



## Norm attaining operators of finite rank

(joint work with Vladimir Kadets, Ginés López, Miguel Martín)

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## Basic definitions and results

- $x^* \in X^*$  is **norm attaining** ( $x^* \in \text{NA}(X)$ ):

$$\exists x_0: \quad \|x_0\| = 1, \quad x^*(x_0) = \sup\{x^*(x): \|x\| \leq 1\} = \|x^*\|.$$

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$$\|x\| = \|x^*\| = 1, \quad x^*(x) \geq 1 - \varepsilon \quad \Rightarrow$$

$$\exists x_0, x_0^*: \quad \|x_0\| = \|x_0^*\| = x_0^*(x_0) = 1, \quad \|x - x_0\| \leq 2\sqrt{\varepsilon}, \quad \|x^* - x_0^*\| \leq 2\sqrt{\varepsilon}.$$

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- Example:  $\text{NA}(c_0) = c_{00} =$  all  $\ell_1$ -sequences of finite support.





## On operators which attain their norm

A linear operator  $T: X \rightarrow Y$  is norm attaining ( $T \in \text{NA}(X, Y)$ ):

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Lindenstrauss 1963:

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- $\text{NA}(X, \ell_2)$  is not always dense in  $L(X, \ell_2)$ .



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Examples:

- $X = C(K)$ ,  $Tx = (x(t_1), x(t_2))$ :

$$\|T\| = \|T(\mathbf{1})\| = \sqrt{2}$$

- $X = L_1[0, 1]$ ,  $Tx = (\int_0^{1/2} x(t) dt, \int_{1/2}^1 x(t) dt)$ :

$$\|T\| = \|T(\mathbf{1})\| = 1/\sqrt{2}$$



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Let  $\|f\| = 1$ .

(a) If, for some  $0 \neq h \in B_{X^*}$ ,

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|f + th\| - 1}{t^2} < \infty,$$

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(c) There exists some  $f$  with a mate.



$\text{NA}^{(2)}(X, \ell_2^2) \neq \emptyset$  if and only if there exists  $f \in \text{NA}(X)$ ,  $\|f\| = 1$ , with a mate.

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Note:  $\text{NA}^{(2)}(X, \ell^2_\Sigma) \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow \text{NA}^{(2)}(X, E) \neq \emptyset$  whenever  $\dim E \geq 2$ .

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## Does the Corollary cover all Banach spaces?



There exists a Banach space  $X_R$  for which  $\text{NA}(X_R)$  does not contain 2-dimensional linear subspaces.

# The theorems of Read and Rmoutil

## Theorem

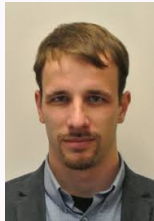
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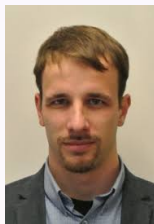
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Charles Read (1958–2015), Martin Rmoutil, Bernardo Cascales (1958–2018)





Dirk Werner, Norm attaining operators of finite rank, 9.9.2019

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- (G) Does  $\text{NA}(X)$  always contain a 2-dimensional linear subspace? (G. Godefroy 2000)

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$$\text{NA}(X) \text{ contains a 2-dimensional linear subspace} \Rightarrow \text{NA}^{(2)}(X, \ell_2^2) \neq \emptyset.$$

## Existence results II

Recall:

$\text{NA}(X)$  contains a 2-dimensional linear subspace  $\Rightarrow \text{NA}^{(2)}(X, \ell_2^2) \neq \emptyset$ .

### Main Theorem

If  $\text{NA}(X)$  contains a nontrivial cone, i.e., some  $\{sf + tg: s, t \geq 0\}$  with linearly independent  $f$  and  $g$ , then  $\text{NA}^{(2)}(X, \ell_2^2) \neq \emptyset$ .

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## Questions

- Does the converse of the Main Theorem hold?



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- Does the converse of the Main Theorem hold?
- Is the assumption of the Main Theorem always fulfilled?



## Density results

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If  $\text{NA}(X)$  contains a dense linear subspace, then  $\text{NA}(X, F)$  is dense in  $L(X, F)$  for every finite-dimensional  $F$ . (In fact, a weaker more technical assumption suffices.)

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### Corollary

In the setting of the Theorem, if  $X^*$  has the AP, then every compact operator with domain  $X$  can be approximated by finite rank norm attaining operators.