

1 Structures on Euclidean Space

Euclidean space is the set of ordered n -tuples of real numbers,

$${}^n = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid x_i \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

In this section we shall examine various “structures” on n :

- vector space
- metric space
- normed space (Banach space)
- inner product space (Hilbert space)

1.1 Vector Spaces

Definition 1 A vector space over a field is a set V equipped with two operations:

Vector Addition $\forall v, w \in V, \exists v + w \in V$; commutative, associative, identity element (0), and inverses exist ($v + (-v) = 0$).

Scalar Multiplication $\forall a \in \mathbb{R}, v \in V, \exists a \cdot v \in V$; associative and distributive.

Example: Euclidean space becomes a vector space by defining addition and scalar multiplication by

$$\begin{aligned}x + y &= (x_1 + y_1, \dots, x_n + y_n) \\ax &= (ax_1, \dots, ax_n)\end{aligned}$$

for $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n), y = (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in {}^n$ and $a \in \mathbb{R}$.

A standard *basis* for n is $e_1 = (1, 0, \dots, 0), e_2 = (0, 1, 0, \dots, 0), \dots, e_n = (0, \dots, 0, 1)$. Thus $x \in {}^n$ can be written $x = x_1e_1 + \dots + x_n e_n$. The dimension of n is $\dim^n = n$, but a vector space can have infinite dimension.

Example: $V = C[a, b]$ with normal addition of functions and scalar multiplication is an infinite dimensional vector space over \mathbb{R} .

1.2 Metric Spaces

Definition 2 A metric space is a set M equipped with a distance function $d : M \times M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfying

1. $d(x, y) \geq 0$ with “=” iff $x = y$ (positivity)
2. $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$ (symmetry)
3. $d(x, z) \leq d(x, y) + d(y, z)$ (triangle inequality)

$\forall x, y, z \in M.$

Example: \mathbb{R}^n with Euclidean distance

$$d(x, y) = \sqrt{(x_1 - y_1)^2 + \dots + (x_n - y_n)^2}$$

Properties 1 and 2 are obvious. The proof of property 3 will be a consequence of a general theorem proved later.

Example: $C[a, b]$ with distance

$$d(f, g) = \int_a^b |f(x) - g(x)| dx$$

All three properties are easy to verify.

1.3 Normed Spaces

Definition 3 A normed space (or Banach space) is a vector space V over \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C} equipped with a norm $\|\cdot\| : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfying:

1. $\|x\| \geq 0$ with “=” iff $x = 0$ (positivity)
2. $\|ax\| = |a| \cdot \|x\|$ (homogeneity)
3. $\|x + y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|$ (triangle inequality)

$\forall x, y \in V, a \in \mathbb{R}.$

Example: \mathbb{R}^n is a normed space with the Euclidean norm

$$\|x\| = \sqrt{x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2}$$

This norm is related to the Euclidean distance by $d(x, y) = \|x - y\|$.

A norm measures *length*.

Remark: If V is a normed space, then it has a metric structure induced by the norm

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

- positivity: $d(x, y) = \|x - y\| \geq 0$
- homogeneity \Rightarrow symmetry:

$$\begin{aligned} d(x, y) &= \|x - y\| = \|(-1)(y - x)\| \\ &= |-1| \cdot \|y - x\| \\ &= \|y - x\| = d(y, x) \end{aligned}$$

- triangle inequality:

$$\begin{aligned} d(x, z) &= \|x - z\| = \|(x - y) + (y - z)\| \\ &\leq \|x - y\| + \|y - z\| \\ &= d(x, y) + d(y, z) \end{aligned}$$

1.3.1 Other norms on \mathbb{R}^n

- $\|x\|_1 = \sum_{j=1}^n |x_j|$ ($\|x - y\|_1$ is the “taxi-cab distance” between x and y)
- $\|x\|_p = \left(\sum_{j=1}^n |x_j|^p \right)^{1/p}$, $1 \leq p < \infty$
- $\|x\|_{\text{sup}} = \max_j \{|x_j|\}$

It is non-trivial to prove the triangle inequality for $\|x\|_p$ when $p \neq 1, 2$. The proof for $p = 2$ follows from the Cauchy-Schwartz Inequality below. The sup-norm can be considered the case “ $p = \infty$ ”:

$$\left(\sum_{j=1}^n |x_j|^p \right)^{1/p} = |x_k| \left(\frac{|x_1|^p}{|x_k|^p} + \cdots + 1 + \cdots + \frac{|x_n|^p}{|x_k|^p} \right)^{1/p}$$

If $|x_k| = \max_j |x_j| = \|x\|_{\text{sup}}$, then $|x_j|^p / |x_k|^p \rightarrow 0$ or 1 , so

$$|x_k| \left(\frac{|x_1|^p}{|x_k|^p} + \cdots + 1 + \cdots + \frac{|x_n|^p}{|x_k|^p} \right)^{1/p} \rightarrow |x_k| (1 + \cdots + 1)^0 = \|x\|_{\text{sup}}$$

In fact, the sup-norm is sometimes denoted $\|x\|_{\infty}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \|x\|_{\infty} &= 1 \quad \text{square} \\ \|x\|_2 &= 1 \quad \text{circle} \\ \|x\|_1 &= 1 \quad \text{diamond} \end{aligned}$$

Example: $C[a, b]$ is a vector space over \mathbb{R} ($\dim = \infty$). It is also a normed space with either

- $\|f\|_{\text{sup}} = \sup\{|f(x)| \mid x \in [a, b]\}$

- $\|f\|_p = \left(\int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p}, 1 \leq p < \infty$

The same remarks apply to $\|f\|_p$ as apply to $\|x\|_p$ above.

1.4 Inner Product Spaces

Definition 4 An inner product space (or Hilbert space) is a vector space V over \mathbb{R} with a function $\cdot, \cdot : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfying

1. $x \cdot x \geq 0$ with “=” iff $x = 0$ (positive definite)
2. $x \cdot y = y \cdot x$ (symmetry)
3. $ax + by, z = ax, z + by, z$ (bilinear)

$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}, x, y, z \in V$.

Example: An inner product on \mathbb{R}^n can be defined by

$$x \cdot y = x_1 y_1 + \cdots + x_n y_n$$

This inner product is often written $x \cdot y$ and called the *dot product*. It is related to the angle θ between x and y by the formula

$$x \cdot y = |x| |y| \cos(\theta)$$

We can demonstrate this for $n = 2$ using the addition formulas for sine and cosine. If $x = (r \cos(\alpha), r \sin(\alpha))$ and $y = (R \cos(\beta), R \sin(\beta))$, where $r = |x|$ and $R = |y|$, then

$$\begin{aligned} x \cdot y &= rR(\cos(\alpha)\cos(\beta) + \sin(\alpha)\sin(\beta)) \\ &= rR\cos(\beta - \alpha) \\ &= |x| |y| \cos(\theta) \end{aligned}$$

In \mathbb{R}^n it is clear that the dot product is related to the Euclidean norm: $|x| = \sqrt{x \cdot x}$. This is a special case of a general fact: an inner product \cdot, \cdot always defines a norm by $\|x\| = \sqrt{x \cdot x}$. To prove this we need the following important theorem.

Theorem 1 (Cauchy-Schwartz Inequality) If V is a vector space over \mathbb{R} with inner product \cdot, \cdot , then

$$|x \cdot y| \leq \sqrt{x \cdot x} \sqrt{y \cdot y}$$

with “=” iff x and y are collinear (i.e., $x = cy$ or $y = cx$ for some $c \in \mathbb{R}$).

$x + y, x + y \geq 0$ and $x - y, x - y \geq 0$ so using bilinearity,

$$\begin{aligned} x, x + 2x, y + y, y \geq 0 &\Rightarrow -x, y \leq \frac{1}{2}(x, x + y, y) \\ x, x - 2x, y + y, y \geq 0 &\Rightarrow x, y \leq \frac{1}{2}(x, x + y, y) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$|x, y| \leq \frac{1}{2}(x, x + y, y) \quad (1)$$

Now write

$$\begin{aligned} x &= a \cdot u \quad \text{where } a = \sqrt{x, x}, \quad u = a^{-1} \cdot x \\ y &= b \cdot v \quad \text{where } b = \sqrt{y, y}, \quad v = b^{-1} \cdot y \end{aligned}$$

(We may assume $x \neq 0$ and $y \neq 0$ for otherwise the theorem is trivial.)

Note that $u, u = a^{-2}x, x = 1$ and $v, v = b^{-2}y, y = 1$. Using bilinearity and applying (1) to u and v , we get

$$\begin{aligned} |x, y| &= |au, bv| = ab|u, v| \\ &\leq ab \frac{1}{2}(u, u + v, v) = ab \frac{1}{2}(1 + 1) = ab \\ &= \sqrt{x, x} \sqrt{y, y} \end{aligned}$$

To prove the last assertion of the theorem, assume “=” holds. Then $|u, v| = 1$, where u and v are as above. If $u, v = 1$, then $u - v, u - v = u, u - 2u, v + v, v = 0$, while if $u, v = -1$, then $u + v, u + v = u, u + 2u, v + v, v = 0$. In either case we get $u = \pm v$ and hence $x = \pm ab^{-1}y$.

Corollary 2

$$\left| \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i \right| \leq \left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 \right)^{1/2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

Corollary 3

$$\left| \int_a^b f(x)g(x) dx \right| \leq \left(\int_a^b |f(x)|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} \left(\int_a^b |g(x)|^2 dx \right)^{1/2}$$

$f, g = \int_a^b f(x)g(x) dx$ is an inner product on $C[a, b]$.

Theorem 4 *If \cdot, \cdot is an inner product on V , then for $x \in V$*

$$\|x\| = \sqrt{x, x}$$

is a norm.

Positivity: $\|x\| = \sqrt{x, x} \geq 0$

Homogeneity: $\|ax\| = \sqrt{ax, ax} = \sqrt{a^2x, x} = |a| \cdot \|x\|$

Triangle inequality:

$$\begin{aligned}\|x + y\|^2 &= x + y, x + y = x, x + 2x, y + y, y \\ &= \|x\|^2 + 2x, y + \|y\|^2 \\ &\leq \|x\|^2 + 2\|x\| \|y\| + \|y\|^2 \quad [\text{Cauchy-Schwartz}] \\ &= (\|x\| + \|y\|)^2\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\|x + y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|$.

The triangle inequality for the usual Euclidean distance also follows this theorem.

1.5 Complex Case

Inner products and norms can be defined on vector spaces over \mathbb{C} , but definitions must be modified.

Definition 5 A hermitian inner product, $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, satisfies

1. $x, x \in \mathbb{C}$ and $x, x \geq 0$ with “=” iff $x = 0$.
2. $x, y = \overline{y, x}$
3. $ax + by, z = ax, z + by, z$ and $z, ax + by = \overline{az, x} + \overline{bz, y}$

$\forall x, y, z \in V, a, b \in \mathbb{C}$.

A norm can be defined by $\|x\| = \sqrt{x, x}$ which satisfies $\|ax\| = |a| \cdot \|x\|$ where $|a| = \sqrt{a \cdot \overline{a}}$. Moreover the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality holds, $|x, y| \leq \|x\| \cdot \|y\|$, which implies the triangle inequality for the norm. Proofs are omitted.