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## Spaceability in Banach and quasi-Banach sequence spaces

G. Botelho<sup>a,1</sup>, D. Diniz<sup>b</sup>, V.V. Fávaro<sup>a,2</sup>, D. Pellegrino<sup>c,\*,3</sup><sup>a</sup> Faculdade de Matemática, Universidade Federal de Uberlândia, 38.400-902 – Uberlândia, Brazil<sup>b</sup> UAME-UFMG, Caixa Postal 10044 – 58.109-970, Campina Grande, Brazil<sup>c</sup> Departamento de Matemática, Universidade Federal da Paraíba, 58.051-900 – João Pessoa, Brazil

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## ABSTRACT

Let  $X$  be a Banach space. We prove that, for a large class of Banach or quasi-Banach spaces  $E$  of  $X$ -valued sequences, the sets  $E - \bigcup_{q \in \Gamma} \ell_q(X)$ , where  $\Gamma$  is any subset of  $(0, \infty]$ , and  $E - c_0(X)$  contain closed infinite-dimensional subspaces of  $E$  (if non-empty, of course). This result is applied in several particular cases and it is also shown that the same technique can be used to improve a result on the existence of spaces formed by norm-attaining linear operators.

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## 0. Introduction

A subset  $A$  of a Banach or quasi-Banach space  $E$  is  $\mu$ -lineable (spaceable) if  $A \cup \{0\}$  contains a  $\mu$ -dimensional (closed infinite-dimensional) linear subspace of  $E$ . The last few years have witnessed the appearance of lots of papers concerning lineability and spaceability (see, for example, [1–3, 10, 13]). The aim of this paper is to explore a technique to prove lineability and spaceability that can be applied in several different settings. It is our opinion that this technique was first used in the context of lineability/spaceability in the preprint [4], of which this paper is an improved version.

Let  $c$  denote the cardinality of the set of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$ . In [10] it is proved that  $\ell_p - \ell_q$  is  $c$ -lineable for every  $p > q \geq 1$ . With the help of [7] this result can be substantially improved in the sense that

\* Corresponding author.

E-mail addresses: [botelho@ufu.br](mailto:botelho@ufu.br) (G. Botelho), [diogodme@gmail.com](mailto:diogodme@gmail.com) (D. Diniz), [vvfavar@gmail.com](mailto:vvfavar@gmail.com) (V.V. Fávaro), [mpellegrino@gmail.com](mailto:mpellegrino@gmail.com) (D. Pellegrino).<sup>1</sup> Supported by CNPq Grant 306981/2008-4 and INCT-Matemática.<sup>2</sup> Supported by Fapemig Grant CEX-APQ-00208-09.<sup>3</sup> Supported by CNPq Grant 301237/2009-3.

$\ell_p - \bigcup_{1 \leq q < p} \ell_q$  is spaceable for every  $p > 1$ . In this paper we address the following questions: What about the non-locally convex range  $0 < p < 1$ ? Can these results be generalized to sequence spaces other than  $\ell_p$ ?

As to the first question, it is worth recalling that the structure of quasi-Banach spaces (or, more generally, metrizable complete tvs, called  $F$ -spaces) is quite different from the structure of Banach spaces. For our purposes, the consequence is that the extension of lineability/spaceability arguments from Banach to quasi-Banach spaces is not straightforward in general. For example, in [14, Section 6] it is essentially proved (with a different terminology) that if  $Y$  is a closed infinite-codimensional linear subspace of the Banach space  $X$ , then  $X - Y$  is spaceable. A counterexample due to Kalton [5, Theorem 1.1] shows that this result is not valid for quasi-Banach spaces (there exists a quasi-Banach space  $K$  with an 1-dimensional subspace that is contained in all closed infinite-dimensional subspaces of  $K$ ). Besides, the search for closed infinite-dimensional subspaces of quasi-Banach spaces is a quite delicate issue. Even fundamental facts are unknown, for example the following problem is still open (cf. [6, Problem 3.1]): Does every (infinite-dimensional) quasi-Banach space have a proper closed infinite-dimensional subspace? Nevertheless we solve the first question in the positive: as a particular case of our results we get that  $\ell_p - \bigcup_{0 < q < p} \ell_q$  is spaceable for every  $p > 0$  (cf. Corollary 1.6).

As to the second question, we identify a large class of vector-valued sequence spaces, called *invariant sequence spaces* (cf. Definition 1.1), such that if  $E$  is an invariant Banach or quasi-Banach space of  $X$ -valued sequences, where  $X$  is a Banach space, then the sets  $E - \bigcup_{q \in \Gamma} \ell_q(X)$ , where  $\Gamma$  is any subset of  $(0, \infty]$ , and  $E - c_0(X)$  are spaceable whenever they are non-empty (cf. Theorem 1.3). Several classical sequence spaces are invariant sequence spaces (cf. Example 1.2).

In order to make clear that the technique we use can be useful in a variety of other situations, we finish the paper with an application to the  $c$ -lineability of sets of norm-attaining linear operators (cf. Proposition 2.1).

From now on all Banach and quasi-Banach spaces are considered over a fixed scalar field  $\mathbb{K}$  which can be either  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ .

### 1. Sequence spaces

In this section we introduce a quite general class of scalar-valued or vector-valued sequence spaces and prove that certain of their remarkable subsets have spaceable complements.

**Definition 1.1.** Let  $X \neq \{0\}$  be a Banach space.

- (a) Given  $x \in X^{\mathbb{N}}$ , by  $x^0$  we mean the zerofree version of  $x$ , that is: if  $x$  has only finitely many non-zero coordinates, then  $x^0 = 0$ ; otherwise,  $x^0 = (x_j)_{j=1}^{\infty}$  where  $x_j$  is the  $j$ th non-zero coordinate of  $x$ .
- (b) By an *invariant sequence space over  $X$*  we mean an infinite-dimensional

Banach or quasi-Banach space  $E$  of  $X$ -valued sequences enjoying the following conditions:

- (b1) For  $x \in X^{\mathbb{N}}$  such that  $x^0 \neq 0$ ,  $x \in E$  if and only if  $x^0 \in E$ , and in this case  $\|x\|_E \leq K \|x^0\|_E$  for some constant  $K$  depending only on  $E$ .
  - (b2)  $\|x_j\|_X \leq \|x\|_E$  for every  $x = (x_j)_{j=1}^{\infty} \in E$  and every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- An *invariant sequence space* is an invariant sequence space over some Banach space  $X$ .

Several classical sequence spaces are invariant sequence spaces:

**Example 1.2.**

- (a) Given a Banach space  $X$ , it is obvious that for every  $0 < p \leq \infty$ ,  $\ell_p(X)$  (absolutely  $p$ -summable  $X$ -valued sequences),  $\ell_p^u(X)$  (unconditionally  $p$ -summable  $X$ -valued sequences) and  $\ell_p^w(X)$  (weakly  $p$ -summable  $X$ -valued sequences) are invariant sequence spaces over  $X$  with their respective

usual norms ( $p$ -norms if  $0 < p < 1$ ). In particular,  $\ell_p$ ,  $0 < p \leq \infty$ , are invariant sequence spaces (over  $\mathbb{K}$ ).

- (b) It is easy to see that Lorentz spaces  $\ell_{p,q}$ ,  $0 < p < \infty$ ,  $0 < q < \infty$  (see, e.g., [12, 13.9.1]) are invariant sequence spaces (over  $\mathbb{K}$ ): indeed, given  $0 \neq x^0 \in \ell_{p,q}$ , the non-increasing rearrangement of  $x$  coincides with that of  $x^0$ . So  $\|x\|_{p,q} = \|x^0\|_{p,q} < \infty$ .
- (c) Let  $M$  be an Orlicz function and  $\ell_M$  be the corresponding Orlicz sequence space (see, e.g., [8, 4.a.1]). The condition  $M(0) = 0$  makes clear that  $\ell_M$  is an invariant sequence space (over  $\mathbb{K}$ ). For the same reason, its closed subspace  $h_M$  is an invariant sequence space as well.
- (d) Given  $0 < p \leq s \leq \infty$  and a Banach space  $X$ , by  $\ell_{m(s;p)}(X)$  we mean the Banach ( $p$ -Banach if  $0 < p < 1$ ) space of all mixed  $(s, p)$ -summable sequences on  $X$  (see, e.g., [12, 16.4]). It is not difficult to see that  $\ell_{m(s;p)}(X)$  is an invariant sequence space over  $X$ .

Now we can prove our main result. Given an invariant sequence space  $E$  over a Banach space  $X$ , regarding both  $E$  and  $\ell_p(X)$  as subsets of  $X^{\mathbb{N}}$ , we can talk about the difference  $E - \ell_p(X)$  and related ones.

**Theorem 1.3.** *Let  $E$  be an invariant sequence space over a Banach space  $X$ . Then*

- (a) *For every  $\Gamma \subseteq (0, \infty]$ ,  $E - \bigcup_{q \in \Gamma} \ell_q(X)$  is either empty or spaceable.*
- (b)  *$E - c_0(X)$  is either empty or spaceable.*

**Proof.** Put  $A = \bigcup_{q \in \Gamma} \ell_q(X)$  in (a) and  $A = c_0(X)$  in (b). Assume that  $E - A$  is non-empty and choose  $x \in E - A$ . Since  $E$  is an invariant sequence space,  $x^0 \in E$ , and obviously  $x^0 \notin A$ . Writing  $x^0 = (x_j)_{j=1}^{\infty}$  we have that  $x^0 \in E - A$  and  $x_j \neq 0$  for every  $j$ . Split  $\mathbb{N}$  into countably many infinite pairwise disjoint subsets  $(\mathbb{N}_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ . For every  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  set  $\mathbb{N}_i = \{i_1 < i_2 < \dots\}$  and define

$$y_i = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} x_j e_{i_j} \in X^{\mathbb{N}}.$$

Observe that  $y_i^0 = x^0$  for every  $i$ . So  $0 \neq y_i^0 \in E$  for every  $i$ . Hence each  $y_i \in E$  because  $E$  is an invariant sequence space. Let us see that  $y_i \notin A$ : in (a) this occurs because  $\|y_i\|_r = \|x^0\|_r = \|x\|_r$  for every  $0 < r \leq \infty$  and in (b) because  $\|x_j\|_X \not\rightarrow 0$ . Let  $K$  be the constant of condition 1.1(b1) and define  $\tilde{s} = 1$  if  $E$  is a Banach space and  $\tilde{s} = s$  if  $E$  is an  $s$ -Banach space,  $0 < s < 1$ . For  $(a_i)_{i=1}^{\infty} \in \ell_{\tilde{s}}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \|a_i y_i\|_E^{\tilde{s}} &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |a_i|^{\tilde{s}} \|y_i\|_E^{\tilde{s}} \leq K^{\tilde{s}} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |a_i|^{\tilde{s}} \|y_i^0\|_E^{\tilde{s}} \\ &= K^{\tilde{s}} \|x^0\|_E^{\tilde{s}} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |a_i|^{\tilde{s}} = K^{\tilde{s}} \|x^0\|_E^{\tilde{s}} \|(a_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}\|_{\tilde{s}}^{\tilde{s}} < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \|a_i y_i\|_E < \infty$  if  $E$  is a Banach space and  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \|a_i y_i\|_E^s < \infty$  if  $E$  is an  $s$ -Banach space,  $0 < s < 1$ . In both cases the series  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i y_i$  converges in  $E$ , hence the operator

$$T: \ell_{\tilde{s}} \longrightarrow E, T((a_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i y_i$$

is well defined. It is easy to see that  $T$  is linear and injective. Thus  $\overline{T(\ell_{\tilde{s}})}$  is a closed infinite-dimensional subspace of  $E$ . We just have to show that  $\overline{T(\ell_{\tilde{s}})} - \{0\} \subseteq E - A$ . Let  $z = (z_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \in \overline{T(\ell_{\tilde{s}})}$ ,  $z \neq 0$ . There are sequences  $(a_i^{(k)})_{i=1}^{\infty} \in \ell_{\tilde{s}}$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $z = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} T\left(\left(a_i^{(k)}\right)_{i=1}^{\infty}\right)$  in  $E$ . Note that, for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$T \left( \left( a_i^{(k)} \right)_{i=1}^\infty \right) = \sum_{i=1}^\infty a_i^{(k)} y_i = \sum_{i=1}^\infty a_i^{(k)} \sum_{j=1}^\infty x_j e_{ij} = \sum_{i=1}^\infty \sum_{j=1}^\infty a_i^{(k)} x_j e_{ij}.$$

Fix  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $z_r \neq 0$ . Since  $\mathbb{N} = \bigcup_{j=1}^\infty \mathbb{N}_j$ , there are (unique)  $m, t \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $e_{m_t} = e_r$ . Thus, for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , the  $r$ th coordinate of  $T \left( \left( a_i^{(k)} \right)_{i=1}^\infty \right)$  is the number  $a_m^{(k)} x_t$ . Condition 1.1(b2) assures that convergence in  $E$  implies coordinatewise convergence, so

$$z_r = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_m^{(k)} x_t = x_t \cdot \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_m^{(k)}.$$

It follows that  $x_t \neq 0$ . Hence  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} |a_m^{(k)}| = \frac{\|z_r\|_X}{\|x_t\|_X} \neq 0$ . For  $j, k \in \mathbb{N}$ , the  $m_j$ th coordinate of  $T \left( \left( a_i^{(k)} \right)_{i=1}^\infty \right)$  is  $a_m^{(k)} x_j$ . Defining  $\alpha_m = \frac{\|z_r\|_X}{\|x_t\|_X} \neq 0$ ,

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|a_m^{(k)} x_j\|_X = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} |a_m^{(k)}| \|x_j\|_X = \|x_j\|_X \cdot \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} |a_m^{(k)}| = \alpha_m \|x_j\|_X$$

for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ . On the other hand, coordinatewise convergence gives  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|a_m^{(k)} x_j\|_X = \|z_{m_j}\|_X$ , so  $\|z_{m_j}\|_X = \alpha_m \|x_j\|_X$  for each  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ . Observe that  $m$ , which depends on  $r$ , is fixed, so the natural numbers  $(m_j)_{j=1}^\infty$  are pairwise distinct (remember that  $\mathbb{N}_m = \{m_1 < m_2 < \dots\}$ ).

(a) As  $x^0 \notin A$ , we have  $\|x^0\|_q = \infty$  for all  $q \in \Gamma$ . Note that

$$\|z\|_q^q = \sum_{n=1}^\infty \|z_n\|_X^q \geq \sum_{j=1}^\infty \|z_{m_j}\|_X^q = \sum_{j=1}^\infty \alpha_m^q \cdot \|x_j\|_X^q = \alpha_m^q \cdot \|x^0\|_q^q = \infty$$

for every  $q$  in  $\Gamma, q \neq \infty$ . Besides, if  $q = \infty$ , then

$$\|z\|_\infty = \sup_n \|z_n\|_X \geq \sup_j \|z_{m_j}\|_X = \alpha_m \cdot \sup_j \|x_j\|_X = \alpha_m \|x^0\|_\infty = \infty,$$

proving that  $z \notin \bigcup_{q \in \Gamma} \ell_q(X)$ .

(b) As  $x^0 \notin A$ , we have  $\|x_j\|_X \rightarrow 0$ . Since  $(\|z_{m_j}\|_X)_{j=1}^\infty$  is a subsequence of  $(\|z_n\|_X)_{n=1}^\infty$ ,  $\|z_{m_j}\|_X = \alpha_m \|x_j\|_X$  for every  $j$  and  $\alpha_m \neq 0$ , it is clear that  $\|z_n\|_X \rightarrow 0$ . Thus  $z \notin c_0(X)$ .

Therefore  $z \notin A$  in both cases, so  $\overline{T(\ell_{\tilde{s}})} - \{0\} \subseteq E - A$ .  $\square$

We list a few consequences.

When we write  $F \subset E$  we mean that  $E$  contains  $F$  as a linear subspace and  $E \neq F$ . We are not asking neither  $E$  to contain an isomorphic copy of  $F$  nor the inclusion  $F \hookrightarrow E$  to be continuous.

**Corollary 1.4.** *Let  $E$  be an invariant sequence space over  $\mathbb{K}$ .*

- (a) *If  $0 < p \leq \infty$  and  $\ell_p \subset E$ , then  $E - \ell_p$  is spaceable.*
- (b) *If  $c_0 \subset E$ , then  $E - c_0$  is spaceable.*

From the results due to Kitson and Timoney [7] we derive that  $\ell_p^u(X) - \ell_p(X)$  for  $p \geq 1$ , and  $\ell_p - \bigcup_{0 < q < p} \ell_q$  for  $p > 1$ , are spaceable. However, as is made clear in [7, Remark 2.2], their results are restricted to Fréchet spaces (see the Introduction). Next we extend the spaceability of  $\ell_p^u(X) - \ell_p(X)$  and  $\ell_p - \bigcup_{0 < q < p} \ell_q$  to the non-locally convex case:

**Corollary 1.5.**  *$\ell_{m(s;p)}(X) - \ell_p(X)$  and  $\ell_p^u(X) - \ell_p(X)$  are spaceable for  $0 < p \leq s < \infty$  and every infinite-dimensional Banach space  $X$ . Hence  $\ell_p^w(X) - \ell_p(X)$  is spaceable as well.*

**Proof.** By [9, Proposition 1.2(1)] we have that  $\ell_{m(\infty;p)}(X) = \ell_p(X) \subseteq \ell_{m(s;p)}(X)$ , and by [9, Theorem 2.1],  $\ell_{m(s;p)}(X) \neq \ell_p(X)$ . On the other hand, the identity operator on any infinite-dimensional Banach space fails to be absolutely  $p$ -summing for every  $0 < p < \infty$  (the case  $1 \leq p < \infty$  is well known, and the case  $0 < p < 1$  follows from the fact that  $p$ -summing operators are  $q$ -summing whenever  $p \leq q$ ). So  $\ell_p^u(X) \neq \ell_p(X)$ . As  $\ell_{m(s;p)}(X)$  and  $\ell_p^u(X)$  are invariant sequence spaces over  $X$ , the first assertion follows from Theorem 1.3. As  $\ell_p^u(X) \subseteq \ell_p^w(X)$ , the second assertion follows.  $\square$

**Corollary 1.6.**  $\ell_p - \bigcup_{0 < q < p} \ell_q$  is spaceable for every  $p > 0$ .

**Proof.** We know that  $\ell_p$  is an invariant sequence space over  $\mathbb{K}$  and it is well-known that  $\ell_p - \bigcup_{0 < q < p} \ell_q \neq \emptyset$ . The result follows from Theorem 1.3.  $\square$

**Remark 1.7.** Theorem 1.3 can be applied in a variety of other situations. For example, for Lorentz spaces it applies to  $\ell_{q,r} - \ell_p$  for  $0 < p < q$  and  $r > 0$ , and to  $\ell_{p,q} - \ell_p$  for  $0 < p < q$ . We believe that the usefulness of Theorem 1.3 is well established, so we refrain from giving further applications.

Although our results concern spaceability of complements of linear subspaces, the same technique gives the spaceability of sets that are not related to linear subspaces at all. Rewriting the proof of Theorem 1.3 we get:

**Proposition 1.8.** Let  $E$  be an invariant sequence space over the Banach space  $X$ . Let  $A \subseteq E$  be such that:

- (i) For  $x \in E$ ,  $x \in A$  if and only if  $x^0 \in A$ .
- (ii) If  $x = (x_j)_{j=1}^\infty \in A$  and  $y = (y_j)_{j=1}^\infty \in E$  is such that  $(\|y_j\|_X)_{j=1}^\infty$  is a multiple of a subsequence of  $(\|x_j\|_X)_{j=1}^\infty$ , then  $y \in A$ .
- (iii) There is  $x \in E - A$  with  $x^0 \neq 0$ .

Then  $E - A$  is spaceable.

## 2. Norm-attaining operators

In this section we show that the technique used in the previous section can be used in a completely different context. Specifically, we extend a result from [11] concerning the lineability of the set of norm-attaining operators.

Given Banach spaces  $E$  and  $F$  and  $x_0 \in E$  such that  $\|x_0\| = 1$  ( $x_0$  is said to be a *norm-one vector*), a continuous linear operator  $u : E \rightarrow F$  attains its norm at  $x_0$  if  $\|u(x_0)\|_F = \|u\|_{\mathcal{L}(E;F)}$ . By  $\mathcal{NA}^{x_0}(E; F)$  we mean the set of continuous linear operators from  $E$  to  $F$  that attain their norms at  $x_0$ .

In [11, Proposition 6] it is proved that if  $F$  contains an isometric copy of  $\ell_q$  for some  $1 \leq q < \infty$ , then  $\mathcal{NA}^{x_0}(E; F)$  is  $\aleph_0$ -lineable. We generalize this result showing that this set is  $c$ -lineable:

**Proposition 2.1.** Let  $E$  and  $F$  be Banach spaces so that  $F$  contains an isometric copy of  $\ell_q$  for some  $1 \leq q < \infty$ , and let  $x_0$  be a norm-one vector in  $E$ . Then  $\mathcal{NA}^{x_0}(E; F)$  is  $c$ -lineable.

**Proof.** The beginning of the proof follows the lines of the proof of [11, Proposition 6]. It suffices to prove the result for  $F = \ell_q$ . Split  $\mathbb{N}$  into countably many infinite pairwise disjoint subsets  $(A_k)_{k=1}^\infty$ . For each positive integer  $k$ , write  $A_k = \{a_1^{(k)} < a_2^{(k)} < \dots\}$  and define

$$\ell_q^{(k)} := \{x \in \ell_q : x_j = 0 \text{ if } j \notin A_k\}.$$

Fix a non-zero operator  $u \in \mathcal{NA}^{x_0}(E; F)$  and proceed as in the proof of [11, Proposition 6] to get a sequence  $(u^{(k)})_{k=1}^\infty$  of operators belonging to  $\mathcal{NA}^{x_0}(E; \ell_q^{(k)})$  such that  $\|u^{(k)}(x)\|_{\ell_q^{(k)}} = \|u(x)\|_{\ell_q}$

for every  $k$  and every  $x \in E$ . By composing these operators with the inclusion  $\ell_q^{(k)} \hookrightarrow \ell_q$  we get operators (and we keep the notation  $u^{(k)}$  for the sake of simplicity) belonging to  $\mathcal{NA}^{x_0}(E; \ell_q)$ . For every  $(a_k)_{k=1}^\infty \in \ell_1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \|a_k u^{(k)}\|_{\mathcal{L}(E; \ell_q^{(k)})} &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |a_k| \|u^{(k)}\|_{\mathcal{L}(E; \ell_q^{(k)})} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |a_k| \|u^{(k)}(x_0)\|_{\ell_q^{(k)}} \\ &= \|u(x_0)\|_{\ell_q} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |a_k| < \infty, \end{aligned}$$

so the map

$$T: \ell_1 \longrightarrow \mathcal{L}(E; \ell_q), \quad T((a_k)_{k=1}^\infty) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k u^{(k)}$$

is well-defined. It is clear that  $T$  is linear and injective. Hence  $T(\ell_1)$  is a  $c$ -dimensional subspace of  $\ell_q$ . Since the supports of the operators  $u^{(k)}$  are pairwise disjoint,  $T(\ell_1) \subseteq \mathcal{NA}^{x_0}(E; \ell_q)$ .  $\square$

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