

# 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:

$$\begin{aligned} T'(\alpha y'_1 + y'_2) &= (\alpha y'_1 + y'_2) \circ T && \text{(apply def. of dual operator)} \\ &= \alpha y'_1 \circ T + y'_2 \circ T && \text{(expand expression)} \\ &= \alpha T'y'_1 + T'y'_2 && \text{(apply def. of dual operator)} \end{aligned}$$

for all  $y'_1, y'_2 \in Y'$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{K}$

We then prove boundedness of the operator norm:

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

for all  $y' \in Y'$

"ii)": We first prove linearity:

$$\begin{aligned} (\alpha T_1 + T_2)'(y') &= y'(\alpha T_1 + T_2) && \text{(apply def. of dual operator)} \\ &= \alpha y'(T_1) + y'(T_2) && \text{(y' is linear)} \end{aligned}$$

for all  $T_1, T_2 \in \mathcal{L}(X, Y)$  and  $y' \in Y'$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{K}$

We then prove isometry:

$$\|T\|$$

"iii)": We construct a counterexample:

□

**Example 1.**

**Revision 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

Riesz-Frechet for Comparison between Hilbertraum-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 Relation to Compactness

**Definition 6.** The following definitions are revisions from the lecture:  
Let  $X, Y$  be normed metric spaces.

- i):  $X$  is relatively compact, if  $\forall (x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset X$  bounded :  $(Tx_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  has a converging subsequence.
- ii):  $T \in \mathbb{B}(0, \leq 1, X)$  is compact, if  $TB(0, \leq 1, X)$  is relatively compact.
- iii): The rank of  $T$  is  $\text{rk } T = \dim T(X)$ .

**Remark 3.**

**Definition 7.** The following definitions are critical for the theorem of [Arzelà-Ascoli](#):  
Let  $X, Y$  be metric spaces and  $M \subset \{f : X \rightarrow Y\}$ .

- i):  $M$  is uniformly equicontinuous, if  
 $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0, \forall f \in M, \forall x, y \in X : d_X(x, y) < \delta \Rightarrow d_Y(Tx, Ty)$ .
- ii):  $M$  is pointwise bounded, if  $\forall x \in X : \{f(x) \mid f \in M\}$  is bounded.

**Revision 2 (Arzelà-Ascoli).** Let  $D$  be a compact metric space and  $C(D) = \{f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{K} \text{ continuous}\}$ .  
Then we have

$$M \text{ relatively-compact} \iff M \text{ uniformly equicontinuous} \wedge M \text{ pointwise bounded}$$

*Proof Idea.* TODO

□

**Definition 8.** Let  $X$  be a normed vector space.

- i):  $X''$  is called the bidual space.
- ii):  $i : X' \rightarrow X''$

**Theorem 6 (Schauder).** Let  $X, Y$  be Banach spaces and  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  a linear, continuous operator.  
Then we have

$$T \text{ compact} \iff T' \text{ compact}$$

*Proof.* „ $\Rightarrow$ “: TODO

„ $\Leftarrow$ “: We have  $T'$  is compact. Using the first part of the proof, we know  $T''$  is compact.

Since  $T'' \circ i_X = i_Y \circ T$  we know  $i_Y \circ T$  is compact.

Since  $Y \subset Y''$  is closed, we get  $T$  compact.

□



## 2.7 Operator Equations