interchangeably. We will standardize on **adjunct**, to avoid unnecessary confusion.

We will abstract the field as $\mathbb{K} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\}$.

Definition 5. Let X, Y be metric spaces and $T \in \mathcal{L}(X, Y)$.

Then $T' : Y' \rightarrow X'$, $y' \mapsto y' \circ T$ is called the adjunct operator. From now on, we will implicitly refer to the metric spaces X, Y and the topological dual spaces X', Y' when talking about the dual operator T' .

Remark 2. In comparison to the operators we have previously worked with, the adjunct operator takes and outputs linear, bounded operators. It's one more level of abstraction removed from \mathbb{K} . For $y' \in Y' = \mathcal{L}(Y, \mathbb{K})$, the adjunct operator evaluates to $T'y' \in \mathcal{L}(X, \mathbb{K})$.

Theorem 5. We can collect some basic properties of the dual operator:

i): $T' \in \mathcal{L}(Y', X')$, so T' is linear and bounded.
This implies $\forall y' \in \mathcal{L}(Y', X') : T'y' \in X'$.

ii): $T \mapsto T'$ is linear and isometric.

iii): $T \mapsto T'$ is not always surjective.

Proof. "i)": We first prove linearity:

$$\begin{aligned} T'(\alpha y'_1 + y'_2) &= (\alpha y'_1 + y'_2) \circ T && \text{(apply def. of dual operator)} \\ &= \alpha y'_1 \circ T + y'_2 \circ T && \text{(expand expression)} \\ &= \alpha T'y'_1 + \beta T'y'_2 && \text{(apply def. of dual operator)} \\ &\quad \text{for all } y'_1, y'_2 \in Y' \text{ and } \alpha \in \mathbb{K} \end{aligned}$$

We then prove boundedness of the operator norm:

$$\begin{aligned} \|T'y'\|_{X'} &= \|y' \circ T\|_{X'} && \text{(apply def. of dual operator)} \\ &\leq \|y'\|_{Y'} \|T\|_{\mathcal{L}(X, Y)} && \text{(Cauchy-Schwarz inequality)} \\ &:= C \|y'\|_{Y'} && \text{(def. the constant)} \\ &\quad \text{for all } y' \in Y' \end{aligned}$$

"ii)": We first prove linearity:

$$\begin{aligned} (\alpha T_1 + T_2)'(y') &= y' (\alpha T_1 + T_2) && \text{(apply def. of dual operator)} \\ &= \alpha y'(T_1) + y'(T_2) && \text{(y' is linear)} \\ &\quad \text{for all } T_1, T_2 \in \mathcal{L}(X, Y) \text{ and } y' \in Y' \text{ and } \alpha \in \mathbb{K} \end{aligned}$$

We then prove isometry:

$$\|T\|$$

"iii)": We construct a counterexample:

□

Example 1.

Repetition 1 (The Adjunct Operator reverses composition). Let X, Y, Z be normed metric spaces. Then we have $\forall T \in \mathcal{L}(X, Y), \forall S \in \mathcal{L}(Y, Z) : (S \circ T)' = T' \circ S'$.

Proof. Let $T \in \mathcal{L}(X, Y)$ and $S \in \mathcal{L}(Y, Z)$.

We know $ST = S \circ T$ is still a linear, bounded operator from X to Z . So $(ST)'$ is well-defined.

Let $z' \in Z' = \mathcal{L}(Z, \mathbb{K})$ and set $y' = z' \circ S \in \mathcal{L}(Y, \mathbb{K})$.

We can now evaluate the expression on z' :

$$\begin{aligned}
 (ST)'(z') &= z' \circ (ST) && (\text{apply def. of dual operator}) \\
 &= (z' \circ S) \circ T && (\text{write out chain explicitly}) \\
 &= y' \circ T && (\text{subst. } y') \\
 &= T'y' && (\text{apply def. of dual operator}) \\
 &= T'(z' \circ S) && (\text{subst. } y') \\
 &= T'S'z' && (\text{apply def. of dual operator})
 \end{aligned}$$

So in total, $(ST)' = T'S'$. □

Example 2.

2.2 In Hilbert Spaces

Risz-Frechet for Comparison between Hilbetraum-Adjunct and Banachraum-Adjunct.

2.3 Examples for Adjunct Operators on Banach Spaces

2.4 Examples for Adjunct Operators on Hilbert Spaces

2.5 Examples for Adjunct Operators in Finite Dimensional Hilbert Spaces

2.6 Advanced Properties

Theorem 6 (Schauder).

Proof.

□

Theorem 7 (Schauder).

Theorem 8 (Schauder).