Real Analysis

Chapter 8. The L^p Spaces: Duality and Weak Convergence 8.1. The Riesz Representation for the Dual of L^p , $1 \le 1 < \infty$ —Proofs of Theorems



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Proposition 8.2

Proposition 8.2. Let *E* be measurable, $1 \le p < \infty$, *q* the conjugate of *p*, and *g* belong to $L^q(E)$. Define the functional *T* on $L^p(E)$ by $T(f) = \int_E gf$ for all $f \in L^p(E)$. Then *T* is a bounded linear functional on $L^p(E)$ and $||T||_* = ||g||_q$.

Proof. First, for $f_1, f_2 \in L^p(E)$ and $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ we have $T(\alpha f_1 + \beta f_2) = \int_E g(\alpha f_1 + \beta f_2) = \alpha \int_E gf_1 + \beta \int_E gf_2 = \alpha T(f_1) + \beta T(f_2)$, and so T is linear. Since $|T(f)| \leq ||g||_q ||f||_p$ by Hölder's Inequality, we see that T is a bounded linear functional on $L^p(E)$ and $||T||_* \leq ||g||_q$.

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$$\mathsf{g}^* = \|g\|_q^{1-q} \mathsf{sgn}(g)|g|^{q-1} \in L^p$$

and $T(g^*) = \int_E gg^* = \|g\|_q$ where $\|g^*\|_p = 1$. Therefore $\|T\|_* = \|g\|_q$.

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Proposition 8.3. Let T and S be bounded linear functionals on a normed linear space X. If T = S on a dense subset X_0 of X, then T = S on X.

Proof. Let $g \in X$. Since X_0 is dense in X, then by Note 7.4.A (or Exercise 7.36) there is a sequence $\{g_n\} \subset X_0$ such that $g_n \to g$. From Note 8.1.A, we have $S(g_n) \to S(g)$ and $T(g_n) \to T(g)$. Since $S(g_n) = T(g_n)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then S(g) = T(g).

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Lemma 8.4. Let *E* be measurable and $1 \le p < \infty$. Suppose *g* is integrable over *E* and there is M > 0 such that $|\int_E gf| \le M ||f||_p$ for every simple function $f \in L^p(E)$. Then $g \in L^q(E)$ where *q* is the conjugate of *p*. Moreover, $||g||_q \le M$.

Proof. Since g is integrable over E, it is finite a.e. on E by Proposition 4.15. So Without loss of generality (or by excising a set of measure zero from E), we assume g is finite on all of E.

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Proof (continued). Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ be fixed. We have

$\varphi_n^q = \varphi_n \varphi_n^{q-1} \le |g|\varphi_n^{q-1} = g \operatorname{sgn}(g)\varphi_n^{q-1} \text{ on } E. \quad (11)$

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Proof (continued). Since q is the conjugate of p, then p(q-1) = q and so $\int_E |f_n|^p = \int_E \varphi_n^{p(q-1)} = \int_E \varphi_n^q$. We rewrite (12) as $\int_E \varphi_n^q \leq M \left(\int_E |f_n|^p\right)^{1/p} = M \left(\int_E \varphi_n^q\right)^{1/p}$. Since φ_n^q is integrable over E by (12), neither side of this inequality is ∞ and so $\left(\int_E \varphi_n^q\right)^{1-1/p} \leq M$. Since 1 - 1/p = 1/q, this implies $\|\varphi_n\| \leq M$, which is equivalent to (10) and the result follows for p > 1.

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Proof (continued). Define $f = \operatorname{sgn}(g)\chi_{E'}$. Then f is simple and $f \in L^1(E)$ with $||f||_1 = |\int_E \operatorname{sgn}(g)\chi_{E'}| = m(E') > 0$. But,

$$\left| \int_{E} gf \right| = \left| \int_{E} g \operatorname{sgn}(g) \chi_{E'} \right| = \left| \int_{E'} g \operatorname{sgn}(g) \right|$$
$$= \int_{E'} |g| \ge (M + 1/N) m(E') > Mm(E') = M ||f||$$

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Proof (continued). Define $f = \operatorname{sgn}(g)\chi_{E'}$. Then f is simple and $f \in L^1(E)$ with $||f||_1 = |\int_E \operatorname{sgn}(g)\chi_{E'}| = m(E') > 0$. But,

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Proof. Let p > 1 (the case p = 1 is similar). For $x \in [a, b]$, define $\Phi(x) = T(\chi_{[a,x)})$. For each $[c, d) \subset [a, b]$ we have $\chi_{[c,d)} = \chi_{[a,d)} - \chi_{[a,c)}$ and since T is linear

$$\Phi(d) - \Phi(c) = T(\chi_{[a,d)}) - T(\chi_{[a,c)}) = T(\chi_{[a,d)} - \chi_{[a,c)}) = T(\chi_{[c,d)}).$$

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So for $\{[a_k, b_k)\}_{k=1}^n$ a finite disjoint collection of intervals in [a, b],

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} |\Phi(b_k) - \Phi(a_k)| = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \varepsilon_k T(\chi_{[a_k, b_k)}) = T\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n} \varepsilon_k \chi_{[a_k, b_k)}\right)$$

where $\varepsilon_k = \operatorname{sgn}(\Phi(b_k) - \Phi(a_k))$. So for simple function
 $f = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \varepsilon_k \chi_{[a_k, b_k)}$, we have $|T(f)| \le ||T||_* ||f||_p$ and
 $||f||_p = \left\{\int_{[a,b]} |f|^p\right\}^{1/p} = \left(\sum_{k=1}^{n} (b_k - a_k)\right)^{1/p}.$

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Theorem 8.5 (continued 1)

Proof (continued). So for given $\varepsilon > 0$, with $\delta = (\varepsilon/||T||_*)^p$, we have that $\sum_{k=1}^{n} (b_k - a_k) < \delta$ implies

$$\sum_{k=1}^n |\Phi(b_k) - \Phi(a_k)| \leq \|T\|_* \left((\varepsilon/\|T\|_*)^p \right)^{1/p} = \varepsilon.$$

That is, Φ is absolutely continuous on [a, b] (see Section 6.4. Absolutely Continuous Functions for the definition).

By Theorem 6.10 in Section 6.5, $g = \Phi'$ is integrable over [a, b] and $\Phi(x) = \int_a^x g$ for all $x \in [a, b]$. So for each $[c, d] \subset (a, b)$,

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For step function $f = \sum_{k=1}^{n} y_k \chi_{(a_k,b_k)}$ on [a, b] (we are not concerned about the values of f at the endpoints of the subintervals since T involves integration), we have...

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That is, Φ is absolutely continuous on [a, b] (see Section 6.4. Absolutely Continuous Functions for the definition).

By Theorem 6.10 in Section 6.5, $g = \Phi'$ is integrable over [a, b] and $\Phi(x) = \int_a^x g$ for all $x \in [a, b]$. So for each $[c, d] \subset (a, b)$,

$$T(\chi_{[c,d)}) = \Phi(d) - \Phi(c) = \int_a^d g - \int_a^c g = \int_c^d g = \int_a^b g \chi_{[c,d)}.$$

For step function $f = \sum_{k=1}^{n} y_k \chi_{(a_k,b_k)}$ on [a, b] (we are not concerned about the values of f at the endpoints of the subintervals since T involves integration), we have...

Theorem 8.5 (continued 2)

Proof (continued).

$$T(f) = T\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n} y_k \chi_{(a_k, b_k)}\right) = \sum_{k=1}^{n} y_k T(\chi_{(a_k, b_k)}) = \sum_{k=1}^{n} y_k \int_a^b g\chi_{(a_k, b_k)}$$
$$= \int_a^b g\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n} y_k \chi_{(a_k, b_k)}\right) = \int_a^b gf. \quad (*)$$

By Proposition 7.10, for simple f on [a, b] there is a sequence of step functions $\{\varphi_n\}$ that converges to f with respect to the L^p norm and is uniformly pointwise bounded on [a, b]. Since T is linear and bounded on $L^p([a, b])$, then $\lim_{n\to\infty} T(\varphi_n) = T(f)$ by Note 8.1.A.

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By Proposition 7.10, for simple f on [a, b] there is a sequence of step functions $\{\varphi_n\}$ that converges to f with respect to the L^p norm and is uniformly pointwise bounded on [a, b]. Since T is linear and bounded on $L^p([a, b])$, then $\lim_{n\to\infty} T(\varphi_n) = T(f)$ by Note 8.1.A. By the Lebesgue Dominated Convergence Theorem, $\lim_{n\to\infty} \left(\int_a^b g\varphi_n\right) = \int_a^b gf(g)$ is integrable on [a, b] and φ_n is uniformly pointwise bounded, so this provides the bound on $g\varphi_n$ for the Lebesgue Dominated Convergence Theorem).

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Theorem 8.5 (continued 3)

Theorem 8.5. Let $1 \le p < \infty$. Suppose T is a bounded linear functional on $L^p([a, b])$. Then there is a function $g \in L^q([a, b])$, where q is the conjugate of p, for which $T(f) = \int_{[a,b]} gf$ for all $f \in L^p([a, b])$.

Proof (continued). So for *simple* function f, by (*) we have

$$T(f) = \lim_{n \to \infty} T(\varphi_n) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \left(\int_a^b g \varphi_n \right) = \int_a^b g f.$$

Also, since T is bounded, $\left|\int_{a}^{b} gf\right| = |T(f)| \le ||T||_{*} ||f||_{p}$ for all simple functions f. By Lemma 8.4, $g \in L^{q}([a, b])$. By Proposition 8.2, the linear functional $L: f \to \int_{a}^{b} fg$ is bounded on $L^{p}([a, b])$.

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Riesz Representation Theorem

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Let *E* be measurable, $1 \le p < \infty$, and *q* the conjugate of *p*. Then for each $g \in L^q(E)$, define the bounded linear functional \mathcal{R}_g on $L^p(E)$ by $\mathcal{R}_g(f) = \int_E gf$ for all $f \in L^p(E)$. Then for each bounded linear functional *T* on $L^p(E)$, there is a unique function $g \in L^q(E)$ for which $\mathcal{R}_g = T$ and $\|T\|_* = \|g\|_q$.

Proof. By Proposition 8.2, for each $g \in L^q(E)$, \mathcal{R}_g is a bounded linear functional on $L^p(E)$ for which $\|\mathcal{R}_g\|_* = \|g\|_q$. Since integration is linear, for each $g_1, g_2 \in L^q(E)$,

$$\mathcal{R}_{g_1} - \mathcal{R}_{g_2} = \int_E g_1 f - \int_E g_2 f = \int_E (g_1 - g_2) f = \mathcal{R}_{g_1 - g_2}.$$

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So if $\mathcal{R}_{g_1} = \mathcal{R}_{g_2}$, then $\mathcal{R}_{g_1-g_2} = 0$ and $\|\mathcal{R}_{g_1-g_2}\|_* = \|g_1 - g_2\|_q = 0$, so $g_1 = g_2$ (a.e.). Therefore, for a bounded linear functional T on $L^p(E)$, there is at most one function $g \in L^q(E)$ for which $\mathcal{R}_g = T$.

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Proof (continued). We now need to show that for each bounded linear functional T on $L^p(E)$, there is a function $g \in L^q(E)$ for which $T = \mathcal{R}_g$. By Theorem 8.5, this holds for E = [a, b]. Next, suppose $E = \mathbb{R}$ and let T be a bounded linear functional of $L^p(\mathbb{R})$. For fixed $n \in \mathbb{N}$, define T_n on $L^p([-n, n])$ by $T_n(f) = T(\hat{f})$ for all $f \in L^p([-n, n])$ where \hat{f} is the extension of f to all of \mathbb{R} such that $\hat{f} = 0$ for $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus [-n, n]$ and $\hat{f}(x) = f(x)$ for $x \in [-n, n]$.

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Proof (continued). By the definition of T_n and the definition of g_n , along with (16), we have that for all $f \in L^p(\mathbb{R})$ that vanish outside a bounded set,

$$T(f) = \lim_{n \to \infty} T_n(f)$$

= $\lim_{n \to \infty} \left(\int_{-n}^n g_n f \right)$ by the definition of g_n
= $\int_{\mathbb{R}} gf$ by the definition of g .

So $\lim_{n\to\infty} \left(\int_{-n}^{n} |g|^{q}\right) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} |g|^{q} \leq (||T||_{*})^{q}$ (by (16)) and $g \in L^{q}(\mathbb{R})$. Since the bounded linear functionals \mathcal{R}_{g} and T agree on the set of $L^{p}(\mathbb{R})$ functions which vanish outside a bounded set (which is a set dense in $L^{p}(\mathbb{R})$), then by Proposition 8.3, \mathcal{R}_{g} equals T on all of $L^{p}(\mathbb{R})$.

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Proof (continued). Finally, consider measurable set E and bounded linear functional T on $L^{p}(E)$. Define linear functional \hat{T} on $L^{p}(\mathbb{R})$ as $\hat{T}(f) = T(f|_{E})$. Then T is a bounded linear functional on $L^{p}(\mathbb{R})$.

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