

Order Properties of Free Banach Lattices

Asma Ben Rjeb

University of Tunis El Manar, Tunisia

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What is a Banach lattice?

Banach lattice

Banach lattice = Banach space + vector lattice + lattice norm

A norm $\|\cdot\|$ is a **lattice norm** if

$$|x| \leq |y| \implies \|x\| \leq \|y\|.$$

Classical examples

$C(K)$ with $\|\cdot\|_\infty$

$\ell^p(I)$, coordinatewise order

Lattice homomorphisms and Banach lattice homomorphisms

Definition: lattice homomorphism

Let L, M be lattices. A map $\phi : L \rightarrow M$ is a **lattice homomorphism** if it preserves both lattice operations:

$$\phi(x \vee y) = \phi(x) \vee \phi(y) \quad \text{and} \quad \phi(x \wedge y) = \phi(x) \wedge \phi(y), \quad x, y \in L.$$

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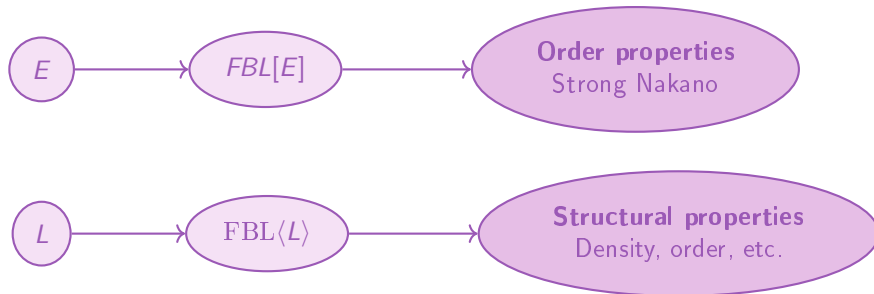
$$\phi(x \vee y) = \phi(x) \vee \phi(y) \quad \text{and} \quad \phi(x \wedge y) = \phi(x) \wedge \phi(y), \quad x, y \in L.$$

Definition: Banach lattice homomorphism

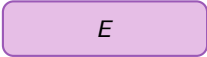
Let X, Y be Banach lattices. A linear map $T : X \rightarrow Y$ is a **(Banach) lattice homomorphism** if

$$T(x \vee y) = Tx \vee Ty \quad \text{and} \quad T(x \wedge y) = Tx \wedge Ty, \quad x, y \in X.$$

Plan of the talk

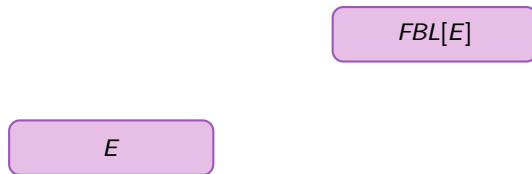


The free Banach lattice generated by a Banach space

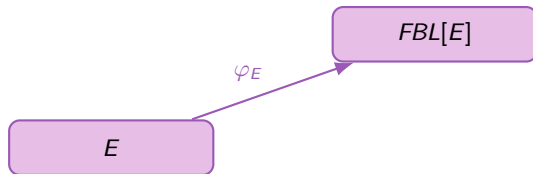


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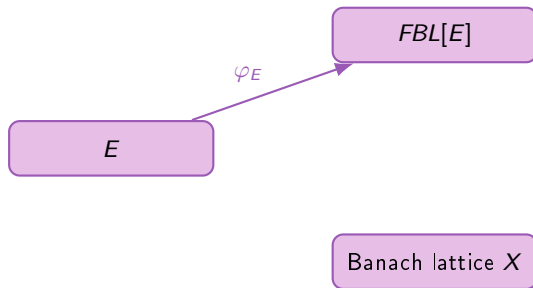
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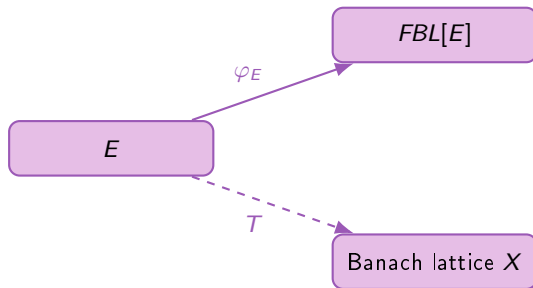
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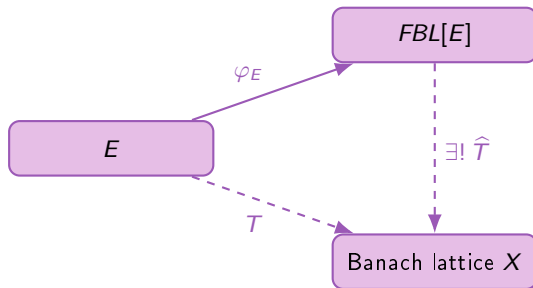
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The free Banach lattice generated by a Banach space



Definition (Avilés, Rodríguez, Tradacete, 2018)

Let E be a Banach space. The **free Banach lattice generated by E** is a Banach lattice $FBL[E]$ together with a linear isometric embedding $\varphi_E : E \rightarrow FBL[E]$ such that: for every Banach lattice X and every operator $T : E \rightarrow X$ there exists a unique Banach lattice homomorphism $\hat{T} : FBL[E] \rightarrow X$ satisfying

$$\hat{T} \circ \varphi_E = T \quad \text{and} \quad \|\hat{T}\| = \|T\|.$$

Existence of $FBL[E]$

Given a Banach space E ,
does the free Banach lattice generated by E exist?

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Yes.

Avilés, Rodríguez, Tradacete (2018)

The free Banach lattice generated by a Banach space,
J. Funct. Anal. 274 (2018), 2955–2977.

Construction of $FBL[E]$ (1/2)

Step 1 – the ambient space

$$H[E] = \{f : E^* \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : f(tx^*) = tf(x^*) \text{ for all } t \geq 0, x^* \in E^*\}$$

positively homogeneous functions on E^* .

Construction of $FBL[E]$ (1/2)

Step 1 – the ambient space

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positively homogeneous functions on E^* .

Step 2 – the free norm

For $f \in H[E]$,

$$\|f\|_{FBL[E]} = \sup \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^n |f(x_k^*)| : n \in \mathbb{N}, x_1^*, \dots, x_n^* \in E^*, \sup_{x \in B_E} \sum_{k=1}^n |x_k^*(x)| \leq 1 \right\}.$$

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Step 3 – keep what has finite norm

$H_1[E] = \{f \in H[E] : \|f\|_{FBL[E]} < \infty\}$ is a Banach lattice for the pointwise lattice operations.

Construction of $FBL[E]$ (2/2)

Step 4 – the canonical evaluations

For $x \in E$,

$$\delta_x : E^* \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad \delta_x(x^*) = x^*(x).$$

Each $\delta_x \in H_1[E]$ with $\|\delta_x\|_{FBL[E]} = \|x\|_E$: an isometric embedding.

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Definition: $FVL[E]$

$FVL[E] = \text{lat}\{\delta_x : x \in E\}$ – the vector lattice generated by the evaluations δ_x .

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Step 5 – close up

$$FBL[E] = \overline{FVL[E]}^{\|\cdot\|_{FBL[E]}} \subset H_1[E].$$

From Fatou to Nakano

Let $A \subset X_+$ be upward directed.

Fatou

If $\sup A$ exists,

$$\|\sup A\| = \sup_{a \in A} \|a\|.$$

Nakano

For order-bounded A ,

$$\inf_{b \geq A} \|b\| = \sup_{a \in A} \|a\|.$$

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- **Wickstead (2007):** X has Nakano $\iff$ its Dedekind completion X^δ has Fatou.

The strong Nakano property

A Banach lattice X has the **strong Nakano property** if for every upwards directed norm bounded set $A \subset X_+$ there exists an upper bound y_0 of A in X such that

$$\|y_0\| = \sup\{\|a\| : a \in A\}.$$

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Strong Nakano $\implies$ Nakano $\implies$ Fatou

The λ -strong Nakano property

Definition (Azouzi, Ben Rjeb, Tradacete, 2025)

- For $\lambda \geq 1$, we say that X has the **λ -strong Nakano property** when every norm-bounded upwards directed set $A \subset X_+$ has an upper bound $b \in X$ with

$$\|b\| \leq \lambda \sup\{\|a\| : a \in A\}.$$

- (λ_+) -strong Nakano:** for every $\lambda' > \lambda$, there is an upper bound $b \in X_+$ of A with $\|b\| \leq \lambda' \sup_{a \in A} \|a\|$.

The case $\lambda = 1$ is exactly the strong Nakano property.

Y. Azouzi, A. Ben Rjeb, P. Tradacete, *The strong Nakano property in Banach lattices*, RACSAM 119 (2025).

First examples

$C(K)$

For every compact Hausdorff space K , $C(K)$ has the strong Nakano property.

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For every compact Hausdorff space K , $C(K)$ has the strong Nakano property.

c_0 (Azouzi, Ben Rjeb, Tradacete, 2025)

c_0 has the Nakano property, but does not have the λ -strong Nakano property for any $\lambda \geq 1$.

Y. Azouzi, A. Ben Rjeb, P. Tradacete, *The strong Nakano property in Banach lattices*, RACSAM 119 (2025).

Strong Nakano for free Banach lattices

Avilés, Rodríguez, Tradacete (2018)

For every non-empty set A , the free Banach lattice generated by A , $FBL(A)$, has the strong Nakano property. Equivalently, since $FBL[\ell_1(A)]$,

$FBL[\ell_1(A)]$ has the strong Nakano property.

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$FBL[\ell_1(A)]$ has the strong Nakano property.

This is the starting point for our investigation of which Banach spaces E produce $FBL[E]$ with strong Nakano.

Reference: A. Avilés, J. Rodríguez, P. Tradacete, *The free Banach lattice generated by a Banach space*, J. Funct. Anal. 274 (2018), no. 10, 2955–2977.

Two structural shortcuts

AM-spaces (Azouzi, Ben Rjeb, Tradacete, 2025)

If X is an AM-space ($\|x \vee y\| = \max\{\|x\|, \|y\|\}$), then

X has strong Nakano $\iff X$ has a strong unit.

Two structural shortcuts

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If X is an AM-space ($\|x \vee y\| = \max\{\|x\|, \|y\|\}$), then

$$X \text{ has strong Nakano} \iff X \text{ has a strong unit.}$$

Monotone completeness (Azouzi, Ben Rjeb, Tradacete, 2025)

If every norm-bounded upward directed subset of X_+ has a supremum in X , then

$$\text{Fatou} \iff \text{Nakano} \iff \text{strong Nakano.}$$

Y. Azouzi, A. Ben Rjeb, P. Tradacete, *The strong Nakano property in Banach lattices*, RACSAM 119 (2025).

Directed sets versus sequences

The strong Nakano property concerns arbitrary upward directed sets – but for separable spaces, sequences suffice.

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Separable case (Azouzi, Ben Rjeb, Tradacete, 2025)

Let X be separable. Then

$$X \text{ has strong Nakano} \iff X \text{ has strong } \sigma\text{-Nakano,}$$

i.e. every norm-bounded *increasing sequence* $(x_n) \subset X_+$ has an upper bound b with $\|b\| = \sup_n \|x_n\|$.

Y. Azouzi, A. Ben Rjeb, P. Tradacete, *The strong Nakano property in Banach lattices*, RACSAM 119 (2025).

A positive result: finite dimensions

Theorem (Azouzi, Ben Rjeb, Tradacete, 2025)

There is a **universal constant** λ_{fin} , independent of the dimension, such that for every finite-dimensional Banach space E ,

$FBL[E]$ has the $(\lambda_{\text{fin}})_+$ -strong Nakano property.

Y. Azouzi, A. Ben Rjeb, P. Tradacete, *The strong Nakano property in Banach lattices*, RACSAM 119 (2025).

Two obstructions: c_0 and $L_1[0, 1]$

The positive result raises the converse question: what does strong Nakano force on E ?

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Obstruction I (c_0) — Azouzi, Ben Rjeb, Tradacete, 2025

Suppose E is a Banach space such that $FBL[E]$ has the λ -strong Nakano property for some λ . Then E cannot contain a subspace isomorphic to c_0 .

$$c_0 \not\hookrightarrow E.$$

Two obstructions: c_0 and $L_1[0, 1]$

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$$c_0 \not\hookrightarrow E.$$

Obstruction II ($L_1[0, 1]$) — Azouzi, Ben Rjeb, Tradacete, 2025

If $FBL[E]$ has the λ -Fatou property for some λ , then E does not contain a closed subspace isomorphic to $L_1[0, 1]$.

$$L_1[0, 1] \not\hookrightarrow E.$$

Y. Azouzi, A. Ben Rjeb, P. Tradacete, *The strong Nakano property in Banach lattices*, RACSAM 119 (2025).

From Banach spaces to lattices

We studied $E \longrightarrow FBL[E]$: the generator carried only **linear and norm** structure.

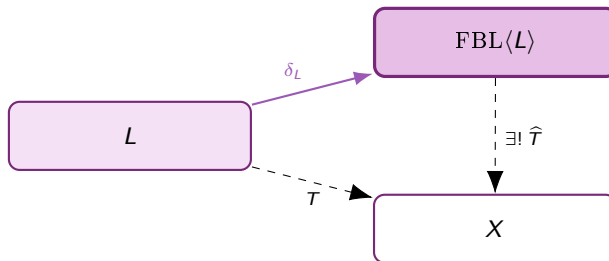


The free Banach lattice generated by a lattice

Definition

Let L be a distributive lattice. The **free Banach lattice generated by L** , denoted $\text{FBL}\langle L \rangle$, is a Banach lattice together with norm bounded lattice homomorphism $\delta_L : L \rightarrow \text{FBL}\langle L \rangle$ such that for every Banach lattice X and every norm bounded lattice homomorphism $T : L \rightarrow X$, there exists a unique Banach lattice homomorphism $\hat{T} : \text{FBL}\langle L \rangle \rightarrow X$ such that

$$\hat{T} \circ \delta_L = T \quad \text{with} \quad \|T\| = \sup_{x \in L} \|Tx\|.$$



Two constructions of $\text{FBL}\langle L \rangle$

1. Functional construction

Let

$$L^* = \{x^* : L \rightarrow [-1, 1] : x^* \text{ is a lattice homomorphism}\}.$$

For $x \in L$,

$$\delta_x(x^*) = x^*(x).$$

For positively homogeneous $f : L^* \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, define

$$\|f\| = \sup \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^m |f(x_i^*)| : \sup_{x \in L} \sum_{i=1}^m |x_i^*(x)| \leq 1 \right\}.$$

$$\text{FVL}\langle L \rangle = \text{lat}\{\delta_x : x \in L\}.$$

Then

$$\text{FBL}\langle L \rangle = \overline{\text{FVL}\langle L \rangle}^{\|\cdot\|} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{L^*}.$$

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2. Quotient construction

Forget the lattice structure of L and consider the free Banach lattice $\text{FBL}(L)$ generated by the underlying set, with canonical map

$$u : L \longrightarrow \text{FBL}(L).$$

(de Pagter–Wickstead, 2015)

Let I be the closed ideal generated by

$$u(x) \vee u(y) - u(x \vee y),$$

$$u(x) \wedge u(y) - u(x \wedge y), \quad x, y \in L.$$

Then

$$\text{FBL}\langle L \rangle \cong \text{FBL}(L)/I.$$

What was already known?

Theorem (Avilés–Martínez-Cervantes–Rodríguez Abellán–Rueda Zoca)

Every free Banach lattice generated by a lattice is isomorphic to an AM-space .

A. Avilés, G. Martínez-Cervantes, J.D. Rodríguez Abellán, A. Rueda Zoca, *Lattice embeddings in free Banach lattices over lattices*, Math. Inequal. Appl. 25 (2022), no. 2, 495–509 [Theorem 3.9].

Motivation: comparing the two constructions

	$FBL[E]$	$FBL\langle L \rangle$
Generator	Banach space E	distributive lattice L
Strong unit	finite-dim. criterion	?
Density	$\text{dens} = \text{dens}(E)$	?
Order density of FVL	iff E finite-dim.	?
Quasi-interior point	related to separability of E	?

This table is our motivation

Every question mark below is answered in what follows.

Strong units

Theorem (Ben Rjeb, Tradacete, 2026)

For a distributive lattice L ,

$\text{FBL}\langle L \rangle$ has a strong unit $\iff L$ has a minimum and a maximum.

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Corollary (strong Nakano reappears) — Ben Rjeb, Tradacete, 2026

Since $\text{FBL}\langle L \rangle$ is an AM-space,

$\text{FBL}\langle L \rangle$ has strong Nakano $\iff L$ has a minimum and a maximum.

A. Ben Rjeb, P. Tradacete, *On the free Banach lattice generated by a lattice*, Banach J. Math. Anal. (2026), article no. 48.

Density character

Definition: density character

$$\text{dens}(Y) = \min\{|D| : D \subseteq Y, \overline{D} = Y\}.$$

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Theorem (Ben Rjeb, Tradacete, 2026)

For every non-empty distributive lattice L ,

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$$\text{dens}(\text{FBL}\langle L \rangle) = \max\{\aleph_0, |L|\}.$$

Interpretation: in particular, $\text{FBL}\langle L \rangle$ is separable iff L is countable – a sharp contrast with $\text{FBL}[E]$, where $\text{dens}(\text{FBL}[E]) = \text{dens}(E)$.

A. Ben Rjeb, P. Tradacete, *On the free Banach lattice generated by a lattice*, Banach J. Math. Anal. (2026), article no. 48.

Densities of order intervals

For $a \leq b$ in L , write $[a, b]_L = \{x \in L : a \leq x \leq b\}$.

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Theorem (Ben Rjeb, Tradacete, 2026)

For $a < b$ in L ,

$$\max\{\aleph_0, |[a, b]_L|\} \leq \text{dens}([\delta(a), \delta(b)]_{\text{FBL}\langle L \rangle}) \leq \max\{\aleph_0, |L|\}.$$

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Order density of $\text{FVL}\langle L \rangle$

Definition: order dense

$Y \subset X$ is order dense if for every $0 < x \in X_+$ there is $0 < y \in Y$ with $y \leq x$.

Definition: countably order bounded

L is countably order bounded lattice if every countable $A \subseteq L$ has a lower and upper bound in L .

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L is countably order bounded lattice if every countable $A \subseteq L$ has a lower and upper bound in L .

Theorem (Ben Rjeb, Tradacete, 2026)

If L is distributive and countably order bounded, then $FVL\langle L \rangle$ is order dense in $FBL\langle L \rangle$. If L is totally ordered, the converse also holds.

A. Ben Rjeb, P. Tradacete, *On the free Banach lattice generated by a lattice*, Banach J. Math. Anal. (2026), article no. 48.

Projection bands

Theorem (Ben Rjeb, Tradacete, 2026)

If L is distributive and $|L| \geq 2$, the only projection bands of $\text{FBL}\langle L \rangle$ are

$$\{0\} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{FBL}\langle L \rangle.$$

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$$\{0\} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{FBL}\langle L \rangle.$$

As a consequence it is never Dedekind σ -complete, its norm is never order continuous, and it has no atoms.

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Quasi-interior points

Definition: quasi-interior point

$u \in X_+$ is quasi-interior if the principal ideal $X_u = \{x : |x| \leq cu \text{ some } c \geq 0\}$ is dense in X .

Definition: separating subset

$S \subseteq L$ is separating if for every non-zero $\phi \in L^*$ there is $s \in S$ with $\phi(s) \neq 0$.

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Theorem (Ben Rjeb, Tradacete, 2026)

$\text{FBL}\langle L \rangle$ has a quasi-interior point $\iff L$ has a countable separating subset.

A. Ben Rjeb, P. Tradacete, *On the free Banach lattice generated by a lattice*, Banach J. Math. Anal. (2026), article no. 48.

Publications

- ❶ Y. Azouzi, A. Ben Rjeb, P. Tradacete. *The strong Nakano property in Banach lattices*. Rev. Real Acad. Cienc. Exactas Fís. Nat. Ser. A-Mat. 119 (2025), article no. 99.
- ❷ A. Ben Rjeb, P. Tradacete. *On the free Banach lattice generated by a lattice*. Banach J. Math. Anal. (2026), article no. 48.

Selected references.

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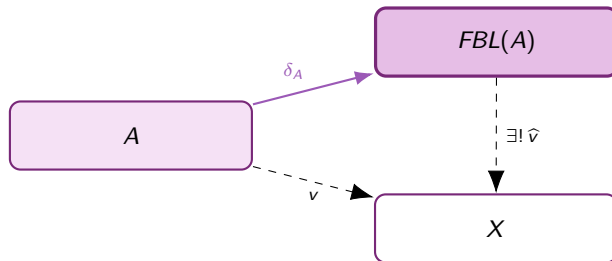
Thank you

Backup: the free Banach lattice generated by a set

Definition (de Pagter–Wickstead, 2015)

Let A be a set. The **free Banach lattice generated by A** , denoted $FBL(A)$, is a Banach lattice together with a map $\delta_A : A \rightarrow FBL(A)$ such that: for every Banach lattice X and every *bounded* map $v : A \rightarrow X$ (i.e. $\sup_{a \in A} \|v(a)\| < \infty$, no linearity assumed), there is a unique lattice homomorphism $\hat{v} : FBL(A) \rightarrow X$ satisfying

$$\hat{v} \circ \delta_A = v \quad \text{and} \quad \|\hat{v}\| = \sup_{a \in A} \|v(a)\|.$$



Backup: where does λ_{fin} come from? (1/3)

Step 1 — truncated norms

For $f \in H_1[E]$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\|f\|_{FBL_k[E]} = \sup \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k |f(x_i^*)| : \sup_{x \in B_E} \sum_{i=1}^k |x_i^*(x)| \leq 1 \right\}, \quad \|f\|_{FBL[E]} = \sup_k \|f\|_{FBL_k[E]}.$$

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$$\|f\|_{FBL_k[E]} = \sup \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k |f(x_i^*)| : \sup_{x \in B_E} \sum_{i=1}^k |x_i^*(x)| \leq 1 \right\}, \quad \|f\|_{FBL[E]} = \sup_k \|f\|_{FBL_k[E]}.$$

Szarek's Lemma 6 (Studia Math. 98 (1991), 147–156)

Let $n, N \in \mathbb{N}$, E an n -dimensional Banach space, $A \in \mathcal{L}(\ell_\infty^N, E)$, $\|A\| \leq 1$, and weights $(w_i)_{i \leq N}$ with $\sum_i w_i = 1$. Then there exist $\sigma \subset \{1, \dots, N\}$ and scalars $(\mu_i)_{i \in \sigma}$ with:

- (i) $|\sigma| \leq \beta^2 n$;
- (ii) $\left\| \sum_{i \in \sigma} t_i \mu_i A e_i \right\| \leq c^{-1} \max_{i \in \sigma} |t_i|$ for all scalars $(t_i)_{i \in \sigma}$;
- (iii) $\sum_{i \in \sigma} w_i \mu_i \geq c$;

where $c > 0$ is a **universal numerical constant**, and $\beta = \sup\{K(v) : v \in \mathcal{L}(\ell_\infty^N, E), \|v\| \leq 1\}$ is a K -convexity-type quantity satisfying $\beta \leq c_1(1 + \log n)^{1/2}$.

Backup: where does λ_{fin} come from? (2/3)

Step 3 — consequence (Lemma 3.2)

Applying this with A built from $x_1^*, \dots, x_N^* \in E^*$ and weights $w_i \propto |f(x_i^*)|$, and combining with the norm formula, gives

$$\|f\|_{FBL[E]} \leq \lambda_{\text{fin}} \|f\|_{FBL_{k_n}[E]}, \quad f \in H_1[E],$$

where λ_{fin} is a fixed function of c alone (e.g. $\sim c^{-2}$) — **not** of $n = \dim E$, even though $k_n = \beta^2 n$ itself does grow with n .

Lemma

Let E be a Banach space of finite dimension. For every $k \in \mathbb{N}$, every $\varepsilon > 0$ and every $f \in H_1[E]_+$ there is $g \in FBL[E]$ such that

① $f \leq g,$

② $\|g\|_{FBL_k[E]} \leq (1 + \varepsilon)\|f\|_{FBL_k[E]}.$

Y. Azouzi, A. Ben Rjeb, P. Tradacete, *The strong Nakano property in Banach lattices*, RACSAM 119 (2025).

Backup: does λ_{fin} have a numerical value?

This is exactly the open question on the last slide of the main talk: *what is the best universal constant λ_{fin} ?*
Does the (1_+) -strong Nakano property always hold?