

# Polynomial characterization of Asplund spaces

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## Abstract

We prove that, given an index  $m$ , if every Pietsch integral  $m$ -homogeneous polynomial on a Banach space  $E$  is nuclear, then  $E$  is Asplund. The converse was proved by Alencar.

A Banach space  $E$  is *Asplund* if every separable subspace of  $E$  has a separable dual, equivalently, if the dual of  $E$  has the Radon-Nikodým property. A short introduction to Asplund spaces may be seen in [DGZ, I.5] and a more detailed one is contained in [Y].

For Banach spaces  $E$  and  $F$ , we use the notation  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{PI}}(E, F)$  for the space of all Pietsch integral operators from  $E$  into  $F$ , and  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{N}}(E, F)$  for the nuclear operators (see definitions in [DU]). The following result is proved in [A1]:

**Theorem 1.** *A Banach space  $E$  is Asplund if and only if, for every Banach space  $F$ , we have  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{PI}}(E, F) = \mathcal{L}_{\text{N}}(E, F)$ .*

Given an integer  $m$ , we use the notation  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{PI}}({}^mE, F)$  for the space of  $m$ -homogeneous Pietsch integral polynomials from  $E$  into  $F$ , and  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{N}}({}^mE, F)$  for the nuclear polynomials (see definitions below). It is proved in [A2] that, if  $E$  is Asplund, and  $m$  is an integer, then  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{PI}}({}^mE, F) = \mathcal{P}_{\text{N}}({}^mE, F)$  for every Banach space  $F$ .

Here we give a converse to this result, proving that the equality  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{PI}}({}^mE, F) = \mathcal{P}_{\text{N}}({}^mE, F)$  for some  $m$  implies  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{PI}}(E, F) = \mathcal{L}_{\text{N}}(E, F)$ . As a consequence, if every Pietsch integral polynomial on  $E$  is nuclear, then  $E$  is Asplund.

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To obtain this, we need to show that every 1-dominated polynomial on a  $C(K)$  space is Pietsch integral, which extends a well-known result for linear operators.

We also prove that, if  $T \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{PI}}(E, F)$ , then the operator

$$\otimes^m T : \otimes_\epsilon^m E \longrightarrow \otimes_\pi^m F$$

is well-defined and Pietsch integral.

Throughout,  $E$  and  $F$  denote Banach spaces,  $E^*$  is the dual of  $E$ , and  $B_E$  stands for its closed unit ball. By  $\mathbb{N}$  we represent the set of all natural numbers. By an operator we always mean a linear bounded mapping between Banach spaces. The notation  $\mathcal{L}(E, F)$  stands for the space of all operators from  $E$  into  $F$ . By  $E \equiv F$ , we mean that  $E$  and  $F$  are isometrically isomorphic. Given  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , we denote by  $\mathcal{P}(^m E, F)$  the space of all  $m$ -homogeneous (continuous) polynomials from  $E$  into  $F$ . Recall that with each  $P \in \mathcal{P}(^m E, F)$  we can associate a unique symmetric  $m$ -linear  $\widehat{P} : E \times \binom{m}{!} \times E \rightarrow F$  so that

$$P(x) = \widehat{P}\left(x, \binom{m}{!}, x\right) \quad (x \in E).$$

For the general theory of polynomials on Banach spaces, we refer to [D] and [Mu].

We use the notation  $\otimes^m E := E \otimes \binom{m}{!} \otimes E$  for the  $m$ -fold tensor product of  $E$ ,  $\otimes_\epsilon^m E := E \otimes_\epsilon \binom{m}{!} \otimes_\epsilon E$  for the  $m$ -fold injective tensor product of  $E$ , and  $\otimes_\pi^m E$  for the  $m$ -fold projective tensor product of  $E$  (see [DU] for the theory of tensor products). By  $\otimes_s^m E := E \otimes_s \binom{m}{!} \otimes_s E$  we denote the  $m$ -fold symmetric tensor product of  $E$ , i.e., the set of all elements  $u \in \otimes^m E$  of the form

$$u = \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j x_j \otimes \binom{m}{!} \otimes x_j \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}, \lambda_j \in \mathbb{K}, x_j \in E, 1 \leq j \leq n).$$

By  $\otimes_{\pi,s}^m E$  we denote the closure of  $\otimes_s^m E$  in  $\otimes_\pi^m E$ . For symmetric tensor products, we refer to [F]. For simplicity, we write  $\otimes^m x := x \otimes \binom{m}{!} \otimes x$ . For  $T \in \mathcal{L}(E, F)$ ,  $\otimes^m T$  stands for the  $m$ -fold tensor product:

$$\otimes^m T := T \otimes \binom{m}{!} \otimes T : \otimes^m E \longrightarrow \otimes^m F.$$

Given  $P \in \mathcal{P}(^m E, F)$ , let

$$\overline{P} : \otimes^m E \longrightarrow F$$

be the linearization of  $\widehat{P}$ , defined by

$$\overline{P}\left(\sum_{j=1}^n x_{1j} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{mj}\right) = \sum_{j=1}^n \widehat{P}(x_{1j}, \dots, x_{mj})$$

where  $x_{kj} \in E$  ( $1 \leq k \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n$ ).

A polynomial  $P \in \mathcal{P}(^m E, F)$  is *nuclear* [D, Definition 2.9] if it can be written in the form

$$P(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} [x_i^*(x)]^m y_i \quad (x \in E)$$

where  $(x_i^*) \subset E^*$  and  $(y_i) \subset F$  are sequences such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \|x_i^*\|^m \|y_i\| < \infty.$$

A polynomial  $P \in \mathcal{P}(^m E, F)$  is *Pietsch integral* if it can be written in the form

$$P(x) = \int_{B_{E^*}} [x^*(x)]^m d\mathcal{G}(x^*) \quad (x \in E)$$

where  $\mathcal{G}$  is an  $F$ -valued regular countably additive Borel measure, of bounded variation, defined on  $B_{E^*}$ , where  $B_{E^*}$  is endowed with the weak-star topology. A similar definition may be given for the Pietsch integral multilinear mappings (see [A2]). Every nuclear polynomial is Pietsch integral.

Given  $1 \leq r < \infty$ , a polynomial  $P \in \mathcal{P}(^m E, F)$  is *r-dominated* (see, e.g., [M, MT]) if there exists a constant  $k > 0$  such that, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $(x_i)_{i=1}^n \subset E$ , we have

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^n \|P(x_i)\|^{\frac{r}{m}} \right)^{\frac{m}{r}} \leq k \sup_{x^* \in B_{E^*}} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |x^*(x_i)|^r \right)^{\frac{m}{r}}.$$

For  $m = 1$  we obtain the absolutely  $r$ -summing operators.

**Proposition 2.** *Let  $E, F, X$ , and  $Y$  be Banach spaces. Suppose that  $P \in \mathcal{P}(^m E, F)$  is Pietsch integral, and let  $T \in \mathcal{L}(X, E)$  and  $S \in \mathcal{L}(F, Y)$ . Then  $S \circ P \circ T \in \mathcal{P}(^m X, Y)$  is Pietsch integral.*

*Proof.* It is enough to show that both  $P \circ T$  and  $S \circ P$  are Pietsch integral. If  $P$  is Pietsch integral, so is  $\widehat{P}$ , by [A2, Proposition 2]. This implies that the linearization

$$\widehat{P} : \otimes_{\epsilon}^m E \longrightarrow F$$

is well-defined and Pietsch integral [V, Proposition 2.6]. Since  $\otimes^m T : \otimes_{\epsilon}^m X \rightarrow \otimes_{\epsilon}^m E$  is continuous, we have that

$$\widehat{P} \circ (\otimes^m T) : \otimes_{\epsilon}^m X \longrightarrow F$$

is Pietsch integral. Using the polarization formula [Mu, Theorem 1.10], we easily have

$$\widehat{P} \circ (\otimes^m T) = \overline{\widehat{P \circ T}}.$$

Hence,  $\overline{\widehat{P \circ T}}$  is Pietsch integral. By [V, Proposition 2.6], so is  $\widehat{P \circ T}$  and, by [A2, Proposition 2], so is  $P \circ T$ .

Using the fact that

$$\overline{\widehat{S \circ P}} = S \circ \widehat{P},$$

a similar argument shows that  $S \circ P$  is Pietsch integral. ■

The following result may be of independent interest:

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $T \in \mathcal{L}_{PI}(E, F)$  and  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then the tensor product operator*

$$\otimes^m T : \otimes_{\epsilon}^m E \longrightarrow \otimes_{\pi}^m F$$

*is well-defined and Pietsch integral.*

*Proof.* By [DJT, Theorem 5.6], we can find a compact Hausdorff space  $K$ , a regular Borel probability measure  $\mu$  on  $K$ , and operators  $a : E \rightarrow C(K)$  and  $b : L_1(K, \mu) \rightarrow F$  such that the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{T} & F \\ a \downarrow & & \uparrow b \\ C(K) & \xrightarrow{j} & L_1(K, \mu) \end{array}$$

where  $j$  is the natural inclusion.

The tensor product operator

$$\otimes^m j : \otimes_\epsilon^m C(K) \equiv C(K \times \overset{m}{\times} K) \rightarrow \otimes_\pi^m L_1(K, \mu) \equiv L_1(K \times \overset{m}{\times} K, \mu \times \overset{m}{\times} \mu)$$

is the natural inclusion, so it is Pietsch integral (see the definition in [DJT, page 97]). Hence, the composition

$$\otimes^m T : \otimes_\epsilon^m E \xrightarrow{\otimes^m a} \otimes_\epsilon^m C(K) \xrightarrow{\otimes^m j} \otimes_\pi^m L_1(K, \mu) \xrightarrow{\otimes^m b} \otimes_\pi^m F$$

is Pietsch integral. ■

**Proposition 4.** *Let  $E, F$ , and  $G$  be Banach spaces. Assume that  $T \in \mathcal{L}_{PI}(E, F)$ , and let  $Q \in \mathcal{P}({}^m F, G)$  be a polynomial. Then  $P := Q \circ T \in \mathcal{P}({}^m E, G)$  is Pietsch integral.*

*Proof.* By Lemma 3, the operator

$$\overline{P} = \overline{Q} \circ (\otimes^m T) : \otimes_\epsilon^m E \longrightarrow G$$

is Pietsch integral. By [V, Proposition 2.6],  $\widehat{P}$  is Pietsch integral and, by [A2, Proposition 2], so is  $P$ . ■

It is proved in [M, Proposition 3.1] that a polynomial  $P \in \mathcal{P}({}^m E, F)$  is  $r$ -dominated if and only if there are a constant  $C \geq 0$  and a regular Borel probability measure  $\mu$  on  $B_{E^*}$  (endowed with the weak-star topology) such that

$$\|P(x)\| \leq C \left[ \int_{B_{E^*}} |\varphi(x)|^r d\mu(\varphi) \right]^{\frac{m}{r}} \quad (x \in E). \tag{1}$$

The next result is stated in [P, Theorem 14] for the multilinear, scalar-valued case, and in [S, Proposition 3.6] for the vector-valued case. It will be needed in Proposition 6. Following the referee’s suggestion, for the sake of completeness, we include the proof which is an easy modification of [G, 3.2.4].

**Theorem 5.** *A polynomial  $P \in \mathcal{P}({}^m E, F)$  is  $r$ -dominated if and only if there are a Banach space  $G$ , an absolutely  $r$ -summing operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(E, G)$  and a polynomial  $Q \in \mathcal{P}({}^m G, F)$  such that  $P = Q \circ T$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $P \in \mathcal{P}({}^mE, F)$  be  $r$ -dominated. Then there is a regular Borel probability measure  $\mu$  on  $B_{E^*}$  such that the inequality (1) holds. Let  $T_0 : E \rightarrow L_r(B_{E^*}, \mu)$  be given by  $T_0(x)(\varphi) := \varphi(x)$  for all  $x \in E$  and  $\varphi \in B_{E^*}$ . Clearly,  $T_0$  is linear. Moreover,

$$\|T_0(x)\| = \left[ \int_{B_{E^*}} |\varphi(x)|^r d\mu(\varphi) \right]^{\frac{1}{r}} \leq \|x\|.$$

Let  $G$  be the closure of  $T_0(E)$  in  $L_r(B_{E^*}, \mu)$ . Let  $T : E \rightarrow G$  be given by  $T(x) := T_0(x)$ . Then  $T$  is linear and, by [DJT, Theorem 2.12], absolutely  $r$ -summing. Define  $Q_0 : T_0(E) \rightarrow F$  by  $Q_0(T_0(x)) := P(x)$ . Using the inequality (1), we have:

$$\|P(x)\| \leq C \left[ \int_{B_{E^*}} |\varphi(x)|^r d\mu(\varphi) \right]^{\frac{m}{r}} = C \|T_0(x)\|^m,$$

so  $Q_0$  is a continuous  $m$ -homogeneous polynomial. Let  $Q : G \rightarrow F$  be its extension to  $G$ . Then,  $P = Q \circ T$ .

The converse is shown in [MT, Theorem 10]. ■

The following result extends the linear case [DU, Theorem VI.3.12].

**Proposition 6.** *Let  $\Omega$  be a compact Hausdorff space. Then, every 1-dominated polynomial  $P \in \mathcal{P}({}^mC(\Omega), E)$  is Pietsch integral.*

*Proof.* Let  $P \in \mathcal{P}({}^mC(\Omega), E)$  be 1-dominated. By Theorem 5, there are a Banach space  $G$ , an absolutely summing operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(C(\Omega), G)$  and a polynomial  $Q \in \mathcal{P}({}^mG, E)$  such that  $P = Q \circ T$ . By [DU, Theorem VI.3.12],  $T$  is Pietsch integral. By Proposition 4,  $P$  is a Pietsch integral polynomial. ■

For a Banach space  $E$ , we denote by  $\delta_m : E \rightarrow \otimes_{\pi, s}^m E$  the polynomial given by

$$\delta_m(x) = x \otimes \binom{m}{\cdot} \otimes x.$$

With each absolutely summing operator, the following lemma associates an  $m$ -homogeneous 1-dominated polynomial.

**Lemma 7.** *Let  $T \in \mathcal{L}(E, F)$  be absolutely summing. Then*

$$(\otimes^m T) \circ \delta_m : E \longrightarrow \otimes_{\pi, s}^m F$$

*is an  $m$ -homogeneous 1-dominated polynomial.*

*Proof.* Fix  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in E$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n \|(\otimes^m T) \circ \delta_m(x_i)\|^{1/m} &= \sum_{i=1}^n \|T(x_i) \otimes \binom{m}{\cdot} \otimes T(x_i)\|^{1/m} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \|T(x_i)\| \\ &\leq k \sup_{x^* \in B_{E^*}} \sum_{i=1}^n |x^*(x_i)| \end{aligned}$$

where we have used that  $T$  is absolutely summing. ■

**Proposition 8.** *Given Banach spaces  $E$  and  $F$ , and  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , suppose that we have  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{PI}}({}^m E, F) = \mathcal{P}_{\text{N}}({}^m E, F)$ . Then  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{PI}}(E, F) = \mathcal{L}_{\text{N}}(E, F)$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{N}}(E, F) \subseteq \mathcal{L}_{\text{PI}}(E, F)$  is always true, we only need to prove the other inclusion. Let  $T \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{PI}}(E, F)$ . By [DU, page 168], there is a regular Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $B_{E^*}$  and an operator  $b : L_1(B_{E^*}) = L_1(B_{E^*}, \mu) \rightarrow F$  such that the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{T} & F \\ \downarrow i & & \uparrow b \\ C(B_{E^*}) & \xrightarrow{j} & L_1(B_{E^*}) \end{array}$$

where  $i$  and  $j$  are the natural inclusions.

Fix  $\bar{x} \in E$  and consider  $\bar{f} = ji(\bar{x})$ . Choose  $\bar{g} \in L_\infty(B_{E^*})$  with  $\bar{g}(\bar{f}) = 1$ . Observe that

$$[i^* j^*(\bar{g})](\bar{x}) = j^*(\bar{g})(i(\bar{x})) = \bar{g}(ji(\bar{x})) = \bar{g}(\bar{f}) = 1.$$

For every index  $i = 1, \dots, m - 1$ , we consider the operators (see [B, page 168]):

$$\pi_i : \otimes_{\pi, s}^{i+1} L_1(B_{E^*}) \longrightarrow \otimes_{\pi, s}^i L_1(B_{E^*})$$

given by

$$\pi_i(\otimes^{i+1} f) = \bar{g}(f)(\otimes^i f)$$

and

$$\pi'_i : \otimes_{\pi, s}^{i+1} E \longrightarrow \otimes_{\pi, s}^i E$$

given by

$$\pi'_i(\otimes^{i+1} x) = (i^* j^*(\bar{g}))(x)(\otimes^i x).$$

The polynomials

$$T \circ \pi'_1 \circ \dots \circ \pi'_{m-1} \circ \delta_m : E \longrightarrow F$$

and

$$b \circ \pi_1 \circ \dots \circ \pi_{m-1} \circ (\otimes^m j) \circ \delta_m \circ i : E \longrightarrow F$$

coincide. Indeed, we have

$$\begin{aligned} T \circ \pi'_1 \circ \dots \circ \pi'_{m-1} \circ \delta_m(x) &= T \circ \pi'_1 \circ \dots \circ \pi'_{m-1}(\otimes^m x) \\ &= ((i^* j^*(\bar{g}))(x))^{m-1} T(x) \\ &= ((i^* j^*(\bar{g}))(x))^{m-1} bji(x) \end{aligned}$$

and, on the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} b \circ \pi_1 \circ \dots \circ \pi_{m-1} \circ (\otimes^m j) \circ \delta_m \circ i(x) &= b \circ \pi_1 \circ \dots \circ \pi_{m-1}(\otimes^m ji(x)) \\ &= (\bar{g}(ji(x)))^{m-1} bji(x). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $j$  is absolutely summing, thanks to Lemma 7, the polynomial

$$(\otimes^m j) \circ \delta_m : C(B_{E^*}) \longrightarrow \otimes_{\pi, s}^m L_1(B_{E^*})$$

is 1-dominated. Now, by Proposition 6,  $(\otimes^m j) \circ \delta_m$  is Pietsch integral and so are (by Proposition 2) the polynomials

$$b \circ \pi_1 \circ \dots \circ \pi_{m-1} \circ (\otimes^m j) \circ \delta_m \circ i = T \circ \pi'_1 \circ \dots \circ \pi'_{m-1} \circ \delta_m.$$

By our hypothesis, the latter is also nuclear. As shown in [CDG, pages 120-121], this implies that  $T$  is nuclear and so we are done. ■

**Theorem 9.** *For a Banach space  $E$ , the following assertions are equivalent:*

- (a)  $E$  is Asplund;
- (b) for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and every Banach space  $F$ , we have  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{PI}}({}^m E, F) = \mathcal{P}_{\text{N}}({}^m E, F)$ ;
- (c) there is  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for every Banach space  $F$ , we have  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{PI}}({}^m E, F) = \mathcal{P}_{\text{N}}({}^m E, F)$ .

*Proof.* (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) is proved in [A2, Proposition 1].

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c) is obvious.

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a). It is enough to apply Proposition 8 and Theorem 1. ■

It is shown in [CD] that (a) implies that the equality of (b) is an isometry.

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