BANACH SPACES WITH THE BLUM-HANSON PROPERTY

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Abstract. We are interested in a sufficient condition given in [15] to obtain the Blum-Hanson property and we then partially answer two questions asked in this same article on other possible conditions to have this property for a separable Banach space.

1. Introduction

These notes are essentially inspired by article [15] in which sufficient new conditions to justify that a Banach space has the Blum-Hanson property were obtained. We recall that, for a (real or complex) Banach space $X$, and a contraction $T$ on $X$ ($T$ is a bounded operator on $X$ with $\|T\| \leq 1$), we say that $T$ has the Blum-Hanson property if, for $x, y \in X$ such that $T^n x$ weakly converges to $y \in X$ when $n$ tends to infinity, the mean

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^{N} T^{n_k} x$$

 tends toward $y$ in norm for any increasing sequence of integers $(n_k)_{k \geq 1}$. The space $X$ is said to have the Blum-Hanson property if every contraction on $X$ has the Blum-Hanson property.

Note, to understand the interest in this property and its historical aspect, that, when $X$ is a Hilbert space and the linear operator $T$ is a contraction, for all $x \in X$ such that $T^n x \rightharpoonup 0$, the arithmetic mean

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^{N} T^{n_k} x$$

is norm convergent to 0 for any increasing sequence of integers $(n_k)_{k \geq 1}$. This result was first proved by J.R. Blum and D.L. Hanson in [2] for isometries induced by measure-conserving transformations, then in [11] and [9] for arbitrary contractions. The most notable spaces having the Blum-Hanson property are the Hilbert spaces and the $\ell_p$ spaces for $1 \leq p < \infty$.

Note that this property is not preserved under renormings (see [17]). This raises the following question: "Which Banach spaces can be renormed to have the Blum-Hanson property ?", already asked in [15]. This question motivated the writing of this article.

To understand the main results of this work, we give first the following definition of an asymptotically uniformly smooth norm.
Definition 1.1. Consider a Banach space \((X, \| \cdot \|)\). By following the definitions due to V. Milman [16] and the notations of [8] and [14], for \(t \in [0, \infty)\), \(x \in S_X\) and \(Y\) a closed vector subspace of \(X\), we define the modulus of asymptotic uniform smoothness, \(\rho_X(t)\):

\[
\rho_X(t, x, Y) = \sup_{y \in S_Y} (\|x + ty\| - 1).
\]

Then

\[
\rho_X(t, x) = \inf_{Y \in \text{cof}(X)} \rho_X(t, x, Y)
\]

and

\[
\rho_X(t) = \sup_{x \in S_X} \rho_X(t, x).
\]

The norm \(\| \cdot \|\) is said to be asymptotically uniformly smooth (in short AUS) if

\[
\lim_{t \to 0} \frac{\rho_X(t)}{t} = 0.
\]

Now, we can give the main property of this paper which partially answers the previous question:

Theorem 1.2. Let \(Y\) be a separable Banach space whose norm is AUS. Then \(Y\) has an equivalent norm with the Blum-Hanson property.

Remark 1.3. A Banach space \(Y\) which has an AUS norm is an Asplund space. Consequently, \(Y\) is separable if and only if its dual is separable.

2. Banach space with property \((m_p)\)

N. Kalton and D. Werner introduced in [10] the property \((m_p)\):

Definition 2.1. A Banach space \(X\) has property \((m_p)\), where \(1 \leq p \leq \infty\) if, for any \(x \in X\) and every weakly null sequence \((x_n) \subset X\), it holds that:

\[
\limsup_{n \to \infty} \|x + x_n\| = (\|x\|^p + \limsup_{n \to \infty} \|x_n\|^p)^\frac{1}{p}.
\]

For \(p = \infty\), the right-hand side is of course to be interpreted as \(\max(\|x\|, \limsup\|x_n\|)\).

Remark 2.2. We shall say that \(X\) has property \(sub-(m_p)\) if we can replace "\(=\)" by "\(\leq\)" in the previous definition.

Examples 2.3. • \(\ell_p\) has property \((m_p)\), \(c_0\) has property \(m_\infty\).

In [15], P. Lefèvre, É. Matheron and A. Primot obtained the following property which was a corollary of one of the main theorems of their paper. It is this property which allowed us in particular to obtain Theorem 1.2.

Proposition 2.4. [15] For any \(p \in (1, \infty]\), property \(sub-(m_p)\) implies Blum-Hanson property.

Example 2.5. (see [18] and [5])

We recall the definition of the James space \(J_p\). This is the real Banach space of all sequences \(x = (x(n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}\) of real numbers satisfying \(\lim_{n \to \infty} x(n) = 0\), endowed with the norm
Proposition 2.7. Let \( X \) holds that
\[
\tilde{\text{Definition 2.6.}} \quad \text{Let} \quad J \quad \text{be a separable Banach space and} \quad p \quad \text{be a weakly null sequence in} \quad J, \quad \text{we may assume that} \quad x, y \quad \text{be its conjugate exponent. Assume that} \quad x, y \quad \text{for all} \quad x, y \quad \text{verifying max} \quad \{i \in \mathbb{N} : x(i) \neq 0\} < \min\{i \in \mathbb{N} : y(i) \neq 0\}, \text{it holds that}
\[
|x + y|^p \leq |x|^p + |y|^p.
\]
Thus, \( \tilde{J}_p := (J_p, | \cdot |) \) has the sub-(\( m_p \)) property, and therefore the Blum-Hanson property.

We now introduce a notion that is essentially dual to sub-(\( m_p \)).

**Definition 2.6.** Let \( X \) be a separable Banach space and \( q \in (1, \infty) \). We say that \( X^* \) has property sup-(\( m_q \))^* if, for any \( x^* \in X^* \) and any weak* null sequence \( (x_n^*) \) in \( X^* \), we have:
\[
\liminf_{n \to \infty} \|x^* + x_n^*\|^q \geq \|x^*\|^q + \liminf_{n \to \infty} \|x_n^*\|^q.
\]

The following is an easy adaptation of the proof of Proposition 2.6 from [8].

**Proposition 2.7.** Let \( X \) be a separable Banach space. Let \( p \in (1, \infty) \) and \( q \) is its conjugate exponent. Assume that \( X^* \) has property sup-(\( m_q \))^*, then \( X \) has property sub-(\( m_p \)).

**Proof.** Let \( x \in X \) and \( (x_n) \) be a weakly null sequence in \( X \) and denote \( s = \limsup_n \|x_n\| \). Pick \( y_n^* \in X^* \) so that \( \|y_n^*\| = 1 \) and \( y_n^* (x + x_n) = \|x + x_n\| \). After extracting a subsequence, we may assume that \( (y_n^*) \) is weak* converging to \( x^* \in B_{X^*} \). Denote \( x_n^* = y_n^* - x^* \) and assume also, as we may, that \( \lim_n \|x_n^*\| = t \). Since \( X^* \) has sup-(\( m_q \))^*, we have that \( \|x^*\|^q + t^q \leq 1 \). Therefore
\[
\limsup_n \|x + x_n\| = \limsup_n (x^* + x_n^*)(x + x_n) \leq x^*(x) + st \\
\leq (\|x^*\|^q + t^q)^{1/q}(\|x\|^p + s^p)^{1/p} \leq (\|x\|^p + s^p)^{1/p}.
\]
This concludes our proof.

\[ \square \]

3. Main results

We give some definitions that will be used later.

**Definition 3.1.** Given an FDD \( (E_n) \), \( (x_n) \) is said to be a block sequence with respect to \( (H_i) \) if there exists a sequence of integers \( 0 = m_1 < m_2 < \cdots \) such that \( x_n \in \bigoplus_{j=m_{n+1}}^{m_n+1} E_j \).
Definition 3.2. Let $1 \leq q \leq p \leq \infty$ and $C < \infty$. A (finite or infinite) FDD $(E_i)$ for a Banach space $Z$ is said to satisfy $C - (p, q)$ estimates if for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and block sequences $(x_i)_{i=1}^n$ with respect to $(E_i)$:

$$C^{-1} \left( \sum_1^n \|x_i\|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \leq \left\| \sum_1^n x_i \right\| \leq C \left( \sum_1^n \|x_i\|^q \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}.$$

For the central theorem for this work, we now recall the definition of the Szlenk index.

Definition 3.3. Let $X$ be a Banach space and $K$ be a weak$^*$-compact subset of $X^*$. For $\epsilon > 0$, let $\mathcal{V}$ be the set of all weak$^*$-open subsets of $K$ such that the norm diameter (for the norm of $X^*$) of $V$ is less than $\epsilon$, and

$$s_{\epsilon} K = K \setminus \bigcup \{V : V \in \mathcal{V}\}.$$

As a remark, $s_{\epsilon}^0 B_{X^*}$ is defined inductively for any ordinal $\alpha$ by

$$s_{\epsilon}^{\alpha+1} B_{X^*} = s_{\epsilon} (s_{\epsilon}^\alpha B_{X^*})$$

and

$$s_{\epsilon}^\alpha B_{X^*} = \bigcap_{\beta < \alpha} s_{\epsilon}^\beta B_{X^*} \text{ if } \alpha \text{ is a limit ordinal.}$$

We define $Sz(X, \epsilon)$ to be the least ordinal $\alpha$ so that $s_{\epsilon}^\alpha B_{X^*} = \emptyset$ if such an ordinal exists. Otherwise we write $Sz(X, \epsilon) = \infty$ by convention.

We will then denote $Sz(X)$ the Szlenk index of $X$, defined by

$$Sz(X) = \sup_{\epsilon > 0} Sz(X, \epsilon).$$

Remark 3.4. For a detailed report about the Szlenk index, one can refer to [13]. Note that the Szlenk index was introduced by W. Szlenk in [14] to show that there is no universal reflexive space for the class of separable reflexive spaces.

The main ingredient of our argument is the following result, which is deduced from [11] (Corollary 5.3) and is already cited in [12] (in the proof of Theorem 4.15). However, in [12], we do not find the detailed proof of this property, that we include now.

Proposition 3.5. Let $Y$ be a separable Banach space such that $Sz(Y) \leq \omega$, where $\omega$ denote the first infinite ordinal.

Then, $Y$ can be renormed in such a way that there exists $q \in (1, \infty)$ so that

$$\lim \sup \|y + y_n\|^q \leq \|y\|^q + \lim \sup \|y_n\|^q,$$

whenever $y \in Y$ and $(y_n)$ is a weakly null sequence in $Y$.

Proof. According to Corollary 5.3 from [11], $Sz(Y) \leq \omega$ implies that there exists a Banach space $Z$ with a boundedly complete FDD $(E_i)$ (in particular $Z$ is isometric to a dual space $X^*$) with the following properties.

1. There exists $p \in (1, \infty)$ such that $(E_i)$ satisfies $1 - (p, 1)$ estimates.
2. $Y^*$ is isomorphic (norm and weak$^*$) to a weak$^*$-closed subspace $F$ of $Z = X^*$. 
Let us denote $S : Y^* \to F$ this isomorphism. Then, there exists a subspace $G$ of $X$ such that $G^\perp = F$ and $S$ is the adjoint of an isomorphism $T$ from $X/G$ onto $Y$. Let now $q$ be the conjugate exponent of $p$. It is thus enough to prove that $E = X/G$ has sub-$(m_q)$. Since $X^* = Z$ satisfies $1 - (p, 1)$ estimates with respect to the boundedly complete FDD $(E_i)$, it is immediate that $X^*$ has sup-$(m_p)^*$. Now this property passes clearly to its weak* closed subspace $F$ and $E^*$ has sup-$(m_p)^*$. Finally, we deduce from Proposition 2.7 that $E$ has sub-$(m_q)$. This finishes our proof. 

Thanks to this Proposition, we obtain the Theorem 1.2.

**Proof.** The proof is immediate by applying the Proposition 2.4. 

We will now talk about property $(M^*)$. It was studied by N.J. Kalton and D. Werner in [10]:

**Definition 3.6.** A Banach space $X$ has property $(M^*)$ if, for $u^*, v^* \in S_{X^*}$ and $(x_n^*) \subseteq X^*$ a weak* null sequence, it holds that
\[
\limsup_{n} \|u^* + x_n^*\| = \limsup_{n} \|v^* + x_n^*\|
\]

**Remark 3.7.** It has been shown in [10] that, if $X$ is a separable Banach space having property $(M^*)$, then its dual is separable.

The following Proposition follows from [3] (Proposition 2.2 of this article).

**Proposition 3.8.** Let $X$ be a separable Banach space with property $(M^*)$. Then $X$ is asymptotically uniformly smooth for a norm $\| \cdot \|_M$.

**Corollary 3.9.** Let $X$ be a separable Banach space with property $(M^*)$. Then $X$ has an equivalent norm with the Blum-Hanson property.

**Proof.** It follows from the Proposition 3.8 and from the Theorem 1.2.

**Acknowledgment:** The author is grateful to Gilles Lancien and Audrey Fovelle for helpful discussions.

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