

# Topological Vector Space

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## 1. Local geometry of topological vector space

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  be a topological space.

**Remark.**

- A base for  $\mathcal{F}$  is a subcollection  $\mathcal{F}' \subset \mathcal{F}$  s.t.  $\forall U \in \mathcal{F}, \exists V \in \mathcal{F}', V \subset U$ . A base  $\mathcal{F}'$  determines  $\mathcal{F}$  since  $U \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow \exists S, \forall U \subset \mathcal{F}, U = \{\cup e_i \mid i \in S, e_i \in \mathcal{F}'\}$ .
- A local base of  $x$  is a subcollection  $\mathcal{F}'_x \subset \mathcal{F}_x$  s.t.  $\forall U \subset \mathcal{F}_x, \exists V \in \mathcal{F}'_x$  s.t.  $V \subset U$ . However, elements in  $\mathcal{F}_x$  may be not union of elements in  $\mathcal{F}'_x$ .

**Example.**  $(X, d)$  is a metric space.

- $\mathcal{F}' = \{B(x, r) \mid x \in X, r > 0\}$  is a base.
- $\mathcal{F}' = \{B(x, r), \mid r > 0\}$  is a local base at  $x$ .
- $\mathcal{F}' = \{B(x, \frac{1}{n}) \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  another local base at  $x$ , countable elements.

Now let  $X$  be topological vector space. Last time we showed that  $\forall a \in X, \forall \alpha \neq 0$ , the maps

- $T_a : X \rightarrow X, x \rightarrow x + a$
- $M_a : X \rightarrow X, x \rightarrow \alpha x$

are both homeomorphism. As a consequence, we see

**Corollary.** A set  $A \subset X$  is open  $\Leftrightarrow a + A$  is open,  $\forall a \in X \Leftrightarrow \alpha A$  is open,  $\forall \alpha \neq 0$ .

So the topological  $\mathcal{F}$  is determined by any local base at 0 whose elements have special geometric properties for topological vector space.

**Definition.**  $X$  is locally convex if there is a local base whose elements are convex.

**Example.** Normed Vector Space are locally convex since  $\{B(0, r) \mid r > 0\}$  are convex.

*Proof.*  $x, y \in B(0, r) \Leftrightarrow \|x\| < r, \|y\| < r \Leftrightarrow \|\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y\| \leq \alpha\|x\| + (1 - \alpha)\|y\| \leq r$   $\square$

**Definition.** A set  $E \subset X$  is absorbing if  $\forall x \in X, \exists \delta > 0$  s.t.  $\alpha x \in E, \forall |\alpha| < \delta$ . (Obviously  $0 = 0 * x \in E$ )

**Property.** In a topological vector space, any neighborhood of 0 is absorbing.

*Proof.* Let  $U$  be a neighborhood of 0.  $\forall x \in X$ , the map  $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow X : \alpha \rightarrow \alpha x$  is continuous. since it is the composition  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \times X \rightarrow X : \alpha \rightarrow (\alpha, x) \rightarrow \alpha x$  both of which are continuous.

**Remark.** The function  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  is continuous  $\Leftrightarrow \forall Y' \subset Y, Y'$  is open set, the preimage of  $Y'$  is open set.

So the pre-image of  $U$  is an open set in  $\mathbb{R}$ , which obviously contains 0. So  $\exists \delta$  s.t.  $\forall |\alpha| < \delta, \alpha x \in U$ .  $\square$

**Corollary.** For any neighborhood  $U$  of 0,  $X = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} (kU)$

*Proof.*  $\forall x \in X, \exists k, \frac{1}{k} < \delta, \frac{1}{k}x \in U \Rightarrow x \in kU$ .  $\square$

**Definition.** A set  $E \subset X$  is symmetric if  $E = -E$ .

**Property.**  $\forall U, 0 \in U$ , one can find a symmetric neighborhood  $V$  of 0 s.t.  $V + V \subset U$ .

*Proof.* Since  $0 + 0 = 0$ , and addition is continuous, for the neighborhood  $U$  of 0, one can find neighborhoods  $U_1, U_2$  of 0 s.t.  $U_1 + U_2 \subset U$ . Take  $V = U_1 \cap U_2 \cap (-U_1) \cap (-U_2)$ .  $V$  is symmetric and  $0 \in V$ .  $V \subset U_1, V \subset U_2, V + V \subset U$ .  $\square$

**Remark.** By iteration, one can find  $V$  s.t.  $V + V + V + V \subset U$

**Definition.** A neighborhood of 0 in  $X$  is balanced if  $\alpha E \subset E$  for all  $\alpha$  with  $|\alpha| \leq 1$ .

**Remark.**

1. If  $E$  is balanced, then  $E$  is symmetric. since  $-E \subset E, -(-E) \subset -E$ .
2. If  $A, B$  are balanced, so is  $A + B$ .

**Property.** In a Topological vector space, any neighborhood of 0 contains a balanced neighborhood of 0.

*Proof.* Let  $U$  be a neighborhood of 0. By continuity and  $0 \cdot 0 = 0$ , one can find  $\delta > 0$  and neighborhood  $V_1$  of 0 s.t.  $\beta V_1 \subset U$  for any  $\beta$  with  $|\beta| < \delta$ . Let  $V = \bigcup_{0 < |\beta| < \delta} \beta V_1$ , then

- $V$  is open as union of open sets
- $V \subset U$  since each  $\beta V_1 \subset U$ .

- $V$  is balanced since  $|\alpha| \leq 1, |\beta| < \delta \Rightarrow |\alpha\beta| < \delta$ .

□

**Corollary.** *Every topological vector space has a balanced local base.*

**Remark.** *Similarly one can prove: any convex neighborhood of 0 contains a balanced convex neighborhood of 0. So any locally convex topological vector space has a balanced convex local base.*

**Definition.** *A subset  $E \subset X$  is bounded if for any neighborhood  $U$  of 0 in  $X$ ,  $\exists s > 0$  s.t.  $\forall t > s$ , we have  $E \subset tU$ .*

**Property.**  *$E$  is balanced  $\Leftrightarrow$  For any sequence  $\{x_n\} \subset E$  and any scalar sequence  $\alpha_n \rightarrow 0$ , one has  $\alpha_n x_n \rightarrow 0$*

*Proof.*

- $\Rightarrow$ , For any neighborhood  $U$  of 0, we have  $\exists s > 0, \forall t > s, E \subset tU$ . Since  $\alpha_n \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\exists N, \forall n > N, |\alpha_n| < \frac{1}{t}$ , we have  $|\alpha_n|E \subset U \Rightarrow |\alpha_n|x_n \in U$ . we have  $|\alpha_n|x_n \rightarrow 0$ .  $\forall \delta > 0, \exists N, \forall n > N, ||\alpha_n|x_n - 0| = |\alpha_n x_n| = |\alpha_n x_n - 0| < \delta$ . So  $\alpha_n x_n \rightarrow 0$ .
- $\Leftarrow$ , If  $E$  is not bounded, then for any neighborhood  $U$  of 0,  $\forall s > 0, \exists t > s, E \not\subset tU$ . We fix  $U$ , now we construct  $\{\alpha_n\}, \{x_n\}$ . We choose  $n \in \mathbb{N}, s = n, \exists t_n > n, \frac{E}{t_n} \not\subset U$ , so  $\alpha_n = \frac{1}{t_n}, x_n \in E, \frac{x_n}{t_n} \notin U$ . Now we have  $\{\alpha_n \rightarrow 0, \alpha_n x_n \notin U \Rightarrow \alpha_n x_n \not\rightarrow 0\}$ . Contradiction!

□

*So in particular, if  $X$  is a metric space, then  $E$  is bounded iff  $\exists C > 0, E \subset B(0, C)$ . Not every topological vector space admit a bounded open set. In fact,*

**Property.** *If  $V$  is bounded neighborhood of 0, then for any sequence  $\alpha_k \rightarrow 0$ , the collection  $\{\alpha_k V \mid k = 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  is a local base of  $X$ .*

*Proof.* We construct a set  $W = V \cup -V$ ,  $V \subset W$  and  $W$  is bounded and symmetric. For any neighborhood  $U$  of 0,  $\exists s > 0, \forall t > s, W \subset tU$ . Since  $\alpha_n \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow \exists \alpha_n, \frac{1}{|\alpha_n|} > t$ , we have  $\exists \alpha_n, |\alpha_n|W \subset U$ .  $W$  is symmetric,  $\alpha_n W \subset U$   $V \subset W \Rightarrow \alpha_n V \subset U$ . So  $\alpha_n V$  is a local base. □

**Definition.**  *$X$  is locally bounded if 0 has a bounded neighborhood.*

So any locally bounded TVS has a countable local base. According the next theorem, it must be metrizable.

## 2. Metrization

As we mentioned at the begining of this lecture, any metirc space has a countable local base. This gives a necessary condition for topological vector space to be metrizable. In fact this is also sufficient, and we can say more...

**Theorem.** *Let  $X$  be a topological vector space with a countable local base. Then  $X$  is metrizable, and one can choose the metric  $d$  s.t.*

1.  $d$  is translation invariant.
2. The open balls  $B(0, r)$ s are balanced.
3. Moreover, if  $X$  is also locally convex, then  $d$  can be chosen so that all open balls are convex.

*Proof.*

- One start with a countable local base  $\{U_n\}$ . Choose a balanced neighborhood  $V_1$  of 0 in  $U_1$ . Then choose a neighborhood  $\tilde{U}_2$  of 0 s.t.  $\tilde{U}_2 + \tilde{U}_2 + \tilde{U}_2 + \tilde{U}_2 \subset V_1 \cap U_2$ . Choose a balanced neighborhood of  $V_2$  of 0 in  $\tilde{U}_2$ . Note we have  $V_2 + V_2 + V_2 + V_2 \subset V_1$ . Continue this way, we get a balanced local base  $\{V_n\}$  s.t.  $V_{n+1} + V_{n+1} + V_{n+1} + V_{n+1} \subset V_n$ . Moreover, if  $X$  is locally convex, one can choose  $V_n$  s.t.  $V_n$  is also convex.
- Let  $D = \{r \in \mathbb{Q} \mid r = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n(r)2^{-n}, \text{ only finitely many } C_n(r) = 1, \text{ other } C_n(r) = 0\}$ . So elements of  $D$  are 2-adic rationals with finite digits.

**Remark.**  $D$  is dense in  $[0, 1)$ .

- For any  $r \in D$ , we define  $A(r)$  to be the subset  $A(r) = C_1(r)V_1 + C_2(r)V_2 + C_3(r)V_3 + \dots$  (finite sum, so it make sense). For  $r \geq 1$ , set  $A(r) = X$ .

**Property.**  $\forall r, s \in D, A(r) + A(s) \subset A(r + s)$ .

*Proof.*

$$r = \sum_1^M C_n(r)2^{-n}, s = \sum_1^N C_n(s)2^{-n}$$

we choose  $K = \max\{M, N\}$ .

$$r = \sum_1^K C_n(r)2^{-n}, s = \sum_1^K C_n(s)2^{-n}, r + s = \sum_1^K C_n(r + s)2^{-n}$$

$V_{n+1} + V_{n+1} + V_{n+1} + V_{n+1} \subset V_n \Rightarrow V_{n+1} + V_{n+1} \subset V_n$ , so we have  $\sum_1^{2^i} V_{K-i} \subset V_K$ .  $C_n(r) + C_n(s)$  can be  $\{0, 1, 2\}$ , if  $C_n(r) + C_n(s) = 2$ ,  $V_n + V_n \subset V_{n+1}$ , we can have  $A(s) + A(r) \subset A(s + t)$ .  $\square$

**Remark.**

- Each  $A(r)$  is balanced. ( $A, B$  are balanced  $\Rightarrow A + B$  is balanced.)
- $\forall r < s, A(r) \subset A(s). (A(r) + A(s-r) \subset A(s), 0 \in A(s-r))$
- $f(x) = \inf \{r : x \in A(r)\}$ . Then  $0 \leq f(x) \leq 1$ , and
  - $f(0) = 0$  since  $\forall r, 0 \in A(r)$
  - If  $x \neq 0$ , then  $\exists N, \forall n \geq N, x \notin V_n \Rightarrow f(x) \geq 2^{-N}$ , since  $V_N = A(2^{-N}), 2^{-N} \in D$ .
  - $f(x) = f(-x)$  since  $A(r)$  is balanced  $\Rightarrow A(r)$  is symmetric.
  - $f(x+y) \leq f(x) + f(y)$

*Proof.* It is enough to check this for  $f(x) + f(y) < 1$ . For  $\epsilon > 0, \exists r, s \in D$  (since  $D$  is dense.),  $f(x) < r < f(x) + \epsilon, f(y) < s < f(y) + \epsilon$ . So  $x \in A(r), y \in A(s)$ . So  $x + y \in A(r + s)$ , i.e.  $f(x + y) \leq r + s < f(x) + f(y) + 2\epsilon$ . This is true for  $\forall \epsilon > 0$ , so  $f(x + y) \leq f(x) + f(y)$ .  $\square$

- Now it is standard  $d(x, y) = f(x - y)$  define a translation-invariant metric on  $X$ . Finally, by definition the open balls centered at 0 are  $B(0, \delta) = \{x : f(x) < \delta\} = \cup_{r < \delta} A(r)$ . They are the local basis of the original topology since  $\forall r < 2^{-n}, A(r) \subset V_n \Rightarrow \forall \delta < 2^{-n}, B(0, \delta) \subset V_n$ . In view of the fact  $0 < r < s, A(r) \subset A(s)$ , it is easy to see that  $B(0, \delta)$  is balanced since each  $A(r)$  is balanced and if each  $V_n$  is convex, so is  $A(r)$ , and that so is  $B(0, \delta)$ , and thus so is  $B(x, \delta)$ .

$\square$