

NORM-ONE PROJECTIONS ON SOME FUNCTION SPACES

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1. Let X be a compact Hausdorff space and let $C(X)$ be the space of all real-valued continuous functions on X endowed with sup-norm. Let V and W be linear subspaces of $C(X)$ such that $1 \in V \subset W$. Denote by $\text{Prob}(X)$ the set of all probability Radon measures on X ; let δ_x be the Dirac measure at $x \in X$.

As in [2], define the Choquet boundary of V with respect to W by $\text{Ch}_W(V) = \{x \in X : \text{if } \mu \in \text{Prob}(X) \text{ and } \mu = \delta_x \text{ on } V, \text{ then } \mu = \delta_x \text{ on } W\}$.

Then $\text{Ch}(V) := \text{Ch}_{C(X)}(V)$ is the usual Choquet boundary of V . If W is the uniqueness closure of V , i.e., $W = \{f \in C(X) : \mu(f) = f(x) \text{ for all } x \in X \text{ and all } \mu \in \text{Prob}(X) \text{ such that } \mu = \delta_x \text{ on } V\}$, then $\text{Ch}_W(V) = X$.

The following result is a consequence of Theorem 2 of C. Franchetti [2] (see also E. Scheffold [3], Lemma 2).

THEOREM 1. *Let $Y \subset \text{Ch}_W(V)$ and $L \in (W, C(X))'$, $\|L\| = 1$. If $Lp = p$ on Y for all $p \in V$, then $Lf = f$ on Y for all $f \in W$.*

We shall give a direct proof of this theorem.

Let $y \in Y$. Let $\nu(f) = Lf(y)$, $f \in W$. Then $\nu \in W'$ and $\|\nu\| \leq 1$. Since $1 \in V$, we have $\nu(1) = 1$, hence $\|\nu\| = 1$. Using the Hahn-Banach theorem we find a $\mu \in C(X)'$ with $\mu = \nu$ on W and $\|\mu\| = 1$. Then $\mu(1) = \nu(1) = 1$, hence $\|\mu\| = \mu(1) = 1$. It follows that $\mu \in \text{Prob}(X)$.

For $p \in V$ we have $\mu(p) = \nu(p) = Lp(y) = p(y)$, hence $\mu = \delta_y$ on V . Since $y \in \text{Ch}_W(V)$, we have $\mu = \delta_y$ on W . Then $\nu = \delta_y$ on W , i.e., $Lf(y) = \nu(f) = f(y)$ for all $f \in W$.

THEOREM 2. *Suppose that W separates X and $\text{Ch}(V) = \text{Ch}(W)$. If $L \in (W, W)'$, $\|L\| = 1$ and $Lp = p$ on $\text{Ch}(W)$ for all $p \in V$, then L is the identity operator on W .*

Proof. Let $f \in W$. Since $\text{Ch}(W) = \text{Ch}(V) \subset \text{Ch}_W(V)$, from Theorem 1 it follows that $Lf - f = 0$ on $\text{Ch}(W)$. Moreover, $Lf - f \in W$; by using the Bauer's maximum principle we deduce that $Lf - f = 0$ on X .

The following result was obtained, for subspaces of $C_c(X)$, by E. Briem ([1], Th. 7).

COROLLARY 1. *Suppose that W separates X and $\text{Ch}(V) = \text{Ch}(W)$. If $L \in (W, V)'$ is a norm-one projection, then $V = W$ and L is the identity operator.*

Proof. It suffices to apply Theorem 2.

2. In [4], D. E. Wulbert has proved :

PROPOSITION 1. *Let X be a compact Hausdorff space which contains at most a finite number of isolated points. Let P be a subspace of finite codimension in $C(X)$ and let L be a norm-one linear operator defined on $C(X)$ which acts as the identity on P . Then for each f in $C(X)$ and each nonisolated y in X , $Lf(y) = f(y)$.*

Using Theorem 1, the following related result can be proved.

PROPOSITION 2. *Let X be a compact Hausdorff space. Let P be a subspace of finite codimension in $C(X)$ which contains the constant functions and separates the points of X . Let $L \in (C(X), C(X))'$, $\|L\| = 1$, $Lp = p$ on $\text{Ch}(P)$ for all $p \in P$. Then $Lf(y) = f(y)$ for each $f \in C(X)$ and each nonisolated y in X .*

Proof. We apply Theorem 1 with $V = P$, $W = C(X)$ and $Y = \text{Ch}(P)$. It follows that $Lf = f$ on $\text{Ch}(P)$ for all $f \in C(X)$. Now it suffices to show that each nonisolated point of X is in the closure of $\text{Ch}(P)$.

Suppose the contrary. Then there exist a nonisolated point y and an open set U which contains y and does not intersect $\text{Ch}(P)$. Let $m = \text{codim}(P)$. As in the Wulbert's proof of Proposition 1 (see [4], p. 389) we construct $m + 1$ continuous functions, all of norm one, which have disjoint supports and such that the support of each is contained in U . Then there exists a linear combination $f \neq 0$ of these functions which is in P . But f vanishes on $\text{Ch}(P)$, hence by the Bauer's maximum principle f vanishes on X , a contradiction.

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