

# PMATH 810 - Banach Algebras and Operator Theory

Standing Assumption: All Banach spaces are over  $\mathbb{C}$ .

Def] A Banach Algebra is a Banach space  $A$  which admits an associative, bilinear multiplication

$$\begin{aligned}
 (a, b) &\mapsto ab && a, b \in A \\
 (ab)c &= a(bc) && \forall c \in A \\
 (\alpha a)b &= \alpha(ab)
 \end{aligned}$$

for which

$$\|ab\| \leq \|a\|\|b\|$$

Note: Hence if  $a \in A$ , we get linear maps

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_a: A &\rightarrow A && L_a(b) = ab \\
 R_a: A &\rightarrow A && R_a(b) = ba
 \end{aligned}$$

with  $\|L_a\| \leq \|a\|, \|R_a\| \leq \|a\|$ .

Remark: If  $A$  is a Banach ~~space~~ algebra and  $B \subseteq A$  is a closed sub-algebra, then  $B$  is a Banach algebra.

Def] A <sup>left</sup> ideal, in a  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra  $A$ , is a subspace for which  $ax \in I$  for any  $a \in A, x \in I$ .

We likewise define right ideals, and two-sided ideals (which we shall call "ideals").

Note: (right/left) ideals are subalgebras.

Proposition: Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra and  $I \subseteq A$  a closed ideal. Then  $A/I$  with multiplication

$$(a+I)(b+I) = ab+I$$

is a Banach algebra.

Proof Recall that if  $X$  is a Banach space,  $Y \subseteq X$  a closed subspace, then  $X/Y = \{x+Y; x \in X\}$  is a Banach space with

$$\|x+Y\| = \inf\{\|x-y\|; y \in Y\} =: \text{dist}(x, Y).$$

Check:  $x+Y \mapsto \|x+Y\|$  is a norm.

Recall that a normed space  $(Z, \|\cdot\|)$  is a Banach space  $\Leftrightarrow$   
 $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} z_n$  defines an element of  $Z$  whenever  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|z_n\| < \infty$ .

Let us use this to check completeness of  $(X/Y, \|\cdot\|)$ .

Suppose  $(x_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset X$  is st

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|x_n + Y\| < \infty.$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . We may suppose that each  $x_n$  is chosen st

$$\|x_n\| < \|x_n + Y\| + \frac{\varepsilon}{2^n}.$$

But then

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|x_n\| < \infty.$$

Check that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (x_n + Y) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=1}^N (x_n + Y) = \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n \right) + Y.$$

Now we check the submultiplicativity condition of the norm.

$$\begin{aligned} \|a + I\| &= \inf_{y \in Y} \|a - y\| \\ &\leq \inf_{x, y \in Y} \|a - ax - by + xy\| \\ &= \inf_{x, y \in Y} \|(a - y)(b - x)\| \\ &\leq \inf_{x, y \in Y} \|a - y\| \cdot \|b - x\| \\ &= \|a + I\| \|b + I\|. \end{aligned}$$

### Examples

(I) Let  $K$  be a compact Hausdorff space. Let  
 $C(K) = \{f: K \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid f \text{ is continuous}\}.$

For any  $f \in C(K)$ ,

$$\|f\|_{\infty} = \max_{x \in K} |f(x)| < \infty.$$

Then  $\|\cdot\|_{\infty}$  is a norm on  $C(K)$  and  $(C(K), \|\cdot\|_{\infty})$  is complete, i.e.  
 $C(K)$  is a Banach space.

If  $f, g \in C(K)$ , then

$fg: K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ,  $fg(x) = f(x)g(x)$ ,  $x \in K$   
is also an element of  $C(K)$ .

Further,

$$\begin{aligned} \|fg\|_{\infty} &= \max_{x \in K} |f(x)g(x)| \\ &\leq \max_{x, y \in K} |f(x)g(y)| \\ &= \max_{x \in K} |f(x)| \max_{y \in K} |g(y)| \\ &= \|f\|_{\infty} \|g\|_{\infty}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $C(K)$  is a Banach algebra.

Fact: Let  $Y \subseteq K$ , and let

$$k(Y) = \{f \in C(K) \mid f|_Y = 0\}.$$

Check that  $k(Y)$  is a closed ideal of  $C(K)$  and  $k(Y) = k(\bar{Y})$ .

Proposition: Let  $X$  be a Hausdorff space. The following are equivalent:

(i) every  $x$  in  $X$  admits a neighbourhood  $U$  st  $\bar{U}$  is compact

(ii) the space  $X_{\infty} = X \sqcup \{\infty\}$  equipped with topology

(\*)  $\{U; U \text{ open in } X\} \cup \{\infty\} \sqcup (X \setminus K); K \subseteq X \text{ compact}\}$

is a compact Hausdorff space.

We say that such  $X$  is locally compact. The space  $X_{\infty}$  is called the one-point compactification (or Alexandrov compactification)

Proof: (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii): Check that (\*) is a topology.

Now suppose  $(U_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in A}$  is a cover of  $X_{\infty}$  of sets of the form (\*).

Then  $\infty \in U_{\alpha_0} = (X \setminus K) \sqcup \{\infty\}$ ,  $K$  compact. Thus  $(U_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in A \setminus \alpha_0}$  covers  $K$  and hence admits a finite subcover. Add  $U_{\alpha_0}$  and done.

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i): easy. □

$X$  - l.c.H. space

We define

$$C_0(X) = \{f \in C(X_{\infty}); f(\{\infty\}) = 0\} / X$$

$$= \{f \in \underbrace{C_b(X)}_{\text{cts, bdd}}; \forall \epsilon > 0, \{x \in X; |f(x)| > \epsilon\} \text{ compact}\}$$

Let

$$C_c(X) = \{f \in C_0(X); \{x \in X; f(x) \neq 0\} \text{ compact}\}.$$

Uryzohn's Lemma:

Let  $X$  be a l.c.H. space,  $K$  compact in  $X$  and  $F$  closed in  $X$  with  $K \cap F = \emptyset$ . There exists  $f \in C_c(X)$  such that

$$f|_K = 1, f|_F = 0.$$

Sketch of proof:

(1) Metric case, metric  $d$

$$\text{dist}(K, F) = \inf\{d(x, y); x \in K, y \in F\}$$

$$\text{dist}(x, F) = \inf\{d(x, y); y \in F\}$$

Check that  $x \mapsto \text{dist}(x, F)$  is continuous, hence  $\text{dist}(K, F) > 0$ . Let

$$f(x) = \min\left\{\frac{\text{dist}(x, F)}{\text{dist}(K, F) + d(x, K)}, 1\right\}$$

does he mean normality?

(2) General case

In <sup>locally</sup> compact Hausdorff spaces we have regularity: if  $K, F$  are disjoint closed sets,  $K$  compact, then there is a nhd  $U_0 \supset K$  st  $\overline{U_0} \cap F = \emptyset$ . Moreover, we can choose  $U_0$  so  $\overline{U_0}$  is compact. (Exercise.)

$$K \subset U_0 \subset \overline{U_0} \subset X \setminus F$$

Next, find open  $U_{1/2}$  st

$$K \subset U_{1/2} \subset \overline{U_{1/2}} \subset U_0$$

Next, find  $U_{3/4}, U_{1/4}$  st

$$K \subset U_{3/4} \subset \overline{U_{3/4}} \subset U_{1/2} \subset \overline{U_{1/2}} \subset U_{1/4} \subset \overline{U_{1/4}} \subset U_0.$$

Keep going until we have sets  $U_q, q \in (0, 1)$  is a dyadic rational. so that

$$K \subset U_q \subset \overline{U_q} \subset U_p \subset \overline{U_p} \subset U_0$$

whenever  $p < q$ .

0.5, 0.75, 0.9, 1

Define  $f_n: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  by

$$f_n(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x \in K \\ q - \frac{1}{2^n} & \text{for } q = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\epsilon_k}{2^k}, \epsilon_k \in \{0,1\}, x \in U_q \setminus \overline{U_q} \\ 0 & x \in X \setminus \overline{U_0} \end{cases}$$

One can prove that

$$f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x)$$

exists and  $f$  defines a cts function.  $\square$

Corollary:  $C_c(X)$ , hence  $C_0(X)$  separates points of  $X$ .  
i.e.  $\forall x \neq y$  in  $X$ ,  $\exists f \in C_c(X)$   $f(x) \neq f(y)$

Remark:  $\overline{C_c(X)}^{\|\cdot\|} = C_0(X)$

(I') Any closed subalgebra  $A \subseteq C_0(X)$  ( $X$  l.c. || sp) is a Banach algebra. We shall call such algebras uniform algebras. If  $A$  separates points, we will call it natural on  $X$ .

Ex. Let  $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  be non-empty, open, bdd. Let

$$A(\Omega) = \{f \in C(\bar{\Omega}) ; f|_{\Omega} \text{ is holomorphic}\}$$

Theorem:

(i) If  $f \in A(\Omega)$ , then

$$\|f\|_{\infty} = \sup_{z \in \bar{\Omega}} |f(z)| = \sup_{z \in \Omega} |f(z)| = \|f|_{\Omega}\|_{\infty}$$

Hence  $A(\Omega)|_{\Omega} \subseteq C(\Omega)$  is a subalgebra.

(ii)  $A(\Omega)|_{\Omega}$  is closed in  $C(\Omega)$ .

Proof: Given  $0 < r < 1$ , let

$$\Omega_r = \{z \in \Omega ; \text{dist}(z, \partial\Omega) \leq 1-r\}, \quad \text{closed}$$

Notice

$$\bigcup_{0 < r < 1} \Omega_r = \Omega,$$

and

$$\text{dist}(\partial\Omega_r, \partial\Omega) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow 1} 0.$$

Let  $f \in \mathcal{A}(\Omega)$ , since  $f|_{\Omega}$  is holomorphic, the maximum modulus principle tells us that

$$\|f|_{\Omega_r}\|_{\infty} = \|f|_{\partial\Omega_r}\|_{\infty}$$

Hence, since  $f$  is continuous on  $\overline{\Omega}$ , we find

$$\|f\|_{\infty} = \sup_{0 < r < 1} \|f|_{\Omega_r}\|_{\infty} = \sup_{0 < r < 1} \|f|_{\partial\Omega_r}\|_{\infty}$$

$$= \lim_{r \rightarrow 1} \|f|_{\partial\Omega_r}\|_{\infty} = \|f|_{\partial\Omega}\|_{\infty}$$

$\nearrow$   $\Omega_r \subset \Omega_{r'}, r \leq r'$

In particular,  $f, g \in \mathcal{A}(\Omega)$ ,  $f|_{\Omega} = g|_{\Omega}$  if and only if  $f|_{\partial\Omega} = g|_{\partial\Omega}$ .

(ii) Let  $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset \mathcal{A}(\Omega)$  st there is  $f \in \mathcal{C}(\overline{\Omega})$  st

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|f_n - f\|_{\infty} = 0$$

Then for each closed rectifiable curve in  $\Omega$ , which is contractible in  $\Omega$ , Cauchy's thm then provides that for each  $n$

$$\int_{\gamma} f_n(z) dz = \int_{\gamma} f(\gamma(t)) \gamma'(t) dt = 0.$$

If  $\mu(f) = \int_{\gamma} f(z) dz$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{C}(\overline{\Omega})$  we have

$$|\mu(f)| \leq \int_{\gamma} |f(z)| dz \leq \|f\|_{\infty} \|\gamma'\|_{\infty}$$

so  $\|\mu\| \leq \|\gamma'\|_{\infty}$ . Hence

$$\int_{\gamma} f(z) dz = \mu(f) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(f_n) = 0.$$

This holds for any such curves, so by Morera's thm,  $f|_{\Omega}$  is holomorphic.  $\square$

Let

$D = \{z \in \mathbb{C}; |z| < 1\}$ ,  $\mathbb{T} = \partial D = \{z \in \mathbb{C}; |z| = 1\}$ .  
The algebra  $A(D)$  is called the disc algebra.

Proposition:

(i) polynomial functions  $z \mapsto \sum_{k=0}^n \alpha_k z^k$  form a dense subalgebra of  $A(D)$

(ii)  $A(D)|_{\mathbb{T}} \not\cong C(\mathbb{T})$

Proof:

(i) Let  $f \in A(D)$ . Let, for  $0 < r < 1$ ,  $f_r(z) = f(rz)$ , so  $f_r$  is holomorphic on  $\frac{1}{r}D$ . Thus  $f_r$  admits a McLaurin series

$$f_r(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{f_r^{(k)}(0)}{k!} z^k$$

which converges uniformly on  $D \subseteq \frac{1}{r}D$ .

But also

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 1} \|f_r - f\|_{\infty} = 0.$$

(ii) Consider the functional on  $C(\mathbb{T})$ ,

$$\mu(f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(e^{it}) e^{-it} dt = \oint_{\mathbb{T}} f(z) dz.$$

So  $\|\mu\| \leq 1$ . If  $g(z) = \bar{z}$  then  $\mu(g) = 1$ . But  $\mu(p) = 0$  for any poly  $p$ . By H.B. thm,  $A(D) \not\cong C(\mathbb{T})$ .  $\blacksquare$

Remark:  $A = A(0, \frac{1}{2}, 1) = \{z \in \mathbb{C}; \frac{1}{2} < |z| < 1\}$ .

Check that polynomials are not dense in  $A(A)$ .  
It can be shown (lots of complex analysis) that

$$A(A)|_{\partial A} \not\cong C(\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{T} \cup \mathbb{T}).$$

(II)  $X$ -set

$$L^\infty(X) = \{f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}; \|f\|_\infty = \sup_{x \in X} |f(x)| < \infty\}$$

Standard: This is a Banach space.

Easy: this is a Banach alg with pointwise mult.

If  $X$  admits a topology, we let

$$C_b(X) = \{f \in L^\infty(X); f \text{ cts}\}$$

This is a closed subalgebra.

Now suppose  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathcal{P}(X)$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra. Let

$$L^\infty(X, \mathcal{B}) = \{f \in L^\infty(X); f \text{ is } \sigma\text{-measurable}\}$$

Then  $L^\infty(X, \mathcal{B})$  is a closed subalgebra of  $L^\infty(X)$ .Now suppose  $\mu: \mathcal{B} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  is a measure.

Let

$$N(\mu) = \{f \in L^\infty(X, \mathcal{B}); \mu(f^{-1}(\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\})) = 0\}$$

It is easy to see that  $N(\mu)$  is a closed ideal of  $L^\infty(X, \mathcal{B})$  (in fact, if  $(\mu, \mathcal{B})$  is complete, then  $N(\mu)$  is even an ideal in  $L^\infty(X)$ ).

We let

$$L^\infty(X, \mu) = L^\infty(X, \mathcal{B}) / N(\mu)$$

Check that this agrees with the "usual" defn of  $L^\infty(X, \mu)$ .

(III) Let

$$C^1[0,1] = \{f: [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}; f' \text{ exists and is cts}\}$$

Let

$$\|f\|_{C^1} = \|f\|_\infty + \|f'\|_\infty$$

Suppose  $(f_n)_{n=1}^\infty \subset C^1[0,1]$  is Cauchy. Then there exists  $g, h \in C[0,1]$ 

$$\text{st } f_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} g, f_n' \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} h. \text{ By FTC,}$$

$$f_n(x) = \int_0^x f_n' + f_n(0)$$

Then since

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|f_n' - h\|_\infty = 0,$$

$$f_n(x) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^x h + g(0)$$

$$\xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} g(x)$$

Again, by FTC, we have  $g' = h$ . Also,

$$\|fg\|_\infty = \|fg\|_\infty + \|(fg)'\|_\infty$$

$$\leq \|f\|_\infty \|g\|_\infty + \|f'\|_\infty \|g\|_\infty + \|f\|_\infty \|g'\|_\infty + \|f'\|_\infty \|g\|_\infty$$

$$\leq \|f\|_{C^1} \|g\|_{C^1}$$



(IV) A semigroup  $S$  is a set with a binary operation  $(s, t) \mapsto st : s, t \in S \rightarrow S$  which is associative:  $(st)u = s(tu)$ . Let  $\|f\|_1 :=$

$$\|f\|_1 = \left\{ f: S \rightarrow \mathbb{C}; \sum_{s \in S} |f(s)| < \infty \right\}$$

$$= \sup_{F \subseteq S \text{ finite}} \sum_{s \in F} |f(s)|$$

Fact:  $(\ell^1(S), \|\cdot\|_1)$  is a Banach space.

We define convolution by

$$f * g(u) = \sum_{s, t \in S, st=u} f(s)g(t)$$

$$\|f * g\|_1 = \sum_{u \in S} \left| \sum_{st=u} f(s)g(t) \right| \leq \sum_u \sum_{st=u} |f(s)| |g(t)|$$

$$= \sum_s |f(s)| \cdot \sum_t |g(t)| \leq \|f\|_1 \|g\|_1$$

Hence  $f * g(u)$  makes sense, and  $f * g \in \ell^1(S)$ . We let  $\delta_s(t) = \mathbb{1}_{\{s\}}(t)$ .

We have

$$\delta_s * \delta_t(u) = \sum_{s't'=u} \delta_s(s') \delta_t(t') = \delta_{st}(u).$$

Moreover, each  $f \in \ell^1(S)$  satisfies

$$f \xrightarrow{\| \cdot \|_1 \text{ limit}} \sum_{s \in S} f(s) \delta_s = \sum_{s \in S} f(s) \delta_s.$$

We obtain alternative form

$$f * g = \sum_s \sum_{t'} f(s) g(t') \delta_{st'}.$$

The associativity now follows from that of  $S$ .

If  $S = \Gamma$  is a group then cancellation allows

$$f * g(u) = \sum_{s \in \Gamma} f(s) g(s^{-1}u) = \sum_{t \in \Gamma} f(ut^{-1}) g(t).$$

Fact: We have that  $f * g = g * f \quad \forall f, g \in \ell^1(S) \Leftrightarrow st = ts \quad \forall s, t \in S$ .

(V) Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $B(X)$  the space of bounded linear operators on  $X$ , with

$$\|T\| = \sup \{ \|Tx\|; x \in B(X) \} = \sup \{ \|Tx\| / \|x\|; x \in X \setminus \{0\} \}.$$

This is a Banach space. This norm satisfies  $\|Tx\| \leq \|T\| \|x\|$  and

$$\|T\| = \max \{ c \in [0, \infty); \|Tx\| \leq c \|x\| \quad \forall x \in X \}.$$

Also

$$\|ST\| = \sup_{x \in B(X)} \|STx\| \leq (\|S\| \sup_{x \in B(X)} \|Tx\|) = \|S\| \|T\|.$$

Examples of closed subalgebras:

(i)  $\Lambda = \{L_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$ , each  $L_\alpha$  a closed subspace of  $X$ .

$$\text{Alg}(\Lambda) = \{T \in B(X); T(L_\alpha) \subseteq L_\alpha, \alpha \in A\}$$

Check that  $\text{Alg}(\Lambda)$  is a subalgebra of  $B(X)$ . Also, if  $(T_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset \text{Alg}(\Lambda)$  with  $T = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_n \in B(X)$ , then  $\forall x \in X, T_n x \rightarrow Tx$ , hence if  $x \in L_\alpha$ , we see that  $Tx \in L_\alpha$ .

(ii) An operator  $K$  is compact if  $\overline{K(B(X))}$  is norm-compact. We know that ~~that~~

$$\mathcal{K}(X) = \{K \in B(X); K \text{ is compact}\}$$

is a closed subspace. If  $S \in B(X), K \in \mathcal{K}(X)$ , then ~~then~~

$$\overline{SK(B(X))} \subseteq \overline{S(\mathcal{K}(B(X)))} \quad (\text{check})$$

$$\overline{KS(B(X))} \subseteq \|S\| \overline{\mathcal{K}(B(X))} \quad (\text{easy})$$

Thus  $\mathcal{K}(X)$  is a closed ideal. We call the quotient

$$Q(X) = B(X) / \mathcal{K}(X)$$

is called the Calkin algebra.

(VI) Consider  $L^1(\mathbb{R}) = L^1(\mathbb{R}, m)$ . <sup>Lebesgue measure</sup> If  $f, g \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$  then the ~~a.e.~~ defined "function"

$$(x, y) \mapsto f(x)g(y-x)$$

is integrable:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} |f(x)g(y-x)| d(x, y) \stackrel{\text{Tonelli}}{=} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} |f(x)||g(y-x)| dy dx$$

$$\stackrel{\text{Fubini inv}}{=} \int_{\mathbb{R}} |f(x)| dx \int_{\mathbb{R}} |g(y)| dy < \infty$$

Hence, by Fubini's thm, it is integrable. Thus for almost each  $y$  we can do the margin integral

$$f * g(y) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x)g(y-x) dx$$

so  $f * g \in L^1(\mathbb{R}), \|f * g\|_1 \leq \|f\|_1 \|g\|_1$ .

We stealthily use Fubini inv. and some rearrangements to see

$$(f * g) * h = f * (g * h).$$

This is known as the  $(L^1)$ -group algebra of  $(\mathbb{R}, +)$ .

$$s * f(x) = f(x-s)$$

$$s \mapsto s * f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow L^1(\mathbb{R}) \text{ cts.}$$