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# $p$ -ADIC ORTHOCOMPLEMENTED SUBSPACES IN $\ell^\infty$

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**Abstract.** For a closed subspace  $D$  of  $\ell^\infty$  over a non-archimedean valued base field we study in this paper the property

1. There exists a continuous linear projection  $P$  from  $\ell^\infty$  onto  $D$  with  $\|P\| \leq 1$  ( $D$  is *orthocomplemented* in  $\ell^\infty$ )

as related to the properties 2,3,4 below.

2. For every continuous linear functional  $f \in D'$  there exists a continuous linear extension  $\tilde{f} \in (\ell^\infty)'$  with  $\|\tilde{f}\| = \|f\|$  ( $D$  has the *Hahn-Banach property* in  $\ell^\infty$ ).
3. The canonical quotient map  $\pi_E : E \rightarrow E/D$  is strict, i.e. for each  $z \in E/D$  there exists  $x \in E$  with  $\pi_E(x) = z$  and  $\|x\| = \|z\|$  ( $D$  is *strict* in  $\ell^\infty$ ).
4.  $D$  is *weakly closed* in  $\ell^\infty$ .

Also, certain duality arguments allow us to obtain several descriptions of the orthocomplemented subspaces of  $c_0$ . In particular it is shown (Theorem 4.3) that, if  $K$  is not spherically complete, a closed hyperplane  $H$  in  $c_0$  having the Hahn-Banach property in  $c_0$  is orthocomplemented.

**1. PRELIMINARIES.** Throughout  $K$  is a non-archimedean valued field that is complete with respect to the metric induced by the non-trivial valuation  $|\cdot|$ . Also,  $(E, \|\cdot\|)$  will be a (non-archimedean) Banach space over  $K$ .

For a Banach space  $F$  over  $K$  and a continuous linear map  $T$  from  $E$  into  $F$ , the kernel of  $T$  is the set

$$\text{Ker } T = \{x \in E : Tx = 0\}.$$

Also, the norm of  $T$  is given by

$$\|T\| = \sup \left\{ \frac{\|Tx\|}{\|x\|} : x \in E \setminus \{0\} \right\}$$

When there exists a linear isometry from  $E$  onto  $F$  we say that  $E$  and  $F$  are isometrically isomorphic and we write  $E \simeq F$ .

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The dual space  $E'$  of  $E$  consisting of all the continuous linear maps from  $E$  to  $K$  is again a Banach space. We set

$$J_E(x)(x') = x'(x) \quad (x \in E, x' \in E').$$

$E$  is called *reflexive* if  $J_E$  is an isometry from  $E$  onto  $E''$ .

For a closed subspace  $D$  of  $E$  we say that

- a)  $D$  has the *HB-property* (resp.  $HB^+$ -property) in  $E$  if for every  $f \in D'$  (resp. for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  and for every  $f \in D'$ ) there exists a continuous linear map  $\tilde{f} \in E'$  extending  $f$  such that  $\|\tilde{f}\| = \|f\|$  (resp.  $\|\tilde{f}\| \leq (1 + \varepsilon)\|f\|$ ).
- b)  $D$  is *strict* in  $E$  if the quotient map  $\pi_E : E \rightarrow E/D$  is strict (i.e. for every  $z \in E/D$  there exists an  $x \in E$  for which  $\pi_E(x) = z$  and  $\|x\| = \|z\|$ ).
- c)  $D$  is *orthocomplemented* in  $E$  if there exists a closed subspace  $G$  of  $E$  such that  $D \cap G = \{0\}$ ,  $E = D + G$  and

$$\|x + y\| = \max(\|x\|, \|y\|) \quad (x \in D, y \in G)$$

(such a  $G$  is called an orthogonal complement of  $D$  in  $E$ ).

It is not difficult to prove the two following Propositions which include some elementary (but useful) descriptions for the orthocomplemented and the strict subspaces of an arbitrary Banach space.

**Proposition 1.1.** *For a closed subspace  $D$  of  $E$  the following are equivalent.*

- i)  $D$  is orthocomplemented in  $E$ .
- ii) There exists a continuous linear isometry  $\varphi : E/D \rightarrow E$  such that  $\pi_E \circ \varphi$  is the identity on  $E/D$ .
- iii) There exists a continuous linear projection  $P$  from  $E$  onto  $D$  with  $\|P\| = 1$  (This  $P$  is called an orthoprojection from  $E$  onto  $D$ ).

**Proposition 1.2.** *For a closed subspace  $D$  of  $E$  the following properties are equivalent:*

- i)  $D$  is strict in  $E$ .
- ii) There exists a (non-necessarily linear) map  $\varphi : E/D \rightarrow E$  such that  $\|\varphi(x)\| = \|x\|$  for all  $x \in E/D$  and  $\pi_E \circ \varphi$  is the identity on  $E/D$ .
- iii) For each  $x \in E$ ,  $D$  is orthocomplemented in  $D + Kx$ .

Clearly,  $D$  is orthocomplemented in  $E \Rightarrow D$  has the HB-property and  $D$  is strict in  $E$ .

If  $E'$  separates the points of  $E$  then  $D$  is orthocomplemented in  $E \Rightarrow D$  is weakly closed in  $E$ .

Most of what we are about to do concerns converses of the above implications when  $E = \ell^\infty$  or  $c_0$ . Firstly we consider (co)finite-dimensional subspaces (sections 3,4) and

later on arbitrary closed subspaces of  $\ell^\infty$  and  $c_0$  (section 5). We assume that  $K$  is not spherically complete, since if  $K$  is spherically complete every closed subspace of  $E$  is weakly closed and has the HB-property in  $E$  ([3], Theorems 4.2, 4.7) and also every finite-dimensional subspace of  $E$  is orthocomplemented ([7], Lemma 4.35). The basic machinery to our purpose is included in section 2.

The following problem arises in a natural way in this paper (see Problem 4 in section 5):

**Problem.** Suppose  $K$  is not spherically complete. Let  $D$  be a weakly closed subspace of  $\ell^\infty$  such that  $D$  is strict and has the HB-property in  $\ell^\infty$ . Does it follow that  $D$  is orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$ ?

In fact we do not know the answer of this problem for any infinite-dimensional Banach space  $E$  (instead of  $\ell^\infty$ ) over a non-spherically complete field  $K$ .

However, if  $K$  is spherically complete, the situation is completely different. Indeed, suppose that  $|K| = [0, \infty)$ . By a standard construction we can make a strict quotient map  $\pi : c_0(I) \rightarrow \ell^\infty$  if  $I$  has adequate cardinal. Now,  $D = \text{Ker } \pi$  is a weakly closed subspace which is strict and has the HB-property in  $c_0(I)$ . If  $D$  were orthocomplemented then  $\ell^\infty$  would be isometrically isomorphic to a closed subspace of  $c_0(I)$  and so  $\ell^\infty$  has an orthogonal base: a contradiction ([7], Corollary 5.18).

For some other unexplained concepts and notations that we will use in the sequel, we refer to [3] and [7].

## 2. GENERAL FACTS

In this section we include some general results which will be useful in the rest of the paper.

First, we are going to see (Propositions 2.1 - 2.7) that strictness and the HB-property behave sometimes as "opposites" of one another.

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $D$  be a closed subspace of  $E$ .*

- i) *If  $D$  is strict in  $E$  and  $E/D \simeq c_0(I; s)$  for some set  $I$  and  $s : I \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ , then  $D$  is orthocomplemented in  $E$ .*
- ii) *If  $D$  has the HB-property in  $E$  and  $D \simeq \ell^\infty(I; s)$  for some set  $I$  and some  $s : I \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ , then  $D$  is orthocomplemented in  $E$  (compare Theorem 1.2 of [5]).*

**Proof.**

- i) Let  $\{u_i : i \in I\}$  be an orthogonal base of  $E/D$ . By strictness, there exists  $\{z_i : i \in I\} \subset E$  such that  $\pi_E(z_i) = u_i$  and  $\|z_i\| = \|u_i\|$  for all  $i \in I$ . A standard argument shows that  $\varphi : E/D \rightarrow E$  given by the formula  $\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i u_i \rightarrow$

$\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i z_i$  is a linear isometry for which  $\pi_E \circ \varphi$  is the identity on  $E/D$ . Hence,  $D$  is orthocomplemented.

ii) For each  $i \in I$  the coordinate function  $f_i \in D'$  given by  $f_i(x) = x_i$  ( $x = (x_i)_{i \in I} \in \ell^\infty(I; s)$ ) has norm  $s(i)^{-1}$ . By the HB-property,  $f_i$  extends to an  $\tilde{f}_i \in E'$  with  $\|\tilde{f}_i\| = s(i)^{-1}$ . Then,  $P : E \rightarrow D; x \rightarrow (\tilde{f}_i(x))_{i \in I}$  is an orthoprojection from  $E$  onto  $D$ .

As a special case we obtain

**Corollary 2.2.** *If  $D$  is a closed hyperplane (resp. a one-dimensional subspace) in  $E$ , then  $D$  is strict (resp.  $D$  has the HB-property) in  $E$  iff  $D$  is orthocomplemented in  $E$ .*

**Remarks 2.3.**

1.- Observe that if  $D$  is a closed hyperplane of  $E$ , there is an  $f \in E' - \{0\}$  such that  $D = \text{Ker } f$ . Then,  $D$  is orthocomplemented iff  $\|f\| = \max \left\{ \frac{|f(x)|}{\|x\|} : x \in E \setminus \{0\} \right\}$ . In fact, if  $a \in E$  one can easily see that  $Ka$  is an orthogonal complement of  $D$  iff  $\|f\| = \frac{|f(a)|}{\|a\|}$ .

2.- If  $K$  is spherically complete the finite (co)dimensional version of the above Corollary 2.2 holds.

Indeed, observe that if  $\dim E/D < \infty$ , then  $E/D$  has an orthogonal base ([7], Lemma 5.5). Also, every finite-dimensional subspace of  $E$  is orthocomplemented ([7], Lemma 4.35).

3.- But, for non-spherically complete fields  $K$  the generalization in Remark 2 does not hold. In fact, let  $\pi : c_0 \rightarrow K_\nu^2$  be a strict surjection ([6], 2.3, Remark 1). Then,  $\text{Ker } \pi$  is a strict two-codimensional subspace of  $c_0$  that cannot be orthocomplemented since  $K_\nu^2$  has no orthogonal base ([7], p.68).

On the other hand, the adjoint of  $\pi$  is an isometry  $\pi' : (K_\nu^2)' \rightarrow \ell^\infty$  and by construction  $\text{Im } \pi'$  has the HB-property in  $\ell^\infty$ . But it will follow from Theorem 3.3 that it is not orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$ .

However we do have the following related statement.

**Proposition 2.4.**

i) *If  $D$  is a closed subspace of  $E$  of finite codimension and if all hyperplanes  $H$  containing  $D$  are strict (orthocomplemented) in  $E$ , then  $D$  is orthocomplemented in  $E$ .*

ii) *If  $D$  is a finite-dimensional subspace of  $E$  and if every one-dimensional subspace of  $D$  has the HB-property (is orthocomplemented) in  $E$ , then  $D$  is orthocomplemented in  $E$ .*



**Proof.**

- i) For a proof by induction with respect to the codimension of  $D$  it suffices to show that, for closed subspaces  $D_1, D_2$  of finite codimension, containing  $D$  from

$$D_1 \subset D_2, \dim D_2/D_1 = 1 \text{ and} \\ D_2 \text{ is orthocomplemented in } E,$$

it follows that  $D_1$  is orthocomplemented in  $E$ .

To see that, let  $P$  be an orthoprojection from  $E$  onto  $D_2$ . Then,  $\dim \text{Ker } P = \text{codim } D_2 - 1$  and so  $D_1 + \text{Ker } P$  is a closed hyperplane of  $E$ . There is an orthoprojection  $Q$  from  $E$  onto  $D_1 + \text{Ker } P$ . Hence,  $PQ$  is an orthoprojection from  $E$  onto  $D_1$ .

- ii) Almost identical to the proof of Lemma 4.35,iii) of [7].

The next two Propositions stress the duality between strictness and the HB-property.

**Proposition 2.5.** *For a closed subspace  $D$  of  $E$  and its polar  $D^0$  we have*

- i) *If  $D$  is orthocomplemented in  $E$ , then  $D^0$  is orthocomplemented in  $E'$ .*  
ii) *If  $D$  has the HB-property in  $E$ , then  $D^0$  is strict in  $E'$ .*  
iii) *If  $D$  is strict in  $E$  and  $E/D$  is reflexive, then  $D^0$  has the HB-property in  $E'$ .*

**Proof.**

- i) If  $S$  is an orthogonal complement of  $D$  in  $E$ , then  $S^0$  is an orthogonal complement of  $D^0$  in  $E'$ .
- ii) If  $i : D \hookrightarrow E$  is the canonical inclusion then its adjoint  $i' : E' \rightarrow D'$  is a strict map. Hence, its kernel,  $D^0$ , is strict in  $E'$ .
- iii) The quotient map  $\pi_E : E \rightarrow E/D$  has an isometrical adjoint  $\pi'_E : (E/D)' \rightarrow E'$  for which  $\pi'_E((E/D)') = D^0$ . Hence, to show that  $D^0$  has the HB-property in  $E'$  it suffices to prove that for any  $\varphi \in (E/D)''$  there exists a  $\tilde{\varphi} \in E''$  such  $\|\tilde{\varphi}\| = \|\varphi\|$  and  $\tilde{\varphi} \circ \pi'_E = \varphi$ . By the reflexivity of  $E/D$ , there is a  $z \in E/D$  such that  $\varphi = J_{E/D}(z)$  and  $\|z\| = \|\varphi\|$ . Also, by strictness there is an  $x \in E$  with  $\pi_E(x) = z$  and  $\|x\| = \|z\|$ . Then,  $\tilde{\varphi} = J_E(x)$  satisfies the required conditions.

Now, we consider the converse of Proposition 2.5.

**Proposition 2.6.** *Let  $D$  be a closed subspace of  $E$ .*

- i) *Let  $D^0$  be orthocomplemented (resp.  $D^0$  have the HB-property in  $E$ ). If in addition  $E$  is reflexive and  $D$  is weakly closed then  $D$  is orthocomplemented (resp.  $D$  is strict) in  $E$ .*  
ii) *If  $D^0$  is strict in  $E'$  and  $D$  has the  $\text{HB}^+$ -property in  $E$ , then  $D$  has the HB-property in  $E$ .*

**Proof.**

- i) By the previous Proposition the bipolar of  $D$ ,  $D^{00}$ , is orthocomplemented (strict) in  $E''$ . By reflexivity and weak closedness  $D$  is orthocomplemented (strict) in  $E$ .
- ii) Let  $i' : E' \rightarrow D'$  be the adjoint map of the canonical inclusion  $i : D \rightarrow E$  and let  $\rho : D' \rightarrow E'/D^0$  the natural map making the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E' & \xrightarrow{i'} & D' \\ \pi_{E'} \searrow & & \swarrow \rho \\ & & E'/D^0 \end{array}$$

commute. It follows easily from the HB<sup>+</sup>-property of  $D$  that  $\rho$  is an isometrical isomorphism. Now,  $\pi_{E'}$  is strict. Hence, so is  $i'$ , i.e.  $D$  has the HB-property.

Although in the above results the HB-property and strictness seem dual properties, sometimes they have similar behaviour. This is the case in the next few propositions.

Observe that if  $D$  is a closed subspace of  $E$  and  $S$  is a closed subspace of  $D$ , then we have in a natural way the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} D & \xrightarrow{i_1} & E \\ \downarrow \pi_D & & \downarrow \pi_E \\ D/S & \xrightarrow{i_2} & E/S \end{array}$$

where  $i_1$ ,  $\pi_E$ ,  $\pi_D$  are the obvious maps and  $i_2$  makes the diagram commute.

**Proposition 2.7.** *Let  $D$  be a closed subspace of  $E$  and let  $S$  be a closed subspace of  $D$ . If  $D$  is strict (resp. has the HB-property, is orthocomplemented) in  $E$ , then  $i_2(D/S)$  is strict (resp. has the HB-property, is orthocomplemented) in  $E/S$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose that  $D$  is strict. Let  $x \in E$ . There is a  $d \in D$  such that

$$\|x - i_1(d)\| \leq \|x - i_1(d')\| \quad (d' \in D).$$

Now, for all  $s' \in S$ ,  $d' \in D$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\pi_E(x) - i_2\pi_D(d)\| &= \|\pi_E(x) - \pi_E(i_1(d))\| \\ &\leq \|x - i_1(d)\| \leq \|x - i_1(d') - s'\| \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\|\pi_E(x) - i_2\pi_D(d)\| \leq \|\pi_E(x) - i_2\pi_D(d')\|$  for all  $d' \in D$  and we see that the distance of  $\pi_E(x)$  to  $i_2(D/S)$  is attained, which means that  $i_2(D/S)$  is strict in  $E/S$ .

Now, assume that  $D$  has the HB-property and let  $f \in (D/S)'$ . Then  $f \circ \pi_D \in D'$  so by assumption there is a  $g \in E'$  such that  $\|g\| = \|f \circ \pi_D\| = \|f\|$  and  $g \circ i_1 = f \circ \pi_D$ . Since  $S \subset \text{Ker } g$  there is a unique  $\tilde{f} \in (E/S)'$  such that  $\tilde{f} \circ \pi_E = g$  (see the diagram).

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 D & \xrightarrow{i_1} & E \\
 \downarrow \pi_D & & \downarrow \pi_E \\
 & K & \\
 & \swarrow f & \nwarrow \tilde{f} \\
 D/S & \xrightarrow{i_2} & E/S
 \end{array}$$

One verifies without pain that then also  $\tilde{f} \circ i_2 = f$  and that  $\|\tilde{f}\| = \|f\|$ .

Finally, suppose that  $D$  is orthocomplemented and let  $P : E \rightarrow D$  be an orthoprojection from  $E$  onto  $D$ . Since  $S \subset \text{Ker}(\pi_D \circ P)$ , there is a unique continuous linear map  $Q : E/S \rightarrow D/S$  such that  $Q \circ \pi_E = \pi_D \circ P$  and  $\|Q\| \leq 1$ . Also,  $Q \circ i_2 \pi_D(x) = \pi_D(x)$  for all  $x \in D$ . So, since  $\pi_D$  is surjective, we conclude that  $Q \circ i_2$  is the identity on  $D/S$ , which implies that  $i_2(D/S)$  is orthocomplemented in  $E/S$ .

A partial converse of Proposition 2.7 is the following.

**Proposition 2.8.** *Let  $D$  be a closed subspace of  $E$ . If for each closed subspace  $S$  of  $D$  with  $\dim D/S = 1$  we have that  $i_2(D/S)$  has the HB-property in  $E/S$ , then  $D$  has the HB-property in  $E$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $f \in D' \setminus \{0\}$  and let  $S = \text{Ker } f$ . Then  $f = \rho_1 \circ \pi_D$  where  $\rho_1 : D/S \rightarrow K$  is a similarity (i.e. there exists a nonzero real number  $c$  such that  $|\rho_1(z)| = c\|z\|$  for all  $z \in D/S$ ). By assumption and Corollary 2.2, there is an orthoprojection  $\rho_2 : E/S \rightarrow D/S$  such that  $\rho_2 \circ i_2$  is the identity on  $D/S$ . Now set  $\tilde{f} = \rho_1 \circ \rho_2 \circ \pi_E$ . Then,  $\|\tilde{f}\| = \|f\|$  and  $\tilde{f} \circ i_1 = f$ , and we are done.

**Remark 2.9.** Putting together Propositions 2.7 and 2.8 we derive that a closed subspace  $D$  of  $E$  has the HB-property in  $E$  iff for every closed hyperplane  $S$  of  $D$ ,  $i_2(D/S)$  has the HB-property in  $E/S$ . (Compare with Theorem 2.3 of [1]).

Observe that if  $S, D$  are closed subspaces of  $E$  with  $S \subset D$ , then the formula

$$\pi_{E/D}(\pi_1(x)) = \pi_2 \circ \pi_E(x) \quad (x \in E)$$

defines an isometrical isomorphism  $\pi_{E/D} : E/D \rightarrow (E/S)/(D/S)$  making the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 D & \xrightarrow{i_1} & E & \xrightarrow{\pi_1} & E/D \\
 \downarrow \pi_D & & \downarrow \pi_E & & \downarrow \pi_{E/D} \\
 D/S & \xrightarrow{i_2} & E/S & \xrightarrow{\pi_2} & (E/S)/(D/S)
 \end{array} \quad (I)$$



commute, where all the maps appearing in the diagram are the natural ones.

Then, we have:

**Proposition 2.10** *Let  $S \subset D$  be closed subspaces of  $E$ . If  $S$  is strict (resp. has the HB-property, is orthocomplemented) in  $E$  and  $D/S$  is strict (resp. has the HB-property, is orthocomplemented) in  $E/S$ , then  $D$  is strict (resp. has the HB-property, is orthocomplemented) in  $E$ .*

**Proof.**

- a) *Strictness:* Let  $z \in E/D$ . Then, in the diagram (I),  $\pi_{E/D}(z)$  admits a  $y \in E/S$  such that  $\pi_2(y) = \pi_{E/D}(z)$  and  $\|y\| = \|\pi_{E/D}(z)\| = \|z\|$ . Also, there is an  $x \in E$  with  $\pi_E(x) = y$  and  $\|x\| = \|y\|$ . Then,  $\pi_1(x) = z$  and  $\|x\| = \|y\| = \|z\|$ . Hence,  $D$  is strict in  $E$ .
- b) *HB-property:* Let  $f \in D'$  and let  $g \in E'$  be such that the restrictions  $g|_S$  and  $f|_S$  coincide and  $\|g\| = \|f|_S\|$ . Now consider  $h = f - g|_D \in D'$ . Since  $h = 0$  on  $S$  there is a  $h_1 \in (D/S)'$  with  $h = h_1 \circ \pi_D$  and  $\|h_1\| = \|h\|$ . By assumption  $h_1$  extends to a  $h_2 \in (E/S)'$  (i.e.  $h_2 \circ i_2 = h_1$ ) with  $\|h_2\| = \|h_1\|$  (see the diagram).

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 D & & \xrightarrow{i_1} & & E \\
 & \searrow h & & \swarrow j & \\
 & & K & & \\
 \downarrow \pi_D & & & & \downarrow \pi_E \\
 D/S & \xrightarrow{i_1} & & \xrightarrow{i_2} & E/S
 \end{array}$$

Now set  $j = h_2 \circ \pi_E$ . We have that  $\|j\| \leq \|f\|$  and  $j \circ i_1 = h$ . Then,  $\tilde{f} = j + g$  is a continuous linear extension of  $f$  with  $\|\tilde{f}\| = \|f\|$  and we are done.

- c) *Orthocomplementation:* By using diagram (I), there is by assumption a  $\rho_2 : (E/S)/(D/S) \rightarrow E/S$  such that  $\pi_2 \circ \rho_2$  is the identity and also a  $\rho_1 : E/S \rightarrow E$  such that  $\pi_E \circ \rho_1$  is the identity,  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  being linear isometries. Now define  $\tau : E/D \rightarrow E$  by  $\tau = \rho_1 \circ \rho_2 \circ \pi_{E/D}$ . We have that  $\tau$  is a linear isometry for which  $\pi_{E/D} \circ (\pi_1 \circ \tau) = \pi_{E/D}$ , and so  $\pi_1 \circ \tau$  is the identity.

### 3. FINITE-(CO)DIMENSIONAL ORTHOCOMPLEMENTED SUBSPACES OF $\ell^\infty$

As we have already announced in the Preliminaries,

**FROM NOW ON IN THIS PAPER (EXCEPT IN 3.2) WE ASSUME THAT  $K$  IS NOT SPHERICALLY COMPLETE.**

The results given in §2 can be applied now to obtain several descriptions of the finite-(co)dimensional subspaces of  $\ell^\infty$  that have an orthogonal complement.

For subspaces of finite codimension the situation is satisfactory.

**Proposition 3.1.** *Every closed finite-codimensional subspace of  $\ell^\infty$  is orthocomplemented.*

**Proof.** By reflexivity the map  $D \rightarrow D^0$  is a bijection between the set of all finite-dimensional subspaces of  $c_0$  and the set of all finite-codimensional subspaces of  $\ell^\infty$ . Since every finite-dimensional subspace of  $c_0$  is orthocomplemented, we can apply Propositions 2.5 and 2.6 to derive our conclusion.

**Remark 3.2.** If  $K$  is spherically complete the conclusion above no longer holds.

Indeed, suppose that the valuation on  $K$  is dense. Let  $X$  be a maximal orthogonal subset of  $\ell^\infty$  and let  $H$  be a closed hyperplane of  $\ell^\infty$  containing  $X$ . Then  $H$  is not orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$ .

The picture changes when we consider finite-dimensional subspaces of  $\ell^\infty$ .

**Theorem 3.3.** *For a finite-dimensional subspace  $D$  of  $\ell^\infty$ , the following properties are equivalent.*

- i)  $D$  is orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$ .
- ii) Every one-dimensional subspace of  $D$  is orthocomplemented (has the H.B-property) in  $\ell^\infty$ .
- iii) For each  $x = (x_n) \in D$ ,  $\max_n |x_n|$  exists.

**Proof.** i)  $\Rightarrow$  ii): By Proposition 2.5, there exists an orthogonal complement  $S$  of  $D^0$  in  $c_0$ . Then,  $D \simeq S'$  in a natural way, and since  $S$  is finite-dimensional, there is an  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $D \simeq K^n$ . So, every one-dimensional subspace of  $D$  is orthocomplemented in  $D$  (and hence in  $\ell^\infty$ , by i)).

ii)  $\Rightarrow$  i): It follows from Proposition 2.4 ii).

ii)  $\iff$  iii): Let  $f \in c'_0$ . By Propositions 2.5 and 2.6 we have that  $Kf$  is orthocomplemented in  $c'_0$  iff  $\text{Ker } f$  is orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$ , and this happens iff  $\|f\| = \max\{|f(x)| : \|x\| \leq 1\}$  (Remark 2.4.1). So, we conclude that  $Kf$  is orthocomplemented in  $c'_0$  iff  $\|f\| = \max_n |f(e_n)|$  (where  $e_1, e_2, \dots$  is the canonical base of  $c_0$ ). This is precisely ii)  $\iff$  iii) (Recall that  $c'_0 \simeq \ell^\infty$ , [7]. Exercise 3.Q.i))

For one-dimensional subspaces we prove the following curious Theorem, which will be useful in the sequel.

**Theorem 3.4.** *A one-dimensional subspace of  $\ell^\infty$  is strict iff it is orthocomplemented.*

**Proof.** Clearly the orthocomplementation property implies strictness (see the Preliminaries).

Now suppose that  $D = Kx$  ( $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots) \in \ell^\infty, x \neq 0$ ). If  $D$  is not orthocomplemented then  $|x_n| < \|x\|$  for all  $n$  (Theorem 3.3). We are going to prove that there exists a  $y \in \ell^\infty$  such that the linear hull  $[x, y]$  of  $\{x, y\}$  has no orthogonal base and by Proposition 1.2 we are done.

Let  $K = B_0$  and let  $B_1 \supset B_2 \supset \dots$  be bounded discs in  $K$  whose intersection is empty. For each  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  let  $r_n = \text{diam } B_n$  (the diameter of  $B_n$ ). Define a function  $\varphi : K \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  by the formula

$$\varphi(\lambda) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{dist}(\lambda, B_n) \quad (\lambda \in K).$$

Then  $\inf\{\varphi(\lambda) : \lambda \in K\} = d$ , where  $d = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} r_n > 0$ , but  $d$  is not attained (observe that  $d \neq r_n$  for each  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ ). We shall construct  $c_1, c_2, \dots \in K$  such that

$$\|y - \lambda x\| = \varphi(\lambda)\|x\| \quad (\lambda \in K)$$

with  $y := (c_1 x_1, c_2 x_2, \dots)$  (Then,  $\text{dist}(y, Kx)$  is not attained and it follows easily that  $[x, y]$  has no orthogonal base).

Let  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ . If  $x_n = 0$  we set  $c_n = 0$ . Now let  $x_n \neq 0$ . Then, we may choose a  $k(n) \in \mathbf{N}$  for which

$$r_{k(n)} \leq \frac{\|x\|d}{|x_n|} \quad (II)$$

and take  $c_n \in B_{k(n)} \setminus B_{k(n)+1}$ .

Now let  $\lambda \in K$ . First we prove that  $\|y - \lambda x\| \leq \varphi(\lambda)\|x\|$ , i.e. that, for each  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ ,  $|c_n - \lambda| |x_n| \leq \varphi(\lambda)\|x\|$ . This is obvious when  $x_n = 0$ , so let  $x_n \neq 0$ . There is a unique  $m \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  such that  $\lambda \in B_m \setminus B_{m+1}$ . We distinguish two cases.

a)  $m \geq k(n)$ . Then  $c_n \in B_{k(n)}$  and  $\lambda \in B_m \subset B_{k(n)}$ . Hence, by (II) we obtain

$$|c_n - \lambda| |x_n| \leq r_{k(n)} |x_n| \leq \|x\| \varphi(\lambda).$$

b)  $m < k(n)$ . Then  $c_n \in B_{k(n)} \subset B_{m+1}$  while  $\lambda \notin B_{m+1}$  so that  $|c_n - \lambda| = \varphi(\lambda)$  and

$$|c_n - \lambda| |x_n| = \varphi(\lambda) |x_n| \leq \varphi(\lambda) \|x\|.$$

To finish, we prove that  $\|y - \lambda x\| \geq \varphi(\lambda)\|x\|$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Without loss we can assume  $\varepsilon < r_m - d$ . From our assumption on  $x$  it follows that  $J := \{n \in \mathbf{N} : \|x\|d < |x_n|(d + \varepsilon)\}$  is infinite. If  $n \in J$ , then by (II)

$$r_{k(n)} < d + \varepsilon < r_m$$

so that  $k(n) > n$ . Thus we are in case b) of above, so  $|c_n - \lambda| |x_n| > \frac{d}{d+\epsilon} \varphi(\lambda) \|x\|$  and we are done.

**Remark 3.5.** Taking into account Corollary 2.2 and Theorem 3.4, for a one-dimensional subspace  $D$  of  $\ell^\infty$  one verifies

$D$  is orthocomplemented  $\iff D$  is strict  $\iff D$  has the HB-property.

We know that the implication

$D$  has the HB-property  $\Rightarrow D$  is orthocomplemented

does not hold for every finite-dimensional subspace  $D$  of  $\ell^\infty$ . Next we will see (Corollary 3.7) that the implication

$D$  is strict  $\Rightarrow D$  has the HB-property

holds for every finite-dimensional (in fact for every weakly closed subspace)  $D$  of  $\ell^\infty$ .

This will be a consequence of the following result.

**Theorem 3.6.** (Compare Theorem 2.3 of [5]). Let  $M$  be a closed subspace of  $\ell^\infty$ . The following are equivalent.

- i)  $M$  is weakly closed in  $\ell^\infty$ .
- ii)  $\ell^\infty/M \simeq K^n$  for some  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  or  $\ell^\infty/M \simeq \ell^\infty$ .
- iii)  $\ell^\infty/M$  is reflexive.
- iv) For every (for some) closed subspace  $S$  of  $M$  with  $\dim M/S = 1$ ,  $S$  is weakly closed in  $\ell^\infty$ .

**Proof.** The implications ii)  $\Rightarrow$  iii) and iii)  $\Rightarrow$  i) are obvious.

i)  $\Rightarrow$  ii): For a closed subspace  $D$  of  $c_0$  the adjoint of the inclusion map  $D \rightarrow c_0$  is a quotient map, so  $D' \simeq c_0'/D^0$ . By applying this for  $D := M^0$  and by using  $M^{00} = M$  we obtain  $(M^0)' \simeq c_0'/M^{00} \simeq \ell^\infty/M$ . Since  $M^0$  is a closed subspace of  $c_0$ , we have that  $M^0 \simeq K^n$  for some  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  (and so  $\ell^\infty/M \simeq K^n$ ) or  $M^0 \simeq c_0$  (and so  $\ell^\infty/M \simeq \ell^\infty$ ).

i)  $\Rightarrow$  iv): If  $S$  is a closed subspace of  $M$  with  $\dim M/S = 1$ , then  $S$  is weakly closed in  $M$ . By (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (h) in Theorem 2.3 of [5], it follows that  $S$  is also weakly closed in  $\ell^\infty$ .

iv)  $\Rightarrow$  i): Let  $S$  be a closed subspace of  $M$  as in iv). Since  $(\ell^\infty/S)'$  separates the points of  $\ell^\infty/S$  and  $\dim M/S = 1$ , we have that  $((\ell^\infty/S)/(M/S))'$  separates also the points of  $(\ell^\infty/S)/(M/S)$  which is isometrically isomorphic to  $\ell^\infty/M$  (see diagram (I)). Hence,  $M$  is weakly closed in  $\ell^\infty$ .

**Corollary 3.7.** If  $D$  is a weakly closed subspace of  $\ell^\infty$  and  $D$  is strict in  $\ell^\infty$ , then  $D$  has the HB-property in  $\ell^\infty$ .

**Proof.** Let  $S$  be a closed subspace of  $D$  with  $\dim D/S = 1$ . It suffices to prove that  $i_2(D/S)$  has the HB-property in  $\ell^\infty/S$  (Proposition 2.8).

By strictness and Proposition 2.7,  $i_2(D/S)$  is a one-dimensional and strict subspace of  $\ell^\infty/S$ . But  $\ell^\infty/S \simeq K^n$  for some  $n$  or  $\ell^\infty/S \simeq \ell^\infty$  (Theorem 3.6). Now, the conclusion follows by Theorem 3.4.

**Remark 3.8.** Looking at Theorem 3.4 and Corollary 3.7 the following question arises in a natural way.

**Problem 1.** Is every finite-dimensional and strict subspace of  $\ell^\infty$  orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$ ?

Observe that this problem is equivalent to each one of the following questions.

**Problem 2.** Let  $D$  be a finite-dimensional strict subspace of  $\ell^\infty$ . Is there any one-dimensional subspace  $Kx$  ( $x \in D \setminus \{0\}$ ) of  $D$  that is strict (orthocomplemented) in  $\ell^\infty$ , i.e.  $\|x\| = \max_n |x_n|$ ?

**Problem 3.** Let  $D$  be a finite-dimensional strict subspace of  $\ell^\infty$ ,  $\dim D \geq 2$ . Is there any closed subspace  $G$  of  $D$  with  $0 \subsetneq G \subsetneq D$  such that  $G$  is strict (orthocomplemented) in  $\ell^\infty$ ?

Indeed, it follows by Theorems 3.3 and 3.4 that if Problem 1 has an affirmative answer then so has Problem 2. Also, it is obvious to pass from Problem 2 to Problem 3. Finally, suppose that Problem 3 has an affirmative answer. We prove by induction that Problem 1 has also an affirmative answer. Let  $D$  be a  $n$ -dimensional strict subspace of  $\ell^\infty$ . We may assume that  $n \geq 2$  (Theorem 3.4). Let  $0 \subsetneq G \subsetneq D$  be such that  $G$  is strict (and hence orthocomplemented, by the induction hypothesis) in  $\ell^\infty$ . Since  $D/G$  is strict in  $\ell^\infty/G$  (Proposition 2.7) and  $\ell^\infty/G \simeq \ell^\infty$  (Theorem 3.6) it follows by the induction hypothesis that  $D/G$  is orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty/G$ . Now the orthocomplementation of  $D$  follows from Proposition 2.10.

#### 4. FINITE-(CO)DIMENSIONAL ORTHOCOMPLEMENTED SUBSPACES OF $c_0$

It is well known that every finite-dimensional subspace of  $c_0$  is orthocomplemented (see [7]).

We now translate the results we have found in the above section about orthocomplemented finite-dimensional subspaces of  $\ell^\infty$  into statements about finite-codimensional subspaces of  $c_0$ . The next lemma, which is a direct consequence of Propositions 2.5 and 2.6, contains the key to do that.



**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $D$  be a closed subspace of  $c_0$  (resp. a weakly closed subspace of  $\ell^\infty$ ). Then,*

$$D \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{is orthocomplemented} \\ \text{is strict} \\ \text{has the HB-property} \end{array} \right\} \text{ in } c_0 \text{ (resp. in } \ell^\infty)$$

$$\text{iff } D^0 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{is orthocomplemented} \\ \text{has the HB-property} \\ \text{is strict} \end{array} \right\} \text{ in } \ell^\infty \text{ ( resp. in } c_0),$$

(observe that every weakly closed subspace of  $\ell^\infty$  has the HB<sup>+</sup>-property, [5], Theorem 2.3).

Theorem 3.3 admits the following "dual":

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let  $S$  be a closed subspace of  $c_0$  with finite codimension. Then the following properties are equivalent*

- i)  $S$  is orthocomplemented in  $c_0$ .
- ii) Every hyperplane containing  $S$  is orthocomplemented (strict) in  $c_0$ .
- iii) If  $f \in c_0'$  and  $f = 0$  on  $S$ , then  $\|f\| = \max_n |f(e_n)|$  (where  $e_1, e_2, \dots$  is the canonical base of  $c_0$ ).

Analogously, Theorem 3.4 converts into the following result for closed hyperplanes of  $c_0$ .

**Theorem 4.3.** *A closed hyperplane in  $c_0$  has the HB-property in  $c_0$  iff it is orthocomplemented in  $c_0$ .*

In the same line, from Corollary 3.7 we deduce

**Corollary 4.4.** *Every closed subspace of  $c_0$  with the HB-property in  $c_0$ , is strict in  $c_0$ .*

Finally, Problems 1-3 of the previous section give rise to the following equivalent questions.

Let  $S$  be a closed subspace of  $c_0$  that has finite codimension and the HB-property in  $c_0$ .

**Problem I.** Is  $S$  orthocomplemented in  $c_0$ ?

**Problem II.** Is there any closed hyperplane  $H$  in  $c_0$  with  $H \supset S$  such that  $H$  has the HB-property (is orthocomplemented) in  $c_0$ ?

**Problem III.** If  $2 \leq \text{codim } S$ , is there a closed subspace  $T$  of  $c_0$  with  $S \subsetneq T \subsetneq c_0$  such that  $T$  has the HB-property (is orthocomplemented) in  $c_0$ ?

## 5. SOME CONSEQUENCES AND REMARKS

Next we shall apply the results proved in the previous sections to study orthocomplementation for arbitrary closed subspaces of  $\ell^\infty$  and  $c_0$ .

**Theorem 5.1.** *Let  $D$  be a closed subspace of  $\ell^\infty$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

- i)  $D$  is orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$ .
- ii)  $D \simeq K^n$  for some  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  or  $D \simeq \ell^\infty$  and  $D$  is strict (has the HB-property) in  $\ell^\infty$ .
- iii)  $D$  is weakly closed and strict (has the HB-property) in  $\ell^\infty$  and  $D'$  has an orthogonal base.
- iv)  $D$  is weakly closed and for every closed subspace  $F$  of  $D$  with  $\dim D/F < \infty$ ,  $D/F$  is orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty/F$ .
- v)  $D$  is strict and there exists a closed subspace  $F$  of  $D$  with  $\dim D/F = 1$  such that  $F$  is orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$ .
- vi) There exists a closed subspace  $F$  of  $D$  with  $\dim D/F = 1$  such that  $F$  is orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$  and  $D/F$  is orthocomplemented (strict) in  $\ell^\infty/F$ .

**Proof.** i) $\Rightarrow$ ii): Clearly  $D$  is strict and weakly closed. By Corollary 3.7,  $D$  has the HB-property in  $\ell^\infty$ .

Also,  $D'$  is isometrically isomorphic to a closed subspace of  $c_0$  and so  $D' \simeq K^n$  (for some  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ ) or  $D' \simeq c_0$ . Since  $D$  is reflexive ([5], Lemma 2.2) we derive that  $D \simeq K^n$  or  $D \simeq \ell^\infty$ .

ii) $\Rightarrow$ iii): Follows from Theorem 2.3 of [5] and Corollary 3.7.

iii) $\Rightarrow$ i): By reflexivity of  $D$  ([5], Lemma 2.2),  $D \simeq \ell^\infty(I; s)$  for some set  $I$  and some  $s : I \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ . Now, apply Proposition 2.1.

i) $\Rightarrow$ iv): Follows from Proposition 2.7.

iv) $\Rightarrow$ iii): By Proposition 2.8,  $D$  has the HB-property in  $\ell^\infty$ .

On the other hand, since  $D' \simeq c_0/D^0$  is of countable type, it is enough to see that every finite-dimensional subspace  $G$  of  $c_0/D^0$  has an orthogonal base. Let  $\pi_0 : c_0 \rightarrow c_0/D^0$  be the canonical surjection. There is a finite-dimensional subspace  $M$  of  $c_0$  with  $\pi_0(M) = G$ . Since  $D^0 + M$  is weakly closed in  $c_0$  ([7], Lemma 3.14 and [3], Theorem 4.7), there exists a weakly closed subspace  $S$  of  $\ell^\infty$  such that  $D^0 + M = S^0$ . By assumption and Proposition 2.7 we conclude that  $D^0$  is orthocomplemented in  $S^0$  (observe that  $(\ell^\infty/S)^\prime \simeq S^0$  and under this isometry  $(D/S)^0$  maps onto  $D^0$ ). Then, there is a closed subspace  $M_1$  of  $c_0$  which is an orthogonal complement of  $D^0$  in  $S^0$ . In

particular,  $D^0 + M = D^0 + M_1$ . So,  $\pi_0(M_1) = G$ . But  $M_1$ , being a subspace of  $c_0$ , has an orthogonal base. Hence, so has  $G$ .

i) $\Rightarrow$ v): Clearly  $D$  is strict in  $\ell^\infty$ .

Now, let  $F$  be a closed subspace of  $D$  with  $\dim D/F = 1$ . By i) $\Rightarrow$ ii) and Proposition 3.1 it follows that  $F$  is orthocomplemented in  $D$  (and hence in  $\ell^\infty$ ).

v) $\Rightarrow$ vi): Let  $F$  be a closed subspace of  $D$  with  $\dim D/F = 1$ . By strictness of  $D$  and Proposition 2.7 it follows that  $D/F$  is strict in  $\ell^\infty/F$ . Since  $F$  is weakly closed in  $\ell^\infty$ , we can apply Theorem 3.4 and Theorem 3.6 i) $\Rightarrow$ ii) to conclude that  $D/F$  is orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty/F$ .

vi) $\Rightarrow$ i): Follows by Proposition 2.10.

Recall that an absolutely convex set  $A$  of a locally convex space over  $K$  is called:

- a) *c'*-compact: if for each neighbourhood  $U$  of 0 there exists a finite set  $B \subset A$  such that  $A \subset U + \text{co}B$  (where  $\text{co}B$  is the absolutely convex hull of  $B$ ).
- b) *KM-compactoid*: if it is complete and there exists a compact set  $X \subset A$  such that  $A$  is the closed absolutely convex hull of  $X$  (for the general properties of such sets see [4]).

By using Proposition 2.3 of [2] and a proof similar to the one given for (d)  $\iff$  (i) in Theorem 2.3 of [5], it is not difficult to obtain the following.

**Theorem 5.2.** *Let  $D$  be a closed subspace of  $\ell^\infty$ . Then, properties i) - vi) of Theorem 5.1 are equivalent to*

- vii)  $D$  is strict (has the HB-property) in  $\ell^\infty$  and  $B_D = \{x \in D : \|x\| \leq 1\}$  is weakly *KM-compactoid* in  $\ell^\infty$ .
- viii)  $D$  is strict (has the HB-property) in  $\ell^\infty$  and  $B_D$  is weakly closed and weakly *c'*-compact in  $\ell^\infty$ .

As in section 4, we can now dualize Theorems 5.1 and 5.2 to describe the orthocomplemented subspaces of  $c_0$ .

Observe that as a direct consequence of Propositions 2.7 and 2.8, we have

**Lemma 5.3.** *Let  $D$  be a weakly closed subspace of  $\ell^\infty$  and let  $F$  be a closed subspace of  $D$  with  $\dim D/F < \infty$  (so,  $F$  is weakly closed, Theorem 3.6). Then,  $D/F$  is orthocomplemented (resp. is strict, has the HB-property) in  $\ell^\infty/F$  iff  $D^0$  is orthocomplemented (resp. has the HB-property, is strict) in  $F^0$ .*

Then, putting together Lemmas 4.1 and 5.3 we have that Theorems 5.1 and 5.2 convert into the following descriptions of the orthocomplemented subspaces of  $c_0$ .

**Theorem 5.4.** *For a closed subspace  $S$  of  $c_0$  the following properties are equivalent.*

- i)  $S$  is orthocomplemented in  $c_0$ .
- ii)  $c_0/S \simeq K^n$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  or  $c_0/S \simeq c_0$  and  $S$  has the HB-property (is strict) in  $c_0$ .
- iii)  $S$  has the HB-property (is strict) in  $c_0$  and  $c_0/S$  has an orthogonal base.
- iv)  $S$  is orthocomplemented in any closed subspace  $T$  of  $c_0$  with  $T \supset S$  and  $\dim T/S < \infty$ .
- v)  $S$  has the HB-property in  $c_0$  and there exists a closed subspace  $T$  of  $c_0$  with  $T \supset S$  and  $\dim T/S = 1$  such that  $T$  is orthocomplemented in  $c_0$ .
- vi) There exists a closed subspace  $T$  of  $c_0$  with  $T \supset S$  and  $\dim T/S = 1$  such that  $S$  is orthocomplemented in  $T$  and  $T$  is orthocomplemented in  $c_0$ .
- vii)  $S$  has the HB-property (is strict) in  $c_0$  and  $B_{(c_0/S)'} is weakly-* KM-compactoid in  $(c_0/S)'$ .$
- viii)  $S$  has the HB-property (is strict) in  $c_0$  and  $B_{(c_0/S)'} is weakly-*  $c'$ -compact in  $(c_0/S)'$ .$

**Remarks 5.5.**

1. There is a closed subspace  $D$  of  $\ell^\infty$  with  $D \simeq \ell^\infty$  (and hence  $D$  is weakly closed [5], Theorem 2.3) such that  $D$  is not orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$ .

**Example:** Choose  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots$  in  $K$  with  $0 < |\lambda_1| < |\lambda_2| < \dots \uparrow 1$ . There are  $z_1, z_2, \dots$  in  $c_0$  with  $|\lambda_1| \leq \|z_i\| < 1$  for all  $i$  such that every  $x \in c_0$  with  $\|x\| < 1$  can be written as  $x = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu_i z_i$  where  $|\mu_i| \leq 1$  for all  $i$  and  $\mu_i \rightarrow 0$ . Now, the map  $T : c_0 \rightarrow c_0$  given by  $T(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \lambda_i e_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \lambda_i z_i$  is a continuous linear function mapping  $\{x \in c_0 : \|x\| \leq 1\}$  onto  $\{x \in c_0 : \|x\| < 1\}$ : if  $x \in c_0$  is such that  $\|Tx\| = 1$ , then  $\|x\| > 1$ . So  $T$  (and hence  $\text{Ker } T$ ) is not strict. Thus,  $D = (\text{Ker } T)^0$  satisfies the required conditions (Lemma 4.1).

2. There exists a closed subspace  $D$  of  $\ell^\infty$  such that  $D \simeq K$  (hence  $D$  is weakly closed) and such that  $D$  is not orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$ .

**Example:** We know (Remark 2.3.3) that there exists a linear isometry  $i$  from  $K_v^2$  into  $\ell^\infty$  (Recall that  $K_v^2 \simeq (K_v^2)'$ ). Since  $K_v^2$  does not contain non-trivially mutually orthogonal elements, we derive that every one-dimensional subspace  $D$  of  $K_v^2$  satisfies our requirements.

3. There exists a closed subspace  $D$  of  $\ell^\infty$  with the HB-property in  $\ell^\infty$  such that  $D'$  has an orthogonal base but  $D$  is not orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$ .

**Example:** Take for  $D$  the closed subspace of  $\ell^\infty$  constructed in [7], 4.J (observe that since  $D$  is not reflexive, it is not orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$ ).

4. Looking at Theorem 5.1 and the above Remark the following question arises in a natural way.

**Problem.** Can we without harm remove the weak closedness of  $D$  in property iii) (when  $D$  is strict) or in property iv) of Theorem 5.1?

5. *There is a weakly closed subspace  $D$  of  $\ell^\infty$  such that  $D'$  has an orthogonal base but  $D$  is not orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$ .*

**Example:** Take  $D = H^0$ , where  $H$  is a closed hyperplane of  $c_0$  which is not orthocomplemented in  $c_0$  and apply Lemma 4.1.

6. *There is a finite-dimensional (and hence weakly closed) subspace  $D$  of  $\ell^\infty$  such that  $D$  has the HB-property in  $\ell^\infty$  but is not orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$ .*

**Example:** See Remark 2.3.3.

7. Finally observe that Problems 1-3 appearing in Remark 3.8 are equivalent to

**Problem 4.** Let  $D$  be a weakly closed subspace of  $\ell^\infty$  such that  $D$  is strict and has the HB-property in  $\ell^\infty$ . Does it follow that  $D$  is orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty$ ?

Indeed, clearly if Problem 4 has an affirmative answer then so has Problem 1 (recall that every finite-dimensional and strict subspace of  $\ell^\infty$  has the HB-property in  $\ell^\infty$ , Corollary 3.7).

Conversely, assume Problem 1 has an affirmative answer and let  $D$  be a weakly closed subspace of  $\ell^\infty$  such that  $D$  is strict. Let  $F$  be a closed subspace of  $D$  with  $\dim D/F < \infty$ . By Theorem 5.1 i)  $\iff$  iv) it is enough to prove that  $D/F$  is orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty/F$ . For that observe that it follows from Proposition 2.7 that  $D/F$  is a one-dimensional and strict subspace of  $\ell^\infty/F$ . But  $F$  is weakly closed in  $\ell^\infty$  and so  $\ell^\infty/F \simeq K^n$  (for some  $n$ ) or  $\ell^\infty/F \simeq \ell^\infty$  (Theorem 3.6). By assumption  $D/F$  is orthocomplemented in  $\ell^\infty/F$  and we are done.

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