

## STRONG MINIMALITY OF GAUSSIAN-SUMMING NORM

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*Dedicated to Nguyen Duy Tien on the occasion of his 60th birthday*

ABSTRACT. By means of a sequence  $\varphi := (\varphi_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of square-integrable functions a notion of a  $\varphi$ -summing operator is defined. It is shown that if  $\inf_n \|\varphi_n\|_2 > 0$ , then any  $\varphi$ -summing operator is Gaussian-summing. This recovers a previously known result, which asserts the same in case when  $\varphi := (\varphi_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is an orthonormal sequence.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $\varphi := (\varphi_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of square-integrable functions given on a positive measure space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \nu)$  such that  $\|\varphi_n\|_2 > 0$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . Fix a continuous linear operator  $T$  defined on a Banach space  $X$  with values in a Banach space  $Y$  and a natural number  $n$ . We denote by  $\|T\|_{n, \varphi}$  the least constant  $c \geq 0$  such that for any  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$  the following inequality holds:

$$(1.1) \quad \left( \int_{\Omega} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n T x_k \varphi_k(\omega) \right\|^2 d\nu(\omega) \right)^{1/2} \leq c \sup_{x^* \in B_{X^*}} \left( \sum_{k=1}^n |x^*(x_k)|^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

The mapping  $T \rightarrow \|T\|_{n, \varphi}$  is a norm on the space  $L(X, Y)$  of all continuous linear operators. In [PieWe, (3.11.1)] (when  $\varphi := (\varphi_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is an orthonormal sequence) the quantity  $\|T\|_{n, \varphi}$  is denoted by  $\pi(T|(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n))$  and the mapping  $T \rightarrow \pi(T|(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n))$  is called a *Parseval ideal norm*.

The operator  $T$  will be called  $\varphi$ -summing (or  $\varphi$ -bounding) if

$$\|T\|_{\varphi} := \sup_n \|T\|_{n, \varphi} < \infty.$$

The set of all  $\varphi$ -summing operators  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  will be denoted  $\Pi_{\varphi}(X, Y)$ . It seems that in [PieWe] no special notation is fixed for this class. The mapping  $T \rightarrow \|T\|_{\varphi}$  is a norm on  $\Pi_{\varphi}(X, Y)$  and is called  $\varphi$ -summing norm.

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If  $g := (g_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a sequence of independent standard Gaussian random variables given on a probability space, then the class  $\Pi_g(X, Y)$  of  $g$ -summing operators will coincide with the class of *Gaussian-summing* (or  $\gamma$ -summing) operators introduced in [LiPie] (see also [PieWe, (4.15.7)]).

If  $r := (r_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is the sequence of Rademacher functions given on  $[0, 1]$  with the Lebesgue measure, then the class  $\Pi_r(X, Y)$  of  $r$ -summing operators will coincide with the class  $\Pi_{as}(X, Y)$  of *almost summing* operators introduced in [DJT].

If  $\varphi := (\varphi_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a sequence of independent identically distributed symmetric random variables given on a probability space, then the class  $\Pi_\varphi(X, Y)$  of  $\varphi$ -summing operators appeared in [BTV].

The class of  $\varphi$ -summing operators when  $\varphi := (\varphi_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is an arbitrary orthonormal sequence was explicitly defined and studied in details in [Ba].

In [DJT, Theorem 12.12] was shown that for any pair of Banach spaces one has the coincidence  $\Pi_{as}(X, Y) = \Pi_g(X, Y)$  together with the inequalities

$$\left(\frac{2}{\pi}\right)^{1/2} \|T\|_r \leq \|T\|_g \leq \|T\|_r.$$

It is known also that for any pair of Banach spaces and *for any orthonormal sequence*  $\varphi := (\varphi_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  the inclusion  $\Pi_\varphi(X, Y) \subset \Pi_g(X, Y)$  remains true and the inequality  $\|T\|_g \leq \|T\|_\varphi$  holds (cf. [PieWe, (4.15.3) THEOREM]; see also [GeJu, Remark 3.10] where this fact is mentioned as known, but the proof is given too. In [Ba, p.16] the considered result also is presented as known and in its connection is quoted [GeJu, Remark 3.10] and [Se, Theorem 5.5]).

The above results motivate the appearance of the present note. We will show that for any pair of Banach spaces and *for any normalized sequence*  $\varphi := (\varphi_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  the inclusion  $\Pi_\varphi(X, Y) \subset \Pi_g(X, Y)$  remains true and the inequality  $\|T\|_g \leq \|T\|_\varphi$  takes place as well (Theorem 3.1).

It arises naturally the problem of non-triviality of the class  $\Pi_\varphi(X, Y)$ . It turns out that for a given pair of infinite-dimensional Banach spaces  $X, Y$  we have  $\Pi_\varphi(X, Y) \neq \{0\}$  if and only if  $\Pi_\varphi(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}) \neq \{0\}$ . The proof of this and the other related results will appear elsewhere.

## 2. AUXILIARY RESULTS

Thereafter  $\mathbb{K}$  will denote either the field  $\mathbb{R}$  of real numbers or the field  $\mathbb{C}$  of complex numbers. The considered normed or inner-product spaces will be supposed to be defined over  $\mathbb{K}$ . The norm of a normed space, resp., the scalar product of an inner-product space will be denoted by  $\|\cdot\|$  and  $(\cdot|\cdot)$ , respectively. Also  $\|T\|$  will stand for the ordinary norm of a continuous linear operator  $T$  acting between normed spaces.

For a normed space  $X$ ,

- $X^*$  will stand for the topological dual space,

- We put:

$$B_X := \{x \in X : \|x\| \leq 1\}, \quad S_X := \{x \in X : \|x\| = 1\},$$

- $\mathcal{FD}(X)$  will stand for the collection of all finite-dimensional non-zero vector subspaces of  $X$ .

For normed spaces  $X$  and  $Y$ ,

- $L(X, Y)$  is the normed space of all continuous linear operators  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $L(X) := L(X, X)$ ,
- $K(X, Y)$  will stand for the set of all compact linear operators  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $K(X) := K(X, X)$ .

For a Hilbert space  $H$ ,

- $\mathcal{O}_1(H)$  is the set of all orthonormal sequences in  $H$  and  $\mathcal{O}_2(H)$  is the set of all orthonormal basis of  $H$ ,
- $\mathcal{U}(H)$  will stand for the set of isometric surjective linear operators  $u : H \rightarrow H$ .

The following proposition collects the important known statements about a finite-dimensional Hilbert space.

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $E$  be a finite-dimensional Hilbert space with  $n := \dim(E) \geq 1$ .*

(a)  $\mathcal{U}(E)$  with the topology induced by operator norm is a compact metrizable topological group, which carries the unique translation-invariant probability measure  $m$  given on its Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra.

*The measure  $m$  is called the (normalized) Haar measure of  $\mathcal{U}(E)$ .*

(b) *There exists the unique  $\mathcal{U}(E)$ -invariant probability measure  $\mathbf{s}$  given on the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra of  $E$  such that  $\mathbf{s}(S_E) = 1$ .*

*The measure  $\mathbf{s}$  is called the uniform distribution on  $S_E$ .*

(c) *If  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a Borel measurable  $\mathbf{s}$ -integrable (or non-negative) function, then for each fixed  $e \in S_E$*

$$(2.1) \quad \int_{S_E} f(x) d\mathbf{s}(x) = \int_{\mathcal{U}(E)} f(ue) dm(u).$$

(d) *There exists the unique  $\mathcal{U}(E)$ -invariant probability measure  $\gamma$  given on the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra of  $E$ , such that*

$$(2.2) \quad \hat{\gamma}(h) := \int_E \exp(i\operatorname{Re}(x|h)) d\gamma(x) = \exp(-\kappa \|h\|^2), \quad \forall h \in E.$$

*The measure  $\gamma$  is called the standard Gaussian measure. In (2.2) the parameter  $\kappa$  is  $1/2$  in real case and is  $1$  in complex case.*

(e) If  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a positively 2-homogeneous Borel measurable  $\gamma$ -integrable (or non-negative) function, then

$$(2.3) \quad \int_E f(x) d\gamma(x) = n \int_{S_E} f(x) ds(x).$$

*Proof.* The statements (a) and (b) are well-known.

(c) Fix  $e \in S_E$ . Denote  $s_e$  the image of  $m$  under the continuous mapping  $u \rightarrow ue$  from  $\mathcal{U}(E)$  onto  $S_E$ . Then by change-variable formula we can write

$$(2.4) \quad \int_{S_E} f(x) ds_e(x) = \int_{\mathcal{U}(E)} f(ue) dm(u).$$

By using translation-invariance of  $m$  it is easy to observe that  $s_e$  is a  $\mathcal{U}(E)$ -invariant probability measure. By *uniqueness part* of (b) we get that  $s_e = s$ . This and (2.4) imply (2.1).

(d) is well-known.

(e) It is easy to observe that

$$\int_E \|x\|^2 d\gamma(x) = n.$$

For each Borel subset  $B \subset E$ , put

$$\mu_1(B) = \frac{1}{n} \int_B \|x\|^2 d\gamma(x).$$

Then  $\mu_1$  is a Borel probability measure on  $E$ . Denote  $\mu_2$  the image of  $\mu_1$  under the continuous mapping  $x \rightarrow \frac{x}{\|x\|}$  from  $E \setminus \{0\}$  onto  $S_E$ . Since  $\gamma(\{0\}) = 0$ ,

$$\int_E f(x) d\gamma(x) = \gamma(\{0\})f(0) + \int_{E \setminus \{0\}} f\left(\frac{x}{\|x\|}\right) \|x\|^2 d\gamma(x) = n \int_{E \setminus \{0\}} f\left(\frac{x}{\|x\|}\right) d\mu_1(x).$$

Then by change-variable formula we can write

$$(2.5) \quad \int_E f(x) d\gamma(x) = n \int_{E \setminus \{0\}} f\left(\frac{x}{\|x\|}\right) d\mu_1(x) = n \int_{S_E} f(x) d\mu_2(x).$$

By using  $\mathcal{U}(E)$ -invariance of  $\gamma$  it is easy to observe that  $\mu_2$  also is  $\mathcal{U}(E)$ -invariant probability measure. By *uniqueness part* of (b) we get that  $\mu_2 = s$ . This and (2.5) imply (2.3).  $\square$

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $E$  be a non-zero normed space and  $\mu$  be a positive measure (not necessarily finite) given on the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra of  $E$  such that*

$$0 < \alpha := \int_E \|x\|^2 d\mu(x) < \infty.$$

Then there exists a probability measure  $\mu_2$  given on the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra of  $E$  such that  $\mu_2(S_E) = 1$  and for any positively 2-homogeneous Borel measurable  $\mu$ -integrable (or non-negative) function  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  with  $f(0) = 0$ , the equality

$$(2.6) \quad \int_E f(x) d\mu(x) = \alpha \int_{S_E} f(x) d\mu_2(x)$$

holds.

*Proof.* Replace in the proof of Proposition 2.1(e)  $\gamma$  by  $\mu$  and  $n$  by  $\alpha$ .  $\square$

The next statement expresses “the strong minimality” of the Gaussian integrals.

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $E$  be a finite-dimensional Hilbert space with  $n := \dim(E) \geq 1$  and  $\mu$  be a positive measure (not necessarily finite) given on the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra of  $E$  such that*

$$0 < \alpha := \int_E \|x\|^2 d\mu(x) < \infty.$$

*Then for any positively 2-homogeneous Borel measurable function  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  with  $f(0) = 0$ , we have:*

$$(2.7) \quad \int_E |f(x)| ds(x) \leq \frac{1}{\alpha} \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \int_E |f(ux)| d\mu(x)$$

and

$$(2.8) \quad \int_E |f(x)| d\gamma(x) \leq \frac{n}{\alpha} \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \int_E |f(ux)| d\mu(x)$$

holds.

*Proof.* Let  $\mu_2$  be the probability measure associated with  $\mu$  according to Lemma 2.1. Take a positively 2-homogeneous Borel measurable function  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  with  $f(0) = 0$ . For each fixed  $u \in \mathcal{U}(E)$  we can apply the equality (2.6) to the function  $x \rightarrow |f(ux)|$  and write:

$$(2.9) \quad \int_E |f(ux)| d\mu(x) = \alpha \int_{S_E} |f(ux)| d\mu_2(x).$$

Hence,

$$(2.10) \quad \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \int_E |f(ux)| d\mu(x) = \alpha \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \int_{S_E} |f(ux)| d\mu_2(x).$$

Since  $m$  is a normalized positive measure on  $\mathcal{U}(E)$ , we have:

$$(2.11) \quad \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \int_{S_E} |f(ux)| d\mu_2(x) \geq \int_{\mathcal{U}(E)} \left( \int_{S_E} |f(ux)| d\mu_2(x) \right) dm(u) \\ = \int_{S_E} \left( \int_{\mathcal{U}(E)} |f(ue)| dm(u) \right) d\mu_2(e).$$

By Proposition 2.1(c) for each fixed  $e \in S_E$  we have

$$(2.12) \quad \int_{\mathcal{U}(E)} |f(ue)| dm(u) = \int_{S_E} |f(x)| ds(x).$$

Then, as  $m_2(S_E) = 1$ ,

$$(2.13) \quad \int_{S_E} \left( \int_{\mathcal{U}(E)} |f(ue)| dm(u) \right) d\mu_2(e) = \int_{S_E} \left( \int_{S_E} |f(x)| ds(x) \right) d\mu_2(e) \\ = \int_{S_E} |f(x)| ds(x).$$

Now (2.10), (2.11) and (2.13) imply

$$(2.14) \quad \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \int_E |f(ux)| d\mu(x) \geq \alpha \int_{S_E} \left( \int_{\mathcal{U}(E)} |f(ue)| dm(u) \right) d\mu_2(e) = \alpha \int_{S_E} |f(x)| ds(x).$$

Clearly (2.14) gives (2.7).

Inequality (2.8) follows from (2.7) and Proposition 2.1(e).  $\square$

Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \nu)$  be a positive measure space,  $X$  a normed space. Then for any vector-valued function  $\xi : \Omega \rightarrow X$  for which the scalar-valued function  $\omega \rightarrow \|\xi(\omega)\|$  is measurable, we put

$$\|\xi\|_2 = \left( \int_{\Omega} \|\xi(\omega)\|^2 d\nu(\omega) \right)^{1/2}.$$

If  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n$  are measurable scalar functions given on  $\Omega$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  are elements of a given normed space  $X$ , then the vector-valued function  $\omega \rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \varphi_k(\omega)$  will be denoted  $\sum_{k=1}^n x_k \varphi_k$ . Accordingly we have

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \varphi_k \right\|_2 = \left( \int_{\Omega} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \varphi_k(\omega) \right\|^2 d\nu(\omega) \right)^{1/2}.$$

A sequence  $g := (g_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of independent  $\mathbb{K}$ -valued random variables given on a probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$  is called a *standard Gaussian sequence* if for each natural  $n$  the distribution of  $g_n$  coincides with the standard Gaussian measure

given on  $\mathbb{K}$ . Note that if  $g := (g_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a standard Gaussian sequence, then it is an orthonormal sequence in the Hilbert space  $\mathbf{L}_2(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P}; \mathbb{K})$ .

In the sequel,  $g := (g_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  always will stand for a standard Gaussian sequence.

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $E$  be a finite-dimensional Hilbert space with  $n := \dim(E) \geq 1$  and  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  be any fixed orthonormal basis. Then for every Borel measurable  $\gamma$ -integrable (or non-negative) function  $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  we have:*

$$(2.15) \quad \int_{\Omega} f\left(\sum_{k=1}^n e_k g_k(\omega)\right) d\mathbb{P}(\omega) = \int_E f(x) d\gamma(x).$$

In particular, for any normed space  $Y$  and any  $V \in L(E, Y)$  we have

$$(2.16) \quad \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k g_k \right\|_2 = \left( \int_E \|Vx\|^2 d\gamma(x) \right)^{1/2}.$$

*Proof.* Put  $\xi := \sum_{k=1}^n e_k g_k$ . Then the distribution of  $\xi$  coincides with the standard Gaussian measure  $\gamma$  on  $E$ . From this, by change-variable formula, we get

$$\int_{\Omega} f\left(\sum_{k=1}^n e_k g_k(\omega)\right) d\mathbb{P}(\omega) = \int_{\Omega} f(\xi(\omega)) d\mathbb{P}(\omega) = \int_E f(x) d\gamma(x),$$

i.e., (2.15) is valid.

Fix now a normed space  $Y$  and an operator  $V \in L(E, Y)$ . Clearly, an application of (2.15) to the function  $x \rightarrow \|Vx\|^2$  gives

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k g_k \right\|_2 = \left( \int_E \|Vx\|^2 d\gamma(x) \right)^{1/2}.$$

□

The next result in case of an orthonormal sequence  $(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n)$  of functions is due to [GeJu].

**Lemma 2.3.** (cf. [GeJu, Lemma 3.10 (1)]) *Let  $E$  be a finite-dimensional Hilbert space with  $n := \dim(E) \geq 1$ ,  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  is an orthonormal basis of  $E$ ,  $(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n)$  be a sequence of square integrable scalar functions given on a positive measure space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \nu)$  such that*

$$0 < \alpha_n := \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \|\varphi_k\|_2^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

*Then for any normed space  $Y$  and any  $V \in L(E, Y)$  the inequality*

$$(2.17) \quad \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k g_k \right\|_2 \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\alpha_n} \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V u e_k \varphi_k \right\|_2$$

*holds.*

*Proof.* Put  $\xi = \sum_{k=1}^n e_k \varphi_k$ . Since  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  be an orthonormal sequence in  $E$ ,

$$\|\xi(\omega)\|^2 = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n e_k \varphi_k(\omega) \right\|^2 = \sum_{k=1}^n |\varphi_k(\omega)|^2, \quad \forall \omega \in \Omega.$$

Hence

$$\int_{\Omega} \|\xi(\omega)\|^2 d\nu(\omega) = \sum_{k=1}^n \int_{\Omega} |\varphi_k(\omega)|^2 d\nu(\omega) = \alpha_n^2.$$

Denote the image of  $\nu$  under Borel measurable mapping  $\xi : \Omega \rightarrow E$  by  $\mu$ . By change-variable formula we have

$$(2.18) \quad \alpha_n^2 = \int_{\Omega} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n e_k \varphi_k(\omega) \right\|^2 d\nu(\omega) = \int_{\Omega} \|\xi(\omega)\|^2 d\nu(\omega) = \int_E \|x\|^2 d\mu(x).$$

Let  $Y$  be a normed space and  $V \in L(E, Y)$ . By (2.18), for any fixed  $u \in \mathcal{U}(E)$  we obtain

$$\int_{\Omega} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V u e_k \varphi_k(\omega) \right\|^2 d\nu(\omega) = \int_{\Omega} \|V u \xi(\omega)\|^2 d\nu(\omega) = \int_E \|V u x\|^2 d\mu(x).$$

Then

$$(2.19) \quad \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V u e_k \varphi_k \right\|_2 = \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \left( \int_E \|V u x\|^2 d\mu(x) \right)^{1/2}.$$

Therefore, according to (2.16) and Proposition 2.2 applied for the function  $x \rightarrow \|V x\|^2$  we have

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k g_k \right\|_2 = \left( \int_E \|V x\|^2 d\gamma(x) \right)^{1/2} \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\alpha_n} \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \left( \int_E \|V u x\|^2 d\mu(x) \right)^{1/2}.$$

This and (2.19) imply (2.17).  $\square$

### 3. STRONG MINIMALITY OF THE GAUSSIAN-SUMMING NORM

In what follows, for a normed space  $X$ , a natural number  $n$  and a finite sequence  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  of elements of  $X$  we shall put

$$\|(x_1, \dots, x_n)\|_2 := \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \|x_k\|^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

and

$$\|(x_1, \dots, x_n)\|_{2,w} := \sup_{x^* \in B_{X^*}} \left( \sum_{k=1}^n |x^*(x_k)|^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

Let us observe that if  $X$  is an inner-product space and  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is an *orthonormal sequence* of elements of  $X$ , then we have  $\|(x_1, \dots, x_n)\|_2 = \sqrt{n}$  and  $\|(x_1, \dots, x_n)\|_{2,w} = 1$ .



Let  $\varphi := (\varphi_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of square-integrable functions given on a positive measure space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \nu)$  such that  $\|\varphi_n\|_2 > 0$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$

Fix normed spaces  $X, Y$ , an operator  $T \in L(X, Y)$  and a natural number  $n$ . We define

$$(3.1) \quad \|T\|_{n, \varphi} = \sup \left\{ \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n T x_k \varphi_k \right\|_2 : (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in X^n, \|(x_1, \dots, x_n)\|_{2, w} \leq 1 \right\}.$$

It is easy to observe that the functional  $T \rightarrow \|T\|_{n, \varphi}$  is a norm on  $L(X, Y)$  with the property

$$\left( \min_{k \leq n} \|\varphi_k\|_2 \right) \|T\| \leq \|T\|_{n, \varphi}, \quad \forall T \in L(X, Y).$$

The operator  $T$  will be called  $\varphi$ -*summing* (or  $\varphi$ -*bounding*) if

$$\|T\|_{\varphi} := \sup_n \|T\|_{n, \varphi} < \infty.$$

The set of all  $\varphi$ -summing operators  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  is denoted by  $\Pi_{\varphi}(X, Y)$ . The mapping  $T \rightarrow \|T\|_{\varphi}$  is a norm on  $\Pi_{\varphi}(X, Y)$  and is called  $\varphi$ -*summing norm*. It is easy to see that

$$\left( \inf_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \|\varphi_k\|_2 \right) \|T\| \leq \|T\|_{\varphi}, \quad \forall T \in \Pi_{\varphi}(X, Y).$$

If  $g := (g_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a standard Gaussian sequence, then the class  $\Pi_g(X, Y)$  of  $g$ -summing operators coincides with the class of *Gaussian-summing* (or  $\gamma$ -summing) operators introduced in [LiPie] (see also [PieWe, (4.15.7)]). Accordingly, the norm  $\|\cdot\|_g$  is called *the Gaussian-summing norm* or  $\gamma$ -*summing norm* and for it usually the notation  $\pi_{\gamma}$  is used.

If  $r := (r_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is the sequence of Rademacher functions given on  $[0, 1]$  with the Lebesgue measure, then the class  $\Pi_r(X, Y)$  of  $r$ -summing operators coincides with the class  $\Pi_{as}(X, Y)$  of *almost summing* operators introduced in [DJT]. Accordingly, the norm  $\|\cdot\|_r$  is called *the almost summing norm* and for it usually the notation  $\pi_{as}$  is used.

If  $\varphi := (\varphi_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a sequence of independent identically distributed symmetric random variables given on a probability space, then the class  $\Pi_{\varphi}(X, Y)$  of  $\varphi$ -summing operators appeared in [BTV].

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $E$  be a finite-dimensional Hilbert space with  $n := \dim(E)$  and  $T \in L(X, Y)$ . Then*

$$(3.2) \quad \|T\|_{n, \varphi} = \sup \{ \|TW\|_{n, \varphi} : W \in L(E, X), \|W\| \leq 1 \}.$$

*Proof.* Fix arbitrarily  $(h_1, \dots, h_n) \in E^n$ ,  $\|(h_1, \dots, h_n)\|_{2, w} \leq 1$  and  $W \in L(E, X)$ ,  $\|W\| \leq 1$ . Then from  $\|W\| \leq 1$  we get  $\|(Wh_1, \dots, Wh_n)\|_{2, w} \leq 1$ . Therefore

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^n TW h_k \varphi_k \right\|_2 \leq \|T\|_{n, \varphi}.$$

Hence  $\|TW\|_{n,\varphi} \leq \|T\|_{n,\varphi}$  and

$$(3.3) \quad \sup\{\|TW\|_{n,\varphi} : W \in L(E, X), \|W\| \leq 1\} \leq \|T\|_{n,\varphi}.$$

Fix a finite sequence  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in X^n$ , satisfying  $\|(x_1, \dots, x_n)\|_{2,w} \leq 1$  and an orthonormal basis  $(e_1, \dots, e_n) \in E^n$ . Define  $W \in L(E, X)$  by putting  $We_k = x_k$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, n$ . Then  $\|W\| = \|(x_1, \dots, x_n)\|_{2,w} \leq 1$ . (As  $\|(e_1, \dots, e_n)\|_{2,w} = 1$ ),

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^n Tx_k\varphi_k \right\|_2 = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n TW e_k\varphi_k \right\|_2 \leq \|TW\|_{n,\varphi}.$$

Hence

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^n Tx_k\varphi_k \right\|_2 \leq \sup\{\|TW\|_{n,\varphi} : W \in L(E, X), \|W\| \leq 1\}.$$

Consequently,

$$(3.4) \quad \|T\|_{n,\varphi} \leq \sup\{\|TW\|_{n,\varphi} : W \in L(E, X), \|W\| \leq 1\}.$$

From (3.3) and (3.4) we obtain (3.2).  $\square$

Lemma 3.1 reduces the question of computing the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{n,\varphi}$  to the case where the domain is a Hilbert space. This case is treated in the next lemma.

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $E$  be a finite-dimensional Hilbert space with  $n := \dim(E)$ ,  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  be a fixed orthonormal basis of  $E$  and  $V \in L(E, Y)$ . Then there exists an orthonormal basis  $(e_1^o, \dots, e_n^o)$  of  $E$  such that*

$$(3.5) \quad \|V\|_{n,\varphi} = \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V u e_k \varphi_k \right\|_2 = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k^o \varphi_k \right\|_2.$$

*Proof.* Since for any fixed  $u \in \mathcal{U}(E)$  we have  $\|(u e_1, \dots, u e_n)\|_{2,w} = 1$ , the inequality

$$(3.6) \quad \|V\|_{n,\varphi} \geq \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V u e_k \varphi_k \right\|_2$$

is evident.

Fix now a finite sequence  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  in  $E$  with  $\|(x_1, \dots, x_n)\|_{2,w} \leq 1$ . Let us show that

$$(3.7) \quad \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V x_k \varphi_k \right\|_2 \leq \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V u e_k \varphi_k \right\|_2.$$

Define  $W \in L(E, E)$  by putting  $We_k = x_k$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, n$ . Then  $\|W\| = \|(x_1, \dots, x_n)\|_{2,w} \leq 1$ . Obviously,

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V x_k \varphi_k \right\|_2 = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V W e_k \varphi_k \right\|_2.$$

It is known that any  $W \in L(E)$  is a convex combination of some finite number of operators from  $\mathcal{U}(E)$ , i.e.,  $W = \sum_{j=1}^p t_j u_j$ , where  $0 \leq t_j \leq 1$ ,  $\sum_{j=1}^p t_j = 1$  and  $u_j \in \mathcal{U}(E)$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, p$ . Using this, we can write

$$\sum_{k=1}^n VW e_k \varphi_k = \sum_{k=1}^n V \left( \sum_{j=1}^p t_j u_j e_k \right) \varphi_k = \sum_{j=1}^p t_j \left( \sum_{k=1}^n V u_j e_k \varphi_k \right)$$

and so,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n VW e_k \varphi_k \right\|_2 &\leq \sum_{j=1}^p t_j \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V u_j e_k \varphi_k \right\|_2 \\ &\leq \max_{j \leq p} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V u_j e_k \varphi_k \right\|_2 \\ &\leq \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V u e_k \varphi_k \right\|_2. \end{aligned}$$

i.e., (3.7) is true. It is evident that (3.7) implies

$$(3.8) \quad \|V\|_{n,\varphi} \leq \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V u e_k \varphi_k \right\|_2.$$

From (3.6) and (3.8) we get

$$(3.9) \quad \|V\|_{n,\varphi} = \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V u e_k \varphi_k \right\|_2.$$

Clearly, the supremum in (3.9) is attained in some  $u_o \in \mathcal{U}(E)$ . Put  $e_k^o := u_o e_k$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, n$ . Then  $(e_1^o, \dots, e_n^o)$  is an orthonormal basis of  $E$  for which (3.5) is satisfied.  $\square$

In Lemma 3.2, in general, for a given fixed orthonormal basis  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  one may have the strict inequality  $\|V\|_{n,\varphi} > \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k \varphi_k \right\|_2$  (see, e.g., [TTV], where the the case of the sequence of Rademacher functions is investigated). However, in the Gaussian case the situation is nicer.

**Corollary 3.1.** *Let  $E$  be a finite-dimensional Hilbert space with  $n := \dim(E) \geq 1$ ,  $Y$  a normed space,  $V : E \rightarrow Y$  a linear operator and  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  any fixed orthonormal basis of  $E$ . Then*

$$(3.10) \quad \|V\|_{n,g} = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k g_k \right\|_2.$$

*Proof.* By Lemma 3.2 there is an orthonormal basis  $(e_1^o, \dots, e_n^o)$  of  $E$  such that

$$(3.11) \quad \|V\|_{n,g} = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k^o g_k \right\|_2$$

and, by Lemma 2.2, we can write

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k g_k \right\|_2 = \left( \int_E \|Vx\|^2 d\gamma(x) \right)^{1/2} = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k^o g_k \right\|_2 = \|V\|_{n,g}.$$

□

For a given finite-dimensional Hilbert space  $E$  with  $\dim(E) = n$ , a given normed space  $Y$  and an operator  $T \in L(E, Y)$ , in general one may have the strict inequality  $\|V\|_\varphi > \|V\|_{n,\varphi}$ . However, it is well-known that this cannot happen in Gaussian case. The following statement (*which is not needed for the proof of Theorem 3.1*) contains a proof of this important fact; it contains, in particular, another proof of Corollary 3.1 too.

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $E$  be a finite-dimensional Hilbert space with  $n := \dim(E) \geq 1$ ,  $Y$  a normed space,  $V : E \rightarrow Y$  a linear operator and  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  a fixed orthonormal basis of  $E$ . Then*

$$(3.12) \quad \|V\|_g = \|V\|_{n,g} = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k g_k \right\|_2$$

and

$$(3.13) \quad \sqrt{n} \left( \int_{S_E} \|Vx\|^2 ds(x) \right)^{1/2} = \|V\|_{n,g} = \|V\|_g.$$

*Proof.* Observe that (3.13) follows from (3.12) via Lemma 2.2. So it remains to prove (3.12).

The inequalities  $\|V\|_g \geq \|V\|_{n,g} \geq \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k g_k \right\|_2$  are evident.

Fix now arbitrarily a natural number  $n'$ , a finite sequence  $(x_1, \dots, x_{n'}) \in E^{n'}$ ,  $\|(x_1, \dots, x_{n'})\|_{2,w} \leq 1$ . Let us show that

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^{n'} V x_k g_k \right\|_2 \leq \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k g_k \right\|_2.$$

Fix then a Hilbert space  $E'$  with  $\dim(E') = n'$  and an orthonormal basis  $(e_1^o, \dots, e_{n'}^o)$  of it.

Define  $W \in L(E', E)$  by putting  $W e_k^o = x_k$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, n'$ . Then  $\|W\| = \|(x_1, \dots, x_{n'})\|_{2,w} \leq 1$ . Clearly,

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^{n'} V x_k g_k \right\|_2 = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^{n'} V W e_k^o g_k \right\|_2.$$

The operator  $W$  admits the spectral representation

$$Wx = \sum_{k=1}^{n'} \lambda_k (x|h'_k) h_k, \quad \forall x \in E',$$

where  $(h'_1, \dots, h'_{n'})$  is an orthonormal basis of  $E'$ ,  $(h_1, \dots, h_{n'})$  is a finite sequence in  $E$  whose non-zero members form an orthonormal sequence in  $E$  and

$$1 \geq \|W\| = \lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \lambda_{n'} \geq 0.$$

Applying Lemma 2.2 to  $E'$  and to the operator  $V' := VW$  we can write

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^{n'} VW e_k^o g_k \right\|_2 = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^{n'} VW h'_k g_k \right\|_2.$$

Then, as  $Wh'_k = \lambda_k h_k$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, n'$ ,

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^{n'} VW e_k^o g_k \right\|_2 = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^{n'} \lambda_k V h_k g_k \right\|_2.$$

From this, using the contraction principle (see, e.g. [VTC, Lemmma 5.4.1(c), p.298]), we obtain

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^{n'} VW e_k^o g_k \right\|_2 \leq \left( \max_{k \leq n'} \lambda_k \right) \left\| \sum_{k=1}^{n'} V h_k g_k \right\|_2 \leq \left\| \sum_{k=1}^{n'} V h_k g_k \right\|_2.$$

Let  $(\tilde{h}_1, \dots, \tilde{h}_n)$  be an orthonormal basis of  $E$  containing the orthonormal set consisting of the non-zero terms of  $(h_1, \dots, h_{n'})$ . Then (e.g., again by the contraction principle):

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^{n'} V h_k g_k \right\|_2 \leq \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V \tilde{h}_k g_k \right\|_2.$$

Applying Lemma 2.2 to  $E$  and to the operator  $V$  we can write

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V \tilde{h}_k g_k \right\|_2 = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k g_k \right\|_2.$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^{n'} V x_k g_k \right\|_2 &= \left\| \sum_{k=1}^{n'} VW e_k^o g_k \right\|_2 = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^{n'} \lambda_k V h_k g_k \right\|_2 \\ &\leq \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V \tilde{h}_k g_k \right\|_2 = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k g_k \right\|_2, \end{aligned}$$

which yields the needed inequality.  $\square$

The next lemma is a key step in the proof of the main theorem.

**Lemma 3.4.** *Let  $E$  be a finite-dimensional Hilbert space with  $n := \dim(E) \geq 1$ ,  $(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n)$  a sequence of square integrable scalar functions given on a positive measure space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \nu)$  such that*

$$0 < \alpha_n := \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \|\varphi_k\|_2^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

*Then for any normed space  $Y$  and any  $V \in L(E, Y)$  the inequality*

$$(3.14) \quad \|V\|_{n,g} \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\alpha_n} \|V\|_{n,\varphi}.$$

*holds.*

*Proof.* Fix an orthonormal basis  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  of  $E$ . Then from Corollary 3.1, Lemma 2.3 and the obvious inequality

$$\sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V u e_k \varphi_k \right\|_2 \leq \|V\|_{n,\varphi}.$$

we get

$$\|V\|_{n,g} = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V e_k g_k \right\|_2 \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\alpha_n} \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}(E)} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n V u e_k \varphi_k \right\|_2 \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\alpha_n} \|V\|_{n,\varphi}.$$

□

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $X, Y$  be normed spaces,  $(\varphi_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  a sequence of square integrable scalar functions given on a positive measure space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \nu)$  such that  $\|\varphi_n\|_2 = 1$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . Then*

(a) *For every natural  $n$  and any continuous linear operator  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  the inequality*

$$(3.15) \quad \|T\|_{n,g} \leq \|T\|_{n,\varphi}.$$

*holds;*

(b) *We have  $\Pi_\varphi(X, Y) \subset \Pi_g(X, Y)$  and*

$$(3.16) \quad \|T\|_g \leq \|T\|_\varphi, \quad \forall T \in \Pi_\varphi(X, Y).$$

*Proof.* (a) Let  $T \in L(X, Y)$  and  $n$  be a natural number. Fix a Hilbert space  $E$  with  $\dim(E) = n$  and an operator  $W \in L(E, X)$ . Lemma 3.4, applied to the operator  $TW \in L(E, X)$ , gives

$$(3.17) \quad \|TW\|_{n,g} \leq \|TW\|_{n,\varphi}.$$

By (3.17) and Lemma 3.1 we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \|T\|_{n,g} &= \sup\{\|TW\|_{n,g} : W \in L(E, X), \|W\| \leq 1\} \\ &\leq \sup\{\|TW\|_{n,\varphi} : W \in L(E, X), \|W\| \leq 1\} = \|T\|_{n,\varphi}. \end{aligned}$$

The statement (b) follows from (a). □

In the same way we can prove also the next result.

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $X, Y$  be normed spaces,  $(\varphi_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  a sequence of square integrable scalar functions given on a positive measure space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \nu)$  such that  $\|\varphi_n\|_2 > 0$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  and*

$$\beta := \sup_n \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\left(\sum_{k=1}^n \|\varphi_k\|_2^2\right)^{1/2}} < \infty.$$

Then

(a) *For every natural  $n$  and any continuous linear operator and  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  the inequality*

$$(3.18) \quad \|T\|_{n,g.} \leq \beta \|T\|_{n,\varphi}.$$

holds;

(b) *We have  $\Pi_\varphi(X, Y) \subset \Pi_g(X, Y)$  and*

$$(3.19) \quad \|T\|_g \leq \beta \|T\|_\varphi, \quad \forall T \in \Pi_\varphi(X, Y).$$

*Proof.* (a) Let  $T \in L(X, Y)$  and  $n$  be a natural number. Fix a Hilbert space  $E$  with  $\dim(E) = n$  and an operator  $W \in L(E, X)$ . Lemma 3.4, applied to the operator  $TW \in L(E, X)$ , implies

$$(3.20) \quad \|TW\|_{n,g.} \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\alpha_n} \|TW\|_{n,\varphi} \leq \beta \|TW\|_{n,\varphi}.$$

By (3.20) and Lemma 3.1 we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \|T\|_{n,g.} &= \sup\{\|TW\|_{n,g.} : W \in L(E, X), \|W\| \leq 1\} \\ &\leq \beta \sup\{\|TW\|_{n,\varphi} : W \in L(E, X), \|W\| \leq 1\} = \beta \|T\|_{n,\varphi}. \end{aligned}$$

The statement (b) follows from (a).  $\square$

**Remark.** In general, for a given sequence  $(\varphi_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  of square integrable scalar functions given on a positive measure space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \nu)$  such that  $\|\varphi_n\|_2 = 1$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  it may happen that  $\Pi_\varphi(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}) = \{0\}$  (assume, e.g., that  $\nu(\Omega) = 1$  and put  $\varphi_n = 1$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ). Therefore, in general, we do not have the equality  $\Pi_\varphi(X, Y) = \Pi_g(X, Y)$ . A characterization of the orthonormal sequences  $(\varphi_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  for which the coincidence  $\Pi_\varphi(X, Y) = \Pi_g(X, Y)$  takes place is given in [Ba, Theorem 4.3, p. 24].

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