

VI.2 Weak topologies on locally convex spaces

Theorem 6 (Mazur theorem). *Let X be a LCS and let $A \subset X$ be a convex set. Then:*

- (a) $\overline{A}^w = \overline{A}$.
- (b) A is close if and only if it is weakly closed.

Corollary 7. *Let X be a metrizable LCS and let (x_n) be a sequence in X weakly converging to a point $x \in X$. Then there is a sequence (y_n) in X such that*

- $y_n \in \text{co}\{x_k; k \geq n\}$ for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$;
- $y_n \rightarrow x$ in (the original topology of) X .

Theorem 8 (boundedness and weak boundedness). *Let X be a LCS and let $A \subset X$. Then A is bounded in X if and only if it is bounded in $\sigma(X, X^*)$.*

Proposition 9 (weak topology on a subspace). *Let X be a LCS and let $Y \subset\subset X$. Then the weak topology $\sigma(Y, Y^*)$ coincides with the restriction of the weak topology $\sigma(X, X^*)$ to Y .*

VI.3 Polars and their applications

Definition. Let X be a LCS. Let $A \subset X$ and $B \subset X^*$ be nonempty sets. We define

$$\begin{aligned} A^\triangleright &= \{f \in X^*; \forall x \in A : \text{Re } f(x) \leq 1\}, & B_\triangleright &= \{x \in X; \forall f \in B : \text{Re } f(x) \leq 1\}, \\ A^\circ &= \{f \in X^*; \forall x \in A : |f(x)| \leq 1\}, & B_\circ &= \{x \in X; \forall f \in B : |f(x)| \leq 1\}, \\ A^\perp &= \{f \in X^*; \forall x \in A : f(x) = 0\}, & B_\perp &= \{x \in X; \forall f \in B : f(x) = 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

The sets A^\triangleright and B_\triangleright are called **polars** of the sets A and B , the sets A° and B_\circ are called **absolute polars** and the sets A^\perp and B_\perp are called **anihilators**.

Remarks:

- (1) The terminology and notation is not unified in the literature. Sometimes ‘the polar’ means ‘the absolute polar’, our polar is sometimes denoted by A° , B_\circ .
- (2) If X is Hausdorff and if we equip X^* by the weak* topology $\sigma(X^*, X)$, then $(X^*, w^*)^* = X$, and hence for any $B \subset X^*$ the (downward) polar B_\triangleright by the previous definition coincide with the polar B^\triangleright with respect to the space (X^*, w^*) and its dual X . Similarly for absolute polars and annihilators.

Example 10. *Let X be a normed linear space. Then*

- (a) $(B_X)^\triangleright = (B_X)^\circ = B_{X^*}$,
- (b) $(B_{X^*})_\triangleright = (B_{X^*})_\circ = B_X$.

Proposition 11 (polar calculus). *Let X be a LCS and let $A \subset X$ be a nonempty set.*

- (a) *The set A^\triangleright is convex and contains the zero functional, A° is absolutely convex and A^\perp is a subspace of X^* . All the three sets are moreover weak* closed.*
- (b) *$A^\perp \subset A^\circ \subset A^\triangleright$.*
- (c) *If A is balanced, then $A^\triangleright = A^\circ$. If $A \subset\subset X$, then $A^\triangleright = A^\circ = A^\perp$.*
- (d) *$\{\mathbf{o}\}^\triangleright = \{\mathbf{o}\}^\circ = \{\mathbf{o}\}^\perp = X^*$, $X^\triangleright = X^\circ = X^\perp = \{\mathbf{o}\}$.*
- (e) *$(cA)^\triangleright = \frac{1}{c}A^\triangleright$ and $(cA)^\circ = \frac{1}{c}A^\circ$ whenever $c > 0$.*
- (f) *Let $(A_i)_{i \in I}$ be a nonempty family of nonempty subsets of X . Then $(\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i)^\circ = \bigcap_{i \in I} A_i^\circ$. The analogous formulas hold for polars and annihilators.*

Remark: Analogous statements hold for $B \subset X^*$ and for the sets B_\triangleright , B_\circ , B_\perp . There are just two differences: The sets B_\triangleright , B_\circ and B_\perp are weakly closed and for the validity of the second statement in (d) one needs to assume that X is Hausdorff.

Theorem 12 (bipolar theorem). *Let X be a LCS and let $A \subset X$ and $B \subset X^*$ be nonempty set. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} (A^\triangleright)_\triangleright &= \overline{\text{co}}(A \cup \{\mathbf{o}\}) (= \overline{\text{co}}^{\sigma(X, X^*)}(A \cup \{\mathbf{o}\})), & (B_\triangleright)^\triangleright &= \overline{\text{co}}^{\sigma(X^*, X)}(B \cup \{\mathbf{o}\}), \\ (A^\circ)_\circ &= \overline{\text{aco}}A (= \overline{\text{aco}}^{\sigma(X, X^*)}A), & (B_\circ)^\circ &= \overline{\text{aco}}^{\sigma(X^*, X)}B, \\ (A^\perp)_\perp &= \overline{\text{span}}A (= \overline{\text{span}}^{\sigma(X, X^*)}A), & (B_\perp)^\perp &= \overline{\text{span}}^{\sigma(X^*, X)}B. \end{aligned}$$

Corollary 13. *Let X and Y be normed linear spaces and let $T \in L(X, Y)$. Then $(\ker T)^\perp = \overline{T'(X^*)}^{w^*}$.*

Theorem 14 (Goldstine). *Let X be a normed linear space and let $\varkappa : X \rightarrow X^{**}$ be the canonical embedding. Then*

$$B_{X^{**}} = \overline{\varkappa(B_X)}^{\sigma(X^{**}, X^*)}.$$

Theorem 15 (Banach-Alaoglu). *Let X be a LCS and let $U \subset X$ be a neighborhood of \mathbf{o} . Then:*

- (a) *U° is a weak* compact subset of X^* (i.e., it is compact in the topology $\sigma(X^*, X)$).*
- (b) *If X is moreover separable, U° is metrizable in the topology $\sigma(X^*, X)$.*

Corollary 16 (Banach-Alaoglu for normed spaces). *Let X be a normed linear space. Then (B_{X^*}, w^*) is compact. If X is separable, (B_{X^*}, w^*) is moreover metrizable.*

Corollary 17 (reflexivity and weak compactness). *Let X be a Banach space. Then X is reflexive if and only if B_X is weakly compact. If X is reflexive and separable, (B_X, w) is moreover metrizable.*

Corollary 18. *Let X be a reflexive Banach space. Then each bounded sequence in X admits a weakly convergent subsequence.*