

# Lecture #12 Vectors in Function Spaces

## I. Vector Spaces

### A. Introduction

1. Vector spaces deal with expansions in a series of functions.
  - a. For example, polynomials,  $a_n x^n$ , or trigonometric functions,  $\sin(x)$ .
2. An arbitrary function  $f(x)$  can be expressed as an expansion in these basis functions.
3. The coefficients  $a_n$  transform similar to vector components, and operators can act on the functions (and associated components).

### B. Vectors in Function Spaces

1. Extend concepts of vector analysis to more general situations.
2. Example of 2D Vector Space

a.	<u>Function Space</u>	<u>Vectors</u>
<u>Basis:</u>	$\phi_1(s) \text{ \& } \phi_2(s)$	$\hat{e}_1 \text{ \& } \hat{e}_2$
<u>Function/Vector:</u>	$f(s) = a_1 \phi_1(s) + a_2 \phi_2(s)$	$\vec{A} = A_1 \hat{e}_1 + A_2 \hat{e}_2$
<u>Coordinates in Space:</u>	$(a_1, a_2)$	$(A_1, A_2)$

S in an independent variable (one space)

### 3. Def: Linear Vector Space: a. Basis $\phi_1(s), \phi_2(s)$

- b. Set of function  $f(s)$  can be built by linear combination of  $\phi_1(s)$  &  $\phi_2(s)$   
 $\Rightarrow f(s) = a_1 \phi_1(s) + a_2 \phi_2(s)$

### 4. Properties:

a. Addition:  $g(s) = b_1 \phi_1(s) + b_2 \phi_2(s)$

$$h(s) = f(s) + g(s) = (a_1 + b_1) \phi_1(s) + (a_2 + b_2) \phi_2(s)$$

NOTE: Sum of two members is also a member of function space.

b. Multiplication by Scalar:  $u(s) = k f(s) = k a_1 \phi_1(s) + k a_2 \phi_2(s)$ .

5. Vector space is closed under an operation if that operation always produces another member of the vector space.

6. Basis Functions:

- Can be functions, compound objects (Pauli matrices), or even some abstract quantity.
- Dimension is number of basis functions: Can be small, large, infinite
- Basis functions must be linearly independent ("orthogonal"), so that any function is represented by a unique linear combination.

7. Examples:

a. Finite basis of dimension 3: (Spanned by 3 functions)

i.  $P_0(s) = 1$ ,  $P_1(s) = s$ ,  $P_2(s) = \frac{3}{2}s^2 - \frac{1}{2}$  (Legendre)

ii. Functions represented in terms of basis functions.

$$f_1(s) = s + 3 = 3P_0(s) + P_1(s)$$

$$f_2(s) = s^2 = \frac{2}{3}P_2(s) + \frac{1}{3}P_0(s)$$

iii. Any quadratic in  $s$  is a member of vector space,  $C_0 + C_1s + C_2s^2$

iv. Operations:

$$g(s) = 2f_1(s) - f_2(s) = 2[3P_0(s) + P_1(s)] - [\frac{2}{3}P_2(s) + \frac{1}{3}P_0(s)]$$

NOTE: I do not need definitions  $P_n(s)$  to add!

$$\longrightarrow = \frac{17}{3}P_0(s) + 2P_1(s) - \frac{2}{3}P_2(s)$$

v. Any linearly independent basis will do:  $\phi_0 = 1$ ,  $\phi_1 = s$ ,  $\phi_2 = s^2$

b. Infinite polynomial basis:  $\phi_n(s) = s^n$   $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

i. Represents any function that can be represented by Maclaurin series

$$f(s) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{s^n}{n!} f^{(n)}(0) \quad (\text{cannot represent discontinuous functions})$$

$$\text{where } a_n = \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!}$$

ii. Only valid over range in  $s$  for which series converges.

$\Rightarrow$  In physics, usually convergence occurs naturally.

c. Electron Spin: Two spin states  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$

i.  $f = a_1\alpha + a_2\beta$   $g = b_1\alpha + b_2\beta$

ii. Don't need to know definition of  $\alpha, \beta$  to add:  $f + ig = (a_1 + ib_1)\alpha + (a_2 + ib_2)\beta$ .

I. (Continued)

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### C. Scalar Product:

#### 1. Scalar Product $\langle f | g \rangle$

a.  $\langle f | f \rangle$  is a scalar (corresponds to  $|A|^2$ )

b. Linear in both  $f$  and  $g$ .

#### 2. Dirac Notation: bra-ket $\Rightarrow$ "bracket"

a. ket  $|g\rangle$

b. bra  $\langle f|$

c. When combined, interpreted as scalar product  $\langle f | g \rangle$ .

#### 3. Scalar Product can have a wide range of definitions.

a. Ex:  $\langle f(s) | g(s) \rangle = \int_a^b f^*(s) g(s) w(s) ds$

b. Limits  $a$  &  $b$  and weight function  $w(s)$  define scalar product.

c. Since  $\langle f | f \rangle \geq 0$  is like a "length",  $w(s) \geq 0$  over  $[a, b]$ .

#### 4. Alternatively, you may define scalar product in terms of its values.

a. Ex. Electron Spin  $\langle \alpha | \alpha \rangle = \langle \beta | \beta \rangle = 1$ ,  $\langle \alpha | \beta \rangle = \langle \beta | \alpha \rangle = 0$ .

b. Since  $\langle f | g \rangle$  is linear in  $f$  &  $g$ ;

if  $f = a_1 \alpha + a_2 \beta$  and  $g = b_1 \alpha + b_2 \beta$ , then

$$\langle f | g \rangle = a_1^* b_1 \langle \alpha | \alpha \rangle + a_1^* b_2 \langle \alpha | \beta \rangle + a_2^* b_1 \langle \beta | \alpha \rangle + a_2^* b_2 \langle \beta | \beta \rangle = a_1^* b_1 + a_2^* b_2.$$

5. If basis functions are equivalent to orthogonal coordinate system then scalar product is equivalent to dot product.

### D. Hilbert Space, $\mathcal{H}$

1. Def: Hilbert Space: A vector space closed under addition and scalar multiplication that has a defined scalar product for all pairs of members.

2.  $\mathcal{H}$  is spanned by set of basis functions  $\phi_i$ ;

$\mathcal{H}$  is complete because every function in  $\mathcal{H}$  is a linear form  $f(s) = \sum_n a_n \phi_n(s)$ .

1D (Continued)

3. Scalar Product: a.  $\langle f|f \rangle \geq 0$  Norm:  $\|f\| = \langle f|f \rangle^{1/2}$  Hawes ⊕  
b.  $\langle g|f \rangle^* = \langle f|g \rangle$   
c.  $\langle f|g+h \rangle = \langle f|g \rangle + \langle f|h \rangle$   
d.  $k \langle f|g \rangle = \langle f|kg \rangle$ ,  $\langle kf|g \rangle = k^* \langle f|g \rangle$

4. Example Hilbert Space: a.  $P_0(s) = 1$ ,  $P_1(s) = s$ ,  $P_2(s) = \frac{3}{2}s^2 - \frac{1}{2}$

b.  $\langle f|g \rangle = \int_{-1}^1 f^*(s)g(s)ds \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} a=-1 \\ b=1 \end{matrix} \quad W(s)=1$

c.  $\langle P_0|s^2 \rangle = \int_{-1}^1 P_0^*(s)s^2 ds = \int_{-1}^1 (1)s^2 ds = \left. \frac{s^3}{3} \right|_{-1}^1 = \frac{1}{3} - \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right) = \boxed{\frac{2}{3}}$

d.  $\langle P_0|P_2 \rangle = \int_{-1}^1 P_0^*(s)P_2(s)ds = \int_{-1}^1 (1)\left(\frac{3}{2}s^2 - \frac{1}{2}\right)ds = \left[ \frac{3}{2} \frac{s^3}{3} - \frac{s}{2} \right]_{-1}^1 = \boxed{0}$  ← orthogonal

5. Schwartz Inequality:

a.  $\boxed{|\langle f|g \rangle|^2 \leq \langle f|f \rangle \langle g|g \rangle} \Leftrightarrow (\underline{A} \cdot \underline{B})^2 = |\underline{A}|^2 |\underline{B}|^2 \cos^2 \theta \leq |\underline{A}|^2 |\underline{B}|^2$

b.  $\Rightarrow$  Norms shrink on a nontrivial projection. (where  $f \neq kg$ ).

E. Orthogonal Expansions

- Two functions are orthogonal if  $\langle f|g \rangle = 0$ .
- Basis functions  $\phi_i$  are normalized if  $\langle \phi_i|\phi_i \rangle = 1$ .
- Orthonormal basis: Functions that are both orthogonal & normalized.
- Projection onto orthonormal basis: (2D example)  
 $\langle \phi_1|f \rangle = \langle \phi_1|a_1\phi_1 + a_2\phi_2 \rangle = a_1 \langle \phi_1|\phi_1 \rangle + a_2 \langle \phi_1|\phi_2 \rangle = a_1!$
- For an orthonormal basis:

$\boxed{\text{If } \langle \phi_i|\phi_j \rangle = \delta_{ij} \text{ and } f = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \phi_i, \text{ then } a_i = \langle \phi_i|f \rangle}$

6. If not normalized but orthogonal basis,

$\boxed{f = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \phi_i \text{ where } a_i = \frac{\langle \phi_i|f \rangle}{\langle \phi_i|\phi_i \rangle}}$

I, E. Continued

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7. Example: a. Basis functions  $\chi_n(x) = \sin(nx)$   $n=0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$

b.  $\langle f | g \rangle = \int_0^\pi f^*(x) g(x) dx$

c. Check orthogonality:  $\langle \chi_n | \chi_m \rangle = \int_0^\pi \sin(nx) \sin(mx) dx = \frac{\pi}{2} \delta_{nm}$   
orthogonal, but not normalized! →

d. Construct orthonormal basis:

$$\phi_n(x) = \left(\frac{2}{\pi}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \sin(nx) \quad n=0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

e. Express  $f(x) = x^2(\pi-x)$  in this basis  $\phi_n(x)$ .

Orthonormal  
projection →

$$a_n = \langle \phi_n | f(x) \rangle = \left(\frac{2}{\pi}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \int_0^\pi \sin(nx) x^2(\pi-x) dx$$

f. Then

$$f(x) = x^2(\pi-x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \phi_n(x) = \left(\frac{2}{\pi}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \sin(nx)$$

8. Example: Four spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  particles in triplet state.

a.  $\chi_1 = \alpha\beta\alpha\alpha - \beta\alpha\alpha\alpha$ ,  $\chi_2 = \alpha\alpha\beta\beta - \alpha\alpha\beta\alpha$ ,  $\chi_3 = \alpha\alpha\alpha\beta + \alpha\alpha\beta\alpha - \alpha\beta\alpha\alpha - \beta\alpha\alpha\alpha$

b.  $\langle abcd | wxyz \rangle = \delta_{aw} \delta_{bx} \delta_{cy} \delta_{dz}$

c. Create orthonormal basis:

i.  $\langle \chi_1 | \chi_1 \rangle = \langle \alpha\beta\alpha\alpha | \alpha\beta\alpha\alpha \rangle - \langle \alpha\beta\alpha\alpha | \beta\alpha\alpha\alpha \rangle - \langle \beta\alpha\alpha\alpha | \alpha\beta\alpha\alpha \rangle + \langle \beta\alpha\alpha\alpha | \beta\alpha\alpha\alpha \rangle = 2$

ii. Similarly  $\langle \chi_2 | \chi_2 \rangle = 2$  and  $\langle \chi_3 | \chi_3 \rangle = 4$

iii. Thus  $\phi_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \chi_1$ ,  $\phi_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \chi_2$ ,  $\phi_3 = \frac{1}{2} \chi_3$  orthonormal

d. Expand  $\chi_0 = \alpha\alpha\beta\alpha - \alpha\beta\alpha\alpha$

i.  $a_1 = \langle \phi_1 | \chi_0 \rangle = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ ,  $a_2 = \langle \phi_2 | \chi_0 \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ ,  $a_3 = \langle \phi_3 | \chi_0 \rangle = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$

$$\Rightarrow \chi_0 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \phi_1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \phi_2 + \phi_3$$

# I. F. Other Properties

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## 1. Relation between expansions and scalar products

a.  $f = \sum_n a_n \phi_n$       $g = \sum_m b_m \phi_m$

b.  $\langle f | g \rangle = \sum_{n,m} a_n^* b_m \langle \phi_n | \phi_m \rangle = \sum_n a_n^* b_n$  ← Looks like "dot product"  $a^* \cdot b$   
=  $\delta_{nm}$  if orthonormal

c. For  $\langle f | f \rangle = \sum_n |a_n|^2$

d. Connection to matrices:  $a \leftrightarrow f$       $b \leftrightarrow g$

$\langle f | g \rangle = a^t b$       $\langle g | f \rangle = a^t a$   
↑ adjoint

## 2. Bessel's Inequality and Completeness

a. How do we know a set of basis functions are complete (span the space)?

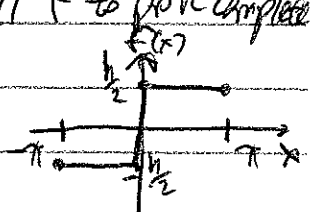
b. Power series and trigonometric series are complete for expanding square integrable functions  $f$  ( $\langle f | f \rangle > 0$ ,  $L^2$ )

c. Test for Completeness:

Bessel's Inequality:  $\langle f | f \rangle \geq \sum_n |a_n|^2$  where = complete > incomplete

⇒ BvE, not very practical ⇒ need to apply for all  $f$  to prove complete

## 3. Discontinuous Functions: $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{h}{2} & 0 < x < \pi \\ -\frac{h}{2} & -\pi < x < 0 \end{cases}$



a. Can be represented by power series

b. Together,  $\cos(nx)$  &  $\sin(nx)$  ( $n=0,1,2,\dots$ ) form a complete set on  $[-\pi, \pi]$ , with the possibility of discontinuities.

c.  $f(x) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [a_n \cos(nx) + b_n \sin(nx)]$

d. Since  $f(x)$  is odd, all  $a_n = 0$ .

e. Normalization factor,  $w = \frac{1}{\pi}$   $b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin(nt) dt = \frac{h}{n\pi} [1 - \cos(n\pi)] = \begin{cases} 0 & n \text{ even} \\ \frac{2h}{n\pi} & n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$

# I. F3 (Continued)

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f. Thus, 
$$f(x) = \frac{2b}{\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(2n+1)x}{(2n+1)}$$

## 4. Expansion of Dirac Delta Function

a. 
$$\delta(x-t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(t) \phi_n(x) \quad \text{where } a < t < b$$

b. 
$$c_n(t) = \langle \phi_n(x) | \delta(x-t) \rangle = \int_a^b \phi_n^*(x) \delta(x-t) dx = \phi_n^*(t)$$

c. Thus 
$$\delta(x-t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \phi_n^*(t) \phi_n(x) \quad \leftarrow \text{Not uniformly convergent at } x=t.$$

↘ Closure for Dirac Delta Function with respect to  $\phi_n$ .

d. Apply to function  $F(x)$ : 
$$\int_a^b F(x) \delta(x-t) dx = \int_a^b dt \sum_m c_m \phi_m(t) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \phi_n^*(t) \phi_n(x)$$
  
 where  $F(x) = \sum_m c_m \phi_m(x)$   

$$= \sum_{mn} c_m \phi_n(x) \underbrace{\int_a^b dt \phi_n^*(t) \phi_m(t)}_{= \langle \phi_n | \phi_m \rangle = \delta_{nm}} = \sum_n c_n \phi_n(x) = F(x)!$$

## 5. Ex: Represent $\delta(x-t)$ on basis $\phi_n(x) = \sqrt{2} \sin(n\pi x)$ on $(0,1)$ ( $n=1,2,\dots$ )

a. 
$$\delta(x-t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \phi_n^*(t) \phi_n(x) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=1}^N 2 \sin(n\pi t) \sin(n\pi x)$$

## G. Identity and Dirac Notation

1. 
$$|F\rangle = \sum_j q_j |\phi_j\rangle = \sum_j |\phi_j\rangle \langle \phi_j | F \rangle = \left( \sum_j |\phi_j\rangle \langle \phi_j| \right) |F\rangle$$
  

$$q_j = \langle \phi_j | F \rangle$$

2. Thus 
$$1 = \sum_j |\phi_j\rangle \langle \phi_j|$$

ket-bra sum.  
 $\Rightarrow$  resolution of the identity