

## EMBEDDING $\ell_1$ INTO THE PROJECTIVE TENSOR PRODUCT OF BANACH SPACES

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**Abstract.** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be Banach spaces such that  $X$  has an unconditional basis. Then  $X \hat{\otimes} Y$ , the projective tensor product of  $X$  and  $Y$ , contains no copy of  $\ell_1$  if and only if both  $X$  and  $Y$  contain no copy of  $\ell_1$  and each continuous linear operator from  $X$  to  $Y^*$  is compact.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

In 1991, G. Emmanuele [3] showed that if Banach spaces  $X$  and  $Y$  contain no copy of  $\ell_1$  then their projective tensor product  $X \hat{\otimes} Y$  contains no copy of  $\ell_1$  provided (\*) each continuous linear operator from  $X$  to  $Y^*$  is compact. In this paper, we will use Rosenthal's  $\ell_1$ -theorem (see [1, p.201]) and sequence space techniques to show that the condition (\*) in Emmanuele's result is not only sufficient but also necessary in case one of  $X$  and  $Y$  has an unconditional basis.

For a Banach space  $X$ , let  $X^*$  denote its topological dual and  $B_X$  denote its closed unit ball. For Banach spaces  $X$  and  $Y$ , let  $\mathcal{L}(X, Y)$  denote the space of all continuous linear operators from  $X$  to  $Y$  with its operator norm  $\|\cdot\|$ ; and let  $X \hat{\otimes} Y$  denote the completion of the tensor product  $X \otimes Y$  with respect to the projective tensor norm. It is known that the dual of  $X \hat{\otimes} Y$  is isometrically isomorphic to  $\mathcal{L}(X, Y^*)$  (see [2, p. 230]). For a Banach space with a basis  $\{e_n\}_1^\infty$ , let  $\{e_n^*\}_1^\infty$  be the biorthogonal functionals associated to the basis  $\{e_n\}_1^\infty$ , i.e.,

$$e_i^*(e_j) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j. \end{cases}$$

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**Lemma 1.** *Let  $X$  be a Banach space with an unconditional basis  $\{e_n\}_1^\infty$ . Then a bounded subset  $M$  of  $X$  is relatively compact if and only if*

$$(1) \quad \limsup_n \left\{ \left\| \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} e_i^*(x)e_i \right\| : x \in M \right\} = 0.$$

*Proof.* First suppose that  $M$  is relatively compact. If (1) does not hold, then noting that  $\lim_n \left\| \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} e_i^*(x)e_i \right\| = 0$  for each  $x \in X$ , there exist an  $\varepsilon_0 > 0$ , a subsequence  $n_1 < m_1 < n_2 < m_2 < \dots$ , and a sequence  $\{x_k\}_1^\infty$  in  $M$  such that

$$\left\| \sum_{i=n_k}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_k)e_i \right\| \geq \varepsilon_0, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

and

$$\left\| \sum_{i=m}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_k)e_i \right\| \leq \varepsilon_0/2, \quad m > m_k, k = 1, 2, \dots$$

Let  $K$  be the unconditional basis constant of  $\{e_n\}_1^\infty$ . Then for each  $k, j \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $k > j$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} K \cdot \|x_k - x_j\| &\geq \left\| \sum_{i=n_k}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_k - x_j)e_i \right\| \geq \left\| \sum_{i=n_k}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_k)e_i \right\| - \left\| \sum_{i=n_k}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_j)e_i \right\| \\ &\geq \varepsilon_0 - \varepsilon_0/2 = \varepsilon_0/2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the sequence  $\{x_k\}_1^\infty$  has no limit points in  $X$ , which shows that  $M$  is not relatively compact. This contradiction shows that (1) holds.

Next suppose that (1) holds. Pick a sequence  $\{x_m\}_1^\infty$  in  $M$ . Since  $M$  is bounded,  $\sup_m |e_i^*(x_m)| < \infty$  for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . By diagonal method, we can find a subsequence  $\{x_{m_k}\}_1^\infty$  of  $\{x_m\}_1^\infty$  such that

$$(2) \quad \lim_k e_i^*(x_{m_k}) \text{ exists for each } i \in \mathbb{N}.$$

For each  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists by (1) an  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$\left\| \sum_{i=n_0+1}^{\infty} e_i^*(x)e_i \right\| \leq \varepsilon/4, \quad \forall x \in M.$$

Moreover, there exists by (2) a  $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for each  $k, j > k_0$ ,

$$|e_i^*(x_{m_k} - x_{m_j})| < \varepsilon/2cn_0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n_0,$$

where  $c = \sup_n \|e_n\| < \infty$ . Thus for each  $k, j > k_0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_{m_k} - x_{m_j}\| &= \left\| \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_{m_k} - x_{m_j})e_i \right\| \\ &\leq c \sum_{i=1}^{n_0} |e_i^*(x_{m_k} - x_{m_j})| + \left\| \sum_{i=n_0+1}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_{m_k})e_i \right\| + \left\| \sum_{i=n_0+1}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_{m_j})e_i \right\| \\ &\leq \varepsilon/2 + \varepsilon/4 + \varepsilon/4 = \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\{x_{m_k}\}_1^\infty$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $X$ , and hence it has a limit point in  $X$ . This shows that  $M$  is relatively compact. ■

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be Banach spaces such that  $X$  has an unconditionally shrinking basis  $\{e_n\}_1^\infty$ . For a continuous linear operator  $T$  from  $X$  to  $Y$ , let  $y_n = Te_n$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $T$  is compact if and only if*

$$\limsup_n \left\{ \left\| \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} e_i^*(x)y_i \right\|_Y : x \in B_X \right\} = 0.$$

*Proof.* Since  $\{e_n\}_1^\infty$  is an unconditionally shrinking basis of  $X$ ,  $\{e_n^*\}_1^\infty$  is an unconditional basis of  $X^*$ . Let  $T^*$  be the adjoint operator of  $T$ . Then for each  $y^* \in Y^*$ ,  $T^*(y^*) = \sum_{n=1}^\infty y^*(y_n)e_n^*$ . Thus  $\{T^*(y^*) : y^* \in B_{Y^*}\} = \{\sum_{n=1}^\infty y^*(y_n)e_n^* : y^* \in B_{Y^*}\}$ . Note that for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\sup \left\{ \left\| \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} e_i^*(x)y_i \right\|_Y : x \in B_X \right\} = \sup \left\{ \left\| \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} y^*(y_i)e_i^* \right\|_{X^*} : y^* \in B_{Y^*} \right\}.$$

By Lemma 1,  $T$  is compact if and only if  $T^*$  is compact if and only if

$$\limsup_n \left\{ \left\| \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} y^*(y_i)e_i^* \right\|_{X^*} : y^* \in B_{Y^*} \right\} = 0$$

if and only if

$$\limsup_n \left\{ \left\| \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} e_i^*(x)y_i \right\|_Y : x \in B_X \right\} = 0. \quad \blacksquare$$

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be Banach spaces such that  $X$  has an unconditional basis  $\{e_n\}_1^\infty$ . For a continuous linear operator  $T$  from  $X$  to  $Y^*$ , let  $y_n^* = Te_n$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Define*

$$\begin{aligned} I_T : X \hat{\otimes} Y &\longrightarrow \ell_1 \\ z &\longmapsto \left( \sum_{k=1}^\infty e_n^*(x_k) \cdot y_n^*(y_k) \right)_n, \end{aligned}$$

where  $z$  admits a representation  $z = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_k \otimes y_k$ . Then  $I_T$  is a well-defined continuous linear operator.

*Proof.* Let  $z \in X \hat{\otimes} Y$  and  $s = (s_n)_n \in \ell_{\infty}$ . For each  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $z$  admits a representation

$$z = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_k \otimes y_k$$

such that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \|x_k\| \cdot \|y_k\| \leq \|z\|_{X \hat{\otimes} Y} + \varepsilon.$$

Let

$$u_k = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} s_n e_n^*(x_k) e_n, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots.$$

Then by [4, p.19, Proposition 1.c.7],  $u_k \in X$  for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and

$$\|u_k\| \leq 2K \cdot \|s\|_{\ell_{\infty}} \cdot \|x_k\|, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots,$$

where  $K$  is the unconditional basis constant for  $\{e_n\}_1^{\infty}$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle s, I_T(z) \rangle| &= \left| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} s_n \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} e_n^*(x_k) \cdot y_n^*(y_k) \right| = \left| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \langle T(u_k), y_k \rangle \right| \\ &= \left| \left\langle \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} u_k \otimes y_k, T \right\rangle \right| \leq \|T\| \cdot \left\| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} u_k \otimes y_k \right\|_{X \hat{\otimes} Y} \\ &\leq \|T\| \cdot \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \|u_k\| \cdot \|y_k\| \leq 2K \|s\|_{\ell_{\infty}} \cdot \|T\| \cdot \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \|x_k\| \cdot \|y_k\| \\ &\leq 2K \|s\|_{\ell_{\infty}} \cdot \|T\| \cdot (\|z\|_{X \hat{\otimes} Y} + \varepsilon). \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$|\langle s, I_T(z) \rangle| \leq 2K \|s\|_{\ell_{\infty}} \cdot \|T\| \cdot \|z\|_{X \hat{\otimes} Y}.$$

Therefore  $I_T$  is well-defined and continuous. ■

**Rosenthal's  $\ell_1$ -theorem** ([1, p. 201]).

A Banach space  $X$  contains no copy of  $\ell_1$  if and only if each bounded sequence in  $X$  has a weakly Cauchy subsequence.

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be Banach spaces such that  $X$  has an unconditional basis. Then  $X \hat{\otimes} Y$ , the projective tensor product of  $X$  and  $Y$ , contains no copy of*

$\ell_1$  if and only if both  $X$  and  $Y$  contain no copy of  $\ell_1$  and each continuous linear operator from  $X$  to  $Y^*$  is compact.

*Proof.* First let us suppose that both  $X$  and  $Y$  contain no copy of  $\ell_1$  and each continuous linear operator from  $X$  to  $Y^*$  is compact. Let  $\{e_n\}_1^\infty$  be an unconditional basis of  $X$ . By [4, p. 21, Theorem 1.c.9],  $\{e_n\}_1^\infty$  is also a shrinking basis. Let  $\{z_n\}_1^\infty$  be a bounded sequence in  $X \hat{\otimes} Y$ , and let  $z_n$  admit representations

$$z_n = \sum_{k=1}^\infty x_{k,n} \otimes y_{k,n} \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

such that

$$\sum_{k=1}^\infty \|x_{k,n}\| \cdot \|y_{k,n}\| \leq \|z_n\|_{X \hat{\otimes} Y} + 1, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Denote  $M = \sup_n \|z_n\|_{X \hat{\otimes} Y} < \infty$  and  $c = \sup_n \|e_n^*\| < \infty$ . Then for each  $i, n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^\infty e_i^*(x_{k,n})y_{k,n} \right\|_Y \leq c \cdot \sum_{k=1}^\infty \|x_{k,n}\| \cdot \|y_{k,n}\| \leq c (\|z_n\|_{X \hat{\otimes} Y} + 1) \leq c(M + 1).$$

Thus for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\{\sum_{k=1}^\infty e_i^*(x_{k,n})y_{k,n}\}_{n=1}^\infty$  is a bounded sequence in  $Y$ . By Rosenthal's  $\ell_1$ -theorem, using diagonal method, there exists a subsequence of  $\{\sum_{k=1}^\infty e_i^*(x_{k,n})y_{k,n}\}_{n=1}^\infty$ , without loss of generality, say itself  $\{\sum_{k=1}^\infty e_i^*(x_{k,n})y_{k,n}\}_{n=1}^\infty$ , which is coordinate-wisely weakly Cauchy sequence, i.e.,

$$(3) \quad \text{weak-}\lim_{m,n} \left( \sum_{k=1}^\infty e_i^*(x_{k,m})y_{k,m} - \sum_{k=1}^\infty e_i^*(x_{k,n})y_{k,n} \right) = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots$$

Now for each  $T \in (X \hat{\otimes} Y)^* = \mathcal{L}(X, Y^*)$ , let  $y_n^* = Te_n$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . By hypothesis,  $T$  is compact. For each  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists, by Lemma 2, an  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$\sup \left\{ \left\| \sum_{i=l+1}^\infty e_i^*(x)y_i^* \right\|_{Y^*} : x \in B_X \right\} \leq \varepsilon/4M.$$

Define  $T_l : X \rightarrow Y^*$  by  $T_l(x) = \sum_{i=l+1}^\infty e_i^*(x)y_i^*$  for each  $x \in X$ . Then  $\|T_l\| \leq \varepsilon/4M$ . From (3), there exists an  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for each  $m, n > n_0$ ,

$$\left| y_i^* \left( \sum_{k=1}^\infty e_i^*(x_{k,m})y_{k,m} - \sum_{k=1}^\infty e_i^*(x_{k,n})y_{k,n} \right) \right| \leq \varepsilon/2l, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, l.$$

Thus for each  $m, n > n_0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\langle z_m - z_n, T \rangle| &= \left| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \langle T x_{k,m}, y_{k,m} \rangle - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \langle T x_{k,n}, y_{k,n} \rangle \right| \\
 &= \left| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_{k,m}) y_i^*, y_{k,m} \right\rangle - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_{k,n}) y_i^*, y_{k,n} \right\rangle \right| \\
 &= \left| \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_{k,m}) \cdot y_i^*(y_{k,m}) - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_{k,n}) \cdot y_i^*(y_{k,n}) \right) \right| \\
 &\leq \sum_{i=1}^l \left| y_i^* \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_{k,m}) y_{k,m} - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_{k,n}) y_{k,n} \right) \right| \\
 &\quad + \left| \sum_{i=l+1}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_{k,m}) \cdot y_i^*(y_{k,m}) \right| + \left| \sum_{i=l+1}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_{k,n}) \cdot y_i^*(y_{k,n}) \right| \\
 &\leq \varepsilon/2 + |\langle z_m, T_l \rangle| + |\langle z_n, T_l \rangle| \\
 &\leq \varepsilon/2 + (\|z_m\|_{X \hat{\otimes} Y} + \|z_n\|_{X \hat{\otimes} Y}) \cdot \|T_l\| \leq \varepsilon/2 + \varepsilon/2 = \varepsilon.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\{z_n\}_1^\infty$  is a weakly Cauchy sequence in  $X \hat{\otimes} Y$ , and hence, by Rosenthal's  $\ell_1$ -theorem again,  $X \hat{\otimes} Y$  contains no copy of  $\ell_1$ .

Next suppose that  $X \hat{\otimes} Y$  contains no copy of  $\ell_1$ . It is obvious that  $X$  and  $Y$  contain no copy of  $\ell_1$ . Let  $\{e_n\}_1^\infty$  be an unconditional basis of  $X$ . By [4, p.21, Theorem 1.c.9],  $\{e_n\}_1^\infty$  is also a shrinking basis. Now for each  $T \in (X \hat{\otimes} Y)^* = \mathcal{L}(X, Y^*)$ , let  $y_n^* = T e_n$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $T$  is not compact, by Lemma 2, there are  $\varepsilon_0 > 0$ , a subsequence  $n_1 < n_2 < \dots$ , and a sequence  $\{x_k\}_1^\infty$  in  $B_X$  such that

$$\left\| \sum_{i=n_k}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_k) y_i^* \right\|_{Y^*} > \varepsilon_0, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots.$$

Moreover, there exists a sequence  $\{y_k\}_1^\infty$  in  $B_Y$  such that

$$(4) \quad \left| \sum_{i=n_k}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_k) y_i^*(y_k) \right| > \varepsilon_0, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots.$$

Let  $z_k = x_k \otimes y_k, k = 1, 2, \dots$ . Then  $z_k \in B_{X \hat{\otimes} Y}$  for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . It follows from Rosenthal's  $\ell_1$ -theorem that  $\{z_k\}_1^\infty$  has a subsequence, without loss of generality, say itself, which is weakly Cauchy. By Lemma 3,  $\{I_T(z_k)\}_1^\infty$  is a weakly Cauchy sequence in  $\ell_1$ , and hence relatively weakly sequentially compact. Thanks to the Schur property, it is a relatively sequentially compact subset of  $\ell_1$ . Thus there exists

an  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$(5) \quad \sum_{i=m}^{\infty} |I_T(z_k)_i| = \sum_{i=m}^{\infty} |e_i^*(x_k)y_i^*(y_k)| < \varepsilon_0, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots.$$

Pick an  $n_k > m$ . Then from (4) and (5),

$$\varepsilon_0 < \left| \sum_{i=n_k}^{\infty} e_i^*(x_k)y_i^*(y_k) \right| \leq \sum_{i=m}^{\infty} |e_i^*(x_k)y_i^*(y_k)| < \varepsilon_0.$$

Contradiction. This shows that  $T$  must be compact. ■

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