

# A new Proof of Zippin's Embedding Theorem and Applications

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*Every Banach space with separable dual, embeds into a space  $Z$  with shrinking basis  $(e_j)$ , i.e. the biorthogonal sequence  $(e_j^*)$  is a basis for  $Z^*$ .*

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### Theorem (Davis, Figiel, Johnson, and Pełczyński, 1974)

*A weakly compact operator from a Banach space  $X$  into a Banach space  $Z$ , which has a shrinking basis, factors through a reflexive space with a basis.*

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Is there a separable Banach space  $X_u$  having property  $(P)$ , or (some slightly weaker property  $(P')$ ) which is **universal for all Banach spaces with property  $(P)$** , i.e. every separable Banach space  $X$  with property  $(P)$  embeds (isomorphically) into  $X_u$ ?

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## Embedding Problems

Assume  $(P)$  is a property of (separable) Banach spaces.  
Does every Banach space  $X$  with property  $(P)$  embed into a Banach space  $Z$  with property  $(P)$  having a (certain) basis/FDD ?

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- (Johnson & Zhang 2008, 2011) Characterization of subspaces of spaces with an unconditional basis.

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Causey (2013 and 2014), yes but for Szlenk index of  $Z$  in embedding problem we have:  $Sz(Z) = \omega^{\alpha+1}$ , resp.  $Sz(Z) = \omega^{\alpha+1}$ .



## Remark

*The proofs of these embedding results start by using Zippin's Theorem and embed our given space  $X$  into a space  $Y$  with shrinking basis, respectively, in the reflexive case, with shrinking and boundedly complete basis.*

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### **Our goal:**

A new proof of Zippin's Embedding Theorem, in which for a given space  $X$ , with  $X^*$  separable, or  $X$  separable and reflexive, the space  $Y$ , in which  $X$  embeds, inherits as many properties from  $X$  as possible.



## Remark

*All known proofs of Zippin's Theorem (Zippin's original proof and a proof by Ghoussoub, Maurey, and Schachermayer) start by embedding  $X$  into  $Z = C(\Delta)$ ,  $\Delta = \text{Cantorset}$  (which has a basis), and then modifying  $Z$  until the modification has a shrinking basis but still contains  $X$ .*

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### **Our approach will be different:**

We start with a **Markushevich basis** ( $e_i$ ) of  $X$  (every separable space has such a basis) or more generally, a **Finite Dimensional Markushevich Decomposition (FMD)**, and augment it just enough to produce a space  $Z$  with a shrinking **Finite Dimensional Decomposition (FDD)**, which contains  $X$ .



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*As we will see, several properties of  $X$  will be automatically inherited by  $Z$  and  $W$ .*

# Main Result

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and
- c) if  $X^*$  has the **Unconditional Tree Property** then  $(w_i)$  is unconditional.

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We first prove the following FDD version of our main result, and then apply a construction of Lindenstrauss and Tzafriri, in order to get from FDD's to bases.



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- c) *if  $X^*$  has an skipped unconditional FMD then  $(Z_i)$  is unconditional.*

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- In that case we call  $(F_j)$ , with

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(i.e.  $\text{span}(F_k : k \in \mathbb{N})$  is  $w^*$ -dense in  $X^*$ ).

If  $\dim(E_k) = 1$ , for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , say  $E_k = \text{span}(e_k)$ , then  $(e_k)$  is called a **Markushevich basis**.

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$\text{supp}_E(x^*)$ .

An FMD  $(E_n)$  is called a **Finite Dimensional Decomposition of  $X$  (FDD)** if every  $x \in X$  can be uniquely written as

$$x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n, \text{ with } x_n \in E_n, \text{ for } n \in \mathbb{N},$$

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# Finite Dimensional Decompositions

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and an FDD  $(E_n)$  is called **unconditional** if above representation of every  $x \in X$  converges unconditional, or, equivalently, if

$$u = \sup_{A \subset \mathbb{N}, \text{ finite}} \|P_A^E\| < \infty.$$

# Two simple, but Key Arguments

Assume that  $X^*$  is separable and that  $(E'_i)$  is a shrinking Finite Dimensional Markushevich Decomposition.  $(F'_i)$  its biorthogonal sequence.

## Lemma

$(E'_i)$  can be blocked to  $(E_n)$  (i.e.  $E_n = \text{span}(E'_i : i_{n-1} < i \leq i_n)$ , for some  $i_n \nearrow \infty$ ), so that

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- every, with respect to  $(F_n)$ , **skipped block sequence**  $(x_n^*)$  in  $X^*$  ( $F_n = \text{span}(F'_i : i_{n-1} < i \leq i_n)$ ) is basic with projection constant at most 3.
- and, if  $X^*$  has the unconditional tree property for some constant  $C$ , every **skipped block sequence**  $(x_n^*)$  in  $X^*$  with respect to  $F_n$  is  $2C$ -unconditional.



## Lemma (Johnson, 1977)

Let  $(\varepsilon_k) \subset (0, 1)$ . There exists a strictly increasing  $(n_k) \subset \mathbb{N}$  with:  
For every  $x^* \in B_{X^*}$  there exists  $(j_k) \in \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \{n_k, n_k + 1, \dots, n_{k+1}\}$   
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### Remark

Since  $(E_n)$  not necessarily FDD it could be that  $\|x^*|_{E_n}\|_{E_n^*} \ll \|P_n^F(x^*)\|_{X^*}$ .





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**Conclusion:** the set

$$B^* = \left\{ x^* \in B_{X^*} : \exists (j_k) \in \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \{n_k, n_k + 1, \dots, n_{k+1}\} \right. \\ \left. x^*|_{E_{j_k}} \equiv 0, k = 1, 2, \dots \right\},$$

is  $\frac{1}{2}$ -norming the space  $X$ , so without loss of generality:

$$\|x\| = \sup_{x^* \in B^*} |x^*(x)|.$$

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For  $(z_k) \in c_{00}(\bigoplus_{k=1}^{\infty} Z_k)$  put:

$$\|(z_k)\|_Z = \sup_{(x_k^*) \in \mathbb{B}} \left| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_k^*(z_k) \right|.$$

$Z$  is then the completion of  $c_{00}(\bigoplus_{k=1}^{\infty} Z_k)$  with respect to  $\|\cdot\|$ .

# Properties of $Z$

1) The map

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is an isometric embedding: Indeed, for  $x \in X$

$$\begin{aligned} \|I(x)\| &= \sup_{(x_k^*) \in \mathbb{B}} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_k^*(P_{(n_{k-1}, n_{k+1})}^E(x)) \\ &= \sup_{(x_k^*) \in \mathbb{B}} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_k^*(x) \\ &= \sup_{(x_k^*) \in \mathbb{B}} \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_k^* \right)(x) = \sup_{x^* \in B} |x^*(x)| = \|x\|. \end{aligned}$$





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For  $z = (z_k) \in c_{00}(\bigoplus_{k=1}^{\infty} Z_k)$ , and  $m \leq n$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|P_{[m,n]}^Z(z)\| &= \sup_{(x_k^*) \in \mathbb{B}} \left| \sum_{k=m}^n x_k^*(z_k) \right| \\ &\leq \sup_{(x_k^*) \in \mathbb{B}} \left\| (x_k^*)_{k=m}^n \right\|_{Z^*} \|z\|_Z \\ &\leq \sup_{(x_k^*) \in \mathbb{B}} \left\| \sum_{k=m}^n x_k^* \right\|_{X^*} \|z\|_Z \end{aligned}$$

$$\left[ \sum y_k^* \in B^* \Rightarrow (y_k^*) \in \mathbb{B}, \text{ thus } \left\| (x_k^*)_{k=m}^n \right\|_{Z^*} \leq \left\| \sum_{j=m}^n x_k^* \right\|_{X^*} \right]$$

$$\leq 3\|z\|$$

$$\left[ (x_k^*) \text{ is a skipped block with respect to } (F_j) \right]$$



- 3) The set  $\mathbb{B}$  (seen as subset of  $B_{Z^*}$ ) is 1-norming  $Z$ ,  $w^*$  compact, and the map

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$$U_{\bar{j}}^* = U^* = \{x^* \in X^* : x^*|_{E_{j_k}} = 0, k \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

Then  $U^*$  is  $w^*$  closed and the map

$$\Phi_{\bar{j}} : U^* \rightarrow Z^*, \quad x^* \mapsto (P_{(j_{k-1}, j_k)}^F(x^*) : k \in \mathbb{N}),$$

is a well defined isometric embedding, which is  $w^*$  continuous.

- 3) The set  $\mathbb{B}$  (seen as subset of  $B_{Z^*}$ ) is 1-norming  $Z$ ,  $w^*$  compact, and the map

$$\Psi : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow B, \quad (x_k^*) \mapsto \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} x_k^*,$$

is norm preserving, onto, and  $w^*$ -continuous (but not injective).

- 4) For  $\bar{j} = (j_k) \in \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \{n_k, n_k + 1, \dots, n_{k+1}\}$ , define

$$U_{\bar{j}}^* = U^* = \{x^* \in X^* : x^*|_{E_{j_k}} = 0, k \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

Then  $U^*$  is  $w^*$  closed and the map

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- 5) For every skipped block  $(z_k^*)$  in  $\mathbb{B}$  (with respect to  $(Z_j^*)$ ),  $(\Psi(z_k^*))$  is an isometrically equivalent to a skipped block in  $X^*$  with respect to  $(F_k)$ . And for every skipped block  $(x_k^*)$  in  $B$  with respect to  $F_j$ ,  $(\Phi_{\bar{j}}(x_k^*))$  is an isometrically equivalent skipped block in  $\mathbb{B}$  with respect to  $(Z_j^*)$ .



- 6)  $Y$  Banach space,  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $T_k : Y \rightarrow Z_k$ , for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, N$ .  
We want to find an expression of the norm of  
 $T : Y \rightarrow Z$ ,  $y \mapsto (T_k(y) : k = 1, \dots, N)$ .



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Example:  $P_A^Z : Z \rightarrow Z, (z_j : j \in \mathbb{N}) \mapsto (z_j : j \in A), A \subset \mathbb{N}$  fin.

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$$\equiv \left\{ (x_k^*)_{k=1}^N \subset X^* : \begin{array}{l} \exists (j_k) \in \prod_{k=1}^N \{n_k, n_k+1, \dots, n_{k+1}\} \\ \text{rg}_E(x^*) \subset (j_{k-1}, j_k), k \in \mathbb{N}, \|\sum_{k=1}^N x_k^*\| \leq 1 \end{array} \right\}$$

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$$T_{\bar{x}^*} : \text{span}(x_k^* : 1 \leq k \leq N) \rightarrow Y^*, \quad \sum a_k x_k^* \mapsto \sum a_k x_k^* \circ T_k.$$

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If  $T = P_A^Z$ , and thus  $T_k = P_k^Z$ , if  $k \in A$ , and  $T_k = 0$  otherwise. Then

$$\|P_A^Z\| = \sup_{\bar{x} \in \mathbb{B}} \left\| \sum_{k \in A} x_k^* \right\|_{Z^*} = \sup_{\bar{x} \in \mathbb{B}} \left\| \sum_{k \in A} x_k^* \right\|_{X^*}.$$

# Open Problems

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## Problem (Finite Dimensional Part)

*Assume that  $E$  is a finite dimensional space whose modulus of uniform convexity is  $w(\cdot)$ . Is there a constant  $C$  (could depend on  $w(\cdot)$  but not on anything else) so that  $E$  is  $C$ -isomorphic to a subspace of finite dimensional space  $F$  whose modulus of uniform convexity is also  $w(\cdot)$  (or a function  $v(r)$  only depending on  $w(\cdot)$ ), so that  $F$  has a basis whose constant is at most  $C$ ?*