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Every norm is a restriction of an order-unit norm

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Abstract: We point out the equivalence of the fact that every norm on a vector space is a restriction of an order-unit norm to that of Paulsen's construction concerning generalization of operator systems.

Key words: Norm, ordered vector space, order-unit

1. Introduction

The purpose of this very short expository note is to bring a widely unnoticed fact concerning normed spaces to the readers' attention by pointing out that it is equivalent to Paulsen's construction in quantum analysis given in [4]. We refer to [1] for the general theory of ordered vector spaces.

A subset K of a vector space E is called a *cone* if

$$K + K \subseteq K, \mathbb{R}^+ K \subseteq K, \text{ and } K \cap (-K) = \{0\},$$

in which case the pair (E, K) is called an *ordered vector space*. We write $x \leq y$, or $y \geq x$ in E , whenever $y - x \in K$. An element $e \in K \setminus \{0\}$ is called an *order-unit* if for each $x \in E$ there exists a $\lambda > 0$ such that $x \leq \lambda e$. The notion of order-unit is due to Kadison [3]. An ordered vector space E is called *almost Archimedean* if $-\varepsilon x \leq y \leq \varepsilon x$ for all $\varepsilon > 0$; then $y = 0$. Similarly, E is called *Archimedean* if $\mathbb{N}x \leq y$ implies $x \leq 0$. It is obvious that Archimedeanness implies almost Archimedeanness, but not vice versa. If (E, K) is an almost Archimedean vector space with an order-unit $e > 0$, then

$$\|x\|_e = \inf\{\varepsilon > 0 : -\varepsilon e \leq x \leq \varepsilon e\}$$

defines a norm on the ordered vector space (E, K) . Let us call this norm as the *norm generated by the order unit* e .

Theorem 1 *Let $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ be a normed space. Then there exists an Archimedean ordered vector space F with an order-unit $e > 0$ such that E is isomorphic to a vector subspace of F , and in this case the equality*

$$\|x\| = \|x\|_e$$

holds for all $x \in E$.

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Proof Let $F := E \times \mathbb{R}$, and consider F as a vector space under the pointwise algebraic operations. One can easily show that F is an Archimedean ordered vector space with respect to the cone

$$K = \{(x, r) : x \in B(0, r)\},$$

where $B(0, r)$ is the closed ball with center zero and radius r in the normed space $(E, \|\cdot\|_H)$. Moreover, the element $e = (0, 1)$ is an order unit of F . It is also obvious that F can be embedded into F as a vector subspace via the map $x \mapsto (x, 0)$. Therefore, we may write x instead of $(x, 0)$. From the following equality

$$-\|x\| e \leq (x, 0) \leq \|x\| e,$$

it follows that

$$\|x\|_e = \|(x, 0)\|_e \leq \|x\|.$$

Now suppose that $\|(x, 0)\|_e < \|x\|_H$. Choose $\alpha > 0$ so that

$$\|(x, 0)\|_e < \alpha < \|x\|, \text{ and } (x, 0) \leq \alpha e.$$

Then $0 \leq (-x, \alpha)$ in F , whence

$$\|x\| = \| -x \| \leq \alpha < \|x\|,$$

a contradiction. This completes the proof. □

Let us point out that Theorem 1 follows directly from the following construction of Paulsen [4, pp. 178, 182]: Let V be a (real or complex) vector space equipped with a norm $\|\cdot\|$. Define

$\mathcal{S} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & v \\ w^* & \mu \end{bmatrix} : \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{C}, v, w \in V \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C} \oplus V \oplus \bar{V}$, where \bar{V} is the conjugate space to V . Note that \mathcal{S} is a $*$ -vector space with the involution $\begin{bmatrix} \lambda & v \\ w^* & \mu \end{bmatrix}^* = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\lambda} & w \\ v^* & \bar{\mu} \end{bmatrix}$, and $\mathcal{S}_h = \{x \in \mathcal{S} : x^* = x\}$ is a real vector subspace in \mathcal{S} . Define

$$\mathcal{C} := \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & v \\ v^* & \mu \end{bmatrix} : \lambda, \mu \geq 0, \|v\|^2 \leq \lambda\mu \right\} \subseteq \mathcal{S} \text{ and } \varepsilon := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

and note that \mathcal{C} is a cone in \mathcal{S}_h , that e is an order-unit, and that \mathcal{S}_h is an ordered vector space that is almost Archimedean. In particular, $\|x\|_e = \inf\{\varepsilon > 0 : -\varepsilon e \leq x \leq \varepsilon e\}$ is the norm on \mathcal{S}_h generated by the order-unit e . Moreover, the (real part) vector space V can be embedded into \mathcal{S}_h via the real linear mapping $v \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 0 & v \\ v^* & 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

Lastly, the equality

$$\|v\| = \inf \left\{ \varepsilon > 0 : \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon & v \\ v^* & \varepsilon \end{bmatrix} \in \mathcal{C} \right\} = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} 0 & v \\ v^* & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\|_e$$

holds, whence the proof of Theorem is complete 1.

We also note, for the sake of completeness, that similar arguments underlying the proof of Theorem 1 in the setting of normed spaces are also used in [2].

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