

Fréchet Spaces

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1 Topology defined by semi-norms

Let's start with the example we mentioned at the beginning of Lecture 4.

$$X = C_0^0(\mathbb{R}) = \{\text{compactly supported continuous functions on } \mathbb{R}\}$$

Then as we have seen, $X = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} X_n$, where

$$X_n = C_0^0([-n, n]) = \{\text{compactly supported continuous functions on } (-n, n), f(n) = f(-n) = 0\}$$

The topology of X_n , as a closed subspace of $C^0([-n, n])$, is determined by open sets

$$B(f, r) = \{g \in C_0^0([-n, n]) \mid \sup_{x \in [-n, n]} |f(x) - g(x)| < r\}$$

In particular, if we let $p_n(f) = \sup_{x \in [-n, n]} |f(x)|$, then a local base for this topology is $\{f \mid p_n(f) < \frac{1}{k}\}$. We would like to assign a topology to X , so that as a subspace of X , the space X_n has the same topology mentioned above. The easiest way is to let

$$U_n^k = \{f \in C_0^0(\mathbb{R}) \mid p_n(f) = \sup_{x \in [-n, n]} |f(x)| < \frac{1}{k}\}$$

and take \mathcal{F} be the topology generated by $U_{n,k}$.

Remark.

- As a function on $C_0^0(\mathbb{R})$, p_n is not a norm, although it is a norm on $C_0^0([-n, n])$. Since one can easily find a function $f \in C_0^0(\mathbb{R})$, $f \neq 0$, $p_n(f) = 0$.
- under this topology, (X, \mathcal{F}) is a locally convex TVS.
- There are many other spaces of this type.

Definition. A semi-norm on a vector space X is a function $p : X \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ s.t.

1. $p(x + y) \leq p(x) + p(y)$ (subadditivity)

2. $p(\alpha x) = |\alpha|p(x)$ (positive homogeneity)

Definition. A family of semi-norms, $\{p_\lambda\}$ on X is called separating if $\forall x \neq 0, \exists \lambda, p_\lambda(x) \neq 0$.

Example. $p_n(f) = \sup_{x \in [-n, n]} |f(x)|$ defines a countable family of separating semi-norms on $C_0^0(\mathbb{R})$.

Theorem. Let $\mathcal{P} = \{p_\lambda\}$ be a separating family of semi-norms on a vector space X . For each $p_\lambda \in \mathcal{P}$ and each $k \in \mathbb{N}$ we let $U_{\lambda, k} = \{x \in X \mid p_\lambda x < \frac{1}{k}\}$. Let $\mathcal{B} = \{\text{the collection of all finite intersection of sets of the form } U_{\lambda, k}\}$. Let $\mathcal{F} = \{\text{the translation invariant topology on } X \text{ that has } \mathcal{B} \text{ as a local base at } 0\}$. Then

1. (X, \mathcal{F}) is a topological vector space.
2. \mathcal{B} is a convex balanced local base.
3. Each $p_\lambda \in \mathcal{P}$ is continuous.
4. A set $E \subset X$ is bounded iff each $p_\lambda \in \mathcal{P}$ is bounded on E .

Proof.

1. • \mathcal{F} is Hausedoff. It is enough to separate 0 and $x \neq 0$. One just choose $p_\lambda \in \mathcal{P}$ s.t. $p_\lambda(x) \neq 0$. We denote $p_\lambda(x) = \epsilon$. Take k large s.t. $\frac{1}{k} < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$. Then $U_{\lambda, k}$ is a neighborhood of 0. $x + U_{\lambda, k}$ is a neighborhood of x , and $U_{\lambda, k} \cap (x + U_{\lambda, k}) = \emptyset$. So \mathcal{F} is Hausedoff. If $y \in U_{\lambda, k} \cap (x + U_{\lambda, k})$, then $\exists z \in U_{\lambda, k}$ s.t. $y = x + z \Rightarrow x = y - z$. So $p_\lambda(x) = p_\lambda(y - z) \leq p_\lambda(y) + p_\lambda(z) < \frac{1}{k} + \frac{1}{k} = \frac{2}{k} < \epsilon$ Contrdiction! we know $p_\lambda(x) = \epsilon$!
- Vector addition is continuous. Let U be any open neighborhood of $x + y$. By definition of \mathcal{F} , one can choose $p_{\lambda_1}, \dots, p_{\lambda_l}$ and k_1, \dots, k_l s.t. $x + y + (U_{\lambda_1, k_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_l, k_l}) \subset U$. Now let

$$U_1 = x + U_{\lambda_1, 2k_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_l, 2k_l} \text{ (open neighborhood of } x\text{)}$$

$$U_2 = y + U_{\lambda_1, 2k_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_l, 2k_l} \text{ (open neighborhood of } y\text{)}$$

Then $U_1 + U_2 \subset U$. If $z_1, z_2 \in U_{\lambda_1, 2k_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_l, 2k_l}$, i.e. $\forall 1 \leq i \leq l, p_{\lambda_i}(z_1) < \frac{1}{2k_i}, p_{\lambda_i}(z_2) < \frac{1}{2k_i}$, then $\forall 1 \leq i \leq l, p_{\lambda_i}(z_1 + z_2) < \frac{1}{k_i}$.

- Scalar multiplication is continuous. Let U be a neighborhood of αx , so as above,

$$\alpha x + U_{\lambda_1, k_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_l, k_l} \subset U$$

for some $p_{\lambda_1}, \dots, p_{\lambda_l} \in \mathcal{P}$ and $k_1, \dots, k_l \in \mathbb{N}$.

- case 1. $\alpha = 0$. We choose $A > \max(p_{\lambda_1}(x), \dots, p_{\lambda_l}(x))$, then for $\delta < \min\{\frac{1}{2Ak_1}, \dots, \frac{1}{2Ak_l}, 1\}$, $(-\delta, \delta) \cdot (x + U_{\lambda_1, 2k_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_l, 2k_l}) \subset U$

$$\forall e \in (-\delta, \delta) \cdot x, \forall 1 \leq i \leq l, p_{\lambda_i}(e) < \frac{1}{2k_i}$$

So

$$(-\delta, \delta) \cdot x \subset U_{\lambda_1, 2k_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_l, 2k_l}$$

$$|\delta| \leq 1 \Rightarrow (-\delta, \delta) \cdot U_{\lambda_1, 2k_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_l, 2k_l} \subset U_{\lambda_1, 2k_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_l, 2k_l}$$

$$(-\delta, \delta) \cdot (x + U_{\lambda_1, 2k_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_l, 2k_l}) \subset U_{\lambda_1, k_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_l, k_l} \subset U$$

– case 2. $\alpha \neq 0$. We choose

$$A > \max \{p_{\lambda_1}(x), \dots, p_{\lambda_l}(x), \frac{1}{3k_1|\alpha|}, \dots, \frac{1}{3k_l|\alpha|}\}$$

$$\delta < \min \left\{ \frac{1}{3k_1 A}, \dots, \frac{1}{3k_l A}, 1 \right\}$$

Then

$$(\alpha - \delta, \alpha + \delta) \cdot (x + U_{\lambda_1, 3k_1|\alpha|} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_l, 3k_l|\alpha|}) \subset U$$

2. By definition \mathcal{B} is a local base for \mathcal{F} . To prove $U_{\lambda_1, k_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_l, k_l}$ is convex and balanced, it is enough to prove $U_{\lambda, k}$ is convex and balanced. It is balanced by positive homogeneity. It is convex since $\forall x, y \in U_{\lambda, k}$. $\forall 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$,

$$p_\lambda(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \leq \alpha p_\lambda(x) + (1 - \alpha)p_\lambda(y) < \alpha \frac{1}{k} + (1 - \alpha)\frac{1}{k} = \frac{1}{k}$$

3. By definition each p_λ is continuous at 0. The continuity of p_λ at x follows from $p_\lambda(x + U_{\lambda, k}) \subset (p_\lambda(x) - \frac{1}{k}, p_\lambda(x) + \frac{1}{k})$. If $y \in U_{\lambda, k}$, then

$$p_\lambda(x + y) \leq p_\lambda(x) + p_\lambda(y) < p_\lambda(x) + \frac{1}{k}$$

$$p_\lambda(x + y) + p_\lambda(-y) \geq p_\lambda(x) \Rightarrow p_\lambda(x + y) \geq p_\lambda(x) - p_\lambda(-y) > p_\lambda(x) - \frac{1}{k}$$

4. Suppose E is bounded, and $p_\lambda \in \mathcal{P}$. Then $\exists t > 0$ s.t. $E \subset tU_{\lambda, 1}$ i.e. $\frac{1}{t}E \subset U_{\lambda, 1}$. So $\forall x \in E, p_\lambda(x) < t$. Suppose each p_λ is bounded on E . Then for any neighborhood $U_{\lambda_1, k_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_l, k_l} \subset U$ of 0, one pick t_1, \dots, t_l s.t. $\forall x \in E, p_{\lambda_i}(x) < t_i$. Then for $t > \max(t_1 k_1, \dots, t_l k_l)$, we have $E \subset t(U_{\lambda_1, k_1} \cap \dots \cap U_{\lambda_l, k_l})$, since $p_{\lambda_i}(\frac{x}{t}) = \frac{1}{t}p_{\lambda_i}(x) < \frac{1}{t}t_i < \frac{1}{k_i}$.

□

2 Frechet Spaces

In many applications, as in the case of $C_0^0((R))$, the topology is defined by a countable sequence of semi-norms. As a result, the local base \mathcal{B} contains only countable elements, and thus \mathcal{F} is metrizable. In fact, we can explicitly write down a translation-invariant metric in this case.

Property. *If the topology on X is defined by a separating sequence $\{p_n\}$ of semi-norms, then for any sequence of positive members $\{c_i\}$ that tends to 0,*

$$d(x, y) = \max_i \frac{c_i p_i(x - y)}{1 + p_i(x - y)}$$

is a compatible translation-invariant metric on X .