

Rainer Linde

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Generalized Banach-Mazur Distance

RAINER LINDE

Jena*)

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For two isomorphic Banach spaces X and Y the Banach-Mazur distance is given by

$$d(X, Y) = \inf \{ \|T\| \|T^{-1}\| : T : X \rightarrow Y \text{ isomorphism} \}.$$

It is well-known that the Banach-Mazur distance of two n -dimensional spaces is always less than or equal to n . By a result of Gluskin [4] there is a constant $c \geq 1$ such that for every natural number n there exist Banach spaces X_n and Y_n with $\dim X_n = \dim Y_n = n$ and

$$d(X_n, Y_n) \geq cn$$

We want to measure the distance of n -dimensional Banach spaces not by the norm but by any other operator ideal quasi-norms.

1. Notations

As usually we denote by $L(X, Y)$ the set of all linear and bounded operators from the Banach space X in the Banach space Y . For the definition of a quasi-normed operator ideal we refer to Pietsch [9]. We only want to repeat the definition of some special quasi-normed operator ideals.

We say that an operator $T \in L(X, Y)$ is absolutely p -summing for $1 \leq p < \infty$ if there exists a constant $c > 0$ such that for all elements $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ the inequality

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \|Tx_i\|^p \right)^{1/p} \leq c \sup \left\{ \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |\langle x_i, a \rangle|^p \right)^{1/p} : a \in X', \|a\| \leq 1 \right\}$$

holds. In this case we write $T \in P_p(X, Y)$ and put

$$\|T\|_{P_p} = \inf c$$

where the infimum is taken over all possible constants c of the above definition.

*) Friedrich-Schiller-Universität, Sektion Mathematik, DDR-6900, UHH, 17. o. G.

An operator $T \in L(X, Y)$ is called nuclear if it admits a representation

$$T = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i \otimes y_i$$

with $a_i \in X'$ and $y_i \in Y$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \|a_i\| \|y_i\| < \infty .$$

Then we write $T \in N(X, Y)$ and put

$$\|T | N\| = \inf \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \|a_i\| \|y_i\|$$

where the infimum is taken over all admissible representations of T .

For a given normed operator ideal A an operator $T \in L(X, Y)$ belongs to the adjoint operator ideal A^* if there is a constant $c > 0$ such that

$$|\text{trace}(S_0 S T T_0)| \leq c \|S_0\| \|S | A\| \|T_0\|$$

for all $S_0 \in L(Y, Y_0)$, $S \in A(Y, X)$, $T_0 \in L(X_0, X)$ and X_0, Y_0 finite dimensional. In this case we put

$$\|T | A^*\| = \inf c$$

where the infimum is taken over all admissible constants. Further T belongs to the dual operator ideal A' if $T' \in A(Y', X')$. Then $\|T | A'\| = \|T' | A\|$.

2. Generalized Banach-Mazur distance

Let A and B two quasi-normed operator ideals. We say that the Banach spaces X and Y are (A, B) -isomorphic if there exist operators $S \in A(X, Y)$ and $T \in B(Y, X)$ with $TS = I_X$ and $ST = I_Y$. In this case we put

$$d_{A,B}(X, Y) = \inf \{ \|S | A\| \|T | B\| : S, T \text{ as above} \} .$$

Of course we have the following necessary condition. If X and Y are (A, B) -isomorphic then we have

$$I_X \in B \circ A \quad \text{and} \quad I_Y \in A \circ B .$$

Since most of the operator ideals are proper that means that only the identity of finite dimensional spaces belongs to the ideal we restrict ourselves to finite dimensional spaces. First we will list some simple properties. Here and in the following the sign \leq means also $\dots \leq c \dots$ for some constant $c > 0$ not depending on the Banach spaces X and Y or their dimension.

- (1) $d_{L,L}(X, Y) = d(X, Y)$
- (2) $d_{A,B}(X', Y') \leq d_{A',B'}(Y, X)$

(3) The inclusions $A \subset C$ and $B \subset D$ imply $d_{C,D}(X, Y) \leq d_{A,B}(X, Y)$.
It follows equality in (2) if A and B are symmetric.

(4) $d_{A \circ C, B \circ D}(X, Y) \leq d_{A,B}(X, Z) d_{C,D}(Z, Y)$.

(5) If $A^2 = A$ then $\ln d_{A,A}(X, Y)$ becomes a quasi-metric.

(6) The inequalities of Lewis-type

$$\begin{aligned} \|S: X_n \rightarrow Y_n \mid A\| &\leq n^\lambda \|S \mid C\| \\ \|T: Y_n \rightarrow X_n \mid B\| &\leq n^\mu \|T \mid D\| \\ \text{imply } d_{A,B}(X_n, Y_n) &\leq n^{\lambda+\mu} d_{C,D}(X_n, Y_n). \end{aligned}$$

Directly from the definition we obtain

Lemma 1. *Let A and B two quasi-normed operator ideals. Then*

$$d_{A,B}(X, Y) \geq \max \{ \|I_X \mid B \circ A\|, \|I_Y \mid A \circ B\| \}.$$

In the following we will use a result of Lewis [6].

Lemma 2. *Let A be any normed operator ideal. There exists for any two n -dimensional spaces X_n and Y_n an isomorphism $T: X_n \rightarrow Y_n$ with $\|T \mid A\| = 1$ and $\|T^{-1} \mid A^*\| = n$.*

Therefore we have the next result about generalized Banach-Mazur distance.

Proposition 1. *Let A be any normed operator ideal. It holds for every n -dimensional spaces X_n and Y_n the equality*

$$d_{A,A^*}(X_n, Y_n) = n.$$

Proof. The estimate from above follows directly from lemma 2. Otherwise we have

$$n = \text{trace}(I: Y_n \rightarrow Y_n) \leq \|S \mid A\| \|S^{-1} \mid A^*\|$$

for every other isomorphism. This implies equality.

Corollary. *For every n -dimensional spaces X_n and Y_n it holds*

$$d(X_n, Y_n) \leq n.$$

The next result which goes back to F. John goes in the same direction as lemma 2.

Lemma 3. *Let X_n be any n -dimensional space. Then there exists an isomorphism $T: X_n \rightarrow l_2^n$ with $\|T \mid P_2\| = n^{1/2}$ and $\|T^{-1}\| = 1$.*

From this we deduce the next result.

Proposition 2. *Let $1 \leq p < \infty$ and X_n with $\dim X_n = n$. Then*

$$n^{\min(1/p, 1/2)} \leq d_{P_p, L}(X_n, l_2^n) \leq n^{\max(1/p, 1/2)}$$

Proof. Let $1 \leq p \leq 2$. Take the isomorphism T of lemma 3. Then

$$\|T|P_p\| \leq n^{1/p-1/2} \|T|P_2\| = n^{1/p} \text{ implies } d_{P_p, L}(X_n, l_2^n) \leq n^{1/p}.$$

From

$$n^{1/2} = \|I: X_n \rightarrow X_n | P_2\| \leq \|I|P_p\| \leq \|S|P_p\| \|S^{-1}\|$$

for any other isomorphism $S: X_n \rightarrow l_2^n$ it follows

$$d_{P_p, L}(X_n, l_2^n) \geq n^{1/2}.$$

For $2 < p < \infty$ the proof is analogous.

Corollary. For any n -dimensional space X_n it is

$$d_{P_2, L}(X_n, l_2^n) = n^{1/2}.$$

Remark. The inequality of proposition 2 cannot be improved for $1 \leq p < 2$. We have

$$d_{P_p, L}(l_u^n, l_2^n) = \begin{cases} n^{1/2} & \text{for } 1 \leq u \leq 2 \\ n^{1/p} & \text{for } p' \leq u \leq \infty \end{cases}$$

To show this we have to prove that

$$d_{P_p, L}(l_u^n, l_2^n) \leq n^{1/2} \text{ for } 1 \leq u \leq 2 \text{ and}$$

$$d_{P_p, L}(l_u^n, l_2^n) \geq n^{1/p} \text{ for } p' \leq u \leq \infty.$$

The first inequality follows by considering the identity from l_u^n in l_2^n and from l_2^n in l_u^n , respectively. The second one is implied by Kwapien's [5] result that $P_p \circ P_{p'} = L_p^*$ and

$$\begin{aligned} n^{1/p+1/u} &= \|I: l_u^n \rightarrow l_u^n | L_p^*\| \leq \|S: l_u^n \rightarrow l_2^n | P_p\| \|S^{-1}: l_2^n \rightarrow l_u^n | P_{p'}\| = \\ &= \|S|P_p\| \|S^{-1}: l_u^n \rightarrow l_2^n | P_{p'}\| \leq \\ &\leq \|S|P_p\| \|S^{-1}: l_1^n \rightarrow l_2^n | P_{p'}\| n^{1-1/u'} \leq \\ &\leq c_G \|S|P_p\| \|S^{-1}: l_2^n \rightarrow l_\infty^n\| n^{1/u} \leq \\ &\leq c_G \|S|P_p\| \|S^{-1}: l_2^n \rightarrow l_u^n\| n^{1/u}. \end{aligned}$$

By analogous considerations it follows for $2 \leq p < \infty$ that

$$d_{P_p, L}(l_u^n, l_2^n) = n^{1/2} \text{ for } 2 \leq u \leq \infty.$$

So also in the case $2 \leq p < \infty$ the estimate from above cannot be improved. But we have the following

Problem. Are there for $2 < p < \infty$ a Banach space X_n and an isomorphism $T: X_n \rightarrow l_2^n$ with $\|T|P_p\| \|T^{-1}\| \leq n^{1/p}$?

If we change the order of P_p and L we get another estimate.

Proposition 3. Let $1 \leq p < \infty$ and X_n with $\dim X_n = n$. Then

$$n^{\min(1/p, 1/2)} \leq d_{L, P_p}(X_n, l_2^n) \leq n.$$

Proof. The estimate from below is the same as in proposition 2. For the estimate from above we will use lemma 3 to X'_n . Let $T: X'_n \rightarrow l_2^n$ with $\|T|P_2\| = n^{1/2}$ and $\|T^{-1}\| = 1$. Putting $S = (T^{-1})'$ we get $\|S\| = 1$ and

$$\|S^{-1}|P_p\| = \|T'|P_p\| \leq \|T'|N\| \leq \|T|N\| \leq n^{1/2}\|T|P_2\| = n.$$

Remark. The estimate cannot be improved even in the case $p = 2$. We have

$$d_{L, P_2}(l_u^n, l_2^n) = n^{\max(1/2, 1/u')}$$

Taking the identities we get the estimate from above. Otherwise for any isomorphism $S: l_u^n \rightarrow l_2^n$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} n &= \text{trace}(I: l_u^n \rightarrow l_u^n) \leq \|S|P_2\| \|S^{-1}|P_2^*\| = \\ &= \|S|P_2\| \|S^{-1}|P_2\| \leq \|S: l_\infty^n \rightarrow l_2^n|P_2\| \|S^{-1}|P_2\| \leq \\ &\leq c_G \|S\| \|S^{-1}|P_2\| \leq c_G n^{1/u} \|S: l_u^n \rightarrow l_2^n\| \|S^{-1}|P_2\|. \end{aligned}$$

3. Estimates for quasi-norms generated by s-numbers

Let s be any s -number function [8]. Let $0 < r < \infty$ and $0 < w \leq \infty$. Then $T \in L(X, Y)$ belongs to $L_{r,w}^s(X, Y)$ if the following quasi-norm is finite

$$\begin{aligned} \|T|L_{r,w}^s\| &= \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n^{1/r-1/w} s_n(T))^w \right)^{1/w} \quad (w < \infty) \\ \|T|L_{r,\infty}^s\| &= \sup \{n^{1/r} s_n(T): n \in \mathbb{N}\}. \end{aligned}$$

Of course we have the inequality

$$\|T: X_n \rightarrow Y_n|L_{r,w}^s\| \leq n^{1/r} \|T\|$$

which implies

$$d_{L_{r(1),w(1)}^s, L_{r(2),w(2)}^s}(X_n, Y_n) \leq n^{1/r(1)+1/r(2)} d(X_n, Y_n).$$

Proposition 4. Let s be any multiplicative s -number function, $0 < r(1), r(2) < \infty$ and $0 < w(1), w(2) \leq \infty$. Then

$$d_{L_{r(1),w(1)}^s, L_{r(2),w(2)}^s}(X, Y) \geq \max \{ \|I_X|L_{r,w}^s\|, \|I_Y|L_{r,w}^s\| \}$$

for $1/r = 1/r(1) + 1/r(2)$ and $1/w = 1/w(1) + 1/w(2)$.

Proof. The assumption follows from lemma 1 and

$$L_{r(1),w(1)}^s \circ L_{r(2),w(2)}^s \subset L_{r,w}^s.$$

For the approximation numbers

$$a_n(T) = \inf \{ \|T - L\| : \text{rank } L < n \}$$

the Gelfand numbers

$$c_n(T) = \inf \{ \|TJ_M\| : M \subset X, \text{codim } M < n \}$$

and the Kolmogorov numbers

$$d_n(T) = \inf \{ \|Q_N T\| : N \subset Y, \dim N < n \}$$

we get the following

Corollary. For $s \in \{a, c, d\}$ we get

$$d_{L^{s_{r(1)}, w(1), L^{s_{r(2)}, w(2)}}(X_n, Y_n)} \geq n^{1/r}$$

Proof. The assumption follows from proposition 4, $s_k(I_{X_n}) = 1$ for $1 \leq k \leq n$ and

$$\left(\sum_{k=1}^n k^{w/r-1} \right)^{1/w} \asymp n^{1/r}.$$

Remark. Using Gluskin's result [3] about $c_k(I: l_u^n \rightarrow l_v^n)$ we get equality in the preceding corollary for $X_n = l_u^n$ and $Y_n = l_v^n$ in some cases. Namely for

$$1 \leq v < u \leq 2, \quad r_2 < 2 \frac{1/v - 1/2}{1/v - 1/u}$$

and

$$1 \leq u < v \leq 2, \quad r_1 < 2 \frac{1/u - 1/2}{1/u - 1/v}.$$

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