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We're now ready to prove our duality theorem for $L^p(\mu)$.

Theorem: Let $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$. If $1 < p < \infty$ then given $\phi \in (L^p)^*$ there exists $g \in L^q$ such that $\phi(f) = \int fg d\mu$ for all $f \in L^p$ and hence $(L^p)^*$ is isometrically isomorphic to L^q . The same conclusion holds for $p=1$ if μ is σ -finite.

Proof:

First, assume μ is a finite measure. i.e. $\mu(E) < \infty$, where (E, \mathcal{B}, μ) is our measure space. Since μ is finite, the simple functions are in L^p .

Fix $\phi \in (L^p)^*$. Let $\Gamma \in \mathcal{B}$, define $\nu(\Gamma) = \phi(1_\Gamma)$. (Since $1_\Gamma \in L^p$, $\phi(1_\Gamma)$ is well defined, $\phi(1_\Gamma) \in \mathbb{R}$.)

I want to show ν is a signed measure. i.e.

$\nu(\emptyset) = 0$, ν assumes at most one value of $+\infty$ and $-\infty$

and if Γ_j is a sequence of disjoint sets in \mathcal{B} then $\nu(\bigcup_1^\infty \Gamma_j) = \sum_1^\infty \nu(\Gamma_j)$ where the sum converges absolutely if $\nu(\bigcup_1^\infty \Gamma_j) < \infty$

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First $\nu(\emptyset) = 0$. fix $\Gamma \in \mathcal{B}$ then $1_\emptyset + 1_\Gamma = 1_\Gamma$

$$\Rightarrow \phi(1_\emptyset + 1_\Gamma) = \phi(1_\emptyset) + \phi(1_\Gamma)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \parallel \\ & \phi(1_\Gamma) \quad \Rightarrow \phi(1_\emptyset) = 0 \Rightarrow \nu(\emptyset) = 0 \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

Let $\{\Gamma_j\}$ be our disjoint sequence of measurable sets.
 $\Gamma := \bigcup_j \Gamma_j \Rightarrow 1_\Gamma = \sum_j 1_{\Gamma_j}$

where $\sum_1^n 1_{\Gamma_j} \rightarrow 1_\Gamma$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ in the L^p norm.

because $\|1_\Gamma - \sum_1^n 1_{\Gamma_j}\|_{L^p} = \left\| \sum_{n+1}^\infty 1_{\Gamma_j} \right\|_{L^p}$

$$= \sqrt[p]{\mathcal{M}\left(\bigcup_{n+1}^\infty \Gamma_j\right)} \quad (\text{since } p < \infty)$$

and $\mathcal{M}\left(\bigcup_{n+1}^\infty \Gamma_j\right) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ since $\mathcal{M}(E) < \infty$

\therefore since $\phi \in (L^p)^\times$,

$$\sum_1^n \nu(\Gamma_j) = \phi\left(\sum_1^n 1_{\Gamma_j}\right) \rightarrow \phi(1_\Gamma) = \nu\left(\bigcup_1^\infty \Gamma_j\right)$$

thus $\sum_1^n \nu(\Pi_j) \rightarrow \nu(\bigcup_1^\infty \Pi_j)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

(Check the absolute convergence on your own!)

Thus ν is a signed measure. Now I want to show $\nu \ll \mu$. Let $\Pi \in \mathcal{B}$ so that $\mu(\Pi) = 0$. Then $\mathbb{1}_\Pi = 0$ almost everywhere $\Rightarrow \mathbb{1}_\Pi =$ the zero function in L^p .
 $\Rightarrow \phi(\mathbb{1}_\Pi) = 0 \Rightarrow \nu(\Pi) = 0$. This shows $\nu \ll \mu$.

By the Radon-Nikodym theorem $d\nu = g d\mu$ for some $g \in L^1(\mu)$. i.e. $\nu(\Pi) = \int_\Pi g d\mu$ for any $\Pi \in \mathcal{B}$.

$$\Rightarrow \phi(\mathbb{1}_\Pi) = \int_E g \mathbb{1}_\Pi d\mu \quad \text{for any } \Pi \in \mathcal{B}.$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi(f) = \int_E fg d\mu \quad \text{for any simple function } f.$$

$$\text{and } \left| \int_E fg d\mu \right| = |\phi(f)| \leq \|\phi\|_{(L^p)^*} \|f\|_{L^p}$$

$$\Rightarrow M_q(g) = \sup \left\{ \left| \int_E fg d\mu \right| \mid f \text{ simple, } \|f\|_{L^p} = 1 \right\} < \infty.$$

by earlier theorem, this implies $g \in L^q$ and

$$M_q(g) = \|g\|_{L^q}.$$

Now that we know $g \in L^q$, we know

$$\text{that } \psi(f) := \int fg \, d\mu \quad \text{where } f \in L^p$$

is definitely in $(L^p)^*$ and $\psi = \phi$ on a dense set (the simple functions). Since ϕ and ψ are both continuous this means $\phi = \psi$.

$$\text{i.e. } \phi(f) = \int fg \, d\mu \quad \text{for all } f \in L^p. \checkmark$$

Now assume μ is σ -finite. Let $\{E_n\}$ be an increasing sequence of sets such that $0 < \mu(E_n) < \infty$ and $E = \bigcup_n E_n$.

Given E_n , $L^p(E_n) := \{f \in L^p(E) \mid f = 0 \text{ outside } E_n\}$
Similarly define $L^q(E_n)$.

By above for each n , $\exists g_n \in L^q(E_n)$ such that $\phi(f) = \int fg_n \, d\mu \quad \forall f \in L^p(E_n)$ and

$$\|g_n\|_{L^q} = \|\phi|_{L^p(E_n)}\| \leq \|\phi\|$$

g_n is determined uniquely up to sets of measure zero \Rightarrow if $m < n$ then $g_m = g_n$ a.e. in E_m

Therefore we define g on E by

$$g(x) := g_{n_0}(x) \text{ where } n_0 = \{ \inf m \mid x \in E_m \}$$

And g_n increases to g almost everywhere in E .

\Rightarrow by monotone convergence theorem,

$$\|g\|_{L^q} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|g_n\|_{L^q} \leq \|\phi\|$$

$\Rightarrow g \in L^q(E)$.

If $f \in L^p$ then $f 1_{E_n} \rightarrow f$ pointwise and therefore $f 1_{E_n} \rightarrow f$ in L^p by Lebesgue Dominated convergence theorem. Since ϕ is continuous

$$\phi(f 1_{E_n}) \rightarrow \phi(f) \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \phi(f) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi(f 1_{E_n}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{E_n} f g \, d\mu = \int f g \, d\mu.$$

So we've found our $g \in L^q$ so that $\phi(f) = \int f g \, d\mu \forall f \in L^p$.

We're done with the case of

$$1 \leq p < \infty \text{ and } \mu \text{ } \sigma\text{-finite.}$$

This leaves the case of $1 < p < \infty$ and μ (not assumed σ -finite).

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Assume $1 < p < \infty$. By above, if $\Gamma \in \mathcal{B}$ and Γ is σ -finite then \exists almost everywhere unique $g_\Gamma \in L^q(\Gamma)$ so that $\phi(f) = \int f g_\Gamma d\mu$ for all $f \in L^p(\Gamma)$ and $\|g_\Gamma\|_{L^q} \leq \|\phi\|_{(L^p)^*}$.

$$M := \sup \{ \|g_\Gamma\|_{L^q} \mid \Gamma \in \mathcal{B}, \Gamma \text{ } \sigma\text{-finite} \}$$

then $M \leq \|\phi\|_{(L^p)^*}$. Let $\{\Gamma_n\} \subset \mathcal{B}$ be a sequence such that $\|g_{\Gamma_n}\|_{L^q} \rightarrow M$ and define

$$\Gamma_\infty = \bigcup_n \Gamma_n$$

then Γ_∞ is σ -finite and $\|g_{\Gamma_n}\|_{L^q} \leq \|g_{\Gamma_\infty}\|_{L^q} = M$

Let A be any σ -finite set that contains Γ . Then

$$g_A = g_\Gamma + g_{A-\Gamma}$$

$$\Rightarrow \int |g_\Gamma|^q d\mu + \int |g_{A-\Gamma}|^q = \int |g_A|^q \leq M^q = \int |g_\Gamma|^q$$

recall g_Γ and $g_{A-\Gamma}$ have disjoint support

$$\Rightarrow g_{A-\Gamma} = 0 \text{ almost everywhere in } A-\Gamma$$

at this point, we used $q < \infty$

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$\Rightarrow g_A = g_\Gamma$ almost everywhere.

But if $f \in L^p$ then $A = \Gamma \cup \{f \neq 0\}$ is σ -finite

$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow \phi(f 1_{\{f \neq 0\}}) &= \int f 1_{\{f \neq 0\}} g_A = \int f 1_{\{f \neq 0\}} g_\Gamma d\mu \\ &= \int f g_\Gamma d\mu\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{and } \phi(f) &= \phi(f 1_{\{f \neq 0\}} + f 1_{\{f = 0\}}) \\ &= \phi(f 1_{\{f \neq 0\}}) \quad \text{since } f 1_{\{f = 0\}} \text{ is the zero function}\end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow \phi(f) = \int f g_\Gamma d\mu \Rightarrow$ we can take $g = g_\Gamma$ and we're done!

Corr: if $1 < p < \infty$ then L^p is reflexive

To finish up, let's look at the $p=1$ and $p=\infty$ cases.

First $p=1$. What do we know about $(L^1)^*$? We know that $g \in L^\infty \Rightarrow \Psi_g \in (L^1)^*$ but we needed μ semi-finite in order to get that this mapping was an isometry. Isometry \Rightarrow the mapping is 1:1.

So can we find an ex. where μ isn't semi-finite and the mapping isn't 1:1?

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Theorem: if \mathcal{M} is not semi-finite then $L^\infty \hookrightarrow (L^1)^*$ is not injective.

Proof:

Assume $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{E}$ is a set of infinite measure that contains no subset $A \in \mathcal{B}$ so that $\mu(A) \in (0, \infty)$.

Let $f \in L^1$. Then $\{f \neq 0\}$ is a σ -finite set and therefore $\{f \neq 0\} \cap \mathcal{P}$ is a set of measure zero (if it weren't a set of measure zero then we would use $\{f \neq 0\} = \bigcup_1^\infty \mathcal{P}_n$ where $\mu(\mathcal{P}_n) \in (0, \infty)$ to find a subset of \mathcal{P} with measure $\in (0, \infty)$.)

Now we demonstrate our failure of injectivity.

Let $\mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{P}} \in L^\infty$. Then $\psi_{\mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{P}}} \in (L^1)^*$.

But $\psi_{\mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{P}}}(f) = \int f \mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{P}} d\mu = \int_{\mathcal{P}} f d\mu = 0$ for all $f \in L^1$ (by above)

$\Rightarrow \psi_{\mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{P}}} \equiv 0$ even though $\mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{P}} \neq 0$ in L^∞ . This

shows the embedding of L^∞ into $(L^1)^*$ is not 1:1

example where $L^\infty \hookrightarrow (L^1)^*$ is not onto:

Let E be an uncountable set.

take $\mathcal{B} =$ the power set of E and μ the counting measure. $\Rightarrow (E, \mathcal{B}, \mu)$ is a measure space.

Now let $\mathcal{B}_0 \subset \mathcal{B}$ be the collection of countable subsets of E and the subsets whose complement is countable. i.e.

$$\mathcal{B} \supseteq \mathcal{B}_0 = \{A \subset E \mid A \text{ or } E \setminus A \text{ is countable}\}$$

then \mathcal{B}_0 is a σ -algebra and $\mu_0 = \mu|_{\mathcal{B}_0}$ is a measure

$\forall f \in L^1(\mu)$ then f vanishes outside a countable set in E .

$\Rightarrow L^1(\mu) \subseteq L^1(\mu_0)$. And $L^1(\mu_0) \subseteq L^1(\mu)$ since μ_0 is

a restriction of μ . $\Rightarrow L^1(\mu) = L^1(\mu_0)$.

On the other hand, $L^\infty(\mu) =$ bounded functions on E while

$L^\infty(\mu_0) =$ functions that are constant except on a bounded countable set.

$\Rightarrow L^\infty(\mu_0) \subseteq L^\infty(\mu)$. An exercise shows that $(L^1(\mu_0))^* = L^\infty(\mu)$

$\Rightarrow L^\infty(\mu_0) \hookrightarrow (L^1(\mu_0))^*$ is not onto

For $p = \infty$ we know that $L^1 \hookrightarrow (L^\infty)^*$ is always 1:1 (we proved this) but it is rarely onto.

Example where $L^1 \hookrightarrow (L^\infty)^*$ is not onto:

Let $E = [0, 1]$ and $\mu =$ Lebesgue measure restricted to E .

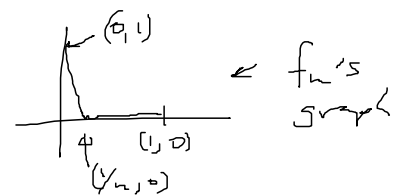
$$\psi_0(f) = f(0)$$

is a bounded linear functional on $C([0, 1])$ and $C([0, 1])$ is a subspace of L^∞ . By Hahn-Banach theorem, we can extend ψ_0 to all of $L^\infty([0, 1])$.

I claim $\nexists g \in L^1([0, 1])$ so that

$$\psi(f) = \int fg \, dx \text{ for all } f \in L^\infty.$$

Take $f_n \in C([0, 1])$ $f_n := \max\{0, 1 - nx\}$.



then $\psi(f_n) = 1 \quad \forall n$.

but $f_n(x) \rightarrow 0$ for all $x \in (0, 1] \Rightarrow$ by dominated convergence theorem $\int f_n g \, dx \rightarrow 0$ if $g \in L^1$.

$\Rightarrow \nexists g \in L^1$ so that $\psi = \psi_g$.