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**On bibasic systems and a Retherford's problem**

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**Analisi funzionale.** — *On bibasic systems and a Retherford's problem.* Nota (\*) di ANATOLI PLIČKO e PAOLO TERENCEZI, presentata dal Socio L. AMERIO.

RIASSUNTO. — Ogni spazio di Banach ha un sistema bibasico  $(x_n, f_n)$  normalizzato; inoltre ogni successione  $(x_n)$  uniformemente minimale appartiene ad un sistema biortogonale limitato  $(x_n, f_n)$ , dove  $(f_n)$  è M-basica e normante.

### § 1. NOTATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

Let  $X$  be a Banach space,  $(x_n)$  a sequence of  $X$ ,  $F$  a subset of  $X^*$  (the dual of  $X$ ), we use the following notations:

$[x_n] = \overline{\text{span}}(x_n)$ ,  $S(X) =$  the unit sphere of  $X$ ,  $F^\perp = \{x \in X; f(x) = 0 \text{ for every } f \text{ of } F\}$ .

Let  $Y$  be a subset of  $X$  and let  $F$  be a subset of  $S(X^*)$ , we say that  $F$   $K$ -norms  $Y$  if  $\|x\| \leq K \sup \{|f(x)|; f \in F\}$  for every  $x$  of  $Y$ , where  $1 \leq K < \infty$ ; in the same way we can say that a subset of  $S(X)$   $K$ -norms a subset of  $X^*$ . Let  $(x_n) \subset X$  and  $(f_n) \subset X^*$ , we say that  $(x_n, f_n)$  is *biorthogonal* if

$$f_m(x_n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } m = n \\ 0 & \text{if } m \neq n \end{cases}, \quad \text{for every } m \text{ and } n,$$

which is equivalent to say that  $(x_n)$  is *minimal*, that is  $x_m \notin [x_n]_{n \neq m}$  for every  $m$ .

Let  $(x_n, f_n)$  be biorthogonal, with  $[x_n] = X$ , we say that

- a)  $(x_n, f_n)$  is *bounded* if  $(\|x_n\| \cdot \|f_n\|)$  is bounded, which is equivalent to say that  $(x_n)$  is *uniformly minimal*, that is  $\inf_m \text{dist}(x_m / \|x_m\|, [x_n]_{n \neq m}) > 0$ ;
- b)  $(x_n)$  is *M-basis* of  $X$  if  $[f_n]^\perp = \{0\}$ ;
- c)  $(x_n)$  is *norming M-basis* of  $X$  if  $S([f_n])$  1-norms  $X$ ;
- d)  $(x_n)$  is *basis* of  $X$  if  $x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n(x) x_n$  for every  $x$  of  $X$ .

We also say that  $(x_n)$  is *M-basic* (*basic*) if it is  $M$ -basis (basis) of  $[x_n]$ . Hence we say that  $(x_n, f_n)$  is *bibasic* (*M-bibasic*) if  $(x_n)$  and  $(f_n)$  are both basic ( $M$ -

(\*) Pervenuta all'Accademia il 19 luglio 1984.

basic). A basic sequence  $(x_n)$  is said to be *asymptotically monotone* if, for every  $m$ ,

$$\left\| \sum_{n=1}^m a_n x_n \right\| \leq K_m \left\| \sum_{n=1}^{m+p} a_n x_n \right\| \quad \text{for every } (a_n)_{n=1}^{m+p},$$

where  $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} K_m = 1$ ; in particular  $(x_n)$  is said to be *monotone* if  $K_m = 1$  for every  $m$ .

Finally we say that  $(x_n, f_n)$  is *normalized* if  $\|x_n\| = \|f_n\| = 1$  for every  $n$ .

§ 2. PROBLEMS ON BIBASIC AND M-BIBASIC SYSTEMS

Banach proved ([1] p. 107, Th. 3; see also [7] p. 112, Th. 12.1) that

*if  $(x_n)$  is basic of  $X$  and  $(x_n, f_n)$  is biorthogonal, then  $(f_n)$  is basic.*

Retherford (1964) raised the following problem (see also [5], Probl. 3.2)

“... If  $Y \subset X$ ,  $X$  a Banach space and  $(y_n)$  a basis for  $Y$ , with coefficient functionals  $g_n \in Y^*$ . Does there exist a Hahn-Banach extension  $(f_n)$  of  $(g_n)$  in  $X^*$  such that  $(f_n)$  is a basic sequence in  $X^*$ ? ...”.

If the Hahn-Banach extension  $f_n$  of  $g_n$  is without conditions on the norm, this problem has a positive answer ([8] p. 84, Pbl. 1.6; see also p. 856).

Instead, if the extension is with the same norm, the next example gives a negative answer, also with the weaker condition of  $(f_n)$  M-basic and also if  $Y$  has codimension one in  $X$ .

*Example.* Let  $X = l^1$ ,  $(e_n)_{n \geq 0}$  the natural basis of  $l^1$ , set

(1) 
$$y_n = (e_n - e_0) / 2 \quad \text{for every } n \geq 1, Y = [y_n]_{n \geq 1}.$$

There exists  $(g_n)$  of  $Y^*$  with  $(y_n, g_n)$  biorthogonal and normalized; however there exists a unique extension with the same norm  $(f_n)$  of  $(g_n)$  in  $X^*$ , which is not M-basic.

From the above a natural question arises as to whether the extension with a bounded norm is possible, that is if there is a positive answer for the intermediate case. Precisely we have

*Problem 1.* Does every basic sequence belong to a bounded bibasic system?

*Problem 2.* Does every uniformly minimal M-basic sequence belong to a bounded M-bibasic system?

The next theorem gives a positive answer to Problem 2.

**THEOREM I.** *Every uniformly minimal sequence  $(x_n)$  of  $X$  belongs to a bounded biorthogonal system  $(x_n, f_n)$ , where  $(f_n)$  is norming M-basic.*

Recall that the existence of bounded bibasic systems was stated in [2], moreover in [9] (Cor. I\*, p. 352) we stated the existence of bibasic systems  $(x_n, f_n)$  with  $\|x_n\| \cdot \|f_n\| < 1 + \varepsilon$  for every  $n$ , for every fixed  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Hence in [9] the following question was raised:

*Problem 3.* Does there exist a bibasic system  $(x_n, f_n)$  normalized?

Next theorem answers Problem 3.

**THEOREM II.** *Every Banach space has a normalized bibasic system  $(x_n, f_n)$  with  $(x_n)$  and  $(f_n)$  asymptotically monotone.*

Problem 1 is still open.

### § 3. PROOFS

*Proof of example.*  $(y_n)$  is basic monotone, indeed by (1) for every  $(a_n)_{n=1}^{m+p}$  it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{n=1}^m a_n y_n \right\| &= \left\| \left( - \sum_{n=1}^m \frac{a_n}{2} \right) e_0 + \sum_{n=1}^m \frac{a_n}{2} e_n \right\| = \left| \sum_{n=1}^m \frac{a_n}{2} \right| + \sum_{n=1}^m \frac{|a_n|}{2} = \\ &= \left| \sum_{n=1}^{m+p} \frac{a_n}{2} - \left( \sum_{n=m+1}^{m+p} \frac{a_n}{2} \right) \right| + \sum_{n=1}^m \frac{|a_n|}{2} \leq \left| \sum_{n=1}^{m+p} \frac{a_n}{2} \right| + \sum_{n=1}^{m+p} \frac{|a_n|}{2} = \left\| \sum_{n=1}^{m+p} a_n y_n \right\|. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover  $\text{dist}(y_m, [y_n]_{n \neq m}) = \|y_m\| = 1$  for every  $m$ ; indeed by (1) for every  $m$  and for every  $(a_n)_{n=1, n \neq m}^b$  it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| y_m + \sum_{n=1, n \neq m}^b a_n y_n \right\| &= \left\| - \left( 1 + \sum_{n=1, n \neq m}^b a_n \right) \frac{e_0}{2} + \frac{e_m}{2} + \sum_{n=1, n \neq m}^b \frac{a_n}{2} e_n \right\| = \\ &= \left( \left| 1 + \sum_{n=1, n \neq m}^b a_n \right| + 1 + \sum_{n=1, n \neq m}^b |a_n| \right) \frac{1}{2} \geq \left| 1 + \sum_{n=1, n \neq m}^b a_n - \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \sum_{n=1, n \neq m}^b a_n \right| \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore there exists  $(g_n)$  of  $Y^*$  such that

$$(2) \quad (y_n, g_n)_{n \geq 1} \quad \text{is biorthogonal and normalized.}$$

Fix a natural number  $m$ .

Let  $f_m \in X^*$  such that

$$(3) \quad f_m \text{ is extension of } g_m \text{ with the same norm, } f_m = (a_{mn})_{n=0}^\infty.$$

Now  $f_m(y_m) = 1$  implies  $(a_{mm} - a_{m0})/2 = 1$ , while  $f_m(y_n) = 0$  implies  $(a_{mn} - a_{m0})/2 = 0$  for every  $n \neq m$ . On the other hand by (2) and (3)  $\sup_n |a_{mn}| = 1$ , hence it follows that

$$(4) \quad a_{mm} = 1, \quad a_{m0} = -1, \quad a_{mn} = a_{m0} \quad \text{for } n \neq m.$$

Therefore the Hahn-Banach extension  $(f_n)$  of  $(g_n)$  in  $X^*$ , with the same norm, is unique. Let  $\bar{f} \in X^*$  such that

$$(5) \quad \bar{f} = (\bar{a}_n), \quad \text{with } \bar{a}_n = 1 \quad \text{for every } n \geq 0.$$

We affirm that

$$(6) \quad \bar{f} \in \bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} [f_n]_{n \geq m}.$$

Indeed fix  $m$ .

For every  $p$  and  $k$  by (5) and (4) we have that

$$\left( \bar{f} + \frac{1}{p} \sum_{n=m+1}^{m+p} f_n \right) (e_k) = 1 + \frac{1}{p} \sum_{n=m+1}^{m+p} f_n(e_k);$$

where

$$\frac{1}{p} \sum_{n=m+1}^{m+p} f_n(e_k) = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } k \leq m \quad \text{and if } k \geq m+p+1, \\ -1 + \frac{2}{p} & \text{if } m+1 \leq k \leq m+p, \end{cases}$$

hence

$$\left\| \bar{f} + \frac{1}{p} \sum_{n=m+1}^{m+p} f_n \right\| = \sup_k \left| \left( \bar{f} + \frac{1}{p} \sum_{n=m+1}^{m+p} f_n \right) (e_k) \right| = \frac{2}{p};$$

consequently

$$\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \left\| \bar{f} + \frac{1}{p} \sum_{n=m+1}^{m+p} f_n \right\| = 0.$$

Therefore (6) is proved, hence  $(f_n)$  is not M-basic ([8] p. 225, Rem. 8.2); which completes proof of the example.

*Proof of Theorem I.* We can suppose

$$(7) \quad (x_n, g_n) \text{ biorthogonal, } \|x_n\| = 1 \text{ and } \|g_n\| \leq K < \infty \text{ for every } n.$$

Set  $f_1 = g_1, f_2 = g_2$  and proceed by induction.

Fix  $m \geq 2$ .

Suppose that we have  $(f_n)_{n=1}^m \cup (g_{mn})_{n>m}$  of  $X^*$ , moreover (only if  $m > 2$ ) a sequence  $(z_n)_{n=1}^{p_{m-1}}$  of  $X$  and two sequences  $(p_n)_{n=2}^{m-1}$  and  $(q_n)_{n=2}^{m-1}$  of natural numbers, so that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (x_n, f_n)_{n=1}^m \cup (x_n, g_{mn})_{n>m} \text{ is biorthogonal ;} \\
 & \|f_n\| < 3K \text{ for } 1 \leq n \leq m \text{ and } \|g_{mn}\| < 3K \text{ for } n > m ; \\
 (8) \quad & (z_n)_{n=1}^{p_{m-1}} \subset [(f_n)_{n=1}^m \cup (g_{mn})_{n>m}]^\perp \\
 & \text{moreover for every } n, \text{ with } 2 \leq n \leq m-1, \\
 & [z_k]_{k=1}^n + [x_k]_{k=1}^n \left(1 + \frac{1}{2^n}\right) - \text{norms } [f_k]_{k=1}^n.
 \end{aligned}$$

There exist a natural number  $q'_m$  and a sequence  $(y_n)_{n=p_{m-1}+1}^{p_m}$  of  $X$  so that

$$[x_n]_{n=1}^{q'_m} + [z_n]_{n=1}^{p_{m-1}} + [y_n]_{n=p_{m-1}+1}^{p_m} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2^m}\right) - \text{norms } [f_n]_{n=1}^m.$$

By (7) and by [10] (p. 502, Lemma 1) there exist a natural number  $t_{m+1}$  and a sequence  $(g_{m+1,n})_{n>t_{m+1}}$  of  $X^*$ , so that

$$t_{m+1} \geq m+1, (x_n, g_{m+1,n})_{n>t_{m+1}} \text{ is biorthogonal ;}$$

$$[x_n]_{n=1}^{t_{m+1}} + [z_n]_{n=1}^{p_{m+1}} + [y_n]_{n=p_{m-1}+1}^{p_m} \subset [(g_{m+1,n})_{n>t_{m+1}}]^\perp;$$

$$\|g_{m+1,n}\| < 3K \text{ for } n > t_{m+1}.$$

Set

$$f_{m+1} = g_{m,m+1}, g_{m+1,n} = g_{m,n} \quad \text{for } m+2 \leq n \leq t_{m+1};$$

$$z_n = y_n - \left( \sum_{k=1}^{m+1} f_k(y_n) x_k + \sum_{k=m+2}^{t_{m+1}} g_{m+1,k}(y_n) x_k \right) \quad \text{for } p_{m-1} + 1 \leq n \leq p_m.$$

Hence, setting  $q_m = \max\{q'_m, t_{m+1}\}$ , we have (8) with  $m+1$  instead of  $m$ .

So proceeding we get  $(f_n)$  of  $X^*$ ,  $(z_n)$  of  $X$  and two sequences  $(p_n)_{n \geq 2}$  and  $(q_n)_{n \geq 2}$  of natural numbers, so that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (9) \quad & (x_n, f_n) \text{ is biorthogonal, } (z_n) \subset [f_n]^\perp \text{ and } \|f_n\| < 3K \text{ for every } n ; \\
 & [z_n]_{n=1}^{p_m} + [x_n]_{n=1}^{q_m} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2^m}\right) - \text{norms } [f_n]_{n=1}^m \text{ for every } m \geq 2.
 \end{aligned}$$

Fix  $m$  and set

$$(10) \quad F_m = [f_n]_{n=1}^m, \quad F^m = [f_n]_{n>a_m}, \quad Y_m = [x_n]_{n=1}^{a_m} + [z_n]_{n=1}^{b_m}.$$

Let  $P_m$  be the projector

$$(11) \quad P_m : F_m + F^m \rightarrow F_m.$$

By (9) and (10)  $F^m \subset Y_m^\perp$ , moreover  $Y_m (1 + 1/2^m)$ -norms  $F_m$ , hence it is easy to see that

$$(12) \quad \|P_m\| \leq 1 + \frac{1}{2^m}.$$

By (11) and (12) it follows that

$$\sup_m \text{dist} \left( f, [f_n]_{n>m} \right) = \|f\|, \quad \text{for every } f \text{ of } [f_n].$$

Hence  $(f_n)$  is norming ([4], p. 121-122 and Lemma I.11); which completes the proof of Th. I.

*Proof of Theorem II.* We construct two sequences  $(x_n)$  of  $X$  and  $(f_n)$  of  $X^*$ , moreover two sequences of finite subsets  $(Y_n)$  of  $X$  and  $(G_n)$  of  $X^*$ , so that for every  $n$ :

$$(13) \quad \begin{aligned} & f_n(x_n) = 1, \quad x_n \in Y_n \subset S(X), \quad f_n \in G_n \subset S(X^*), \quad Y_{n-1} \subset Y_n, \\ & G_{n-1} \subset G_n; \quad Y_n \left(1 + \frac{1}{2^n}\right)\text{-norms } [f_k]_{k=1}^n, \quad G_n \left(1 + \frac{1}{2^n}\right)\text{-norms} \\ & [x_k]_{k=1}^n; \quad x_{n+1} \in G_n^\perp \text{ and } f_{n+1} \in Y_n^\perp. \end{aligned}$$

We pick  $x_1$  of  $S(X)$  and  $f_1$  of  $S(X^*)$  with  $f_1(x_1) = 1$ ; let  $Y_1 = x_1$  and  $G_1 = f_1$ .

If for  $n - 1$  such objects are constructed, by Krasnoselski-Krein-Milman th. [3] (see also [6] p. 269) pick an element  $x_n$  of  $S(G_{n-1}^\perp)$ , which is orthogonal for  $[Y_{n-1}]$ ; and by Hahn-Banach theorem pick  $f_n$  of  $S(X^*)$  such that  $f_n(x_n) = 1$  and  $Y_{n-1} \subset f_n^\perp$ .

After, pick finite sets  $Y_n \supset (x_n, Y_{n-1})$  and  $G_n \supset (f_n, G_{n-1})$ , which  $(1 + 1/2^n)$ -norm  $[f_k]_{k=1}^n$  and  $[x_k]_{k=1}^n$  respectively.

Fix  $m$  and set

$$(14) \quad X_m = [x_n]_{n=1}^m, \quad X^m = [x_n]_{n>m}, \quad F_m = [f_n]_{n=1}^m, \quad F = [f_n]_{n>m}.$$

Let  $P_m$  and  $Q_m$  be the projectors

$$P_m : X_m + X^m \rightarrow X_m \quad , \quad Q_m : F_m + F^m \rightarrow F_m .$$

By (13) and (14)  $X^m \subset G_m^\perp$  and  $F^m \subset Y_m^\perp$ , where  $G_m$   $(1 + 1/2^m)$ -norms  $X_m$  and  $Y_m$   $(1 + 1/2^m)$ -norms  $F_m$ ; therefore it is easy to see that

$$\left\| P_m \right\| \leq 1 + \frac{1}{2^m} \quad , \quad \left\| Q_m \right\| \leq 1 + \frac{1}{2^m} .$$

Hence  $(x_n)$  and  $(f_n)$  are asymptotically monotone; which completes proof of Theorem II.

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