

Distribution theory III

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1.1. Inversion Theorem.

Last time we showed that the Fourier transform

$$\Phi: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}, f \mapsto \hat{f}, \text{ is continuous and linear.}$$

Now, we show

Theorem 1 Φ is a bijection and

$$\Phi^2 f = \check{f}, \quad \Phi^4 f = f, \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{S}.$$

Proposition 2 For $f, g \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$,

$$\int f \hat{g} = \int \hat{f} g.$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \int f \hat{g} &= \int f(x) \int g(y) e^{-ix \cdot y} dm(y) dm(x) \\ &= \int g(y) \int f(x) e^{-ix \cdot y} dm(x) dm(y) \quad (\text{Fubini's thm easily justified}). \\ &= \int g \hat{f}. \quad \# \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 3 Let $g(x) = e^{-|x|^2/2}$. Then $\hat{g} = g$.

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{g}(x) &= \int g(y) e^{-ix \cdot y} dm(y) \\ &= \int e^{-|y|^2/2 - ix \cdot y} dm(y) \\ &= \int e^{-y_1^2/2 - ix_1 y_1} \dots e^{-y_n^2/2 - ix_n y_n} dm(y) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \int e^{-\frac{y_1^2}{2} - ix_1 y_1} dm(y_1) \times \dots \times \int e^{-\frac{y_n^2}{2} - ix_n y_n} dm(y_n) \quad (\text{Fubini's}) \quad \boxed{2}$$

$$= \int e^{-t^2/2 - ix_1 t} dm(t) \times \dots \times \int e^{-t^2/2 - ix_n t} dm(t).$$

Let $I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-t^2/2 - ist} dm(t)$. Then

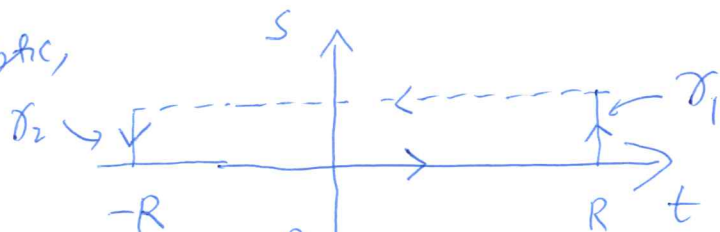
$$I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{z^2}{2}} dm(t) e^{-s^2/2}$$

$$= e^{-s^2/2} \quad (\text{after using } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{z^2}{2}} dm(t) = 1.)$$

explain below.

$$\hat{g}(x) = e^{-x^2/2} \dots e^{-x^2/2} = e^{-|x|^2/2}, \text{ done.}$$

To evaluate I we regard it as part of a contour integral. As $e^{-|z|^2/2}$ is analytic,



$$0 = \int_{\sigma} e^{-z^2/2} dz = \int_{-R}^R e^{-t^2/2} dt + \int_{\sigma_1} e^{-z^2/2} dz + \int_R^{-R} e^{-(t+is)^2/2} dt + \int_{\sigma_2} e^{-z^2/2} dz$$

$$R \rightarrow \infty, \text{ get } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-t^2/2} dt + \int_{\infty}^{-\infty} e^{-(t+is)^2/2} dt = 0$$

which implies

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-(t+is)^2/2} dt = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-t^2/2} dt = \sqrt{2\pi}. \quad \#$$

Now we combine Props 2 and 3 to prove theorem 1.

Let $g_\lambda(x) = g(\lambda x)$. then

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{g}_\lambda(x) &= \int e^{-\lambda|y|/2} e^{-ix \cdot y} dm(y) \\ &= \frac{1}{\lambda^n} \int e^{-|z|/2} e^{-i \frac{x}{\lambda} \cdot z} dm(z) \\ &= \frac{1}{\lambda^n} g\left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right).\end{aligned}$$

From Prop 1,

$$\int \widehat{f} g_\lambda = \int f \widehat{g}_\lambda.$$

As $g_\lambda \rightarrow 1$ pointwisely and $\widehat{f} \in \mathcal{D}$, by dominated convergence theorem

$$\text{LHS} \rightarrow \int \widehat{f}.$$

On the other hand,

$$\text{RHS: } \int f(x) \widehat{g}_\lambda(x) dm(x) = \int f(x) \frac{1}{\lambda^n} g\left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right) dm(x)$$

$$= \int f(\lambda x) g(x) dm(x)$$

(dominated convergence
thm as $\lambda \rightarrow 0$).

$$\rightarrow \int f(0) g(x) dm(x)$$

$$= f(0).$$

$$\therefore f(0) = \int \widehat{f} \quad \text{for } f \in \mathcal{D}.$$

Now, $f \in \mathcal{D} \Rightarrow \tau_{-x} f \in \mathcal{D}$, so

(Prop 9 last
lect.)

$$f(x) = (\tau_{-x} f)(0) = \int (\tau_{-x} f)^\wedge = \int \widehat{f}(y) e^{ix \cdot y} dm(y).$$

We've shown that

$$f(x) = \int \hat{f}(y) e^{ix \cdot y} dm(y), \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{S}.$$

This formula is called the inverse Fourier transform. It shows that $\Phi(f) = \hat{f}$ is injective. The RHS of this formula is

$$\int \hat{f}(y) e^{-i(-x) \cdot y} dm(y) = \widehat{\hat{f}}(-x).$$

Therefore,

$$(\Phi^2 f) = f$$

and

$$\Phi^4 f = f.$$

In particular, Φ is onto. #

Next, we consider the inverse theorem at the second level.

Theorem 4 $\Phi: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$ can be extended to be an isometry on $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$,
that is, Φ is a linear bijection on $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and

$$\langle f, g \rangle_{L^2} = \langle \hat{f}, \hat{g} \rangle_{L^2}, \quad \forall f, g \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

(\hat{f}, \hat{g} in extended sense.)

Proof. Let $\{f_n\} \subset \mathcal{S}$ be $f_n \rightarrow f$ in $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ using the obvious fact that \mathcal{S} is dense in $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$. Then $\{f_n\}$ is Cauchy sequence in $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

We note

$$\int f \bar{g} = \int \hat{f} \overline{\hat{g}}, \quad \forall f, g \in \mathcal{S}. \tag{1}$$

(For, LHS = $\int \bar{g}(x) \int \hat{f}(y) e^{ix \cdot y} dm(y) dm(x)$
= $\int \hat{f}(y) \int \bar{g}(x) e^{ix \cdot y} dm(x) dm(y) = \int \hat{f} \overline{\hat{g}}$.)

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_n - f_m\| &= \sqrt{\int (f_n - f_m) \overline{(f_n - f_m)}} \\ &= \sqrt{\int (\hat{f}_n - \hat{f}_m) \overline{(\hat{f}_n - \hat{f}_m)}} \\ &= \|\hat{f}_n - \hat{f}_m\|, \end{aligned}$$

so $\{\hat{f}_n\}$ is Cauchy in L^2 , Hence $\exists g \in L^2$ s.t. $\hat{f}_n \rightarrow g$ in L^2 .

We define

$$\Phi f = g, \text{ or } g = \hat{f}.$$

Clearly, this definition is independent of the choice of f_n , and coincide with the old definition when $f \in \mathcal{D}$ or $f \in L^1 \cap L^2$. From the relation

$$\|f\|_{L^2} = \|\hat{f}\|_{L^2}$$

one has no difficulty to show that $\Phi: L^2 \rightarrow L^2$ is a bijection and (1) implies that Φ is an isometry, i.e.

$$\int f \bar{g} = \int \hat{f} \overline{\hat{g}}, \quad \forall f, g \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n). \quad \#$$

1.2 Tempered Distributions.

A linear functional on \mathcal{D} is called a tempered distribution

$$\text{if } \forall \varphi_j \rightarrow \varphi \text{ in } \mathcal{D}, \quad u(\varphi_j) \rightarrow u(\varphi),$$

all tempered distributions form a locally convex topological vector space

\mathcal{D}' . Recall that $\varphi_j \rightarrow \varphi$ in \mathcal{D} implies that $\varphi_j \rightarrow \varphi$ in \mathcal{D} ,

every tempered distribution is a distribution, i.e., $\mathcal{D}' \supset \mathcal{S}'$. But the inclusion is proper. For instance, the distribution

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$$\varphi \mapsto \int e^{|\alpha|^2} \varphi(x) dx, \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}$$

is not well-defined on \mathcal{S} .

The following properties are immediate.

Proposition 5 Let P poly, $\psi \in \mathcal{S}$, and D^α given,

Pu , ψu and $D^\alpha u \in \mathcal{S}'$ if $u \in \mathcal{S}'$.

1.3. Fourier transform of \mathcal{S}' .

Define $\hat{u}(\varphi) = u(\hat{\varphi})$, $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}$.

Theorem 6 (a) $\Phi: \mathcal{S}' \rightarrow \mathcal{S}'$ by $u \mapsto \hat{u}$ is a linear bijection of period 4 and is continuous.

(b) $(P(D)u)^\wedge = P \hat{u}$, $(Pu)^\wedge = P(-D) \hat{u}$.

Proof. (a) is straightforward. For instance,

$$\hat{\hat{u}}(\varphi) = u(\hat{\hat{\varphi}}) = u(\check{\varphi}), \text{ so}$$

$$\Phi^4 u(\varphi) = \Phi^2(u(\check{\varphi})) = u(\varphi), \text{ so } \Phi^4 = \text{Id}.$$

(b) Let $P(D) = \sum c_\alpha D^\alpha$,

$$\begin{aligned} (P(D)u)^\wedge(\varphi) &= P(D)u(\hat{\varphi}) \\ &= u(\sum c_\alpha (-1)^{|\alpha|} D^\alpha \hat{\varphi}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= u(P(-D)\hat{\varphi}) \\
&= u(\widehat{P\varphi}) \quad (\text{Prop 15 in last Lecture}) \\
&= \hat{u}(P\varphi) \\
&= P\hat{u}(\varphi).
\end{aligned}$$

Next,

$$\begin{aligned}
(P\hat{u})(\varphi) &= Pu(\hat{\varphi}) \\
&= u(P\hat{\varphi}) \\
&= u(\widehat{P(D)\varphi}) \quad (\text{Prop 15 in last lecture}) \\
&= \hat{u}(P(D)\varphi) \\
&= P(-D)\hat{u}(\varphi). \quad \#
\end{aligned}$$

This finishes our third level of Inverse theorem.

$$\mathcal{D}' \xrightarrow{\Phi} \mathcal{D}'$$

$$L^2 \xrightarrow{\Phi} L^2$$

$$\mathcal{D} \xrightarrow{\Phi} \mathcal{D}$$

1.4 Convolution of tempered Distributions

As in the case of \mathcal{D}' , define

$$(u * \varphi)(x) = u(\tau_x \check{\varphi}), \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}, u \in \mathcal{D}'.$$

Note that $\tau_x \check{\varphi} \in \mathcal{D}$.

Proposition 7 For $u \in \mathcal{S}'$, $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}$,

(a) $u * \varphi \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$

(b) $D^\alpha(u * \varphi) = (D^\alpha u) * \varphi = u * (D^\alpha \varphi)$

(c) $u * \varphi$ is of polynomial growth.

Proof. (a) follows from (b) and (b) follows from

$$D_j(u * \varphi) = (D_j u) * \varphi = u * (D_j \varphi), \quad D_j = \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j}.$$

For fixed x ,

$$\frac{\varphi(x - y + h e_j) - \varphi(x - y)}{h} \rightarrow D_j \varphi(x - y) \text{ in } \mathcal{S}, \text{ (check it!)}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} D_j(u * \varphi)(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(u * \varphi)(x + h e_j) - (u * \varphi)(x)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{u(\varphi(x - \cdot + h e_j)) - u(\varphi(x - \cdot))}{h} \\ &= u\left(\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\varphi(x - y + h e_j) - \varphi(x - y)}{h}\right) \\ &= u(D_j \varphi(x - y)) \\ &= (u * D_j \varphi)(x). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} (D_j u) * \varphi(x) &= (D_j u)(\tau_x \check{\varphi}) \\ &= -u(D_j \tau_x \check{\varphi}) \\ &= (u * D_j \varphi)(x). \end{aligned}$$

To prove (c), we use the lemma below: $\exists N$ s.t.

$$u(\varphi) \leq C_0 \|\varphi\|_{N, N}, \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{S}.$$

In general,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|\tau_x \check{\varphi}\|_{m,N} &= \sup (1+|y|^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} |D^\alpha \tau_x \check{\varphi}(y)| \\
 &\leq \sup (1+|x-z|^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} |D^\alpha \varphi(z)| \\
 &\leq 4^{\frac{m}{2}} (1+|x|^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} \sup (1+|z|^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} |D^\alpha \varphi(z)| \quad \text{use} \\
 &\leq 4^{\frac{m}{2}} (1+|x|^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} \|\varphi\|_{m,N}. \quad (1+|x-z|^2) \leq 4(1+|x|^2)(1+|z|^2)
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, using the lemma,

$$\begin{aligned}
 |(u * \varphi)(x)| &= |u(\tau_x \check{\varphi})| \\
 &\leq C_0 4^{\frac{m}{2}} \|\varphi\|_{m,N} (1+|x|^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} \quad (\text{taking } m=N).
 \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 8 For $u \in \mathcal{D}'$, $\exists N$ s.t.

$$|u(\varphi)| \leq C_0 \|\varphi\|_{N,N}, \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}.$$

Proof. If not, $\forall N, \bar{\delta}, \exists f_N^j \in \mathcal{D}$ s.t.

$$|u(f_N^j)| > \bar{\delta} \|f_N^j\|_{N,N} > 0.$$

Let $g_N = f_N^M$. Then $\tilde{g}_N = \frac{g_N}{N \|g_N\|_{N,N}}$ satisfies $\|\tilde{g}_N\|_{N,N} = \frac{1}{N}$

but $|u(\tilde{g}_N)| > 1$. For $N_0 \geq 1$,

$$\|\tilde{g}_N\|_{N,N_0} \leq \|\tilde{g}_N\|_{N,N} = \frac{1}{N} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } N \rightarrow \infty, \text{ contradiction } \#$$

Proposition 9 For $u \in \mathcal{D}'$, $\varphi \in \mathcal{D}$,

(a) $(u * \varphi)^\wedge = \hat{\varphi} \hat{u}$, $\hat{u} * \hat{\varphi} = (\varphi u)^\wedge$

(b) $(u * \varphi) * \psi = u * (\varphi * \psi)$, $\psi \in \mathcal{D}$.

Proof (a) Let $\gamma \in \mathcal{D}$, $\hat{\gamma} \in \mathcal{D}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
(u * \varphi)^\wedge(\hat{\gamma}) &= (u * \varphi)(\check{\gamma}) \\
&= \int_K (u * \varphi)(x) \gamma(-x) dm(x), \quad \because \gamma \in \mathcal{D}, \text{ some cpt } K. \\
&\sim \sum u(\tau_{x_j} \check{\varphi}) \psi(-x_j) c \Delta x_j, \quad c = (2\pi)^{-n/2}, \\
&= u(\sum \tau_{x_j} \check{\varphi} \psi(-x_j) c \Delta x_j) \\
&\rightarrow u(\int \tau_x \check{\varphi} \psi(-x) dm(x)) \\
&= u(\int \varphi(x-y) \psi(-x) dm(x)) \\
&= u(\int \varphi(-x-y) \psi(x) dm(x)) \\
&= u((\varphi * \psi)^\vee(y)) \\
&= \hat{u}((\varphi * \psi)^\wedge(y)) \\
&= \hat{u}(\hat{\varphi} \hat{\psi})
\end{aligned}$$

Since \mathcal{D} dense in \mathcal{D} , $(u * \varphi)^\wedge = \hat{\varphi} \hat{u}$.

Next, $\hat{u} * \hat{\varphi} = (\varphi u)^\wedge$ follows from the first one by taking Λ .

Finally,

□□□

$$\begin{aligned} (u_*\varphi)_*\psi(0) &= (u_*\varphi)(\check{\psi}) \\ &= (u_*\varphi)^{\wedge}(\hat{\psi}) \\ &= \hat{\varphi}\hat{u}(\hat{\psi}). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u_*(\varphi_*\psi)(0) &= u_*(\phi_*\psi^{\vee}) \\ &= \hat{u}(\hat{\phi}\hat{\psi}). \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore (u_*\varphi)_*\psi(0) = u_*(\varphi_*\psi)(0).$$

Now, replace ψ by $\tau_x\psi$, after some manipulation,

$$(u_*\varphi)_*\tau_x\psi(0) = (u_*\varphi)_*\psi(x)$$

$$u_*(\phi_*\tau_x\psi)(0) = u_*(\phi_*\psi)(x). \#$$