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and since  $A = A \cap \left( \bigcup_n \Omega_n \right) = \bigcup_n A \cap \Omega_n$

$$\mu(A) = \mu\left(\bigcup_n A \cap \Omega_n\right) \leq \sum_n \mu(A \cap \Omega_n) = 0.$$

So  $A$  is a null set and  $\|u\|_\infty \leq \|\phi\|_{(L^1)^*}$ .  $\square$

Claim:

$$\phi(h) = \int u h d\mu \quad \forall h \in L^1. \quad (***)$$

Indeed, choose  $g = T_n h$  in  $(***)$  and note that  $\chi_n T_n h \rightarrow h$  in  $L^1$ .

Claim:

$$\|\phi\|_{(L^1)^*} = \|u\|_\infty.$$

Indeed, by  $(***)$  one sees

$$|\phi(h)| \leq \|u\|_\infty \|h\|_1 \quad \forall h \in L^1$$

so  $\|\phi\|_{(L^1)^*} \leq \|u\|_\infty$ .  $\square$

**Remark 8.10.** *The space  $L^1$  is never reflexive, except in the trivial case where  $\Omega$  consists of a finite number of atoms. Then  $L^1$  is finite-dimensional! Indeed, assume that  $L^1$  is reflexive and consider two cases*

- (i)  $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists A_\varepsilon \subset \Omega$  measurable with  $0 < \mu(A_\varepsilon) < \varepsilon$ .
- (ii)  $\exists \varepsilon > 0$  such that  $\mu(A) \geq \varepsilon$  for every measurable set  $A \subset \Omega$  with  $\mu(A) > 0$ .

In case (i) there exists a decreasing sequence  $A_n$  of measurable sets such that

$$0 < \mu(A_n) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

(Choose first any sequence  $B_n$  such that

$$0 < \mu(B_n) < 2^{-n}$$

and set  $A_n := \bigcup_{k=n}^\infty B_k$ .)

Let  $\chi_n := \mathbf{1}_{A_n}$  and set

$$u = \frac{\chi_n}{\|\chi_n\|_1}.$$

Since  $\|u\|_1 = 1$  and since we assume that  $L^1$  is reflexive, Theorem 7.28 applies and gives us a subsequence (which we still denote by  $(u_n)_n$ ) and  $u \in L^1$  such that  $u_n \rightharpoonup u$  weakly in  $L^1$ , i.e.,

$$\int u_n \phi d\mu \rightarrow \int u \phi d\mu \quad \forall \phi \in L^\infty.$$

Moreover, for fixed  $j$  and  $n > j$  we have

$$\int_{A_j} u_n d\mu = \int u_n \chi_j d\mu = 1$$

so letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , we have

$$\int_{A_j} u d\mu = \int u \chi_j d\mu = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int u_n \chi_j d\mu = 1 \quad \forall j \in \mathbb{N}.$$

But, by dominated convergence, we have

$$\int u \chi_j d\mu \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } j \rightarrow \infty$$

which is a contradiction. So  $L^1$  is not reflexive.

In case (ii) the space  $\Omega$  is purely atomic and consists of a countable number of distinct atoms ( $a_n$ ), unless there are only finitely many atoms. In this case,  $L^1$  is isomorphic to  $l^1(\mathbb{N})$  and we need only to show that  $l^1$  is not reflexive. Consider the canonical basis

$$e_n = (0, \dots, 0, \underbrace{1}_{n\text{-th slot}}, 0, \dots).$$

Assuming that  $l^1$  is reflexive, there exists a subsequence  $(e_{n_k})$  and some  $x \in l^1$  such that  $e_{n_k} \rightharpoonup x$  in the weak topology  $\sigma(l^1, l^\infty)$ , i.e.

$$\underbrace{(\varphi, e_{n_k})}_{=\sum \varphi(j) e_{n_k}(j)} \rightarrow (\varphi, x) \quad \forall \varphi \in l^\infty.$$

Choosing  $\varphi = \varphi_j = (0, 0, \dots, 0, \underbrace{1}_{j\text{-th slot}}, 1, \dots)$  we get

$$(\varphi_j, x) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \underbrace{(\varphi_j, e_{n_k})}_{=1 \quad \forall k \geq j} = 1$$

but

$$(\varphi_j, x) = \sum_{n \geq j} x(n) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } j \rightarrow \infty,$$

since  $x \in l^1$ , a contradiction.

### (C) Study of $L^\infty$ .

This is more complicated and we will not give a full answer. We already know  $L^\infty = (L^1)^*$  by Theorem 8.9. Being a dual space,  $L^\infty$  has some nice properties, in particular

- The closed unit ball  $B_{L^\infty}$  is compact in the weak\* topology  $\sigma(L^\infty, L^1)$  by Theorem 7.2.

- If  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is measurable and  $(f_n)_n$  is a bounded sequence in  $L^\infty(\Omega)$ , there exists a subsequence  $(f_{n_k})_k$  and some  $f \in L^\infty$  such that  $f_{n_k} \rightharpoonup^* f$  in the weak\* topology  $\sigma(L^\infty, L^1)$ . This is a consequence of Corollary 7.42 which applies, since  $L^\infty$  is the dual space of the separable space  $L^1$ .

However,  $L^\infty$  is not reflexive, except in the case where  $\Omega$  consists of a finite number of points, since otherwise  $L^1(\Omega)$  were reflexive (since a Banach space  $E$  is reflexive if and only if  $E^*$  is reflexive), and we know by the previous discussion that  $L^1$  is not reflexive (Remark 8.10)! Thus, the dual space  $(L^\infty)^*$  contains  $L^1$ , since  $L^\infty = (L^1)^*$ , and  $(L^\infty)^*$  is strictly bigger than  $L^1$ . Thus there are continuous linear functionals  $\phi$  on  $L^\infty$  which cannot be represented as

$$\phi(f) = \int u f d\mu \quad \forall f \in L^\infty \text{ and some } u \in L^1.$$

**Example.** Let  $\phi_0 : C_c(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (or  $\mathbb{C}$ ) be defined by

$$\phi_0(f) := f(0) \quad \forall f \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

This is a continuous linear functional on  $C_c(\mathbb{R}^d) \subset L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and by Hahn-Banach, we may extend  $\phi_0$  to a continuous linear functional  $\phi$  on  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and

$$\phi(f) = f(0) \quad \forall f \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

BUT there is no  $u \in L^1$  such that

$$\phi(f) = \int u f d\mu \quad \forall f \in L^\infty. \quad (*)$$

Assuming that such a function  $u \in L^1$  exists, we get from  $(*)$  that

$$\int u f dx = 0 \quad \forall f \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^d), f(0) = 0.$$

By some result from measure theory, this implies that  $u = 0$  a.e. on  $\mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{0\}$ , hence  $u = 0$  a.e. on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , but then

$$\phi(f) = \int u f d\mu = 0 \quad \forall f \in L^\infty,$$

a contradiction.

**Remark.** In fact, the dual space of  $L^\infty$  is the space of (complex valued) Radon measures.

**Theorem 8.11.**  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is not separable. (In fact,  $L^\infty(\Omega)$  is not separable, except if  $\Omega$  consists of a finite number of atoms).

**Lemma 8.12.** Let  $E$  be a Banach space. Assume that there exists a family  $(\mathcal{O}_i)_{i \in I} \subset E$  such that

(a)  $\forall i \in I, \mathcal{O}_i \neq \emptyset$  is open

(b)  $\mathcal{O}_i \cap \mathcal{O}_j = \emptyset$  if  $i \neq j$

(c)  $I$  is uncountable

Then  $E$  is not separable!

*Proof.* Suppose that  $E$  is separable and let  $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a dense countable set in  $E$ . For each  $i \in I$  the set  $\mathcal{O}_i \cap (u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \neq \emptyset$  so we can choose  $n(i)$  such that  $u_{n(i)} \in \mathcal{O}_i$ .

Note that the map  $I \ni i \mapsto n(i) \in \mathbb{N}$  is injective, since, if  $n(i) = n(j)$ , then

$$u_{n(i)} = u_{n(j)} \in \mathcal{O}_i \cap \mathcal{O}_j$$

so by (b) we must have  $i = j$ !

Therefore,  $I$  is countable, a contradiction!  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 8.11.* Let  $I = \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $\omega_i := B_1(i)$  (ball of radius one in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  centered at  $i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ).

Note:

$$\omega_i \triangle \omega_j = (\omega_i \setminus \omega_j) \cup (\omega_j \setminus \omega_i) \neq \emptyset \quad \text{if } i \neq j.$$

Let

$$\mathcal{O}_i := \{f \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d) \mid \|f - \mathbf{1}_{\omega_i}\|_\infty < \frac{1}{2}\}$$

and check that  $(\mathcal{O}_i)_{i \in I}$  obeys the assumptions of Lemma 8.12 (for this note that  $\|\mathbf{1}_{\omega_i} - \mathbf{1}_{\omega_j}\|_\infty = 1$  if  $i \neq j$ !) so by Lemma 8.12,  $L^\infty$  is not separable!  $\square$

	Reflexive	Separable	Dual space
$L^p, 1 < p < \infty$	YES	YES	$L^{p'}$
$L^1$	NO	YES	$L^\infty$
$L^\infty$	NO	NO	strictly bigger than $L^1$ !

## 9 Hilbert spaces

### 9.1 Some elementary properties

**Definition 9.1.** (a) Let  $H$  be a real vector space. A (real) **scalar product**  $\langle u, v \rangle$  on  $H$  is a bilinear form  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle: H \times H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that is linear in both variables such that  $\forall u, v \in H$

$$\langle u, v \rangle = \langle v, u \rangle \quad (\text{symmetry})$$

$$\langle u, u \rangle \geq 0 \quad (\text{positivity})$$

$$\langle u, u \rangle = 0 \Rightarrow u = 0$$

(b) If  $H$  is a complex vector space, a (complex) scalar product on  $H$  is a map  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle: H \times H \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  such that  $\forall u, w, x \in H, \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$ :

$$\langle x, \alpha u + \beta w \rangle = \alpha \langle x, u \rangle + \beta \langle x, w \rangle$$

$$\langle u, w \rangle = \overline{\langle w, u \rangle}$$

$$\langle u, u \rangle \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \langle u, u \rangle = 0 \Rightarrow u = 0$$



So  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is linear in the second argument and

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \alpha u + \beta w, x \rangle &= \overline{\langle x, \alpha u + \beta w \rangle} \\ &= \bar{\alpha} \overline{\langle x, u \rangle} + \bar{\beta} \overline{\langle x, w \rangle} \\ &= \bar{\alpha} \langle u, x \rangle + \bar{\beta} \langle w, x \rangle\end{aligned}$$

so it is “anti”-linear in the first component.

One always has the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality

$$|\langle u, v \rangle| \leq \langle u, u \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \langle v, v \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

*Proof.* W.l.o.g.,  $u, v \neq 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}0 &\leq \langle tu - sv, tu - sv \rangle = \bar{t} \langle u, tu - sv \rangle - \bar{s} \langle v, tu - sv \rangle \\ &= |t|^2 \langle u, u \rangle - \bar{t}s \langle u, v \rangle - \bar{s}t \underbrace{\langle v, u \rangle}_{=\overline{\langle u, v \rangle}} + |s|^2 \langle v, v \rangle \\ &= |t|^2 \langle u, u \rangle + |s|^2 \langle v, v \rangle - 2\operatorname{Re}(\bar{t}s \langle u, v \rangle) \\ &= |t|^2 \langle u, u \rangle + |s|^2 \langle v, v \rangle - 2\operatorname{Re}(\bar{t}s e^{i\theta} |\langle u, v \rangle|)\end{aligned}$$

where  $\theta$  is such that  $\langle u, v \rangle = |\langle u, v \rangle| e^{i\theta}$ .

Choose  $s = re^{-i\theta}$ ,  $r, t > 0$  to get

$$0 \leq t^2 \langle u, u \rangle + r^2 \langle v, v \rangle - 2 \underbrace{\operatorname{Re}(tr |\langle u, v \rangle|)}_{=tr |\langle u, v \rangle|}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\langle u, v \rangle| \leq \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{t}{r} \langle u, u \rangle + \frac{r}{t} \langle v, v \rangle - \langle tu - re^{-i\theta}v, tu - re^{-i\theta}v \rangle \right).$$

Now choose  $t, r$  such that  $\lambda = \frac{t}{r} = \frac{\langle v, v \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\langle u, u \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}}}$

$$\Rightarrow |\langle u, v \rangle| \leq \langle u, u \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \langle v, v \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\langle \dots, \dots \rangle}_{\geq 0}$$

so we have the inequality, and if

$$|\langle u, v \rangle| = \langle u, u \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \langle v, v \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

then we must have

$$\langle tu - re^{-i\theta}v, tu - re^{-i\theta}v \rangle = 0$$

for some choice of  $t, r > 0$ . So  $tu - re^{-i\theta}v = 0$ , hence  $u$  and  $v$  are linearly dependant!  $\square$

Because of the Cauchy-Schwarz,

$$|u| := \sqrt{\langle u, u \rangle} \quad (\text{the norm induced by } \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$$

is a norm (we write  $|u|$  instead of  $\|u\|$  if the norm comes from a scalar product). Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} |u+v|^2 &= \langle u+v, u+v \rangle = \langle u, u \rangle + 2\operatorname{Re} \langle u, v \rangle + \langle v, v \rangle \\ &\leq |u|^2 + 2|\langle u, v \rangle| + |v|^2 \\ &\leq |u|^2 + 2|u||v| + |v|^2 \\ &= (|u| + |v|)^2 \end{aligned}$$

so

$$|u+v| \leq |u| + |v|.$$

Recall the parallelogram law

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{a+b}{2} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{a-b}{2} \right|^2 &= \frac{1}{4} (\langle a+b, a+b \rangle + \langle a-b, a-b \rangle) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} (|a|^2 + \langle a, b \rangle + \langle b, a \rangle + |b|^2 \\ &\quad + |a|^2 - \langle a, b \rangle - \langle b, a \rangle + |b|^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (|a|^2 + |b|^2). \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 9.2.** A Hilbert space is a (real or complex) vector space equipped with a scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  such that  $H$  is complete w.r.t. the norm induced by  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ .

**Example.** •  $L^2(\Omega)$  with

$$\langle u, v \rangle := \int_{\Omega} \bar{u}v d\mu$$

is a Hilbert space.

•  $l^2(\mathbb{N})$  with

$$\langle x, y \rangle := \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \bar{x}_n y_n$$

is a Hilbert space.

**Proposition 9.3.** Any Hilbert space  $H$  is uniformly convex and thus reflexive.

*Proof.* Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $u, v \in H$ ,  $|u| \leq 1$ ,  $|v| \leq 1$  and  $|u-v| > \varepsilon$ . Then, by the parallelogram law

$$\left| \frac{u+v}{2} \right|^2 \leq 1 - \left| \frac{u-v}{2} \right|^2 < 1 - \frac{\varepsilon^2}{4}$$

so

$$\left| \frac{u+v}{2} \right| \leq 1 - \delta$$

with  $\delta = 1 - (1 - \frac{\varepsilon^2}{4})^{\frac{1}{2}} > 0$ . □

**Theorem 9.4** (Projection theorem). *Let  $H$  be a Hilbert space and  $K \subset H, K \neq \emptyset$ , a closed convex set. Then for every  $f \in H$  there exists a unique  $u \in K$  such that*

$$|f - u| = \inf_{v \in K} |f - v| =: \text{dist}(f, K). \quad (1)$$

Moreover,  $u$  is characterized by the property

$$u \in K \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Re} \langle f - u, v - u \rangle \leq 0 \quad \forall v \in K. \quad (2)$$

Notation: The above element  $u$  is called **projection** of  $f$  onto  $K$  and is denoted by

$$u =: P_K f.$$

*Proof.* Existence: 1st proof: The function

$$K \ni v \mapsto \varphi(v) := |f - v|$$

is convex, continuous and

$$\lim_{v \in K, |v| \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(v) = \infty.$$

So by Corollary 7.33 we know that  $\varphi$  attains its minimum on  $K$  since  $H$  is reflexive.

2nd proof: Now a direct argument: Let  $(v_n)_n \subset K$  be a minimizing sequence for (1), i.e.,  $v_n \in K$  and

$$d_n := |f - v_n| \rightarrow d := \inf_{v \in K} |f - v|.$$

Claim 1:  $v := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_n$  exists and  $v \in K$ .

Indeed, apply the parallelogram identity to  $a = f - v_n$  and  $b = f - v_m$  to see

$$\left| f - \frac{v_n + v_m}{2} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{v_n - v_m}{2} \right|^2 = \frac{1}{2}(|f - v_n|^2 + |f - v_m|^2) = \frac{1}{2}(d_n^2 + d_m^2).$$

Since  $K$  is convex,  $\frac{v_n + v_m}{2} \in K$ , so

$$\left| f - \frac{v_n + v_m}{2} \right|^2 \geq d^2$$

and hence

$$\left| \frac{v_n - v_m}{2} \right|^2 \leq \frac{1}{2}(d_n^2 + d_m^2) - d^2 \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n, m \rightarrow \infty$$

so

$$\lim_{n, m \rightarrow \infty} |v_n - v_m| = 0,$$

and  $(v_n)_n$  is Cauchy! Thus  $v = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_n$  exists and since  $K$  is closed,  $v \in K$ .  
Equivalence of (1) and (2): Assume  $u \in K$  satisfies (1) and let  $w \in K$ . Then

$$v := (1 - t)u + tw \in K \quad \forall t \in [0, 1]$$



so

$$\begin{aligned} |f - u| &\leq |f - v| = |(f - u) - t(w - u)| \\ \Rightarrow |f - u|^2 &\leq |f - u|^2 - 2t \operatorname{Re} \langle f - u, w - u \rangle + t^2 |w - u|^2 \end{aligned}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \operatorname{Re} \langle f - u, w - u \rangle &\leq t |w - u|^2 \quad \forall t \in (0, 1] \\ &\rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

so (2) holds.

On the other hand, if (2) holds, then for  $v \in K$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |u - f|^2 - |v - f|^2 &= \langle u - f, u - f \rangle - \langle v - f, v - f \rangle \\ &= |u|^2 - 2 \operatorname{Re} \langle f, u \rangle + |f|^2 - |v|^2 + 2 \operatorname{Re} \langle f, v \rangle - |f|^2 \\ &= |u|^2 - |v|^2 + 2 \operatorname{Re} \langle f, v - u \rangle \\ &= |u|^2 - |v|^2 + 2 \operatorname{Re} \langle f - u, v - u \rangle + 2 \operatorname{Re} \langle u, v - u \rangle \\ &= -|u|^2 - |v|^2 + 2 \operatorname{Re} \langle u, v \rangle + 2 \operatorname{Re} \langle f - u, v - u \rangle \\ &= -|u - v|^2 + \underbrace{2 \operatorname{Re} \langle f - u, v - u \rangle}_{\leq 0 \text{ by (2)}} \leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

so (1) holds.

Uniqueness: Assume that  $u_1, u_2 \in K$  satisfy (1). Then

$$\operatorname{Re} \langle f - u_1, v - u_1 \rangle \leq 0 \quad \forall v \in K \quad (3)$$

$$\operatorname{Re} \langle f - u_2, v - u_2 \rangle \leq 0 \quad \forall v \in K \quad (4)$$

Choose  $v = u_2$  in (3) and  $v = u_1$  in (4). Then

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Re} \langle f - u_1, u_2 - u_1 \rangle &\leq 0, \\ \operatorname{Re} \langle f - u_2, u_2 - u_1 \rangle &\geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow 0 &\geq \operatorname{Re} \langle f - u_1, u_2 - u_1 \rangle - \operatorname{Re} \langle f - u_2, u_2 - u_1 \rangle \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \langle -u_1, u_2 - u_1 \rangle + \operatorname{Re} \langle u_2, u_2 - u_1 \rangle \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \langle u_2 - u_1, u_2 - u_1 \rangle \\ &= |u_2 - u_1|^2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

so  $|u_2 - u_1| = 0$ , i.e.,  $u_2 = u_1$ . □

**Remark.** (1) It is not at all surprising to have a minimization problem related to a system of inequalities. Let  $F : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be differentiable (with left and right derivatives at 1 and 0, resp.) and let  $u \in [0, 1]$  be a point at which  $F$  achieves its minimum. Then we have three cases:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{either } u &\in (0, 1) \quad \text{and} \quad F'(u) = 0 \\ \text{or } u &= 0 \quad \text{and} \quad F'(0) \geq 0 \\ \text{or } u &= 1 \quad \text{and} \quad F'(1) \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

