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Uniformly non- $l^{(1)}$ and B -convex Banach spaces*

by

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Abstract. Banach space is uniformly non- $l^{(1)}$ if and only if it is B -convex if and only if $l^{(1)}$ is not finitely representable in it. If all B -convex Banach spaces are reflexive, then B -convexity is equivalent to super-reflexivity. The non-reflexive space J which is isometrically isomorphic to J^{**} is not only not B -convex, but possesses a property which is sufficient but not necessary for non- B -convexity (c_0 is finitely representable in J).

It has long been known that a Banach space is reflexive if it is uniformly non-square. It is not known whether a Banach space is reflexive if it is uniformly non- $l^{(1)}$. It is shown that if this conjecture is correct, then a Banach space is super-reflexive if and only if it is uniformly non- $l^{(1)}$. The space J that is nonreflexive and isometric to J^{**} might have been a prime candidate for a counterexample to this conjecture, but it is shown that both c_0 and $l^{(1)}$ are finitely representable in J . It also is shown that, if $n \geq 2$ and every uniformly non- $l_n^{(1)}$ Banach space is reflexive, then every uniformly non- $l_n^{(1)}$ space is super-reflexive.

DEFINITION 1. For $n \geq 2$ and $\varepsilon > 0$, a normed linear space being (n, ε) -convex means that there does not exist a subset $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ of the unit ball such that, for all choices of signs,

$$\|w_1 \pm w_2 \pm \dots \pm w_n\| > n(1 - \varepsilon).$$

For $n \geq 2$, a uniformly non- $l_n^{(1)}$ normed linear space is a normed linear space that is (n, ε) -convex for some $\varepsilon > 0$. A B -convex normed linear space is a normed linear space that is uniformly non- $l_n^{(1)}$ for some $n \geq 2$.

A B -convex Banach space is known to be reflexive if it has an unconditional basis (see [3], Theorem III.6, p. 142 or [9], Theorem 2.2), or (in the real case) if it can be endowed with a partial order under which it becomes a normed Riesz space (equivalently, a normed linear vector lattice; see [5]). Beck proved that a Banach space is B -convex if and only if a certain law of large numbers is valid for random variables with ranges in the space [1], which implies that B -convexity is isomorphically

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invariant. Also, a normed linear space X is B -convex if and only if X^* is B -convex ([3], Corollary II.4, p. 129).

A normed linear space X being *finitely representable* in a normed linear space Y means that, for each finite-dimensional subspace X_n of X and each number $\lambda > 1$, there is an isomorphism L of X_n into Y for which

$$\lambda^{-1}\|x\| \leq \|L(x)\| \leq \lambda\|x\| \quad \text{if } x \in X_n.$$

DEFINITION 2. A *uniformly non- ℓ^1 normed linear space* is a normed linear space X which has the property that, for each positive number Δ , there is a positive integer n for which there does not exist a subset $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ of X such that, for all numbers $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$,

$$(1) \quad \Delta \cdot \sum_1^n |a_i| \leq \left\| \sum_1^n a_i x_i \right\| \leq \sum_1^n |a_i|.$$

A space X is *not uniformly non- ℓ^1* if and only if there is a positive number Δ such that for each positive integer n there is a subset $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ of X such that

$$(2) \quad \Delta \cdot \sum_1^n |a_i| \leq \left\| \sum_1^n a_i x_i \right\| \leq \sum_1^n |a_i|$$

for all numbers $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$. This property is isomorphically invariant. In fact, if L is an isomorphism of X onto Y , α and β are numbers for which

$$\alpha\|x\| \leq \|L(x)\| \leq \beta\|x\| \quad \text{if } x \in X,$$

$\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ satisfies (2), and $y_i = \beta^{-1}L(x_i)$ for each i , then

$$\alpha\Delta\beta^{-1} \sum_1^n |a_i| \leq \left\| \sum_1^n a_i y_i \right\| \leq \sum_1^n |a_i|.$$

THEOREM 1. For a normed linear space X , the following are equivalent:

- (i) X is B -convex.
- (ii) X is uniformly non- ℓ^1 .
- (iii) ℓ^1 is not finitely representable in X .

Proof. The proof that B -convexity of X implies (ii) is known (see [3], Lemma I. 4, p. 119 and [4]). To give an alternative proof, let us suppose X is not uniformly non- ℓ^1 . It then follows that there is a space Y which is isomorphic to ℓ^1 and is finitely representable in X (see the proof of Lemma B in [10]). It follows from this that for each positive number δ there is an infinite-dimensional subspace Y_δ of Y which has a basis $\{u_i\}$ such that

$$(1-\delta) \sum |a_i| \leq \left\| \sum a_i u_i \right\| \leq \sum |a_i|$$

if $\sum |a_i| < \infty$ ([9], Lemma 2.1). This implies X is not B -convex.

Clearly ℓ^1 is not finitely representable in X if X is uniformly non- ℓ^1 .

The equivalence of B -convexity and (iii) follows from ([3], Lemma I. 6, p. 123). However, the following proof that (iii) implies B -convexity is much easier. Let us suppose X is not B -convex. That is, for each n , X is not uniformly non- ℓ^1_n . Therefore, for each n and each positive number ε , there is a subset $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ of the unit ball such that

$$\|x_1 \pm x_2 \pm \dots \pm x_n\| > n(1-\varepsilon)$$

for all choices of signs. This implies that, for all numbers $\{a_i\}$, if k is chosen so that $|a_k| = \max\{|a_i| : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_i \right\| &= \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n [\text{sign}(a_i) |a_k|] x_i - \sum_{i=1}^n [\text{sign}(a_i) |a_k| - a_i] x_i \right\| \\ &\geq |a_k| \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \text{sign}(a_i) x_i \right\| - \sum_{i=1}^n (|a_k| - |a_i|) \|x_i\| \\ &\geq n |a_k| (1-\varepsilon) + \sum_{i=1}^n (|a_i| - |a_k|) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n |a_i| - n\varepsilon |a_k| \geq (1-n\varepsilon) \sum_{i=1}^n |a_i|, \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$(1-n\varepsilon) \sum_{i=1}^n |a_i| \leq \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_i \right\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |a_i|$$

and ℓ^1 is finitely representable in X . This completes the proof of Theorem 1.

As we have noted, if normed linear spaces X and Y are isomorphic, then X is uniformly non- ℓ^1 if and only if Y is also. Thus we obtain as a Corollary of Theorem 1 that B -convexity is isomorphically invariant ([3], Corollary II. 6, p. 130; [1], p. 33).

DEFINITION 3. A *super-reflexive Banach space* is a Banach space Y which has the property that no non-reflexive Banach space is finitely representable in Y .

There are many characterizations of super-reflexive spaces [11]. A Banach space is super-reflexive if and only if it is isomorphic to a space whose unit ball is uniformly convex [2]. We shall now give some relations between super-reflexivity and the uniformly non- ℓ^1 property.

THEOREM 2. If every uniformly non- ℓ^1 Banach space is reflexive, then a Banach space is super-reflexive if and only if it is uniformly non- ℓ^1 .

Proof. It follows from Theorem 1 that if a Banach space Y is not uniformly non- ℓ^1 , then ℓ^1 is finitely representable in Y and Y is not super-reflexive. Now suppose Y is not super-reflexive, so that there is

a non-reflexive Banach space X that is finitely representable in Y . Also suppose every uniformly non- $\ell^{(1)}$ Banach space is reflexive, so that X is not uniformly non- $\ell^{(1)}$. That Y is not uniformly non- $\ell^{(1)}$ now follows from the facts that X is not uniformly non- $\ell^{(1)}$ and X is finitely representable in Y .

THEOREM 3. *If $n \geq 2$, $\varepsilon > 0$, and each (n, ε) -convex Banach space is reflexive, then each (n, ε) -convex Banach space is super-reflexive.*

Proof. Suppose each (n, ε) -convex space is reflexive. Let Y be (n, ε) -convex and let X be finitely representable in Y . Then X is (n, ε) -convex. Therefore X is reflexive and Y is super-reflexive.

COROLLARY. *If $n \geq 2$ and each uniformly non- $\ell_n^{(1)}$ Banach space is reflexive, then each uniformly non- $\ell_n^{(1)}$ Banach space is super-reflexive.*

It is known that all uniformly non-square Banach spaces are reflexive ([9], Theorem 1.1). It has long been conjectured that a Banach space X is reflexive if there is an $n \geq 2$ for which X is uniformly non- $\ell_n^{(1)}$. A natural candidate for a counterexample is the space J described below.

We shall show J is not a counterexample. That is, there is no n for which J is uniformly non- $\ell_n^{(1)}$. It then follows that a counterexample must be a non-reflexive space B that satisfies the conditions:

(i) B has no subspace isomorphic to c_0 , $\ell^{(1)}$, J , or any other space that is not uniformly non- $\ell^{(1)}$.

(ii) No non-reflexive subspace of B admits an equivalent norm and a partial ordering under which it is a normed Riesz space (normed linear vector lattice) [5]. This includes the following two cases.

(iii) No non-reflexive subspace of B has an unconditional basis ([3], Theorem III. 6; [9] Theorem 2.2).

(iv) B is not an Orlicz space [11].

DEFINITION 4. *If $x = \{x(0), x(1), \dots\}$ is a sequence of real numbers, define the numbers $\|x\|$ and $|||x|||$ by*

$$\|x\| = \sup \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} [x(p_i) - x(p_{i+1})]^2 \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

and

$$|||x||| = \sup \left\{ [x(p_n) - x(p_1)]^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} [x(p_i) - x(p_{i+1})]^2 \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

where in each case the supremum is for all $n \geq 2$ and all increasing sequences $\{p_i\}$ of n non-negative integers. Let J be the collection of all real-valued sequences x such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x(n) = 0$ and $|||x||| < \infty$.

It was shown in [7] and [8] that $(J, |||\cdot|||)$ is a non-reflexive Banach space with only conditional bases, that the canonical image of J in its

second dual has codimension 1, and that there is an isometric isomorphism of J onto its second dual. Moreover, it is easily verified that $|||\cdot|||$ and $\|\cdot\|$ are equivalent, with

$$\|x\| \leq |||x||| \leq 2^{\frac{1}{2}} \|x\| \quad \text{if } x \in J.$$

It has long been known by both authors that $\ell^{(1)}$ is finitely representable in $(J, \|\cdot\|)$ — a lengthy argument is given in [6], with a brief outline in [3]. We will show that both c_0 and $\ell^{(1)}$ are finitely representable in both $(J, \|\cdot\|)$ and $(J, |||\cdot|||)$. This is an improvement over previous results, since c_0 is not finitely representable in $\ell^{(1)}$. Also, the present proof is much easier.

Note that we are letting sequences be functions on the non-negative integers. This is for notational convenience. In particular, z_{2k} is the sequence $\{0, (2k)^{-\frac{1}{2}}, 0, (2k)^{-\frac{1}{2}}, \dots, 0, (2k)^{-\frac{1}{2}}, 0, 0, \dots\}$ that has exactly k non-zero entries, each equal to $(2k)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ and located at one of the positions $1, 3, \dots, 2k-1$. If x is a sequence and n an integer, denote by $T_n x$ the sequence y for which y is linear on the interval $[kn, (k+1)n]$ and

$$y(kn) = x(k) \quad \text{if } k \geq 0.$$

LEMMA 1. *Let m be a positive integer and $\gamma, \delta, \varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2$ and N be positive numbers for which $\gamma < \delta$ and*

$$(3) \quad \gamma^{\frac{1}{2}} N^{-\frac{1}{2}} + \gamma^{\frac{1}{2}} < \delta^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad 2\varepsilon_1 + 4\gamma N^{-\frac{1}{2}} < \varepsilon_2.$$

If $n > N$, if $x \in J$ has the properties

$$(i) \quad x(i) = 0 \quad \text{if } i \geq 2m,$$

$$(ii) \quad \|x\|^2 < \sum_{i=0}^{2m-1} |x(i) - x(i+1)|^2 + \varepsilon_1,$$

$$(iii) \quad |x(i) - x(i+1)| < \left(\frac{\gamma}{2m} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{if } i \geq 0,$$

and if $y = T_n x$, $z = \gamma^{\frac{1}{2}} z_{2mn}$, and $w = y + z$, then

$$(i') \quad w(i) = 0 \quad \text{if } i \geq 2mn,$$

$$(ii') \quad \|w\|^2 < \sum_{i=0}^{2mn-1} |w(i) - w(i+1)|^2 + \varepsilon_2,$$

$$(iii') \quad |w(i) - w(i+1)| < \left(\frac{\delta}{2mn} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{if } i \geq 0.$$

Proof. Suppose $n > N$. Clearly (i') is satisfied. Also, it follows from (iii), the saw-tooth character of z , and (3) that

$$|w(i) - w(i+1)| \leq \frac{1}{n} \left(\frac{\gamma}{2m} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{\gamma^{\frac{1}{2}}}{(2mn)^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \frac{\gamma^{\frac{1}{2}} n^{-\frac{1}{2}} + \gamma^{\frac{1}{2}}}{(2mn)^{\frac{1}{2}}} < \left(\frac{\delta}{2mn} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

for every i , so (iii') is satisfied. If $\{p_i: 1 \leq i \leq k\}$ is an arbitrary increasing sequence of positive integers for which $p_k = 2mn$, then (iii) implies

$$|y(p_i) - y(p_{i+1})| < \frac{p_{i+1} - p_i}{n} \left(\frac{\gamma}{2m} \right)^{\dagger},$$

and it follows from $z = \gamma^{\dagger} z_{2mn}$ that

$$(4) \quad \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} |y(p_i) - y(p_{i+1})| |z(p_i) - z(p_{i+1})| \leq \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} |y(p_i) - y(p_{i+1})| \left(\frac{\gamma}{2mn} \right)^{\dagger} \\ < \frac{2mn}{n} \left(\frac{\gamma}{2m} \right)^{\dagger} \left(\frac{\gamma}{2mn} \right)^{\dagger} < \gamma N^{-\dagger}.$$

Now suppose $\{p_i\}$ also has the property that

$$\|w\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} |w(p_i) - w(p_{i+1})|^2.$$

Then it follows from (4) that

$$(5) \quad \|w\|^2 < \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} |y(p_i) - y(p_{i+1})|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} |z(p_i) - z(p_{i+1})|^2 + 2\gamma N^{-\dagger}.$$

For a particular i , suppose r_1, \dots, r_λ are successive multiples of n and

$$r_1 \leq p_i < r_2 < \dots < r_{\lambda-1} < p_{i+1} \leq r_\lambda.$$

If there is a j for which $2 \leq j \leq \lambda-1$ and $y(r_j)$ is not between $y(p_i)$ and $y(p_{i+1})$, then the insertion of r_j into the sequence $\{p_i\}$ does not decrease the right member of (5). If there is no such r_j , there is no loss of generality if we assume

$$y(r_1) \leq y(p_i) < y(r_j) < y(p_{i+1}) \leq y(r_\lambda) \quad \text{for } 2 \leq j \leq \lambda-1.$$

Then the expression

$$(6) \quad [y(p_i) - y(r_2)]^2 + \sum_{j=2}^{\lambda-2} |y(r_j) - y(r_{j+1})|^2 + |y(r_{\lambda-1}) - y(p_{i+1})|^2 - \\ - |y(p_i) - y(p_{i+1})|^2] - \left[\sum_{j=1}^{\lambda-1} |y(r_j) - y(r_{j+1})|^2 - |y(r_1) - y(r_\lambda)|^2 \right]$$

is equal to twice

$$[y(r_{\lambda-1}) - y(r_1)][y(r_\lambda) - y(r_2)] - [y(r_{\lambda-1}) - y(p_i)][y(p_{i+1}) - y(r_2)] \geq 0.$$

Also, let all pairs (p_i, p_{i+1}) for which there is at least one multiple of n between p_i and p_{i+1} be placed alternately in two sets. Then if (p_i, p_{i+1}) and (p_j, p_{j+1}) belong to the same set and $p_{i+1} < p_j$, there are integers $r_1, r_\lambda, s_1, s_\mu$ which are multiples of n and satisfy

$$r_1 \leq p_i < p_{i+1} \leq r_\lambda \leq s_1 \leq p_j < p_{j+1} \leq s_\mu.$$

Thus it follows from (ii) that the sum over all pairs (p_i, p_{i+1}) of the second bracketed expression in (6) is greater than $-2\epsilon_1$. Therefore if $\{q_i: 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ is $\{p_i\}$ with all multiples of n adjoined, then

$$(7) \quad \|w\|^2 < \sum_{i=1}^n |y(q_i) - y(q_{i+1})|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n |z(q_i) - z(q_{i+1})|^2 + 2\epsilon_1 + 2\gamma N^{-1/2}.$$

For each i , $q_{i+1} - q_i \leq n$ and y is linear between q_i and q_{i+1} . Therefore,

$$|y(q_i) - y(q_{i+1})|^2 + |z(q_i) - z(q_{i+1})|^2 - \sum_{j=q_i}^{q_{i+1}-1} [|y(j) - y(j+1)|^2 + |z(j) - z(j+1)|^2] \\ \leq \left[\left(\frac{q_{i+1} - q_i}{n} \right)^2 - \frac{q_{i+1} - q_i}{n^2} \right] \left(\frac{\gamma}{2m} \right) + [1 - (q_{i+1} - q_i)] \left(\frac{\gamma}{2mn} \right) \\ \leq [(q_{i+1} - q_i)^2 - (n+1)(q_{i+1} - q_i) + n] \frac{\gamma}{2mn^2} \leq 0,$$

so that (7) and another application of (4) give

$$\|w\|^2 < \sum_{i=1}^{2mn-1} |w(i) - w(i+1)|^2 + 2\epsilon_1 + 4\gamma N^{-1/2}.$$

This and (3) imply (ii').

The next lemma will be used several times, but its proof is relatively easy and will not be given.

LEMMA 2. For each n , T_n is an isometric isomorphism of $(J, \|\cdot\|)$ into itself. For each k , $\|z_{2k}\| = 1$.

LEMMA 3. For each $k \geq 1$ and $\epsilon > 0$, there exist members ξ_1, \dots, ξ_k of J for which $\|\xi_i\| = 1$ for every i and

$$\|\xi_1 \pm \xi_2 \pm \dots \pm \xi_k\| < 1 + \epsilon$$

for all choices of signs.

Proof. For arbitrary $k \geq 1$, suppose positive numbers $\{\gamma_i\}$ and $\{\epsilon_i\}$ satisfy

$$\gamma_1 = 1 < \gamma_2 < \dots < \gamma_k, \quad \epsilon_1 < \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_2 < \frac{1}{4}\epsilon_3 < \dots < 2^{-(k-1)}\epsilon_k.$$

Choose N so that, if $1 \leq i < k$, then

$$\gamma_i^{1/2} N^{-1/2} + \gamma_i^{1/2} < (\gamma_{i+1})^{1/2}, \quad 2\epsilon_i + 4\gamma_i N^{-1/2} < \epsilon_{i+1}.$$

For $n > N$, let

$$w_i = T_{n-k-i} \gamma_i^{1/2} z_{2n^{i-1}} \quad \text{if } 1 \leq i \leq k.$$

It follows from Lemma 2 that $\|z_{2m}\| = 1$ for all m . Thus

$$\|w_i\| = \gamma_i^{1/2} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq k.$$

Then it follows from Lemmas 1 and 2 that

$$\|x_1 \pm x_2 \pm \dots \pm x_k\| < 2n^{k-1} \left(\frac{\gamma_k}{2n^{\varepsilon-1}} \right) + \varepsilon_k = \gamma_k + \varepsilon_k.$$

Since $\|x_i\| = \gamma_i^{1/2}$, for any $\varepsilon > 0$ we can choose ε_k small enough and γ_k near enough to 1 so that, if $\xi_i = x_i/\|x_i\|$, then

$$\|\xi_1 \pm \xi_2 \pm \dots \pm \xi_k\| < 1 + \varepsilon$$

for all choices of signs.

THEOREM 4. *The spaces c_0 and $\mathfrak{l}^{(1)}$ are finitely representable in $(J, \|\cdot\|)$ and also in $(J, |||\cdot|||)$.*

Proof. Pick $\varepsilon > 0$ and a positive integer k . Let ξ_1, \dots, ξ_k be the members of J given by Lemma 3, so that $\|\xi_i\| = 1$ for all i and

$$\|\xi_1 \pm \xi_2 \pm \dots \pm \xi_k\| < 1 + \varepsilon$$

for all choices of signs. If $\sup\{|a_i|\} \leq 1$, then $\sum_1^k a_i \xi_i$ belongs to the convex span of elements of type $\sum_1^k \pm \xi_i$. Therefore

$$\left\| \sum_1^k a_i \xi_i \right\| \leq (1 + \varepsilon) \sup\{|a_i|\}.$$

Since $\|\xi_i\| = 1$ for all i , it follows that if $\sup\{|a_i|\} = |a_j|$, then

$$2|a_j| \leq \left\| \sum_1^k a_i \xi_i \right\| + \left\| \sum_1^k a_i \xi_i - 2a_j \xi_j \right\| < \left\| \sum_1^k a_i \xi_i \right\| + (1 + \varepsilon) \sup\{|a_i|\},$$

so that $\left\| \sum_1^k a_i \xi_i \right\| > (1 - \varepsilon) \sup\{|a_i|\}$. Thus c_0 is finitely representable in $(J, \|\cdot\|)$. Since $(J, \|\cdot\|)$ is isomorphic to $(J, |||\cdot|||)$, an argument similar to the proof of Lemma B in [10] shows that there is a space isomorphic to c_0 that is finitely representable in $(J, |||\cdot|||)$. This space can be as nearly isometric to c_0 as desired ([9], Lemma 2.2). Therefore c_0 is finitely representable in $(J, |||\cdot|||)$. Since $\mathfrak{l}^{(1)}$ is finitely representable in c_0 , we conclude that $\mathfrak{l}^{(1)}$ is finitely representable in both $(J, \|\cdot\|)$ and $(J, |||\cdot|||)$.

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