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## ON THE THREE-SPACES PROBLEM AND EXTENSION OF MLUR NORMS ON BANACH SPACES

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*Георги Александров.* О ЗАДАЧЕ ТРЕХ ПРОСТРАНСТВ И ПРОДОЛЖЕНИЯХ  
СИММЕТРИЧНО ЛОКАЛЬНО РАВНОМЕРНО ВЫПУКЛЫХ НОРМ В ПРОС-  
ТРАНСТВАХ БАНАХА

Показано, что если  $X$  банахово пространство,  $Y$  его подпространство, которое имеет эквивалентной симметрично локально равномерно выпуклой (СЛРВ) нормой  $\|\cdot\|$  и факторпространство  $X/Y$  сепарабельно, тогда норму  $\|\cdot\|$  можно продолжить до СЛРВ нормой на всем пространстве  $X$ .

*George Alexandrov.* ON THE THREE-SPACES PROBLEM AND EXTENSION OF MLUR  
NORMS ON BANACH SPACES

We show that if  $X$  is a Banach space,  $Y$  is a subspace of  $X$  which admits an equivalent midpoint locally uniformly rotund (MLUR) norm  $\|\cdot\|$ , and if  $X/Y$  is separable, then the norm  $\|\cdot\|$  has an extension which is a MLUR norm on  $X$ .

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The three-space problem for a property  $A$  of Banach space  $X$  consists in the question: If two of three spaces  $X$ ,  $Y$ ,  $X/Y$  ( $Y$  is a subspace of  $X$ ) possess the property  $A$ , then does the third space also have the same property  $A$ ? Also, the following question is close to the three-space problem: If the norm  $\|\cdot\|$  on the subspace  $Y$  of a Banach space  $X$  possesses the property  $A$ , then can the norm  $\|\cdot\|$  be extended to such a norm  $\|\cdot\|_0$  on  $X$  (i. e. the restriction of  $\|\cdot\|_0$  on  $Y$  is equal to  $\|\cdot\|$ ) with the same property  $A$ ?

These problems are treated in [A1, A2, GTWZ, JZ1, JZ2] for locally uniformly rotund and rotund renorming of Banach spaces. Here we discuss the same problems for the MLUR property.

## 2. DEFINITIONS AND REMARKS

A norm  $\|\cdot\|$  of a Banach space  $X$  is called *midpoint locally uniformly rotund* (MLUR) if

$$\lim_n (\|x + x_n\|^2 + \|x - x_n\|^2 - 2\|x\|^2) = 0, \quad x, x_n \in X,$$

implies  $\lim_n \|x_n\| = 0$ .

A norm  $\|\cdot\|$  of a Banach space  $X$  is called *locally uniformly rotund* (LUR) if

$$\lim_n (2\|x\|^2 + 2\|x_n\|^2 - \|x + x_n\|^2) = 0, \quad x, x_n \in X,$$

implies  $\lim_n \|x - x_n\| = 0$ .

Obviously LUR  $\Rightarrow$  MLUR.

If  $Y$  is a subspace of the Banach space  $X$ , then  $\hat{x}$  means the element of  $X/Y$  given by  $x$ .

**Lemma.** Let  $X$  be a MLUR Banach space. Then for each  $x \in X$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is  $\delta = \delta(\varepsilon, x) > 0$  such that whenever  $y \in X$ ,  $\|x - y\| < \delta$  and  $z \in X$ ,  $\|y + z\|^2 + \|y - z\|^2 - 2\|y\|^2 < \delta$ , we have  $\|z\| < \varepsilon$ .

## 3. MAIN RESULTS

**Theorem 1 ([A3]).** Let  $X$  be a Banach space and let  $Y$  be a subspace of  $X$  such that  $Y$  and  $X/Y$  admit, respectively, an equivalent MLUR and LUR norm. Then  $X$  admits an equivalent MLUR norm.

**Theorem 2.** Let  $X$  be a Banach space and let  $Y$  be a subspace of  $X$  which admits an equivalent MLUR norm  $\|\cdot\|$ , and let  $X/Y$  be separable. Then the norm  $\|\cdot\|$  can be extended to an equivalent MLUR norm on  $X$ .

*Proof.* We construct the extension of the norm  $\|\cdot\|$  on  $X$  following the method of [JZ2].

First, we extend the given MLUR norm  $\|\cdot\|$  on  $Y$  to an equivalent norm  $\|\cdot\|$  on  $X$ . (For a simple construction of such a norm see e. g. [JZ2].)

Since  $X/Y$  is separable, then, as known ([K]), the space  $X/Y$  admits an equivalent MLUR norm  $\|\cdot\|_0$ .

Let  $B : X/Y \rightarrow X$  be the Bartle–Graves continuous selection map (i. e.  $B\hat{x} \in \hat{x}$ ) [BP].

Let  $\{\hat{a}_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ ,  $\hat{a}_n \neq 0$ , be a dense subset of  $X/Y$ . We assume that  $a_n = B\hat{a}_n$ .

For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  ( $\mathbb{N}$  — positive integers) choose  $f_n \in X^*$  such that  $f_n(a_n) = 1$ ,  $\|f_n\| = \|\hat{a}_n\|^{-1}$ ,  $f_n = 0$  on  $Y$  and denote by  $P_n(x) = f_n(x)a_n$ ,  $Q_n = I - P_n$  ( $I$  is the identity map on  $X$ ) and  $T_n = Q_n/(1 + \|P_n\|)$ .

For every  $x \in X$  we put

$$\|x\|_1^2 = (1 - b)\|x\|^2 + \|\hat{x}\|_0^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|T_n(x)\|^2 / 2^n,$$

where

$$b = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1/2^n (1 + \|P_n\|)^2, \quad 0 < b < 1.$$

Then  $\|\cdot\|_1$  is an equivalent norm on  $X$  whose restriction on  $Y$  coincides with the MLUR norm  $\|\cdot\|$ .

We now are going to show that  $\|\cdot\|_1$  is a MLUR norm.

For this purpose we assume there are  $\varepsilon, 0 < \varepsilon < 1$ ,  $x \in X$ , and sequence  $\{y_m\}$ , such that

$$(1) \quad \|x + y_m\|_1^2 + \|x - y_m\|_1^2 - 2\|x\|_1^2 \rightarrow 0.$$

but

$$(2) \quad \|y_m\| > \varepsilon,$$

and shall find a contradiction.

From (1) and a convexity argument we get

$$(3) \quad \|x + y_m\|^2 + \|x - y_m\|^2 - 2\|x\|^2 \rightarrow 0,$$

$$(4) \quad \|\hat{x} + \hat{y}_m\|_0^2 + \|\hat{x} - \hat{y}_m\|_0^2 - 2\|\hat{x}\|_0^2 \rightarrow 0$$

and

$$(5) \quad \|T_n(x + y_m)\|^2 + \|T_n(x - y_m)\|^2 - 2\|T_n(x)\|^2 \xrightarrow{m} 0$$

for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

The norm  $\|\cdot\|_0$  is MLUR on  $X/Y$  and therefore from (4) we have

$$(6) \quad \|\hat{y}_m\|_0 \rightarrow 0.$$

**Case i)** Let  $x \in Y$ . According to (6) for every  $m$  there is  $y'_m \in Y$  such that

$$(7) \quad \|y_m - y'_m\| \rightarrow 0.$$

From (3) and (7) we receive that

$$\|x + y'_m\|^2 + \|x - y'_m\|^2 - 2\|x\|^2 \rightarrow 0,$$

and since the norm  $\|\cdot\|$  is MLUR on  $Y$ , then

$$(8) \quad \|y'_m\| \rightarrow 0.$$

Therefore from (7) and (8)  $\|y_m\| \rightarrow 0$ , which contradicts (2).

**Case ii)** Let  $x \notin Y$ ,  $\hat{x} \neq 0$ . Put  $x = x_0 + y_0$ ,  $x_0 = B\hat{x}$ ,  $y_0 \in Y$ . Choose  $\hat{a}_n \in \{\hat{a}_n\}$  such that

$$(9) \quad \hat{a}_n \rightarrow \hat{x},$$

and since  $B$  is a continuous map, then

$$(10) \quad a_n \rightarrow x_0.$$

For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $z_n \in \hat{a}_n$  and

$$(11) \quad z_n \rightarrow x.$$

Put  $z_n = a_n + v_n$ ,  $v_n \in Y$ , and from (10) and (11) we have

$$(12) \quad v_n \rightarrow y_0.$$

Since  $\|P_n\| = \|a_n\|/\|\hat{a}_n\|$  and  $Q_n(x_0) = (x_0 - a_n) + f_n(a_n - x_0)a_n$ , then

$$(13) \quad \|P_n\| \rightarrow d$$

and

$$(14) \quad \|Q_n(x_0)\| \rightarrow 0,$$

where  $d = \|x_0\|/\|\hat{x}\|$ .

The assumption that  $\|\cdot\|$  is a MLUR norm on  $Y$  and the Lemma imply that for our  $y_0 \in Y$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $\delta$ ,  $0 < \delta < \varepsilon/6$ , such that if  $y \in Y$ ,  $\|y_0 - y\| < \delta$  and  $z \in Y$ ,  $\|y + z\|^2 + \|y - z\|^2 - 2\|y\|^2 < \delta$ , then

$$(15) \quad \|z\| < \varepsilon/6.$$

Choose  $\delta_1$  such that

$$0 < \delta_1 < \delta/[1 + 14(d+2)^2(3K+1)],$$

where  $K = \max(\sup\|y_m\|, \|x\|, \|y_0\|)$ .

According to (6), (9) and (11)–(14) there is an  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for each  $n, m \geq n_0$  we have

$$(16) \quad \|Q_n\| < d + 2,$$

$$(17) \quad \|Q_n(x_0)\| < \delta_1,$$

$$(18) \quad \|x - z_n\| < \delta_1,$$

$$(19) \quad \|y_0 - v_n\| < \delta_1$$

and

$$(20) \quad \|(\hat{x} + \hat{y}_m) - \hat{a}_n\|_0 < \delta_1/2.$$

We fix  $n \geq n_0$  until the end of the proof.

From (5)

$$\|Q_n(x + y_m)\|^2 + \|Q_n(x - y_m)\|^2 - 2\|Q_n(x)\|^2 \xrightarrow[m]{} 0.$$

Therefore, there is an  $m \geq n$  such that

$$(21) \quad D_m = \|Q_n(x + y_m)\|^2 + \|Q_n(x - y_m)\|^2 - 2\|Q_n(x)\|^2 < \delta_1.$$

Choose  $t_n \in \hat{a}_n$  (use (20)) such that

$$(22) \quad \|(x + y_m) - t_n\| < \delta_1.$$

Put  $t_n = a_n + y_0 + u_n$ ,  $u_n \in Y$ . Obviously,

$$(23) \quad Q_n(z_n) = v_n, \quad Q_n(t_n) = y_0 + u_n \quad \text{and} \quad Q_n(x - x_0) = y_0.$$

Furthermore, we have (use (23), (16), (17), (18), (21) and (22))

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|v_n + u_n\|^2 + \|v_n - u_n\|^2 - 2\|v_n\|^2 = \\
 & = \|Q_n(z_n) + Q_n(t_n) - y_0\|^2 + \|Q_n(z_n) - Q_n(t_n) + y_0\|^2 - 2\|Q_n(z_n)\|^2 \leq \\
 (24) \quad & \leq D_m + 2\left(\|Q_n\|(\|x - z_n\| + \|(x + y_m) - t_n\|) + \|Q_n(x_0)\|\right) \times \\
 & \times \left(\|Q_n\|(\|z_n\| + \|t_n\| + \|x\| + \|y_m\|) + \|y_0\|\right) + \\
 & + 2\|Q_n\|^2\|x - z_n\|(\|x\| + \|z_n\|) < \\
 & < \delta_1 [1 + 14(d+2)^2(3K+1)] < \delta.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by (19), (24) and (15) we get  $\|u_n\| < \varepsilon/6$ .

Then

$$(25) \quad \|z_n - t_n\| \leq \|y_0 - v_n\| + \|u_n\| < \delta_1 + \varepsilon/6 < \varepsilon/3.$$

Thus, by (18), (22) and (25)

$$\|y_m\| \leq \|(x + y_m) - t_n\| + \|t_n - z_n\| + \|z_n - x\| < 2\delta_1 + \varepsilon/3 < 2\varepsilon/3 < \varepsilon,$$

which contradicts (2).

The theorem is proved.

**Remark.** Let  $E(X)$  be the metric space of all equivalent norms on the Banach space  $X$ , endowed with the metric of uniform convergence on unit ball. If there exists at least one equivalent MLUR norm  $p$  on the space  $X$ , then the set of all equivalent MLUR norms  $M(X)$  is dense in  $E(X)$ . Really, the set

$$R(X) = \left\{ r = \sqrt{q^2 + \varepsilon^2 p^2} : q \in E(X), \varepsilon > 0 \right\}$$

is subset of  $M(X)$  and dense in  $E(X)$ . In this case, if  $Y$  is a subspace of  $X$ , obviously "almost all" equivalent MLUR norms on  $Y$  can be extended to such norms on  $X$ . Indeed, the set of all restrictions of norms from  $R(X)$  on  $Y$  is dense in  $E(Y)$ .

We finish the paper with the following

**Questions.** Let  $X$  be a Banach space and let  $Y$  be a subspace of  $X$ .

1) If both  $Y$  and  $X/Y$  admit equivalent MLUR norms, does  $X$  admit an equivalent MLUR norm too?

2) What are the conditions which the space  $Y$  has to satisfy, so that the equivalent MLUR norm on  $Y$  could be extended to an equivalent MLUR norm on  $X$ ?

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