

EXTENDING BILINEAR MAPS ON BANACH SPACES BY HOMOLOGY

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ABSTRACT. Given two Banach spaces X and Y let $\mathcal{L}(X, Y)$ denote the vector space of linear continuous operators acting between them; its derived functor is the one that assigns to each couple $X; Y$ the vector space $\text{Ext}(X, Y)$ of exact sequences $0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow \square \rightarrow X \rightarrow 0$ modulo equivalence; let us agree that the second derived functors will be called $\text{Ext}^2(X, Y)$.

Several important Banach space problems and results adopt the form $\text{Ext}(X, Y) = 0$ (or $\text{Ext}(X, Y) = 0$). For instance,

- Sobczyk's theorem: $\text{Ext}(c_0, X) = 0$ for every separable Banach space X .
- Lindenstrauss's lifting principle: $\text{Ext}(L_1(\mu), X) = 0$ for every ultrasummand X .
- The Enflo-Lindenstrauss-Pisier and Kalton-Peck construction: $\text{Ext}(\ell_2, \ell_2) \neq 0$.
- The Johnson-Zippin's theorem: $\text{Ext}(H^*, \mathcal{L}_\infty) = 0$ for every subspace H of c_0 .

In general, a basic Banach space question is whether $\text{Ext}(X, Y) = 0$ for a given couple of Banach spaces $X; Y$. Similar questions for Ext^2 have not been treated. Let us write $\text{Ext}^2(X, Y) = 0$ to mean that all elements FG of $\text{Ext}^2(X, Y)$ are 0.

Palamodov's Problem 6 in [2] says: Is $\text{Ext}^2(\cdot, E) = 0$ for any Fréchet space? Let us answer it in the negative even in the domain of Banach spaces. Perhaps the most interesting situation is the Hilbert space case:

Problem. Is $\text{Ext}^2(\ell_2, \ell_2) = 0$?

for which a few partial results can be obtained. The following unexpected connection with extension of bilinear forms is proved in [1]:

Theorem. $\text{Ext}^2(\ell_2, \ell_2) = 0$ if and only if whenever $\ell_1/D_2 = \ell_2$, every bilinear form defined on D_2 can be extended to a bilinear form on ℓ_1 .

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REFERENCES

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