

# THE UNIT BALL OF THE HILBERT SPACE IN ITS WEAK TOPOLOGY

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ABSTRACT. We show that the unit ball of  $\ell_p(\Gamma)$  in its weak topology is a continuous image of  $\sigma_1(\Gamma)^\mathbb{N}$  and we deduce some combinatorial properties of its lattice of open sets which are not shared by the balls of other equivalent norms when  $\Gamma$  is uncountable.

For a set  $\Gamma$  and a real number  $1 < p < \infty$ , the Banach space  $\ell_p(\Gamma)$  is a reflexive space, hence its unit ball is compact in the weak topology and in fact, it is homeomorphic to the following closed subset of the Tychonoff cube  $[-1, 1]^\Gamma$ :

$$B(\Gamma) = \left\{ x \in [-1, 1]^\Gamma : \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} |x_\gamma| \leq 1 \right\}.$$

The homeomorphism  $h : B_{\ell_p(\Gamma)} \longrightarrow B(\Gamma)$  is given by  $h(x)_\gamma = \text{sign}(x_\gamma) \cdot |x_\gamma|^p$ . The spaces homeomorphic to closed subsets of some  $B(\Gamma)$  constitute the class of uniform Eberlein compacta, introduced by Benyamini and Starbird [6]. The space  $\sigma_k(\Gamma)$ , the compact subset of  $\{0, 1\}^\Gamma$  which consists of the functions with at most  $k$  nonzero coordinates ( $k$  a positive integer) is an example of a uniform Eberlein compact. In fact, the following result was proven in [5]:

**Theorem 1** (Benyamini, Rudin, Wage). *Every uniform Eberlein compact of weight  $\kappa$  is a continuous image of a closed subset of  $\sigma_1(\kappa)^\mathbb{N}$ .*

In the same paper [5], it was posed the problem whether in fact, it was possible to get any uniform Eberlein compact as a continuous image of the full  $\sigma_1(\Gamma)^\mathbb{N}$ . This question was answered in the negative by Bell [2], by considering the following property:

A compact space  $K$  verifies property (Q) if for every uncountable regular cardinal  $\lambda$  and every family  $\{U_\alpha, V_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \lambda}$  of open subsets of  $K$  with  $\overline{U_\alpha} \subset V_\alpha$  one of the following two alternatives must hold:

- (1) either there exists a set  $A \subset \lambda$  with  $|A| = \lambda$  such that  $U_\alpha \cap U_\beta = \emptyset$  for every two different elements  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in  $A$ ,

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- (2) or either there exists a set  $A \subset \lambda$  with  $|A| = \lambda$  such that  $V_\alpha \cap V_\beta \neq \emptyset$  for every two different elements  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in  $A$ .

Bell proved in [2] that property (Q) is satisfied by all polyadic spaces, that is, continuous images of  $\sigma_1(\Gamma)^\Lambda$  for any sets  $\Gamma$  and  $\Lambda$ , (this concept was introduced in [8] and studied earlier by Gerlits [7]), but he constructed a uniform Eberlein compact without property (Q). Later, Bell [4] provided another example of a uniform Eberlein compact which is not a continuous image of any  $\sigma_1(\Gamma)^\mathbb{N}$  but which is nevertheless polyadic. Our main result is the following:

**Theorem 2.**  *$B(\Gamma)$  is a continuous image of  $\sigma_1(\Gamma)^\mathbb{N}$ .*

As a consequence,  $B(\Gamma)$  satisfies property (Q) as well as other properties of the same type introduced by Bell in [4] and [3]. However, if  $\Gamma$  is uncountable, we show in Theorem 4 that a modification of one of the examples of Bell provides an equivalent norm on  $\ell_p(\Gamma)$  whose unit ball is not a continuous image of  $\sigma_1(\Gamma)^\mathbb{N}$ , indeed not satisfying property (Q). In particular, we are showing the existence of equivalent norms in the nonseparable  $\ell_p(\Gamma)$  whose closed unit balls are not homeomorphic in the weak topology. This contrasts with the separable case, since the balls of all separable reflexive Banach spaces are weakly homeomorphic [1, Theorem 1.1]. We refer to [1] for information about the problem whether the balls of equivalent norms in a Banach space are weakly homeomorphic in the separable case.

*Proof of Theorem 2:* For a set  $\Delta$  we will use the notation  $B^+(\Delta) = B(\Delta) \cap [0, 1]^\Delta$ . First, we point out that  $B(\Gamma)$  is a continuous image of  $B^+(\Gamma)$ . Indeed, if we consider  $\Gamma^\circ = \Gamma \times \{a, b\}$ , we have a continuous surjection  $\psi : B^+(\Gamma^\circ) \rightarrow B(\Gamma)$  given by  $\psi(x)_\gamma = x_{(\gamma,a)} - x_{(\gamma,b)}$ .

In a second step, we apply the standard procedure to express the space  $B^+(\Gamma)$  as a continuous image of a totally disconnected compact  $L_0$ . We fix a sequence  $(r_n)_{n=0}^\infty$  of positive real numbers such that  $\sum_{n=0}^\infty r_n = 1$  and such that the continuous map  $\phi : \{0, 1\}^\mathbb{N} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  given by  $\phi(x) = \sum_{n=0}^\infty r_n x_n$  is surjective, for example  $r_n = \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}$ . We consider the power  $\phi^\Gamma : \{0, 1\}^{\Gamma \times \mathbb{N}} \rightarrow [0, 1]^\Gamma$  and then we set:

$$\begin{aligned} L_0 &= (\phi^\Gamma)^{-1}(B^+(\Gamma)), \\ f &= \phi^\Gamma|_{L_0}, \end{aligned}$$

so that  $f : L_0 \rightarrow B^+(\Gamma)$  is a continuous surjection. It will be convenient to have an explicit description of  $L_0$ . For  $x \in \{0, 1\}^{\Gamma \times \mathbb{N}}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we define  $N_n(x) = |\{\gamma \in \Gamma : x_{(\gamma,n)} = 1\}|$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
x \in L_0 &\iff \phi^\Gamma(x) \in B^+(\Gamma) \\
&\iff \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \phi^\Gamma(x)_\gamma \leq 1 \\
&\iff \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} r_n x_{(\gamma, n)} \leq 1 \\
&\iff \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} r_n N_n(x) \leq 1.
\end{aligned}$$

The compact space  $L_0$  can be alternatively described as follows. Let  $Z$  be a compact subset of  $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$  such that if  $\sigma \in Z$  and  $\tau_n \leq \sigma_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $\tau \in Z$ . Associated to such a set  $Z$  we construct the following space:

$$\mathcal{K}(Z, \Gamma) = \{x \in \{0, 1\}^{\Gamma \times \mathbb{N}} : (N_n(x))_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in Z\}.$$

We have that  $L_0 = \mathcal{K}(Z_0, \Gamma)$  where  $Z_0 = \{s \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} : \sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} r_i s_i \leq 1\}$ . Note that  $Z_0$  is indeed compact since it is a closed subset of  $\prod_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \{0, \dots, M_n\}$  where  $M_n$  is the integer part of  $\frac{1}{r_n}$ . The proof will be complete after the following lemma:

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $Z$  be a compact subset of  $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$  such that if  $\sigma \in Z$  and  $\tau_n \leq \sigma_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $\tau \in Z$ . Then  $\mathcal{K}(Z, \Gamma)$  is a continuous image of  $\sigma_1(\Gamma)^{\mathbb{N}}$ .*

PROOF: First we check that  $\mathcal{K}(Z, \Gamma)$  is a closed subset of  $\{0, 1\}^{\Gamma \times \mathbb{N}}$  and hence compact. Namely, if  $x \in \{0, 1\}^{\Gamma \times \mathbb{N}} \setminus \mathcal{K}(Z, \Gamma)$ , then  $(N_n(x))_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \notin Z$  and since  $Z$  is closed in  $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ , there is a finite set  $F \subset \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\sigma \notin Z$  whenever  $\sigma_n = N_n(x)$  for all  $n \in F$ . Indeed, by the definition of  $Z$ , if  $\tau \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$  and  $\tau_n \geq \sigma_n$  of all  $n \in F$ , also  $\tau \notin Z$ . In this case,

$$W = \{y \in \{0, 1\}^{\Gamma \times \mathbb{N}} : y_{\gamma, n} = 1 \text{ whenever } n \in F \text{ and } x_{\gamma, n} = 1\}$$

is a neighborhood which separates  $x$  from  $\mathcal{K}(Z, \Gamma)$  and this finishes the proof that  $\mathcal{K}(Z, \Gamma)$  is closed. Since  $Z$  is compact, for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists  $M_n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\sigma_n \leq M_n$  for all  $\sigma \in Z$ . We define the following compact space:

$$L_1 = Z \times \prod_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \prod_{i=0}^{M_m} \sigma_i(\Gamma)$$

Note that  $L_1$  is a continuous image of  $\sigma_1(\Gamma)^{\mathbb{N}}$ . On the one hand, since  $Z$  is a metrizable compact, it is a continuous image of  $\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$  and in particular of  $\sigma_1(\Gamma)^{\mathbb{N}}$ . On the other hand, for any  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , the space  $\sigma_i(\Gamma)$  can be viewed as the family of all subsets of  $\Gamma$  of cardinality at most  $i$ . In this way, we consider the continuous surjection  $p : \sigma_1(\Gamma)^i \rightarrow \sigma_i(\Gamma)$  given by  $p(x_1, \dots, x_i) = x_1 \cup \dots \cup x_i$ . From the existence of such a function follows the fact that any countable product of spaces  $\sigma_i(\Gamma)$  is a continuous image of  $\sigma_1(\Gamma)^{\mathbb{N}}$ , and in particular, the second factor in the expression of  $L_1$  is such an image.

It remains to define a continuous surjection  $g : L_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{K}(Z, \Gamma)$ . We first fix some notation. An element of  $L_1$  will be written as  $(z, x)$  where  $z \in Z$  and  $x \in$

$\prod_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \prod_{i=0}^{M_m} \sigma_i(\Gamma)$ . At the same time, such an  $x$  is of the form  $(x^m)_{m \in \mathbb{N}}$  with  $x^m \in \prod_{i=0}^{M_m} \sigma_i(\Gamma)$  and again each  $x^m$  is  $(x^{m,i})_{i=1}^{M_m}$  where  $x^{m,i} \in \sigma_i(\Gamma)$ . Finally  $x^{m,i} = (x_\gamma^{m,i})_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \in \sigma_i(\Gamma) \subset \{0, 1\}^\Gamma$ . The function  $g : L_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{K}(Z, \Gamma) \subset \{0, 1\}^{\Gamma \times \mathbb{N}}$  is defined as follows:

$$g(z, x)_{\gamma, m} = x_\gamma^{m, z(m)}$$

Observe that  $g(x, z)$  maps indeed  $L_1$  onto  $\mathcal{K}(Z, \Gamma)$  because for every  $m$ ,  $(x_\gamma^{m, z(m)})_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  is an arbitrary element of  $\sigma_{z(m)}(\Gamma)$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be an uncountable set and  $1 < p < \infty$ . There exists an equivalent norm on  $\ell_p(\Gamma)$  whose unit ball does not satisfy property (Q) and hence it is not polyadic.*

PROOF: This is a variation of an example of Bell [2], originally a scattered compact, so that to make it absolutely convex. We will consider  $\omega_1$  as a subset of  $\Gamma$ . Let  $\phi : \omega_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a one-to-one map and

$$G = \{(\alpha, \beta) \in \omega_1 \times \omega_1 : \phi(\alpha) < \phi(\beta) \iff \alpha \preceq \beta\}.$$

We define an equivalent norm on  $\ell_p(\Gamma) \times \ell_p(\Gamma) \sim \ell_p(\Gamma)$  by

$$\|(x, y)\|' = \sup\{\|x\|_p, \|y\|_p, |x_\alpha| + |y_\beta| : (\alpha, \beta) \in G\}.$$

and let  $K$  be its unit ball considered in its weak topology. Fix numbers  $1 < \xi_1 < \xi_2 < 2^{1-\frac{1}{p}}$ . The families of open sets

$$U_\alpha = \{(x, y) \in K : |x_\alpha| + |y_\alpha| > \xi_2\}, \quad \alpha < \omega_1$$

$$V_\alpha = \{(x, y) \in K : |x_\alpha| + |y_\alpha| > \xi_1\}, \quad \alpha < \omega_1$$

verify that  $\overline{U_\alpha} \subset V_\alpha$  and that for any  $\alpha, \beta < \omega_1$ ,  $U_\alpha \cap U_\beta = \emptyset$  if and only if  $(\alpha, \beta) \in G$  if and only if  $V_\alpha \cap V_\beta = \emptyset$ . Namely, if there is some  $(x, y) \in V_\alpha \cap V_\beta$ , then

$$|x_\alpha| + |y_\alpha| + |x_\beta| + |y_\beta| > \xi_1 + \xi_1 > 2$$

and therefore either  $|x_\alpha| + |x_\beta| > 1$  or  $|y_\alpha| + |y_\beta| > 1$  and this implies that  $(\alpha, \beta) \notin G$  since  $(x, y) \in K$ . On the other hand, if  $(\alpha, \beta) \notin G$  then the element  $(x, y) \in \ell_p(\Gamma) \times \ell_p(\Gamma)$  which has all coordinates zero except  $x_\alpha = x_\beta = y_\alpha = y_\beta = 2^{-\frac{1}{p}}$  lies in  $U_\alpha \cap U_\beta$ . Since there is no uncountable subset well ordered (or inversely well ordered) subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  there is no uncountable subset  $A$  of  $\omega_1$  such that  $A \times A \subset G$  or  $(A \times A) \cap G = \emptyset$ . Therefore, the families  $\{U_\alpha\}$  and  $\{V_\alpha\}$  witness the fact that  $K$  does not have property (Q) and hence, it is not polyadic.  $\square$

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