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# Norm-induced partially ordered vector spaces

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# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1	Set-up . . . . .	2
1.2	Properties . . . . .	3
<b>2</b>	<b>Polyhedral cones in the finite-dimensional case</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Norm-induced cones</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1	Construction . . . . .	5
3.2	Block-diagonal maps on $Y$ . . . . .	5
3.3	Continuity of positive maps on $Y$ . . . . .	6

## Abstract

In this thesis, we will see a criterion for positive operators on a partially ordered vector space induced by a polyhedral cone with linearly independent extreme vectors, as well as for block-diagonal maps on a partially ordered vector space ordered by a norm-induced cone. Finally, we will show that positive operators on a complete partially ordered vector space ordered by a norm-induced cone are continuous.

## 1 Introduction

First, we will define the major components in this setting.

### 1.1 Set-up

**Definition 1.1.** Partially ordered vector space

A real vector space equipped with a partial order  $(V, \leq)$  is called a *partially ordered vector space* if it satisfies

- For all  $u, v, w \in V$ , if  $u \leq v$ , then  $u + w \leq v + w$ ;
- For all  $u, v \in V$ , if  $u \leq v$ , then for any non-negative scalar  $\lambda$  we have  $\lambda u \leq \lambda v$ .

Dual to a partially ordered vector space is a vector space  $V$  equipped with a cone.

**Definition 1.2.** Cone

We call a subset  $K \subset V$  a *cone* if

- For all  $x, y \in K$ ,  $x + y \in K$ ;
- For all  $x \in K$  and  $\lambda$  a non-negative scalar, we have  $\lambda x \in K$ ;

- The intersection  $K \cap -K$  is the singleton  $\{0\}$ .

Given a cone  $K$ , we can introduce a partial order on  $V$  by defining  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $y - x \in K$  and given a partially ordered vector space  $(V, \leq)$ , the subset  $\{v \in V : 0 \leq v\}$  is a cone according to our definition, and called the *positive cone*. We can define any partially ordered vector space by equipping a real vector space  $V$  with a cone [1, p. 3-4], and throughout this thesis, we will consider partially ordered vector spaces within the context of having been induced by a cone  $K$ , which is then also the positive cone of the partial order.

Given a partially ordered vector space  $V$ , we are interested in structure-preserving maps  $T$ , thus linear maps  $T : V \rightarrow V$  such that  $v \leq w \Rightarrow Tv \leq Tw$ . Due to linearity, this can be rewritten as  $0 \leq w - v \Rightarrow 0 \leq Tw - Tv = T(w - v)$ , which leaves us with the criterion that  $x \geq 0$  must imply  $Tx \geq 0$ .

**Definition 1.3.** Positive linear operator

A linear map  $T : V \rightarrow V$  such that  $T[K] \subset K$  is called a *positive linear operator*, or simply a *positive operator*. We will also describe this property as  $T$  being *positive with regard to  $K$* .

## 1.2 Properties

If two partially ordered vector spaces are isomorphic, we obtain a nice way to consider positive maps on one of the spaces in terms of what we know about maps on the other space.

**Fact 1.4.** Given a partially ordered vector space  $V$ , a linear map  $T$  and a  $V$ -automorphism  $A$ , we find that  $T$  is positive with regard to  $K$  if and only if  $ATA^{-1}$  is positive with regard to  $AK$ .

*Proof.* Assuming  $T[K] \subset K$ , we consider  $ATA^{-1}[AK]$ , which is equal to  $AT[K]$ . Because  $T[K] \subset K$ , we find that this is contained in  $AK$ , so  $ATA^{-1}$  is positive with regard to  $AK$ . The other implication is simply applying what we have just proven by conjugating with  $A^{-1}$ , which is also an automorphism.  $\square$

Two concepts about partially ordered vector spaces we will use are the following.

**Definition 1.5.** Directed

We call a partially ordered vector space  $V$  *directed* if any element can be written as the difference of two positive elements.

**Definition 1.6.** Monotone

If  $V$  is a partially ordered vector space equipped with some norm  $\|\cdot\|$ , we call this norm *monotone* if  $0 \leq u \leq v$  implies  $\|u\| \leq \|v\|$ .

## 2 Polyhedral cones in the finite-dimensional case

In finite dimensional real vector spaces, spaces isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , we consider a family of cones that can be constructed by drawing lines from the origin through the vertices of a convex polytope and extending to infinity. Letting these lines

be the edges of some solid  $K$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , we obtain what is called a polyhedral cone, named after its finitely many faces. To formalise this, we must first introduce the notion of positive linear independence.

**Definition 2.1.** Positively linearly independent

A finite set of vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is called *positively linearly independent* if, for non-negative scalars  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  the equation  $\lambda_1 v_1 + \dots + \lambda_n v_n = 0$  implies that all  $\lambda_i$  are 0.

**Definition 2.2.** Polyhedral cone & edge representation

Let  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  be a set of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  such that all the  $v_i$  are positively linearly independent. Then the positive linear span of all these vectors, or  $\text{Pos}(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  is called a *polyhedral cone*, and the vectors are an *edge representation* for this cone.

An example of a polyhedral cone in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  would be the positive  $2^d$ -tant; simply  $\text{Pos}(e_1, \dots, e_d)$  where  $e_i$  is the  $i$ -th standard basis vector, and this cone would induce the standard order on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , where  $x \leq y$  if and only if for all  $1 \leq j \leq d$ , we have  $x_j \leq y_j$ . It is already well-known that a linear map on this partially ordered vector space is positive if and only if all the matrix coefficients are non-negative[2, p. 315].

**Theorem 2.3.** *If  $K = \text{Pos}(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  is a cone and  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  are linearly independent, then  $(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  is a basis for the linear subspace  $U = \text{Span}(v_1, \dots, v_n) \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  and a linear map  $T : U \rightarrow U$  is positive with regard to  $K$  if and only if the coefficients of the matrix  $T$  with regard to basis  $(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  are non-negative.*

*Proof.* We see that  $K$  lies in  $U$  and defines a partial order on  $U$ . We know that positive maps on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  are maps such that the matrix coefficients are non-negative, and through the basis transformation  $A$ , which maps  $v_j$  to  $e_j$ ,  $U$  can be considered as  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with the standard basis. The cone is mapped to the cone belonging to the standard order on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and combining this knowledge with Fact 1.4, we obtain the desired equivalence.  $\square$

For  $n < d$ , we are considering the case where the cone  $K$  lies within a proper subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , and through embedding, we can say something about the positivity of  $T$  on all of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , as elements in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  that lie outside this subspace are not positive to begin with.

For  $n = d$ , we are considering the case where  $U = \mathbb{R}^d$  and we can simplify the statement by forgetting about subspaces and just talk about the entire space.

However, for  $n > d$ , our vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  cannot be linearly independent, so Lemma 2.3 cannot be applied. An example of this would be an upside-down pyramid in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , which can also be described with the  $\infty$ -norm on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ; this cone can be described as  $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : \|(x, y)\|_\infty \leq z\}$ . The next chapter studies cones induced by norms in a similar fashion.

### 3 Norm-induced cones

From now on, we will consider a family of cones which will be constructed as follows.

### 3.1 Construction

Let  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$  be a real, normed space. Let  $Y = X \times \mathbb{R}$  and define  $K \subset Y$  to be  $\{(x, \alpha) : \|x\| \leq \alpha\}$ . Furthermore, make  $Y$  a normed space by defining  $\|(x, \alpha)\|_Y = \|x\| + |\alpha|$ . An example of such a cone would be the upside-down pyramid we made reference to in the previous chapter, or the famous ice cream cone in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Cones of this type are more commonly studied when defined by an inner product that makes  $X$  a Hilbert space, and are sometimes referred to as *Lorentz cones* [3, p. 211, Section 5.1].

If we want to think about linear operators on  $Y$ , we can do this in terms of maps relating to  $X$  and  $\mathbb{R}$ . If we have a linear map  $T : Y \rightarrow Y$ , we can look at the images of elements  $(x, 0)$  and  $(0, \alpha)$  and project, and find that we can consider  $T$  as a block matrix in the following way:

$$T = \begin{array}{c} X \quad \mathbb{R} \\ X \left( \begin{array}{c|c} f & v \\ \hline \phi & c \end{array} \right) , \\ \mathbb{R} \end{array}$$

where  $f$  is a linear map  $X \rightarrow X$ ,  $v$  a vector in  $X$  representing a linear map  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$ ,  $\phi$  an element in the dual space  $X^*$  and  $c$  a scalar in  $\mathbb{R}$  representing a linear map  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . We can thus consider  $T(x, \alpha) = \begin{pmatrix} f(x) + \alpha v \\ \phi(x) + c\alpha \end{pmatrix}$ .

### 3.2 Block-diagonal maps on $Y$

We call  $T$  *block-diagonal* if it is represented as  $\begin{pmatrix} f & 0 \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix}$ , thus  $T(x, \alpha) = (f(x), c\alpha)$ . For block-diagonal maps, we have a very nice equivalence for positivity. By  $\|\cdot\|_{op}$ , we denote the operator norm of  $X^*$ , where  $\|f\|_{op}$  is defined to be  $\inf\{c \geq 0 : \|f(v)\| \leq c\|v\|, \text{ for all } v \in X\}$ , a notion that only applies to continuous operators.

**Theorem 3.1.** *A block-diagonal map  $T = \begin{pmatrix} f & 0 \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix}$  is positive if and only if  $\|f\|_{op} \leq c$ .*

*Proof.* “ $\Rightarrow$ ” Assuming  $T$  is positive, we find that, for  $(x, \alpha) \in Y$ ,  $\|f(x)\| \leq c\alpha$ , given  $\|x\| \leq \alpha$ . We assume  $\alpha \neq 0$ , as otherwise we would just be looking at the origin which would give no information on the operator norm. We consider  $\frac{x}{\alpha}$ , which lies in the unit ball in  $X$ , as  $\|x\| \leq \alpha$ , and each element in the unit ball can be represented as  $\frac{x}{\alpha}$  for some  $x \in X$  with  $\|x\| \leq \alpha$ . Note that  $\|f(\frac{x}{\alpha})\| = \frac{1}{\alpha}\|f(x)\|$ , which is smaller than or equal to  $c$ . So for all elements  $u \in X$  with  $\|u\| \leq 1$ , we have  $\|f(u)\| \leq c$ , thus  $\|f\|_{op} \leq c$ .

“ $\Leftarrow$ ” Assuming  $\|f\|_{op} \leq c$ , we take an arbitrary element  $(x, \alpha)$  in  $K$ , and note that  $\|f(x)\| \leq \|f\|_{op}\|x\| \leq c\|x\| \leq c\alpha$ , thus  $(f(x), c\alpha) = T(x, \alpha)$  is contained in  $K$  and so  $T$  is positive.  $\square$

Not all linear maps on  $Y$  are block-diagonal, but some are block-diagonalisable; there exists some automorphism  $A$  such that  $ATA^{-1}$  is block-diagonal, and by Fact 1.4, we can say something about positivity on isomorphic partially ordered vector spaces. Sadly, not all maps are block-diagonalisable. If we take  $(X, \|\cdot\|) = (\mathbb{R}, |\cdot|)$ , then  $Y = \mathbb{R}^2$  with the 1-norm, and our notion of block-diagonal collapses into simply diagonal, and not all  $2 \times 2$  matrices are diagonalisable; take for instance  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , which has complex eigenvalues  $i$  and  $-i$ .

### 3.3 Continuity of positive maps on $Y$

Block-diagonal maps on  $Y$  that are positive are clearly continuous, as their operator norm equals  $c$ , which raises the question if all positive maps on  $Y$  are continuous.

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$  be a Banach space,  $Y, K$  and  $\|\cdot\|_Y$  be as constructed before and  $T : Y \rightarrow Y$  positive. Then  $T$  is continuous.*

The rest of this chapter will be dedicated to proving Theorem 3.2, and we assume the conditions of that theorem throughout.

**Lemma 3.3.** *There is a  $k \geq 0$  such that, for all  $(x, \alpha) \in K$ ,  $\|T(x, \alpha)\|_Y \leq k\|(x, \alpha)\|_Y$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $(x, 1) \in K$ , so,  $\|x\| \leq 1$ . Note that  $T(x, 1)$  again lies in  $K$ , so, considering  $T(x, 1) = (f(x) + v, \phi(x) + c)$ , we find that  $\|f(x) + v\| \leq \phi(x) + c$ . If we now take  $(-x, 1)$ , we find that  $\|f(x) + v\| \leq -\phi(x) + c$ , so  $\phi(x) \leq -\|f(x) + v\| + c \leq c$ . This holds for every  $x$  such that  $\|x\| \leq 1$ , so  $\phi$  is continuous on  $X$ .

As the map  $x \mapsto \phi(x)$  is continuous, so is  $(x, \alpha) \mapsto \phi(x)$ , thus  $(x, \alpha) \mapsto \phi(x) + \alpha c$  is as well, so there is some  $k_1 \geq 0$  such that, for all  $(x, \alpha)$ ,  $\phi(x) + \alpha c \leq k_1\|(x, \alpha)\|_Y$ . If  $(x, \alpha)$  is in  $K$ , then  $\|f(x) + \alpha v\| \leq \phi(x) + \alpha c \leq k_1\|(x, \alpha)\|_Y$ , and so  $\|T(x, \alpha)\|_Y = \|f(x) + \alpha v\| + \phi(x) + \alpha c \leq 2k_1\|(x, \alpha)\|_Y$ , which proves the lemma.  $\square$

We will introduce the notion of a regular norm[4, p. 54, Definition 3.39], as it is vital to the proof.

**Definition 3.4.** Regular norm

A regular norm on a directed partially ordered vector space  $V$  is a norm  $\|\cdot\|_r$  such that  $\|v\|_r = \inf\{\|u\|_r : -u \leq v \leq u\}$ .

A regular norm has the nice property that for all  $v \in V$ , for all  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists some  $u \in V$  with  $-u \leq v \leq u$  such that  $\|u\|_r \leq \|v\|_r + \epsilon$ . This implies a nice decomposition property.

**Lemma 3.5.** *Let  $V$  be a directed partially ordered vector space supplied with a regular norm  $\|\cdot\|_r$ , then for all  $v \in V$ , for all  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exist  $x, y \in V$  with  $v = x - y$  such that  $x, y \geq 0$  and  $\|x\|_r, \|y\|_r \leq \|v\|_r + \epsilon$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $v \in V$  be given and let  $\epsilon$  be greater than 0. Take  $x = \frac{u+v}{2}$  and  $y = \frac{u-v}{2}$ , where  $u$  is such that  $-u \leq v \leq u$  and  $\|u\|_r \leq \|v\|_r + \epsilon$ . The fact that

$-u \leq v$  implies that  $u + v$  is positive, and  $v \leq u$  implies that  $u - v$  is positive, so both  $x$  and  $y$  are positive. Their difference,  $x - y$ , is clearly equal to  $v$ . Checking the norms, we see that  $\|x\|_r \leq \frac{1}{2}\|u\|_r + \frac{1}{2}\|v\|_r \leq \frac{1}{2}(\|v\|_r + \epsilon) + \frac{1}{2}\|v\|_r < \|v\|_r + \epsilon$ . Similarly for  $y$ . This proves the existence of the desired  $x$  and  $y$ .  $\square$

Our next step is to show that our  $Y$ -norm is equivalent to a regular norm, but for this, we will first need to check that  $\|\cdot\|_Y$  is monotone, that  $Y$  is complete and directed, and that  $K$  is closed.

**Lemma 3.6.**  $\|\cdot\|_Y$  is monotone.

*Proof.* Assume that  $0 \leq (x, \alpha) \leq (y, \beta)$ , so  $\|y - x\| \leq \beta - \alpha$ . Then  $\|(x, \alpha)\|_Y = \|x\| + \alpha \leq \|x - y\| + \|y\| + \alpha \leq \beta - \alpha + \alpha + \|y\| = \|y\| + \beta = \|(y, \beta)\|_Y$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.7.**  $Y$  is complete.

We assumed  $X$  was complete, so  $Y = X \times \mathbb{R}$  is complete with regard to the norm  $\|(x, \alpha)\|_Y = \|x\| + |\alpha|$ .

**Lemma 3.8.**  $Y$  is directed.

*Proof.* Let  $(x, \alpha) \in Y$  be given. For  $\alpha \geq 0$ , we can write  $(x, \alpha)$  as the difference of two elements in  $K$  as  $\frac{(x, \|x\| + 2\alpha)}{2} - \frac{(-x, \|x\|)}{2}$ . For  $\alpha < 0$ , we can write  $(x, \alpha)$  as  $\frac{(x, \|x\|)}{2} - \frac{(-x, \|x\| - 2\alpha)}{2}$ , which is the difference of two positive elements.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.9.**  $K$  is closed.

*Proof.* Let  $(x_n, \alpha_n)$  be a sequence in  $K$  that converges to  $(x, \alpha)$  in  $Y$ . For all  $n$ , we have  $\|x_n\| \leq \alpha_n$ , so for the limit we also have  $\|x\| \leq \alpha$ , which means  $(x, \alpha)$  is contained in  $K$ .  $\square$

Having checked that  $Y$  is a directed partially ordered vector space with a monotone norm  $\|\cdot\|_Y$  such that  $K$  is close, and that  $Y$  is norm complete, we find that  $\|\cdot\|_Y$  is equivalent to a regular norm  $\|\cdot\|_r$  on  $Y$  [4, p. 58, Corollary 3.48].

Knowing this, we can prove Theorem 3.2: If  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$  is a Banach space and  $Y$ ,  $K$  and  $\|\cdot\|_Y$  are as constructed in section 3.1 and  $T : Y \rightarrow Y$  is positive, then  $T$  is continuous.

*Proof.* Let  $v \in Y$  and  $\epsilon > 0$  be given, and consider  $\|Tv\|_Y$ . We choose  $x, y \in K$  such that  $v = x - y$  and  $\|x\|_r, \|y\|_r \leq \|v\| + \epsilon$ , which we can do because of Lemma 3.5. Substituting  $v$  by  $x - y$ , we find that  $\|Tv\|_Y$  is bounded from above by  $\|Tx\|_Y + \|Ty\|_Y$  which is smaller than or equal to  $k\|x\|_Y + k\|y\|_Y$  due to Lemma 3.3. Because  $\|\cdot\|_Y$  and  $\|\cdot\|_r$  are equivalent, there exist  $m, M > 0$  such that, for all  $\chi \in Y$ ,  $m\|\chi\|_r \leq \|\chi\|_Y \leq M\|\chi\|_r$ . We thus conclude that  $\|Tv\|_Y \leq Mk\|x\|_r + Mk\|y\|_r$ . This is smaller than or equal to  $2Mk(\|v\|_r + \epsilon)$  due to our choice of  $x$  and  $y$ . Using equivalence of norms again, we find that this is smaller than or equal to  $2kM(m\|v\|_Y + \epsilon)$ .

As this holds for all  $\epsilon > 0$ , we see that  $\|Tv\|_Y \leq 2kMm\|v\|_Y$ , where  $2kMm$  does not depend on  $v$ . Thus  $T$  is continuous.  $\square$

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