

Some progress on the polynomial Dunford–Pettis property

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A Banach space E has the Dunford–Pettis property (DPP, for short) if every weakly compact (linear) operator on E is completely continuous. The \mathcal{L}_1 and the \mathcal{L}_∞ -spaces have the DPP. In 1979 R. A. Ryan proved that E has the DPP if and only if every weakly compact polynomial on E is completely continuous.

Every k -homogeneous (continuous) polynomial $P \in \mathcal{P}(^k E, F)$ between Banach spaces E and F admits an extension $\tilde{P} \in \mathcal{P}(^k E^{**}, F^{**})$ called the Aron–Bernstein extension. The Aron–Bernstein extension of every weakly compact polynomial $P \in \mathcal{P}(^k E, F)$ is F -valued, that is, $\tilde{P}(E^{**}) \subseteq F$, but there are nonweakly compact polynomials with F -valued Aron–Bernstein extension.

We strengthen Ryan’s result by showing that E has the DPP if and only if every polynomial $P \in \mathcal{P}(^k E, F)$ with F -valued Aron–Bernstein extension is completely continuous whenever the closed unit ball B_{F^*} is weak–star sequentially compact. This gives a partial answer to a question raised in 2003 by I. Villanueva and J. M. Gutiérrez. They proved the result for spaces E such that every operator from E into the dual E^* is weakly compact, but the question remained open for other spaces such as the \mathcal{L}_1 -spaces.

Joint work with Raffaella Cilia