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R. I. OVSEPIAN

A. PEŁCZYŃSKI

**The existence in every separable Banach space of a fundamental total and bounded biorthogonal sequence and related constructions of uniformly bounded orthonormal systems in  $L^2$**

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THE EXISTENCE IN EVERY SEPARABLE BANACH SPACE OF A FUNDAMENTAL TOTAL  
AND BOUNDED BIORTHOGONAL SEQUENCE AND RELATED CONSTRUCTIONS  
OF UNIFORMLY BOUNDED ORTHONORMAL SYSTEMS IN  $L^2$

by

R.I. OVSEPIAN (Erevan) ♦

and

A. PEŁCZYŃSKI (Warszawa) ♦♦

♦ Institute of Mathematics of the Armenian Academy of Sciences.

♦♦ Institute of Mathematics, Polish Academy of Sciences.

Abstract.

1) In every separable Banach space  $X$  a biorthogonal sequence  $(x_n, x_n^*)$  is constructed such that linear combinations of the  $x_n$ 's are dense in  $X$ , for every  $x$  in  $X$  if  $x_n^*(x) = 0$  for all  $n$  then  $x = 0$  and  $\sup_n \|x_n\| \|x_n^*\| < \infty$ .

2) Linear subspaces of  $L^2[0,1]$  which admit an orthonormal basis consisting of uniformly bounded functions are characterized.



The present paper consists of three sections. In the first one using a trick invented by Olevskii ([9] Lemmas 3 and 4) we prove

**Theorem 1 :** In every separable Banach space  $X$  there exists a fundamental and total biorthogonal sequence  $(x_n, x_n^*)$  such that

$$\sup_n \|x_n\| \|x_n^*\| < \infty$$

Recall that a sequence  $(x_n, x_n^*)$  of pairs consisting of elements of a Banach space  $X$  and bounded linear functionals on  $X$ , i.e. elements of  $X^*$  - the dual of  $X$  is said to be biorthogonal if  $x_n^*(x_m) = \delta_n^m$  for  $n, m = 1, 2, \dots$ . A biorthogonal sequence  $(x_n, x_n^*)$  is fundamental if linear combinations of the  $x_n$ 's are dense in  $X$ , and is total if the condition  $x_n^*(x) = 0$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  implies that  $x = 0$ .

Theorem 1 answers a question of Banach ([1], p.238). A slightly weaker result has been previously obtained by Davis and Johnson [4].

The main result of the second section is

**Theorem 2 :** Let  $E$  be a separable linear subspace of a Hilbert space  $L^2(\mu)$  where  $\mu$  is a probability measure on a sigma field of subsets of a set  $S$ . Then  $E$  admits an orthonormal basis consisting of uniformly bounded functions if and only if

- (i)  $E \cap L^\infty(\mu)$  is dense in  $E$  in the  $L^2(\mu)$  norm,
- (ii)  $E \cap \{f \in L^\infty(\mu) : \|f\|_\infty \leq 1\}$  is not a totally bounded subset of  $L^2(\mu)$ .

Moreover if  $E \cap L^\infty(\mu)$  is a separable subspace of  $L^\infty(\mu)$  then the orthonormal basis can be constructed so that it spans a linear subspace which is dense in the norm  $\|\cdot\|_\infty$  in  $E \cap L^\infty(\mu)$ .

As a corollary we obtain that every subspace of  $L^2(0,1)$  of finite codimension admits an orthonormal basis consisting of uniformly bounded infinitely many times differentiable functions. This answers a question of H. Shapiro [14].

In the third section we consider the class of such Banach spaces  $X$  which admit an isometric embedding, say  $j$ , into a space  $C(S)$  of all scalar-valued continuous functions on a compact Hausdorff space  $S$  such that there exists a Borel probability measure  $\mu$  on  $S$  such that the unit ball of  $j(X)$  is not a totally bounded subset of  $L^2(\mu)$ , i.e.  $j(X)$  regarded as a subspace of  $L^2(\mu)$  satisfies the condition (ii) of Theorem 2. Using a recent profound result of Rosenthal [13] we show that a Banach space  $X$  has the above property if and only if it contains a closed linear subspace isomorphic to the space  $l^1$  of all absolutely convergent series of scalars.

1. Proof of Theorem 1. We begin with a lemma which is a modification of Olevskii's Lemma 3 of [9]. If  $A$  is a non-empty subset of a Banach space  $X$ , then  $[A]$  denotes the closed linear subspace of  $X$  generated by  $A$  and  $\text{lin } A$  - the linear subspace of  $X$  generated by  $A$ .

Lemma 1: Let  $X$  be a Banach space and let  $n$  be a positive integer.

Let  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{2^n-1}$  be elements of  $X$  and let  $x_0^*, x_1^*, \dots, x_{2^n-1}^*$  be

elements of  $X^*$  such that  $x_p^*(x_q) = \delta_p^q$  for  $p = 0, 1, \dots, 2^n-1$ . Then there exists a unitary real matrix  $(a_{k,j}^n)_{0 \leq k, j < 2^n}$  such that if

$$e_k = \sum_{j=0}^{2^n-1} a_{k,j}^n x_j \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, \dots, 2^n-1,$$

and

$$e_k^* = \sum_{j=0}^{2^n-1} a_{k,j}^n x_j^*$$

then

$$(1) \quad \max_{0 \leq p < 2^n} \|e_p\| < (1 + \sqrt{2}) \max_{1 \leq j < 2^n} \|x_j\| + 2^{-\frac{n}{2}} \|x_0\|$$

$$(2) \quad \max_{0 \leq p < 2^n} \|e_p^*\| < (1 + \sqrt{2}) \max_{1 \leq j < 2^n} \|x_j^*\| + 2^{-\frac{n}{2}} \|x_0^*\|$$

$$(3) \quad e_p^*(e_q) = \delta_p^q \quad \text{for } p, q = 0, 1, \dots, 2^n - 1$$

$$(4) \quad [\{e_p\}_{0 \leq p < 2^n}] = [\{x_p\}_{0 \leq p < 2^n}] ; [\{e_p^*\}_{0 \leq p < 2^n}] = [\{x_p^*\}_{0 \leq p < 2^n}] .$$

**Proof :** The conditions (3) and (4) are satisfied for every unitary  $2^n \times 2^n$  - matrix. The specific unitary matrix for which (1) and (2) hold is defined to be the matrix which transform the unit vector basis of the  $2^n$ -dimensional Hilbert space  $l_{2^n}^2$  onto the Haar basis of this space. We put

$$a_{k,0}^n = 2^{-\frac{n}{2}} \quad \text{for } 0 \leq k < 2^n ,$$

$$a_{k,2^s+r}^n = \begin{cases} 2^{\frac{s-n}{2}} & \text{for } 2^{n-s-1}2r \leq k < 2^{n-s-1}(2r+1) \\ -2^{\frac{s-n}{2}} & \text{for } 2^{n-s-1}(2r+1) \leq k < 2^{n-s-1}(2r+2) \\ 0 & \text{for } k < 2^{n-s-1}2r \text{ and for } k \geq 2^{n-s-1}(2r+2) . \end{cases}$$

$$(s = 0, 1, \dots, n-1 ; r = 0, 1, \dots, 2^s - 1) .$$

We have

$$(5) \quad \sum_{j=1}^{2^n-1} |a_{k,j}^n| = \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} 2^{-\frac{n-s}{2}} < 1 + \sqrt{2} \quad \text{for } 0 \leq k < 2^n .$$

Clearly (5) implies (1) and (2).

**Proposition 1 :** Let  $(x_n, x_n^*)$  be a fundamental and total biorthogonal sequence in a Banach space  $X$  such that there exists an increasing infinite sequences  $(n_k)$  such that  $\sup_n \|x_{n_k}\| \|x_{n_k}^*\| = M < \infty$ . Then there exists

a fundamental and total biorthogonal sequence  $(e_n, e_n^*)$  in  $X$  such that

$$\sup_n \|e_n\| \|e_n^*\| \leq M(1 + \sqrt{2})^2 + 1$$

$$\text{and } \text{lin } \{e_n\}_{n=1}^\infty = \text{lin } \{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$$

$$\text{and } \text{lin } \{e_n^*\}_{n=1}^\infty = \text{lin } \{x_n^*\}_{n=1}^\infty .$$

Proof : Without loss of generality one may assume that  $\|x_n\| = 1$  for all  $n$ . Pick a permutation  $p(\cdot)$  of the indices and an increasing sequence  $(m_r)$  of the indices so that if  $\tilde{x}_n = x_{p(n)}$  and  $\tilde{x}_n^* = x_{p(n)}^*$  for

all  $n$  and  $q_r = \sum_{p=0}^r 2^p$  for all  $r$  then

$$\text{if } n \neq q_r \text{ for all } r, \text{ then } \|\tilde{x}_n\| \|\tilde{x}_n^*\| \leq M,$$

if  $n = q_r$  for some  $r = 0, 1, \dots$ , then

$$(1 + \sqrt{2})^{2^{M+1}} > [(1 + \sqrt{2})^M + \|\tilde{x}_n^*\| 2^{-\frac{m_r}{2}}] [(1 + \sqrt{2}) + \|\tilde{x}_n\| 2^{-\frac{m_r}{2}}].$$

Next we put

$$e_n = \tilde{x}_n \quad \text{and} \quad e_n^* = \tilde{x}_n^* \quad \text{for } n < 2^{m_0},$$

$$e_{k+q_{r-1}} = \sum_{j=0}^{2^{m_r-1}} a_{k,j}^{m_r} \tilde{x}_{j+q_{r-1}} \quad ; \quad e_{k+q_{r-1}}^* = \sum_{j=0}^{2^{m_r-1}} a_{k,j}^{m_r} \tilde{x}_{j+q_{r-1}}^*$$

$$\text{for } 0 \leq k < 2^{m_r} ; r = 1, 2, \dots$$

where  $a_{k,j}^{m_r}$  are defined as in Lemma 1 for  $n = m_r$ . Using Lemma 1 we easily verify that such defined sequence  $(e_n, e_n^*)$  has the desired properties.

**Proof of Theorem 1 :** We shall assume that  $\dim X = \infty$ . Then the separability of  $X$  implies that there exist sequences  $E_1 \subset E_2 \subset \dots$  of subspaces of  $X$  and  $F_1 \subset F_2 \subset \dots$  of subspaces of  $X^*$  such that  $\dim E_i = \dim F_i = i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ ,  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i$  is dense in  $X$  and if  $f^*(x) = 0$  for all  $f^* \in \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} F_i$  then  $x = 0$ . In view of Proposition 1 it is enough to construct a biorthogonal sequence  $(x_n, x_n^*)$  in  $X$  such that if  $G = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$  and  $H_n = [x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*]$  then for all  $s$

$$(6) \quad G_{3s-1} \supset E_s \quad ; \quad H_{3s-1} \supset F_s \quad ; \quad \|x_{3s}\| \quad \|x_{3s}^*\| \leq 3 .$$

Pick  $x_1 \in X$  and  $x_1^* \in X^*$  so that  $0 \neq x_1 \in E_1$  and  $x_1^*(x_1) = 1$ . Assume that for some  $n-1 \geq 1$  the elements  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}$  in  $X$  and the functionals  $x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_{n-1}^*$  in  $X^*$  have been defined to satisfy (6) and so that  $x_p^*(x_q) = \delta_p^q$  for  $p, q = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ . We consider separately three cases.

1°)  $n = 3s-2$ . If  $G_{n-1} \supset E_s$  we define  $x_n \in X$  and  $x_n^* \in X^*$  arbitrarily so that  $x_n^*(x^q) = \delta_n^q$  and  $x_p^*(x_n) = \delta_p^n$  for  $p, q = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . If  $E_s \setminus G_{n-1}$  is non empty, say  $e \in E_s \setminus G_{n-1}$ , then we put  $x_n = e - \sum_{p=1}^{n-1} x_p^*(e) x_p$  and

$G_n = [G_{n-1} \cup \{x_n\}]$ . Clearly  $x_n \neq 0$ . Since  $\dim E_s = \dim E_{s-1} + 1$  and  $e \in G_n \setminus E_{s-1}$  and since the inductive hypothesis implies that  $E_{s-1} \subset G_{n-1}$ , we infer that  $G_n \supset E_s$ . Since  $x_n \in G_n \setminus G_{n-1}$ , there exists a bounded linear functional on  $G_n$ , say  $g^*$ , such that  $g^*(x_n) = 1$  and  $g^*(g) = 0$  for  $g \in G_{n-1}$ . We define  $x_n^*$  to be any extension of  $g^*$  to a bounded linear functional on  $X$ .

2°)  $n = 3s-1$ . If  $H_{n-1} \supset F_s$  we define  $x_n \in X$  and  $x_n^* \in X^*$  arbitrarily so that  $x_n^*(x_q) = \delta_n^q$  and  $x_p^*(x_n) = \delta_p^n$  for  $p, q = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . If  $F_s \setminus H_{n-1}$  is non empty, say  $f^* \in F_s \setminus H_{n-1}$  then we put  $x_n^* = f^* - \sum_{q=1}^{n-1} f^*(x_q) x_q^*$ . Since  $f^* \notin H_{n-1}$ , there exists an  $x \in X$  such that  $1 = f^* - \sum_{q=1}^{n-1} f^*(x_q) x_q^*(x)$ .

We put  $x_n = x - \sum_{p=1}^{n-1} x_p^*(x)x_p$ . It is easy to check that  $x_n^*(x_q) = \delta_n^q$  and  $x_p^*(x_n) = \delta_p^n$  for  $p, q = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Let  $H_n = [H_{n-1} \cup \{x_n\}]$ . Since the inductive hypothesis implies that  $F_{s-1} \subset H_{n-1}$  and since  $\dim F_s = \dim F_{s-1} + 1$  and  $f^* \in F_s \setminus F_{s-1}$ , we infer that  $H_n \supset F_s$ .

3<sup>o</sup>)  $n = 3s$ . Using Mazur's technique (cf. [10] Lemma) we pick an  $x_n \in X$  with  $\|x_n\| = 1$  so that  $x_n^*(x) = 0$  for every  $x \in H_{n-1}$  and for all  $g$  in  $G_{n-1}$  and for all scalars  $t$ ,  $\|g + t x_n\| \geq (1 - 1/3) \|g\|$ . Define  $g^*$  on  $G_n$  by  $g^*(g + t x_n) = t$ . Then  $|t| = \|t x_n\| \leq \|g + t x_n\| + \|g\| \leq (1 + 3/2) \|g + t x_n\|$ .

Thus  $\|g^*\| \leq 3$ . We define  $x_n^*$  to be any norm preserving extension of  $g^*$  to a linear functional on  $X$ .

Remark 1 : Using in the case 3<sup>o</sup> Day's technique (cf. [3]) which bases on the Borsuk antipodal mapping theorem one can choose (both in the case of real and of complex scalars)  $x_{3s}$  and  $x_{3s}^*$  so that  $\|x_{3s}\| = \|x_{3s}^*\| = x_{3s}^*(x_{3s}) = 1$  for  $s = 1, 2, \dots$ . Now the inspection of the proof of Theorem 1 yields that in every separable Banach space for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a fundamental and bounded biorthogonal sequence  $(e_n, e_n^*)$  such that  $\|e_n\| \|e_n^*\| < (1 + \sqrt{2})^2 + \varepsilon$  for all  $n$ . We do not know whether for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  this bound can be replaced by  $1 + \varepsilon$ . However, as was observed by C. Bessaga we have

Corollary 1 : In every separable Banach space  $X$  there exists an equivalent norm  $\|\cdot\|$  such that there exists in  $X$  a fundamental and total biorthogonal sequence  $(e_n, e_n^*)$  with  $\|e_n^*\| \|e_n\| = 1$ .

Proof : We admit  $\|\cdot\| = \max(\|\cdot\|, \sup_n |e_n^*(x)|)$  for  $x \in X$  where  $(e_n, e_n^*)$  is any fundamental and total biorthogonal sequence in  $X$  such that  $\|e_n\| = 1$  for all  $n$  and  $\sup_n \|e_n^*\| < \infty$ .

Remark 2 : A similar argument to that which is used in the proof of Theorem 1 allows to prove the following

**Theorem 1'** : Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be Banach spaces and let  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  be one-to-one bounded linear operator. If  $X$  is separable,  $T(X)$  is dense in  $Y$  and  $T$  is not compact, then there exists fundamental and total biorthogonal sequences  $(x_n, x_n^*)$  in  $X$  and  $(y_n, y_n^*)$  in  $Y$  such that

$$\sup_n \max ( \|x_n\| \|x_n^*\| , \|y_n\| \|y_n^*\| ) < \infty$$

and 
$$T(x_n) = y_n$$

for all  $n$ .

## 2. Constructions of uniformly bounded orthonormal sequences.

We employ the following notation. If  $\mu$  is a probability measure (= a non negative normalized measure) on a sigma field of subsets of a set  $S$  then  $\langle x, y \rangle = \int_S x(s) y(s) \mu(ds)$ ,  $\|x\|_2 = \langle x, x \rangle^{1/2}$  and

$$\|x\|_\infty = \inf_{\mu(B)=1} \sup_{s \in B} |x(s)|$$

for any  $\mu$ -absolutely square summable scalar valued functions  $x$  and  $y$  on  $S$ .  $L^\infty(\mu)$  and  $L^2(\mu)$  denote as usually the Banach spaces of those  $x$  that  $\|x\|_\infty < \infty$  and  $\|x\|_2 < \infty$  respectively.

The proof of Theorem 2 is similar to the proof of Theorem 1. Instead of Proposition 1, we apply the following result due to Olevskii ([9], Lemma 4).

**Proposition 2** : Let  $\mu$  be a probability measure on a sigma field of subsets of a set  $S$ . Let  $(x_n)$  be an infinite orthonormal (with respect to the inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ ) sequence of functions in  $L^\infty(\mu)$  such that  $\liminf_n \|x_n\|_\infty < \infty$ . Then there exists an orthonormal sequence  $(e_n)$  such that

$$\text{lin } \{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty = \text{lin } \{e_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$$

and

$$\sup_n \|e_n\|_\infty .$$

The proof of Proposition 2 can be obtained by a non essential modification of the proofs of Lemma 1 and Proposition 1. Actually Olevskii stated Proposition 2 for the Lebesgue measure on  $[0,1]$ .

To prove Theorem 2 it is convenient to use the following simple fact.

Lemma 2 : Let  $(g_n)$  be a normalized sequence in  $L^2(\mu)$  which weakly (in  $L^2(\mu)$ ) converges to zero and let  $\sup_n \|g_n\|_\infty = M < \infty$ . Then for every finite dimensional subspace of  $L^\infty(\mu)$ , say  $F$ , and for  $k > 0$  there exist an index  $n_0 > k$  and a function  $h$  in the orthogonal complement of  $F$  such that

$$[F \cup \{g_n\}] = [F \cup \{h\}] , \quad \|h\|_2 = 1$$

and

$$\|h\|_\infty < M + 2^{-k} .$$

Proof : Let  $p = \dim F$ . Let  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_p$  be any orthonormal basis for  $F$ . Pick  $\varepsilon > 0$  so that

$$\frac{M + \varepsilon \sum_{j=1}^p \|e_j\|_\infty}{1 - \varepsilon p} < M + 2^{-k} .$$

Since  $(g_n)$  converges weakly to 0 in  $L^2(\mu)$ , there exists an index  $n_0 > k$  such that  $|\langle g_{n_0}, e_j \rangle| < \varepsilon$  for  $1 \leq j \leq p$ . Put

$$h = \left( g_{n_0} - \sum_{j=1}^p \langle g_{n_0}, e_j \rangle e_j \right) \left\| g_{n_0} - \sum_{j=1}^p \langle g_{n_0}, e_j \rangle e_j \right\|_2^{-1} .$$

Clearly  $h$  belongs to the orthogonal complement of  $F$ ,  $\|h\|_2 = 1$  and

$$[F \cup \{g_{n_0}\}] = [F \cup \{h\}] .$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| g_{n_0} - \sum_{j=1}^p \langle g_{n_0}, e_j \rangle e_j \right\|_{\infty} &\geq \left\| g_{n_0} \right\|_{\infty} + \left\| \sum_{j=1}^p \langle g_{n_0}, e_j \rangle e_j \right\|_{\infty} \\ &\leq M + \varepsilon \sum_{j=1}^p \|e_j\|_{\infty} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| g_{n_0} - \sum_{j=1}^p \langle g_{n_0}, e_j \rangle e_j \right\|_2 &\geq \left\| g_{n_0} \right\|_2 - \left\| \sum_{j=1}^p \langle g_{n_0}, e_j \rangle e_j \right\|_2 \\ &\geq 1 - \varepsilon p . \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\|h\|_{\infty} \leq (M + \varepsilon \sum_{j=1}^p \|e_j\|_{\infty}) (1 - \varepsilon p) < M + 2^{-k}$ .

Proof of Theorem 2 : It follows from (i) that there exists in  $E$  an increasing sequence of finite dimensional subspaces  $F_1 \subset F_2 \subset \dots$  such that  $\dim F_p = p$  and  $\bigcup_{p=1}^{\infty} F_p$  is dense in  $E$ . Clearly if  $E \cap L^{\infty}(\mu)$  is a separable subset of  $L^{\infty}(\mu)$  one can choose the sequence  $(F_p)$  so that the union  $\bigcup_{p=1}^{\infty} F_p$  is dense in  $E \cap L^{\infty}(\mu)$  in the  $L^{\infty}(\mu)$  norm. The condition (ii) yields that there exists in  $E$  a sequence  $(g_n)$  satisfying the assumption of Lemma 2. In view of Proposition 2, it is enough to define inductively an orthonormal sequence  $(h_n)$  in  $L^{\infty}(\mu) \cap E$  so that for  $s = 1, 2, \dots$

$$(7) \quad [\{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{2s-1}\}] \supset F_s ,$$

$$(8) \quad \|h_{2s}\|_{\infty} < M + 2^{-s}$$

where  $M = \sup_n \|g_n\|_{\infty}$ .

We define  $h_1$  as any element of  $F_1$  with  $\|h_1\|_2 = 1$ . Suppose that for some  $n-1 \geq 1$  the functions  $h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{n-1}$  have been defined to satisfy the conditions (7) and (8) and so that  $\langle h_p, h_q \rangle = \delta_p^q$  for  $p, q = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ . Let us consider separately two cases.

- 1)  $n = 2s$  for some  $s = 1, 2, \dots$ . We put  $h_n = h$  where  $h$  is that of Lemma 2 applied for  $F = [\{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{n-1}\}]$  for  $(g_p)$  and for  $k = s$ .
- 2)  $n = 2s-1$  for some  $s = 2, 3, \dots$ . If  $F_s \subset [\{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{n-1}\}]$  we again define  $h_n = h$  where  $h$  is that of Lemma 2 applied for  $F = [\{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{n-1}\}]$  for  $(g_p)$  and for  $k=1$ . If  $F_m \not\subset [\{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{n-1}\}]$  then there exists an  $f$  which belongs to  $F_s \setminus [\{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{n-1}\}]$ . Let  $\tilde{f}$  be the orthogonal projection of  $f$  onto  $[\{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{n-1}\}]$ . We put  $h_n = (f - \tilde{f}) / \|f - \tilde{f}\|_2^{-1}$ . Clearly  $\|h_n\|_2 = 1$  and  $h_n$  belongs to the orthogonal complement of  $[\{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{n-1}\}]$ . Obviously we have  $f \in [\{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_1\}] \setminus [\{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{n-1}\}]$ .
- By the inductive hypothesis  $F_{s-1} \subset [\{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{n-1}\}]$ . Thus  $F_s \subset [\{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_n\}]$  because  $\dim F_s = \dim F_{s-1} + 1$ .

This complete the induction and the proof of the sufficiency of the conditions (i) and (ii). The necessity is trivial.

Remark 1 : A similar argument gives

Theorem 2' : Let  $T : X \rightarrow H$  be a one to one bounded linear operator from a Banach space  $X$  into a Hilbert space  $H$ . Let  $E = T(X)$ . If  $E$  is separable and  $T$  is not compact then there exists a sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $X$  such that  $\sup_n \|x_n\| < \infty$  and  $(T(x_n))$  is an orthonormal basis for  $E$ . Moreover if  $X$  is separable and  $x_n^* \in X^*$  is defined by  $x_n^*(x) = \langle T(x), x_n \rangle_H$  for  $x \in X$  and for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , where  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_H$  denotes the inner product of  $H$ , then  $(x_n)$  can be chosen so that  $(x_n, x_n^*)$  is a fundamental and total biorthogonal sequence in  $X$  and  $\sup_n \|x_n\| \|x_n^*\| < \infty$ .

Remark 2 : There exists an orthonormal decomposition of  $L^2[0,1]$  onto subspaces  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  such that neither  $E_1$  nor  $E_2$  admit uniformly bounded orthonormal bases. It is enough to define  $E_1 = [\{x_1\} \cup \{x_{2m}\}_{m=2}^\infty]$  and  $E_2 = [\{x_2\} \cup \{x_{2m-1}\}_{m=2}^\infty]$  where  $(x_n)$  is any orthonormal basis for  $L^2[0,1]$  such that the functions  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are unbounded,  $x_{2m-1}(t) = 0$  for  $0 \leq t < \frac{1}{2}$  and  $x_{2m}(t) = 0$  for  $\frac{1}{2} < t \leq 1$  ( $m=1, 2, \dots$ ). However as was observed earlier by F.G. Arutunian (unpublished) we have

Corollary 2 : If  $E$  is a linear subspace of a separable space  $L^2(\mu)$  where  $\mu$  is a non purely atomic probability measure and if the orthogonal complement of  $E$  is finite dimensional, then  $[E]$  has a uniformly bounded orthonormal basis. Moreover if  $E \cap L^\infty(\mu)$  is dense in  $E$  then the basis can be chosen from elements of  $E \cap L^\infty(\mu)$ .

Proof : It is enough to show that  $[E]$  satisfies the conditions (i) and (ii) of Theorem 2. To check (i) first observe that the density of  $L^\infty(\mu)$  regarded as a subspace of  $L^2(\mu)$  in  $L^2(\mu)$  implies that for every positive integer  $p$  and for every linearly independent  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_{p+1}$  in  $L^2(\mu)$  there exist  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{p+1}$  in  $L^\infty(\mu)$  such that the matrix  $(y_k, f_j)_{1 \leq k, j \leq p+1}$  is invertible. Let  $(a_{i,k})_{1 \leq i, k \leq p+1}$  be the inverse matrix and let

$$z_i = \sum_{k=1}^{p+1} a_{i,k} y_k \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, p+1. \text{ Then } z_i \in L^\infty(\mu) \text{ and } \langle z_i, f_j \rangle = \delta_i^j$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, p+1$ . The above observation applied to any basis of the orthogonal complement of  $E$  and any non zero element  $f$  of  $[E]$  yields the existence of an  $y$  in  $L^\infty(\mu)$  such that  $\langle y, f \rangle = 1$  and  $\langle y, g \rangle = 0$  for all  $g$  in the orthogonal complement of  $E$ . The last condition means that  $y \in [E]$ . Hence there is no  $f \neq 0$  in  $[E]$  which is orthogonal to all  $y \in [E] \cap L^\infty(\mu)$ , equivalently  $[E] \cap L^\infty(\mu)$  is dense in  $[E]$ . Hence  $[E]$  satisfies (i).

The "moreover" part of the Corollary follows from the observation that if  $[E]$  satisfies (ii) than  $E$  also satisfies (ii).

An immediate consequence of Corollary 2 is

Corollary 3 : Let  $f$  be any unbounded function in  $L^2[0,1]$ . Then the orthogonal complement of  $f$  admits a uniformly bounded orthonormal basis consisting of trigonometrical polynomials. This basis has no extension to any uniformly bounded orthonormal basis for  $L^2[0,1]$ .

Corollary 3 answers a question of Shapiro [14].

### 3. Fat subspaces of $C(S)$ spaces.

Definition : Let  $\mu$  be a probability Borel measure on a compact Hausdorff space  $S$ . A closed linear subspace  $Z$  of  $C(S)$  is said to be fat with respect to  $\mu$  if the unit ball of  $Z$  regarded as a subset of the Hilbert space  $L^2(\mu)$  is not a totally bounded set.

Let  $I_\mu : L^\infty(\mu) \rightarrow L^2(\mu)$  denote the natural injection. It is clear that  $Z$  is fat with respect to  $\mu$  iff the restriction of  $I_\mu$  to  $Z$  is not a compact operator or equivalently if  $E = I_\mu(Z)$  satisfies the condition (ii) of Theorem 2.

Our next result characterizes Banach spaces which admit fat isometric embeddings into  $C(S)$  spaces. Some of the equivalent conditions are stated in terms of 2-absolutely summing operators, i.e. such bounded linear operators which admit a factorization through a natural injection  $I_\mu$  for some measure  $\mu$  (cf. [12] and [8]).

Proposition 3 : For every Banach space  $X$  the following conditions are equivalent :

- (a) there exists a uniformly bounded sequence  $(x_n)$  of elements of  $X$  such that no subsequence of  $(x_n)$  is a weak Cauchy sequence,
- (b)  $X$  contains a subspace isomorphic to  $l^1$ ,
- (c) there exists a 2-absolutely summing operator from  $X$  onto  $l^2$ ,
- (d) there exists a 2-absolutely summing non compact operator from  $X$  into  $l^2$ ,
- (e) for every for some isometric embedding  $j$  of  $X$  into a  $C(S)$  space there exists a probability Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $S$  such that  $j(X)$  is fat with respect to  $\mu$ .

Proof : (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b). This is a profound recent result of Rosenthal [13].  
 (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c). Let  $T$  be a bounded linear operator from  $l^1$  onto  $l^2$

(cf. [2] for the existence of such an operator). Then by a result of Grothendieck [7] (cf. also [8])  $T$  is 2-absolutely summing. Hence, by [12]  $T$  admits an extension to a 2-absolutely summing operator from  $X$  onto  $l^2$ .

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (d). Obvious.

(d)  $\Rightarrow$  (e). Let  $T : X \rightarrow l^2$  be a non compact 2-absolutely summing operator and let  $S$  be a compact Hausdorff space. By a result of Persson and Pietsch [11], for every isometric embedding  $j : X \rightarrow C(S)$  there exists a Borel probability measure  $\mu$  on  $S$  such that  $T = A I_\mu j$  for some bounded linear operator  $A : L^2(\mu) \rightarrow l^2$ . Since  $T$  is not compact, the image of the unit ball of  $j(X)$  under  $I_\mu$  is not a totally bounded subset of  $L^2(\mu)$ . Thus  $j(X)$  is a fat subspace of  $C(S)$  with respect to  $\mu$ .

(e)  $\Rightarrow$  (a). It follows from (e) that there exists a uniformly bounded sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $X$  such that  $\|I_\mu j(x_n) - I_\mu j(x_m)\|_2 \geq 1$  for  $n \neq m$  ( $n, m = 1, 2, \dots$ ). Thus the sequence  $(x_n)$  does not contain weak Cauchy sequences because  $I_\mu$  takes weak Cauchy sequences into strong Cauchy sequences.

A similar result to our Proposition 3 was recently independently discovered by Weis [16].

Our last result is related to Gaposkin's [6] generalization of a result of Sidon [15].

**Corollary 4** : Let  $\mu$  be a probability measure on a sigma field of subsets of  $S$ . Let  $(g_n)$  be a uniformly bounded sequence in  $L^\infty(\mu)$  such that  $(g_n)$  tends weakly to zero in  $L^2(\mu)$  and  $\limsup_n \|g_n\|_2 > 0$ . Then there exists an infinite subsequence  $(g_{n_k})$  and  $c > 0$  such that

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^p c_k g_{n_k} \right\|_\infty > c \sum_{k=1}^p |c_k|$$

for every finite sequence of scalars  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_p$  ( $p = 1, 2, \dots$ ).

Proof : Without loss of generality we may assume that  $\inf_n \|g_n\|_2 > 0$ .

Then  $(g_n)$  does not have Cauchy (in  $L^2(\mu)$ ) subsequences because  $(g_n)$  weakly converges in  $L^2(\mu)$  to zero but no subsequence of  $(g_n)$  strongly converges to zero. Thus  $(g_n)$  regarded as a sequence of elements of  $L^\infty(\mu)$  does not contain weak (in  $L^\infty(\mu)$ ) Cauchy sequences because the natural injection  $I_\mu : L^\infty(\mu) \rightarrow L^2(\mu)$  takes weak Cauchy sequences in  $L^\infty(\mu)$  into strong Cauchy sequences in  $L^2(\mu)$ . Since  $\sup_n \|g_n\|_\infty < \infty$ , to complete the proof it is enough to apply Rosenthal's criterion (cf. Rosenthal [13] for the real case and Dor [5] for the complex case).

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