## The Polynomial Numerical Index of $L_{p}(\mu)$

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AbStract. We show that for $1<p<\infty, k, m \in \mathbb{N}, n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}\right)=\inf \left\{n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right): m \in \mathbb{N}\right\}$ and that for any positive measure $\mu, n^{(k)}\left(L_{p}(\mu)\right) \geq n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}\right)$. We also prove that for every $Q \in \mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} l_{p}: l_{p}\right) \quad(1<p<\infty)$, if $v(Q)=0$, then $\|Q\|=0$.

## 1. Introduction

Given a complex or real Banach space $E$ we write $B_{E}$ for the closed unit ball and $S_{E}$ for the unit sphere of $E$. The dual space of $E$ is denoted by $E^{*}$. For $k \in \mathbb{N}$, a mapping $P: E \rightarrow E$ is called a (continuous) $k$-homogeneous polynomial if there is a $k$-multilinear (continuous) mapping $A: E \times \cdots \times E \rightarrow E$ such that $P(x)=A(x, \ldots, x)$ for every $x \in E . \mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} E: E\right)$ denotes the Banach space of all $k$-homogeneous continuous polynomials from $E$ into itself with the norm $\|P\|=\sup _{x \in B_{E}}\|P(x)\|$. We refer to [6] for background of polynomials on a Banach space. Let

$$
\Pi(E):=\left\{\left(x, x^{*}\right): x \in S_{E}, x^{*} \in S_{E^{*}}, x^{*}(x)=1\right\} .
$$

The numerical radius of $P$ is defined [3] by

$$
v(P):=\sup \left\{\left|x^{*}(P x)\right|:\left(x, x^{*}\right) \in \Pi(E)\right\} .
$$

The polynomial numerical index of order $k$ of $E$ is defined [4] by

$$
\begin{aligned}
n^{(k)}(E) & :=\inf \left\{v(P): P \in \mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} E: E\right),\|P\|=1\right\} \\
& =\sup \left\{M \geq 0:\|P\| \leq M v(P) \text { for all } P \in \mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} E: E\right)\right\}
\end{aligned}
$$

Of course, $n^{(1)}(E)$ is the classical numerical index of $E$. Note that $0 \leq n^{(k)}(E) \leq 1$, and $n^{(k)}(E)>0$ if and only if $v(\cdot)$ is a norm on $\mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} E: E\right)$ equivalent to the usual

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norm. It is obvious that if $E_{1}, E_{2}$ are isometrically isomorphic Banach spaces, then $n^{(k)}\left(E_{1}\right)=n^{(k)}\left(E_{2}\right)$.

The concept of the classical numerical index (in our terminology, the polynomial numerical index of order 1) was first suggested by G. Lumer [12]. In [4] the authors proved $n^{(k)}(C(K))=1$ when $C(K)$ is the complex spaces and some inequality $n^{(k)}(E) \leq n^{(k-1)}(E) \leq \frac{k^{\left(k+\frac{1}{k-1}\right)}}{(k-1)^{k-1}} n^{(k)}(E)$ for every Banach space $E$. It was shown that $n^{(k)}\left(E^{* *}\right) \leq n^{(k)}(E)$. The authors [10] found a lower bound for the polynomial numerical index of real lush spaces. They used this bound to compute the polynomial numerical index of order 2 of the real spaces $c_{0}, \ell_{1}$ and $\ell_{\infty}$. In fact, they showed that for the real spaces $X=c_{0}, l_{1}, l_{\infty}, n^{(2)}(X)=1 / 2$. They also presented an example of a real Banach space $X$ whose polynomial numerical indices are positive while the ones of its bidual are zero. We refer to ([1-5, $7-12]$ ) for some results about the polynomial numerical index. For general information and background on numerical ranges, we refer to [1-2].

In this paper, we show that for $1<p<\infty, k, m \in \mathbb{N}, n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}\right)=\inf \left\{n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)\right.$ : $m \in \mathbb{N}\}$ and that for any positive measure $\mu, n^{(k)}\left(L_{p}(\mu)\right) \geq n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}\right)$. We also prove that for every $Q \in \mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} l_{p}: l_{p}\right) \quad(1<p<\infty)$, if $v(Q)=0$, then $\|Q\|=0$.

## 2. Results

For $1<p<\infty$ and $m \in \mathbb{N}, l_{p}^{m}$ denotes $\mathbb{K}^{m}$ endowed with the usual $p$-norm, where $\mathbb{K}=\mathbb{R}$ or $\mathbb{C}$. We may consider $l_{p}^{m}$ as a subspace of $l_{p}$. Let $\left\{e_{n}\right\}_{\mathbb{N}}$ be the canonical basis of $l_{p}$ and $\left\{e_{n}^{*}\right\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ the biorthogonal functionals associated to $\left\{e_{n}\right\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$. Note that in general if $X$ is a Banach space and $Y$ is a subspace of $X$ there is no comparison between $n^{(k)}(X)$ and $n^{(k)}(Y)$ for $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

Theorem 2.1. Let $1<p<\infty$ and $k \in \mathbb{N}$ be fixed. Then $n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}\right)=\inf \left\{n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)\right.$ : $m \in \mathbb{N}\}$ and the sequence $\left\{n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)\right\}_{m \in \mathbb{N}}$ is decreasing.
Proof. We proceed by steps. Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$. We define $P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}}: l_{p} \rightarrow l_{p}^{m}$ by $P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}}\left(\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \lambda_{j} e_{j}\right)=\sum_{j=1}^{m} \lambda_{j} e_{j}$.

Step 1: The sequence $\left\{n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)\right\}_{m \in \mathbb{N}}$ is decreasing.
Proof of Step 1. Let $Q \in S_{\mathcal{P}\left(k l_{p}^{m}: l_{p}^{m}\right)}$. We define $\tilde{Q} \in \mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} l_{p}^{m+1}: l_{p}^{m+1}\right)$ by $\tilde{Q}(x)=\left(Q \circ P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}}(x), 0\right)$ for $x \in l_{p}^{m+1}$. It is obvious that $\tilde{Q} \in S_{\mathcal{P}}\left({ }^{k} l_{p}^{m+1}: l_{p}^{m+1}\right)$.

Claim A: $v(Q)=v(\tilde{Q})$
Let $\left(x, x^{*}\right) \in \Pi\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)$. Then $\left((x, 0),\left(x^{*}, 0\right)\right) \in \Pi\left(l_{p}^{m+1}\right)$ and
$(*)\left|x^{*}(Q(x))\right|=\left|\left(x^{*}, 0\right)(\tilde{Q}((x, 0)))\right| \leq v(\tilde{Q})$.
By taking supremum in the left side of $(*)$ over $\left(x, x^{*}\right) \in \Pi\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)$, we have $v(Q) \leq$ $v(\tilde{Q})$. For the reverse inequality let $\epsilon>0$. Then there exists $z_{0}:=\sum_{j=1}^{m+1} a_{j} e_{j} \in$
$S_{l_{p}^{m+1}}$ such that $\left(z_{0}, \sum_{j=1}^{m+1} \operatorname{sign}\left(a_{j}\right)\left|a_{j}\right|^{p-1} e_{j}^{*}\right) \in \Pi\left(l_{p}^{m+1}\right)$ and

$$
\begin{aligned}
v(\tilde{Q})-\epsilon< & \left.\left|\sum_{j=1}^{m+1} \operatorname{sign}\left(a_{j}\right)\right| a_{j}\right|^{p-1} e_{j}^{*}\left(\tilde{Q}\left(z_{0}\right)\right) \mid \\
= & \left.\left|\sum_{j=1}^{m} \operatorname{sign}\left(a_{j}\right)\right| a_{j}\right|^{p-1} e_{j}^{*}\left(Q\left(\sum_{j=1}^{m} a_{j} e_{j}\right)\right) \mid \\
= & \left.\left.C^{k+p-1}\left|\sum_{j=1}^{m} \operatorname{sign}\left(a_{j}\right)\right| \frac{a_{j}}{C}\right|^{p-1} e_{j}^{*}\left(Q\left(\sum_{j=1}^{m} \frac{a_{j}}{C} e_{j}\right)\right) \right\rvert\, \\
& \left(\text { where } C:=\left(\sum_{j=1}^{m}\left|a_{j}\right|^{p}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \leq 1\right) \\
\leq & \left.\left.\left|\sum_{j=1}^{m} \operatorname{sign}\left(a_{j}\right)\right| \frac{a_{j}}{C}\right|^{p-1} e_{j}^{*}\left(Q\left(\sum_{j=1}^{m} \frac{a_{j}}{C} e_{j}\right)\right) \right\rvert\, \\
\leq & v(Q), \text { because }\left(\sum_{j=1}^{m} \frac{a_{j}}{C} e_{j}, \sum_{j=1}^{m} \operatorname{sign}\left(a_{j}\right)\left|\frac{a_{j}}{C}\right|^{p-1} e_{j}^{*}\right) \in \Pi\left(l_{p}^{m}\right),
\end{aligned}
$$

which show $v(\tilde{Q}) \leq v(Q)$. Thus $v(Q)=v(\tilde{Q})$.
It follows that

$$
\begin{aligned}
n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right) & =\inf _{Q \in S_{\mathcal{P}\left(k l_{p}^{m}: l_{p}^{m}\right)} v(Q)} v(\tilde{Q}) \\
& =\inf _{Q \in S_{\mathcal{P}\left(k l_{p}^{m}: l_{p}^{m}\right)} v(Q)}^{R \in S_{\mathcal{P}\left(k l_{p}^{m+1}: l_{p}^{m+1}\right)} v(R)} \\
& \geq n^{R(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m+1}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

Step 2: $n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}\right) \leq n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)$ for every $m \in \mathbb{N}$
Proof of Step 2. Let $Q \in S_{\mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} l_{p}^{m}: l_{p}^{m}\right)}$. We define $\tilde{Q} \in \mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} l_{p}: l_{p}\right)$ by $\tilde{Q}(z)=$ $\left(Q \circ P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}}(z), 0,0, \cdots\right)$ for $z \in l_{\tilde{p}}$. It is obvious that $\tilde{Q} \in S_{\mathcal{P}\left(k_{\left.l_{p}: l_{p}\right)}\right)}$. By the same argument as in Step 1, we have $v(\tilde{Q}) \leq v(Q)$. Thus it follows.

Step 3: $\lim _{m \rightarrow \infty} n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)=n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}\right)$
Proof of Step 3. Let $Q \in S_{\mathcal{P}\left(k_{p} l_{p}: l_{p}\right)}$. For each $m \in \mathbb{N}$, we define $Q_{m} \in \mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} l_{p}^{m}\right.$ : $\left.l_{p}^{m}\right)$ by $Q_{m}(x)=P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}} \circ Q(x, 0,0, \cdots)$ for $x \in l_{p}^{m}$. It is obvious that $\left\|Q_{m}\right\|^{p} \leq$ $1,\left\|Q_{m}\right\| \leq\left\|Q_{m+1}\right\|$ and $v\left(Q_{m}\right) \leq v(Q)$. For each $m \in \mathbb{N}$, we define $\tilde{Q}_{m} \in \mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} l_{p}: l_{p}\right)$ by $\tilde{Q}_{m}(z)=\left(Q_{m} \circ P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}}(z), 0,0, \cdots\right)$ for $z \in l_{p}$. By the argument in Step 1, $v\left(\tilde{Q}_{m}\right)=v\left(Q_{m}\right)$.

Claim B: $\lim _{m \rightarrow \infty}\left\|Q_{m}\right\|=1$

Let $\epsilon>0$. Choose $x_{0} \in S_{l_{p}}$ such that $\left\|Q\left(x_{0}\right)\right\|>1-\epsilon$. By continuity of $Q$ at $x_{0}$ it follows that

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left\|Q_{m} \circ P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}}\left(x_{0}\right)-Q\left(x_{0}\right)\right\| \\
= & \left\|P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}} \circ Q \circ P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}}\left(x_{0}\right)-P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}} \circ Q\left(x_{0}\right)\right\|+\left\|P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}} \circ Q\left(x_{0}\right)-Q\left(x_{0}\right)\right\| \\
\leq & \left\|Q \circ P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}}\left(x_{0}\right)-Q\left(x_{0}\right)\right\|+\left\|P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}} \circ Q\left(x_{0}\right)-Q\left(x_{0}\right)\right\| \rightarrow 0 \text { as } m \rightarrow \infty .
\end{aligned}
$$

Choose $N_{0} \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\left\|Q_{m} \circ P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}}\left(x_{0}\right)-Q\left(x_{0}\right)\right\|<\epsilon$ for all $m \geq N_{0}$. Then for all $m \geq N_{0}, 1 \geq\left\|Q_{m}\right\| \geq\left\|Q_{m} \circ P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}}\left(x_{0}\right)\right\|>1-2 \epsilon$, which shows Claim B.

Claim C: $\lim _{m \rightarrow \infty} v\left(Q_{m}\right)=v(Q)$
There exists $\left(y_{0}, y^{*}\right) \in \Pi\left(l_{p}\right)$ such that $\left|y^{*}\left(Q\left(y_{0}\right)\right)\right|>v(Q)-\epsilon$. Let $y_{0}:=$ $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} b_{j} e_{j}$. Then $y^{*}=\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \operatorname{sign}\left(b_{j}\right)\left|b_{j}\right|^{p-1} e_{j}^{*}$. For $m \in \mathbb{N}$, we define $y_{0}^{(m)}:=\sum_{j=1}^{m-1} b_{j} e_{j}+\left(\sum_{j=m}^{\infty}\left|b_{j}\right|^{p}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} e_{m}$ and $y_{m}^{*}:=\sum_{j=1}^{m-1} \operatorname{sign}\left(b_{j}\right)\left|b_{j}\right|^{p-1} e_{j}^{*}+$ $\left(\sum_{j=m}^{\infty}\left|b_{j}\right|^{p}\right)^{\frac{p-1}{p}} e_{m}^{*}$. It is obvious that $\left(y_{0}^{(m)}, y_{m}^{*}\right) \in \Pi\left(l_{p}\right)$ and $\lim _{m \rightarrow \infty}\left\|y_{0}-y_{0}^{(m)}\right\|=$ $0=\lim _{m \rightarrow \infty}\left\|y^{*}-y_{m}^{*}\right\|$. Note that $\lim _{m \rightarrow \infty} y_{m}^{*}\left(Q\left(y_{0}^{(m)}\right)\right)=y^{*}\left(Q\left(y_{0}\right)\right)$. Indeed,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left|y_{m}^{*}\left(Q\left(y_{0}^{(m)}\right)\right)-y^{*}\left(Q\left(y_{0}\right)\right)\right| \\
\leq & \left|y_{m}^{*}\left(Q\left(y_{0}^{(m)}\right)\right)-y^{*}\left(Q\left(y_{0}^{(m)}\right)\right)\right|+\left|y^{*}\left(Q\left(y_{0}^{(m)}\right)\right)-y^{*}\left(Q\left(y_{0}\right)\right)\right| \\
\leq & \left\|y_{m}^{*}-y^{*}\right\|\left\|Q\left(y_{0}^{(m)}\right)\right\|+\left\|Q\left(y_{0}^{(m)}\right)-Q\left(y_{0}\right)\right\| \\
\leq & \left\|y_{m}^{*}-y^{*}\right\|+\left\|Q\left(y_{0}^{(m)}\right)-Q\left(y_{0}\right)\right\| \rightarrow 0 \text { as } m \rightarrow \infty .
\end{aligned}
$$

Choose $N_{1} \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\left|y_{m}^{*}\left(Q\left(y_{0}^{(m)}\right)\right)\right|>v(Q)-\epsilon$ for all $m \geq N_{1}$. It is easy to show that for all $m \geq N_{1}, y_{N_{1}}^{*}\left(\tilde{Q}_{m}\left(y_{0}^{\left(N_{1}\right)}\right)\right)=y_{N_{1}}^{*}\left(Q\left(y_{0}^{\left(N_{1}\right)}\right)\right)$. It follows that for all $m \geq N_{1}$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
v(Q)-\epsilon & <\left|y_{N_{1}}^{*}\left(Q\left(y_{0}^{\left(N_{1}\right)}\right)\right)\right| \\
& =\left|y_{N_{1}}^{*}\left(\tilde{Q}_{m}\left(y_{0}^{\left(N_{1}\right)}\right)\right)\right| \\
& \leq v\left(\tilde{Q}_{m}\right)=v\left(Q_{m}\right) \\
& \leq v(Q),
\end{aligned}
$$

which show $\lim _{m \rightarrow \infty} v\left(Q_{m}\right)=v(Q)$. Thus we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
& (* *) v(Q)=\lim _{m \rightarrow \infty} v\left(Q_{m}\right) \\
= & \limsup _{m \rightarrow \infty}\left[v\left(\frac{Q_{m}}{\left\|Q_{m}\right\|}\right)\left\|Q_{m}\right\|\right] \\
= & \limsup _{m \rightarrow \infty} v\left(\frac{Q_{m}}{\left\|Q_{m}\right\|}\right) \lim _{m \rightarrow \infty}\left\|Q_{m}\right\| \\
= & \limsup _{m \rightarrow \infty} v\left(\frac{Q_{m}}{\left\|Q_{m}\right\|}\right) \quad \text { (by claim B) } \\
\geq & \limsup _{m \rightarrow \infty} n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Taking the infimum in the left side of $(* *)$ over $Q \in S_{\mathcal{P}\left(k l_{p}: l_{p}\right)}$, we have $n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}\right) \geq$ $\limsup _{m \rightarrow \infty} n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)$. By Step 2, we have $n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}\right) \leq \liminf _{m \rightarrow \infty} n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)$. Thus $\lim _{m \rightarrow \infty} n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)=n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}\right)$. Therefore, we complete the proof.

Theorem 2.2. Let $1<p<\infty$. Let $Q \in \mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} l_{p}: l_{p}\right)$. Then $v(Q)=0$ if and only if $\|Q\|=0$.
Proof. It is enough to show that if $v(Q)=0$, then $Q=0$. We will show that $Q_{m}:=\left.P_{\{1, \cdots, m\}} \circ Q\right|_{\text {span }\left\{e_{1}, \cdots, e_{m}\right\}}: l_{p}^{m} \rightarrow l_{p}^{m}$ is the zero polynomial for every $m \in \mathbb{N}$. Write

$$
Q_{m}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{m} x_{k} e_{k}\right)=\sum_{k_{1}+\cdots+k_{m}=m, 0 \leq k_{1}, \cdots, k_{m} \leq m} \frac{m!}{k_{1}!\cdots k_{m}!} x_{1}^{k_{1}} x_{2}^{k_{2}} \cdots x_{m}^{k_{m}} A_{m}\left(e_{k_{1}}, \cdots, e_{k_{m}}\right)
$$

where $A_{m}$ is the corresponding symmetric $k$-linear mapping to the $k$-homogeneous polynomial $Q_{m}$. Let $a_{k_{1} \cdots k_{m}}:=A_{m}\left(e_{k_{1}}, \cdots, e_{k_{m}}\right) \in l_{p}^{m}$.

Let $p_{1}:=0$ and $p_{n}$ be the $n$-th prime ( $n \geq 2$ ). Let $0 \leq t \leq 1$ be fixed and $q \in \mathbb{R}$ with $1 / p+1 / q=1$. Put

$$
y:=\frac{t^{\sqrt{p_{1}}} e_{1}+t^{\sqrt{p_{2}}} e_{2}+\cdots+t^{\sqrt{p_{m}}} e_{m}}{\left(1+t^{p \sqrt{p_{2}}}+\cdots+t^{p \sqrt{p_{m}}}\right)^{1 / p}}
$$

and

$$
y^{*}:=\frac{t^{(p-1) \sqrt{p_{1}}} e_{1}^{*}+t^{(p-1) \sqrt{p_{2}}} e_{2}^{*}+\cdots+t^{(p-1) \sqrt{p_{m}}} e_{m}^{*}}{\left(1+t^{p \sqrt{p_{2}}}+\cdots+t^{p \sqrt{p_{m}}}\right)^{1 / q}} .
$$

Then $\left(y, y^{*}\right) \in \Pi\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)$.
Claim: $a_{k_{1} \cdots k_{m}}=0$ for every $k_{1}, \cdots, k_{m}$
It follows that for every $0 \leq t \leq 1$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
0= & y^{*}\left(Q_{m}(y)\right) \\
= & \frac{1}{\left(1+t^{p \sqrt{p_{2}}}+\cdots+t^{p \sqrt{p_{m}}}\right)^{1 / q+k / p} \times} \\
& \left(t^{(p-1) \sqrt{p_{1}}} e_{1}^{*}+t^{(p-1) \sqrt{p_{2}}} e_{2}^{*}+\cdots+t^{(p-1) \sqrt{p_{m}}} e_{m}^{*}\right) \\
& \left(Q_{m}\left(t^{\sqrt{p_{1}}} e_{1}+t^{\sqrt{p_{2}}} e_{2}+\cdots+t^{\sqrt{p_{m}}} e_{m}\right)\right),
\end{aligned}
$$

so

$$
\begin{aligned}
0= & \left(t^{(p-1) \sqrt{p_{1}}} e_{1}^{*}+t^{(p-1) \sqrt{p_{2}}} e_{2}^{*}+\cdots+t^{(p-1) \sqrt{p_{m}}} e_{m}^{*}\right) \\
& \left(Q_{m}\left(t^{\sqrt{p_{1}}} e_{1}+t^{\sqrt{p_{2}}} e_{2}+\cdots+t^{\sqrt{p_{m}}} e_{m}\right)\right) \\
= & \sum_{k_{1}+\cdots+k_{m}=m, 0 \leq k_{1}, \cdots, k_{m} \leq m} t^{\sqrt{p_{k_{2}}}+\cdots+\sqrt{p_{k_{m}}}} \frac{m!}{k_{1}!\cdots k_{m}!} e_{1}^{*}\left(a_{k_{1} \cdots k_{m}}\right) \\
& +\sum_{2 \leq j \leq m}\left[\sum_{k_{1}+\cdots+k_{m}=m, 0 \leq k_{1}, \cdots, k_{m} \leq m} \quad t^{\sqrt{\sqrt{p_{k_{2}}}+\cdots+\sqrt{p_{k_{m}}}}+(p-1) \sqrt{p_{k_{j}}}} \frac{m!}{k_{1}!\cdots k_{m}!} e_{j}^{*}\left(a_{k_{1} \cdots k_{m}}\right)\right] .
\end{aligned}
$$

Note that the elements of the set

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left\{\sqrt{p_{k_{2}}}+\cdots+\sqrt{p_{k_{m}}}, \sqrt{p_{k_{2}}}+\cdots+\sqrt{p_{k_{m}}}+(p-1) \sqrt{p_{k_{j}}}:\right. \\
& \left.k_{1}+\cdots+k_{m}=m, 0 \leq k_{1}, \cdots, k_{m} \leq m, 2 \leq j \leq m\right\}
\end{aligned}
$$

are different. Thus $e_{j}^{*}\left(a_{k_{1} \cdots k_{m}}\right)=0$ for every $1 \leq j \leq m$, which show $a_{k_{1} \cdots k_{m}}=0$ for every $k_{1}, \cdots, k_{m}$. Therefore, $Q_{m}=0$. Let $x=\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_{k} e_{k} \in l_{p}$ be fixed. By continuity of $Q$ at $x$, we have

$$
Q(x)=\lim _{m \rightarrow \infty} Q_{m}(x)=0
$$

Corollary 2.3. Let $1<p<\infty$. Then for every $k, m \in \mathbb{N}$, we have $n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)>0$.
Proof. Assume that $n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)=0$ for some $k, m \in \mathbb{N}$. Since the unit sphere of the finite dimensional space $\mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} l_{p}^{m}: l_{p}^{m}\right)$ is compact, there exists some $Q \in \mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} l_{p}^{m}: l_{p}^{m}\right)$ such that $\|Q\|=1$ and $v(Q)=0$. Theorem 2.2 shows that $Q=0$, which is impossible.

Let $(\Omega, \Sigma)$ be a measurable space and $\mu$ a positive measure on $\Omega$. We denote by $\mathcal{P}$ the collection of all partitions $\pi$ of $\Omega$ into finitely many pairwise disjoint members of $\Sigma$ with finite strictly positive measures. We order this collection by $\pi_{1} \leq \pi_{2}$ whenever each member of $\pi_{1}$ is the union of members of $\pi_{2}$. So $\mathcal{P}$ is a directed set. For each $\pi=\left\{E_{1}, \cdots, E_{m}\right\} \in \mathcal{P}$, we associate the subspace $V_{\pi}$ of $L_{p}(\mu)$ defined by $V_{\pi}=\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{m} a_{i} 1_{E_{i}}: a_{i} \in \mathbb{K}\right\}$. By $P_{\pi}$ we denote the projection of $L_{p}(\mu)$ onto $V_{\pi}$ defined by

$$
P_{\pi}(f)=\sum_{i=1}^{m}\left[\frac{1}{\mu\left(E_{i}\right)} \int_{E_{i}} f(t) d t\right] 1_{E_{i}}
$$

for all $f \in L_{p}(\mu) . V$ denotes the union of all subspaces $V_{\pi}$ of $L_{p}(\mu)$. We recall that $V$ is a dense subspace of $L_{p}(\mu)$, thus, for each $f \in L_{p}(\mu)$, the sequence $\left\{P_{\pi}(f)\right\}_{\pi}$ converges to $f$ in $L_{p}(\mu)$.

We recall the following well-known result.
Theorem 2.4 For $1<p<\infty$ and for every partition $\pi=\left\{E_{1}, \cdots, E_{m}\right\} \in \mathcal{P}$, the subspace $V_{\pi}$ is isometrically isomorphic to $l_{p}^{m}$. Thus $n^{(k)}\left(V_{\pi}\right)=n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)$ for every $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

Theorem 2.5. Let $1<p<\infty$ and $k \in \mathbb{N}$. Then for any positive measure $\mu$,

$$
n^{(k)}\left(L_{p}(\mu)\right) \geq n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}\right)
$$

Proof. Let $Q \in S_{\mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} L_{p}(\mu): L_{p}(\mu)\right)}$. Let $\epsilon>0$. Choose $x_{0} \in S_{L_{p}(\mu)}$ such that $\left\|Q\left(x_{0}\right)\right\|>1-\epsilon$. By uniform continuity of $Q$ on the closed unit ball of $L_{p}(\mu)$, there exists some $\delta>0$ such that $x, y \in B_{L_{p}(\mu)}$ with $\|x-y\|<\delta$ implies that $\|Q(x)-Q(y)\|<\epsilon$. Choose $\pi_{0} \in \mathcal{P}$ such that $\left\|x_{0}-P_{\pi_{0}}\left(x_{0}\right)\right\|<\delta$. Since $\left\|P_{\pi_{0}}\left(x_{0}\right)\right\| \leq 1$, we have $\left\|Q\left(x_{0}\right)-Q \circ P_{\pi_{0}}\left(x_{0}\right)\right\|<\epsilon$. Thus $\left\|Q \circ P_{\pi_{0}}\left(x_{0}\right)\right\|>$ $\left\|Q\left(x_{0}\right)\right\|-\epsilon>1-2 \epsilon$. Thus we can choose $\pi_{1}=\left\{E_{1}, \cdots, E_{m}\right\} \in \mathcal{P}$ such that
$\pi_{1} \geq \pi_{0}$ and $\left\|P_{\pi_{1}} \circ Q \circ P_{\pi_{0}}\left(x_{0}\right)\right\|>1-2 \epsilon$. We define $R \in \mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} V_{\pi_{1}}: V_{\pi_{1}}\right)$ by $R\left(P_{\pi_{1}}(x)\right)=P_{\pi_{1}} \circ Q \circ P_{\pi_{1}}(x)$ for $x \in L_{p}(\mu)$. Obviously $\|R\| \leq 1$. It follows that

$$
\text { (\#) } \begin{aligned}
\|R\| & \geq\left\|R\left(\frac{P_{\pi_{0}}\left(x_{0}\right)}{\left\|P_{\pi_{0}}\left(x_{0}\right)\right\|}\right)\right\|=\frac{\left\|R\left(P_{\pi_{0}}\left(x_{0}\right)\right)\right\|}{\left\|P_{\pi_{0}}\left(x_{0}\right)\right\|^{k}} \\
& \geq\left\|R\left(P_{\pi_{0}}\left(x_{0}\right)\right)\right\| \\
& \geq\left\|P_{\pi_{1}} \circ Q \circ P_{\pi_{0}}\left(x_{0}\right)\right\| \\
& >1-2 \epsilon .
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { (\#\#) } v(R) \geq n^{(k)}\left(V_{\pi_{1}}\right)\|R\| \\
& >n^{(k)}\left(V_{\pi_{1}}\right)(1-2 \epsilon)(\text { by } \sharp) \\
& =n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}^{m}\right)(1-2 \epsilon)(\text { by Theorem 2.4) } \\
& \geq n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}\right)(1-2 \epsilon) \text { (by Theorem 2.1). }
\end{aligned}
$$

Since $V_{\pi_{1}}$ is a finite dimensional space, there exists $\left(y_{0}, y^{*}\right) \in \Pi\left(V_{\pi_{1}}\right)$ such that $v(R)=\left|y^{*}\left(R\left(y_{0}\right)\right)\right|$. It follows that

$$
\begin{aligned}
v(R) & =\left|y^{*}\left(R\left(y_{0}\right)\right)\right|=\left|y^{*}\left(P_{\pi_{1}} \circ Q\left(y_{0}\right)\right)\right| \\
& =\left|P_{\pi_{1}}^{*} \circ y^{*}\left(Q\left(y_{0}\right)\right)\right| \\
& \leq v(Q), \text { because }\left(y_{0}, P_{\pi_{1}}^{*} \circ y^{*}\right) \in \Pi\left(V_{\pi_{1}}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

By ( $\# \#$ ), we have ( $\sharp \sharp \# \#) \quad v(Q) \geq v(R)>n^{(k)}\left(l_{p}\right)(1-2 \epsilon)$. By taking infimum in the left side of ( $\# \# \#)$ over $Q \in S_{\mathcal{P}\left({ }^{k} L_{p}(\mu): L_{p}(\mu)\right)}$, we conclude the proof.

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