



# On decompositions of Banach spaces into a sum of operator ranges

by

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Dedicated to M. I. Kadets on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday

Abstract. It is proved that a separable Banach space X admits a representation  $X=X_1+X_2$  as a sum (not necessarily direct) of two infinite-codimensional closed subspaces  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  if and only if it admits a representation  $X=A_1(Y_1)+A_2(Y_2)$  as a sum (not necessarily direct) of two infinite-codimensional operator ranges. Suppose that a separable Banach space X admits a representation as above. Then it admits a representation  $X=T_1(Z_1)+T_2(Z_2)$  such that neither of the operator ranges  $T_1(Z_1)$ ,  $T_2(Z_2)$  contains an infinite-dimensional closed subspace if and only if X does not contain an isomorphic copy of  $l_1$ .

In this paper we consider a decomposition of a separable Banach space X into a sum (not necessarily direct) of two operator ranges. By an operator range  $A(Y) \subset X$  we mean the image of some Banach space Y under a bounded linear operator  $A: Y \to X$ . Since every operator range is the range of some one-to-one operator (by passing to the quotient space) we may assume without loss of generality that A is a one-to-one (injective) operator.

There are two cases (known to the authors) where a decomposition into a sum of operator ranges actually gives a decomposition into a sum of subspaces (by a subspace we mean a closed linear manifold). First if a Banach space is a direct sum of two operator ranges then, by using the Closed Graph Theorem, it is easy to show that both operator ranges are subspaces. The second case is the following. Let  $H = A_1(H) + A_2(H)$  be a decomposition of a Hilbert space H into a sum (not necessarily direct) of two ranges of operators on the same Hilbert space. Then there exist subspaces N and M with  $N \subset A_1(H), M \subset A_2(H)$  and  $N \cap M = 0$  such that H = N + M (see [1]).

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In this paper we are interested only in decompositions of the kind

(1) 
$$X = A_1(Y_1) + A_2(Y_2),$$
$$\dim A_1(Y_1) = \operatorname{codim} A_1(Y_1) = \dim A_2(Y_2) = \operatorname{codim} A_2(Y_2) = \infty,$$

of a separable Banach space X into a sum of two operator ranges  $A_1(Y_1)$ ,  $A_2(Y_2)$  without the assumption that  $A_1(Y_1) \cap A_2(Y_2) = 0$ . It turns out that a decomposition as in (1) exists for a given separable Banach space if and only if it is possible to decompose the space into a sum of two infinite-dimensional and infinite-codimensional subspaces (Theorem 2.1). Let us note that not every separable Banach space has a decomposition (1). For instance, the dual to the Gowers-Maurey space [4] has no decomposition (1) (see Example 2.2 below).

Now assume that a given separable Banach space admits a decomposition into a sum of two operator ranges. Is it necessary that (at least) one of them contains an infinite-dimensional subspace? The answer (Theorem 3.1) depends on whether the space contains an isomorphic copy of  $l_1$ .

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 1 we show that every infinite-codimensional operator range can be covered by the linear span of the union of an infinite-codimensional subspace and a compact set.

Section 2 is devoted to the proof of Theorem 2.1. The proof is based on the results of Section 1. By using Theorem 2.1 we show that the dual space  $\mathbb{Z}^*$  to the Gowers-Maurey space cannot be decomposed into a sum (1).

In Section 3 we introduce the notion of a "thin" operator range A(Y), by which we mean that A(Y) does not contain any infinite-dimensional subspace, and we prove that a separable Banach space X with the decomposition property (1) can be decomposed into a sum of two thin operator ranges if and only if X does not contain an isomorphic copy of the space  $l_1$ .

Section 4 contains some results on complemented operator ranges.

We use standard Banach space theory notation [6]. By U(E) we denote the unit ball of a normed space E. For a subset  $A \subset E$  of a normed space E we denote by [A] the closed linear hull of A, by co A the convex hull, by  $\lim A$  the linear hull of A and by  $\operatorname{cl} A$  the closure of A in the norm topology. Most results of this paper were announced in [3].

1. Covering of an operator range. We begin with two auxiliary lemmas. The proofs are standard and we omit them.

LEMMA 1.1. Let X be a Banach space,  $A(Y) \subset X$  be an operator range of infinite-codimension in X and K be a compact set in X. Then

$$\operatorname{codim}(\operatorname{lin}\{K \cup A(Y)\}) = \infty.$$

LEMMA 1.2. Let  $A: Y \to X$  be an injective operator with  $\operatorname{codim} A(Y) = \infty$ . Then  $\operatorname{codim}(\operatorname{lin}\operatorname{cl} AU(Y)) = \infty$ .

PROPOSITION 1.3. Let  $A: Y \to X$  be a dense injection of a Banach space Y into a separable Banach space X such that  $\operatorname{codim} A(Y) = \infty$ . Then there exist a subspace  $X_1 \subset X$  with  $\operatorname{codim} X_1 = \infty$  and a complete minimal sequence  $\{x_i\}$  in X such that  $\|x_i\| < 2^{-i}$  and

$$A(Y) \subset \lim \{X \cup \operatorname{clco}\{\pm x_i\}\}.$$

Proof. Put  $V=\operatorname{cl} AU(Y)$  and let Z be the Banach space  $\operatorname{lin} V$  with the norm generated by the set V as the unit ball. Denote by  $T:Z\to X$  the natural embedding. By Lemma 1.2,  $\operatorname{codim} T(Z)=\infty$ . Since T(U(Z)) is closed, the linear manifold  $T^*(X^*)$  is 1-norming and by [2, Proposition, p. 279], there exists a fundamental minimal system  $\{x_i\}\subset T(Z)$  with a conjugate system  $\{h_i\}\subset X^*$  such that  $\|x_i\|\leq 2^{-i}$  and  $\|T^*h_i\|\leq 2^{-i}, i=1,2,\ldots$  Put  $X_1=[h_i]^{\mathsf{T}}$ . Suppose  $y\in U(Z), \ x=\sum h_i(Ty)x_i$  and  $K=\operatorname{clco}\{\pm x_i\}$ . It is obvious that  $x\in K$  and  $Ty-x\in X_1$ . So  $T(Z)\subset \operatorname{lin}(K\cup X_1)$ . Since  $A(Y)\subset T(Z)$ , we get  $A(Y)\subset \operatorname{lin}(K\cup X_1)$ . The proof is complete.

Recall that two infinite-dimensional subspaces N, M of a Banach space X are said to be *quasicomplemented* if  $N \cap M = 0$  and N + M is a non-closed dense (in X) linear manifold.

Let H be a Hilbert space. It is known [1] that every dense operator range  $A(H) \subset H$  which contains an infinite-dimensional subspace can be represented as a sum

$$A(H) = N + M,$$

where N, M are quasicomplemented.

For a separable Banach space the following statement is true.

PROPOSITION 1.4. Every operator range  $A(Y) \subset X$  in a separable Banach space X is contained in a sum of two quasicomplemented subspaces.

Proof. We take up the approach and notation of the proof of Proposition 1.3. Let  $A: Y \to X$  be an injection and  $\{z_n\}$ , with  $||z_n|| = 1$ , be a basic sequence in  $X_1$  with basic constant less than 2. Put

$$u_i = z_i + 0.2x_i, \quad (i = 1, 2, \ldots).$$

By the stability theorem,  $\{u_i\}$  is also a basic sequence. Put  $X_2 = [u_i]$ . Since  $\{x_i\}$  is complete in X, the linear manifold  $X_1 + X_2$  is dense in X. Let us verify that  $X_1 \cap X_2 = 0$ . Indeed, let  $x \in X_1 \cap X_2$ . Then  $x = \sum \xi_i(z_i + 0.2x_i) \in X_1$ . Thus  $\xi_i = 0$  and x = 0. Standard considerations show that  $X_1 + X_2$  is not closed. Hence,  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are quasicomplemented and it follows from Proposition 1.3 that  $X_1 + X_2 \supset A(Y)$ . The proof is complete.

2. Decomposition into a sum of subspaces. The simplest example of an operator range is a subspace. In this section we show that a Banach space is decomposable into a sum of two operator ranges if and only if it may be decomposed into a sum of two subspaces.

Theorem 2.1. Let X be a separable Banach space. The following assertions are equivalent:

- (i) There exist infinite-dimensional and infinite-codimensional subspaces  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  in X such that  $X = X_1 + X_2$ .
- (ii) There exist operator ranges  $A_1(Y_1)$  and  $A_2(Y_2)$  such that the representation (1) is valid.

Proof. (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii) is obvious.

(ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i). By Proposition 1.3 there exist subspaces  $X_1, X_2$  of X with codim  $X_1 = \operatorname{codim} X_2 = \infty$  and compact subsets  $K_1, K_2$  of X such that

$$A_1(Y_1) \subset \lim \{K_1 \cup X_1\}, \quad A_2(Y_2) \subset \lim \{K_2 \cup X_2\}.$$

Put

$$K = K_1 \cup K_2$$
,  $Y = X_1 \oplus X_2$ 

and define an operator  $T: Y \to X$  by the formula

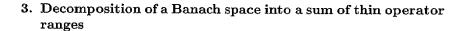
$$T(x_1, x_2) = x_1 + x_2, \quad (x_1, x_2) \in Y.$$

Then  $X_1 + X_2 = T(Y)$  and  $X = \lim\{K \cup T(Y)\}$ . By Lemma 1.1, we have  $\operatorname{codim}(X_1 + X_2) < \infty$ , and so there exists a finite-dimensional subspace  $X_3 \subset X$  such that

$$X = X_3 \dotplus (X_1 + X_2).$$

Set  $N = X_3 + X_1$  and  $M = X_2$  to obtain X = M + N, where codim N = codim  $M = \infty$ . The proof is complete.

EXAMPLE 2.2. There exists a separable reflexive Banach space X which does not admit any representation (1). Indeed, let Z be the reflexive hereditarily indecomposable separable Banach space constructed by Gowers and Maurey [4], that is, Z has the following property: there is no pair of infinite-dimensional subspaces  $Z_1, Z_2 \subset Z$  such that  $Z_1 \cap Z_2 = 0$  and  $Z_1 + Z_2$  is closed. Put  $X = Z^*$ . So  $X^* = Z^{**} = Z$ . Assume that a representation (1) for X is valid. By Theorem 2.1 there exist infinite-dimensional and infinite-codimensional subspaces N, M of X such that X = N + M. Let  $Y = N \oplus M$  and  $T : Y \to X$  be the natural onto mapping (that is, T(N) = N and T(M) = M). Then  $T^* : Z \to Y^* = N^* \oplus M^*$  is an isomorphic embedding. Since  $T^*(N^\perp) \subset M^*$  and  $T^*(M^\perp) \subset N^*$  we have dim  $T^*(Z) \cap N^* = \dim T^*(Z) \cap M^* = \infty$ . But  $T^*(Z) \cap N^* + T^*(Z) \cap M^*$  is closed and we have a contradiction to the main property of the space Z.



DEFINITION 3.1. An operator range A(Y) in a Banach space X is said to be *thin* if it does not contain any infinite-dimensional subspace.

THEOREM 3.2. Let X be a separable Banach space with a decomposition (1). Then the following assertions are equivalent:

(i) There exists a decomposition of X into a sum of operator ranges

$$X = T_1(Y_1) + T_2(Y_2)$$

such that both  $T_1(Y_1)$  and  $T_2(Y_2)$  are thin.

(ii) X does not contain an isomorphic copy of  $l_1$ .

Proof. (ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i). By Theorem 2.1 we may write  $X = E_1 + E_2$ , where  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are infinite-codimensional subspaces of X. Let us denote by  $l'_1$  and  $l''_1$  two isometric copies of the space  $l_1$ . It is well known ([6, p. 108]) that there exist surjective operators

$$A_1: l_1' \rightarrow E_1, \quad A_2: l_1'' \rightarrow E_2.$$

Denote by  $\{e_i'\}$  and  $\{e_i''\}$  the canonical bases of  $l_1'$  and  $l_2''$  respectively. Put  $x_i = A_1 e_i' \in E_1$  and  $y_i = A_2 e_i'' \in E_2$  (i = 1, 2, ...). Let  $\{u_i\}$ ,  $\|u_i\| = 1$ , i = 1, 2, ..., be a basic sequence in  $E_1$  with  $[u_i]_{i=1}^{\infty} \cap E_2 = 0$  and  $\{v_i\}$ ,  $\|v_i\| = 1$ , i = 1, 2, ..., be a basic sequence in  $E_2$  such that  $[v_i]_{i=1}^{\infty} \cap E_1 = 0$ . Set  $Z = (l_1' \oplus l_1'')_1$  and define the operators  $T_1: Z \to X$  and  $T_2: Z \to X$  by

$$T_1(a,b) = \sum \xi_i(x_i + 2^{-i}v_i) + \sum \mu_i 2^{-i}u_i,$$
  

$$T_2(a,b) = \sum \xi_i(y_i + 2^{-i}u_i) + \sum \mu_i 2^{-i}v_i,$$

where  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $a = \sum \xi_i e'_i$ ,  $b = \sum \mu_i e''_i$ .

We claim that  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are injective. Indeed, if

$$T_1(a,b) = \sum \xi_i(x_i + 2^{-i}v_i) + \sum \mu_i 2^{-i}u_i = 0,$$

then

$$\sum (\xi_i x_i + \mu_i 2^{-i} u_i) + \sum \xi_i 2^{-i} v_i = 0.$$

But  $\sum (\xi_i x_i + \mu_i 2^{-i} u_i) \in E_1$  and  $E_1 \cap [v_i] = \{0\}$ . Thus  $\sum (\xi_i x_i + \mu_i 2^{-i} u_i) = 0$  and  $\sum \xi_i 2^{-i} v_i = 0$ . Since  $\{u_i\}$  and  $\{v_i\}$  are basic sequences, it follows that  $\xi_i = \mu_i = 0, \ i = 1, 2, \ldots$ , which proves that  $T_1$  is injective. The same considerations show that  $T_2$  is also injective. Since X does not contain a copy of  $l_1$ , neither  $T_1(Z) \subset X$  nor  $T_2(Z) \subset X$  contains an infinite-dimensional subspace of X.

Now we show that

$$T_1(Z) + T_2(Z) = X.$$

Take  $u \in X$ , u = x + y, where  $x \in E_1$  and  $y \in E_2$ . Since  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$  are surjective operators, we have

$$x = \sum \xi_i x_i$$
 and  $y = \sum \nu_i y_i$ .

Put

$$w_1 = \Big(\sum \xi_i e_i', -\sum \nu_i e_i''\Big), \quad w_2 = \Big(\sum \nu_i e_i', -\sum \xi_i e_i''\Big).$$

Then  $u = T_1 w_1 + T_2 w_2$  and this concludes the proof (ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i).

(i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii). Suppose the contrary, i.e. X contains a copy of  $l_1$ . Let  $X=T_1(Y_1)+T_2(Y_2)$ , where  $T_i:Y\to X$  (i=1,2) are injective operators and both  $T_1(Y_1)$  and  $T_2(Y_2)$  are thin. Put  $Y=(Y_1\oplus Y_2)_{l_1}$  and let  $T:Y\to X$  be defined by

$$T(x_1, x_2) = T_1 x_1 + T_2 x_2,$$

where  $(x_1, x_2) \in Y$ .

It is clear that T(Y) = X. Let  $\{e_i\} \subset S(X)$  be the canonical basis of  $l_1 \subset X$ . Put  $Z = T^{-1}(l_1)$ . Then  $T|_Z : Z \to l_1$  is an onto mapping, and so there exists a bounded sequence  $\{z_i\} \subset Z$  with  $||z_i|| \leq C$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \ldots$ , such that  $Tz_i = e_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \ldots$  It is clear that

(2) 
$$z_i = x_i + y_i$$
,  $x_i \in Y_1$ ,  $y_i \in Y_2$ ,  $||x_i||, ||y_i|| \le C$ ,  $i = 1, 2 \dots$ 

Let us consider two cases.

Case 1: For all  $\varepsilon > 0$  and n there are m and  $\{\xi_i\}_{i=n+1}^{n+m}$  such that

(3) 
$$\sum_{i=n+1}^{n+m} |\xi_i| = 1, \quad \left\| T\left(\sum_{i=n+1}^{n+m} \xi_i x_i\right) \right\| < \varepsilon.$$

Let  $0 < \varepsilon_n < 1/2$ ,  $n=1,2,\ldots$  By using condition (3) for  $n=1,2,\ldots$ , we construct a sequence of integers  $m_1 < m_2 < \ldots$  and a sequence of numbers  $\{\xi_i\}$  such that

(4) 
$$\sum_{i=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} |\xi_i| = 1, \quad \left\| T \left( \sum_{i=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} \xi_i x_i \right) \right\| < \varepsilon_n.$$

Put

$$u_n = T\left(\sum_{i=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} \xi_i(x_i + y_i)\right) = \sum_{i=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} \xi_i e_i, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

It is clear that the sequence  $\{u_n\}$  is equivalent to the canonical basis of  $l_1$ . By using the inequality

 $\left\|u_n - T\left(\sum_{i=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} \xi_i y_i\right)\right\| = \left\|T\left(\sum_{i=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} \xi_i x_i\right)\right\| < \varepsilon_n.$ 

and the stability property of the canonical basis of  $l_1$ , we conclude that the sequence  $\{T(\sum_{i=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} \xi_i y_i)\}$  is  $\gamma$ -equivalent to the canonical basis of  $l_1$  (for some  $\gamma > 0$ ). Taking into account the inequality  $\|\sum_{i=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} \xi_i y_i\| \leq C$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \ldots$  (see (2) and (4)), we have

$$\gamma ||T||^{-1} \sum |a_n| \le ||T||^{-1} ||\sum a_n \Big( \sum_{i=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} \xi_i T y_i \Big) ||$$

$$\le ||\sum a_n \Big( \sum_{i=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} \xi_i y_i \Big) || \le C \sum |a_n|.$$

Thus, the sequence  $\{\sum_{i=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} \xi_i y_i\}$  is equivalent to the canonical basis of  $l_1$ . Put  $E = [\sum_{i=m_n+1}^{m_{n+1}} \xi_i y_i]_{n=1}^{\infty}$ . Hence  $T|_E$  is an isomorphism, and so  $T_2(Y_2)$  is not thin  $(T_2(Y_2) \supset l_1)$ .

CASE 2: There are  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $n_0$  such that for all m and  $\{\xi_i\}_{i=n_0+1}^{n_0+m}$  with  $\sum_{i=n_0+1}^{n_0+m} |\xi_i| = 1$  we have

$$\left\|T\left(\sum_{i=n_0+1}^{n_0+m}\xi_ix_i\right)\right\|>\varepsilon.$$

In this case  $\{Tx_i\}_{i=n_0+1}^{\infty}$  is equivalent to the canonical basis of  $l_1$ :

$$\varepsilon \sum |\xi_i| \le \left\| \sum \xi_i Tx_i \right\| \le C \|T\| \sum |\xi_i|.$$

Since  $||x_i|| < C$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \ldots$ , we have

$$\varepsilon ||T||^{-1} \sum |\xi_i| \le ||T||^{-1} \left\| \sum \xi_i T x_i \right\| \le \left\| \sum \xi_i x_i \right\| \le C \sum |\xi_i|.$$

Thus,  $\{x_i\}_{i=n_0+1}^{\infty}$  is also equivalent to the canonical basis of  $l_1$ . Therefore  $T|_{[x_i]}$  is an isomorphism and  $T_1(Y_1) \supset l_1$ .

So, in both cases one of the ranges  $T_1(Y_1)$  or  $T_2(Y_2)$  contains a copy of  $l_1$ , and so it is not thin. This contradiction completes the proof.

EXAMPLE 3.3. The following examples show that Theorem 3.2(ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i) is not true if we restrict ourselves to *own* operator ranges, that is, if  $Y_1 = Y_2 = X$ .

(i) As mentioned above, if the space  $l_2$  is represented as a sum of two own operator ranges

$$l_2 = A_1(l_2) + A_2(l_2),$$

then there exist two infinite-dimensional subspaces  $N \subset A_1(l_2)$  and  $M \subset A_2(l_2)$  such that  $N \cap M = \{0\}$  and  $l_2 = N + M$ .

(ii) Let  $X = l_p$ ,  $1 , and let <math>A_i : l_p \to l_p$  (i = 1, 2) be two linear bounded one-to-one operators such that

(5) 
$$l_p = A_1(l_p) + A_2(l_p), \\ \dim A_1(l_p) = \operatorname{codim} A_1(l_p) = \dim A_2(l_p) = \operatorname{codim} A_2(l_p) = \infty.$$

We claim that both  $A_1(l_p)$  and  $A_2(l_p)$  contain infinite-dimensional subspaces. Indeed, suppose that, say,  $A_1(l_p)$  does not contain any infinite-dimensional subspace. Then  $A_1: l_p \to l_p$  is strictly singular, and so compact. Now, taking into account (5), we have a contradiction with Lemma 1.1.

QUESTION. Suppose the space  $l_p$ ,  $1 , is represented as in (5). Are there infinite-dimensional subspaces <math>N \subset A_1(l_p)$  and  $M \subset A_2(l_p)$  such that  $N \cap M = \{0\}$  and  $N + M = l_p$ ?

**4. Complemented operator ranges.** Let X be a Banach space and  $A(Y) \subset X$  be an operator range with dim  $A(Y) = \operatorname{codim} A(Y) = \infty$ . We say that A(Y) is *complemented* if there exists an operator range  $A_1(Y_1) \subset X$  with dim  $A_1(Y_1) = \operatorname{codim} A_1(Y_1) = \infty$  such that

$$A(Y) + A_1(Y_1) = X.$$

We recall some definitions (see [7], [8, pp. 49–50]). An operator  $T: Y \to X$  is said to be *strictly singular* if for every infinite-dimensional subspace  $M \subset Y$  the restriction  $T|_M$  is not an isomorphism. An operator  $T: Y \to X$  is said to be *strictly cosingular* if for every infinite-codimensional subspace  $N \subset X$  the operator  $\tau_N \circ T$ , where  $\tau_N: X \to X/N$  is the quotient map, is not surjective.

PROPOSITION 4.1. Let X be a separable Banach space and  $A(Y) \subset X$  be an operator range such that dim  $A(Y) = \operatorname{codim} A(Y) = \infty$ . The following assertions are equivalent:

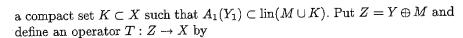
- (i) A(Y) is complemented.
- (ii) There exists a subspace  $N \subset X$  such that  $\dim N = \operatorname{codim} N = \infty$  and A(Y) + N = X.
  - (iii) The operator  $A: Y \to X$  is not strictly cosingular.

If the dual space  $X^*$  is separable then (i)-(iii) are equivalent to

(iv) The operator  $A^*: X^* \to Y^*$  is not strictly singular.

Proof. The equivalence (ii)⇔(iii) follows directly from the definitions, while (ii)⇒(i) is trivial.

(i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii). Let  $X = A(Y) + A_1(Y_1)$ , where  $A_1(Y_1)$  is of infinite codimension. By Proposition 1.3 there exist a subspace  $M \subset X$  with codim  $M = \infty$  and



$$T(y_1, y_2) = A_1 y_1 + y_2.$$

From Lemma 1.1 it follows that  $\operatorname{codim}(A(Y)+M)<\infty$ . Hence, there exists a finite-dimensional subspace  $M_1\subset X$  such that  $X=A(Y)+M+M_1$ . Put  $N=M+M_1$ .

(ii) $\Rightarrow$ (iv). Let  $\tau: X \to X/N$  be the quotient map and  $\psi = \tau \circ A$ . Then  $\psi: Y \to X/N$  is a surjection, and so  $\psi^*: (X/N)^* \to Y^*$  is an isomorphic embedding. But this means that  $A^*|_{N^{\perp}}$  is an isomorphism. Hence the operator  $A^*$  is not strictly singular.

Now we suppose that  $X^*$  is separable and prove (iv) $\Rightarrow$ (ii).

Since  $A^*: X^* \to Y^*$  is not strictly singular, there exists an infinite-dimensional subspace  $M \subset X^*$  such that  $A^*|_M$  is an isomorphism. From separability of  $X^*$  it follows that there exists an infinite-dimensional  $w^*$ -closed subspace  $L \subset M$  (see [5]). Set  $N = L^{\mathsf{T}}$  and let  $\tau: X \to X/N$  be the quotient map. Consider the operator  $\psi = \tau \circ A$ . Since  $N^{\perp} = L$  and  $A^*|_L$  is an isomorphism, it follows that  $\psi^*$  is an isomorphic embedding, and so  $\psi$  is a surjection. Hence A(Y) + N = X, which concludes the proof.

EXAMPLE 4.2. Let  $X = L_p[0,1]$ , 1 , <math>Y = C[0,1], and let  $A: Y \to X$  be the natural embedding. Denote by L the subspace of  $L_q[0,1]$ , 1/p+1/q=1, generated by the Rademacher functions. By using Khinchin's inequalities, it is not difficult to show that  $A^*|_L$  is an isomorphism. Since X is reflexive, the subspace L is  $w^*$ -closed. Now from the proof of Proposition  $4.1(iv) \Rightarrow (ii)$  it follows that

$$L_p[0,1] = A(C[0,1]) + L^{\top}.$$

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