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# ON THE RIESZ-THORIN INTERPOLATION THEOREM

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#### Abstract

In this paper we discuss and prove the Riesz-Thorin interpolation theorem in the space of tempered distributions.

### 1. Introduction

In this paper, we present one classical result of interpolation operator; The Riesz-Thorin Interpolation Theorem in  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . The theorem allows us to show that a linear operator that is bounded on two spaces is bounded on every space in between the two. The proof

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of the Riesz-Thorin Interpolation Theorem is based on the Hadamard's Three-Lines lemma.

Lemma 1.1 (The three lines lemma) : Suppose F(z) is a bounded continuous function in the strip  $Rez \in [0, 1]$  which is holomorphic for  $Rez \in (0, 1)$ . If  $|F(z)| \le N_0$ for Rez = 0 and  $|F(z)| \le N_1$  for Rez = 1, then  $|F(z) \le N_0^{1-x}N_1^x$  for Rez = x; 0 < x < 1. **Proof** : We follow the proof due to ([1],[2]).

Let  $G_{\epsilon}(z) = G(z)N_0^{z-1}N_1^{-z}e^{\epsilon z(z-1)}$ . For Rez = 0, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |G_{\epsilon}(iy)| &= |G(iy)N_{0}^{iy-1}N_{1}^{-iy}e^{\epsilon iy(iy-1)}| \\ &\leq |N_{0}N_{0}^{iy-1}N_{1}^{\epsilon iy(iy-1)}|; \text{ since } F(z) \leq N_{0} \text{ for } Rez = 0 \\ &\leq |e^{iy\ln N_{0}}e^{-iy\ln N_{1}}e^{\epsilon iy(iy-1)}| \\ &= |e^{iy\ln(N_{0}/N_{1})}e^{-\epsilon y^{2}}e^{-\epsilon iy}|. \end{aligned}$$

Now since  $|e^{iy \ln(N_0/N_1)}| \le 1$ ;  $|e^{\epsilon iy}| \le 1$  (both are on the unit circle),  $|G_{\epsilon}(iy)| \le e^{\epsilon y^2}| \le 1$ . For Rez = 1, we have

$$|G_{\epsilon}(1+iy)| = |G(1+iy)N_{0}^{iy}N_{1}^{-(1+iy)}e^{\epsilon iy(1+iy)}|$$
  
$$\leq |e^{\ln(N_{0}/N_{1})}e^{i\epsilon}e^{-\epsilon y^{2}}|$$
  
$$\leq e^{\epsilon y^{2}} \leq 1.$$

When 0 < Rez < 1 i.e 0 < x < 1,

$$\begin{aligned} |G_{\epsilon}(x+iy)| &= |G(x+iy)N_0^{x+iy-1}N_1^{-(x+iy)}e^{\epsilon(x+iy)(iy-1)}| \\ &\leq |G(x+iy)||N_0^{x-1}N_1^{-x}e^{\epsilon x(x-1)}|e^{-\epsilon y^2} \\ &\leq Ce^{-\epsilon y^2} \end{aligned}$$

since F(z) is bounded on the strip. Now since holomorphic functions attain their maximum and minimum on the boundary of any compact set; consider the compact domain  $K = \{z | Imz | \le k; 0 \le Rez \le 1\}$  where k is so large that  $|G_{\epsilon}(x + iy)| \le 1$  for all  $|y| \ge k$ and  $0 \le x \le 1$ . Thus we see that  $e^{-\epsilon y^2} \to 0$  as  $y \to \infty$  and hence  $|G_{\epsilon}(x + iy)| \to 0$  as  $Imz \to 0$ . Hence from above, we have

$$\lim_{\epsilon \to 0} |G_{\epsilon}(x+iy)| \le |G(x+iy)| N_0^{x-1} N_1^{-x} \le 1$$

for Rez. Therefore,  $|G(x+iy)| \leq N_0^{1-x} N_1^x$ . We also need the following lemma as well.

**Lemma 1.2 (Lyapnov Inequality)** : Let  $1 \le p_0$ ,  $p_1 \le \infty$  and  $0 \le \sigma \le 1$ . Define p by

$$\frac{1}{p} = \frac{1-\sigma}{p_0} + \frac{\sigma}{p_1}$$

Then  $L^{p_0} \cap L^{p_1} \subset L^p$  and we have

$$|f||_{p}||f||_{p_{0}}^{1-\sigma}||f||_{p_{1}}^{\sigma};\forall f \in L^{p_{0}} \cap L^{p_{1}}$$

$$\tag{1}$$

**Proof**: We use Holder's inequality to prove inequality (). We have  $||fg||_1 \leq ||f||_p ||f||_q$ whenever 1/p + 1/q = 1. We let  $x = (1\sigma)p$ ;  $y = \sigma p$ ;  $1/z_0 = x/p_0$ ;  $1/z_1 = y/p_1$ , then x + y = p;  $1/z_0 + 1/z_1 = 1$ ;  $xz_0 = p_0$  and  $yz_1 = p_1$ . Hence using Holder's inequality, we get

$$\begin{split} ||f||_{p}^{p} &= (\int |f|^{p} dx)^{\frac{1}{p}} = ||f^{p}||_{1} = ||f^{x+y}||_{1} \\ &= ||f^{x}f^{y}|| \le ||f^{x}||_{z_{0}} ||f^{y}||_{z_{1}} \\ &= (\int |f|^{xz_{0}} dx)^{\frac{1}{z_{0}}} (\int |f|^{yz_{1}} dx)^{\frac{1}{z_{1}}} \\ &= (\int |f|^{p_{0}} dx)^{\frac{1-\sigma}{p_{0}}p} (\int |f|^{p_{1}} dx)^{\frac{\sigma}{p_{1}}p} \\ &= (||f||_{p_{0}}^{1-\sigma}||f||_{p}^{\sigma}. \end{split}$$

Thus

$$||f||_p \le ||f||_{p_0}^{1-\sigma} ||f||_{p_1}^{\sigma}$$

**Theorem 1.3 (Riesz-Thorin Interpolation theorem)** : Let  $1 \le p_0, p_1, q_0, q_1 \le \infty$ and  $z \in (0, 1)$ . Define  $1 \le p, q \le \infty$  by

$$\frac{1}{p} = \frac{1-z}{p_0} + \frac{z}{p_1}; \frac{1}{q} = \frac{1-z}{q_0} + \frac{z}{q_1}; z \subset \mathbb{C}.$$

If T is a linear map with

$$T: L^{p_0} \to L^{q_0}, ||T||_{L^{p_0}} \to L^{q_0} = N_0$$
  
 $T: L^{p_1} \to L^{q_1}, ||T||_{L^{p_1}} \to L^{q_1} = N_1.$ 

Then we have  $||Tf||_q \leq N_0^{1-z} N_1^z ||f||_p$  for all  $f \in L^{p_0} \cap L^{p_1}$ . Hence *T* extends uniquely as a continuous map from  $L^p$  to  $L^q$ , with  $||T||_{L^p} \to L^q \leq N_0^{1-z} N_1^z$ . More precisely if  $||Tf||_{q_0} \leq N_0 ||f||_p$  and  $||Tf||_q \leq N_1 ||f||_q$  then  $||Tf||_q \leq N_0^{1-z} N_1^z ||f||_p$ . **Proof**: We are going to use the  $L^2$  theory of derivatives to carry out the proof, for one,  $L^2$  is a Hilbert space; secondly, the Fourier transform, which converts differentiation into multiplication by polynomials, is a unitary isomorphism on  $L^2$ . The resulting function spaces are known as  $(L^2)$  Sobolev spaces. Also we note that since Fourier transform maps tempered distributions into tempered distributions, we define the Sobolev norm of order s by

$$||f||_{s}^{2} \equiv \int |\hat{f}(\xi)|^{2} (1+|\xi|^{2})^{s} d\xi < \infty$$

. Now given  $\phi,\,\varphi\subset\delta,\,\delta-$  Schwartz class, we let

$$F(z) = \left\langle T(1+|\xi|^2)^{-\frac{s}{2}}\phi, (1+|\xi|^2)^{\frac{t}{2}}\varphi \right\rangle$$
  
=  $\int (T\phi)(1+|\xi|^2)^{-\frac{s}{2}}(1+|\xi|^2)^{\frac{t}{2}}\varphi d\xi$   
 $s(z) = \frac{1}{p}, s_0 = \frac{1}{p_0}, t(z) = \frac{1}{q}, t_0 = \frac{1}{q_0}.$ 

For z = x + iy we have

$$\left(\int (1+|\xi|^2)^z |\phi|^2 d\xi\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \left(\int (1+|\xi|^2)^x |\phi|^2 d\xi\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = ||\phi||_{s-x}$$

Since

$$|(1+|\xi|^2)^z| = |e^{z\ln(1+|\xi|^2)}| = |(1+|\xi|^2)^x e^{iy\ln(1+|\xi|^2)} \le |(1+|\xi|^2)^x$$

for  $|e^{iy \ln(1+|\xi|^2)}| < 1$ . Since  $(1+|\xi|^2)^z$  is an entire holomorphic function of z; it follows easily that F(z) is an entire holomorphic function of z. For Rez = 0,

$$\begin{aligned} |F(z)| &\leq \left( \int |T\phi|^2 (1+|\xi|^2)^{-s_0} d\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \int |\varphi|^2 (1+|\xi|^2)^{t_0} d\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq ||T(1+|\xi|^2)^{-s_0} \phi||_{t_0} ||(1+|\xi|^2)^{t_0} \varphi||_{-t_0} \\ &\leq N_0 ||(1+|\xi|^2)^{-s_0} \phi||_{s_0} ||(1+|\xi|^2)^{t_0} \varphi||_{t_0} \\ &\leq N_0 ||\phi||_0 ||\varphi||_0. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly for Rez = 1

$$|F(z)| \leq \left(\int |T\phi|^2 (1+|\xi|^2)^{-s_1} d\xi\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int |\varphi|^2 (1+|\xi|^2)^{t_1} d\xi\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ \leq ||T(1+|\xi|^2)^{-s_1} \phi||_{t_1} ||(1+|\xi|^2)^{t_1} \varphi||_{-t_1} \\ \leq N_1 ||(1+|\xi|^2)^{-s_1} \phi||_{s_1} ||(1+|\xi|^2)^{t_1} \varphi||_{t_1} \\ \leq N_1 ||\phi||_0 ||\varphi||_0.$$

For  $Rez = x, 0 \le x \le 1$ 

$$\begin{aligned} |F(z)| &\leq \left( \int |T\phi|^2 (1+|\xi|^2)^{-s(z)} d\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \int |\varphi|^2 (1+|\xi|^2)^{t(z)} d\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq \left( \int |T\phi|^2 (1+|\xi|^2)^{-(1-x-iy)s_0-(x-iy)s_1} d\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \int |\varphi|^2 )^{(1-x-ty)t_0+(x-iy)t_1} d\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq ||T(1+|\xi|^2)^{-(1-x)s_0-xs_1} \phi||_{t_0} ||(1+|\xi|^2)^{(1-x)t_0+xt_1} \varphi||_{-t_0} \\ &\leq N_1 ||(1+|\xi|^2)^{-s_1} \phi||_{s_1} ||(1+|\xi|^2)^{t_1} \varphi||_{t_1} \\ &\qquad N_0 ||(1+|\xi|^2)^{-(1-x)s_0-xs_1} \phi||_{s_0} ||(1+|\xi|^2)^{(1-x)t_0+xt_1} \varphi||_{t_0} \\ &\leq N_0 ||\phi||_{x(s_0-s_1)} ||\varphi||_{x(t_1-t_0)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus by the three lines lemma,

$$|F(z)| \le N_0^{1-x} N_1^x ||\phi||_0 ||\varphi||_0, 0 \le x \le 1$$

Now

$$F(z) = \langle T(1+|\xi|^2)^{-\frac{s}{2}}\phi, (1+|\xi|^2)^{\frac{t}{2}}\varphi \rangle$$
  
=  $\int (T\phi)(1+|\xi|^2)^{-\frac{s}{2}}(1+|\xi|^2)^{\frac{t}{2}}\varphi d\xi$   
=  $\langle (1+|\xi|^2)^{\frac{t}{2}}T(1+|\xi|^2)^{-\frac{s}{2}}\phi, \varphi \rangle$ 

and  $\delta$  is dense in  $L^2 = H = H^0$ . Since  $H^0$  is its own dual, it means that  $(1 + |\xi|^2)^{\frac{t}{2}}T(1 + |\xi|^2)^{-\frac{s}{2}}$  is bounded on  $H^0$  and hence T is bounded from  $H^{s(x)}$  to  $H^{t(x)}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} ||Tf||_{t(x)} &= \left( \int (1+|\xi|^2)^t T(1+|\xi|^2)^{-s} (1+|\xi|^2)^s f d\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= ||(1+|\xi|^2)^t T(1+|\xi|^2)^{-s} (1+|\xi|^2)^s f||_0 \\ &\leq N_0^{1-x} N_1^x ||(1+|\xi|^2)^s f||_0 = N_0^{1-x} N_1^x ||f||_{s(x)} \end{aligned}$$

## 2. Conclusion

We note that in the space of tempered distribution, we cannot define the convolution of Fourier transform. Hence the application of Riesz-Thorin in the space of tempered distributions fails in the proof of convolution theorem, and Young's Inequality theorem for we note that convolution theorem is only defined in  $L^1$  [3]. Proof of Young's Inequality fails because it uses convolution theorem.

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