

Lecture 3

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Topic: Representation of Functionals

Riesz Representation Theorem for Functionals

Theorem 3.1 *Let H_1 and H_2 be Hilbert spaces and $h : H_1 \times H_2 \rightarrow K$ be a bounded sesquilinear form. Then h has representation*

$$h(x, y) = \langle Sx, y \rangle,$$

Where $S : H_1 \rightarrow H_2$ is bounded linear operator uniquely determined by h and has the norm $\|S\| = \|h\|$.

Proof: (i) Consider $\overline{h(x, y)}$ with $x \in H_1$ fixed. This is linear in y because of the bar. Thus h is bounded linear functional. So by Riesz representation theorem for functionals, for fixed $x \in H_1$ we have

$$f(y) = \overline{h(x, y)} = \langle y, z \rangle, \quad (1)$$

where $z \in H_2$ is uniquely determined by f with $\|z\| = \|f\| = \|\overline{h}\|$. Then (1) implies

$$h(x, y) = \langle z, y \rangle. \quad (2)$$

Here $z \in H_2$ is unique but of course depends upon our choice of $x \in H_1$. It follows that (2) with variable x defines an operator $S : H_1 \rightarrow H_2$ given by $Sx = z$. Substituting $z = Sx$ in (2), we obtain

$$h(x, y) = \langle Sx, y \rangle \quad (3)$$

(ii) S is Linear

From (3), we have

$$\langle S(\alpha x_1 + \beta x_2), y \rangle = h(\alpha x_1 + \beta x_2, y)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \alpha h(x_1, y) + \beta h(x_2, y) \text{ because } h \text{ is linear in first argument.} \\
&= \alpha \langle Sx_1, y \rangle + \beta \langle Sx_2, y \rangle \\
&< \alpha Sx_1 + \beta Sx_2, y \rangle \text{ for all } y \in H_2
\end{aligned}$$

This implies that $S(\alpha x_1 + \beta x_2) = \alpha Sx_1 + \beta Sx_2$ (because if $\langle v_1, w \rangle = \langle v_2, w \rangle$ for all w , then $v_1 = v_2$). This proves that S is linear.

(iii) To prove that S is bounded: If $S = 0$, then it is bounded. If $\neq 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned}
\|h\| &= \sup_{x, y \neq 0} \frac{|h(x, y)|}{\|x\| \|y\|} \\
&= \sup_{x, y \neq 0} \frac{|\langle Sx, y \rangle|}{\|x\| \|y\|} \\
&\geq \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{|\langle Sx, Sx \rangle|}{\|x\| \|Sx\|} \\
&= \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Sx\|^2}{\|x\| \|Sx\|} \\
&= \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Sx\|}{\|x\|} = \|S\|.
\end{aligned}$$

That is

$$\|S\| \leq \|h\| < \infty \text{ because } h \text{ is bounded.} \quad (4)$$

Now consider

$$\begin{aligned}
\|h\| &= \sup_{x, y \neq 0} \frac{|h(x, y)|}{\|x\| \|y\|} \\
&= \sup_{x, y \neq 0} \frac{|\langle Sx, y \rangle|}{\|x\| \|y\|} \\
&\leq \sup_{x, y \neq 0} \frac{\|Sx\| \|y\|}{\|x\| \|y\|} \text{ by Schwarz inequality} \\
&= \sup_{x, y \neq 0} \frac{\|Sx\|}{\|x\|}
\end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$\|h\| \leq \|S\| \quad (5)$$

From (4) and (5), we obtain $\|S\| = \|h\|$.

(iv) S is unique

Suppose that there exists $T : H_1 \rightarrow H_2$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} h(x, y) &= \langle Sx, y \rangle = \langle Tx, y \rangle \quad \forall x \in H_1, y \in H_2 \\ &\Rightarrow Sx = Tx \quad \forall x \in H_1 \\ &\Rightarrow S = T. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.

■ **Question 1:** Show that the function $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i \eta_i$ is an inner product space on \mathbb{R}^n .

Solution:

1. $\langle x + y, z \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n (\xi_i + \eta_i) \zeta_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i \zeta_i + \sum_{i=1}^n \eta_i \zeta_i = \langle x, z \rangle + \langle y, z \rangle$
2. $\langle \alpha x, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n (\alpha \xi_i) \eta_i = \alpha \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i \eta_i = \alpha \langle x, y \rangle .$
3. $\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i \eta_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \eta_i \xi_i = \langle y, x \rangle .$
4. $\langle x, x \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \xi_i = 0 \forall i \Leftrightarrow x = 0 .$

Question 2: Show that the function $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : \mathbb{C}^n \times \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ defined by $\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i \bar{\eta}_i$ is an inner product space on \mathbb{C}^n .

Question 2: Let X be an n -dimensional vector space with basis $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$. Let $x, y \in X$ have representation of the form $x = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i e_i$ and $y = \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i e_i$. Show that the function $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ defined by $\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \bar{\mu}_i$ is an inner product space on X .

Question 3: Show that the function $\| \cdot \| : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $\|x\| = \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle}$ is a norm on X .

Question 4: Let X be an inner product space and let $(x_n)_1^\infty$ and $(y_n)_1^\infty$ be

convergent sequences in X with $x_n \xrightarrow{\|\cdot\|} x$ and $y_n \xrightarrow{\|\cdot\|} y$. Then show that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle x_n, y_n \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle.$$

Solution: Consider

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle x_n, y_n \rangle - \langle x, y \rangle| &= |\langle x_n, y_n \rangle - \langle x_n, y \rangle + \langle x_n, y \rangle - \langle x, y \rangle| \\ &\leq |\langle x_n, y_n \rangle - \langle x_n, y \rangle| + |\langle x_n, y \rangle - \langle x, y \rangle| \\ &\leq |\langle x_n, y_n - y \rangle| + |\langle x_n - x, y \rangle| \\ &\leq \|x_n\| \|y_n - y\| + \|x_n - x\| \|y\| \\ &\rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty \text{ (because since } (x_n)_1^\infty \text{ is bounded, therefore} \end{aligned}$$

$$\|x_n\| < \infty \text{ and } x_n \rightarrow x, y_n \rightarrow y.)$$

This implies that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle x_n, y_n \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle$.