

Methods for constructing Banach spaces with prescribed properties in their operator spaces

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in honor of Spiros Argyros

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- Banach Spaces
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Banach Spaces

Notation: Banach Spaces

- X , Y , Z , and W denote Banach spaces.

$$\ell_\infty = \left\{ x = (x(i))_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}} : \|x\|_\infty = \sup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} |x(i)| < \infty \right\},$$

$$c_0 = \left\{ x = (x(i))_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \in \ell_\infty : \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} x(i) = 0 \right\},$$

$$\ell_p = \left\{ x = (x(i))_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}} : \|x\|_p = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |x(i)|^p \right)^{1/p} < \infty \right\}, \quad 1 \leq p < \infty.$$

- X is separable if it contains a countable norm-dense subset.
 - ℓ_∞ is non-separable.
 - ℓ_p , $1 \leq p < \infty$, and c_0 are separable.

Convention: Unless stated otherwise, a Banach space is infinite-dimensional.

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Notation: Bounded Linear Operators

- T, S, R and $K : X \rightarrow Y$ denote **bounded linear operators**.

$$\mathcal{L}(X, Y) = \left\{ T : X \rightarrow Y \text{ linear \& bounded} \right\}$$

is a Banach space with

$$\|T\| = \sup\{\|Tx\| : \|x\| \leq 1\}.$$

Notation: $\mathcal{L}(X) = \mathcal{L}(X, X)$ and $X^* = \mathcal{L}(X, \mathbb{R})$.

- X is **reflexive** if $X \equiv X^{**}$ canonically, i.e., $\widehat{X} = X^{**}$.
 - c_0 , and ℓ_1 are non-reflexive.
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Notation: Compact Operators

- $K : X \rightarrow Y$ is called **compact** if for every **bounded sequence** $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ in X , $(Kx_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ has a **convergent subsequence**.

Notation:

$$\mathcal{K}(X, Y) = \left\{ T \in \mathcal{L}(X, Y) \text{ compact} \right\} \text{ and}$$
$$\mathcal{K}(X) = \mathcal{K}(X, X).$$

The Isomorphic Structure of the Subspaces of an X

- X and Y are C -isomorphic, or $X \simeq^C Y$, for $C \geq 1$, means:

there exists a linear bijection $T : X \rightarrow Y$ with $\|T\| \|T^{-1}\| \leq C$.

To disregard C , we say X and Y are **isomorphic**, or $X \simeq Y$.

Question: What are the subspaces of an X up to isomorphism?

Examples:

- Let $X = \ell_2$. If $Y \subset \ell_2$ then $Y \simeq^1 \ell_2$.
- Let $X = \ell_p$, $1 \leq p < \infty$, or $X = c_0$.
If $Y \subset X$ then there exists $Z \subset Y$ such that $Z \simeq X$.
- Let $X = L_p[0, 1]$, $1 \leq p < \infty$.
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Question: For arbitrary X , is there $Y \subset X$ that is isomorphic to c_0 or some ℓ_p , $1 \leq p < \infty$?

- A counterexample was constructed by Tsirelson in 1974.

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The Space $\mathcal{L}(X)$

Constructing Operators: Classical Sequence Spaces

- Let $X = \ell_p$, $1 \leq p < \infty$ or $X = c_0$.

For $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon(i))_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \in \{-1, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ and a permutation $\pi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$.

Define $T_{\varepsilon, \pi} \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ as follows: for $x = (x(i))_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \in X$,

$$T_{\varepsilon, \pi} x = \left(\varepsilon(i) x(\pi^{-1}(i)) \right)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}.$$

Thus, $\mathcal{L}(X)$ is non-separable.

Constructing Operators: Arbitrary Banach Spaces

- Let X be an arbitrary infinite-dimensional Banach space.

(a) For $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, the scalar operator $\lambda I \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ is given by

$$\lambda I x = \lambda x.$$

(b) For $f \in X^*$, $y \in X$, the rank-one operator $f \otimes y \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ is given by

$$(f \otimes y)x = f(x)y.$$

Then $\|f \otimes y\| = \|f\| \|y\|$.

- For $f_1, \dots, f_n \in X^*$ and $y_1, \dots, y_n \in X$, the finite-rank operator

$$\sum_{i=1}^n f_i \otimes y_i \in \mathcal{L}(X).$$

- For $(f_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \in X^*$ and $(y_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \in X$, such that $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \|f_i\| \|y_i\| < \infty$, the nuclear operator

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Operators on an Arbitrary Banach Space

- If $\mathcal{N}(X) = \{T \in \mathcal{L}(X) \text{ nuclear}\}$,

$$\mathbb{R}I + \mathcal{N}(X) \subset \mathcal{L}(X).$$

By **Hahn-Banach**: $\dim(\mathcal{L}(X)) = \infty$.

Remark: $\mathcal{N}(X) \subset \mathcal{K}(X)$, and under “mild” assumptions on X ,

$$\overline{\mathcal{N}(X)}^{\|\cdot\|} = \mathcal{K}(X).$$

Question: (Lindenstrauss, 1975)

Does there exist a Banach space X with the scalar-plus-compact property, i.e., such that

$$\mathbb{R}I + \mathcal{K}(X) = \mathcal{L}(X)?$$

- Such a space was constructed by **Argyros** and **Haydon** in 2011.

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Fundamental Banach Spaces Concepts

Schauder Bases

- A **Schauder basis** of a Banach space is a sequence $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ in X such that for every $x \in X$,

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i x_i,$$

for a unique $(a_i)_{i=1}^{\infty} \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$.

Example: For $X = \ell_p$, $1 \leq p < \infty$, or $X = c_0$ let, for $i \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$e_i = (0, 0, 0, \dots, 0, \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{7th position}}}{1}, 0, \dots).$$

Then $(e_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ is a Schauder basis of X because,

$$\text{if } x = (x(i))_{i=1}^{\infty} \in X \text{ then } x = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} x(i) e_i.$$

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- Two Schauder bases $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ of X and $(y_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ of Y are called **C -equivalent** if $T : X \rightarrow Y$ given by

$$T\left(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i x_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i y_i$$

is a C -isomorphism of X and Y .

Block Sequences

Let X have a Schauder basis $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$.

- The support of an $x = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i x_i$ in X is the set

$$\text{supp}(x) = \{i \in \mathbb{N} : a_i \neq 0\}.$$

For $x \in X$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $y \in X$ with $\text{supp}(y)$ finite

$$\|x - y\| < \varepsilon.$$

- A sequence $(y_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ in X is a **block sequence** if

$$\text{supp}(y_1) < \text{supp}(y_2) < \cdots < \text{supp}(y_i) < \text{supp}(y_{i+1}) < \cdots .$$

- For a block sequence $(y_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ in X , $Y = \overline{\{y_i : i \in \mathbb{N}\}}$ is called a **block subspace** of X .

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If X has a Schauder basis $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$, **block subspaces saturate** the infinite-dimensional subspaces Y of X .

Theorem: Let $Y \subset X$ and $\varepsilon > 0$.

Then Y contains an **ε -perturbation of a block subspace W** .

That is, there exists an isomorphism $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ with $\|I - T\| < \varepsilon$ and $T(W) \subset Y$.

Schreier's Space

Convex Combinations of Weakly Null Sequences

- A sequence $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ in a Banach space is **weakly null** if, for every $f \in X^*$, $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} f(x_i) = 0$.

Theorem: (Mazur) $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ is weakly null if and only if for every infinite $L \subset \mathbb{N}$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ there exist a finite $F \subset L$ and $(\lambda_i)_{i \in F}$ in $[0, 1]$ such that $\sum_{i \in F} \lambda_i = 1$ and $\|\sum_{i \in F} \lambda_i x_i\| < \varepsilon$.

Question: (Banach - Saks, 1930s) Assume $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ is weakly null and let $\varepsilon > 0$. Does there exist a finite $F \subset \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$\left\| \sum_{i \in F} \frac{1}{\#F} x_i \right\| < \varepsilon?$$

Theorem: (Schreier, 1932) There exists a weakly null sequence $(e_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ in some Banach space X_S such that for every finite $F \subset \mathbb{N}$,

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Schreier's Construction

- The **Schreier** family:

$$\mathcal{S} = \{F \subset \mathbb{N} : \#F \leq \min(F)\}.$$

E.g., $\{5, 6, 12\} \in \mathcal{S}$ but $\{2, 5, 7\} \notin \mathcal{S}$.

- $c_{00} = \{x = (x(i))_{i=1}^{\infty} \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}} : x(i) \neq 0 \text{ for only finitely many } i\}$.
- For $i \in \mathbb{N}$, and for $x = (x(i))_{i=1}^{\infty} \in c_{00}$, $F \subset \mathbb{N}$, let

$$Fx = \sum_{i \in F} x(i)e_i.$$

- Define a norm on c_{00} by letting, for $x = (x(i))_{i=1}^{\infty}$,

$$\|x\| = \sup \left\{ \sum_{i \in F} |x(i)| : F \in \mathcal{S} \right\} = \sup_{F \in \mathcal{S}} \|Fx\|_{\ell_1},$$

and let $X_{\mathcal{S}}$ be the completion of c_{00} with $\|\cdot\|$.

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- Define a norm on c_{00} by letting, for $x = (x(i))_{i=1}^{\infty}$,

$$\|x\| = \sup \left\{ \sum_{i \in F} |x(i)| : F \in \mathcal{S} \right\} = \sup_{F \in \mathcal{S}} \|Fx\|_{\ell_1},$$

and let $X_{\mathcal{S}}$ be the completion of c_{00} with $\|\cdot\|$.

Schreier's Construction

- The Schreier family:

$$\mathcal{S} = \{F \subset \mathbb{N} : \#F \leq \min(F)\}.$$

E.g., $\{5, 6, 12\} \in \mathcal{S}$ but $\{2, 5, 7\} \notin \mathcal{S}$.

- $c_{00} = \{x = (x(i))_{i=1}^{\infty} \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}} : x(i) \neq 0 \text{ for only finitely many } i\}$.
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Proposition: For every non-empty $F \subset \mathbb{N}$,

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Lemma: For every finite $F \subset \mathbb{N}$ there exists $G \subset F$ with $G \in S$ and $\#G \geq \#F/2$.

Proof of lemma: Write $F = \{k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_n\}$ and let $G = \{k_{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor + 1} < \dots < k_n\}$.

Proof of proposition: Let $F \subset \mathbb{N}$ finite and take G as in the lemma. Then,

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Proposition: $(e_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ is weakly null in X_S .

Lemma: Let $F_1 < \dots < F_n$ be non-empty subsets of \mathbb{N} such that, for $k = 1, \dots, n-1$, $\#F_{k+1} \geq \max(F_k)$.

Then, for every $F \in \mathcal{S}$,

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\#(F \cap F_k)}{\#F_k} < 2.$$

Proof of proposition: For an infinite $L \subset \mathbb{N}$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ pick $n > 2/\varepsilon$ and F_1, \dots, F_n in L as in the lemma. Then,

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Remarks:

For $F = \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n\} \in \mathcal{S}$, $(e_{i_k})_{k=1}^n$ in $X_{\mathcal{S}}$ is 1-equivalent to the unit vector basis of $(\mathbb{R}^n, \|\cdot\|_1)$.

Every subspace of $X_{\mathcal{S}}$ contains a further subspace isomorphic to c_0 .

Schreier's space $X_{\mathcal{S}}$ is isomorphic to a subspace of $C(\omega^\omega)$.

Tsirelson's Space

- Let X be an infinite-dimensional Banach space.

Question: Does X have a subspace isomorphic to c_0 or some ℓ_p , $1 \leq p < \infty$?

Theorem: (Dvoretzky, 1961) For every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $C > 1$, X has an n -dimensional subspace that is C -isomorphic to $(\mathbb{R}^n, \|\cdot\|_2)$.

Theorem: (Krivine, 1976) If X has a Schauder basis there exists $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ such that:

for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $C > 1$ there exists a **finite block sequence** $(x_i)_{i=1}^n$ in X that is C -equivalent to the **unit vector basis** of $(\mathbb{R}^n, \|\cdot\|_p)$.

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- We define **by induction** a sequence of norms on c_{00} .
- For $x = (x(i))_{i=1}^{\infty}$ let $\|x\|_0 = \max_{i \in \mathbb{N}} |x(i)| = \|x\|_{c_0}$.
- If $\|\cdot\|_n$ is defined, for $x = (x(i))_{i=1}^{\infty}$ let

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That is, T is $(1/2)$ -asymptotic ℓ_1 .

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Proposition: No block sequence of norm-one vectors in T is equivalent to the unit vector basis of c_0 or ℓ_p , $1 < p < \infty$.

Proof: Fix $1 < p < \infty$.

Assume that $(x_i)_{i=1}^\infty$ is equivalent to the unit vector basis of ℓ_p .

Then there exists $C > 0$ such that for every $i_1 < \dots < i_n$,

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Therefore, $C \geq n^{1-1/p}/2 \rightarrow \infty$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

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By the Lemma,

$$\frac{2}{C} \leq \limsup_N \left\| x_1 + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=2}^{N+1} x_i \right\| \leq 1.$$

Thus, $C \geq 2$. This contradicts **James' non-distortion of ℓ_1** .

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Remarks:

Tsirelson's norm is the first **saturated** norm:

Every **block sequence of norm-one vectors** $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ is weakly null, and for every $F \subset \mathbb{N}$,

$$\left\| \sum_{i \in F} \frac{1}{\#F} x_i \right\| \geq \frac{1}{4}.$$

Tsirelson's space is **reflexive** and **asymptotic ℓ_1** .

- These are "contradictory" properties.
- T displays hereditarily homogeneous block structure.

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- In 1991 Schlumprecht constructed a Banach space $(S, \|\cdot\|)$ with hereditarily heterogeneous block structure.
- S is the completion of c_{00} with a norm such that for $x \in c_{00}$

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where the supremum is over all $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and successive subsets E_1, \dots, E_m of \mathbb{N} .

Corollary: For every finite block sequence $(x_i)_{i=1}^n$,

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Theorem: Let X be a block subspace S . For every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, there is a block sequence $(x_i)_{i=1}^n$ in X that is a **2-equivalent to the unit vector basis of $(\mathbb{R}^n, \|\cdot\|_1)$** .

Proof: Krivine's theorem and

$$\frac{\log(n+1)}{n^{1-1/p}} \rightarrow 0,$$

for all $p > 1$.

- For such a sequence, the vector

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- A block sequence $(y_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ such that, for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$, y_i is an $2\text{-}\ell_1^{N_i}$ -average and

$$\log(\log(N_{i+1})) > 2^{i+1} \max \text{supp}(y_i)$$

is called a **2-rapidly increasing sequence (2-RIS)**.

Theorem: Let $(y_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ be 2-RIS in S . Then, for every $i_1 < \dots < i_n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{n}{\log(n+1)} \leq \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n y_{i_k} \right\| \leq 4 \frac{n}{\log(n+1)}.$$

- A block sequence $(y_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ such that, for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$, y_i is an $2\text{-}\ell_1^{N_i}$ -average and

$$\log(\log(N_{i+1})) > 2^{i+1} \max \text{supp}(y_i)$$

is called a **2-rapidly increasing sequence (2-RIS)**.

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Schlumprecht's Construction

Hereditary heterogeneity of Schlumprecht's space:

In every block subspace of S , there exist

- for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, a block sequence $(x_i)_{i=1}^n$ that is 2-equivalent to the unit vector basis of $(\mathbb{R}^n, \|\cdot\|_1)$, i.e., for $a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}$,

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Comment: Other types of sequences can be found.

Remark: S is a reflexive Banach space.

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The Gowers-Maurey Space

Unconditional Sequences

- A Schauder basis $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ of a Banach space is called **C-unconditional**, for some $C \geq 1$, if for every $a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n \in \{-1, 1\}$,

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \varepsilon_i a_i x_i \right\| \leq C \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_i \right\|.$$

- Equivalently, for every $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon(i))_{i=1}^{\infty} \in \{-1, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$, $T_{\varepsilon} : X \rightarrow X$ with

$$T_{\varepsilon} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i x_i \right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i a_i x_i$$

is bounded and has norm at most C .

- A sequence $(y_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ in a Banach space X is an **unconditional sequence** if it is an unconditional Schauder basis of its closed linear span.

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The Unconditional Basic Sequence Problem

- The unit vector bases of c_0 , ℓ_p , $1 \leq p < \infty$, Schreier's, Tsirelson's, and Schlumprecht's spaces are unconditional.
- Every block sequence of a C -unconditional sequence is C -unconditional.
- The Schauder system of $C[0, 1]$ and the Haar system of $L_1[0, 1]$ are non-unconditional.

Question: Does every infinite-dimensional Banach space contain an unconditional sequence?

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The Gowers-Maurey Space

Theorem: (Gowers - Maurey, 1993) There exists a reflexive Banach space X_{GM} without any unconditional sequences.

The Gowers-Maurey construction combines:

- The Schlumprecht construction and
- A Maurey-Rosenthal concept called a coding function.

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Hereditary heterogeneity in the Gowers-Maurey space yields:
In every block subspace of X_{GM} , there exist a 2-RIS $(y_i)_{i=1}^\infty$, i.e.,
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For $(y_i)_{i=1}^\infty$ as above, the vector

$$z = \frac{\log(n+1)}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i$$

is called a $(2, n)$ -exact vector and it satisfies $1/2 \leq \|z\| \leq 4$.

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The Gowers-Maurey Construction

Theorem: Let X be a block subspace of X_{GM} . Then, for arbitrarily large $N \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists a block sequence $(z_i)_{i=1}^N$ in X such that each z_i is a $(2, n_i)$ -exact vector and

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n z_i \right\| \geq \frac{1}{2} \frac{N}{\sqrt{\log(N+1)}}$$

but

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^i z_i \right\| \leq 16 \frac{N}{\log(N+1)}.$$

In particular, no block sequence in X_{GM} is unconditional.

The Gowers-Maurey Construction

- An X is called **indecomposable** if for any bounded linear projection $P : X \rightarrow X$, either $\text{image}(P)$ or $\text{kernel}(P)$ is **finite-dimensional**.

Theorem: The space X_{GM} is **hereditarily indecomposable (HI)**, i.e., every infinite-dimensional $Y \subset X_{\text{GM}}$ is indecomposable.

Theorem: (Gowers, 1996) Every infinite-dimensional Banach space contains an **unconditional sequence** or an **HI subspace**.

Theorem: (Argyros - Felouzis, 2000 and Argyros - Raikoftsalis, 2012)

Every separable reflexive Banach space, e.g., ℓ_2 , is isomorphic to a quotient of some reflexive HI space.

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The Gowers-Maurey Construction

- A $T : X \rightarrow X$ is called **strictly singular** if:
for every infinite-dimensional $Y \subset X$ there exists an infinite dimensional $Z \subset Y$ such that $T|_Z$ is compact.

Denote

$$\mathcal{SS}(X) = \left\{ S \in \mathcal{L}(X) \text{ strictly singular} \right\}.$$

Always, $\mathcal{K}(X) \subset \mathcal{SS}(X)$.

Theorem: $\mathcal{L}(X_{GM}) = \mathbb{R}I + \mathcal{SS}(X_{GM})$.

Theorem: (Gowers-Maurey, 1993 and Ferenczi, 1996)

For every HI space X , $\mathcal{L}(X)/\mathcal{SS}(X)$ is **one, two, or four-dimensional**.

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The Argyros-Haydon Space

The Scalar-Plus-Compact Problem

Question: (Lindenstrauss, 1975)

Does there exist a Banach space X with the scalar-plus-compact property, i.e., such that $\mathcal{L}(X) = \mathbb{R}I + \mathcal{K}(X)$?

Comment: $\mathcal{L}(X_{GM}) = \mathbb{R}I + \mathcal{SS}(X_{GM})$.

Theorem: (Androulakis - Schlumprecht, 2001)

$\mathcal{K}(X_{GM}) \subsetneq \mathcal{SS}(X_{GM})$.

Theorem: (Argyros - Haydon, Acta Math. 2011) There exists an HI space \mathfrak{X}_{AH} with the scalar-plus-compact property.

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The Argyros-Haydon Space

Theorem: (Argyros-Haydon, 2011) There exists an HI space \mathfrak{X}_{AH} that has the scalar-plus-compact property.

The **Argyros-Haydon construction** has two main components.

- The **Gowers-Maurey construction**, and thus it is an HI space.
- A **Bourgain-Delbaen construction** of a type of non-reflexive spaces called \mathcal{L}_∞ -spaces, and thus \mathfrak{X}_{AH} is a \mathcal{L}_∞ -space.

\mathfrak{X}_{AH} and the Invariant Subspace Problem

- For a Banach space X a $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ admits an invariant subspace if there exists a closed subspace $\{0\} \subsetneq Y \subsetneq X$ with $T(Y) \subset Y$.
- An X has the invariant subspace property (ISP) if every $T \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ admits an invariant subspace.

Question: (von Neumann) Does ℓ_2 have the invariant subspace property?

Theorem: (Aronszajn-Smith, 1954) For a Banach space X , every $K \in \mathcal{K}(X)$ admits an invariant subspace.

Conclusion: \mathfrak{X}_{AH} has the invariant subspace property, and it is the first known space with this property.

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Theorem: (Argyros - Freeman - Haydon - Odell - Raikoftsalis - Schlumprecht - Zisimopoulou, 2012)

Every **uniformly convex** separable Banach space X is isomorphic to a subspace of a separable \mathcal{L}_∞ -space \mathfrak{X} with the scalar-plus-compact property.

In particular, X is isomorphic to a subspace of a non-reflexive separable space with the invariant subspace property.

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The Argyros-Haydon Method and Calkin Algebras

- For a Banach space X , $\mathcal{Cal}(X) = \mathcal{L}(X)/\mathcal{K}(X)$ is a **unital Banach algebra** called the **Calkin algebra** of X .

Question: For what unital Banach algebras \mathcal{B} does there exist X such that $\mathcal{Cal}(X) \simeq \mathcal{B}$

In other words, what unital Banach algebras are Calkin algebras?

- For example, $\mathcal{Cal}(\mathfrak{X}_{\text{AH}}) \simeq \mathbb{R}$.

Theorem: (Tarbard, 2012) $\ell_1(\mathbb{N}_0)$ is a Calkin algebra.

Theorem: (M - Puglisi - Zisimopoulou, 2016 and M, 2024)

Every separable $C(K)$ space is a Calkin algebra.

Theorem: (M - Pelczar-Barwacz, 2024) The following spaces are Calking algebras:

- ℓ_p , $1 \leq p < \infty$, e.g., ℓ_2 ,
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The Invariant Subspace Problem for Reflexive Spaces

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Question: (von Neumann) Does ℓ_2 have the invariant subspace property?

Theorem: (Enflo, 1987 and Read, 1984) There exist non-reflexive separable Banach spaces failing the ISP.

Theorem: (Argyros-Haydon, 2011) The non-reflexive separable space \mathfrak{X}_{AH} satisfies the ISP.

Question: (Read, 1989) Does there exist a separable reflexive space with the ISP?

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Theorem: (Argyros - M, 2014) There exists a separable reflexive HI space $\mathfrak{X}_{\text{ISP}}$ with the ISP.

This construction combines:

- The Tsirelson construction.
- An Odell-Schlumprecht concept called saturation under constraints.

Remark: Every infinite-dimensional closed subspace of $\mathfrak{X}_{\text{ISP}}$ satisfies the ISP.

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The Invariant Subspace Problem for Reflexive Spaces

Theorem: $\mathfrak{X}_{\text{ISP}}$ satisfies these main properties:

- (1) $\mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{X}_{\text{ISP}}) = \mathbb{R}I + \mathcal{SS}(\mathfrak{X}_{\text{ISP}})$.
- (2) For every $S, T \in \mathcal{SS}(\mathfrak{X}_{\text{ISP}})$, ST is compact.

Theorem: (Lomonosov, 1973) Let $T, K \in \mathcal{L}(X)$, for some infinite-dimensional Banach space X . If

- K is compact and
- $TK = KT$

then T admits an invariant subspace.

Conclusion: Every $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{X}_{\text{ISP}})$ admits an invariant subspace.

Proof: Let $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{X}_{\text{ISP}})$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, $S \in \mathcal{SS}(\mathfrak{X}_{\text{ISP}})$ such that $T = \lambda I + S$.

S^2 is compact and $T S^2 = (\lambda I + S)S^2 = S^2(\lambda I + S) = S^2 T$.

By Lomonosov's theorem T admits an invariant subspace.

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Spreading Models

- A sequence $(x_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ in a Banach space generates a **C - ℓ_1 -spreading model** if for all $n \leq i_1 < \dots < i_n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}$

$$C^{-1} \sum_{k=1}^n |a_k| \leq \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n a_k x_{i_k} \right\| \leq \sum_{k=1}^n |a_k|.$$

We refer to such sequences as **rank II** sequences.

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Theorem: Let $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ be a weakly null sequence in $\mathfrak{X}_{\text{ISP}}$. Then, it has a rank 0, a rank I or a rank II subsequence.

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Theorem: Let $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{X}_{\text{ISP}})$ be strictly singular. For a weakly null sequence $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ of positive rank, $(Tx_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ has a subsequence of lesser rank.

Corollary: If $S, T \in \mathcal{SS}(\mathfrak{X}_{\text{ISP}})$ then ST is compact.

Proof: By reflexivity, it suffices to show that for a weakly null sequence $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$, $\lim_i \|STx_i\| = 0$.

Assume $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$, $(Tx_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ and $(STx_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ are of some rank.

- If $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ is of rank 0, i.e. $\lim_j \|x_j\| = 0$, then $\lim_{j \in \mathbb{N}} \|STx_j\| = 0$.
- If $(x_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ is of rank I, then $(Tx_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ is of rank 0, i.e. $\lim_j \|Tx_j\| = 0$, and thus $\lim_{j \in \mathbb{N}} \|STx_j\| = 0$.
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