

Solutions to Quiz 3

1. Let ℓ_2 denote the usual space taken as an inner product space with the $\|\cdot\|_2$ norm and the associated inner product. Let \mathbb{R}^N be the subspace consisting of vectors of the form $(a_1, \dots, a_N, 0, \dots)$; i. e. the vectors which have component 0 beyond the N -th component. Let \mathbb{R}^∞ be the union of \mathbb{R}^N over all N .

Consider the linear functional $f : \mathbb{R}^\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined on \mathbb{R}^N by

$$f((a_1, \dots, a_N, 0, \dots)) = \sum_{n=1}^N a_n$$

- (1 mark) (a) Find the vector v_N in \mathbb{R}^N such that $f(a) = \langle a, v_N \rangle$ for every a in \mathbb{R}^N .

Solution: The vector $v_N = (1, \dots, \overset{N}{1}, 0, \dots)$ has this property. It is the unique such vector.

- (1 mark) (b) What is $\|v_N\|_2$?

Solution: The norm $\|v_N\| = \sqrt{\sum_{n=1}^N 1^2} = \sqrt{N}$.

- (1 mark) (c) Does the sequence v_N converge in \mathbb{R}^∞ with respect to $\|\cdot\|_2$?

Solution: No. The norms diverge to infinity. Hence the sequence is not bounded. So it cannot be convergent.

- (1 mark) (d) Does the sequence v_N converge in ℓ_2 ?

Solution: No. Same reasons as above.

- (1 mark) (e) Find a sequence w_n of *unit* vectors in ℓ_2 such that $f(w_n) \rightarrow \infty$ as n goes to infinity.

Solution: If we take the vector $w_n = v_n / \|v_n\|_2$, then w_n is a unit vector. Moreover,

$$f(w_n) = \langle w_n, v_n \rangle = \frac{\langle v_n, v_n \rangle}{\|v_n\|_2} = \|v_n\|_2$$

We have already seen that this goes to infinity as n goes to infinity.