

ON THE “THREE-SPACE PROBLEM” FOR SPACES OF POLYNOMIALS¹

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Abstract. *The problem of when equality between any two of the usual topologies on spaces of homogeneous continuous polynomials on a real or complex locally convex space is a “three-space property” is considered. For all possible cases a positive result or a counterexample is given.*

1 Introduction

The study of when a property is a “three-space property” (3SP) has drawn the attention of several authors. For a recent survey on the particular case of Banach spaces see [9] and for the locally convex space case see [22]. We recall that a property is a 3SP for a space E if E has the property when F and E/F have it for a subspace F of E . We will say that a property is a 3SP for closed (resp. complemented) subspaces if E has the property when for a closed (resp. complemented) subspace F of E , F and E/F have it.

For a given real or complex locally convex space E and a natural number n , denote by $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$ the space of all n -homogeneous continuous polynomials on E (recall that the elements in $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$ are the restrictions to the diagonal of the n -linear continuous mappings from $E \times \cdots \times E$ into the scalar field). On $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$ we consider the natural topologies τ_o , τ_b , β and τ_ω (see the definitions below) and we study when the equality $\tau = \sigma$ for two of those topologies is a 3SP. We give an answer for all possible choices of τ and σ . The topologies on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$ we consider are defined as follows:

- τ_o is the topology of uniform convergence on all convex balanced compact subsets of E . When E is quasi-complete, τ_o is the compact open topology.

- τ_b is the topology of uniform convergence on bounded subsets of E . When $n = 1$, τ_b is the strong topology on the dual E' of E .

- β is the strong topology on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$ as the dual space of $\hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi}^n E$, the completion of the n -fold projective symmetric tensor product of E by itself n times (see [23], [13], [14]). For $n = 1$, β and τ_b agree.

- τ_ω is the Nachbin ported topology defined as the inductive limit of the normed spaces $\mathcal{P}({}^n E_V)$, when V ranges over the family of all open, convex and balanced neighborhoods of 0 in E (note that the natural normed topology on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E_V)$ agrees with τ_b).

It is easy to see that $\tau_o \leq \tau_b \leq \beta \leq \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$. Sometimes these topologies agree, but in general do not (see [12]). It is even possible that $\tau_o < \tau_b < \beta < \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$ for a Fréchet

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Grothendieck: A pair (E, F) of locally convex spaces has property (BB) if every bounded subset B in the completed projective tensor product $E \hat{\otimes}_\pi F$ is contained in the closed convex balanced hull of $C \otimes D$, being C bounded in E and D bounded in F .

For every bounded subset C in E and for every polynomial $P \in \mathcal{P}({}^n E)$,

$$\|P\|_C = \sup\{|P(x)| : x \in C\} = \sup\{|Q(x \otimes \cdots \otimes x)| : x \in C\} = \|Q\|_{\bar{\Gamma}(\otimes^n C)},$$

where Q denotes the linearization of P through the tensor product $\hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi}^n E$ and $\bar{\Gamma}(\otimes^n C)$ denotes the closed convex balanced hull of $\otimes^n C$. So, for a locally convex space E we have $\tau_b = \beta$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$ if and only if E has the $(BB)_{n,s}$ property.

Counterexample 3 Let E_1 be the cartesian product $\mathbb{C}^\mathbb{N}$ and E_2 the direct sum $\mathbb{C}^{(\mathbb{N})}$. Then $\tau_o = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E_i)$ for $i = 1, 2$, but $\tau_o \neq \beta$ (and hence $\tau_o \neq \tau_\omega$) on $\mathcal{P}({}^n (E_1 \times E_2))$.

Proof.

The space $E_1 = \mathbb{C}^\mathbb{N}$ is in fact the first known example of an infinite dimensional Fréchet space such that $\tau_o = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E_1)$ [4]. On the other hand, $E_2 = \mathbb{C}^{(\mathbb{N})}$ is the strong dual of the Fréchet-Montel space E_1 and for such spaces τ_o agrees with τ_ω [11]. Both are classical results in infinite dimensional holomorphy which can be obtained easily using the $(BB)_{n,s}$ property: E_1 and E_2 are Montel spaces and both have the $(BB)_{n,s}$ property which follows straightforward from [15, 1.3 Prop. 7 and Cor. 2], then $\tau_o = \tau_b = \beta$ in both cases. $(\mathcal{P}({}^n E_1), \beta)$ as the strong dual of the Fréchet Montel space $\hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi}^n \mathbb{C}^\mathbb{N}$ is bornological and $(\mathcal{P}({}^n E_2), \beta)$ as the strong dual of the DFM space $\hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi}^n \mathbb{C}^{(\mathbb{N})}$ is also bornological. Since τ_ω is the bornological topology associated with τ_o , and hence with β , for metrizable or DFM spaces [12, Ex. 1.37 and Ex. 1.38], we have that $\tau_o = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E_i)$, $i = 1, 2$.

To see that $\tau_o \neq \beta$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n (E_1 \times E_2))$ we are going to see that $E_1 \times E_2$ has not the $(BB)_{n,s}$ property. It is known that this particular couple (E_1, E_2) has not the (BB) property [15, 1.1.2] and when a couple of spaces (E_1, E_2) , each of them with the $(BB)_{2,s}$ property, as this is the case, does not have the (BB) property, then $E_1 \times E_2$ does not have the $(BB)_{2,s}$ property. This follows from the following formula (see [2]) which holds for every pair of locally convex spaces E_1, E_2 :

$$\hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi}^2 (E_1 \times E_2) \cong (E_1 \hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi} E_1) \times (E_1 \hat{\otimes}_\pi E_2) \times (E_2 \hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi} E_2).$$

Since the $(BB)_{n,s}$ property implies the $(BB)_{2,s}$ property [7] this gives that E does not have the $(BB)_{n,s}$ property. Another proof of this can be found in [12, Ex. 1.39]. □

Remark 4 In the context of Fréchet spaces we don't know if it is possible that any of the equalities $\tau_o = \beta$ or $\tau_o = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$, for $n \geq 2$, are 3SP (for $n = 1$ the answer is yes and follows from Theorem 2). For Fréchet spaces, β and τ_ω are different in general but we have the following theorem.

Theorem 5 If E is a Fréchet space, the equality $\tau_o = \beta$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$ is a 3SP for closed subspaces if and only if the equality $\tau_o = \tau_\omega$ is.

Proof.

Assume $\tau_o = \beta$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$ is a 3SP. Let F be a closed subspace of E and assume that $\tau_o = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n F)$ and on $\mathcal{P}({}^n(E/F))$. Then by hypothesis $\tau_o = \beta$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$. But, as we have seen, since E is a Fréchet space, the above equality implies that E is Montel and for Fréchet-Montel spaces E with the $(BB)_{n,s}$ property, $\hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi}^n E$ is also a Fréchet-Montel space, hence its strong dual, which is $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$ endowed with β , is bornological. Then $\beta = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$.

If we now assume that $\tau_o = \beta$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n F)$ and on $\mathcal{P}({}^n(E/F))$, then F and E/F are Montel spaces with the $(BB)_{n,s}$ property. Hence the spaces $\hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi}^n F$ and $\hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi}^n(E/F)$ are Fréchet-Montel spaces and their strong duals $(\mathcal{P}({}^n F), \beta)$ and $(\mathcal{P}({}^n(E/F)), \beta)$ are bornological. So $\tau_o = \tau_\omega$ on these spaces. The hypothesis gives $\tau_o = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$ and then $\tau_o = \beta$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$. \square

4 The 3SP for $\tau_b = \beta$ and $\tau_b = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$

As we mentioned in section 3, for a locally convex space E the equality $\tau_b = \beta$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$ is equivalent to E having the $(BB)_{n,s}$ property. Property $(BB)_{n,s}$ is inherited by passing to complemented subspaces [7]. Now we are going to see that this property can be lost by passing to cartesian products. This implies that $(BB)_{n,s}$ is not a 3SP even for complemented subspaces or, equivalently, that $\tau_b = \beta$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$ is not a 3SP for complemented subspaces.

Counterexample 6 Consider as E_1 the Fréchet space given by the projective limit $\ell^{p^+} := \bigcap_{q>p} \ell^q = \text{proj}_n \ell^{(p+\frac{1}{n})}$, with $2 \leq p < \infty$ (see [20]), and let $E_2 = C_2$ be the ℓ^2 -sum of a sequence of finite dimensional Banach spaces dense in the set of all finite dimensional spaces with respect to the Banach-Mazur distance [18]. Then $\tau_b = \beta$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^2 E_1)$ and $\tau_b = \beta$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^2 E_2)$, but $\tau_b \neq \beta$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^2 E)$ where $E = E_1 \times E_2$. So $\tau_b = \beta$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^2 E)$ is not a 3SP even for complemented subspaces.

Proof.

E_1 has the property $(BB)_{2,s}$: It is proved in [10, Ex. 5] that (E_1, E_1) has the (BB) property and hence E_1 has the $(BB)_{2,s}$ property. On the other hand, since E_2 is a Banach space, (E_2, E_2) has the (BB) property [15, 1.3. Prop. 5] and hence E_2 has the $(BB)_{2,s}$ property. Let us see how $E_1 \times E_2$ does not have the property $(BB)_{2,s}$. It is proved in [21, Count. 2] that this particular couple (E_1, E_2) does not have the (BB) property, then the argument at the end of counterexample 3 gives that $E_1 \times E_2$ does not have the $(BB)_{2,s}$ property. \square

Remark 7 For the particular spaces we have considered in the above counterexample it happens that the strong topology on the corresponding spaces of polynomials agrees with the Nachbin ported topology τ_ω . Note that E_1 has the Heinrich density condition (DC) [16], a consequence of the fact that E_1 is quasinormable which follows from [20]. This implies that $\hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi}^2 E_1$ has the (DC) [5, 1.7] and then it is distinguished; so its strong dual is bornological and then $\beta = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E_1)$ ($\hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi}^2 E_1$ is Fréchet). On the other hand since E_2 is a Banach space $\beta = \tau_\omega$ and both agree with the natural normed topology on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E_2)$. Then the above counterexample also shows that the equality $\tau_b = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$ is not a 3SP (even for complemented subspaces).

5 The 3SP for $\beta = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$

The next counterexample shows that $\beta = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E)$ is not a 3SP even for complemented subspaces.

Counterexample 8 Let E_1 be the Banach space ℓ^1 and let E_2 be the Köthe sequence space $\lambda_p(A)$, where p is any real number greater than n and A is the Grothendieck-Köthe matrix [19, Ch. 31] (or any Köthe matrix which does not satisfy condition (D), see [5, Th. 2.6]). Then $\beta = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E_1)$ and on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E_2)$ but $\beta \neq \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n(E_1 \times E_2))$.

Proof.

Since E_1 is Banach, $\beta = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E_1)$. On the other hand, since $p > n$, the Fréchet space $\hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi}^n \lambda_p(A)$ is distinguished [8] and then $(\mathcal{P}({}^n \lambda_p(A)), \beta)$ is bornological, so $\beta = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E_2)$. Let us see how $\beta \neq \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n(E_1 \times E_2))$. The space $\hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi}^2(E_1 \times E_2)$ is complemented in $\hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi}^n(E_1 \times E_2)$ [7] and the formula at the end of counterexample 3 gives that $\ell^1 \hat{\otimes}_\pi \lambda_p(A)$ is complemented on this space. Since $\ell^1 \hat{\otimes}_\pi \lambda_p(A)$ is not distinguished (it is distinguished if and only if $\lambda_p(A)$ has the density condition [6, 2.4] and because of our assumption on A , $\lambda_p(A)$ has not this condition), we have that $\hat{\otimes}_{s,\pi}^n(E_1 \times E_2)$ is not distinguished which gives that $(\mathcal{P}({}^n(E_1 \times E_2)), \beta)$ is not bornological and then $\beta \neq \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{P}({}^n E_1 \times E_2)$. \square

Remark 9 If we denote by $\mathcal{H}_b(E)$ the space of all entire functions of bounded type on a complex locally convex space E endowed with its natural topology τ_b of uniform convergence on bounded subsets, then the arguments in the proofs of Counterexample 1 and Theorem 2 show that the equality $\tau_0 = \tau_b$ on $\mathcal{H}_b(E)$ is not a 3SP in general, but it is a 3SP for Fréchet spaces with respect to closed subspaces. The argument in Counterexample 3 also shows that the equality $\tau_0 = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{H}(E)$, the space of all entire functions on a complex locally convex space E , is not a 3SP. For the definition of τ_ω on spaces of holomorphic functions see [12, Def. 2.33]. Note that $(\mathcal{P}({}^n E), \tau_0)$ (resp. $(\mathcal{P}({}^n E), \tau_\omega)$) are complemented subspaces of $(\mathcal{H}(E), \tau_0)$ (resp. $(\mathcal{H}(E), \tau_\omega)$) [12, 2.40 and 2.41]. According [3] $\tau_0 = \tau_\omega$ on $\mathcal{H}(E)$ for Fréchet spaces E is a 3SP for closed subspaces if and only if it is a 3SP for closed subspaces on $\mathcal{P}^n(E)$ for all n .

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