

Measure Theory
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Lecture 55
Continuous Linear Functionals 1

So now we will look at Continuous Linear Functionals on L^p of μ . So recall that we did characterize continuous linear functionals on L^2 of μ . Since we had an inner product there, we got a characterization saying that any continuous linear functional on L^2 was given by an inner product.

We will do something very similar for L^p except that the continuous linear functionals on L^p will be characterized by functions in L^q , where q is the conjugate exponent of p , there are some restrictions like μ has to be sigma finite and p has to be strictly less than infinity, etc, which will be clear when we write down.

But before we get into the exact statement, we will look at continuous linear functionals and just prove some elementary general results because each time we have something like that, I do not want to keep proving it. So, let us just write down some results which will be proved and will be used again and again, let us start.

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(X, \mathcal{F}, μ) μ is a positive measure
 $1 \leq p < \infty$ q - conjugate exponent of p $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ $L^p(\mu)$
 fix $g \in L^q(\mu)$ - Define $T : L^p(\mu) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$
 $T(f) = \int_X fg d\mu$ $f \in L^p(\mu)$
 $|T(f)| \leq \int_X |f| |g| d\mu \leq \left(\int_X |f|^p d\mu \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \left(\int_X |g|^q d\mu \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}$ Hölder's inequality
 $= \|f\|_p \|g\|_q$
 also $f \rightarrow f + h \in L^p(\mu)$ $|T(f+h) - T(f)| = |T(h)| \leq \|h\|_p \|g\|_q$
 $\|T\| = \|g\|_q$

So, we have a space X, f, μ , we will assume that μ is a positive measure. Right now, we do not need to assume that it is sigma finite, it is only a positive measure. So, we look at $1 \leq p < \infty$ and q conjugate exponent of p . So, what was that? $1/p + 1/q = 1$ and we of course have the L^p space, $L^p(\mu)$ which is complete, we proved that it is a complete norm space.

So, there is an L^p norm and the L^p norm give metric and that is a complete metric space. Now, let us fix g in L^q . So, p is fixed and we are looking at g in L^q a fixed function. Define T so this is going to be our linear functional $L^p(\mu)$ to \mathbb{C} by $T(f)$, so if I take an f in L^p , I should tell you what is T of f is, this is equal to integral over $X, fg d\mu$. Well, we have to see that it is finite it is well defined and things like that.

So, for that, look at modulus of $T(f)$ just to see that it is finite, this is of course less than or equal to integral over $X, |f| |g| d\mu$, which of course is less than equal to by Holder's inequality, remember g is in L^q and f is in L^p . So, f is coming from L^p and they are conjugate exponents. So, Holder's inequality will tell me that, this is $\|f\|_p \|g\|_q$, this is just Holder's inequality.

And this is L^p norm, so let me write this as L^p norm of f and L^q norm of g . So T is well defined and it is a finite complex number for all f in L^p . Now, note that suppose I want to say T is

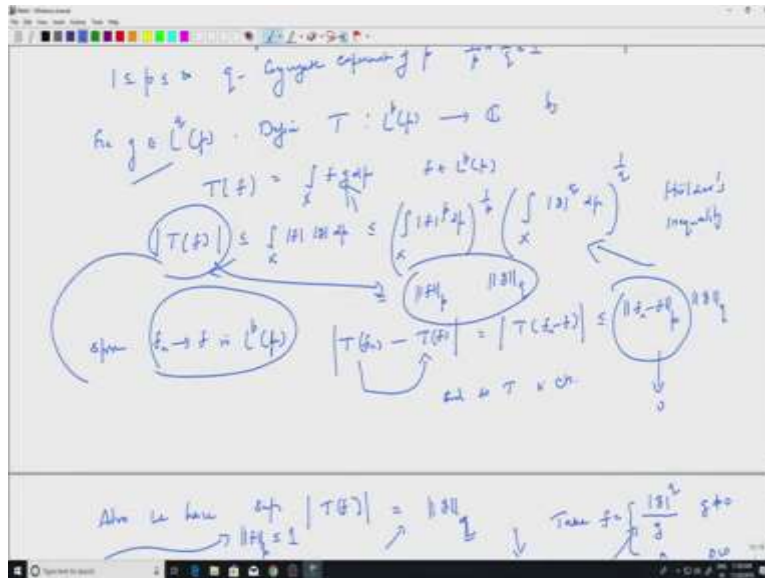
continuous, so suppose f_n converges f_n in L^p . Well, what happens to $T f_n - T f$, I want to say $T f_n$ converges to $T f$ in the complex plane, which is same as saying $T f_n - T f$ goes to 0.

So I will take the modulus, so this is equal to, T is linear so T of $f_n - f$ which, by this computation, so instead of f I have $f_n - f$ there. So I will have this is less than or equal to $f_n - f$ in L^p norm, that is the first term times the L^q norm of g , but f_n goes to f in L^p and so this will go to 0, which means that $T f_n$ converges to $T f$ and so T is continuous. So any inequality like this gives me that T is continuous, so not just that we have a little bit more, so let us complete that part.

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The handwritten notes on the whiteboard show the following steps:

- At the top left, it says "Also we know $\|Tf\| = \|f\|$ ".
- Below that, it defines the norm $\|f\|_p = \left(\int |f|^p dx \right)^{1/p}$.
- It then shows the norm of Tf : $\|Tf\|_q = \left(\int |Tf|^q dx \right)^{1/q}$.
- Using Hölder's inequality, it derives $\|Tf\|_q \leq \|f\|_p$.
- Finally, it concludes that $\|Tf_n - Tf\|_q \leq \|f_n - f\|_p$, which goes to 0 as $f_n \rightarrow f$ in L^p .



Also we have so it is continuous, and we have the extra equality, so that is supremum over L^p norm of f less than or equal to 1 so, that is the unit ball in L^p , and I am taking the supremum of T on the unit ball. This is actually equal to the L^q norm of g . So, T is defined by g , and I am saying this quantity on the left hand side that supremum of L^p norm of f less than or equal to 1 mod $T f$ is actually equal to L^q norm of g .

So, let us see why so, simply take f to be so maybe I will write it down here, this is easy, take f mod g to the q divided by g , to divide by g , g should be non-zero. So, you take wherever g not 0, you take that function and 0 otherwise. So, this is of course, a measurable function because g is measurable and so this would be a measurable function and I want to say it is in L^p .

So, claim is that f is in L^p , remember p and q are fixed, p and q are conjugate exponents. How do I say something is in L^p ? It is a measurable function so I look at the modulus of that and take the p th norm, p th power and see what happens to this. If this is finite, then f will be in L^p . Well, let us see what is the integral, so this is equal to mod f to the p , what is mod f to the p ?

So mod f is for all practical purposes mod f is mod g to the q minus 1, and 0 when $g = 0$ so that part we will not bother about because that will give 0 anyway. So, and when I take the power p , so mod f to the p would be the power of this to p which is p into q minus 1, so mod g to the p into q minus 1 $d\mu$. But what is p into q minus 1?

So, at this unit vector I will get the L^q norm of g and so, this would be equal because from here we know it is less than or equal to from the inequality here we know that so, let us maybe I should write it separately.

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Handwritten notes on a whiteboard showing the derivation of the operator norm of T . The notes include:

- $|T(f)| \leq ||f||_p ||g||_q$
- $\Rightarrow \sup_{||f||_p \leq 1} |T(f)| \leq ||g||_q$
- $T(f) = \int x f g d\mu$
- A boxed result: $\sup_{||f||_p \leq 1} |T(f)| = ||g||_q$
- Other notes include $f = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \leq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x > 0 \end{cases}$ and $T(f) = \int x f g d\mu = \int_{-\infty}^0 g d\mu$.

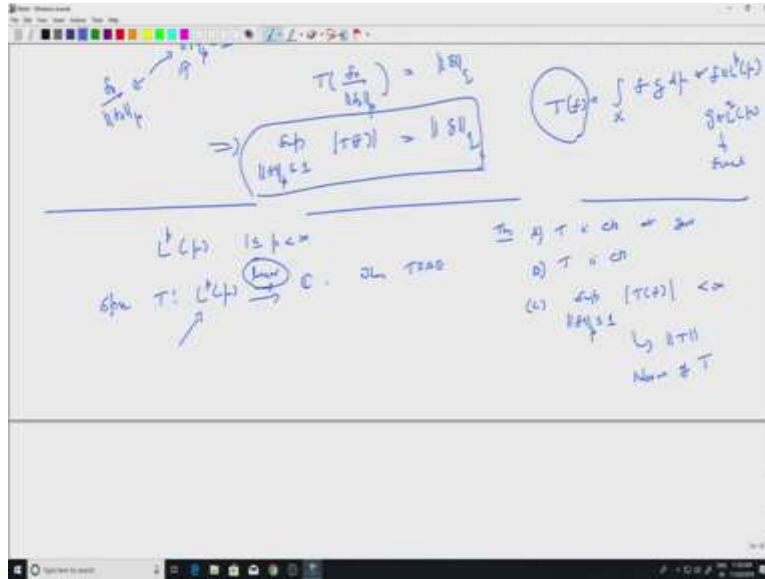
So, the first thing we proved was modulus of $T f$ is less than or equal to L^p norm of f into L^q normal g , this was the Holder's inequality. So this immediately implies that if I take the supremum of T over the unit ball, modulus of $T f$ that is ofcourse less than or equal to so these guys are less than or equal to 1, I will simply get this.

Now, taking f to be equal to $\text{mod } g$ to the q by g when g is not 0, and 0 otherwise we proved that for this particular f so let us call that f_{naught} , we proved that T of f_{naught} divided by the L^p normal f_{naught} . So, this would be an element in the unit ball, so f_{naught} divided by L^p norm of f_{naught} is in the unit ball. So, T at that point is actually equal to the L^q norm of T , that is what we just computed, we got this.

So, the supremum will be attained, so this tells that supremum of L^p norm of f less than or equal to 1 modulus of $T f$, this is equal to L^q norm of g . So, whenever T is defined to be $T f$ equal to integral over $x f g d\mu$. In case of L^2 we write it as an inner, you can put a g bar if you want, but it gives you the same, so this is for f in L^p and g in L^q .

So, this is for every f , and g is fixed in so g is fixed in L^q and you define this linear functionality f , then you have this, it is continuous and you have this equality. So, this is what we aim to prove, we will prove the converse if I start with a t which is continuous, I am going to get this. But before that we look at some general statements about continuous linear functions so, let us start that as separate.

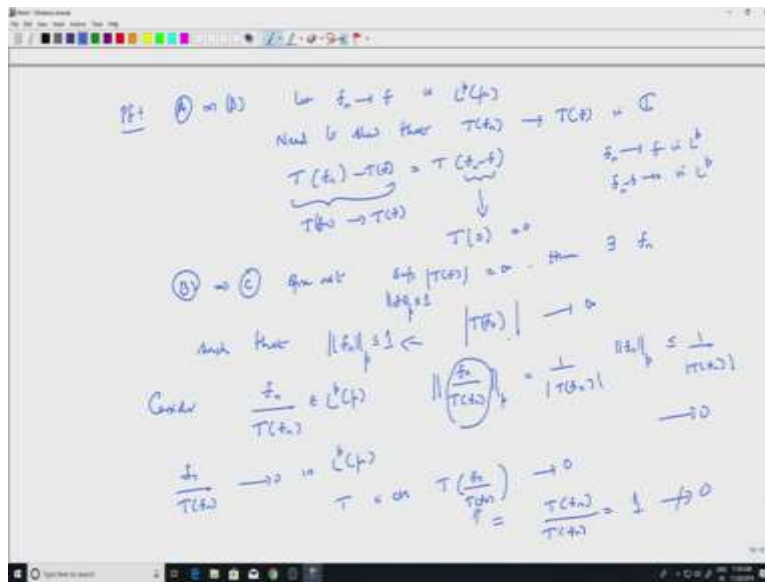
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So, I have $L^p \times L^q$ I can look at, well I will leave out the infinity for the time being, we will not characterize continuous linear functional on L^∞ . Suppose T is from $L^p \times L^q$ to \mathbb{C} linear then the following are equivalent, so I should write this as a theorem so then the following are equivalent, so write it as a theorem if you like, T is continuous at 0 so remember this is a vectors space so there is a 0 which is a 0 function or the equivalence class corresponding to 0 , T is continuous at 0 , T is assumed to be linear.

Then, T is continuous, T is a map from $L^p \times L^q$ to \mathbb{C} , it is not continuous at all points, not just at 0 . \mathbb{C} , supremum over the unit ball of T is finite. So, this we define it to be norm of T , norm of the linear functional T that is the notation, so norm of T is finite.

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So let us see quick proof of this, a very easy proof, but let us just go through it because this is something which I can use again and again without proving again and again.

So T is continuous at 0 so I want to prove that if it is continuous at 0, it is continuous everywhere. So let us see that, so take any, so let f_n converge to f , so let f_n converge to f , where? In L^p , okay I want to show $T f_n$ converges to $T f$. So, need to show that T of f_n converges to T of f , where? In the complex plane, right that is what you mean by T is continuous at f , at the the point f .

Well $T f_n$. So, this is where linearity helps $T f_n$ minus $T f$ equal to T of f_n minus f because T is linear and f_n minus f what happens to f_n minus f , f_n converges to f in L^p , so f_n minus f converges to 0 in L^p . So, this is a sequence which converges to 0, so this will converge to T at 0 by continuity at the point 0, T at 0 is 0 ofcourse, T is linear so T at 0 is 0. So, that is same as saying $T f_n$ converges to $T f$.

So, if T is continuous, this is not very surprising because it is linear continuity at 0 will imply continuity to all points. In general if you have a group homomorphism on a group with a topology if it is continuous at identity it will be continuous at all points. So, let us see how B implies C. So, remember C is given by this quantity norm T and I want it to be finite if it is continuous.

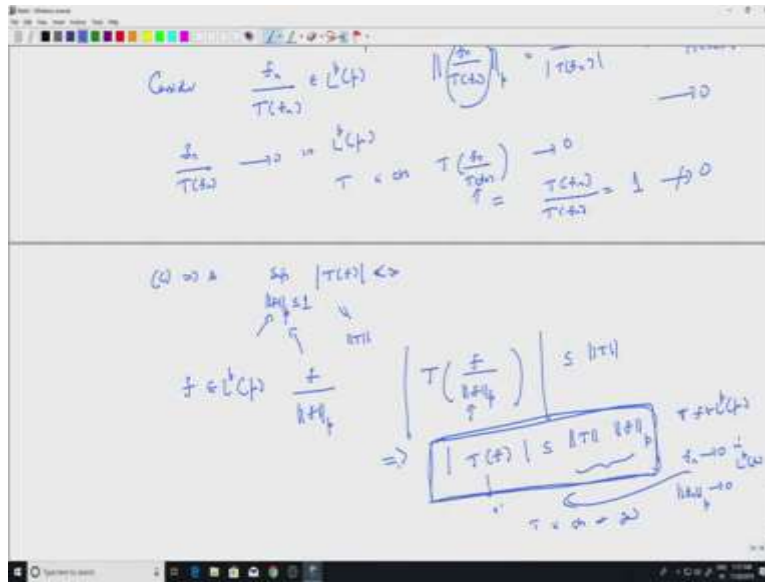
So, suppose not, so what does that mean? That means, the supremum over the unit ball of T is infinity that is what it means if it is not finite. So, hence so we choose a sequence which goes to infinity hence there exist f_n such that the L^p norms of f_n are less than or equal to 1. So that means they come from the unit ball, but $T f_n$ goes to infinity so modulus of $T f_n$ goes to infinity in the complex plane, so $T f_n$ are complex numbers.

So, consider f_n divided by $T f_n$, remember f_n is a complex number it is a scalar. What happens to this function? So these are all in L^p because f_n are in L^p , $T f_n$ is a number, you are multiply f_n by that number, so these are all in L^p . Let us look at the L^p norm of them. So, L^p norm of f_n divided by $T f_n$. So, what do you do? You take the p th power and integrate and take the 1 by p th root.

So $T f_n$ is a scalar so, that comes out, so that comes out as modulus of $T f_n$, α comes out as modulus of α out of the norm, right. And I have L^p norm of f_n , but L^p norms of f_n are less than or equal to 1. So this is less than or equal to 1 by modulus of $T f_n$, but modulus of $T f_n$ goes to infinity, so this will go to 0. So f_n by $T f_n$ is a sequence of functions going to 0, so f_n by $T f_n$ so these are functions going to 0 in L^p , okay.

But T is continuous I am trying to prove that the supremum over the unit ball is finite. T is continuous so $T f_n$ by $T f_n$ that is a sequence which goes to 0 should go to 0, T of 0 which is 0. But $T f_n$ by $T f_n$ is so what is this? This is T of f_n , this is a scalar that comes out. So, T of f_n and so it is 1, it cannot go to 0 that is a contradiction. So it does not so T is not continuous. So, we proved that A implies B and we prove B implies C and now we will prove C implies A that is trivial so, C implies A .

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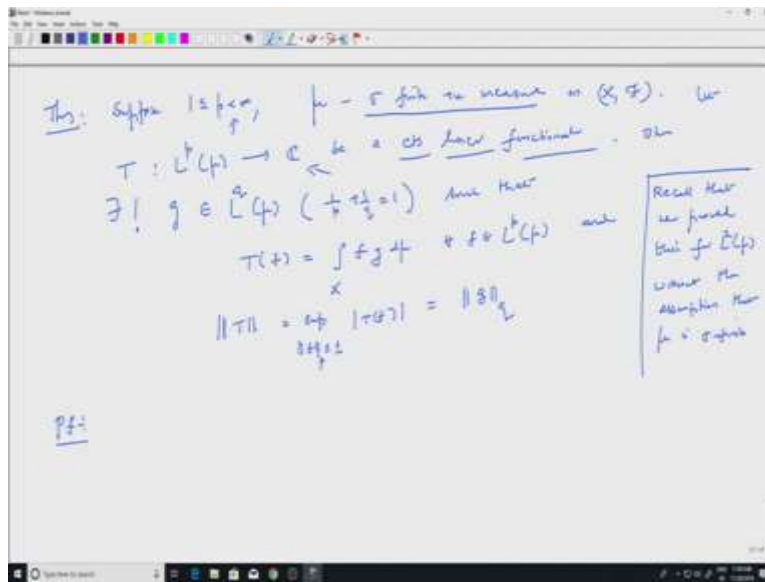
C implies A, so what is C? C says that supremum over L^p norm of f modulus of Tf is finite. This is what we called norm of T , so we will keep that notation. So, if I take any f in L^p , what do I know? Well, I know that f divided by L^p norm of f is in the unit ball. So that would be in the unit ball.

So, if I look at T of that, so that is just T acting on some vector in the unit ball modulus of that that I know is less than or equal to norm T because if I take supremum over all such things in the unit ball I am getting norm T which is finite. This is one such element so this is true. This of course implies because this is a scalar that comes out and goes to the right hand side, so I will get modulus of Tf .

So, I wrote f_n so let us write f there f is less than or equal to norm t times norm f_p , this is true for every f in L^p . And that is all is necessary for continuity, so now if I take f_n going to 0 in L^p , well, what will happen, then the L^p norm of f_n also go to 0 in the real numbers and so, the right hand side will go to 0 which means that this goes to 0 because of this, so T is continuous at 0.

So, whenever you have this particular inequality that is same as saying it is continuous. So these are general results for continuous linear functions. Now, our aim is to characterize continuous linear functionals.

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So we are going to write this as a theorem, so this is a slightly longer proof, but let us write down the complete theorem. Suppose, $1 < p < \infty$, μ is a sigma finite measure, μ is sigma finite positive measure on so you have X and \mathcal{F} . Let T be a continuous linear functional on $L^p \mu$.

So remember $p = \infty$ is not included $L^p \mu$ be a continuous linear functional, so when I say functional it takes values in the field complex plane or real numbers depending on the vector space. So it is continuous linear functional. Then there exists a unique g in L^q what is the q , q is the conjugate exponent. So, $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ such that T is given by that function g , so $T(f)$ is equal to integral over X of $f g d\mu$, this is true for every f in L^p .

And wherever you have this integral you know that another equality is true. So, what do you do? You look at norm T , this is simply supremum of over the unit ball of modulus of $T(f)$. So, whenever we have those integral we know that it is actually equal to the L^q norm of g . So, we are identifying the norm of the linear functional as the L^q norm of the function g which defines the linear functional.

So, I hope the statement is clear, so for L^2 we have done that. So, recall that we prove this for L^2 of μ , without the assumption that it is a sigma finite measure, for any $L^2 \mu$, μ is a positive measure, we have this characterization that it is given by an inner product so, instead of

writing g we wrote \bar{g} that is only difference, but we have proved this for $L^2 \mu$ without the assumption that μ is sigma finite.

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$\|T\| = \sup_{\|f\|=1} \|Tf\|$
 $\|Tf\| = \left(\int |Tf|^2 d\mu \right)^{1/2}$
 $\|Tf\| = \left(\int |f|^2 d\mu \right)^{1/2}$
 $\|T\| = 1$

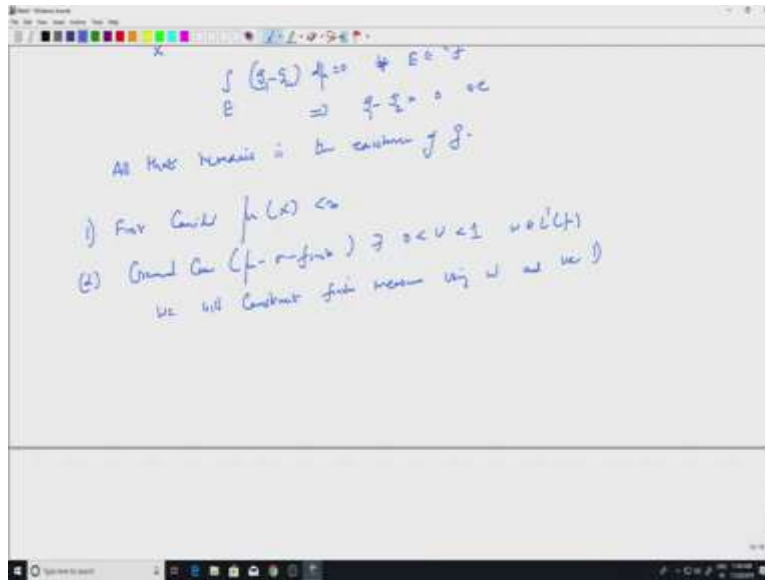
pf: Uniqueness. Suppose $\exists g, \bar{g} \in L^1(\mu)$ such that
 $\int f g d\mu = \int f \bar{g} d\mu$
 $\Rightarrow \int f(g - \bar{g}) d\mu = 0$
 Need to show that $g = \bar{g}$ a.e.

$\int f(g - \bar{g}) d\mu = 0 \quad \forall f \in L^1(\mu)$
 $\Rightarrow g - \bar{g} = 0$ a.e.

This: Suppose $1 \leq p < \infty$, $\mu - \sigma$ finite measure on (X, \mathcal{F}) . Let
 $T: L^p(\mu) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a linear functional. Then
 $\exists!$ $g \in L^q(\mu)$ ($\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$) such that
 $T(f) = \int f g d\mu$ for all $f \in L^p(\mu)$ and
 $\|T\| = \sup_{\|f\|=1} |Tf| = \|g\|_q$

pf: Uniqueness. Suppose $\exists g, \bar{g} \in L^q(\mu)$ such that
 $\int f g d\mu = \int f \bar{g} d\mu$
 $\Rightarrow \int f(g - \bar{g}) d\mu = 0$
 $\Rightarrow g = \bar{g}$ a.e.

Recall that we proved this for $L^1(\mu)$ without the assumption that μ is sigma finite.



So, we will continue with the proof, now proof, we have to get a g first and there is a statement about uniqueness. So let us get rid of that some of these are generally easy so we will get rid of that. So uniqueness, suppose there exist g_1, g_2 in L^q such that Tf is given by both g_1 , so let us write this in the other order.

So Tf is given by $\int f g_1 d\mu$, and ofcourse is given by g_2 as well so $\int f g_2 d\mu$, and ofcourse this will have to be equal for every f in L^p , g_1 and g_2 coming from L^q where $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$. So, what do you want, so, uniqueness means what? We want to show so we need to show that g_1 is equal to g_2 almost everywhere ofcourse $g_1 = g_2$ almost everywhere, so as elements of L^q they are same.

So because these 2 integrals are same, you subtract, you will get that integral over x f times g_1 minus g_2 , $d\mu$ is 0 for every f in L^p . So, you can take f to be indicator sets characteristic functions, so take f to be so you will get integral over E g_1 minus g_2 $d\mu$ is 0. So, now we know how to do this averages are 0, etc so this is true for every set in the sigma algebra. So this of course implies $g_1 - g_2 = 0$, almost there.

So the uniqueness part is easy, that is precisely what the same as $g_1 = g_2$. So uniqueness is that, so we do not know if g exists first of all, if there exists a g which defines T , it is uniqueness. So, we need to show that so all we need to show is all that remains is which is the main part of the proof all that remains is the existence of G . That means if I take a linear

continuous linear functional T , then there is a g so uniqueness we have already proved such that this is true.

Once this is true, I know this is also true that we did. So, all I have to do is to prove that there is a g which will give me $T f$ as the integral of g against μ so we will start with the proof. So first, so 2 steps, first consider μ of X to be finite, in the second step general case so remember μ sigma finite. So, if μ sigma finite, we know that there exists $0 < w < 1$, $w \in L^1$.

So we will construct a finite measure from this, finite measure using w , so this we have seen before and use μ , so that is what we will use. So, let us stop here so we have only stated the continuous linear functionals on L^p of μ are given by functions in L^q and the equality of the norm. So, L^q norm of g is same as the norm of the continuous linear function, which is the supremum of the modulus of $T f$ over the unit ball in L^p .

So, we have just stated and we have seen that uniqueness part as trivial. If you have 2 functions g_1 and g_2 defining the same linear functional, then the g_1 and g_2 will have to be equal almost everywhere. So, in the next session, we will try to complete the proof of the characterization. We will start with finite measures, prove it there and then use a trick so which we have seen before to prove it for sigma finite measures, so let us stop here.