

## ON A FUNCTION MODULE WITH APPROXIMATE HYPERPLANE SERIES PROPERTY

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(Received 22 November 2017; accepted 2 March 2019; first published online 3 July 2019)

Communicated by W. Moors

### Abstract

We present a sufficient and necessary condition for a function module space  $X$  to have the approximate hyperplane series property (AHSP). As a consequence, we have that the space  $C_0(L, E)$  of bounded and continuous  $E$ -valued mappings defined on the locally compact Hausdorff space  $L$  has AHSP if and only if  $E$  has AHSP.

*2010 Mathematics subject classification:* primary 46E25; secondary 15A03.

*Keywords and phrases:* Bishop–Phelps–Bollobás property for operators, approximate hyperplane series property, function module space.

### 1. Introduction

Throughout the paper,  $E$  and  $F$  will be complex Banach spaces. As usual,  $S_E$ ,  $B_E$  and  $E^*$  will denote the unit sphere, the closed unit ball, and the (topological) dual of  $E$ , respectively. Given two Banach spaces  $E$  and  $F$ ,  $\mathcal{L}(E, F)$  denotes the space of all bounded linear operators from  $E$  into  $F$ .

The Bishop–Phelps theorem states that the set of norm-attaining functionals on  $E$  is dense in  $E^*$  [8]. It has been usefully extended in many directions and in the study of optimization. After the celebrated Bishop–Phelps theorem, it was a natural question as to whether the set of norm-attaining linear operators is dense in  $\mathcal{L}(E, F)$ , for all  $E$  and  $F$ .

In 1963, J. Lindenstrauss [18] gave a counterexample showing that it does not hold in general and he also showed that, if  $E$  is reflexive, then the set of all norm-attaining operators is always dense in the space of  $\mathcal{L}(E, F)$ .

Motivated by the study of numerical ranges of operators, B. Bollobás in [9] proved a refinement of the Bishop–Phelps theorem, nowadays known as the Bishop–Phelps–Bollobás theorem [9, Theorem 1].

Carrying Bollobás’s ideas to the vector-valued case in 2008, Acosta, Aron, García and Maestre [1] introduced the notion of the Bishop–Phelps–Bollobás property for

operators (BPBP for operators, for short) (see the Definition 2.1). BPBP for operators is a stronger property than the denseness of norm-attaining operators. It had been known that the set of norm-attaining operators from  $\ell_1$  to any Banach space  $F$  is dense, but the pair  $(\ell_1, F)$  has BPBP for operators if  $F$  has a special property. This property was introduced in [1], called the approximate hyperplane series property (AHSP, for short), with the purpose of characterizing those Banach spaces  $F$  such that  $(\ell_1, F)$  has BPBP for operators. These two properties have attracted the attention of many researchers. For more details and recent results about BPBP for operators or AHSP, see [2–6, 10–12, 14–17].

In this note we study when a function module space  $X$  has AHSP and we obtain that the space  $C(K, E)$  has AHSP if, and only if, a Banach space  $E$  has AHSP. In this sense, we have generalized a result of Choi and Kim [13]. We also obtain as a consequence, the space  $C_0(L, E)$  of bounded and continuous  $E$ -valued mappings defined on the locally compact Hausdorff space  $L$  has AHSP if and only if  $E$  has AHSP.

### 2. Results

For our purposes, it will be useful to recall the definition of BPBP for operators.

**DEFINITION 2.1.** Let  $E$  and  $F$  be Banach spaces. We say that the pair  $(E, F)$  has the *Bishop–Phelps–Bollobás property for operators* (BPBP for operators, for short) if given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there is  $\eta(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that whenever  $T \in S_{\mathcal{L}(E,F)}$  and  $x_0 \in S_E$  satisfy that  $\|Tx_0\| > 1 - \eta(\varepsilon)$ , then there exist a point  $u_0 \in S_E$  and an operator  $S \in S_{\mathcal{L}(E,F)}$  satisfying the following conditions.

$$\|Su_0\| = 1, \quad \|u_0 - x_0\| < \varepsilon, \quad \text{and} \quad \|S - T\| < \varepsilon.$$

Now we will give the definition of AHSP introduced in [1]. Recall that if  $(x_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \subset E$  and  $(\lambda_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \subset \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\lambda_k \geq 0$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , we say that the series given by  $\sum_{k=1}^\infty \lambda_k x_k$  is a *convex series* if  $\sum_{k=1}^\infty \lambda_k = 1$ .

**DEFINITION 2.2.** A Banach space  $E$  is said to have AHSP (approximate hyperplane series property) if for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $0 < \eta < \varepsilon$  such that for every sequence  $(x_k)_k \subset S_E$  and convex series  $\sum_{k=1}^\infty \alpha_k x_k$  with

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^\infty \alpha_k x_k \right\| > 1 - \eta,$$

there exist a subset  $A \subset \mathbb{N}$  and a subset  $\{z_k : k \in A\}$  satisfying

- (i)  $\sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k > 1 - \varepsilon$ ;
- (ii)  $\|z_k - x_k\| < \varepsilon$  for all  $k \in A$ ;
- (iii)  $x^*(z_k) = 1$  for a certain  $x^* \in S_{X^*}$  and for all  $k \in A$ .

We observe that the above property holds if it is satisfied just for a finite convex combination (instead of convex series). The very useful comment in [1] is:

‘Geometrically,  $E$  has AHSP if whenever we have a convex series of vectors in  $B_E$  whose norm is very close to 1, then a preponderance of these vectors are uniformly close to unit vectors that lie in the same hyperplane  $(x^*)^{-1}(1)$ , where  $\|x^*\| = 1$ .’

Among the spaces with AHSP, we may cite finite dimensional spaces, uniformly convex spaces and  $C_0(L)$  spaces, as representative examples [1]. On the other hand, there are spaces failing this property: every strictly convex space which is not uniformly convex [1]. We refer the reader to the paper [15] for more examples of spaces with AHSP.

It was verified in [1] that in the Definition 2.2, we can consider sequences  $(x_k)_k$  of vectors in the unit ball of  $E$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.3.** *Let  $E$  be a Banach space.  $E$  has AHSP if and only if for all  $\epsilon > 0$  there exist  $0 < \gamma(\epsilon) < \epsilon$  and  $\eta(\epsilon) > 0$  with  $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \gamma(\epsilon) = 0$  such that for every sequence,  $(x_k)_k \subset B_E$  and every convex series  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k x_k$  satisfying*

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k x_k \right\| > 1 - \eta(\epsilon),$$

*there exist a subset  $A \subset \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\{z_k : k \in A\} \subset S_E$  and  $x^* \in S_{E^*}$  such that*

- (i)  $\sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k > 1 - \gamma(\epsilon)$ ;
- (ii)  $\|z_k - x_k\| < \epsilon$  for all  $k \in A$ ;
- (iii)  $x^*(z_k) = 1$  for all  $k \in A$ .

Our objective is to study when a function module space has AHSP. For this, we define a function module space. Recall that a space  $X$  is a  $C(K)$ -module space if for all  $x \in X$  and for all  $h \in C(K)$ , we have that  $hx \in X$ , where  $(hx)(t) := h(t)x(t)$ .

**DEFINITION 2.4.** *Function Module* is (the third coordinate of) a triple  $(K, (X_t)_{t \in K}, X)$ , where  $K$  is a nonempty compact Hausdorff topological space,  $(X_t)_{t \in K}$  a family of Banach spaces, and  $X$  a closed  $C(K)$ -submodule of the  $C(K)$ -module  $\prod_{t \in K}^{\infty} X_t$  (the  $\ell_{\infty}$ -sum of the spaces  $X_t$ ) such that the following conditions are satisfied:

- (1) for every  $x \in X$ , the function  $t \mapsto \|x(t)\|$  from  $K$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  is upper semicontinuous;
- (2) for every  $t \in K$ , we have  $X_t = \{x(t) : x \in X\}$ ;
- (3) the set  $\{t \in K : X_t \neq 0\}$  is dense in  $K$ .

**REMARK 2.5.** In the Definition 2.4,  $K$  is called the base space and the family  $(X_t)_{t \in K}$  is called the component spaces.

For function modules we follow the notation of [7], where the basic results of such theory can be found.

**EXAMPLES 2.6.**

- (a) Let  $K$  be a nonempty compact Hausdorff space and  $E \neq \{0\}$ . The space  $C(K, E)$  can be viewed as a function module space when  $X_t = E$  for all  $t \in K$  and  $X = C(K, E)$ .
- (b) Let  $L$  be a nonempty locally compact Hausdorff space. The space  $C_0(L, E)$  is the space of all continuous function  $f : L \rightarrow E$  such that for all  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists a compact set  $C \subset L$  such that  $\|f(t)\| \leq \epsilon$ , for all  $t \in L \setminus C$ . It can be regarded in a natural way as a function module with base space  $K = \beta L$  (the Stone–Cech compactification of  $L$ ) and the component spaces  $(X_t)_{t \in K}$  given by  $X_t = E$  if  $t \in L$  and  $X_t = \{0\}$  if  $t \in K \setminus L$ .

**THEOREM 2.7.** *Let  $(K, (X_t)_{t \in K}, X)$  be a complex function module and  $\epsilon > 0$ . Suppose that for all  $t \in K$ ,  $(X_t)_{t \in K}$  has AHSP with the same function  $\eta(\epsilon)$  given by Proposition 2.3, and for every  $x_t \in X_t$  there exists  $f \in X$  such that  $f(t) = x_t$  and  $\|f\| \leq \|x_t\|$  then  $X$  has AHSP.*

**PROOF.** Let  $0 < \epsilon < 1$ . We consider a finite convex series  $\sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_k x_k$  for  $(x_k)_{k=1}^n \subset B_X$  such that

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_k x_k \right\| > 1 - \eta\left(\frac{\epsilon}{2}\right).$$

Since

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_k x_k \right\| = \sup \left\{ \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_k x_k(t) \right\|_{X_t} : t \in K \right\} > 1 - \eta\left(\frac{\epsilon}{2}\right),$$

there exists  $t_0 \in K$  such that,

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_k x_k(t_0) \right\|_{X_{t_0}} > 1 - \eta\left(\frac{\epsilon}{2}\right).$$

And for all  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  we have,

$$\|x_k(t_0)\|_{X_{t_0}} \leq \|x_k\| \leq 1.$$

Then, the sequence  $(x_k(t_0))_{k=1}^n \subset B_{X_{t_0}}$ . By hypothesis  $X_{t_0}$  has AHSP and by Proposition 2.3 there exist  $A \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$ ,  $\{z_k : k \in A\} \subset S_{X_{t_0}}$  and  $z^* \in S_{X_{t_0}^*}$  such that:

- (1)  $\sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k > 1 - \gamma(\epsilon/2)$ ;
- (2)  $\|z_k - x_k(t_0)\|_{X_{t_0}} < \epsilon/2$  for all  $k \in A$ ;
- (3)  $z^*(z_k) = 1$  for all  $k \in A$ .

By hypothesis, for all  $k \in A$  there exist  $f_k \in X$  such that  $f_k(t_0) = z_k$  and  $\|f_k\| \leq \|z_k\| = 1$ . Now, we define the following subset in  $K$ :

$$U = \bigcap_{k \in A} \left\{ t \in K : \|f_k(t) - x_k(t)\|_{X_t} \leq \frac{\epsilon}{2} \right\}.$$

It is clear that  $U \neq \emptyset$  and  $U$  is an open set of  $K$ , since the function  $t \in K \mapsto \|x(t)\| \in \mathbb{R}$  is upper semicontinuous for all  $x \in X$ . By Urysohn's lemma there exists a function  $\varphi : K \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that  $\varphi(t_0) = 1$  and  $\varphi(t) = 0$  for all  $t \in K \setminus U$ .

Now, for each  $k \in A$  let  $g_k : K \rightarrow \bigcup_{t \in K} X_t$  defined by

$$g_k(t) = \varphi(t)f_k(t) + \left(1 - \frac{\epsilon}{2}\right)(1 - \varphi(t))x_k(t).$$

It is clear that  $g_k \in X$  for all  $k \in A$ . We claim that  $(g_k)_{k \in A} \subset S_X$ . Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} \|g_k(t)\|_{X_t} &= \left\| \varphi(t)f_k(t) + \left(1 - \frac{\epsilon}{2}\right)(1 - \varphi(t))x_k(t) \right\|_{X_t} \\ &\leq \varphi(t) + 1 - \varphi(t) = 1, \end{aligned}$$

and  $\|g_k(t_0)\|_{X_{t_0}} = \|z_k\|_{X_{t_0}} = 1$ . So, for all  $k \in A$

$$\|g_k\| = \sup\{\|g_k(t)\|_{X_t} : t \in K\} = 1,$$

which means  $g_k \in S_X$  for all  $k \in A$ .

Now, we will show that  $\|g_k - x_k\| < \epsilon$  for all  $k \in A$ . In fact, if  $t \in U$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \|g_k(t) - x_k(t)\|_{X_t} &= \left\| \varphi(t)f_k(t) + \left(1 - \frac{\epsilon}{2}\right)(1 - \varphi(t))x_k(t) - x_k(t) \right\|_{X_t} \\ &= \left\| \varphi(t)(f_k(t) - x_k(t)) - \frac{\epsilon}{2}(1 - \varphi(t))x_k(t) \right\|_{X_t} \\ &\leq \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

If  $t \in K \setminus U$ , then  $\|g_k(t) - x_k(t)\|_{X_t} = \|(1 - \epsilon/2)x_k(t) - x_k(t)\|_{X_t} < \epsilon$ .

Thus,

$$\|g_k - x_k\| = \sup\{\|(g_k - x_k)(t)\| : t \in K\} < \epsilon, \quad \forall k \in A.$$

Now we consider the valuation mapping  $\delta_{t_0} : X \rightarrow X_{t_0}$  and define the linear function  $x^* := z^* \circ \delta_{t_0}$ . If  $x \in S_X$ , then  $|x^*(x)| = |z^*(x(t_0))| \leq \|z^*\| \|x(t_0)\| \leq 1$ .

Besides that, for all  $k \in A$ ,  $|x^*(g_k)| = |z^*(g_k(t_0))| = |z^*(z_k)| = 1$ . So  $\|x^*\| = 1$ .

Finally,  $x^* \in S_{X^*}$  and  $x^*(g_k) = 1$ , for all  $k \in A$ . Then  $X$  has AHSP. □

In the next theorem we will show that it is possible to get the reciprocal of Theorem 2.7. We need to add the additional hypothesis that the mapping  $t \in K \mapsto \|x(t)\|$  is continuous for all  $x \in X$ , when  $X_t = E$ , for all  $t \in K$  and for some  $E$ .

**THEOREM 2.8.** *Let  $(K, (X_t)_{t \in K}, X)$  be a complex function module where  $X_t = E$ , for all  $t \in K$  for some Banach space  $E$ . Suppose that the mapping  $t \in K \mapsto \|x(t)\|$  is continuous for all  $x \in X$ . If  $X$  has AHSP, then  $X_t$  has AHSP for all  $t \in K$ .*

**PROOF.** Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . Since  $X$  has AHSP, there exist  $\eta(\epsilon), \gamma(\epsilon) > 0$  that satisfy the Proposition 2.3. Consider  $(x_k)_k \subset B_E$  and the convex series  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k x_k$  such that

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k x_k \right\|_E > 1 - \eta(\epsilon).$$

For all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , we define  $f_k : K \rightarrow \bigcup_{t \in K} X_t$  by  $f_k(t) = x_k$ . So  $(f_k)_k \subset B_X$  and

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k f_k \right\| = \sup \left\{ \left\| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k f_k(t) \right\| : t \in K \right\} = \left\| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k x_k \right\|_E > 1 - \eta(\epsilon).$$

Since  $X$  has AHSP by Proposition 2.3, there are  $A \subset \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\{z_k : k \in A\} \subset S_X$  and  $\Phi \in S_{X^*}$  such that  $\sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k > 1 - \gamma(\epsilon)$ ,  $\|z_k - f_k\| < \epsilon$  and  $\Phi(z_k) = 1$ , for all  $k \in A$ . Now, we claim that  $\|\sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k z_k\| = \sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k$ . Indeed,

$$\left\| \sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k z_k \right\| \leq \sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k \|z_k\| = \sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k.$$

Since for all  $k \in A$ ,  $\Phi(z_k) = 1$ , then

$$\Phi \left( \sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k z_k \right) = \sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k,$$

so

$$\left\| \sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k z_k \right\| = \sup \left\{ \left| \varphi \left( \sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k z_k \right) \right| : \varphi \in S_{X^*} \right\} = \sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k.$$

Now,

$$\sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k = \left\| \sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k z_k \right\| = \sup \left\{ \left\| \sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k z_k(t) \right\| : t \in K \right\}.$$

By hypothesis, the function  $t \in K \mapsto \|\sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k z_k(t)\|_E$  is continuous. Then there is  $t_0 \in K$ , such that  $\|\sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k z_k(t_0)\| = \sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k$ . Thus,  $\sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k z_k(t_0) \neq \mathbf{0}$ . So, there is a function  $x^* \in S_{E^*}$  such that

$$x^* \left( \sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k z_k(t_0) \right) = \left\| \sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k z_k(t_0) \right\|_E = \sum_{k \in A} \alpha_k.$$

Now we consider  $g_k := z_k(t_0)$  and observe that  $x^*(g_k) = 1$  for all  $k \in A$ . That is, for all  $k \in A$ ,  $(g_k)_k \subset S_E$  and

$$\|g_k - x_k\|_E = \|z_k(t_0) - f_k(t_0)\|_E \leq \|z_k - f_k\| < \epsilon, \quad \forall k \in A.$$

The theorem follows. □

**COROLLARY 2.9.** *Let  $X$  be a dual complex Banach space such that  $X$  can be regarded as a function module space, where  $X_t = E$ , for all  $t \in K$  and  $E$  a Banach space. Then  $X$  has AHSP if and only if  $X_t$  has AHSP for all  $t \in K$ .*

**PROOF.** Now for  $X$  as a dual space which can be represented as a complex function module with a base space  $K$  (see [7, Proposition 3.10]), then for every  $x \in X$ , the function  $t \in K \mapsto \|x(t)\|$  is continuous [7, Theorem 5.13]. Therefore the assumptions in both Theorems 2.7 and 2.8 hold. □

**COROLLARY 2.10.** *Let  $L$  be a locally compact Hausdorff space and  $X$  a Banach space. Then  $C_0(L, X)$  has AHSP if, and only if  $X$  has AHSP.*

**PROOF.** Consider  $K = \beta L$  the Stone–Cech compactification of  $L$ ; the Theorems 2.7 and 2.8 imply the result.  $\square$

As a consequence of Corollary 2.10 and Theorem 4.1 in [1] we have that  $(\ell_1, C_0(L, E))$  has BPBP if, and only if  $E$  has AHSP. Generally, if  $(K, (X_t)_{t \in K}, X)$  is a function module space with AHSP, then  $(\ell_1, X)$  has BPBP.

**COROLLARY 2.11.** *Let  $K \neq \emptyset$  be a compact Hausdorff topological space and  $E$  be a Banach space. Then  $E$  has AHSP if, and only if  $C(K, E)$  has AHSP.*

**PROOF.** Since  $C(K, E)$  is a function module, with  $K$  base space and  $X_t = E$  for all  $t \in K$  (see Examples 2.6(a)) and the mapping  $t \in K \mapsto \|f(t)\|$  is continuous for all  $f \in C(K, E)$ , the result follows straight away by Theorems 2.7 and 2.8.  $\square$

S. Y. Choi and S. Kim in [13, Theorem 11] showed that if  $C(K, E)$  has AHSP, then  $E$  has AHSP. Here the Corollary 2.11 generalizes, in a sense, the result of Choi and Kim and we have the reciprocal.

**Open problem:** We do not know if Theorem 2.8 is true if there are two distinct component spaces. That means, there are  $t_1, t_2 \in K$  such that  $X_{t_1} \neq X_{t_2}$ .

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