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Research Article

Close-To-Regularity of Bounded Tri-Linear Maps

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Abstract Let $f: X \times Y \times Z \longrightarrow W$ be a bounded tri-linear map on normed spaces. We say that f is close-to-regular when $f^{t****s} = f^{s****t}$ and we say that f is Aron-Berner regular when all natural extensions are equal. In this manuscript, we give a simple criterion for the close-to-regularity of tri-linear maps.

Keywords Arens regularity · Aron-Berner regular · Close-to-regular

Mathematics Subject Classification (2010) 46H25 · 46H20 · 17C65

1 Introduction

Richard Arens showed in [1] that a bounded bilinear map $m: X \times Y \longrightarrow Z$ on normed spaces, has two natural different extensions m^{***} , m^{r***r} from $X^{**} \times Y^{**}$ into Z^{**} . When these extensions are equal, m is said to be Arens regular. For a discussion of Arens regularity for Banach algebras and bounded bilinear maps, see [2], [7], [9], [11] and [12]. For example, every C^* -algebra is Arens regular, see [6].

Let X,Y,Z and W be normed spaces and $f:X\times Y\times Z\longrightarrow W$ be a bounded tri-linear mapping. The natural extensions of f are as following:

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- 1. $f^*: W^* \times X \times Y \longrightarrow Z^*$, given by $\langle f^*(w^*, x, y), z \rangle = \langle w^*, f(x, y, z) \rangle$ where $x \in X, y \in Y, z \in Z, w^* \in W^*$.
- 2. $f^{**} = (f^*)^* : Z^{**} \times W^* \times X \longrightarrow Y^*$, given by $\langle f^{**}(z^{**}, w^*, x), y \rangle =$ $\langle z^{**}, f^*(w^*, x, y) \text{ where } x \in X, y \in Y, z^{**} \in Z^{**}, w^* \in W^*.$
- 3. $f^{***} = (f^{**})^* : Y^{**} \times Z^{**} \times W^* \longrightarrow X^*$, given by $\langle f^{***}(y^{**}, z^{**}, w^*), x \rangle =$
- $\langle y^{**}, f^{**}(z^{**}, w^*, x) \rangle \text{ where } x \in X, y^{**} \in Y^{**}, z^{**} \in Z^{**}, w^* \in W^*.$ 4. $f^{****} = (f^{***})^* : X^{**} \times Y^{**} \times Z^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \text{ given by } \langle f^{****}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}),$ $w^*\rangle = \langle x^{**}, f^{***}(y^{**}, z^{**}, w^*)\rangle \text{ where } x^{**} \in X^{**}, y^{**} \in Y^{**}, z^{**} \in Z^{**}, w^* \in X^{**}, y^{**} \in X^{*}, y^{**}$

The bounded tri-linear map f^{****} is the extension of f such that the maps

are weak*-weak* continuous for each $x \in X, y \in Y, x^{**} \in X^{**}, y^{**} \in Y^{**}$ and $z^{**} \in Z^{**}$. Now let

$$\begin{split} f^i: Y \times X \times Z &\longrightarrow W: f^i(y,x,z) = f(x,y,z), \\ f^j: X \times Z \times Y &\longrightarrow W: f^j(x,z,y) = f(x,y,z), \\ f^r: Z \times Y \times X &\longrightarrow W: f^r(z,y,x) = f(x,y,z), \\ f^t: Z \times X \times Y &\longrightarrow W: f^t(z,x,y) = f(x,y,z), \\ f^s: Y \times Z \times X &\longrightarrow W: f^s(y,z,x) = f(x,y,z), \end{split}$$

be the flip maps of f. The flip maps of f are bounded tri-linear maps. It is easily seen that f^{i****i} , f^{j****j} , f^{r****r} , f^{t****s} and f^{s****t} are natural extensions of f such that bounded linear operators

$$\begin{array}{c} x^{**} \longrightarrow f^{i****i}(x^{**},y,z^{**}): X^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ y^{**} \longrightarrow f^{i****i}(x^{*},y^{**},z^{**}): Y^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ z^{**} \longrightarrow f^{i****i}(x,y,z^{**}): Z^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ x^{**} \longrightarrow f^{j****j}(x^{**},y,z^{**}): X^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ y^{**} \longrightarrow f^{j****j}(x,y^{**},z): Y^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ z^{**} \longrightarrow f^{j****j}(x,y^{**},z^{**}): Z^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ x^{**} \longrightarrow f^{r****r}(x^{**},y,z): X^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ y^{**} \longrightarrow f^{r****r}(x^{**},y^{**},z): Y^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ z^{**} \longrightarrow f^{r****r}(x^{**},y^{**},z): X^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ x^{**} \longrightarrow f^{t****s}(x^{**},y^{**},z): X^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ y^{**} \longrightarrow f^{t****s}(x^{**},y^{**},z^{**}): Z^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ x^{**} \longrightarrow f^{s****t}(x^{**},y,z): X^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ y^{**} \longrightarrow f^{s****t}(x^{**},y,z): X^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ y^{**} \longrightarrow f^{s****t}(x^{**},y,z^{**},z^{**}): Y^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ y^{**} \longrightarrow f^{s****t}(x^{**},y,z^{**},z^{**}): Y^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ y^{**} \longrightarrow f^{s****t}(x^{**},y,z^{**},z^{**}): Z^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ y^{**} \longrightarrow f^{**}(x^{**},y,z^{**},z^{**}): Z^{**} \longrightarrow W^{**}, \\ y^$$

are weak*—weak* continuous for each $x \in X, y \in Y, z \in Z, x^{**} \in X^{**}, y^{**} \in X^{**}$ Y^{**} and $z^{**} \in Z^{**}$. For natural extensions of f we have

- 1. $f^{i****i}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) = w^* \lim_{\beta} w^* \lim_{\alpha} w^* \lim_{\gamma} f(x_{\alpha}, y_{\beta}, z_{\gamma}),$
- 2. $f^{j****j}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) = w^* \lim_{\alpha} w^* \lim_{\gamma} w^* \lim_{\beta} f(x_{\alpha}, y_{\beta}, z_{\gamma}),$

- 3. $f^{r****r}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) = w^{*} \lim_{\gamma} w^{*} \lim_{\beta} w^{*} \lim_{\alpha} f(x_{\alpha}, y_{\beta}, z_{\gamma}),$ 4. $f^{****}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) = w^{*} \lim_{\alpha} w^{*} \lim_{\beta} w^{*} \lim_{\gamma} f(x_{\alpha}, y_{\beta}, z_{\gamma}),$ 5. $f^{t****s}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) = w^{*} \lim_{\gamma} w^{*} \lim_{\alpha} w^{*} \lim_{\beta} f(x_{\alpha}, y_{\beta}, z_{\gamma}),$ 6. $f^{s****t}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) = w^{*} \lim_{\beta} w^{*} \lim_{\gamma} w^{*} \lim_{\alpha} f(x_{\alpha}, y_{\beta}, z_{\gamma}),$

where $\{x_{\alpha}\}, \{y_{\beta}\}\$ and $\{z_{\gamma}\}\$ are nets in X,Y and Z which converge to $x^{**}\in$ $X^{**}, y^{**} \in Y^{**}$ and $z^{**} \in Z^{**}$ in the w^* -topologies, respectively. More information about these maps can be found in [10] and [13].

Definition 1 A bounded tri-linear map f is said to be close-to-regular if $f^{t****s} = f^{s****t}$. It is obvious that f is close-to-regular if and only if $f^{s*****s} = f^{s****t}$ $f^{t******}$ on $Y^{**} \times Z^{**} \times W^{***}$.

Definition 2 A bounded tri-linear map f is said to be Aron-Berner regular when all natural extensions are equal, that is, $f^{i****i} = f^{j****j} = f^{r****r} =$ $f^{****} = f^{t*****} = f^{s****t}$ holds. For example see [10], see also [3], [4] and [5]. If f is Aron-Berner regular, then trivially f is close-to-regular.

Throughout the article, we usually identify a normed space with its canonical image in its second dual.

2 Close-to-regular maps

We commence with the following theorem for close-to-regular maps.

Theorem 1 For a bounded tri-linear map $f: X \times Y \times Z \longrightarrow W$ the following statements are equivalent:

- 1. f is close-to-regular.
- 2. $f^{s***t*}(Y^{**}, W^{*}, Z) \subseteq X^{*}$ and $f^{s*****}(X^{**}, W^{*}, Y^{**}) \subseteq Z^{*}$. 3. $f^{t*****}(W^{*}, Z^{**}, X^{**}) \subseteq Y^{*}$.

Proof Suppos $\{x_{\alpha}\}, \{y_{\beta}\}$ and $\{z_{\gamma}\}$ are nets in X, Y and Z which converge to $x^{**} \in X^{**}, y^{**} \in Y^{**}$ and $z^{**} \in Z^{**}$ in the w^* -topologies, respectively.

 $(1) \Rightarrow (2)$, if f is close-to-regular, then $f^{t****s} = f^{s****t}$. For every $x^{**} \in$ $X^{**}, y^{**} \in Y^{**}, z \in Z$ and $w^* \in W^*$ we have

$$\langle f^{s***t*}(y^{**}, w^{*}, z), x^{**} \rangle = \langle y^{**}, f^{s***}(z, x^{**}, w^{*}) \rangle$$

$$= \langle f^{s****t}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z), w^{*} \rangle = \langle f^{t****s}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z), w^{*} \rangle$$

$$= \langle f^{t****}(z, x^{**}, y^{**}), w^{*} \rangle = \langle f^{t**}(y^{**}, w^{*}, z), x^{**} \rangle.$$

Therefore
$$f^{s***t*}(y^{**}, w^{*}, z) = f^{t**}(y^{**}, w^{*}, z) \in X^{*}$$
, follows that $f^{s***t*}(Y^{**}, W^{*}, Z) \subseteq X^{*}$.

In the other hand,

$$\langle f^{s*****}(x^{**}, w^{*}, y^{**}), z^{**} \rangle = \langle w^{*}, f^{s****}(y^{**}, z^{**}, x^{**}) \rangle$$

$$= \langle w^{*}, f^{s****t}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) \rangle = \langle w^{*}, f^{t***s}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) \rangle$$

$$= \langle w^{*}, f^{t****}(z^{**}, x^{**}, y^{**}) \rangle = \langle z^{**}, f^{t***}(x^{**}, y^{**}, w^{*}) \rangle.$$

Since the $f^{t***}(x^{**}, y^{**}, w^{*}) \in z^{*}$, thus $f^{s******}(X^{**}, W^{*}, Y^{**}) \subseteq Z^{*}$, as claimed.

$$(2) \Rightarrow (3)$$
, if (2) holds then

$$\langle f^{t*****}(w^*, z^{**}, x^{**}), y^{**} \rangle = \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle f(x_{\alpha}, y_{\beta}, z_{\gamma}), w^* \rangle$$

$$= \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle w^*, f^s(y_{\beta}, z_{\gamma}, x_{\alpha}) \rangle = \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\beta} \langle f^{s***}(z_{\gamma}, x_{\alpha}, w^*), y_{\beta} \rangle$$

$$= \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\alpha} \langle y^{**}, f^{s***t}(w^*, z_{\gamma}, x_{\alpha}) \rangle = \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\alpha} \langle f^{s***t*}(y^{**}, w^*, z_{\gamma}), x_{\alpha} \rangle$$

$$= \lim_{\gamma} \langle f^{s***t*}(y^{**}, w^*, z_{\gamma}), x^{**} \rangle = \lim_{\gamma} \langle y^{**}, f^{s***t}(w^*, z_{\gamma}, x^{**}) \rangle$$

$$= \lim_{\gamma} \langle y^{**}, f^{s***}(z_{\gamma}, x^{**}, w^*) \rangle = \lim_{\gamma} \langle f^{s*****t}(x^{**}, w^*, y^{**}), z_{\gamma} \rangle$$

$$= \langle f^{s******}(x^{**}, w^*, y^{**}), z^{**} \rangle = \langle f^{s****}(z^{**}, x^{**}, w^*), y^{**} \rangle$$

$$= \langle f^{s****t}(w^*, z^{**}, x^{**}), y^{**} \rangle.$$

Since $f^{s***t}(w^*, z^{**}, x^{**}) \in Y^*$, thus (3) holds. (3) \Rightarrow (1), let $f^{t*****}(W^*, Z^{**}, X^{**}) \subseteq Y^*$. Then for every $w^* \in W^*$ we have,

$$\langle f^{s****t}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}), w^* \rangle = \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\alpha} \langle f(x_{\alpha}, y_{\beta}, z_{\gamma}), w^* \rangle$$

$$= \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\alpha} \langle w^*, f^t(z_{\gamma}, x_{\alpha}, y_{\beta}) \rangle = \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\alpha} \langle f^{t*}(w^*, z_{\gamma}, x_{\alpha}), y_{\beta} \rangle$$

$$= \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \lim_{\alpha} \langle f^{t***}(y_{\beta}, w^*, z_{\gamma}), x_{\alpha} \rangle = \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle x^{**}, f^{t**}(y_{\beta}, w^*, z_{\gamma}) \rangle$$

$$= \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\gamma} \langle f^{t****}(x^{**}, y_{\beta}, w^*), z_{\gamma} \rangle = \lim_{\beta} \langle z^{**}, f^{t****}(x^{**}, y_{\beta}, w^*) \rangle$$

$$= \lim_{\beta} \langle f^{t*****}(z^{**}, x^{**}, y_{\beta}), w^* \rangle = \lim_{\beta} \langle f^{t*****}(w^*, z^{**}, x^{**}), y_{\beta} \rangle$$

$$= \langle f^{t*****}(w^*, z^{**}, x^{**}), y^{**} \rangle = \langle f^{t*****}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}), w^* \rangle.$$

It follows that f is close-to-regular and this completes the proof.

As an immediate consequence of Theorem 1, we deduce the next result.

Corollary 1 Let $f: X \times Y \times Z \longrightarrow W$ be a bounded tri-linear mapping.

- 1. If Y is reflexive, then f is close-to-regular.
- 2. If X and Z are reflexive, then f is close-to-regular.

Example 1 Let G be a compact group. Then $L^p(G)$ for p > 1 is a reflexive Banach algebra. So the bounded tri-linear mapping

$$f: L^p(G) \times L^p(G) \times L^p(G) \longrightarrow L^p(G)$$

defined by f(k, g, h) = k*g*h is close-to-regular, where $(k*g)(x) = \int_G k(y)g(y^{-1}x)dy$ for every k, g and $h \in L^p(G)$, see [8].

Theorem 2 Let $f: X \times Y \times Z \longrightarrow W$ be a bounded tri-linear map. Then,

- 1. f^r is close-to-regular if and only if $f^{i****i} = f^{j****j}$.
- 2. f^i is close-to-regular if and only if $f^{j****j} = f^{r****r}$.
- 3. f^j is close-to-regular if and only if $f^{i****i} = f^{r****r}$.
- 4. f^t is close-to-regular if and only if $f^{s****t} = f^{****}$.
- 5. f^s is close-to-regular if and only if $f^{t****s} = f^{****}$.

Proof We prove only (1), the other parts have the same argument. Let $x^{**} \in X^{**}, y^{**} \in Y^{**}, z^{**} \in Z^{**}$ and $w^* \in W^*$ and let $\{x_{\alpha}\}, \{y_{\beta}\}$ and $\{z_{\gamma}\}$ be nets in X, Y and Z which converge to x^{**}, y^{**} and z^{**} in the w^* -topologies, respectively. Then we have

$$\langle f^{i****i}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}), w^* \rangle = \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\gamma} \langle f(x_{\alpha}, y_{\beta}, z_{\gamma}), w^* \rangle$$

$$= \lim_{\beta} \lim_{\alpha} \lim_{\gamma} \langle f^r(z_{\gamma}, y_{\beta}, x_{\alpha}), w^* \rangle$$

$$= \langle f^{rs****t}(z^{**}, y^{**}, x^{**}), w^* \rangle.$$

Therefore $f^{i****i} = f^{rs****t}$. In the other hand

$$\begin{split} \langle f^{j****j}(x^{**},y^{**},z^{**}),w^*\rangle &= \lim_{\alpha}\lim_{\gamma}\lim_{\beta}\langle f(x_{\alpha},y_{\beta},z_{\gamma}),w^*\rangle \\ &= \lim_{\alpha}\lim_{\gamma}\lim_{\beta}\langle f^r(z_{\gamma},y_{\beta},x_{\alpha}),w^*\rangle \\ &= \langle f^{rt****s}(z^{**},y^{**},x^{**}),w^*\rangle. \end{split}$$

Thus $f^{j****j} = f^{rt****s}$ and this completes the proof.

Another proof: Since the $f^{rt} = f^j = f^{sr}$ and $f^{rs} = f^i = f^{tr}$, thus f^r is close-to-regular if and only if

$$f^{rt****s} = f^{rs****t} \Leftrightarrow f^{rt****sr} = f^{rs****tr} \Leftrightarrow f^{j****j} = f^{i****i}.$$

As immediate consequences of Theorem 2, we have the next corollaries.

Corollary 2 If f is Aron-Berner regular, then f^i , f^j , f^r , f^t and f^s are close-to-regular.

Corollary 3 If f^s and f^t are close-to-regular, then f is close-to-regular.

Theorem 3 Let $f: X \times Y \times Z \longrightarrow W$ and $g: X \times S \times Z \longrightarrow W$ be bounded tri-linear mappings and let $h: Y \longrightarrow S$ be a bounded linear mapping such that f(x,y,z) = g(x,h(y),z), for every $x \in X, y \in Y$ and $z \in Z$. If h is weakly compact, then f is close-to-regular.

Proof Suppos $\{x_{\alpha}\}, \{y_{\beta}\}$ and $\{z_{\gamma}\}$ are nets in X, Y and Z which converge to $x^{**} \in X^{**}, y^{**} \in Y^{**}$ and $z^{**} \in Z^{**}$ in the w^* -topologies, respectively. Then a direct verification reveals that

$$f^{t****s}(x^{**}, y^{**}, z^{**}) = g^{t****s}(x^{**}, h^{**}(y^{**}), z^{**}).$$

Then for each $y^{**} \in Y^{**}$ we have

$$\begin{split} \langle f^{t*****}(w^*,z^{**},x^{**}),y^{**}\rangle &= \langle w^*,f^{t****}(z^{**},x^{**},y^{**})\rangle \\ &= \langle w^*,f^{t****s}(x^{**},y^{**},z^{**})\rangle \\ &= \langle w^*,g^{t****s}(x^{**},h^{**}(y^{**}),z^{**})\rangle \\ &= \langle w^*,g^{t****}(z^{**},x^{**},h^{**}(y^{**}))\rangle \\ &= \langle g^{t*****}(w^*,z^{**},x^{**}),h^{**}(y^{**})\rangle \\ &= \langle h^{***}(g^{t*****}(w^*,z^{**},x^{**})),y^{**}\rangle. \end{split}$$

Therefore $f^{t*****}(w^*, z^{**}, x^{**}) = h^{***}(g^{t*****}(w^*, z^{**}, x^{**}))$. The weak compactness of h implies that of h^* , from which we have $h^{***}(S^{***}) \subseteq Y^*$. In particular,

$$h^{***}(g^{t*****}(W^*, Z^{**}, X^{**})) \subseteq Y^*,$$

thus we deduce $f^{t*****}(W^*, Z^{**}, X^{**}) \subseteq Y^*$. It follows that f is close-to-regular and this completes the proof.

If Y or S is reflexive, then every bounded linear mapping $h:Y\longrightarrow S$ is weakly compact. Thus we give the next result.

Corollary 4 Let $f: X \times Y \times Z \longrightarrow W$ and $g: X \times S \times Z \longrightarrow W$ be bounded tri-linear mappings and let $h: Y \longrightarrow S$ be a bounded linear mapping such that f(x,y,z) = g(x,h(y),z), for every $x \in X, y \in Y$ and $z \in Z$. If S is reflexive, then f is close-to-regular.

Theorem 4 Let $f: X \times Y \times Z \longrightarrow W$ be bounded tri-linear mapping. If $f^{****t***} = f^{t*******}$ and $f^{*******} = f^{s**t****}$. Then f is close-to-regular

Proof Using the equality $f^{******} = f^{***t****}$, a standard argument applies to show that $f^{****} = f^{******}$. In the other hand, the equality $f^{****t***} = f^{t******}$ impleas that $f^{****} = f^{t*****}$. Therefore $f^{*****t} = f^{t*****}$, as claimed.

Note that for theorem 4 the converse is not true.

3 Conclusion

In this manuscript, the authors investigated Aron-Berner regularity and close-to-regularity of bounded tri-linear maps. In Section 2 some necessary and sufficient conditions on tri-linear maps which guarantee their close-to-regularity are provided.

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