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ASPLUND SPACES

by

I. NAMIOKA

I reported an instance of two separate lines of investigations that were eventually joined profitably. Much of the material was taken from the joint work with R.R. Phelps.

I. Def. A function  $f$  of a topological space  $X$  into  $Y$  is called barely continuous (by E. Michael) if for each closed subset  $A$  of  $X$ , the restriction  $f|_A$  is continuous at at least one point of  $A$ .

Theorem. Let  $(E, J)$  be a metrizable locally convex space, and let  $A$  be a weakly compact subset of  $E$ . Then the identity map of  $(A, \text{weak}) \rightarrow (A, J)$  is barely continuous.

The analogue of this theorem is false if "weak" is replaced by "weak\*" in a general dual Banach space. So we make the following definition:

Def. The dual  $E^*$  of a Banach space  $E$  is said to be (DA) if for each weak\*-compact subset  $A$  of  $E$  the identity map  $(A, \text{weak}^*) \rightarrow (A, \text{norm})$  is barely continuous.

Theorem 1. Suppose that  $E^*$  is (DA). Then:

- (1)  $E^*$  has the Radon-Nikodým Property (RNP).
- (2)  $E^*$  has the Krein-Milman Property (KMP).
- (3) Each weak\*-compact convex subset  $C$  of  $E^*$  is the weak\* convex closed hull of those points of  $C$  that are

strongly exposed by points of  $E$ . (An element  $f$  of  $C$  is said to be strongly exposed by  $x_0 \in E$  if  $f(x_0) = \sup \{g(x_0) : g \in C\}$  and if, for each net  $\{f_\alpha\}$  in  $C$ ,  $f_\alpha(x_0) \rightarrow f(x_0) \implies \|f_\alpha - f\| \rightarrow 0$ .)

(Remark. One now knows that for a dual Banach space RNP and KMP are equivalent.)

Examples of  $E^*$  that are (DA):

i) Separable  $E^*$

ii) More generally, weakly compactly generated (WCG)  $E^*$ .

Problem (Zizler) Is it enough to assume that  $E^*$  is contained in some WCG Banach space?

iii)  $E^*$  has property (\*\*): A net  $f_\alpha$  in  $E^*$  converges to  $f$  in the norm if  $f_\alpha \xrightarrow{w^*} f$  and  $\|f_\alpha\| \rightarrow \|f\|$  (e.g.  $\mathcal{L}^1(\Gamma) = c_0(\Gamma)^*$ ).

II. A convex function  $f$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  can be differentiated a.e. In 1968 Acta Math. paper, Asplund investigated the corresponding situation for convex functions on Banach spaces.

Def. A Banach space  $E$  is called an Asplund space (called a strongly differentiability space by Asplund) if each continuous convex function on a convex open subset of  $E$  is Fréchet differentiable at each point of a dense subset of the domain.

Asplund proved:

Theorem 2. If  $E$  admits an equivalent norm whose dual norm is locally uniformly convex, then  $E$  is an Asplund space.

(Note: Such a norm has the dual norm that satisfies (\*\*).)

Cor. If  $E^*$  is separable,  $E$  is Asplund. Also, if  $E$  is reflexive  $E$  is Asplund.

### III. (Synthesis)

Theorem 3. A Banach space  $E$  is an Asplund space iff  $E^*$  is (DA). (The following result was independently obtained by Collier, John-Zizler, and Namioka-Phelps.)

Cor. If  $E^*$  is WCG, then  $E$  is an Asplund space (see Example I(ii)).

This new characterization enables us to prove good permanence properties of Asplund space. Asplund proves that if  $E$  is Asplund then  $E/F$  is Asplund for an arbitrary closed subspace  $F \subset E$ .

Theorem ① If  $E$  is an Asplund space, then each closed subspace is an Asplund space.

② Let  $E$  be a Banach space and let  $F$  be a closed subspace such that  $F$  and  $E/F$  are Asplund spaces. Then  $E$  is an Asplund space.

③ Let  $\{E_\gamma; \gamma \in \Gamma\}$  be an arbitrary family of Asplund spaces. Then the  $c_0$  and  $\ell_p$  ( $1 < p < \infty$ ) products of  $\{E_\gamma\}$  is an Asplund space.

Additional Comments.

i) If  $E$  admits an equivalent norm that is Fréchet differentiable (everywhere!), then  $E$  is an Asplund space. (Proved by two French mathematicians.)

Problem: Is the converse true?

ii) For  $E^*$ , are (DA) and RNP equivalent? They are known to be equivalent in the following cases:  $E$  is a subspace of

a WCG Banach space;  $E = C(X)$  for compact Hausdorff  $X$ .