

I.1 Elementary Properties and Examples

• \mathbb{F} will mean either \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C} .

Def If V is a vector space over \mathbb{F} , an inner product on V is a function $u: V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$

such that for all $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{F}$ and $x, y, z \in V$ the following are satisfied

- ① $u(\alpha x + \beta y, z) = \alpha u(x, z) + \beta u(y, z)$ (linearity)
- ② $u(x, y) = \overline{u(y, x)}$ (conjugate symmetry)
- ③ $u(x, x) > 0$ whenever $x \neq 0$. (positive definite)

V together with such a function u is called an inner product space.

Notation we always denote our inner products by $\langle x, y \rangle := u(x, y)$. In physics, you are more likely to see $\langle x | y \rangle$ with linearity in the second coordinate. We will also denote the associated "norm" by

$$\|x\| := \langle x, x \rangle^{1/2}$$

which we note is well-defined by ③ above.

• You have likely encountered such objects in a linear algebra course

Prop Let V be an inner product space.

- ① For $x, y, z \in V$ and $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{F}$, $\langle x, \alpha y + \beta z \rangle = \overline{\alpha} \langle x, y \rangle + \overline{\beta} \langle x, z \rangle$. (conjugate linearity)
- ② For $x \in V$, $\langle x, y \rangle = 0 \forall y \in V$ iff $x = 0$.
- ③ For $x \in V$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}$, $\|\alpha x\| = |\alpha| \|x\|$. In particular, $\|-x\| = \|x\|$.

Proof (1) This follows from ① and ② above.

(2) (\Rightarrow) In particular, $\langle x, x \rangle = 0$. By ③ we must have $x = 0$.

(\Leftarrow) Using ① we have $\forall y \in V$.

$$\langle 0, y \rangle = \langle 0 \cdot 0, y \rangle = 0 \langle 0, y \rangle = 0$$

(3) Using the def. of the norm and ① and ① above we have

$$\|\alpha x\|^2 = \langle \alpha x, \alpha x \rangle = \alpha \langle x, \alpha x \rangle = \alpha \overline{\alpha} \langle x, x \rangle = |\alpha|^2 \|x\|^2$$

Hence $\|\alpha x\| = |\alpha| \|x\|$. □

Ex Let (X, Ω, μ) be a measure space with positive measure μ . Then

$$L^2(X, \Omega, \mu) := \{ f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \text{ } \mu\text{-measurable} : \int_X |f|^2 d\mu < \infty \}$$

has inner product

$$\langle f, g \rangle := \int_X f \overline{g} d\mu.$$

Any subspace of $L^2(X, \Omega, \mu)$ is also an inner product space with the above inner product.

In particular, if $X = \mathbb{N}$ and μ is the counting measure then

$$L^2(X, \Omega, \mu) = l^2(\mathbb{N}) = \{ (a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \mathbb{C} : \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} |a_n|^2 < \infty \}$$

and

$$\langle (a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}, (b_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \rangle = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} a_n \bar{b}_n.$$

Moreover, if $X = \{1, 2, \dots, d\}$ with μ the counting measure $L^2(X, \Omega, \mu) \cong \mathbb{C}^d$ with the usual inner product. □

• Hölder's inequality from real analysis says

$$\left| \int_X f \bar{g} d\mu \right| \leq \left(\int_X |f|^2 d\mu \right)^{1/2} \left(\int_X |g|^2 d\mu \right)^{1/2}$$

This is a special case of the following theorem:

Thm (Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality)

Let V be an inner product space. Then for all $x, y \in V$

$$|\langle x, y \rangle| \leq \|x\| \|y\|$$

Proof For any $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ we have

$$0 \leq \langle x - \alpha y, x - \alpha y \rangle = \langle x, x \rangle - 2\operatorname{Re} \langle y, x \rangle \alpha + |\alpha|^2 \langle y, y \rangle$$

Now, suppose $\langle x, y \rangle = |\langle x, y \rangle| e^{i\theta}$. Consider the above with $\alpha = t e^{i\theta}$ where $t \in \mathbb{R}$:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \langle x, x \rangle - 2t |\langle x, y \rangle| + t^2 \langle y, y \rangle \\ &= \|y\|^2 t^2 - 2|\langle x, y \rangle| t + \|x\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

The right-side is a quadratic polynomial in t , thus it being non-negative implies it has at most one real root. Using the quadratic formula we can infer that the discriminant is non-positive:

$$4|\langle x, y \rangle|^2 - 4\|y\|^2 \|x\|^2 \leq 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad |\langle x, y \rangle| \leq \|x\| \|y\|. \quad \square$$

Cor Let V be an inner product space.

① $\|x+y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|$ for all $x, y \in V$. (Triangle Inequality)

② $\|x\| = 0$ iff $x = 0$.

Proof (1) we expand

$$\begin{aligned} \|x+y\|^2 &= \langle x+y, x+y \rangle = \|x\|^2 + \langle x, y \rangle + \langle y, x \rangle + \|y\|^2 \\ &= \|x\|^2 + 2\operatorname{Re} \langle x, y \rangle + \|y\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Now $\operatorname{Re} \langle x, y \rangle \leq |\langle x, y \rangle| \leq \|x\| \|y\|$, so

$$\|x+y\|^2 \leq \|x\|^2 + 2\|x\| \|y\| + \|y\|^2 = (\|x\| + \|y\|)^2$$

Taking the square-root of each side yields the desired inequality.

(2) (\Rightarrow) For all $y = x$ we have

$$|\langle x, y \rangle| \leq \|x\| \|y\| = 0$$

Thus $x = 0$ by a previous proposition.

$$(\Leftarrow) \|0\| = (\langle 0, 0 \rangle)^{1/2} = (0)^{1/2} = 0. \quad \square$$

Remark Using the above Corollary and the earlier Proposition, it follows that we can make V into a metric space with metric

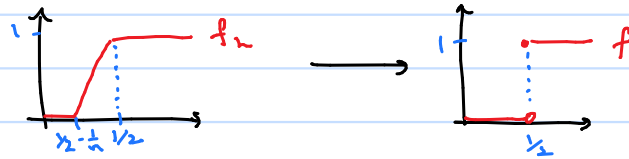
$$d(x, y) := \|x - y\|.$$

(Exercise: verify this is a metric). Consequently we are therefore in a position to do some analysis.

Def A Hilbert space is an inner product space that is complete with respect to the induced metric $d(x, y) = \|x - y\|$.

Ex (1) It follows from measure theory that $L^2(X, \Omega, \mu)$ is complete and therefore a Hilbert space. Consequently so are $l^2(\mathbb{N})$ and \mathbb{C}^d .

Suppose $(X, \Omega, \mu) = ([0, 1], \mathcal{M}, m)$ is the unit interval with Lebesgue measure m . Then its functions $C([0, 1], \mathbb{C}) \subseteq L^2([0, 1], \mathcal{M}, m)$ form a subspace and hence are inner product space. However, it is not complete and therefore not a Hilbert space. Indeed.



The sequence $(f_n) \in C([0, 1], \mathbb{C})$ converges to $f \notin C([0, 1], \mathbb{C})$ with respect to the metric $\|f_n - f\| = \left(\int_{\text{const}} |f_n - f|^2 dx \right)^{1/2}$.

On the other hand, any closed subspace of $L^2([0, 1], \mathcal{M}, m)$ will be a Hilbert space.

(2) For $A, B \in M_{m \times n}(F)$, define

$$\langle A, B \rangle := \text{Tr}(B^* A)$$

Then $M_{m \times n}(F)$ is a Hilbert space with this inner product. □

Even though $C([0, 1], \mathbb{C})$ is not complete with respect to the norm-metric, we can always take its completion, which in this case is $L^2([0, 1], m)$. Observe that this completion is a Hilbert space whose inner product restricts to the original inner product. It turns out this is always the case:

Propo Let V be an inner product space with inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_V$. Then its completion with respect to the norm-metric, \mathcal{H} , admits an inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ satisfying $\langle x, y \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \langle x, y \rangle_V \quad \forall x, y \in V$. That is, \mathcal{H} is a Hilbert space.

Proof Define $\langle (x_n)_n, (y_n)_n \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle x_n, y_n \rangle_V$ for Cauchy sequences. □

II. 2 Orthogonality

Def If \mathcal{H} is a Hilbert space, we say $f, g \in \mathcal{H}$ are orthogonal if $\langle f, g \rangle = 0$, in which case we write $f \perp g$. We say subsets $A, B \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ are orthogonal if $f \perp g$ for all $f \in A$ and $g \in B$, and we write $A \perp B$.

Thm (Pythagorean Theorem)

If f_1, \dots, f_n are pairwise orthogonal vectors in a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , then

$$\|f_1 + f_2 + \dots + f_n\|^2 = \|f_1\|^2 + \|f_2\|^2 + \dots + \|f_n\|^2$$

Proof Expand

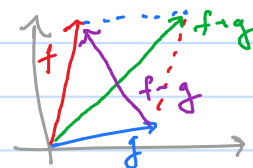
$$\|f_1 + f_2\|^2 = \|f_1\|^2 + 2\operatorname{Re} \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle + \|f_2\|^2 = \|f_1\|^2 + \|f_2\|^2$$

Then use induction. □

Prop (Parallelogram Law)

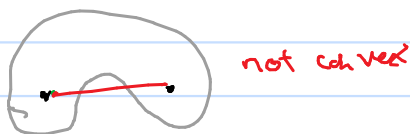
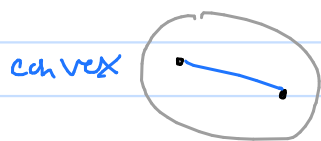
For any vectors f, g in a Hilbert space \mathcal{H}

$$\|f+g\|^2 + \|f-g\|^2 = 2(\|f\|^2 + \|g\|^2)$$



Proof Expand the left-side. □

Def Let V be a vector space over \mathbb{F} . We say a subset $A \subseteq V$ is convex if for any $x, y \in A$, $tx + (1-t)y \in A$ for all $t \in [0, 1]$. That is, the line segment from x to y is contained in A .



- Ex**
- 1 Subspaces are convex
 - 2 Singleton sets are convex
 - 3 Intersections of convex sets are convex
 - 4 If V is a normed product space, then for any $f \in V$ and $r > 0$ the open ball

$$B(f, r) := \{g \in V : \|f-g\| < r\}$$
 is convex, as is the closed ball

$$\bar{B}(f, r) := \{g \in V : \|f-g\| \leq r\}. \quad \square$$

Thm Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with $K \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ closed, convex, and nonempty. For all $f \in \mathcal{H}$ there exists a unique $k_0 \in K$ satisfying

$$\|f - k_0\| = \operatorname{dist}(f, K) = \inf_{k \in K} \|f - k\|.$$

Proof Let $d := \operatorname{dist}(f, K)$. Then there exists a sequence $(k_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq K$ st.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|f - k_n\| = d.$$

We claim this is a Cauchy sequence. Let $\varepsilon > 0$. By the parallelogram law we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|k_n - k_m\|^2 &= \|(f - k_n) - (f - k_m)\|^2 = 2(\|f - k_n\|^2 + \|f - k_m\|^2) - \|2f - (k_n + k_m)\|^2 \\ &= 2(\|f - k_n\|^2 + \|f - k_m\|^2) - 4\|f - \frac{k_n + k_m}{2}\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Now, $\frac{k_n + k_m}{2} \in K$ by virtue of convexity and so $\|f - \frac{k_n + k_m}{2}\|^2 \geq d^2$. Let $N \in \mathbb{N}$ be s.t. $\forall n \geq N$, $\|f - k_n\|^2 \leq d^2 + \varepsilon$. Then for $m, n \geq N$ combining the above estimates yields

$$\|k_n - k_m\|^2 \leq 4d^2 + 4\varepsilon - 4d^2 = 4\varepsilon.$$

Thus $(k_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a Cauchy sequence. Let $k_0 \in H$ be its limit, which exists since H is complete. Then $k_0 \in K$ since K is closed, and moreover

$$d \leq \|f - k_0\| \leq \|f - k_n\| + \|k_n - k_0\| \rightarrow d + 0.$$

Thus $\|f - k_0\| = d$.

To see that k_0 is unique, suppose $k'_0 \in K$ also satisfies $\|f - k'_0\| = d$. Then by convexity we have

$$d \leq \|f - \frac{k_0 + k'_0}{2}\| \leq \frac{1}{2}\|f - k_0\| + \frac{1}{2}\|f - k'_0\| = \frac{1}{2}d + \frac{1}{2}d = d.$$

So that $\|f - \frac{k_0 + k'_0}{2}\| = d$. The parallelogram law then implies

$$\begin{aligned} d^2 &= \left\| f - \frac{k_0 + k'_0}{2} \right\|^2 = \frac{1}{2}\|f - k_0\|^2 + \frac{1}{2}\|f - k'_0\|^2 - \left\| \frac{k_0 - k'_0}{2} \right\|^2 \\ &= d^2 - \left\| \frac{k_0 - k'_0}{2} \right\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Thus } \left\| \frac{k_0 - k'_0}{2} \right\|^2 = 0 \Rightarrow k_0 = k'_0. \quad \square$$

• If K is in particular a closed subspace, then we can say more:

Thm Let H be a Hilbert space and $K \subseteq H$ a closed subspace. For $f \in H$, then $f_0 \in K$ is the unique element of K satisfying

$$\|f - f_0\| = \text{dist}(f, K)$$

iff $f - f_0 \perp K$.

Proof (\Rightarrow) Let $g \in K$, then

$$\|f - (g + f_0)\| \geq \text{dist}(f, K) = \|f - f_0\|$$

Thus

$$\|f - f_0\|^2 \leq \|f - (g + f_0)\|^2 = \|(f - f_0) - g\|^2 = \|f - f_0\|^2 - 2\text{Re}\langle f - f_0, g \rangle + \|g\|^2$$

which implies

$$2\text{Re}\langle f - f_0, g \rangle \leq \|g\|^2$$

Suppose $\langle f - f_0, g \rangle = re^{i\theta}$, we must show $r = 0$. Replacing g above with $te^{i\theta}g$, $t > 0$:

$$2\text{Re}\langle f - f_0, te^{i\theta}g \rangle \leq t^2\|g\|^2$$

$$2\text{Re}(te^{-i\theta}re^{i\theta}) \leq$$

$$2 + 2r = t^2\|g\|^2 \Rightarrow 2r \leq t\|g\|^2.$$

Letting $t \rightarrow 0$ implies $r=0$. Since $g \in \mathcal{K}$ was arbitrary, we have $f-f_0 \perp \mathcal{K}$.

(\Leftarrow) For any $g \in \mathcal{K}$ we have:

$$\|f-g\|^2 = \|(f-f_0) + (f_0-g)\|^2 = \|f-f_0\|^2 + \|f_0-g\|^2 \geq \|f-f_0\|^2$$

Hence we must have $\|f-f_0\| = \text{dist}(f, \mathcal{K})$. □

Def For $A \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ define the orthogonal complement of A by:

$$A^\perp := \{f \in \mathcal{H} : f \perp A\}$$

- One easily checks that A^\perp is a closed subspace of \mathcal{H} (even if A is not).
- The two previous theorems tell us that given a closed subspace \mathcal{K} of \mathcal{H} , for every $f \in \mathcal{H}$ there is a unique $f_0 \in \mathcal{K}$ satisfying $f-f_0 \in \mathcal{K}^\perp$. Hence we can define a map

$$P: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{K} \\ f \mapsto f_0.$$

Prop Let \mathcal{H}, \mathcal{K} , and P be as above. Then:

① P is a linear transformation on \mathcal{H} .

② $\|Pf\| \leq \|f\|$ for all $f \in \mathcal{H}$.

③ $P^2 = P$.

④ $\text{ran } P = \mathcal{K}$ and $\text{ker } P = \mathcal{K}^\perp$.

Proof (1) Let $f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{H}$ and $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \mathbb{F}$. Then for $g \in \mathcal{K}$ we have

$$\langle \alpha_1 f_1 + \alpha_2 f_2 - (\alpha_1 P f_1 + \alpha_2 P f_2), g \rangle = \alpha_1 \langle f_1 - P f_1, g \rangle + \alpha_2 \langle f_2 - P f_2, g \rangle = 0$$

By the previous theorem we have $\alpha_1 P f_1 + \alpha_2 P f_2 = P(\alpha_1 f_1 + \alpha_2 f_2)$. That is, P is linear.

(2) By the Pythagorean theorem:

$$\|f\|^2 = \|f - Pf + Pf\|^2 = \|f - Pf\|^2 + \|Pf\|^2 \geq \|Pf\|^2$$

(3) If $g \in \mathcal{K}$, then $Pg = g$ since $\|g-g\|=0 = \text{dist}(g, \mathcal{K})$. Now for any $f \in \mathcal{H}$, $Pf \in \mathcal{K}$ and hence $P(Pf) = Pf$. That is, $P^2 = P$.

(4) Certainly $\text{ran } P \subseteq \mathcal{K}$, and the previous part implies equality.

Suppose $f \in \text{ker } P$. Then $f = f - 0 = f - Pf \in \mathcal{K}^\perp$. Thus $\text{ker } P \subseteq \mathcal{K}^\perp$. Conversely, if $f \in \mathcal{K}^\perp$. Then for all $g \in \mathcal{K}$

$$\|f-g\|^2 = \|f\|^2 + \|g\|^2 \geq \|f\|^2 = \|f-0\|^2$$

Thus $0 \in \mathcal{K}$ satisfies $\|f-0\| = \text{dist}(f, \mathcal{K})$ and therefore $Pf = 0$. □


Def If \mathcal{K} is a closed subspace of a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , the linear transformation $P: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$ defined by $Pf \in \mathcal{K}$ and $f - Pf \in \mathcal{K}^\perp$ is called the orthogonal projection of \mathcal{H} onto \mathcal{K} , and may be denoted $P_{\mathcal{K}} := P$.

Notation We write $\mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ when $\mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ is a closed subspace (to reflect that \mathcal{K} is also a Hilbert space w.r.t. the restriction of the inner product).

For $A \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ the span of A is denoted.

$$\text{span } A := \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i f_i : \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}, f_1, \dots, f_n \in A \right\}$$

We write $\overline{\text{span } A}$ for the closure of the above set (w.r.t. the norm).

 The textbook changes terminology at this point and assumes all subspaces are closed. Non-closed subspaces are called "linear manifolds". We will not be adopting this convention.

Exercise: If $\text{span } A$ is fin. dim'l, show $\text{span } A = \overline{\text{span } A}$.

Cor For $A \subseteq \mathcal{H}$, $(A^\perp)^\perp = \overline{\text{span } A}$. In particular, if $\mathcal{K} \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ then $(\mathcal{K}^\perp)^\perp = \mathcal{K}$.

Proof Homework 1. □

Cor Let $N \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ be a (not necessarily closed) subspace of \mathcal{H} . Then N is dense iff $N^\perp = \{0\}$.

Proof By the previous corollary.

$$* (N^\perp)^\perp = \overline{\text{span } N} = \bar{N}.$$

If N is dense, $\bar{N} = \mathcal{H}$ and thus

$$\langle f, g \rangle = 0 \quad \forall f \in N^\perp, g \in \mathcal{H}$$

In particular, $\langle f, f \rangle = 0$ for all $f \in N^\perp$ implying $N^\perp = \{0\}$.

If $N^\perp = \{0\}$, then $(N^\perp)^\perp = (\{0\})^\perp = \mathcal{H}$. So $(*)$ implies $\bar{N} = \mathcal{H}$. □

I.3 A Riesz Representation Theorem

Prop Let H be a Hilbert space and $L: H \rightarrow F$ a linear functional. TFAE

① L is uniformly continuous.

② L is continuous at 0.

③ L is continuous at some point

④ There exists a constant $C > 0$ such that $\frac{|L(f)|}{\|f\|} \leq C$ for all $f \in H \setminus \{0\}$

Proof (1) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3) and (4) \Rightarrow (2) are immediate.

(3) \Rightarrow (1): Suppose L is cts at $f_0 \in H$. Fix $f \in H$ and let $\varepsilon > 0$. Let $\delta > 0$ be such that $\|g - f_0\| < \delta$ implies $|L(g) - L(f_0)| < \varepsilon$. If $\|f - g\| < \delta$, then note that

$$\|(f - g + f_0) - f_0\| = \|f - g\| < \delta.$$

Thus by linearity

$$|L(f) - L(g)| = |L(f - g + f_0) - L(f_0)| < \varepsilon.$$

That is, L is cts at f . Since the same δ works for both f and f_0 , this implies L is uniformly cts.

(2) \Rightarrow (4): By cty at 0, $L^{-1}(\{\alpha \in F : |\alpha| < 1\})$ contains an open ball $B(0, \delta)$.

Thus $\|f\| < \delta$ implies $L(f) \in \{\alpha \in F : |\alpha| < 1\}$; that is, $|L(f)| < 1$. Now, for arbitrary $f \in H \setminus \{0\}$ and $0 < t < 1$ we have

$$\left\| \frac{t\delta f}{\|f\|} \right\| = t\delta < \delta.$$

Hence

$$1 > |L\left(\frac{t\delta f}{\|f\|}\right)| = \frac{t\delta}{\|f\|} |L(f)| \Rightarrow |L(f)| < \frac{1}{t\delta} \|f\|$$

letting $t \nearrow 1$ we see that we can choose $c = \frac{1}{\delta}$. □

Def A bounded linear functional on H is a linear functional $L: H \rightarrow F$ satisfying any (hence all) of the conditions in the above proposition. The norm of such a linear functional is the quantity

$$\|L\| := \sup_{f \in H \setminus \{0\}} \frac{|L(f)|}{\|f\|}$$

Prop For a bounded linear functional L

$$\|L\| = \inf \{c > 0 : |L(f)| \leq c\|f\| \ \forall f \in H\} = \sup_{\|f\|=1} |L(f)| = \sup_{\|f\|=1} |L(f)|$$

In particular, $|L(f)| \leq \|L\| \|f\|$ for all $f \in H$.

Proof Let $c > 0$ be s.t. $|L(f)| \leq c\|f\| \ \forall f \in H$. Then $\forall f \in H \setminus \{0\}$

$$c \geq \frac{|L(f)|}{\|f\|}.$$

Thus $c \geq \|L\|$. Taking the infimum over all such c yields

$$\inf \{c > 0 : |L(f)| \leq c \|f\| \quad \forall f \in H\} = \|L\| \geq \sup_{\|f\| \geq 1} |L(f)| \geq \sup_{\|f\|=1} |L(f)|$$

where the other inequalities are immediate. Hence it suffices to show

$$\sup_{\|f\|=1} |L(f)| \geq \inf \{c > 0 : |L(f)| \leq c \|f\| \quad \forall f \in H\}.$$

Let $c := \sup_{\|f\|=1} |L(f)|$. Then for $f \in H \setminus \{0\}$ we have

$$c \geq |L(\frac{f}{\|f\|})| = \frac{1}{\|f\|} |L(f)| \Rightarrow |L(f)| \leq c \|f\|.$$

Also of course have $|L(0)| \leq c \|0\|$. □

EX Fix $f_0 \in H$. Then $f \mapsto \langle f, f_0 \rangle$ defines a linear functional L . By the Cauchy Schwarz inequality, for all $f \in H \setminus \{0\}$ we have

$$\frac{|\langle f, f_0 \rangle|}{\|f\|} \leq \frac{\|f\| \cdot \|f_0\|}{\|f\|} = \|f_0\|.$$

Hence $\|L\| \leq \|f_0\|$. By computing $|L(f_0)| = \|f_0\|^2$, we see that $\|L\| = \|f_0\|$. □

The next theorem tells us that all bounded linear functionals are of the above form.

Thm (A Riesz Representation Theorem)

If $L: H \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$ is a bounded linear functional, then there exists a unique vector $f_0 \in H$ such that $L(f) = \langle f, f_0 \rangle$ for all $f \in H$. Moreover, $\|L\| = \|f_0\|$.

Proof Let $K := \ker L$, which is a closed subspace of H since L is linear and continuous. If $K = H$, then $L = 0$ and we take $f_0 = 0$. Otherwise, $K \subsetneq H$ and consequently $K^\perp \neq \{0\}$. Let $g \in K^\perp \setminus \{0\}$. Then $g \notin K$ (since $K \cap K^\perp = \{0\}$) and so $L(g) \neq 0$. Set $g_0 := \frac{1}{L(g)} g \in K^\perp$ so that $L(g_0) = 1$. Now, for any $f \in H$ we have

$$L(f - L(f)g_0) = L(f) - L(f)L(g_0) = 0$$

Hence $f - L(f)g_0 \in K$, and thus

$$0 = \langle f - L(f)g_0, g_0 \rangle = \langle f, g_0 \rangle - L(f) \langle g_0, g_0 \rangle$$

or

$$L(f) = \frac{\langle f, g_0 \rangle}{\langle g_0, g_0 \rangle} = \langle f, \frac{1}{\|g_0\|^2} g_0 \rangle$$

So we take $f_0 := \frac{1}{\|g_0\|^2} g_0$.

To see uniqueness, suppose f_0' also satisfies $L(f) = \langle f, f_0' \rangle \quad \forall f \in H$. Then

$$\langle f_0 - f_0', f \rangle = \langle f_0, f \rangle - \langle f_0', f \rangle = L(f) - L(f) = 0$$

Thus $f_0 - f_0' \perp H \Rightarrow f_0 - f_0' = 0$. The final statement about $\|L\|$ follows from the preceding example. □

I. 2 Orthogonal Sets of Vectors and Bases

Def A subset $A \subseteq H$ in a Hilbert space is said to be orthogonal if $\langle f, g \rangle = 0$ for all $f, g \in A$ s.t. $f \neq g$. We say it is orthonormal if we further require $\|f\| = 1$ for all $f \in A$. (Note that the former permits $0 \in A$, but the latter does not). An (orthonormal) basis is a maximal orthonormal set.

- Ex**
- ① \mathbb{R}^d has o.n. basis $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_d\}$ where $e_i = (0, \dots, 0, \overset{\text{in position } i}{1}, 0, \dots, 0)^T$
 - ② $\ell^2(\mathbb{N})$ has o.n. basis $\{e_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ where $e_n(m) = \delta_{n=m}$.
 - ③ $M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{C})$ has o.n. basis $\{E_{ij} : 1 \leq i, j \leq n\}$ where $(E_{ij})_{k,l} = \delta_{i=k} \delta_{j=l}$.
 - ④ $L^2([0, 1], \mathbb{C})$ has o.n. basis $\{e^{2\pi i n t} : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

Remark This is different from the notion a "Hamel basis", which is a maximal linear independent set. The main distinction, as we will see is that while Hamel bases allow one to write every vector as a finite linear combination of basis vectors, an orthonormal basis will allow infinite linear combinations. The distinction essentially comes down to Algebra vs. Analysis (i.e. lacking vs. having a notion of convergence).

Prop For an orthogonal set $A \subseteq H$, there exists an orthonormal basis containing A .

Proof Apply Zorn's Lemma to the poset $\{A \subseteq H : A \text{ orthonormal}\}$, which we order by inclusion. □

The following is proven exactly as in linear algebra.

Prop (Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization Process)
 Let H be a Hilbert space and $\{f_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \subseteq H$ a linearly independent subset. Then there exists an orthonormal set $\{e_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ s.t. for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$
 $\text{span}\{f_1, \dots, f_n\} = \text{span}\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$.

We will encounter not just infinite linear combinations, but possibly uncountable ones. We must therefore make sense of such sums.

Def Let H be a Hilbert space and let I be a (possibly uncountable) index set. For $\{f_i : i \in I\} \subseteq H$, we say the series $\sum_{i \in I} f_i$ converges if the net $(\sum_{i \in F} f_i)_{F \in \mathcal{F}}$ converges. Here \mathcal{F} is the collection of finite subsets $F \subseteq I$ ordered by inclusion.

⚠ For $\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{N}$, this notion of convergence is not equivalent to saying the partial sums $(\sum_{i=1}^N f_i)_{N \in \mathcal{N}}$ converge. Indeed, it requires convergence along all inclusions of finite sets and consequently implies the convergence of the partial sums (Exercise).
 For $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{F}$, this notion of convergence is equivalent to absolute convergence (see Exercises I.4.10-12)

Thm Let $\mathcal{E} \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ be an orthonormal set. For $f \in \mathcal{H}$,

$$\sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \langle f, e \rangle e$$

always converges and satisfies

$$\left\| \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \langle f, e \rangle e \right\|^2 = \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} |\langle f, e \rangle|^2 \leq \|f\|^2$$

Furthermore, $\langle f, e \rangle \neq 0$ for at most countably many $e \in \mathcal{E}$.

Proof First let $\{e_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \subseteq \mathcal{E}$ be an orthonormal subset, and define for each $N \in \mathbb{N}$

$$f_N := f - \sum_{n=1}^N \langle f, e_n \rangle e_n.$$

Then $f_N \perp e_n$ for $1 \leq n \leq N$. Thus the pythagorean theorem implies

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|^2 &= \|f_N + \sum_{n=1}^N \langle f, e_n \rangle e_n\|^2 \\ &= \|f_N\|^2 + \sum_{n=1}^N |\langle f, e_n \rangle|^2 \geq \sum_{n=1}^N |\langle f, e_n \rangle|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Letting $N \rightarrow \infty$ yields

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |\langle f, e_n \rangle|^2 \leq \|f\|^2 \quad (\text{Bessel's Inequality})$$

Now, returning to \mathcal{E} , let $\mathcal{E}_k := \{e \in \mathcal{E} : |\langle f, e \rangle| > \frac{1}{k}\}$. By $(*)$, \mathcal{E}_k can contain only finitely many elements. Hence

$$\bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{E}_k = \{e \in \mathcal{E} : |\langle f, e \rangle| > 0\} = \{e \in \mathcal{E} : \langle f, e \rangle \neq 0\}$$

is countable.

Next, let $\varepsilon > 0$ and enumerate $\{e \in \mathcal{E} : \langle f, e \rangle \neq 0\} = \{e_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$. From $(*)$, we

$$\text{can find } N_0 \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } \forall N \geq N_0 \quad \sum_{n=N+1}^{\infty} |\langle f, e_n \rangle|^2 < \varepsilon.$$

Let $F, G \subseteq \mathcal{E}$ be finite subsets containing $\{e_1, \dots, e_{N_0}\}$. Then

$$\left\| \sum_{e \in F} \langle f, e \rangle e - \sum_{e \in G} \langle f, e \rangle e \right\|^2 = \sum_{e \in F \Delta G} |\langle f, e \rangle|^2$$

Every $e \in F \Delta G$ satisfies either $\langle f, e \rangle = 0$ or $e = e_n$ for $n \geq N_0 + 1$. Thus the above is bounded by ε . If \mathcal{F} is the collection of finite subsets of \mathcal{E} , then the above implies $(\sum_{e \in F} \langle f, e \rangle e)_{F \in \mathcal{F}}$ is a Cauchy net. Since \mathcal{H} is complete it necessarily converges.

Finally, for any $F \in \mathcal{F}$ we have by $(*)$

$$\left\| \sum_{e \in F} \langle f, e \rangle e \right\|^2 = \sum_{e \in F} |\langle f, e \rangle|^2 \leq \|f\|^2.$$

Taking the limit $F \rightarrow \infty$ in \mathcal{F} yields the claimed inequality. □

Prop Let \mathcal{E} be an orthonormal set in \mathcal{H} . If $\mathcal{K} := \overline{\text{span } \mathcal{E}}$, then the orthogonal projection onto \mathcal{K} is given by:

$$P_{\mathcal{K}} f = \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \langle f, e \rangle e$$

Proof set Qf equal to the right-side above. Clearly $Qf \in \mathcal{K}$, and also for each $e \in \mathcal{E}$, $\langle Qf, e \rangle = \langle f, e \rangle$.

Thus $\langle f - Qf, e \rangle = 0$ and therefore

$$f - Qf \in (\text{span } \mathcal{E})^{\perp} = (\overline{\text{span } \mathcal{E}})^{\perp} = \mathcal{K}^{\perp}$$

• As you might expect, if \mathcal{E} is an orthonormal basis, then the inequality in the above theorem is an equality. In fact it is equivalent to this.

Thm Let $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathcal{H}$ be an orthonormal set. The following are equivalent:

- ① \mathcal{E} is an orthonormal basis
- ② For $f \in \mathcal{H}$, if $f \perp \mathcal{E}$ then $f = 0$.
- ③ $\overline{\text{span } \mathcal{E}} = \mathcal{H}$.
- ④ For $f \in \mathcal{H}$, $f = \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \langle f, e \rangle e$.
- ⑤ For $f, g \in \mathcal{H}$, $\langle f, g \rangle = \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \langle f, e \rangle \langle e, g \rangle$.
- ⑥ For $f \in \mathcal{H}$, $\|f\|^2 = \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} |\langle f, e \rangle|^2$. (Parseval's Identity)

Proof (1 \Rightarrow 2) Suppose $f \perp \mathcal{E}$. If $f \neq 0$, then $\mathcal{E} \cup \{f/\|f\|\}$ contradicts \mathcal{E} being a maximal orthonormal set.

(2 \Rightarrow 3) $\overline{\text{span } \mathcal{E}} = (\mathcal{E}^{\perp})^{\perp} = (\{0\})^{\perp} = \mathcal{H}$.

(3 \Rightarrow 4) Set $g := \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \langle f, e \rangle e$, which exists by the previous theorem.

Then $\forall e' \in \mathcal{E}$

$$\langle f - g, e' \rangle = \langle f, e' \rangle - \langle g, e' \rangle = \langle f, e' \rangle - \left\langle \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \langle f, e \rangle e, e' \right\rangle$$

$$\text{Cauchy-Schwarz} = \langle f, e' \rangle - \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \langle f, e \rangle \langle e, e' \rangle = \langle f, e' \rangle - \langle f, e' \rangle = 0.$$

Thus $f - g \in \mathcal{E}^{\perp}$. But

$$\mathcal{E}^{\perp} = ((\mathcal{E}^{\perp})^{\perp})^{\perp} = (\overline{\text{span } \mathcal{E}})^{\perp} = \mathcal{H}^{\perp} = \{0\}.$$

So $f - g = 0$.

(4 \Rightarrow 5) $\langle f, g \rangle = \left\langle \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \langle f, e \rangle e, g \right\rangle = \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \langle f, e \rangle \langle e, g \rangle$ C-S

(5 \Rightarrow 6) This follows from $\|f\|^2 = \langle f, f \rangle$.

(6 \Rightarrow 1) Suppose \mathcal{E} is not an orthonormal basis. Then $\exists f \perp \mathcal{E}$, $f \neq 0$. But ⑥ implies

$$\|f\|^2 = \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} |\langle f, e \rangle|^2 = \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} 0 = 0.$$

a contradiction. □

Prop If \mathcal{H} is a Hilbert space, then any two orthonormal bases have the same cardinality.

Proof Let \mathcal{E} and \mathcal{F} be two orthonormal bases for \mathcal{H} . Let $e = |\mathcal{E}|$ and $\eta = |\mathcal{F}|$.
 If either e or η is finite, we appeal to linear algebra. So suppose both are infinite.
 For $e \in \mathcal{E}$, define

$$\mathcal{F}_e := \{f \in \mathcal{F} : \langle e, f \rangle \neq 0\}$$

Then \mathcal{F}_e is countable. By ② in the previous theorem

$$\mathcal{F} = \bigcup_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \mathcal{F}_e.$$

Hence $\eta \leq e \cdot \aleph_0 = e$. Similarly $e \leq \eta$ and so $e = \eta$. □

Def The dimension of a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} is the cardinality of a basis, and is denoted by $\dim \mathcal{H}$.

is separable

• Recall that we say a metric space (X, d) is separable if it has a countable dense subset D .
 Note this implies that for any pairwise disjoint collection of open balls $\{B_i : i \in I\}$, I is countable. Indeed, $B_i \cap D \neq \emptyset \forall i \in I$, pick $x_i \in B_i \cap D$ for each $i \in I$. Then $x_i \neq x_j$ for $i \neq j$ so that $|\{x_i : i \in I\}| = |I|$. But $\{x_i : i \in I\} \subset D$, and so $|I| \leq \aleph_0$.

Prop If \mathcal{H} is an infinite dimensional Hilbert space, then \mathcal{H} is separable iff $\dim \mathcal{H} = \aleph_0$.

Proof (\Rightarrow) Let \mathcal{E} be an orthonormal basis for \mathcal{H} . Observe for $e_1, e_2 \in \mathcal{E}$

$$\|e_1 - e_2\|^2 = \|e_1\|^2 + \|e_2\|^2 = 2$$

Thus $\{B(e, \sqrt{2}/2) : e \in \mathcal{E}\}$ is a collection of pairwise disjoint collection of open balls.

So by the above, \mathcal{E} is countable.

(\Leftarrow) Let \mathcal{E} be an orthonormal basis for \mathcal{H} , which we enumerate as $\mathcal{E} = \{e_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$. Then

$$D = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i e_i : n \in \mathbb{N}, \alpha_i \in \mathbb{Q} \right\}$$

is countable (exercise) and dense by ④ in the above theorem. □

EX ① $\ell^2(\mathbb{N})$ has basis $e_n = (0, \dots, 0, \overset{n}{1}, 0, \dots)$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and so is separable

② In $L^2(\mathbb{R}, m)$, consider

$$D = \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n (a_j + i b_j) \mathbb{1}_{[a_j, b_j]} : n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } a_j, b_j \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ for } j=1, \dots, n \right\}.$$

This is a countable dense set (Exercise), and hence $\dim L^2(\mathbb{R}, m) = \aleph_0$.

Similarly $\dim L^2([0, 1], m) = \aleph_0$. □

I.5 Isomorphic Hilbert Spaces and the Fourier Transform for the Circle

We must decide on a notion of isomorphism between Hilbert spaces. It should be a map preserving the essential structure of a Hilbert space:

- vector space
- inner product
- complete metric space

Def If H and K are Hilbert spaces, an isomorphism between H and K is a surjective linear map $U: H \rightarrow K$ such that

$$\langle Uf, Ug \rangle = \langle f, g \rangle \quad \forall f, g \in H.$$

In this case we say H and K are isomorphic.

• Note that injectivity follows from $\|Uf - Ug\|^2 = \|U(f-g)\|^2 = \|f-g\|^2$. Also completeness is also preserved.

• Recall that a distance preserving map between metric spaces is called an isometry.

Prop A linear map $V: H \rightarrow K$ between Hilbert spaces is an isometry iff $\langle Vf, Vg \rangle = \langle f, g \rangle \quad \forall f, g \in H$.

Proof (\Rightarrow) Let $f, g \in H$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}$. Then

$$\|Vf - \alpha Vg\| = \|Vf - V(\alpha g)\| = \|f - \alpha g\|.$$

Squaring the left and right sides and expanding yields:

$$\|Vf\|^2 - 2\operatorname{Re} \bar{\alpha} \langle Vf, Vg \rangle + |\alpha|^2 \|Vg\|^2 = \|f\|^2 - 2\operatorname{Re} \bar{\alpha} \langle f, g \rangle + \|g\|^2.$$

Observe that (*) applied to $g=0$ yields $\|Vf\| = \|f\|$. Similarly $\|Vg\| = \|g\|$. So we obtain

$$\operatorname{Re} \bar{\alpha} \langle Vf, Vg \rangle = \operatorname{Re} \bar{\alpha} \langle f, g \rangle$$

Taking $\alpha=1$ (then $\alpha=i$ if $\mathbb{F}=\mathbb{C}$) yields $\langle Vf, Vg \rangle = \langle f, g \rangle$.

(\Leftarrow) This follows from

$$\|Vf - Vg\|^2 = \langle V(f-g), V(f-g) \rangle = \langle f-g, f-g \rangle = \|f-g\|^2. \quad \square$$

• Thus for linear $U: H \rightarrow K$, U is an isomorphism iff it is a surjective isometry.

EX Define $S: \ell^2(\mathbb{N}) \rightarrow \ell^2(\mathbb{N})$ by

$$S(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots) = (0, x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots).$$

Then clearly S preserves the inner product and so is an isometry by the Proposition. However, S is not surjective and so is not an isomorphism. \square

Thm Hilbert spaces H and K are isomorphic iff $\dim H = \dim K$.

Proof (\Rightarrow) Let $U: H \rightarrow K$ be an isomorphism. If \mathcal{E} is an orthonormal basis for H , then $\{Ue: e \in \mathcal{E}\}$ is an orthonormal basis for K . Indeed, $\langle Ue, Ue' \rangle = \langle e, e' \rangle$ implies it is orthonormal. For $f \in K$, $f \perp \{Ue: e \in \mathcal{E}\} \Rightarrow U^{-1}(f) \perp \mathcal{E} \Rightarrow U^{-1}(f) = 0 \Rightarrow f = 0$. Thus it is an orthonormal basis by a theorem from section I.4.

(\Leftarrow) Let \mathcal{E} and \mathcal{F} be bases for H and K , respectively. Since $\dim H = \dim K$, there is a bijection $\sigma: \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$. Define $U: H \rightarrow K$ as follows:

$$U(f) := \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \langle f, e \rangle \sigma(e). \quad f \in H$$

Note that this series converges because for finite $F \subseteq \mathcal{E}$

$$\left\| \sum_{e \in F} \langle f, e \rangle \sigma(e) \right\|^2 = \sum_{e \in F} |\langle f, e \rangle|^2 = \left\| \sum_{e \in F} \langle f, e \rangle e \right\|^2$$

and $\sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \langle f, e \rangle e = f$ converges. It is also easy to see that U is linear and for $g \in H$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f, g \rangle &= \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \langle f, e \rangle \langle e, g \rangle \\ &= \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \langle \langle f, e \rangle \sigma(e), \langle g, e \rangle \sigma(e) \rangle \\ &= \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \sum_{e' \in \mathcal{E}} \langle \langle f, e \rangle \sigma(e), \langle g, e' \rangle \sigma(e') \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$= \left\langle \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \langle f, e \rangle \sigma(e), \sum_{e' \in \mathcal{E}} \langle g, e' \rangle \sigma(e') \right\rangle = \langle Uf, Ug \rangle.$$

Thus U is an isometry. It remains to show it is surjective. Since U^{-1} sends Cauchy sequences to Cauchy sequences, $\text{ran } U$ is complete and therefore closed. So U being surjective is equivalent to $K = \text{ran } U = \overline{\text{ran } U} = (\text{ran } U^\perp)^\perp$. But $\mathcal{F} = \text{ran } U$ and so $\text{ran } U^\perp = \emptyset \Rightarrow (\text{ran } U^\perp)^\perp = K$. □

• we saw in section I.4 that for infinite dimensional Hilbert spaces, separability is equivalent to having countable dimension. We consequently obtain:

Cor All separable infinite dimensional Hilbert spaces are isomorphic.

Ex $L^2(\mathbb{R}, m) \cong L^2([0, 1], m) \cong \ell^2(\mathbb{N})$ □

Exercise Read the results on the Fourier transform of the circle.

I.6 Operations on Hilbert spaces

Direct Sums

- Let H and K be Hilbert spaces. Then

$$H \oplus K := \{ (h, k) : h \in H, k \in K \}$$

is a vector space with operations

$$\alpha (h_1, k_1) + (h_2, k_2) = (\alpha h_1 + h_2, \alpha k_1 + k_2) \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{F}, h_1, h_2 \in H, k_1, k_2 \in K$$

Moreover,

$$\langle (h_1, k_1), (h_2, k_2) \rangle := \langle h_1, h_2 \rangle + \langle k_1, k_2 \rangle$$

is an inner product which makes $H \oplus K$ into a Hilbert space (Exercise: check this).

- Observe that

$$\| (h, k) \|^2 = \langle (h, k), (h, k) \rangle = \left(\|h\|^2 + \|k\|^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

- If E and F are orthonormal bases for H and K , respectively, then

$$\{ (e, 0) : e \in E \} \cup \{ (0, f) : f \in F \}$$

is an orthonormal basis for $H \oplus K$. Consequently

$$\dim(H \oplus K) = \dim H + \dim K$$

- Iterating this construction allows us to consider

$$H_1 \oplus H_2 \oplus \dots \oplus H_n$$

but to pass to infinite direct sums we need a bit more care.

Prop Let $(H_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be Hilbert spaces and define

$$H := \left\{ (h_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} : h_n \in H_n \text{ and } \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|h_n\|^2 < \infty \right\}$$

For $(h_n), (g_n) \in H$ define

$$\langle (h_n), (g_n) \rangle := \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \langle h_n, g_n \rangle$$

Then this is an inner product whose induced norm is

$$\| (h_n) \|^2 = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|h_n\|^2.$$

Moreover H is a Hilbert space when equipped with this inner product.

Proof Observe that by the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} |\langle h_n, g_n \rangle| \leq \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|h_n\| \|g_n\| \leq \left(\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|h_n\|^2 \right)^{1/2} \left(\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|g_n\|^2 \right)^{1/2} < \infty$$

↑ C-S in $\ell^2(\mathbb{N})$

Thus the series defining the inner product converges absolutely and is therefore well-defined. Checking the remaining details is left as an exercise. \square

• If the proposition is proved

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_1 \oplus \mathcal{H}_2 \oplus \dots = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{H}_n$$

\mathbb{N} can be replaced with an arbitrary indexing set I :

$$\bigoplus_{i \in I} \mathcal{H}_i = \left\{ (h_i)_{i \in I} : h_i \in \mathcal{H}_i \text{ and } \sum_{i \in I} \|h_i\|^2 < \infty \right\}$$

converges as a net

• If $\mathcal{H}_i = \mathcal{H} \forall i \in I$ then we also write

$$\ell^2(I, \mathcal{H}) := \bigoplus_{i \in I} \mathcal{H}$$

In particular, $\ell^2(\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{C}) = \ell^2(\mathbb{N})$.

Tensor Products

• Let \mathcal{H} and \mathcal{K} be Hilbert spaces. Let $\mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{K}$ denote linear combinations of symbols $h \otimes k$, with $h \in \mathcal{H}$ and $k \in \mathcal{K}$, subject to the relations

$$(h_1 + h_2) \otimes k = h_1 \otimes k + h_2 \otimes k \quad h_1, h_2 \in \mathcal{H}, k \in \mathcal{K}$$

$$h \otimes (k_1 + k_2) = h \otimes k_1 + h \otimes k_2 \quad h \in \mathcal{H}, k_1, k_2 \in \mathcal{K}$$

$$(\alpha h) \otimes k = h \otimes (\alpha k) = \alpha (h \otimes k) \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{F}, h \in \mathcal{H}, k \in \mathcal{K}$$

Then

$$\langle h_1 \otimes k_1, h_2 \otimes k_2 \rangle := \langle h_1, h_2 \rangle \langle k_1, k_2 \rangle$$

is an inner product on $\mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{K}$. We denote its completion (a Hilbert space) by $\mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{K}$.

• If \mathcal{E} and \mathcal{F} are orthonormal bases for \mathcal{H} and \mathcal{K} , respectively, then

$$\{ e \otimes f : e \in \mathcal{E}, f \in \mathcal{F} \}$$

is an orthonormal basis for $\mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{K}$. Consequently,

$$\dim(\mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{K}) = \dim \mathcal{H} \cdot \dim \mathcal{K}$$

EX Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space over \mathbb{C} . Recall that $M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{C})$ has an orthonormal basis $\{ E_{ij} : 1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n \}$ where

$$E_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & & 0 \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & \ddots \\ 0 & & & & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then every element of $\mathcal{H} \otimes M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{C})$ is of the form

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n f_{ij} \otimes E_{ij} \quad f_{ij} \in \mathcal{H}$$

(Exercise: verify this.) We can visualize this by

$$f \otimes E_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & & 0 \\ & & & \\ & & f & \\ & & & \\ 0 & & & & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

so that

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n f_{ij} \otimes E_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} f_{11} & f_{12} & \dots & f_{1n} \\ f_{21} & f_{22} & \dots & f_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ f_{m1} & f_{m2} & \dots & f_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \in M_{m \times n}(\mathcal{H})$$

Exercise: Check that this respects the inner product. □

- A fact that physicists often lament is that not all elements of $H \otimes K$ are "elementary" tensor products: $k \otimes k$. However, in the context of the above example this would be like only considering matrices with a single non-zero entry.

Exercise Prove that

$$U: \ell^2(\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{H}) \rightarrow \ell^2(\mathbb{N}) \otimes H$$
$$(h_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mapsto \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} e_n \otimes h_n$$

is an isomorphism.

Conjugate Hilbert Space

- Given a Hilbert space H , let \bar{H} be the set consisting of symbols \bar{f} for $f \in H$. We make this into a vector space via

$$\alpha \bar{f} + \bar{g} := \overline{\alpha f + g} \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{F}, f, g \in H$$

It is a Hilbert space with inner product

$$\langle \bar{f}, \bar{g} \rangle := \langle g, f \rangle$$

Exercise For each $\bar{f} \in \bar{H}$, define a map $L_{\bar{f}}: H \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$ by

$$L_{\bar{f}}(g) = \langle g, f \rangle.$$

Show that $\bar{f} \mapsto L_{\bar{f}}$ is a bijective, bounded, linear transformation