

Twisted sums with c_0 and the CCKY problem

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The Kalton years 2010-25, Badajoz (May 2026)

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The CCKY Team

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Twisted sums with $C(K)$ spaces, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 355 (2003), no. 11, 4523–4541.

Twisted sums of Banach spaces

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From the introduction:

Let X and Y be real Banach spaces. Then we say $\text{Ext}(X, Y) = \{0\}$ if every short exact sequence $0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow X \rightarrow 0$ splits; informally this means that if Z is a Banach space containing Y and so that $Z/Y \sim X$, then there is a bounded projection of Z onto Y . A space Z with a subspace isomorphic to Y so that Z/Y is isomorphic to X is often called a twisted sum of Y and X (order is important!). Thus $\text{Ext}(X, Y) = \{0\}$ if and only if every twisted sum of Y and X is trivial (i.e. reduces to $Y \oplus X$).

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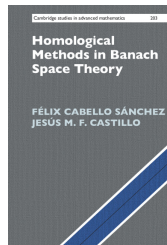
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Homological Methods in Banach Spaces

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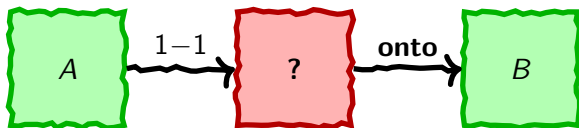
Cambridge University Press



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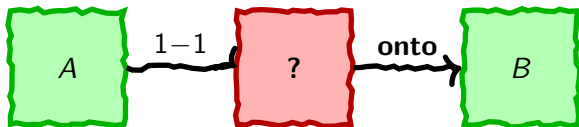
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$$0 \longrightarrow Y \xrightarrow{j} Z \xrightarrow{p} X \longrightarrow 0$$

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There is a nontrivial twisted sum $0 \rightarrow C(\omega^\omega) \rightarrow Z \rightarrow C(\omega^\omega) \rightarrow 0$

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Here $C(\omega^\omega) = C([0, \omega^\omega])$; $[0, \omega^\omega]$ is the 'smallest' countable compactum K such that all its derivatives K', K'', K''', \dots are nonempty. Then $C(K)$ is not isomorphic to c_0 (Bessaga-Pełczyński).

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Finally, let us mention a non-separable problem related to the results of this paper. If X is a separable Banach space, then $\text{Ext}(X, c_0) = \{0\}$ by Sobczyk's theorem: we do not know, however, if there is a non-metrizable compact Hausdorff space K such that $\text{Ext}(C(K), c_0) = \{0\}$. It is known that...

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Two answers

- 1 Marciszewski, GP (2018):
NO.

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Two answers

- 1 Marciszewski, GP (2018):
NO.
- 2 Avilés, Marciszewski, GP (2020):
YES.

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- 1 Marciszewski, GP (2018): **Assuming $MA+\neg CH$,**
NO.
- 2 Avilés, Marciszewski, GP (2020): **Assuming CH ,**
YES.

In particular,

Corollary (to MP 2018) and Correa and Tausk (2016)

The question if there exist a nontrivial twisted sum

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is undecidable in ZFC for the Cantor cube $K = \{0, 1\}^{\omega_1}$.

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- 3 Under $\text{MA} + \neg\text{CH}$, K is sequentially compact, and if $D \subseteq K$ is a dense countable subset then every $x \in K$ is a limit of a converging sequence from D .

Basic idea: countable discrete extensions

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- 4 For every κ there is a retraction $r : 2^{\mathbb{c}} \cup \omega \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{c}}$ so $g \rightarrow g \circ r$ is a norm-one extension operator $C(2^{\kappa}) \rightarrow C(2^{\kappa} \cup \omega)$.

Countable discrete extensions and twisted sums

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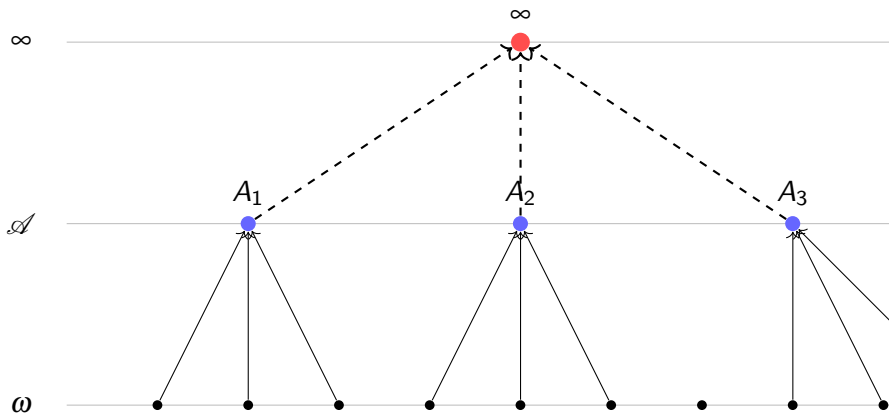
Here the ball B_{X^*} is equipped with its *weak** topology.

$B_{X^*} \cup \omega$ that cannot be realized in X^* means that the identity

$B_{X^*} \rightarrow B_{X^*}$ does not extend to a continuous mapping

$B_{X^*} \cup \omega \rightarrow X^*$.

Almost disjoint family \mathcal{A} and the compact space $K_{\mathcal{A}}$



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Under Martin's axiom, every twisted sum of c_0 with $C(K_{\mathcal{A}})$ is trivial whenever $\omega_1 \leq |\mathcal{A}| < \mathfrak{c}$.

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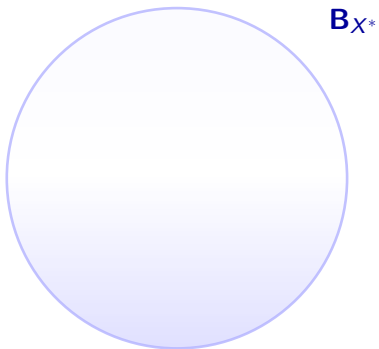
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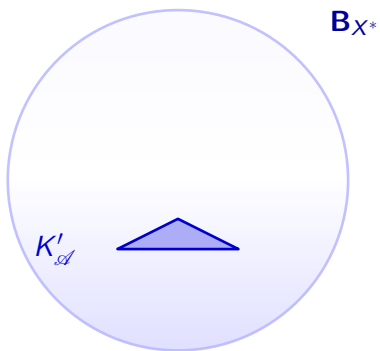
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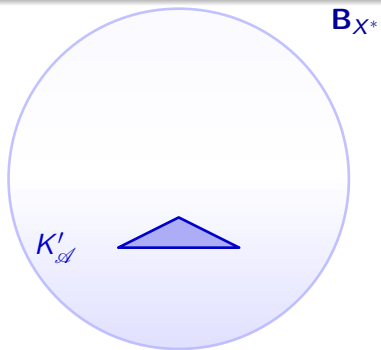
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A blue triangle with a thin blue outline, identical to the one in the diagram above, is positioned to the right of the equation.

1

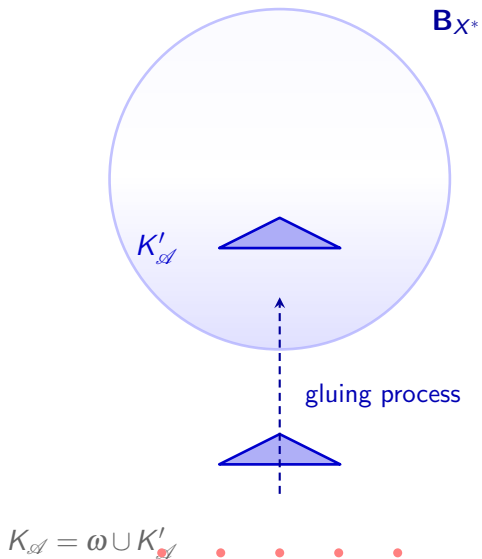
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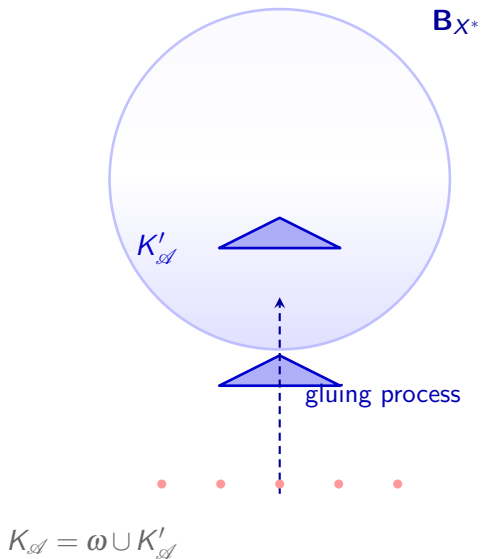
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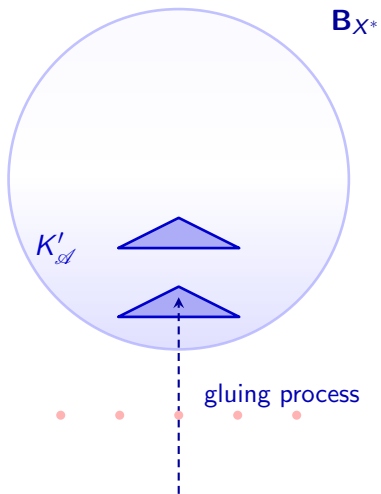
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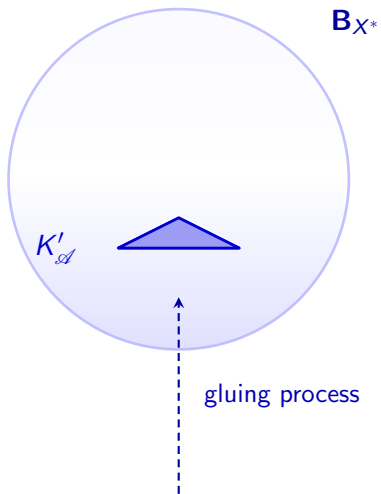


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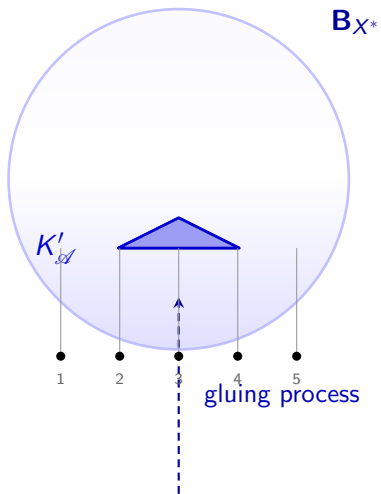
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Use \mathcal{A} to form a 'difficult' space $B_{C(2^\kappa)^*} \cup 2^{<\omega}$.