

Measure and Integration
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Lecture No-69
11.1 - Approximation

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S APPROXIMATION

$\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ open set equipped with Leb. meas. $L^p(\Omega)$ $1 \leq p < \infty$

$S = \{ \phi: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \phi \text{ simple vanishing outside a set of finite meas. } \}$

$1 \leq p < \infty$ ϕ simple then $\phi \in S \Leftrightarrow \phi \in L^p(\Omega)$


Lemma $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ open set. $1 \leq p < \infty$. Then S is dense in $L^p(\Omega)$.


Pf: $f \in L^p(\Omega)$ $1 \leq p < \infty$, $f \geq 0$. $\exists \phi_n \uparrow f$, $\phi_n \geq 0$, simple.

$\phi_n \leq f \Rightarrow \phi_n \in L^p(\Omega) \Rightarrow \phi_n \in S$.

$\| \phi_n - f \|^p \leq \int |\phi_n - f|^p \, d\mu \rightarrow 0$ as $\phi_n \uparrow f$ by monotone conv.

$\int_{\Omega} |\phi_n - f|^p \, d\mu \rightarrow 0$ i.e. $\phi_n \rightarrow f$ in $L^p(\Omega)$.





Now discuss approximation properties for L^p spaces. So, by this I mean identifying sets which are dense and also some separability properties of L^p spaces. So, we are dealing with $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ open set equipped with the Lebesgue measure so, this is the measure we are going to talk off and then I said the notation for this is $L^p(\Omega)$, $1 \leq p \leq \infty$.

So, we are going to define the set S as

$$S = \{ \phi: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \phi \text{ simple vanishing outside a set of finite measure } \}.$$

So, if $1 \leq p < \infty$, then ϕ simple, $\phi \in S$ if and only if $\phi \in L^p(\Omega)$.

Lemma: $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ open set, $1 \leq p < \infty$. Then S is dense in $L^p(\Omega)$.

proof: So, $f \in L^p(\Omega)$, $1 \leq p < \infty$, $f \geq 0$, $\exists \phi_n \uparrow f$, $\phi_n \geq 0$, simple and

$$\phi_n \geq f \Rightarrow \phi_n \in L^p(\Omega) \Rightarrow \phi_n \in S.$$

Now, $|\phi_n - f|^p \leq 2^p |f|^p$ and this is integrable, then $|\phi_n - f|^p \rightarrow 0$ pointwise. Therefore, by the dominated convergence theorem, we have

$$\int_X |\phi_n - f|^p dm_N \rightarrow 0, \text{ i. e., } \phi_n \rightarrow f \text{ in } L^p(\Omega).$$

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Pf: $f \in L^p(\Omega)$ $1 \leq p < \infty$, $f \geq 0$. $\exists \phi_n \uparrow f$, $\phi_n \geq 0$, simple.
 $\phi_n \leq f \Rightarrow \phi_n \in L^p(\Omega) \Rightarrow \phi_n \in S$
 $|\phi_n - f|^p \leq 2^p |f|^p$ int. $|\phi_n - f|^p \rightarrow 0$ a.e.
 DCT: $\int_X |\phi_n - f|^p dm_N \rightarrow 0$ i.e. $\phi_n \rightarrow f$ in $L^p(\Omega)$.
 $f \in L^p(\Omega)$ $f = f^+ - f^-$

 $f^+ \in L^p(\Omega)$, $\exists \{\phi_n\}, \{\psi_n\}$ in S s.t. $\phi_n \rightarrow f^+$, $\psi_n \rightarrow f^-$
 in $L^p(\Omega)$. Then $\phi_n - \psi_n \in S$ and $\phi_n - \psi_n \rightarrow f$ in $L^p(\Omega)$.

Now, if $f \in L^p(\Omega)$, you write $f = f^+ - f^-$, then $f^+, f^- \in L^p(\Omega)$, and they are non negative. Therefore, there exists a $\phi_n \in S$ and the sequence $\psi_n \in S$ such that $\phi_n \rightarrow f^+, \psi_n \rightarrow f^-$ in $L^p(\Omega)$. Then $\phi_n - \psi_n \in S$ and $\phi_n - \psi_n \rightarrow f$ in $L^p(\Omega)$.

So, this shows that S is dense in $L^p(\Omega)$.

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$f^{\pm} \in L^p(\Omega)$, so $\exists \{q_n\}, \{\varphi_n\}$ in S s.t. $q_n \rightarrow f^+$, $\varphi_n \rightarrow f^-$
 in $L^p(\Omega)$. Then $q_n - \varphi_n \in S$ and $q_n - \varphi_n \rightarrow f$ in $L^p(\Omega)$.

Lemma: $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ non-empty open set. $1 \leq p < \infty$. $f \in S$. Then f can be
 approximated by step fns. in $L^p(\Omega)$.

Pf: $E \subset \Omega$ set of fin. meas. Given $\epsilon > 0$ $\exists F \subset \Omega$, F a finite
 disjoint union of boxes s.t. $m_N(E \Delta F) < \epsilon^p$. χ_F is a step-fn.

$$\|\chi_E - \chi_F\|_p^p = m_N(E \Delta F) < \epsilon^p.$$

$$\|\chi_E - \chi_F\|_p < \epsilon,$$

Lemma: $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ non-empty open set now, of course, $f \in S$. Then then f can be approximated by step functions in $L^p(\Omega)$.

So, what is the step function, step function is a simple function where the chi of E i, E i's are all boxes.

proof. So, E in Ω set of finite measure then we have seen given epsilon positive there exists $F \subset \Omega$, finite disjoint union of boxes such that $m_N(E \Delta F) < \epsilon^p$.

Now, $\|\chi_E - \chi_F\|_p^p = m_N(E \Delta F) < \epsilon^p \Rightarrow \|\chi_E - \chi_F\|_p < \epsilon$.

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disjoint union of boxes s.t. $m_n(E \Delta F) < \epsilon^p$. χ_F is a step-fn.
 $\| \chi_E - \chi_F \|_p = m_n(E \Delta F)^{1/p} < \epsilon$.
 $\| \chi_E - \chi_F \|_p < \epsilon$,
 $f = \sum_{j=1}^k \alpha_j \chi_{E_j}$ $\alpha_j \in \mathbb{R}, \neq 0, \{E_j\}$ mutually disjoint of finite meas.
 $\forall 1 \leq j \leq k \exists F_j$ finite disjoint union of boxes, $F_j \subset \Omega$



$\| \chi_{E_j} - \chi_{F_j} \|_p < \frac{\epsilon}{k|\alpha_j|}$.
 Set $\phi = \sum_{j=1}^k \alpha_j \chi_{F_j}$ step fn.
 $\| f - \phi \|_p < \epsilon$. (triangle ineq.)



So, if you have a function $f = \sum_{j=1}^k \alpha_j \chi_{E_j}, \alpha_j \in \mathbb{R}, \neq 0, \{E_j\}$ mutually disjoint or finite measure, then for every $1 \leq j \leq k$, there exists F_j finite disjoint union of boxes $F_j \subset \Omega$, and

$$\| \chi_{E_j} - \chi_{F_j} \|_p < \frac{\epsilon}{k|\alpha_j|}.$$

Now you set $\phi = \sum_{j=1}^k \alpha_j \chi_{F_j}$. So, this is step function and by triangle inequality

$$\| f - \phi \|_p < \epsilon.$$

So, this completes the proof so, every S can be every element of S can be approximated by a step function.

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$$\|x_{F_j} - x_{F_j}\|_p < \frac{\epsilon}{k|w_j|}$$
 Set $\varphi = \sum_{j=1}^k w_j x_{F_j}$ step fn.

$$\|f - \varphi\|_p < \epsilon \quad (\text{triangle inequality})$$

Thm. $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ nonempty open set, $1 \leq p < \infty$. $C_c(\Omega) =$ set of cont. fn. with compact support contained in Ω . Then $C_c(\Omega)$ is dense in $L^p(\Omega)$.

Pf: By preceding lemmas S and step fn. are dense in $L^p(\Omega)$.
 Sufficient to show every step fn. can be approximated in $L^p(\Omega)$ by fn. from $C_c(\Omega)$.
 $\epsilon > 0$. f step fn. in Ω . Then $\exists \varphi \in C_c(\Omega)$

Theorem. So, $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ non empty open set, $1 \leq p < \infty$, $C_c(\Omega) =$ set of continuous functions with compact support contained in Ω . Then $C_c(\Omega)$ is dense in $L^p(\Omega)$.

Proof: So, by preceding lemmas S and step functions are dense in $L^p(\Omega)$.

So, we can assume to show that, so sufficient to show every step function can be approximated in $L^p(\Omega)$ by functions from $C_c(\Omega)$, so, you are given a step function and so, let $\epsilon > 0$, Then we know given a step function we have already shown that there exists a continuous function with compact support. So, f step function in Ω then there exists φ in $C_c(\Omega)$ such that the following two properties are true.

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Suffices to show every step fn. can be approximated in $L^p(\Omega)$, by
 fns. from $C_c(\Omega)$.

$\epsilon > 0$... f step fn. in Ω . Then $\exists \phi \in C_c(\Omega)$

$$\| \phi \|_\infty \leq \| f \|_\infty$$

$$m_N(\{x \in \Omega : \phi(x) \neq f(x)\}) < \left(\frac{\epsilon}{2\|f\|_\infty}\right)^p.$$

$$\| \phi - f \|_p^p = \int_\Omega |\phi - f|^p dm_N \leq 2^p \|f\|_\infty^p m_N(E) < \epsilon^p$$

$$\Rightarrow \| \phi - f \|_p < \epsilon.$$


$$\| \phi \|_\infty \leq \| f \|_\infty, m_N(\{x \in \Omega : \phi(x) \neq f(x)\}) < \left(\frac{\epsilon}{2\|f\|_\infty}\right)^p,$$

$$\| \phi - f \|_p^p = \int_\Omega |\phi - f|^p dm_N \leq 2^p \|f\|_\infty^p m_N(E) < \epsilon^p \Rightarrow \| \phi - f \|_p < \epsilon.$$

That proves that every step function can be approximated by the C infinity function of compact support.

So, you take LP function approximate by a function in S, take the S function and approximate it by a step function, step function can be approximated by C infinity function with compact support and therefore, every element in LP 1 less than p less than infinity can be approximated by a continuous function with compact support.



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Rem. Above result not true for $p = \infty$. In fact closure of $C_c(\Omega)$ in L^∞ norm is $C_0(\Omega) =$ cont fns which vanish at infinity.
 i.e. given $\epsilon > 0 \exists K \text{ comp. } \subset \Omega$, s.t. $|f(x)| < \epsilon \forall x \in \Omega \setminus K$.

Prop. $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ non-empty open set. $1 \leq p < \infty$. Then $L^p(\Omega)$ is separable.

Pf: $\exists \{K_n\} \uparrow$ seq. of cpt. sets in Ω s.t. $K_n \uparrow \Omega$.

$f \in L^p(\Omega) \Rightarrow \exists \phi \in C_c(\Omega)$ approximating f .

Remark: Above result is not true for $p = \infty$. In fact closure of $C_c(\Omega)$ in L^∞ norm is C_0 of Ω equals continuous functions which vanish at infinity that means, given epsilon there exists F, K compact contained in Ω such that $|f(x)| < \epsilon$ for all $x \in \Omega \setminus K$. So, such functions are functions which vanish at infinity and that is again a continuous function and therefore, you cannot approximate L^∞ functions by means of this.

So, there are several interesting applications of this result. We will see them subsequently but to start with we have the following proposition.

Proposition: So, $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ non empty open set $1 \leq p < \infty$. Then $L^p(\Omega)$ is separable, separable means there exists a countable dense set.

proof: There exists K_n increasing sequence of compact sets in Ω such that $K_n \uparrow \Omega$ that means Ω is the union of all the K_n 's. And now $f \in L^p(\Omega)$ implies there exists $\phi \in C_c(\Omega)$ approximating f if you can make it as close to it as possible.

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$f \in L^p(\Omega) \Rightarrow \exists \phi \in C_c(\Omega)$ approximating f .
 $\text{supp}(\phi) = \text{compact} \subset K_n$ for some n .
 By Weierstrass theorem, we can approximate ϕ unif. by
 a seq. of polynomials. \Rightarrow unif. by a seq. of poly.
 with rational coeffs.
 K_n cpt. (\Rightarrow fin. meas.) $\Rightarrow \phi$ can be approx. by poly with
 rat. coeffs in L^p norm as well.
 $\{P_{m,n}\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ and poly in K_n with rat. coeffs
 $\{P_{m,n}\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ extended by zero outside K_n .

Then $\text{supp}(\phi)$ is compact and therefore they should be contained in K_n For some n because K_n 's are increasing compact sets and they ultimately exhaust all of it. Now, by Weierstrass approximation theorem, we can approximate ϕ uniformly by a sequence of polynomials and since the coefficients of the polynomials are real numbers. So, you can approximate it by rational numbers and therefore implies uniformly by a sequence of polynomials with rational coefficients.

But K_n is compact on K_n , yes, K_n is compact implies finite measure and therefore L^∞ is continuously embedded in any L^p this implies ϕ can be approximated by polynomials with rational coefficients in L^p norm, now set of all polynomials with rational coefficients is countable. So, let us say so, $P_{m,n}$ m equals 1 to infinity are all polynomials in K_n with rational coefficients so, $P_{m,n}$ m equals 1 to infinity extended by zero outside K_n .

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extended by zero outside K_n .


The $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} \tilde{P}_{m,n}$ is countable and dense in $L^p(\Omega)$.

Prop: $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ non-empty open set. $L^\infty(\Omega)$ is NOT separable.

Pr: $x \in \Omega$ $B(x; r) \subset \Omega$ $r > 0$.

$$\varphi_x = \chi_{B(x; r)}$$

$x \neq y \implies \|\varphi_x - \varphi_y\|_\infty = 1$




Then union n equals 1 to infinity union m equals 1 to infinity P_{mn} is countable and dense in L^p of Ω because given any f in L^p you can approximate it by C_c continuous function with compact support and each continuous function with compact support the support will be in some K_n and they can be approximated in the L^p norm by the P_{mn} s and therefore, φ can itself be approximated by P_{mn} tilde in all of Ω because outside Ω in both φ and P_{mn} are 0.

So, you have this and this shows that L^p is separable, countable dense set. So, Proposition Ω in \mathbb{R}^n non empty open set L^∞ of Ω is not separable. Proof, so, let x belong to Ω then there exists a ball center x , radius $r > 0$ which is contained in Ω so, $r > 0$ is positive this a ball, center x radius $r > 0$. So, let us take φ_x equals $\chi_{B(x; r)}$ so, this is a function φ_x .

Now, let $x \neq y$, then if you take $\varphi_x - \varphi_y$. So, these are differences of two characteristic functions on the intersection; they will be 0, outside it will be plus 1 or minus 1 or 0 depending where you are and therefore, this norm infinity is always equal to 1 if x is not equal to y .

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$\varphi_x = \chi_{B(x, r)}$
 $x \neq y \implies \|\varphi_x - \varphi_y\|_\infty = 1$
 $U_x = \{f \in L^\infty(\Omega) \mid \|f - \varphi_x\|_\infty < \frac{1}{4}\}$
 Then $U_x \cap U_y = \emptyset \quad \forall x \neq y$
 $\{U_x\}_{x \in \Omega}$ uncountable collection of disjoint open sets
 Given any dense set, if it is dense, must intersect every U_x .
 But every elt. can belong to at most one U_x .
 \implies No dense set can be dense.

So, now you take $U_x = \{f \in L^\infty(\Omega) : \|f - \varphi_x\|_\infty < \frac{1}{4}\}$. Then $U_x \cap U_y = \emptyset \forall x \neq y$.

Therefore $\{U_x\}_{x \in \Omega}$ is an uncountable set collection, uncountable collection of disjoint open sets. Now, so, given any countable set U_x must intersect every one of them or rather if it is dense must intersect every U_x but every element can belong to at most 1, U_x because it cannot belong to more than 1 because U_x intersection U_y is empty when x is not equal to y . This implies that, so, this is a contradiction. Because, you have only a countable number of 1 which will be, so there will be uncountable numbers which are not intersecting. So, this implies that no countable set can be dense.

And therefore, L^∞ is not separable, it is a very useful idea to prove (26:54) if you can show that you have an uncountable collection of open sets, which are all mutually disjoint then that such a space can never be countable. So we will continue with the applications next time.