

Generalities on Normed Vector Spaces

In this chapter, the field of scalars $\mathbb{K}$ denotes either $\mathbb{R}$ or $\mathbb{C}$, and the vector spaces will be defined over $\mathbb{K}$.

1.1 Norm on a Vector Space

Definition 1.1 *Let E be a vector space over $\mathbb{K}$. A norm on E is a function:*

$$N : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+ \tag{1.1}$$

$$x \mapsto N(x) \tag{1.2}$$

that satisfies the following properties:

(N1) *For all $x \in E$, we have: $N(x) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$.*

(N2) *For all $x \in E$ and all $\lambda \in \mathbb{K}$, we have: $N(\lambda x) = |\lambda|N(x)$.*

(N3) *For all $x, y \in E$, we have: $N(x + y) \leq N(x) + N(y)$.*

The norm N will be denoted by the symbol $\|\cdot\|$, and the pair $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ is called a normed space or normed vector space.

Definition 1.2 *Let E be a $\mathbb{K}$ -vector space. A **normed space** is a pair $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ where $\|\cdot\|$ is a norm on E .*

Example 1.1 1. *The absolute value is a norm on $\mathbb{R}$, and the modulus is a norm on $\mathbb{C}$.*

2. *On $\mathbb{R}^n$, the following fundamental norms can be defined:*

For all $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$, we have:

$$\|x\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|, \quad \|x\|_2 = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad \|x\|_\infty = \sup_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i|,$$

$$\|x\|_p = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \quad \text{for } p \geq 1.$$

The norm $\|\cdot\|_2$ is the Euclidean norm on $\mathbb{R}^n$.

3. Let $E = C([a, b], \mathbb{R})$ be the space of real continuous functions on $[a, b]$. For all $f \in E$, the following functions define norms on E :

- (a) $\|f\|_1 = \int_a^b |f(x)| dx,$
- (b) $\|f\|_2 = \left(\int_a^b |f(x)|^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}},$
- (c) $\|f\|_\infty = \max_{a \leq x \leq b} |f(x)|,$
- (d) $\|f\|_p = \left(\int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}.$

Here are some properties of the norm.

Proposition 1.1 1. Property (N3) above can be replaced by the following:

(N3') For all $x, y \in E$ and all $t \in [0, 1]$, we have:

$$\|tx + (1 - t)y\| \leq t\|x\| + (1 - t)\|y\|.$$

2. For all $x, y \in E$, we have:

$$|\|x\| - \|y\|| \leq \|x - y\|. \quad (1.3)$$

3. Inequality (N3) generalizes to n elements. For all $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in E$, we have:

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \right\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|.$$

From inequality (1.3), we get the following statement:

Corollary 1.1 The norm function $\|\cdot\| : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ is continuous on E , endowed with the topology induced by $\|\cdot\|$. It is even 1-Lipschitz continuous.

Remark 1.1 (Distance Associated with a Norm) Let $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ be a normed space. The following function:

$$\begin{aligned} f : E \times E &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ (x, y) &\mapsto d(x, y) = \|x - y\|, \end{aligned}$$

is called the distance associated with the norm $\|\cdot\|$. It satisfies the following properties:

- 1. For all $(x, y) \in E^2$: $d(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y$.
- 2. For all $(x, y) \in E^2$: $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$.
- 3. For all $(x, y, z) \in E^3$: $d(x, z) \leq d(x, y) + d(y, z)$.

The following result gathers some properties of d :

Proposition 1.2 A normed vector space $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ is a metric space where the distance d is defined by $d(x, y) = \|x - y\|$ for all $x, y \in E$, and we have:

- 1. $d(x + z, y + z) = d(x, y)$ for all $x, y, z \in E$ (i.e., d is translation invariant).
- 2. $d(\lambda x, \lambda y) = |\lambda|d(x, y)$ for all $x \in E$ and all $\lambda \in \mathbb{K}$.

Proof. Obvious. ■

1.2 Equivalence of Norms

Definition 1.3 Two norms $\|\cdot\|_1$ and $\|\cdot\|_2$ on a vector space E are said to be **equivalent** if there exist constants $\alpha, \beta > 0$ such that for all $x \in E$:

$$\alpha\|x\|_2 \leq \|x\|_1 \leq \beta\|x\|_2.$$

Remark 1.2 • Two norms on $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ are equivalent if and only if they define equivalent distances, or equivalently, if and only if they define the same topology on E .

- For two norms N_1 and N_2 to be equivalent on E , it is necessary and sufficient that:

$$\exists \alpha, \beta > 0, \forall x \in E: \quad \alpha \leq \frac{N_1(x)}{N_2(x)} \leq \beta \quad \vee \quad \alpha \leq \frac{N_2(x)}{N_1(x)} \leq \beta.$$

Example 1.2 1. The fundamental norms $\|\cdot\|_1$, $\|\cdot\|_2$, and $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ defined on $\mathbb{R}^n$ are equivalent.

2. Let E be a vector space of finite dimension n and let $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$ be a basis of E . Then for every $x \in E$, there exists $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that:

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i e_i.$$

The following functions define equivalent norms:

$$\|x\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|, \quad \|x\|_2 = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad \|x\|_\infty = \sup_{1 \leq i \leq n} |\lambda_i|,$$

$$\|x\|_p = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \quad \text{for } p \geq 1.$$

Remark 1.3 In general, to prove that two norms $\|\cdot\|_1$ and $\|\cdot\|_2$ on a vector space E are **not** equivalent, it suffices to find a sequence $(x_n)_n \subset E$ such that:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\|x_n\|_1}{\|x_n\|_2} = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\|x_n\|_1}{\|x_n\|_2} = +\infty.$$

For example, the quantity $\|f\|_1 = \int_0^1 |f(t)| dt$ is a norm on $C([0, 1], \mathbb{R})$ that is not equivalent to the uniform norm $\|f\|_\infty = \max_{0 \leq x \leq 1} |f(x)|$. Indeed, consider the sequence of functions $(f_n)_n$ defined by:

$$f_n(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - (n+1)x, & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{n+1}; \\ 0, & \text{if } \frac{1}{n+1} \leq x \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

We have $\|f_n\|_\infty = 1$ while $\|f_n\|_1 = \frac{1}{n+1}$, so that:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\|f_n\|_\infty}{\|f_n\|_1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} (n+1) = +\infty.$$

1.3 Banach Spaces

Definition 1.4 A sequence $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of elements in a normed space $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ is called a **Cauchy sequence** if:

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}, \forall p, q \in \mathbb{N}, p > q \geq n_0 \Rightarrow \|x_p - x_q\| \leq \varepsilon.$$

Definition 1.5 A sequence $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of elements in a normed space $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ is said to **converge** to $x_0 \in E$ if:

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \Rightarrow \|x_n - x_0\| \leq \varepsilon.$$

Definition 1.6 A normed space $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ is said to be **complete** if every Cauchy sequence in E is convergent.

The advantage of complete spaces is that in such spaces, it is not necessary to know the limit of a sequence to prove its convergence, it suffices to show that it is a Cauchy sequence.

Definition 1.7 A **Banach space** is a normed space $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ that is complete with respect to the distance induced by the norm.

Example 1.3 1. $(\mathbb{R}, |\cdot|)$ and $(C([a, b], \mathbb{R}), \|\cdot\|_\infty)$ are Banach spaces.

We can verify, for example, that the space $(C([a, b], \mathbb{R}), \|\cdot\|_\infty)$ is complete:

Let $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a Cauchy sequence. Then:

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}, \forall p, q \in \mathbb{N}, p > q \geq n_0 \Rightarrow \|f_p - f_q\|_\infty \leq \varepsilon,$$

which implies:

$$\forall p, q \in \mathbb{N}, p > q \geq n_0, \forall x \in [a, b] \Rightarrow |f_p(x) - f_q(x)| \leq \varepsilon. \quad (1.4)$$

Thus, for every $x \in [a, b]$, the sequence $(f_n(x))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of real numbers is a Cauchy sequence. Since $(\mathbb{R}, |\cdot|)$ is complete, this sequence converges to a real number, which we denote by $f(x)$. We define the function:

$$\begin{aligned} f : [a, b] &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ x &\mapsto f(x) \end{aligned}$$

Letting $p \rightarrow +\infty$ in (1.4), we obtain:

$$\forall q \geq n_0, \forall x \in [a, b] \Rightarrow |f(x) - f_q(x)| \leq \varepsilon.$$

Since this inequality holds for all $x \in [a, b]$, it follows that:

$$\|f - f_q\|_\infty \leq \varepsilon.$$

This holds for all $q \geq n_0$, so (f_q) converges to f . Therefore, every Cauchy sequence (f_n) in $C([a, b], \mathbb{R})$ converges, hence $C([a, b], \mathbb{R})$ is complete.

2. $\mathbb{R}^n$ equipped with $\|x\|_p = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$ for $p \geq 1$, or with $\|x\|_\infty = \sup_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i|$, is a Banach space.
3. $(C([a, b], \mathbb{R}), \|\cdot\|_1)$ is **not** complete. Indeed, consider the sequence of functions $(f_n)_n$ defined by:

$$f_n(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2}; \\ (x - \frac{1}{2})^{1/n}, & \text{if } \frac{1}{n+1} \leq x \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

The sequence $(f_n)_n$ is a Cauchy sequence but does not converge (with respect to the norm $\|\cdot\|_1$).

Remark 1.4 Completeness is preserved under change of equivalent norms. For instance, if a sequence $(x_n)_n$ is Cauchy and converges with respect to one norm, then it will also converge with respect to any other equivalent norm.

1.4 Normed Subspaces and Product Vector Space

Proposition 1.3 (Normed Subspaces) If F is a vector subspace of a normed space E , the restriction to F of the norm on E is a norm on F , called the induced norm.

Proof. Obvious, since the norm properties hold for all elements of E , and hence for those of F . The induced norm on F will be denoted as the norm on E . ■

Proposition 1.4 Let F be a vector subspace of a normed space $(E, \|\cdot\|)$.

1. If F is a Banach space with the induced norm, then F is closed in E .
2. If E is a Banach space and F is closed in E , then F is a Banach space with the induced norm.

Proof.

1. Let $x \in \overline{F}$, then there exists a sequence $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ in F converging to x . Consequently, $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a Cauchy sequence in F . Since F is complete, $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges to some element $y \in F$. By the uniqueness of the limit, we have $x = y \in F$, hence $\overline{F} = F$. Therefore, F is closed in E .
2. Let $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a Cauchy sequence in F . Then $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is also a Cauchy sequence in E , which is complete, so $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges to some element $x \in E$. Since F is closed in E , we have $x \in F$. Therefore, F is complete.

■

Definition 1.8 (Product Vector Space) Let $(E_1, \|\cdot\|_{E_1})$, $(E_2, \|\cdot\|_{E_2})$ be two normed vector spaces. Then $E = E_1 \times E_2$ is a normed vector space with:

$$\|x\|_E = \|x_1\|_{E_1} + \|x_2\|_{E_2}, \quad \forall x = (x_1, x_2) \in E.$$

$(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$ is called the product normed space of the given spaces.

This notion can be generalized as follows.

Definition 1.9 (Finite Product of Normed Spaces) *Let $(E_1, \|\cdot\|_{E_1}), (E_2, \|\cdot\|_{E_2}), \dots, (E_n, \|\cdot\|_{E_n})$ be normed spaces. The product set $E = E_1 \times E_2 \times \dots \times E_n$ is a normed vector space with:*

$$\|x\|_E = \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|_{E_i}, \quad \forall x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in E.$$

Proposition 1.5 *Let $(E_1, \|\cdot\|_{E_1}), (E_2, \|\cdot\|_{E_2}), \dots, (E_n, \|\cdot\|_{E_n})$ be normed spaces. For every $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in E = E_1 \times E_2 \times \dots \times E_n$, define:*

$$N_1(x) = \|x\|_E = \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|_{E_i}, \quad N_2(x) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|_{E_i}^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad N_\infty(x) = \sup_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|x_i\|_{E_i}.$$

Then N_1, N_2 , and N_∞ define three equivalent norms on the product vector space E .

We accept the following result:

Proposition 1.6 *Let $(E_1, \|\cdot\|_{E_1}), (E_2, \|\cdot\|_{E_2}), \dots, (E_n, \|\cdot\|_{E_n})$ be normed spaces and $E = E_1 \times E_2 \times \dots \times E_n$ the corresponding product normed space. Then E is a Banach space if and only if each E_i is a Banach space for $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.*

1.5 Normed Spaces of Finite Dimensions

In this paragraph, we are interested in a finite-dimensional $\mathbb{K}$ -vector space E of dimension n .

Lemma 1.1 *Let E be a finite-dimensional vector space. Then there exist infinitely many norms on E .*

Proof. Let $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$ be a basis of E . Then for every $x \in E$, there exists a unique element $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{K}^n$ such that $x = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i e_i$. Then the mapping

$$\begin{aligned} \psi : \mathbb{K}^n &\rightarrow E \\ (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) &\mapsto \psi(u) = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i e_i \end{aligned}$$

is linear and bijective. Since there are infinitely many norms on $\mathbb{K}^n$, we conclude the result. ■

Theorem 1.1 *Let $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ be a finite-dimensional normed vector space. Then all norms on E are equivalent.*

Proof. Let $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$ be a basis of E , where n is the dimension of E . For every $x \in E$, there exists a unique element $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{K}^n$ such that

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i e_i$$

We define

$$\|x\|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |\lambda_i|,$$

then $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ is a norm on E . We will show that the two norms $\|\cdot\|$ and $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ are equivalent. We have:

$$\|x\| = \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i e_i \right\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i| \|e_i\| \leq \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |\lambda_i| \sum_{i=1}^n \|e_i\| = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \|e_i\| \right) \|x\|_\infty,$$

Let $c = \sum_{i=1}^n \|e_i\| > 0$, then we write

$$\|x\| \leq c \|x\|_\infty. \quad (1.5)$$

On the other hand, since the set

$$\{(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{K}^n : \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |\lambda_i| = 1\}$$

is compact in $(\mathbb{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$, then the sphere

$$S(0, 1) = \{x \in E : \|x\|_\infty = 1\}$$

is compact in $(E, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$. The function

$$\begin{aligned} \|\cdot\| : (E, \|\cdot\|_\infty) &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+ \\ x &\mapsto \|x\|; \end{aligned}$$

is continuous. Indeed, according to Proposition 1.1, for all $x, y \in E$, we have:

$$|\|x\| - \|y\|| \leq \|x - y\| \leq c \|x - y\|_\infty.$$

Consequently, there exists $x_0 \in S(0, 1)$ such that

$$\inf_{\|x\|_\infty=1} \|x\| = \|x_0\| > 0.$$

Let $m = \inf_{\|x\|_\infty=1} \|x\|$, then $m \leq \|x\|$ if $\|x\|_\infty = 1$.

Let $x \in E$ with $x \neq 0$, then we have:

$$\left\| \frac{x}{\|x\|_\infty} \right\|_\infty = 1,$$

hence

$$m \leq \left\| \frac{x}{\|x\|_\infty} \right\|,$$

but we can see that

$$\left\| \frac{x}{\|x\|_\infty} \right\| = \frac{1}{\|x\|_\infty} \|x\|,$$

which shows that

$$m \|x\|_\infty \leq \|x\|,$$

therefore, there exists $m > 0$ such that for all $x \in E$, we have $m \|x\|_\infty \leq \|x\|$. Hence, the two norms $\|\cdot\|$ and $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ are equivalent. ■

Theorem 1.2 *Let $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ be a normed vector space. The following properties are equivalent:*

- (a) E is finite-dimensional.
- (b) All norms on E are equivalent.
- (c) All linear forms are continuous.

Proof.

- The implication (a) $\Rightarrow$ (b) is exactly Theorem 1.1.
- Let us show the implication (b) $\Rightarrow$ (c). Let $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be any linear form. For all $x \in E$, define

$$\|x\|_* = |f(x)| + \|x\|.$$

The application $E \ni x \mapsto \|x\|_*$ defines a norm on E . By hypothesis (b), all norms on E are equivalent, so there exists $\alpha > 0$ such that for all $x \in E$, we have

$$\|x\|_* \leq \alpha \|x\|,$$

hence

$$|f(x)| \leq \alpha \|x\|,$$

and therefore f is continuous.

- To prove the implication (c) $\Rightarrow$ (a), it suffices to prove the contrapositive, i.e., suppose E is infinite-dimensional and show that there exists a non-continuous linear form ($\dim E = +\infty$).

Let $\{e_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ be an infinite sequence of linearly independent vectors in E , and let V be the vector subspace of E generated by $\{e_n\}_{n \geq 1}$. Let W be an algebraic complement of V in E , and let P be the projection onto V parallel to W . Define a linear form $\varphi : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by:

$$\varphi(e_n) = n\|e_n\|,$$

and therefore:

$$\varphi\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i e_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \|e_i\|.$$

Let $f = \varphi \circ P$, then f is a linear form on E , and we have:

$$f(e_n) = \varphi(e_n) = n\|e_n\|,$$

hence

$$\frac{|f(e_n)|}{\|e_n\|} = n,$$

therefore, $\sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{|f(x)|}{\|x\|} = +\infty$.

Consequently, f is not continuous.

■ The following properties result from the equivalence of norms.

Corollary 1.2 *Let E be a $\mathbb{K}$ -vector space of finite dimension n . If $\{e_i\}_{i=1,\dots,n}$ is a basis of E , then the linear map*

$$\begin{aligned} h : \mathbb{K}^n &\rightarrow E \\ (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) &\mapsto \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i e_i \end{aligned}$$

is a homeomorphism.

Proof. Since the norms on $\mathbb{K}^n$ are equivalent, and the same holds for the space E , we choose the norm $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ on $\mathbb{K}^n$, and for all $x = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i e_i \in E$, we choose the norm $\|x\| = \max_{i=1,\dots,n} |\lambda_i|$. In this case, the application h is an isometry and bijective, hence a homeomorphism from $\mathbb{K}^n$ to E . ■

Corollary 1.3 *Every finite-dimensional subspace of a normed vector space is complete.*

Proof. Let $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ be a normed vector space and let $(F, \|\cdot\|)$ be a finite-dimensional subspace of dimension k ($\|\cdot\|_F = \|\cdot\|$ is the induced norm on F). Fix a basis $\{e_i\}_{i=1,\dots,k}$ in F . Let $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a Cauchy sequence in $(F, \|\cdot\|)$, then it is also Cauchy in $(F, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$, where $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ is the sup norm, since all norms in F are equivalent. For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we write:

$$u_n = \sum_{i=1}^k u_n^i e_i,$$

Each coordinate sequence $\{u_n^1, u_n^2, \dots, u_n^k\}$ is Cauchy in $(\mathbb{K}, |\cdot|)$. Since $\mathbb{K}$ is complete, each coordinate sequence $(u_n^i)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges to some element u_i in $\mathbb{K}$. To complete the proof, we observe that the sequence $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges to

$$u = \sum_{i=1}^k u^i e_i$$

in $(F, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$, and clearly $u \in F$. Let $\varepsilon > 0$. Since each sequence $(u_n^i)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges to u^i , for all $i = 1, \dots, k$, there exists $N_\varepsilon^i \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $n \geq N_\varepsilon^i$ we have:

$$|u_n^i - u^i| \leq \varepsilon.$$

Set:

$$N_\varepsilon = \max_{i=1,\dots,k} N_\varepsilon^i,$$

Then $u_n - u = \sum_{i=1}^k (u_n^i - u^i) e_i$. If $n \geq N_\varepsilon$, then:

$$\|u_n - u\|_\infty = \max_{i=1,\dots,k} |u_n^i - u^i| \leq \varepsilon.$$

which means that $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges to u in the norm $\|\cdot\|_\infty$, and thus in the norm $\|\cdot\|$. This implies the completeness of F . ■

Corollary 1.4 *In a normed space $(E, \|\cdot\|)$, every finite-dimensional vector subspace is closed in E .*

Proof. Let F be a finite-dimensional vector subspace of E . By Corollary 1.3, $(F, \|\cdot\|)$ is a Banach space. Then Proposition 1.4 asserts that F is closed in E . ■

1.6 Compactness in normed spaces

Theorem 1.3 (F. Riesz) *Let $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ be a normed space. Then the following properties are equivalent:*

- (a) *E is finite-dimensional.*
- (b) *E is a locally compact space.*
- (c) *The closed unit ball $\overline{B}(0, 1)$ in $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ is compact.*

Proof.

- (a) $\Rightarrow$ (b). Thanks to Corollary 1.2, the space $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ is homeomorphic to $(\mathbb{K}^n, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$, which is locally compact, and therefore $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ is locally compact.
- (b) $\Rightarrow$ (c). If $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ is locally compact, then there exists $r > 0$ such that the closed ball $\overline{B}(0, r)$ is compact. Since the map $E \ni x \mapsto \frac{1}{r}x \in E$ is a homeomorphism, then $\overline{B}(0, 1) = \frac{1}{r}\overline{B}(0, r)$ is compact.
- (c) $\Rightarrow$ (a). Suppose the closed unit ball $\overline{B}(0, 1)$ is compact. Then there exist finitely many points $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in E$ such that:

$$\overline{B}(0, 1) = \bigcup_{i=1}^n B(a_i, \frac{1}{2}). \quad (1.6)$$

Let $F = \text{Vect}\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ be the finite-dimensional subspace generated by the a_i . By contradiction, we prove that $E = F$; suppose there exists $x \in E$ that is not in F . By Corollary 1.4, F is closed in E , hence $d(x, F) = d > 0$. Therefore, there exists $y \in F$ such that:

$$d \leq d(x, y) = \|x - y\| < 2d.$$

Let $z = \frac{x-y}{\|x-y\|}$, then $\|z\| = 1$ so $z \in \overline{B}(0, 1)$, and from (1.6) there exists some i such that

$$\|z - a_i\| < \frac{1}{2}.$$

We write:

$$x = y + x - y = y + \|x - y\|z = y + \|x - y\|(a_i + z - a_i) = y + \|x - y\|a_i + \|x - y\|(z - a_i).$$

Since $y + \|x - y\|a_i \in F$, then we have:

$$d \leq d(x, F) \leq \|x - y\|\|z - a_i\| < \frac{1}{2}\|x - y\|,$$

hence:

$$2d < \|x - y\|.$$

This contradicts the choice of y , showing that $E = F$.

■

We can restate the implication (c) $\Rightarrow$ (a) in the following equivalent way:

Corollary 1.5 *In any infinite-dimensional space, the closed unit ball is not compact.*

Corollary 1.6 *Let $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ be a normed space of finite dimension and let F be a subset of E . Then the following properties are equivalent:*

- (i) F is compact.*
- (ii) F is bounded and closed.*