## On Unconditional Bases in Tensor Products of Köthe Echelon Spaces

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Let us denote by  $e_i$  the sequence taking the value 1 in the ith place and 0 elsewhere,  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . It is known that the tensor product basis  $(e_i \otimes e_i)_{i,j \in \mathbb{N}}$  of  $l_p \otimes_{\pi} l_q$ is not unconditional, for  $p, q \in (1, \infty) \cup \{0\}$  (see [12, 13]). In the case of Fréchet spaces, the tensor product basis is unconditional in the projective tensor product  $\lambda_p(A) \otimes_{\pi} \lambda_q(B)$  of Köthe sequence spaces if one of the spaces is nuclear. Indeed, if  $\lambda_p(A)$  is nuclear then the completion of  $\lambda_p(A) \otimes_{\pi} \lambda_q(B)$  coincides in a canonical way with the vector-valued sequence space  $\lambda_p(A, \lambda_q(B))$ . It follows from [5, 4.1(4)] that  $(e_i \otimes e_j)_{i,j \in \mathbb{N}}$  is unconditional in  $\lambda_0(A) \otimes_{\pi} \lambda_0(A)$  if and only if  $\lambda_0(A)$ is nuclear. In this note, given Köthe matrices  $A = (a^n)$  and  $B = (b^n)$ , we prove that the tensor product basis of  $\lambda_p(A) \otimes_{\pi} \lambda_q(B)$   $(p, q \in (1, \infty) \cup \{0\})$  is unconditional if and only if, for each n, there exists an m such that, for every bijection  $\sigma: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ , the sequence  $(a_i^n b_{\sigma(i)}^n / a_i^m b_{\sigma(i)}^m)$  belongs to  $l_1$ . This condition arose in a recent paper by Bonet et al. ([4], see also [9]) characterizing the coincidence of the  $\pi$  and  $\varepsilon$  topologies on  $\lambda_p(A) \otimes \lambda_q(B)$ . In fact, this article is strongly influenced by the results and techniques of [4]. We also prove that the condition just described is equivalent to the unconditionality of the tensor basis in the injective tensor product  $\lambda_p(A) \otimes_{\varepsilon} \lambda_q(B)$  with  $p, q \in [1, \infty)$ .

As a further consequence we derive applications in infinite holomorphy; namely, we prove that a Montel space  $\lambda_p(A)$ ,  $p \in (1, \infty) \cup \{0\}$ , is nuclear if the monomials form an unconditional basis of  $(\mathcal{H}(\lambda_p(A)), \tau_0)$ , the space of holomorphic functions endowed with the compact-open topology. Similar results were obtained in [6] and [5]: if E is a Montel locally convex space with basis such that the monomials form an absolute basis of  $(\mathcal{H}(E), \tau_0)$  then  $E'_{\beta}$  is nuclear [6], and if E is a Fréchet Montel or a (DF) Montel space such that  $E'_{\beta}$  has an absolute basis and the monomials are an unconditional basis of  $(\mathcal{H}(E), \tau_0)$  then E is nuclear [5].

We refer the reader to [1], [8], and [10] for notation and definitions not included here concerning Köthe sequence spaces and projective or injective tensor products. The space  $c_0$  will be also denoted by  $l_0$ , and the Fréchet spaces are defined over  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ . To obtain our main result we use Walsh matrices defined by

$$W_1 := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $W_{k+1} := \begin{pmatrix} W_k & W_k \\ W_k & -W_k \end{pmatrix}$ .

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An upper bound for the  $\varepsilon$ -norm of  $W_k$  as an element of  $l_{p,2^k} \otimes_{\varepsilon} l_{q,2^k}$  was obtained in [7]. From the bounds given there and the fact that

$$2^{2k} = \langle W_k, W_k \rangle \le ||W_k||_{\varepsilon} ||W_k||_{\pi}$$

we have the following estimates, where 0 stands for  $1/\infty$ .

- Consider  $W_k$  as an element of  $l_{p,2^k} \otimes_{\pi} l_{q,2^k}$ . Then 1. Lemma.
- (i)  $||W_k|| \ge 2^{k(1+1/q)}$  if  $1 \le p \le 2 \le q \le \infty$ , (ii)  $||W_k|| \ge \min\{2^{k(1+1/p)}, 2^{k(1+1/q)}\}$  if  $1 \le p, q \le 2$ , and (iii)  $||W_k|| \ge 2^{k(1/2+1/p+1/q)}$  if  $2 \le p, q \le \infty$ .

In Lemma 2 we shall consider  $W_k$  as an element of

$$sp\{e_i; i = 1, ..., 2^k\} \otimes sp\{e_i; i = 1, ..., 2^k\} \subset l_p \otimes l_q$$

Thus, if  $W_k = (\gamma_{ij}^k)_{i,j=1,\dots,2^k}$ , we define the following element in  $l_p \otimes l_q$ :

$$w_k := \sum_{i,j=1}^{2^k} \gamma_{ij}^k e_i \otimes e_j.$$

Before stating our main result, we recall some basic facts about symmetric tensors. We say that  $z \in E \otimes E$  is symmetric if it has a representation

$$z = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \otimes b_i + b_i \otimes a_i, \quad a_i, b_i \in E, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Symmetric tensors form a vector subspace of  $E \otimes E$  denoted by  $E \otimes^s E$ . We denote by  $E \otimes_{\alpha}^{s} E$  the space of symmetric tensors endowed with the topology induced by  $E \otimes_{\alpha} E$ ,  $\alpha = \pi$  or  $\varepsilon$ . See [11] for more details. If E has a basis  $(e_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ then  $(e_i \otimes e_j + e_j \otimes e_i)_{i \leq j}$  with a suitable order is a Schauder basis of  $E \otimes_{\alpha}^s E$ .

We denote by  $\Delta$  the set of infinite matrices  $(\delta_{ij})_{i,j\in\mathbb{N}}$  with finitely many nonvanishing coordinates and such that  $|\delta_{ij}| \leq 1$ ,  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ ;  $\Delta_s$  denotes the subset of the symmetric elements of  $\Delta$ . Given any  $\delta \in \Delta$ , we define a linear operator  $T_{\delta}$  on the space of infinite matrices of scalars  $(x_{ij})$  as follows:  $T_{\delta}(x_{ij}) := (x_{ij}\delta_{ij})$ .

We now present our main technical result.

- 2. Lemma. Let  $A: l_p \rightarrow l_p$  and  $B: l_q \rightarrow l_q$  be continuous diagonal operators defined by  $A(x_i) := (x_i a_i)$  and  $B(y_i) := (y_i b_i)$ , where  $a = (a_i)$  and  $b = (b_i)$ are bounded and strictly positive sequences.
- (a) Assume that the family of operators  $\{T_{\delta} \circ (A \otimes B); \delta \in \Delta\}$  is uniformly bounded in  $L(l_p \otimes_{\alpha} l_q, l_p \otimes_{\alpha} l_q)$  for  $\alpha = \pi$  and  $p, q \in (1, \infty) \cup \{0\}$  or for  $\alpha = \varepsilon$ and  $p, q \in [1, \infty)$ . Then there exists  $r, 1 \le r < \infty$ , depending only on p and q, such that  $(a_i b_{\sigma(i)}) \in l_r$  for every permutation of the integers  $(\sigma(i))$ .
- (b) The same conclusion follows if p = q, a = b, and  $\{T_{\delta} \circ (A \otimes B); \delta \in \Delta_s\}$ is uniformly bounded in  $L(l_p \otimes_{\alpha}^s l_q, l_p \otimes_{\alpha}^s l_q)$ .
- *Proof.* (a) We treat the case  $\alpha = \pi$ . Let us assume that a and b are decreasing. This hypothesis will be dropped at the end of the proof. Since a and b are decreasing it is enough to prove that  $(a_ib_i) \in l_r$  for suitable r (see [4, Observation]).

Moreover in this case it suffices to show that the sequence  $(a_{2^i}b_{2^i}2^{is})$  is bounded for some s>0. In fact, this implies that  $((a_{2^i}b_{2^i})^{2/s}2^{2^i})$  is bounded, whence  $((a_{2^i}b_{2^i})^{2/s}2^i) \in l_1$  and thus  $(a_ib_i) \in l_{2/s}$ .

For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $c_n := \sum_{i=1}^{2^n} e_i$  and define

$$x_n := 2^{-n/p} c_n$$
,  $y_n := 2^{-n/q} c_n$ ,  $z_n := a_{2^n} b_{2^n} 2^{-n(1/p+1/q)} \omega_n$ ,

where 1/0 is taken as 0. For every pair (i, j) with  $1 \le i, j \le 2^n$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle z_n, e_i^* \otimes e_j^* \rangle| &= (a_{2^n} b_{2^n}) 2^{-n(1/p+1/q)} \le a_i b_j 2^{-n(1/p+1/q)} \\ &= \langle (A \otimes B)(x_n \otimes y_n), e_i^* \otimes e_j^* \rangle; \end{aligned}$$

for any other pair (i, j) we have  $\langle z_n, e_i^* \otimes e_j^* \rangle = 0$ . Thus

$$|\langle z_n, e_i^* \otimes e_j^* \rangle| \leq |\langle (A \otimes B)(x_n \otimes y_n), e_i^* \otimes e_j^* \rangle| \quad \forall i, j \in \mathbb{N}.$$

This means that  $z_n = T_{\delta_n} \circ (A \otimes B)(x_n \otimes y_n)$  for some  $\delta_n \in \Delta$ . By hypothesis there exists M > 0, not depending on n, with  $||z_n|| \le M ||x_n||_{l_p} ||y_n||_{l_q} = M$ . Let us now estimate  $||z_n||$  from Lemma 1; we consider three cases as follows.

(1) If 
$$1 \le p \le 2 \le q < \infty$$
 or  $q = 0$ , we have

$$||z_n|| \ge a_{2^n} b_{2^n} 2^{-n(1/p+1/q)} 2^{n(1+1/q)} = a_{2^n} b_{2^n} 2^{n(1/p')}.$$

(Mutatis mutandi, the case  $1 \le q \le 2 \le p < \infty$  or p = 0 is included here.)

(2) If 
$$1 \le p, q \le 2$$
 then

$$||z_n|| \ge a_{2^n} b_{2^n} 2^{n(1/q')} \ \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \ \text{or} \ ||z_n|| \ge a_{2^n} b_{2^n} 2^{n(1/p')} \ \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

(3) If 
$$2 \le p$$
,  $q < \infty$  or  $p = 0$  or  $q = 0$ , we obtain

$$||z_n|| \ge a_{2^n}b_{2^n}2^{-n(1/p+1/q)}2^{(1/2+1/p+1/q)} = a_{2^n}b_{2^n}2^{n/2}.$$

Thus, in any case the sequence  $(a_{2^n}b_{2^n}2^{ns})$  is bounded for some  $0 < s \le 1/2$ . Note that s depends only on the indices p and q. This completes the proof when a and b are decreasing.

Let us now drop the assumption that a and b are decreasing. If both a and b belong to  $c_0$  then we consider their decreasing rearrangements and proceed as before. If one of them, say a, belongs to  $c_0$  (thus we assume that it is decreasing) and b does not converge to zero, then there is an infinite subset  $J \subset \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\rho \leq b_i \leq K$  for some  $K, \rho > 0$  and every  $i \in J$ . We restrict our attention to the subspace  $\overline{\mathrm{sp}}\{e_i; i \in J\} \equiv l_q(J)$  in the right-hand side of the tensor product to conclude that

$$(\mathrm{id} \otimes (1/B)): l_p \otimes_{\pi} l_q(J) \to l_p \otimes_{\pi} l_q(J)$$

is an isomorphism, where 1/B is the diagonal operator associated to  $(b_i^{-1})_{i \in J}$ . Moreover  $A \otimes id$  can be written as  $(id \otimes (1/B)) \circ (A \otimes B)$ . Thus, the family of operators

$$\{T_\delta \circ (A \otimes \mathrm{id}); \ \delta \in \Delta\}$$

is uniformly bounded. We can apply the case already considered to conclude that a belongs to  $l_r$  for some  $1 < r < \infty$  and consequently ab belongs to  $l_r$ . To finish

the proof we show that  $a \notin c_0$  and  $b \notin c_0$  yields a contradiction. In fact, proceeding as before, there are infinite subsets  $I, J \subset \mathbb{N}$  such that a and b are bounded and bounded away from zero when restricted to I and J, respectively. Hence the mapping

$$((1/A) \otimes (1/B)): l_p(I) \otimes_{\pi} l_q(J) \rightarrow l_p(I) \otimes_{\pi} l_q(J)$$

is an isomorphism. Therefore  $\{T_{\delta}; \ \delta \in \Delta\}$  is uniformly bounded in

$$L(l_p(I) \otimes_{\pi} l_q(J), l_p(I) \otimes_{\pi} l_q(J))$$

and this implies that the basis  $(e_i \otimes e_j)_{i,j \in \mathbb{N}}$  is unconditional in  $l_p \otimes_{\pi} l_q$ , a contradiction.

The case  $\alpha = \varepsilon$  follows by duality. If the family of operators  $\{T_\delta \circ (A \otimes B); \delta \in \Delta\}$  is uniformly bounded for the  $\varepsilon$ -norm then we transpose and apply the preceding result. It is enough to observe that  $(T_\delta \circ (A \otimes B))^t = (A \otimes B) \circ T_\delta = T_\delta \circ (A \otimes B)$ . Moreover,  $(l_p \otimes_{\varepsilon} l_q)' = l_{p'} \otimes_{\pi} l_{q'}$  when  $p, q \in (1, \infty)$ ; if either p or q is unity then we use the duality  $(c_0 \otimes_{\pi} l_q)' = l_1 \otimes_{\varepsilon} l_{q'}, q' \in [1, \infty)$ . The proof can also be obtained directly, defining

$$z_n := a_{2^n} b_{2^n} c_n \otimes c_n, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

As in the previous case, there exists  $\delta_n \in \Delta$  such that  $z_n = T_{\delta_n} \circ (A \otimes B)(\omega_n)$  and, for some M not depending on n, we have

$$a_{2^n}b_{2^n}2^{n(1/p+1/q)} = ||z_n|| \le M||\omega_n||_{\varepsilon}.$$

The upper bounds of  $\|\omega_n\|_{\varepsilon}$  in [7] can be applied to conclude the proof.

The proof of part (b) follows as before if we observe that, if p = q and a = b, all the elements defined in part (a) are symmetric.

We can now state the announced characterization. The remarkable equivalence of (b) and (c) was obtained in [4], and condition (d) has been observed by Peris.

- 3. THEOREM. For  $\alpha = \pi$  and  $p, q \in (1, \infty) \cup \{0\}$  or for  $\alpha = \varepsilon$  and  $p, q \in [1, \infty)$ , the following conditions are equivalent:
- (a) the tensor product basis of  $\lambda_p(A) \otimes_{\alpha} \lambda_q(B)$  is unconditional;
- (b) for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists m > n such that  $(a_i^n b_{\sigma(i)}^n / a_i^m b_{\sigma(i)}^m) \in l_1$  for every bijection  $\sigma : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ ;
- (c)  $\lambda_p(A) \otimes_{\pi} \lambda_q(B) = \lambda_p(A) \otimes_{\varepsilon} \lambda_q(B)$  holds topologically;
- (d)  $\lambda_p(A) \otimes_{\varepsilon} \lambda_q(B)$  is barreled.

Moreover if p = q and A = B then (a)-(d) are equivalent to

(e) the basis  $(e_i \otimes e_j + e_j \otimes e_i)_{i \leq j}$  is unconditional in  $\lambda_p(A) \otimes_{\alpha}^s \lambda_p(A)$ .

*Proof.* (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) Let us denote  $z_{ij} = e_i \otimes e_j$  for all i and j. By hypothesis,  $(z_{ij})_{i,j}$  is an unconditional basis of  $\lambda_p(A) \otimes_\alpha \lambda_q(B)$  for  $\alpha = \pi$  or  $\varepsilon$ . Hence, for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there exist  $m \geq n$  and M > 0 such that

$$\left\| \sum_{i,j} \delta_{ij} a_{ij} z_{ij} \right\|_{n} \leq M \left\| \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} z_{ij} \right\|_{m}$$

for all  $\delta = (\delta_{ij}) \in \Delta$  and every  $a = \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} z_{ij} \in \lambda_p(A) \otimes_{\alpha} \lambda_q(B)$  [14, Thm. 1.19(2)]. Equivalently, the family  $\{T_\delta; \delta \in \Delta_s\}$  is uniformly bounded from  $l_p(a^m) \otimes_{\alpha} l_q(b^m)$  into  $l_p(a^n) \otimes_{\alpha} l_q(b^n)$ . We consider the following diagonal operators (if p = 0 or q = 0 then 1/p and respectively 1/q should be replaced by 1):

$$A_{1}: l_{p} \to l_{p}(a^{m}), (x_{i}) \to (x_{i}(a_{i}^{m})^{-1/p}), \quad B_{1}: l_{q} \to l_{q}(b^{m}), (x_{i}) \to (x_{i}(b_{i}^{m})^{-1/q}),$$

$$A_{2}: l_{p}(a^{n}) \to l_{p}, (x_{i}) \to (x_{i}(a_{i}^{n})^{1/p}), \quad B_{2}: l_{q}(b^{n}) \to l_{q}, (x_{i}) \to (x_{i}(b_{i}^{n})^{1/q}),$$

$$A_{0}: l_{p} \to l_{p}, (x_{i}) \to (x_{i}(a_{i}^{n}/a_{i}^{m})^{1/p}), \quad B_{0}: l_{q} \to l_{q}, (x_{i}) \to (x_{i}(b_{i}^{n}/b_{i}^{m})^{1/q}).$$

It is readily checked that  $T_{\delta} \circ (A_0 \otimes B_0) = (A_2 \otimes B_2) \circ T_{\delta} \circ (A_1 \otimes B_1), \ \delta \in \Delta;$  hence  $\{T_{\delta} \circ (A_0 \otimes B_0); \ \delta \in \Delta\}$  is uniformly bounded. From Lemma 2 we have  $1 \le r < \infty$  such that  $((a_i^n/a_i^m)^{1/p}(b_{\sigma(i)}^n/b_{\sigma(i)}^m)^{1/q})_i$  and therefore  $(a_i^n b_{\sigma(i)}^n/a_i^m b_{\sigma(i)}^m)_i$  belongs to  $l_r$  for every permutation of the integers  $(\sigma(i))$ . If we repeat the process several times we obtain  $(a_i^n b_{\sigma(i)}^n/a_i^m b_{\sigma(i)}^m) \in l_1$  for some  $m \ge n$  and all  $(\sigma(i))$ .

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) In the vector-valued space  $\lambda_p(A, \lambda_q(B))$ , denote by h(i, j) the element taking the value  $e_j$  in the *i*th place and 0 elsewhere. Then  $(h(i, j))_{i,j}$  is an unconditional basis. Our hypothesis implies that the completion of the space  $\lambda_p(A) \otimes_{\pi} \lambda_q(B)$  coincides with  $\lambda_p(A, \lambda_q(B))$  [4, Prop. 8]; moreover,  $e_i \otimes e_j$  can be identified with h(i, j) for  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ . The assertion is proved.

The equivalence of (c) and (d) follows from [8, 15.6.6] and [10, 11.5.8]; see also [3].

(a)  $\Rightarrow$  (e) The basis  $(e_i \otimes e_j + e_j \otimes e_i)_{i \leq j}$  is a block basic sequence of  $(e_i \otimes e_j)_{i,j \in \mathbb{N}}$ , and every block basic sequence of an unconditional basis is unconditional (see [14, 1.22]). Finally (e)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) is proved in the same way as (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b).

We complete this note with a consequence in infinite holomorphy. Let E be a complex Fréchet space with a basis  $(e_n)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$ , and let  $(e_n^*)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}\subset E'$  denote the associated sequence of biorthogonal functionals. For every finitely nonzero sequence  $m=(m_k)$  of nonnegative integers, the function

$$e^m: z \in E \to \prod_k (e_k^*(z))^{m_k} \in \mathbb{C}$$

is said to be a monomial on E with respect to  $(e_n^*)_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$ . From results in [2], if E is nuclear then the monomials form an absolute basis of  $(\mathcal{H}(E), \tau_0)$ . Certain converses of this theorem were obtained in [6] and [5]. Let us denote by  $\mathcal{P}(^2E)$  the space of 2-homogeneous continuous polynomials P on E. A 2-homogeneous polynomial P is the restriction of a symmetric 2-homogeneous linear form on  $E \times E$  to the diagonal. If  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$  then we define the element  $e_i^* \odot e_j^* \in \mathcal{P}(^2E)$  by  $e_i^* \odot e_j^*(z) := e_i^*(z)e_j^*(z), z \in E$ . If E is a Montel Köthe echelon space  $\lambda_p(A)$  then  $(e_i^* \odot e_j^*)_{i \leq j}$  is a Schauder basis of  $(\mathcal{P}(^2\lambda_p(A)), \tau_0)$ . In our next result we show that this basis is not unconditional unless  $\lambda_p(A)$  is nuclear.

- 4. THEOREM. Let  $\lambda_p(A)$  be Montel and let  $p \in (1, \infty) \cup \{0\}$ . Then the following are equivalent.
- (a) The monomials form an unconditional basis of  $(\mathcal{H}(\lambda_p), \tau_0)$ .
- (b) The family of 2-homogeneous polynomials  $(e_i^* \odot e_j^*)_{i \leq j}$  forms an unconditional basis of the space  $(\mathcal{P}(^2\lambda_p(A)), \tau_0)$ .
- (c)  $\lambda_p(A)$  is nuclear.

*Proof.* The proof of (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) can be found in [5]; (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) is a particular case of [2]. To show (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c), observe that  $(\mathcal{P}(^2\lambda_p(A)), \tau_0)$  is the strong dual of  $\lambda_p(A) \otimes_{\pi}^s \lambda_p(A)$ , with the duality given by

$$(e_n^* \odot e_m^*)(x \otimes y + y \otimes x) = e_n^*(x + y)e_m^*(x + y) - e_n^*(x)e_m^*(x) - e_n^*(y)e_m^*(y).$$

Moreover,  $(e_i^* \odot e_j^*)_{i \le j}$  is biorthogonal to  $(e_i \otimes e_j + e_j \otimes e_i)_{i \le j}$ . Thus the hypothesis (b) implies part (e) of Theorem 3 with  $\alpha = \pi$ . According to Theorem 3, for every n there exists m such that  $(a_i^n/a_i^m) \in l_2$ . This readily implies that  $\lambda_p(A)$  is nuclear.

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