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# PTÁK'S CHARACTERIZATION OF REFLEXIVITY IN TENSOR PRODUCTS 

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#### Abstract

We characterize the reflexivity of the completed projective tensor products $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ of Banach spaces in terms of certain approximative biorthogonal systems.


Keywords: reflexive Banach space, biorthogonal system, $\pi$-tensor product

MSC 2000: 46B28

Pták [10] proved among other results that a Banach space $E$ is reflexive iff every bounded biorthogonal system $\left\{\left(e_{n}, f_{n}\right)\right\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset E \times E^{*}$ has unbounded sequence of partial sums $b_{i}=\sum_{n=1}^{i} e_{n}$. Here a bounded biorthogonal system in $\left(E, E^{*}\right)$ is a sequence $\left\{\left(e_{n}, f_{n}\right)\right\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset E \times E^{*}$ such that $\left\langle f_{j}, e_{i}\right\rangle=\delta_{i j}$ and $\sup _{n}\left\|e_{n}\right\|<\infty$, $\sup \left\|f_{n}\right\|<\infty$. Other characterizations of reflexivity which stem from Pták's results are for example the results of Singer [13], [14] and Pelczyński [9]. This paper complements the papers [10], [13], [14], [9], [6], in which reflexivity is characterized by reflexivity of subspaces or quotients having Schauder basis or having complete biorthogonal system [10].

Pták constructs in every nonreflexive Banach space a bounded biorthogonal system $\left\{\left(e_{n}, f_{n}\right)\right\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset E \times E^{*}$ with bounded sequence of partial sums. Here we construct similar systems in the nonreflexive tensor products $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$. For later use we will construct such systems in a special form. Namely we observe that the partial sums $b_{i}=\sum_{n=1}^{i} e_{n}$ may be chosen in the form $b_{i}=x_{i} \otimes y_{i}$ where the $x_{i}$ are elements of the unit ball $B_{X}$ of $X$ and similarly $y_{i} \in B_{Y}$. However, we were able to make such a special choice of $b_{i}$ 's only approximately in the sense that the resulting system is
biorthogonal only up to arbitrary small perturbations. As in [10] the sequences $\left\{b_{i}\right\}$ and $\left\{f_{j}\right\}$ are constructed first.

The definition below makes this precise and keeps the notation used in [10] except that the $y_{j}$ 's and $y$ are called here $f_{j}$ and $f$.

Definition. Let $E$ be a Banach space, let $r \in E^{* *}$ and let $\sigma=\left\{\sigma_{i}\right\}$ be a sequence of positive numbers. We will say that the sequences $\left\{b_{i}\right\} \subset E$ and $\left\{f_{j}\right\} \subset E^{*}$ form a generalized Pták system relative to $(\sigma, r)$ if there are numbers $\left\{\sigma_{i j}\right\}$ with the properties
$1^{\circ}\left\|b_{i}\right\| \leqslant 1,\left\|f_{j}\right\| \leqslant 1$ for all $i, j$
$2^{\circ}$ if we put $\beta_{j}=\left\langle r, f_{j}\right\rangle$ then the matrix $\left\langle b_{i}, f_{j}\right\rangle$ has the subdiagonal form

$$
\begin{array}{ccccc}
\beta_{1}+\sigma_{11} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots  \tag{1}\\
\beta_{1}+\sigma_{21} & \beta_{2}+\sigma_{22} & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\
\beta_{1}+\sigma_{31} & \beta_{2}+\sigma_{32} & \beta_{3}+\sigma_{33} & 0 & \cdots \\
\beta_{1}+\sigma_{41} & \beta_{2}+\sigma_{42} & \beta_{3}+\sigma_{43} & \beta_{4}+\sigma_{44} & \cdots
\end{array}
$$

and all the subdiagonal elements are positive. Thus $\left\langle b_{i}, f_{j}\right\rangle=\beta_{j}+\sigma_{i j}>0$ for $j \leqslant i$ and $\left\langle b_{i}, f_{j}\right\rangle=0$ for $j>i$
$3^{\circ} \inf \beta_{j}>0$
$4^{\circ}\left|\sigma_{i j}\right| \leqslant \sigma_{i}$ for all $i \geqslant j$.
A Pták system is a generalized Pták system for which $\sigma_{i}=\sigma_{i j}=0$ for all $i \geqslant j$.
Pták [10] shows the following facts:

1. If $\left\{\left(e_{n}, f_{n}\right)\right\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset E \times E^{*}$ is a bounded biorthogonal system with bounded partial sums $\left\{b_{i}\right\}=\left\{\sum_{n=1}^{i} e_{n}\right\}$ then $\left\{b_{i}\right\},\left\{f_{j}\right\}$ form a Pták system.
2. The Banach space $E$ is not reflexive iff there is a Pták system $\left\{b_{i}\right\} \subset E$, $\left\{f_{j}\right\} \subset E^{*}$.
3. If $\left\{b_{i}\right\} \subset E,\left\{f_{j}\right\} \subset E^{*}$ is a Pták system then $\left\{e_{i}\right\}=\left\{b_{i}-b_{i-1}\right\}$ and $\left\{\bar{f}_{j}\right\}=$ $\left\{\beta_{j}^{-1} f_{j}\right\}$ is a bounded biorthogonal system with bounded partial sums $\left\{b_{i}\right\}=$ $\left\{\sum_{n=1}^{i} e_{n}\right\}$.
Note that if $\left\{b_{i}\right\} \subset E$ and $\left\{f_{j}\right\} \subset E^{*}$ form a generalized Pták system then $r \in$ $E^{* *} \backslash E$ may be recovered from $\left\{b_{i}\right\},\left\{f_{j}\right\}$. Indeed it suffices to put $r=w^{*}-\lim b_{n_{\alpha}}$ for some subnet $\left\{b_{n_{\alpha}}\right\}$ of $\left\{b_{n}\right\}$.

Proposition 1. Suppose that $E$ is a non reflexive Banach space and let $B \subset B_{E}$. Let $r \in E^{* *} \backslash E$ be in the $w^{*}$ closure of $B \subset E^{* *}$ in $E^{* *}$. Then for every sequence of positive numbers $\sigma=\left\{\sigma_{i}\right\}$ there is a generalized Pták system $\left\{b_{i}\right\} \subset B,\left\{f_{j}\right\} \subset E^{*}$ relative to $(\sigma, r)$ satisfying $1^{\circ}-4^{\circ}$ from the Definition.

Proof. We follow, with the necessary changes, the proof of the Theorem 1 in [10]. There is $f_{1} \in E^{*},\left\|f_{1}\right\| \leqslant 1$ such that $\beta_{1}=\left\langle r, f_{1}\right\rangle=2^{-1}\|r\|$. Having in mind that according to the assumptions $\left\langle r, f_{1}\right\rangle$ is in the closure of $\left\{\left\langle b, f_{1}\right\rangle ; b \in B\right\}$ we see that there exists a vector $b_{1} \in B$ such that $\left\langle b_{1}, f_{1}\right\rangle=\beta_{1}+\sigma_{11}$ where $\left|\sigma_{11}\right| \leqslant$ $\min \left\{\sigma_{1}, 2^{-1} \beta_{1}\right\}$. Thus $\left\langle b_{1}, f_{1}\right\rangle>0$.

Suppose we have already defined vectors $b_{1}, \ldots, b_{n} \in B$ and functionals $f_{1}, \ldots$, $f_{n} \in E^{*}$ with the following properties:

$$
\begin{gathered}
b_{i} \in B,\left\|f_{i}\right\| \leqslant 1 \text { for } 1 \leqslant i \leqslant n \\
\left|\left\langle b_{i}, f_{j}\right\rangle-\beta_{j}\right|<\min \left\{\sigma_{i}, 2^{-1} \beta_{j}\right\} \quad \text { for } 1 \leqslant j \leqslant i \leqslant n \\
\left\langle b_{i}, f_{j}\right\rangle=0 \text { for } 1 \leqslant i<j \leqslant n \\
\beta_{j}=\left\langle r, f_{j}\right\rangle \geqslant \frac{1}{2} \varrho_{j} \text { for } 1 \leqslant j \leqslant n
\end{gathered}
$$

where

$$
\varrho_{j}=\sup \left\{\langle r, f\rangle ; f \in E_{j-1}^{\circ},\|f\| \leqslant 1\right\}
$$

and $E_{p}$ is the linear span of $\left\{b_{1}, \ldots, b_{p}\right\}, E_{0}=\{0\}$. Note that $\varrho_{1}=\|r\|$.
We observe that the numbers $\varrho_{j}, j=1,2, \ldots$ are positive. Indeed, otherwise $f \in E_{j-1}^{\circ}$ would imply $\langle r, f\rangle=0$ and thus $r \in E_{j-1}^{\circ \circ}=E_{j-1} \subset E$ which is a contradiction. The polars are taken here in the duality $\left\langle E^{* *}, E^{*}\right\rangle$ and we consider $E_{j} \subset E \subset E^{* *}$.

Since the number $\varrho_{n+1}=\sup \left\{\langle r, f\rangle ; f \in E_{n}^{\circ},\|f\| \leqslant 1\right\}$ is positive, there exists $f_{n+1} \in E_{n}^{\circ},\left\|f_{n+1}\right\| \leqslant 1$ such that

$$
\beta_{n+1}=\left\langle r, f_{n+1}\right\rangle \geqslant \frac{1}{2} \varrho_{n+1}>0 .
$$

Having in mind that $r \in E^{* *} \backslash E$ is in the $w^{*}$ closure of the subset $B$ we see that a point $b_{n+1} \in B$ may be found such that $\left|\left\langle b_{n+1}, f_{j}\right\rangle-\beta_{j}\right|<\min \left\{\sigma_{n+1}, 2^{-1} \beta_{j}\right\}$ for $1 \leqslant j \leqslant n+1$.

The induction is thus complete and we may put $\sigma_{i+1, j}=\left\langle b_{n+1}, f_{j}\right\rangle-\beta_{j}$ for $j \leqslant$ $n+1$. Evidently $\left|\left\langle b_{n+1}, f_{j}\right\rangle-\beta_{j}\right|<2^{-1} \beta_{j}$ and thus $\left\langle b_{n+1}, f_{j}\right\rangle>0$.

Clearly $\varrho_{1} \geqslant \varrho_{2} \geqslant \varrho_{3} \geqslant \ldots>0$. To see $3^{\circ}$ we shall show that inf $\varrho_{j}>0$. Suppose not. Then $\lim \varrho_{j}=0$. Again we partly follow [10]:

Let $\varepsilon$ be an arbitrary positive number. Let $n$ be a natural number such that $\varrho_{n}<\varepsilon / 2$. Let $f \in B_{E^{*}}$ and let $\tau=\max _{1 \leqslant i \leqslant n}\left|\left\langle b_{i}, f\right\rangle\right|$. Let

$$
z=\sum_{j=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\beta_{j}}\left\langle b_{j}-b_{j-1}, f\right\rangle f_{j}
$$

where $b_{0}=0$. Having in mind that $0<\frac{1}{2} \varrho_{j} \leqslant \beta_{j} \leqslant \varrho_{j}$ we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\|z\| \leqslant \frac{2}{\varrho_{n}} \cdot 2 \tau \cdot n \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

If $i=1, \ldots, n$ then

$$
\begin{align*}
\left\langle b_{i}, z\right\rangle & =\sum_{j=1}^{i} \frac{1}{\beta_{j}}\left\langle b_{j}-b_{j-1}, f\right\rangle\left(\beta_{j}+\sigma_{i j}\right) \\
& =\sum_{j=1}^{i} \frac{1}{\beta_{j}}\left\langle b_{j}-b_{j-1}, f\right\rangle \beta_{j}+s_{i}=\left\langle b_{i}, f\right\rangle+s_{i} \tag{3}
\end{align*}
$$

where $s_{i}=\sum_{j=1}^{i} \beta_{j}^{-1}\left\langle b_{j}-b_{j-1}, f\right\rangle \sigma_{i j}$. Evidently

$$
\left|s_{i}\right| \leqslant \sum_{j=1}^{i} \frac{1}{\beta_{j}} 2 \tau\left|\sigma_{i j}\right| \leqslant 2 \tau \sigma_{i} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \frac{2}{\varrho_{j}}=\tau h_{n}
$$

where $h_{n}$ depends on $n,\left\{\sigma_{i}\right\}$ and on $\left\{\varrho_{i}\right\}$ but not on $f \in B_{E^{*}}$.
Note that the special form of the matrix (1) implies that the vectors $\left\{b_{i}\right\}$ are linearly independent. Since $E_{n}$ and so (its dual) $E_{n}^{*}$ are finite dimensional there is a constant $c=c\left(b_{1}, \ldots, b_{n}\right)$ independent of $f \in B_{E}$ such that if $g \in E_{n}^{*}$ then

$$
\|g\|_{E_{n}^{*}}=\sup \left\{\langle b, g\rangle ; b \in E_{n},\|b\| \leqslant 1\right\} \leqslant c \max \left\{\left|\left\langle b_{i}, g\right\rangle\right| ; i=1, \ldots, n\right\}
$$

Now we define $g \in E_{n}^{*}$ by $\left\langle b_{i}, g\right\rangle=s_{i}$ for all $i=1, \ldots, n$. Then

$$
\|g\|_{E_{n}^{*}} \leqslant c \max \left\{\left|s_{i}\right| ; i=1, \ldots, n\right\} .
$$

Let us choose a Hahn-Banach extension of $g$ to the whole space $E$ and call it $g$ again. Then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\|g\| \leqslant c \tau h_{n} \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

Using (3) we note that $\left\langle b_{i}, z-f-g\right\rangle=\left\langle b_{i}, f\right\rangle+s_{i}-\left\langle b_{i}, f\right\rangle-s_{i}=0$ so that $z-f-g \in E_{n}^{\circ}$. Thus by the definition of $\varrho_{n+1},(2),\|f\| \leqslant 1$ and by (4)

$$
\begin{aligned}
|\langle r, z-f-g\rangle| & \leqslant\|z-f-g\| \cdot \sup \left\{\langle r, y\rangle ; y \in E_{n}^{\circ},\|y\| \leqslant 1\right\} \\
& =\|z-f-g\| \cdot \varrho_{n+1} \\
& \leqslant\left(\frac{4}{\varrho_{n}} \tau n+1+c \tau h_{n}\right) \varrho_{n}=4 n \tau+\varrho_{n}+c \tau h_{n} \varrho_{n} \\
& \leqslant 4 n \tau+\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon+c \tau h_{n} \varrho_{n} .
\end{aligned}
$$

Further note that $\langle r, z\rangle=\left\langle b_{n}, f\right\rangle$ and that we may have supposed that $\|r\|=1$. Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
\langle r, f\rangle & =\langle r, z\rangle-\langle r, z-f\rangle=\left\langle b_{n}, f\right\rangle-\langle r, z-f-g\rangle+\langle r, g\rangle \\
& \leqslant \tau+\left(4 n \tau+\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon+c \tau h_{n} \varrho_{n}\right)+c \tau h_{n}<\varepsilon
\end{aligned}
$$

if $\tau=\max _{1 \leqslant i \leqslant n}\left|\left\langle b_{i}, f\right\rangle\right|$ is sufficiently small.
The set $\left\{y \in E^{*} ; \max _{1 \leqslant i \leqslant n}\left|\left\langle b_{i}, y\right\rangle\right|<\tau\right\}$ being a $w *$ neighbourhood of zero this shows that $\left.r\right|_{B_{E^{*}}}$ is $w^{*}$ continuous at zero on the dual unit ball $B_{E^{*}}$ and thus it is $w^{*}$ continuous. This shows that $r$ is $w^{*}$ continuous on the dual unit ball $B_{E^{*}}$ and thus it should be $w^{*}$ continuous. But this is a contradiction because $r$ does not belong to $E$. We have thus shown that $\inf \beta_{j}>0$ and the proof of the Proposition is complete.

Proposition 1 together with the following observation generalizes the statement 2 before Proposition 1.

Proposition 2. Let $E$ be a Banach space and let $\left\{\sigma_{i}\right\}$ be any sequence of positive numbers, $\lim \sigma_{i}=0$ and let $r$ be any element of $E^{* *}$. Suppose further that $\left\{b_{i}\right\} \subset B_{E}$ and $\left\{f_{j}\right\} \subset E^{*}$ is a generalized Pták system in $E$ relative to $(\sigma, r)$ satisfying $1^{\circ}-4^{\circ}$ from the Definition. Then $E$ is not reflexive.

Proof. Let $b \in \overline{\operatorname{span}}\left\{b_{i}\right\}$. Then $\lim \left\langle f_{j}, b\right\rangle=0$. Indeed, given $\varepsilon>0$ there are numbers $a_{1}, \ldots, a_{q}$ such that $\left\|b-\sum_{1}^{q} a_{i} b_{i}\right\|<\varepsilon$. If $j>q$, we have $\left|\left\langle b, f_{j}\right\rangle\right|=$ $\left|\left\langle b, f_{j}\right\rangle-\left\langle\sum_{1}^{q} a_{i} b_{i}, f_{j}\right\rangle\right| \leqslant\left|\left\langle b-\sum_{1}^{q} a_{i} b_{i}, f_{j}\right\rangle\right| \leqslant \varepsilon$.

Suppose now that $E$ is reflexive and let $b$ be the weak accumulation point of the sequence $\left\{b_{n}\right\}$. Then $b \in \overline{\operatorname{span}}\left\{b_{i}\right\}$ and thus $\lim \left\langle f_{j}, b\right\rangle=0$. On the other hand $\left\langle b_{i}, f_{j}\right\rangle=\beta_{i}+\sigma_{i j}$ for $i \geqslant j$. Having in mind that we suppose that $\left|\sigma_{i j}\right| \leqslant \sigma_{i} \longrightarrow 0$ we get $\left\langle b, f_{j}\right\rangle \geqslant \inf \beta_{i}>0$ for all $j$-a contradiction.

Proposition 1 will be applied to the nonreflexive $\pi$-tensor product $E=X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$. We take benefit of the following observation namely that the elements $b_{i}$ may be chosen of the form $b_{i}=x_{i} \otimes y_{i}$ which means that we may choose $b_{i}$ in the $\otimes$ image of the Cartesian product $B_{X} \times B_{Y}$ :

Proposition 3. Let $X$ and $Y$ be reflexive Banach spaces. Suppose that $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ is not reflexive. Then there are weakly null basic sequences $\left\{x_{n}\right\} \subset B_{X},\left\{y_{n}\right\} \subset B_{Y}$, $\left\{x_{n}^{*}\right\} \subset X^{*},\left\{y_{n}^{*}\right\} \subset Y^{*}$ such that
(a) $\left\{x_{n} \otimes y_{n}\right\}$ has no weak accumulation point in $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$
(b) $\left\{\left(x_{n}, x_{n}^{*}\right)\right\}$ is a bounded biorthogonal system
(c) $\left\{\left(y_{n}, y_{n}^{*}\right)\right\}$ is a bounded biorthogonal system
(d) there is $f \in L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)=\left(X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y\right)^{*}$ such that $\left\langle f, x_{n} \otimes y_{n}\right\rangle \geqslant 1$.

Proof. Suppose that any sequence $\left\{a_{i} \otimes b_{i}\right\}$ in $B=\left\{x \otimes y ; x \in B_{X}, y \in B_{Y}\right\}$ has a subnet weakly convergent in $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$. Then the weak convex closure $\overline{\operatorname{conv}} B$ of $B$ in $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ is weakly compact in $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$. By the definition of the $\pi$-tensor product we know [2], [5], [8] that $\overline{\operatorname{conv}} B$ equals the closed unit ball of $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$. We conclude that $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ is reflexive which contradicts our assumption. We have thus shown that there is a sequence $\left\{a_{i} \otimes b_{i}\right\} \subset B$ with no weak accumulation points in $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$.

Passing to a subsequence if necessary we may suppose that $a_{i} \longrightarrow a \in X$ weakly and $b_{i} \longrightarrow a \in Y$ weakly. This follows by the weak sequential compactness of the closed unit balls of $X$ and $Y$. It is now a routine to check that neither $\left\{a_{i}-a\right\}$ nor $\left\{b_{i}-b\right\}$ are norm null sequences. Indeed, suppose for example that $\left\|a_{i}-a\right\| \rightarrow 0$. Then for any $f \in\left(X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y\right)^{*}$ we have

$$
\left|f\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right)-f(a, b)\right| \leqslant\left|f\left(a_{i}-a, b_{i}\right)\right|+\left|f\left(a, b_{i}-b\right)\right| \xrightarrow{i} 0 .
$$

This would mean that $a \otimes b$ is a weak accumulation point of $\left\{a_{i} \otimes b_{i}\right\} \subset B$ which is a contradiction.

The Bessaga-Pełczyński selection theorem yields a basic subsequence $\left\{2^{-1}\left(a_{i_{l}}-\right.\right.$ $a)\}=\left\{a_{l}^{\prime}\right\} \subset X$ which we call $\left\{a_{l}^{\prime}\right\}$. Evidently the sequence $\left\{a_{l}^{\prime} \otimes b_{i_{l}}\right\}_{l}=\left\{a_{l}^{\prime} \otimes b_{l}^{\prime}\right\}_{l}=$ $\left\{2^{-1} a_{i_{l}} \otimes b_{i_{l}}-2^{-1} a \otimes b_{i_{l}}\right\}_{l}$ still has no weak accumulation point in $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ and $\left\{a_{l}^{\prime} \otimes b_{l}^{\prime}\right\} \subset B=B_{X} \times B_{Y} \subset X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$.

Let $\left\{a_{l}^{*}\right\}$ be the Hahn-Banach extensions to $X$ of the biorthogonal functionals to the basis $\left\{a_{l}^{\prime}\right\}$ of $L=\overline{\operatorname{span}}\left\{a_{l}^{\prime}\right\}$. Passing to a subsequence if necessary we may suppose that $a_{l}^{*} \longrightarrow a^{*} \in X^{*}$ weakly. Again $\left\{a_{l}^{* *}-a^{*}\right\}$ is not a norm null sequence. Indeed, otherwise the restrictions to $L$ would satisfy $\left.\lim _{l} a_{l}^{* *}\right|_{L}=\left.a^{*}\right|_{L}$ in norm. But this is not possible because $\left.a_{l}^{\prime *}\right|_{L} \longrightarrow 0=\left.a^{*}\right|_{L}$ weakly in $L^{*}$ and the $\left.a_{l}^{\prime *}\right|_{L}$ 's are norm bounded from below because $a_{l}^{\prime *}\left(a_{l}^{\prime}\right)=1$.

Again the Bessaga-Pełczyński selection theorem yields a subsequence $\left\{a_{l_{j}}^{*}\right\}$ such that $\left\{a_{l_{j}}^{\prime *}-a^{*}\right\}=\left\{x_{j}^{\prime *}\right\} \subset X^{*}$ is a weakly null basic sequence. Let us put $x_{j}^{\prime}=a_{l_{j}}^{\prime}$ and $y_{j}^{\prime}=b_{l_{j}}^{\prime}$. Then $\left\{x_{j}^{\prime} \otimes y_{j}^{\prime}\right\} \subset\left\{a_{l}^{\prime} \otimes b_{l}^{\prime}\right\}$ has no weak accumulation point in $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$.

Since $a^{*}\left(a_{l_{j}}^{\prime}\right)=0$ we conclude that $\left\{x_{j}^{\prime}\right\}$ and $\left\{x_{j}^{\prime *}\right\}$ are bounded biorthogonal basic sequences.

Proceeding now in a similar way with the $b_{j}^{\prime}$ 's we arrive at a subsequence $\left\{x_{n} \otimes y_{n}\right\}$ of $\left\{a_{i}^{\prime} \otimes b_{i}^{\prime}\right\}$ such that the sequences $\left\{x_{n}\right\} \subset B_{X},\left\{y_{n}\right\} \subset B_{Y},\left\{x_{n}^{*}\right\} \subset X^{*},\left\{y_{n}^{*}\right\} \subset Y^{*}$ satisfy (a), (b) and (c).

Because $\left\{x_{n} \otimes y_{n}\right\}$ is not weakly convergent to 0 there is an $f \in L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)$ such that $\left\langle f, x_{n} \otimes y_{n}\right\rangle$ does not converge to 0 . We complete the proof of the proposition by passing again to suitable subsequences and a suitable multiple of $f$.

Proposition 4. Let $X$ and $Y$ be reflexive Banach spaces. Suppose that $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ is not reflexive and let $\sigma=\left\{\sigma_{i}\right\}$ be a sequence of arbitrary positive numbers. Then there are weakly null basic sequences $\left\{x_{i}\right\} \subset B_{X},\left\{y_{i}\right\} \subset B_{Y}$, an element $r \in$ $\left(X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y\right)^{* *} \backslash X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ and a sequence of functionals $\left\{f_{j}\right\} \subset\left(X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y\right)^{*}=L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)$ such that $\left\{b_{i}\right\}=\left\{x_{i} \otimes y_{i}\right\}$ and $\left\{f_{j}\right\}$ form the generalized Pták system relative to ( $\sigma, r$ ).

Proof. Let $\left\{x_{n}\right\} \subset X$ and $\left\{y_{n}\right\} \subset Y$ be sequences satisfying (a), (b), (c) of Proposition 3. Proposition 1 allows to extract from the sequence $\left\{x_{n} \otimes y_{n}\right\}$ a subsequence $\left\{b_{i}\right\}=\left\{x_{n_{i}} \otimes y_{n_{i}}\right\}$ and a sequence of elements of $\left\{f_{j}\right\} \subset\left(X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y\right)^{*}=$ $L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)$ which form a generalized Pták system relative to $(\sigma, r)$. The extracted subsequences $\left\{x_{n_{i}}\right\},\left\{y_{n_{i}}\right\}$ are again basic sequences.

Remark 1. Note that $\left\{b_{i}\right\} \subset X_{0} \otimes Y_{0} \subset X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ where the subspaces $X_{0} \subset X$ and $Y_{0} \subset Y$ have the approximation property.

Definition. Let $X_{0} \subset X$ and $Y_{0} \subset Y$ be subspaces. Let us denote by $X_{0} \bar{\otimes}_{\pi} Y_{0}$ the closure of $X_{0} \otimes Y_{0}$ which we consider as a normed subspace of $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$.

By $L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)_{X_{0}}$ we will denote the space of all restrictions $\left\{\left.f\right|_{X_{0}} ; f \in L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)\right\}$ equipped with the factor norm $\|\cdot\|_{X_{0}}$ of the space $L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)$ given by the quotient map Re: $L\left(X, Y^{*}\right) \longrightarrow L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)_{X_{0}}$. Here Re is the restriction map to the subspace $X_{0}$. Thus $L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)_{X_{0}}$ is the factor space $L\left(X, Y^{*}\right) / \operatorname{Re}^{-1}(0)$.

Lemma. a) Suppose that $g \in L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)_{X_{0}}$ and that $\operatorname{Re} f=g$, where $f \in$ $L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)$. Then

$$
\|g\|_{X_{0}}=\inf \left\{\|f+h\| ; \operatorname{Re} h=0, h \in L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)\right\}
$$

b) $\left(X_{0} \bar{\otimes}_{\pi} Y\right)^{*}=L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)_{X_{0}}$ with the equality of norms.

Proof. Indeed, for example the dual of $X_{0} \bar{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ is given by the restrictions to $X_{0} \otimes Y$ of all the elements of the dual of $X \bar{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$, that is, by the bilinear forms on $X_{0} \times Y$ which are the restrictions of the continuous bilinear forms on $X \times Y$. These are evidently exactly the linear operators $f: X_{0} \longrightarrow Y^{*}$ which are continuously extendable to all of $X$.

Proposition 5. Let $X, Y$ be Banach spaces. The following are equivalent:
(1) $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ is reflexive
(2) the subspace $X_{0} \bar{\otimes}_{\pi} Y \subset X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ is reflexive for every subspace $X_{0} \subset X$ such that $X_{0}$ has a Schauder basis
(3) the quotient space $L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)_{X_{0}}$ is reflexive for every subspace $X_{0} \subset X$ such that $X_{0}$ has a Schauder basis
(4) the subspace $X_{0} \bar{\otimes}_{\pi} Y_{0} \subset X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ is reflexive for every subspace $X_{0} \subset X$ such that $X_{0}$ has a Schauder basis and for every subspace $Y_{0} \subset Y$ such that $Y_{0}$ has a Schauder basis
(5) the Banach spaces $X$ and $Y$ are reflexive and the following holds: Let $\left\{x_{i}\right\} \subset$ $B_{X}$ and $\left\{y_{i}\right\} \subset B_{Y}$ be basic sequences, $r \in\left(X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y\right)^{* *},\left\{f_{j}\right\} \subset\left(X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y\right)^{*}=$ $L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)$ a sequence of functionals and let $\left\{\sigma_{i}\right\}$ be a null sequence of positive numbers. Then $\left\{b_{i}\right\}=\left\{x_{i} \otimes y_{i}\right\}$ and $\left\{f_{j}\right\}$ do not form a generalized Pták system relative to ( $\sigma, r$ )
(6) the Banach spaces $X$ and $Y$ are reflexive and the following holds: Let $\left\{x_{i}\right\} \subset$ $B_{X}$ and $\left\{y_{i}\right\} \subset B_{Y}$ be basic sequences, $r \in\left(X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y\right)^{* *},\left\{f_{j}\right\} \subset\left(X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y\right)^{*}=$ $L\left(X, Y^{*}\right)$ a sequence of functionals. Then $\left\{b_{i}\right\}=\left\{x_{i} \otimes y_{i}\right\}$ and $\left\{f_{j}\right\}$ do not form a generalized Pták system relative to $(\sigma, r)$ for some null sequence of positive numbers $\sigma=\left\{\sigma_{i}\right\}$.

Proof. (1) $\Rightarrow(2) \Rightarrow(4)$ because $X_{0} \bar{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ is a closed subspace of the reflexive space $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ and $X_{0} \bar{\otimes}_{\pi} Y_{0}$ is a closed subspace of $X_{0} \bar{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$.
$(2) \Leftrightarrow(3)$ because by the Lemma $\left(X_{0} \bar{\otimes}_{\pi} Y\right)^{*}=L_{X_{0}}\left(X, Y^{*}\right)$.
$(4) \Rightarrow(1)$ : First we note that (4) implies that $X$ and $Y$ are reflexive. Indeed, let us choose $Y_{0} \subset Y$ to be any subspace of the dimension one. Then we get that $X_{0} \subset X$ which is supposed to have a Schauder basis is isomorphic to $X_{0} \bar{\otimes}_{\pi} Y_{0} \subset X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ and thus reflexive. Now $X$ is reflexive by Pełczyński's characterization [9] of the reflexivity of $X$ by means of reflexivity of subspaces with a Schauder basis. Similarly we conclude that under the assumption (4) the Banach space $Y$ is reflexive.

Suppose now that (1) does not hold. Then the Proposition 3 yields basic sequences $\left\{x_{n}\right\} \subset X,\left\{y_{n}\right\} \subset Y$ such that $\left\{x_{n} \otimes y_{n}\right\}$ has no weak accumulation point in $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$. Then $\left\{x_{n} \otimes y_{n}\right\}$ has no weak accumulation point in the subspace $X_{0} \bar{\otimes}_{\pi} Y_{0}$ where $X_{0}=\overline{\operatorname{span}}\left\{x_{n}\right\} \subset X$ and $Y_{0}=\overline{\operatorname{span}}\left\{y_{n}\right\} \subset Y$. Thus $X_{0} \bar{\otimes}_{\pi} Y_{0} \subset X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$ is not reflexive.
$(1) \Rightarrow(5)$ : The Banach spaces $X$ and $Y$, being isomorphic to subspaces of $X \widetilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y$, are reflexive. The rest follows by Proposition 2.
$(5) \Rightarrow(6)$ is trivial and
$(6) \Rightarrow(1)$ is consequence of Proposition 4.
Remark 2. In [6] we observed that the equivalent conditions in the above Proposition hold if

$$
\begin{gather*}
X_{0} \tilde{\otimes}_{\pi} Y \text { is reflexive for every subspace } X_{0} \subset X \text { such that } \\
X_{0} \text { has a Schauder basis. }
\end{gather*}
$$

In a subsequent paper we show that the condition $\left(2^{\prime}\right)$ is in fact equivalent to the conditions expressed in Proposition 5.

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