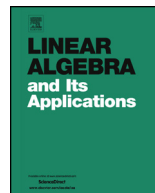




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Linear Algebra and its Applications

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Optimal exponents for Hardy–Littlewood inequalities for m -linear operators [☆]



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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 4 February 2017

Accepted 4 June 2017

Available online 8 June 2017

Submitted by P. Semrl

MSC:

47B37

47B10

Keywords:

Absolutely summing operators

Multilinear forms

Multilinear operators

Hardy–Littlewood inequality

ABSTRACT

The Hardy–Littlewood inequalities on ℓ_p spaces provide optimal exponents for some classes of inequalities for bilinear forms on ℓ_p spaces. In this paper we investigate in detail the exponents involved in Hardy–Littlewood type inequalities and provide several optimal results that were not achieved by the previous approaches. Our first main result asserts that for $q_1, \dots, q_m > 0$ and an infinite-dimensional Banach space Y attaining its cotype $\cot Y$, if

$$\frac{1}{p_1} + \dots + \frac{1}{p_m} < \frac{1}{\cot Y},$$

then the following assertions are equivalent:

- (a) There is a constant $C_{p_1, \dots, p_m}^Y \geq 1$ such that

[☆] R. Aron is supported in part by MINECO MTM2014-57838-C2-2-P and Prometeo II/2013/013, D. Núñez is supported by CAPES Grant 000785/2015-06, D. Pellegrino is supported by Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico – CNPq, Brasil, Grant 302834/2013-3 and D.M. Serrano is supported by CAPES Grant 000786/2015-02.

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$$\left(\sum_{j_1=1}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{j_2=1}^{\infty} \cdots \left(\sum_{j_m=1}^{\infty} \|A(e_{j_1}, \dots, e_{j_m})\|^{q_m} \right)^{\frac{q_{m-1}}{q_m}} \cdots \right)^{\frac{q_1}{q_2}} \right)^{\frac{1}{q_1}} \leq C_{p_1, \dots, p_m}^Y \|A\|$$

for all continuous m -linear operators $A : \ell_{p_1} \times \cdots \times \ell_{p_m} \rightarrow Y$.
 (b) The exponents q_1, \dots, q_m satisfy

$$q_1 \geq \lambda_{m, \cot Y}^{p_1, \dots, p_m}, q_2 \geq \lambda_{m-1, \cot Y}^{p_2, \dots, p_m}, \dots, q_m \geq \lambda_{1, \cot Y}^{p_m}$$

where, for $k = 1, \dots, m$,

$$\lambda_{m-k+1, \cot Y}^{p_k, \dots, p_m} := \frac{\cot Y}{1 - \left(\frac{1}{p_k} + \dots + \frac{1}{p_m} \right) \cot Y}.$$

As an application of the above result we generalize one of the classical Hardy–Littlewood inequalities for bilinear forms to the m -linear setting. Our result is sharp in a very strong sense: the constants and exponents are optimal, even if we consider mixed sums.

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1. Introduction

Let \mathbb{K} be the real or complex scalar field. In 1934 Hardy and Littlewood proved three theorems ([Theorems 1.1, 1.2, 1.3](#), below) on the summability of bilinear forms on $\ell_p \times \ell_q$ (here, and henceforth, when $p = \infty$ we consider c_0 instead of ℓ_∞). For any function f we shall consider $f(\infty) := \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} f(s)$ and for any $s \geq 1$ we denote the conjugate index of s by s^* , i.e., $\frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s^*} = 1$.

For all $p, q \in (1, \infty]$, such that $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} < 1$, let us define

$$\lambda := \frac{pq}{pq - p - q},$$

and

$$\mu = \frac{4pq}{3pq - 2p - 2q}.$$

If p and q are simultaneously ∞ , then λ and μ are 1 and $4/3$ respectively.

From now on, $(e_k)_{k=1}^\infty$ denotes the sequence of canonical vectors in ℓ_p .

Theorem 1.1. (See Hardy and Littlewood [[12, Theorem 1](#)].) Let $p, q \in [2, \infty]$, with $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} \leq \frac{1}{2}$. There is a constant $C_{p,q} \geq 1$ such that

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