

Linear transformations between normed spaces

In the sequel, V and W are normed spaces over \mathbb{K} . The norms in these spaces will be both denoted by $\|\cdot\|$, except when there is a strong reason for differentiating them.

Recall that by a linear transformation from V to W we mean a mapping $T: V \rightarrow W$ satisfying the following conditions:

(LT1) $(\forall x, y \in V) (T(x+y) = T(x) + T(y))$.

(LT2) $(\forall x \in V) (\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{K}) (T(\lambda x) = \lambda \cdot T(x))$.

It is easy to see that if $T: V \rightarrow W$ is a linear transformation, then $T(0) = 0$.

Theorem 6.23

For any linear transformation $T: V \rightarrow W$, the following statements are equivalent:

(i) T is continuous.

(ii) T is continuous at $x=0$.

(iii) there exists $M > 0$ s.t. $(\forall x \in V) (\|T(x)\| \leq M \|x\|)$.

Proof

(i) \Rightarrow (ii) Trivial.

(ii) \Rightarrow (iii) Assume that T is continuous at $x=0$. Then there exists $\delta > 0$ s.t. $(\forall x \in V) (\|x-0\| < \delta \Rightarrow \|T(x) - T(0)\| \leq 1)$, that is

(i) $(\forall x \in V) (\|x\| < \delta \Rightarrow \|T(x)\| \leq 1)$.

Let $x \in V, x \neq 0$. Then $\|\frac{\delta}{2\|x\|} \cdot x\| = \frac{\delta}{2} < \delta$ so, by (i),

$\left\| T\left(\frac{\delta}{2\|x\|} \cdot x\right)\right\| \leq 1$. On the other hand,

$$\left\| T\left(\frac{\delta}{2\|x\|} \cdot x\right)\right\| = \left\| \frac{\delta}{2\|x\|} \cdot T(x)\right\| = \frac{\delta}{2\|x\|} \cdot \|T(x)\|.$$

Thus, $\frac{\delta}{2\|x\|} \cdot \|T(x)\| \leq 1$, hence $\|T(x)\| \leq \frac{2}{\delta} \|x\|$.

Let $M := \frac{2}{\delta}$. Then $\|T(x)\| \leq M \cdot \|x\|$ for all $x \in V$, $x \neq 0$.

For $x=0$, we have that $\|T(0)\| = 0 \leq M \cdot \|0\|$.

(iii) \Rightarrow (i) Assume that $M > 0$ is such that $\|T(x)\| \leq M \cdot \|x\|$ for all $x \in V$. For distinct $x, y \in V$ we get that

$$\left\| \frac{x-y}{\|x-y\|} \right\| = 1 \text{ and } \left\| T\left(\frac{x-y}{\|x-y\|}\right)\right\| = \frac{1}{\|x-y\|} \cdot \|T(x-y)\| = \frac{\|T(x) - T(y)\|}{\|x-y\|}.$$

Thus, $\frac{\|T(x) - T(y)\|}{\|x-y\|} \leq M$, so

$$\|T(x) - T(y)\| \leq M \cdot \|x-y\|.$$

It follows that T is Lipschitz continuous and, as a consequence,

T is continuous. □

Corollary 6.24

Any continuous linear transformation $T: V \rightarrow W$ is bounded on the closed unit ball $B_1(0)$.

Proof.

For all $x \in B_1(0)$ we get that

$$\|T(x)\| \leq M \cdot \|x\| \leq M, \text{ since } \|x\| \leq 1.$$

□

Notation 6.25

We denote by $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$ the set of continuous linear transformations from V to W .

Theorem 6.26

Let V and W be normed spaces over \mathbb{K} . The following assertions hold:

(i) $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$ is a vector space over \mathbb{K} with respect to pointwise vector addition and scalar multiplication.

(ii) The function $\|\cdot\|: \mathcal{L}(V, W) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined for every $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ by

$$\|T\| \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sup \{ \|T(x)\| : x \in V, \|x\| \leq 1 \}$$

is a norm on $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$. Moreover, $\|T(x)\| \leq \|T\| \cdot \|x\|$ for all $x \in V$.

(iii) If W is a Banach space, then $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$ is also a Banach space.

Proof

(i), (ii): Easy exercises.

(iii) will be proved in the tutorials.

□

Definition 6.27

The norm on $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$ defined in the above theorem is called the operator norm.

Proposition 6.28

Let $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$. Then

$$\|T\| = \sup \{ \|T(x)\| : x \in V, \|x\| = 1 \} = \inf \{ M > 0 : \|T(x)\| \leq M \cdot \|x\| \text{ for all } x \in V \}$$

Proof. Exercise

□

Proposition 6.28

Let V, W and U be normed spaces over \mathbb{K} . Then for every $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ and $S \in \mathcal{L}(W, U)$, we have $S \circ T \in \mathcal{L}(V, U)$ and

$$\|S \circ T\| \leq \|S\| \cdot \|T\|.$$

Proof.

It is easy to check that $S \circ T \in \mathcal{L}(V, U)$. On the other hand, we have that for all $x \in V, \|x\| \leq 1$,

$$\|(S \circ T)(x)\| = \|S(T(x))\| \leq \|S\| \cdot \|T(x)\| \leq \|S\| \cdot \|T\| \cdot \|x\| \leq \|S\| \cdot \|T\|.$$

Then,

$$\|S \circ T\| = \sup \{ \|(S \circ T)(x)\| : x \in V, \|x\| \leq 1 \} \leq \|S\| \cdot \|T\|. \quad \square$$

Definition 6.30

Let V be a normed space over \mathbb{K} . A linear transformation $T: V \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$ is called a linear functional on V .

Theorem 6.31

Let V be a normed space over \mathbb{K} . The set V^* of all continuous linear functionals on V is a Banach space over \mathbb{K} with the operator norm.

Proof.

$V^* = \mathcal{L}(V, \mathbb{K})$. Since $(\mathbb{K}, |\cdot|)$ is a Banach space, we can apply Theorem 6.26 to get that V^* is a Banach space with the operator norm

$$\|T\| = \sup \{ |T(x)| : x \in V, \|x\| \leq 1 \}. \quad \square$$

Remark 6.32

The normed space V^* is called the dual space of V . Note that V^* is a Banach space irrespective of whether V is or not.

Definition 6.33

Let V and W be normed spaces over \mathbb{K} . A (topological) isomorphism of V onto W is a linear isomorphism $T: V \rightarrow W$ such that T and T^{-1} are continuous.

The spaces V and W are (topologically) isomorphic if there is a topological isomorphism between them.

Remark 6.34

The composition of two topological isomorphisms is again a topological isomorphism. Consequently, the relation of ~~being~~ topologically isomorphic is an equivalence in the class of normed spaces over \mathbb{K} .

Proposition 6.35

Let $T: V \rightarrow W$ be a surjective linear transformation. The following statements are equivalent:

(i) T is a topological isomorphism of normed spaces.

(ii) there exist $\alpha, \beta > 0$ such that

$$\alpha \|x\|_V \leq \|T(x)\|_W \leq \beta \|x\|_V \quad \text{for all } x \in V.$$

Proof

(i) \Rightarrow (ii) Assume that T is an isomorphism. Then $T, T^{-1} \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ and, since they are bijections, $T, T^{-1} \neq 0$, so $\|T\|, \|T^{-1}\| \neq 0$.

By Theorem 6.26(ii), we have that $\|T(x)\| \leq \|T\| \cdot \|x\|$ for all $x \in V$.

Thus, we can take $\beta := \|T\| > 0$. Applying Theorem 6.26(ii) for T^{-1} we obtain that $\|x\| = \|T^{-1}(T(x))\| \leq \|T^{-1}\| \cdot \|T(x)\|$ for all $x \in V$. Then,

taking $\alpha := \frac{1}{\|T^{-1}\|} > 0$, it follows that

$$\alpha \cdot \|x\| = \frac{1}{\|T^{-1}\|} \cdot \|x\| \leq \|T(x)\| \quad \text{for all } x \in V.$$

(ii) \Rightarrow (i) Assume now that (ii) holds. From Theorem 6.23 and the fact that $\|T(x)\| \leq \beta \cdot \|x\|$ for all $x \in V$, it follows that T is continuous.

It is easy to see that T is injective:

$$T(x) = 0 \Rightarrow \|T(x)\| = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha \cdot \|x\| = 0 \Rightarrow \|x\| = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0, \text{ since } \alpha > 0.$$

Since T is surjective by the hypothesis, it follows that T is a linear isomorphism.

It remains to prove that T^{-1} is continuous. Let $y \in W$. Then there is $x \in V$ s.t. $T(x) = y$, since T is surjective. It follows that

$$\|T^{-1}(y)\| = \|T^{-1}(T(x))\| = \|x\| \leq \frac{1}{\alpha} \cdot \|T(x)\| = \frac{1}{\alpha} \cdot \|y\|.$$

Applying again Theorem 6.23 to get that T^{-1} is continuous. \square

Corollary 6.36

Let V be a \mathbb{K} -vector space and $\|\cdot\|_1, \|\cdot\|_2$ be two norms on V .

Then

$\|\cdot\|_1$ and $\|\cdot\|_2$ are equivalent $\Leftrightarrow \Lambda_V : (V, \|\cdot\|_1) \rightarrow (V, \|\cdot\|_2)$ is an isomorphism.

Proof

Apply Definition 6.18 and Proposition 6.35.

Finite dimensional normed spaces

Definition 6.37

A finite dimensional normed space is a normed space $(V, \|\cdot\|)$ such that the vector space V is finite dimensional.

Example 6.38

$(\mathbb{K}^n, \|\cdot\|)$, where $\|\cdot\|$ is any norm on \mathbb{K}^n , is an n -dimensional normed space.

Recall (Analysis I, Tutorial 12.1) that a metric space (X, d) is called totally bounded if it has an ε -net for every $\varepsilon > 0$, that is if for any $\varepsilon > 0$ there exist a finite subset $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ of X s.t.

$$X = \bigcup_{i=1}^n U_\varepsilon(a_i).$$

Proposition 6.39

Let us consider the normed space $(\mathbb{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$ and $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq \mathbb{K}^n$. Then

- (i) A is bounded $\Leftrightarrow A$ is totally bounded.
 (ii) A is compact $\Leftrightarrow A$ is closed and bounded.

Proof

In the tutorial.

Corollary 6.40

For any $x \in \mathbb{K}^n$ and $r > 0$, the sphere $S_r(x) = \{y \in \mathbb{K}^n : \|y-x\|_\infty = r\}$ and the closed ball $B_r(x) = \{y \in \mathbb{K}^n : \|y-x\|_\infty \leq r\}$ are compact in $(\mathbb{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$.

Proof

Since obviously $S_r(x)$ and $B_r(x)$ are bounded, it remains to prove that they are closed in $(\mathbb{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$. We have that $B_r(x)$ is closed, by Prop. 6.18(v).

Let $(y_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence in $S_r(x)$ and $y = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n$. Then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (y_n - x) = y - x$ and $\|y_n - x\| = r$. By Lemma 6.12 (iv), we get that $\|y - x\| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - x\| = r$. Thus, $y \in S_r(x)$. Hence, $S_r(x)$ is closed. □

Proposition 6.41

Let $(V, \|\cdot\|)$ be an n -dimensional normed space and b_1, \dots, b_n be a base of V . Then the function

$$T: \mathbb{K}^n \rightarrow V, \quad T(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i b_i \quad \text{for every } x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{K}^n$$

is an isomorphism between the normed spaces $(\mathbb{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$ and $(V, \|\cdot\|)$.

Proof

It is easy to see that T is a linear isomorphism. We shall prove that T is an isomorphism of normed spaces with the help of Proposition 6.34.

For every $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{K}^n$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|T(x)\| &= \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n x_i b_i \right\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i b_i\| = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i| \cdot \|b_i\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \|x\|_\infty \cdot \|b_i\| \\ &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \|b_i\| \right) \cdot \|x\|_\infty. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, there exists $\beta := \sum_{i=1}^n \|b_i\| > 0$ s.t.

$$(1) \quad \|T(x)\| \leq \beta \cdot \|x\|_\infty \quad \text{for every } x \in \mathbb{K}^n.$$

It follows that T is continuous and, furthermore, the function

$$f: \mathbb{K}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad f = T \circ \|\cdot\|$$

is also continuous, as a composition of continuous functions. Since the unit sphere $S_1(0) = \{x \in \mathbb{K}^n : \|x\|_\infty = 1\}$ is compact in $(\mathbb{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$, by the Theorem of the Minimum and Maximum 3.52, we get an $a \in S_1(0)$ s.t. $f(x) \geq f(a)$ for all $x \in S_1(0)$. That is,

$$(2) \quad \|T(x)\| \geq \|T(a)\| \quad \text{for all } x \in S_1(0).$$

Let $\alpha := \|T(a)\|$. Then $\alpha > 0$, since $\|a\|_\infty = 1$, so $a \neq 0$ and $T(a) \neq 0$.

On the other hand, for any $x \in \mathbb{K}^n$, $x \neq 0$ we get that $\left\| \frac{x}{\|x\|_\infty} \right\|_\infty = 1$, so $\frac{x}{\|x\|_\infty} \in S_1(0)$. By (2), $\left\| T\left(\frac{x}{\|x\|_\infty}\right) \right\| \geq \alpha$, which is equivalent with

$$(3) \quad \|T(x)\| \geq \alpha \|x\|_\infty$$

Obviously, (3) is true also for $x=0$.

From (1) and (3), it follows that T is an isomorphism of normed spaces. \square

Theorem 6.42

All n -dimensional normed spaces over \mathbb{K} are isomorphic.

Proof

By Proposition 6.41 and Remark 6.34.

\square

Theorem 6.43

All finite dimensional normed spaces are Banach spaces.

Proof

Let $(V, \|\cdot\|)$ be an n -dimensional normed space over \mathbb{K} . Then, by Proposition 6.41, $(V, \|\cdot\|)$ is isomorphic to $(\mathbb{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_2)$. By Theorem 6.16 (iv), $(\mathbb{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_2)$ is a Banach space. It is easy to see, using Proposition 6.34, that if we have two isomorphic normed spaces, one is a Banach space iff the other one is a Banach space. It follows that $(V, \|\cdot\|)$ is a Banach space. \square

Theorem 6.44

All norms on a finite dimensional vector space are equivalent. In particular, all norms on \mathbb{K}^n are equivalent.

Proof

Let $\|\cdot\|_1$ and $\|\cdot\|_2$ be two norms on an n -dimensional vector space V over \mathbb{K} . Let T be the function defined in Proposition 6.41 and T^{-1} be its inverse. Then $T: (V, \|\cdot\|_1) \rightarrow (\mathbb{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_2)$ is an isomorphism and $T^{-1}: (\mathbb{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_2) \rightarrow (V, \|\cdot\|_1)$ is also an isomorphism. It follows that $\Lambda_V = T^{-1} \circ T: (V, \|\cdot\|_1) \rightarrow (V, \|\cdot\|_2)$ is an isomorphism.

By Corollary 6.36, we get that $\|\cdot\|_1$ and $\|\cdot\|_2$ are equivalent. \square

Theorem 6.45 (Bolzano-Weierstrass)

Let $(V, \|\cdot\|)$ be a finite dimensional normed space and $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq V$.

Then

A is compact $\Leftrightarrow A$ is closed and bounded.

Proof

By Proposition 6.38 and Theorem 6.42

□

Proposition 6.46

Let V and W be normed spaces over \mathbb{K} . Assume that V is finite dimensional. Then any linear transformation $T: V \rightarrow W$ is continuous.

Proof

In the tutorial.

□