

Advanced Differential Equations

Chapter 3. Hilbert Spaces and Orthonormal Systems

Section 3.12. Separable Hilbert Spaces—Proofs of Theorems

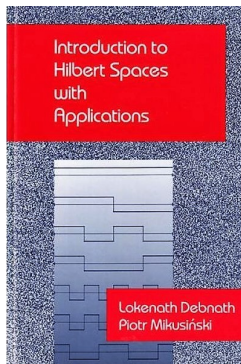


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Theorem 3.12.1

Theorem 3.12.1. Every separable Hilbert space contains a countable dense subset.

Proof. Let $\{x_n\}$ be a complete orthonormal sequence in Hilbert space H .
Let

$$S = \{(\alpha_1 + \beta_1)x_1 + (\alpha_2 + \beta_2 i)x_2 + \cdots + (\alpha_n + \beta_n i)x_n \mid \alpha_i, \beta_i \in \mathbb{Q}, n \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

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Theorem 3.12.2

Theorem 3.12.2. Every set of mutually orthogonal vectors in a separable Hilbert space is countable.

Proof. Let S be a set of mutually orthogonal vectors in a separable Hilbert space, and let $S_1 = \{x/\|x\| \mid x \in S, x \neq 0\}$. For any $x, y \in S_1$ we have $\|x - y\|^2 = 2$. Consider the set of open sets $\mathcal{B} = \{B(x, \sqrt{2}/2) \mid x \in S_1\}$. This is a collection of disjoint balls in the Hilbert space. By Theorem 3.12.1, the space contains a countable dense set D .

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Theorem 3.12.3. Fundamental Theorem of Infinite Dimensional Vector Spaces

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Let H be a separable Hilbert space over scalar field $\mathbb{C}$. Then:

(b) if H is infinite dimensional then H is isomorphic to ℓ^2 .

Proof. Let $\{x_n\}$ be a complete orthonormal sequence in H . If H is infinite dimensional then $\{x_n\}$ is an infinite sequence. Let x be an element of H . Define $T(x) = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots)$ where $\alpha_n = (x, x_n)$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$. By Theorem 3.8.3, T is one to one mapping from H onto ℓ^2 . Also, T is linear. We need only show that T preserves inner products. Denote $\alpha_n = (x, x_n)$ and $\beta = (y, x)_n$ for $x, y \in H$.

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Theorem 3.12.3 (continued)

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Then

$$\begin{aligned} (T(x), T(y)) &= ((\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots), (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots)) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n \bar{\beta}_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (x, x_n) \overline{(y, x_n)} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (x, (y, x_n) x_n) = \left(x, \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (y, x_n) x_n \right) = (x, y) \end{aligned}$$

since the inner product is continuous. □