

# Geometrical constants of Day-James spaces <sup>1</sup>

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## Abstract

We describe some recent results on the von Neumann-Jordan (NJ-) constant  $C_{\text{NJ}}(X)$  and the related geometrical constants of concrete Banach spaces  $X$ . In particular, we calculate the constants for  $X$  being a class of Day-James spaces  $\ell_p\text{-}\ell_q$  by using the Banach-Mazur distance  $d(X, H)$  between  $X$  and  $H$ , where  $H$  is a two-dimensional inner product space.

**Definition 1** (i) Let  $X$  be a Banach space. The NJ-constant  $C_{\text{NJ}}(X)$  is the smallest constant  $C$  for which

$$\frac{1}{C} \leq \frac{\|x+y\|^2 + \|x-y\|^2}{2(\|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2)} \leq C$$

holds for all  $x, y \in X$  not both 0 ([2]). An equivalent definition of this constant is

$$C_{\text{NJ}}(X) = \sup \left\{ \frac{\|x+y\|^2 + \|x-y\|^2}{2(\|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2)} : x \in S_X, y \in B_X \right\},$$

where  $S_X = \{x \in X : \|x\| = 1\}$  and  $B_X = \{x \in X : \|x\| \leq 1\}$ .

It is well known (cf. [5]) that

- (i)  $1 \leq C_{\text{NJ}}(X) \leq 2$  for all Banach spaces  $X$
- (ii)  $X$  is a Hilbert space if and only if  $C_{\text{NJ}}(X) = 1$
- (iii)  $C_{\text{NJ}}(L_p) = 2^{2/\min\{p, p'\}-1}$ , where  $1/p + 1/p' = 1, 1 \leq p \leq \infty$
- (iv)  $X$  is uniformly non-square if and only if  $C_{\text{NJ}}(X) < 2$
- (v)  $C_{\text{NJ}}(X) = C_{\text{NJ}}(X^*)$  for all Banach spaces  $X$ .

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**Definition 2** (cf. [5]) Let  $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ . The Day-James  $\ell_p$ - $\ell_q$  space is the space  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{p,q}$  defined by

$$\|(x, y)\|_{p,q} = \begin{cases} \|(x, y)\|_p, & xy \geq 0, \\ \|(x, y)\|_q, & xy \leq 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_p$  is the  $\ell_p$ -norm on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

**Theorem 1** ([3, 14, 15, 16, 17]) (i) If either  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ , or  $p > 2$  and  $(p-2)2^{2/p-2} < 1$  then

$$C_{\text{NJ}}(\ell_p\text{-}\ell_1) = 1 + 2^{2/p-2}.$$

(ii) If  $p > 2$  and  $(p-2)2^{2/p-2} \geq 1$ , then

$$C_{\text{NJ}}(\ell_p\text{-}\ell_1) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1 - t_0^p}{2(t_0 - t_0^{p-1})},$$

where  $t_0 \in (0, 1)$  is the unique solution to the equation

$$\frac{(t - t^{p-1})(1 + t^p)^{2/p-1}}{1 - t^2} = 1.$$

In particular,

$$C_{\text{NJ}}(\ell_\infty\text{-}\ell_1) = \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{4}.$$

We first calculate the NJ-constant for  $X$  being a class of Day-James spaces  $\ell_p$ - $\ell_q$  by using the Banach-Mazur distance.

**Definition 3** For isomorphic Banach spaces  $X$  and  $Y$ , the Banach-Mazur distance between  $X$  and  $Y$ , denoted by  $d(X, Y)$ , is defined to be the infimum of  $\|T\| \cdot \|T^{-1}\|$  taken over all bicontinuous linear operators  $T$  from  $X$  onto  $Y$  (cf. [11]).

**Lemma 2** ([5]) If  $X$  and  $Y$  are isomorphic Banach spaces, then

$$\frac{C_{\text{NJ}}(X)}{d(X, Y)^2} \leq C_{\text{NJ}}(Y) \leq C_{\text{NJ}}(X)d(X, Y)^2.$$

In particular, if  $X$  and  $Y$  are isometric, then  $C_{\text{NJ}}(X) = C_{\text{NJ}}(Y)$ .

**Lemma 3 ([5])** Let  $X = (X, \|\cdot\|)$  be a non-trivial Banach space and let  $X_1 = (X, \|\cdot\|_1)$ , where  $\|\cdot\|_1$  is an equivalent norm on  $X$  satisfying, for  $\alpha, \beta > 0$ ,

$$\alpha\|x\| \leq \|x\|_1 \leq \beta\|x\|, \quad x \in X.$$

Then

$$\frac{\alpha^2}{\beta^2}C_{\text{NJ}}(X) \leq C_{\text{NJ}}(X_1) \leq \frac{\beta^2}{\alpha^2}C_{\text{NJ}}(X).$$

For a norm  $\|\cdot\|$  on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , we write  $C_{\text{NJ}}(\|\cdot\|)$  for  $C_{\text{NJ}}((\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|))$ .

**Definition 4** A norm  $\|\cdot\|$  on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is said to be absolute if  $\||x|, |y|\| = \|(x, y)\|$  for any  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

From Lemmas 2 and 3, we have the following.

**Theorem 4 ([7], cf. [6])** Let  $\|\cdot\|, \|\cdot\|_H$  be absolute norms on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Assume that

- (i)  $(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_H)$  is an inner product space.
- (ii)  $\alpha\|(x, y)\|_H \leq \|(x, y)\| \leq \beta\|(x, y)\|_H$  for any  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  ( $\alpha, \beta$  are the best constants).
- (iii) In (ii) it satisfies either  $\alpha\|(1, 0)\|_H = \|(1, 0)\|$  and  $\alpha\|(0, 1)\|_H = \|(0, 1)\|$ , or  $\beta\|(1, 0)\|_H = \|(1, 0)\|$  and  $\beta\|(0, 1)\|_H = \|(0, 1)\|$ .

Then

$$C_{\text{NJ}}(\|\cdot\|) = \frac{\beta^2}{\alpha^2}.$$

We calculate NJ-constant for  $X$  being a class of Day-James spaces, by using Theorem 4. For  $1 \leq q < p < \infty$ , we define a new norm  $\|\cdot\|_X$  on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  by

$$\|(x, y)\|_X = \begin{cases} \|T(x, y)\|_p, & |x| \geq |y|, \\ \|T(x, y)\|_q, & |x| \leq |y|, \end{cases}$$

where  $T(x, y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(x - y, x + y)$ . Note that  $C_{\text{NJ}}(\ell_p\text{-}\ell_q) = C_{\text{NJ}}(\|\cdot\|_X)$ . Also define

$$\|(x, y)\|_H = \sqrt{2^{2/p-1}x^2 + 2^{2/q-1}y^2} \quad (1 \leq q < p < \infty).$$

Note that both norms  $\|\cdot\|_X$  and  $\|\cdot\|_H$  are absolute and satisfy the conditions in Theorem 4. Applying Theorem 4 we obtain the following.

**Theorem 5** ([7]) If  $1 \leq q \leq 2, q \leq p < \infty$  and  $2^{2/p-2/q}(p-1) \leq 1$ , then

$$C_{NJ}(\ell_p-\ell_q) = \frac{2^{2/p}(t_0^2 + 2^{2/q-2/p})}{((1+t_0)^q + (1-t_0)^q)^{2/q}}. \tag{1}$$

where

$$t_0 = \sup \left\{ t \in (0, 1) : \frac{(2^{2/q-2/p} - t)(1+t)^{q-1}}{(2^{2/q-2/p} + t)(1-t)^{q-1}} \leq 1 \right\}.$$

In particular, if  $1 \leq q \leq p \leq 2$ , then (1) holds.

**Corollary 6** ([3, 14, 15, 17]) If either  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ , or  $p > 2$  and  $2^{2/p-2}(p-1) \leq 1$ , then

$$C_{NJ}(\ell_p-\ell_1) = 1 + 2^{2/p-2}.$$

**Remark 1** Let  $1 \leq q \leq 2, q \leq p < \infty$  and  $2^{2/p-2/q}(p-1) \leq 1$ . Theorem 7 gives that if  $H$  is an inner product space with  $\dim H = 2$ , then

$$d(\ell_p-\ell_q, H) = \sqrt{C_{NJ}(\ell_p-\ell_q)}.$$

We next consider some other geometrical constants for Day-James spaces.

**Definition 5** ([9]) Let  $X$  be a Banach space. The James type constant of  $X$  is

$$J_{X,t}(\tau) = \begin{cases} \sup \left\{ \left( \frac{\|x + \tau y\|^t + \|x - \tau y\|^t}{2} \right)^{1/t} : x, y \in S_X \right\} & \text{if } t \neq -\infty, \\ \sup \{ \min(\|x + \tau y\|, \|x - \tau y\|) : x, y \in S_X \} & \text{if } t = -\infty \end{cases}$$

for  $\tau \geq 0$  and  $-\infty \leq t < \infty$ .

In [9],  $\rho_X(\tau) = J_{X,1}(\tau) - 1$  and  $J(X) = J_{X,-\infty}(1)$ , where

$$\rho_X(\tau) = \sup \left\{ \frac{\|x + \tau y\| + \|x - \tau y\|}{2} : x, y \in S_X \right\}$$

is the modulus of smoothness of  $X$  and

$$J(X) = \sup \{ \min\{\|x + y\|, \|x - y\|\} : x, y \in S_X \}.$$

is James constant of  $X$  ([4]).

**Definition 6** ([9]) (i) Let  $X$  be a Banach space. The von Neumann-Jordan type constant of  $X$  is

$$C_t(X) = \sup\{J_{X,t}(\tau)^2/(1 + \tau^2) : 0 \leq \tau \leq 1\}$$

for  $-\infty \leq t < \infty$ .

(ii) Let  $X$  be a Banach space. The constant  $C'_{\text{NJ}}(X)$  is

$$C'_{\text{NJ}}(X) = \sup\left\{\frac{\|x+y\|^2 + \|x-y\|^2}{2(\|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2)} : x, y \in S_X\right\}.$$

Note that  $C_2(X) = C_{\text{NJ}}(X)$ ,  $C_0(X) = C_Z(X)$  and  $C'_{\text{NJ}}(X) = J_{X,2}(1)^2/2$ , where

$$C_Z(X) = \sup\left\{\frac{\|x+y\|\|x-y\|}{\|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2} : x, y \in X, \text{ not both zero}\right\}.$$

is the Zbăganu constant of  $X$  ([20]).

Some properties of  $C_t(X)$  are found in [9]. For example,

$$1 \leq J(X)^2/2 \leq C_{-\infty}(X) \leq C_Z(X) \leq C_1(X) \leq C_{\text{NJ}}(X) \leq 2.$$

for any Banach space  $X$ . If  $X$  is an  $L_p$ -space, then

$$J(X)^2/2 = C_{-\infty}(X) = C_Z(X) = C_1(X) = C_{\text{NJ}}(X).$$

If  $X$  is a Hilbert space, then all these values are equal to 1, and if  $X$  is not uniformly non-square, then all these values are equal to 2. If  $X$  is  $\ell_2$ - $\ell_1$ , then

$$C_Z(X) = \sqrt{2} < C_1(X) = \frac{3+2\sqrt{2}}{4} < \frac{3}{2} = C_{\text{NJ}}(X) = C'_{\text{NJ}}(X).$$

Note that the dual space  $X^*$  of  $X$  is  $\ell_2$ - $\ell_\infty$ . Then

$$C_t(X^*) = \frac{3}{2} \quad (-\infty \leq t \leq 2).$$

In particular,

$$C_Z(X^*) = C_{\text{NJ}}(X^*) = \frac{3}{2}.$$

Also,

$$C'_{\text{NJ}}(X^*) = \frac{3+2\sqrt{2}}{4} < \frac{3}{2} = C_{\text{NJ}}(X^*).$$

We give these constants for  $X$  being a class of  $\ell_p$ - $\ell_q$  spaces, as an improvement of Theorem 5.

**Theorem 7** Let  $1 \leq q \leq 2, q \leq p < \infty$  with  $2^{2/p-2/q}(p-1) \leq 1$ . Let  $1/p + 1/p' = 1$  and  $1/q + 1/q' = 1$ . Let  $t_0$  be as in Theorem 5. For all  $t$  with  $-\infty \leq t \leq 2$ ,

$$C'_{\text{NJ}}(\ell_p-\ell_q) = C_t(\ell_{p'}-\ell_{q'}) = \frac{2^{2/p}(t_0^2 + 2^{2/q-2/p})}{((1+t_0)^q + (1-t_0)^q)^{2/q}} (= C_{\text{NJ}}(\ell_p-\ell_q)). \quad (2)$$

In particular, if  $1 \leq q \leq p \leq 2$ , then (2) holds.

**Corollary 8** ([9, 14]) Let  $1 \leq p \leq 2$  and  $1/p + 1/p' = 1$ . For all  $t$  with  $-\infty \leq t \leq 2$ ,

$$C'_{\text{NJ}}(\ell_p-\ell_1) = C_t(\ell_{p'}-\ell_\infty) = 1 + 2^{2/p-2} (= C_{\text{NJ}}(\ell_p-\ell_1)).$$

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