

# Isomorphic Kottman constant of a Banach space

Tomasz Kania

Matematický ústav AV ČR, Praha

48. Zimní škola abstraktní analýzy, Svratka, 12. ledna 2020

joint work with J.M.F. Castillo, M. Gonzalez, and P. Papini

## (Pre-)history

$X$  stands for an **inf.-dim.** Banach space;  $S_X$  the unit sphere of  $X$ .

## (Pre-)history

$X$  stands for an **inf.-dim.** Banach space;  $S_X$  the unit sphere of  $X$ .

**Riesz' lemma (1916).** For every  $\theta \in (0, 1)$  there exists  $(x_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset S_X$  with

$$\|x_n - x_k\| \geq \theta \quad (n \neq k).$$

## (Pre-)history

$X$  stands for an **inf.-dim.** Banach space;  $S_X$  the unit sphere of  $X$ .

**Riesz' lemma (1916).** For every  $\theta \in (0, 1)$  there exists  $(x_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset S_X$  with

$$\|x_n - x_k\| \geq \theta \quad (n \neq k).$$

*In other words:*  $S_X$  contains a  $\theta$ -separated sequence.

## (Pre-)history

$X$  stands for an **inf.-dim.** Banach space;  $S_X$  the unit sphere of  $X$ .

**Riesz' lemma (1916).** For every  $\theta \in (0, 1)$  there exists  $(x_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset S_X$  with

$$\|x_n - x_k\| \geq \theta \quad (n \neq k).$$

*In other words:*  $S_X$  contains a  $\theta$ -separated sequence.

**Kottman's theorem (1975).** There exists  $(x_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset S_X$  such that

$$\|x_n - x_k\| > 1 \quad (n \neq k).$$

## (Pre-)history

$X$  stands for an **inf.-dim.** Banach space;  $S_X$  the unit sphere of  $X$ .

**Riesz' lemma (1916).** For every  $\theta \in (0, 1)$  there exists  $(x_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset S_X$  with

$$\|x_n - x_k\| \geq \theta \quad (n \neq k).$$

*In other words:*  $S_X$  contains a  $\theta$ -separated sequence.

**Kottman's theorem (1975).** There exists  $(x_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset S_X$  such that

$$\|x_n - x_k\| > 1 \quad (n \neq k).$$

*Let us call this situation:*  $S_X$  contains an infinite  $(1+)$ -separated subset.

## (Pre-)history

$X$  stands for an **inf.-dim.** Banach space;  $S_X$  the unit sphere of  $X$ .

**Riesz' lemma (1916).** For every  $\theta \in (0, 1)$  there exists  $(x_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset S_X$  with

$$\|x_n - x_k\| \geq \theta \quad (n \neq k).$$

*In other words:*  $S_X$  contains a  $\theta$ -separated sequence.

**Kottman's theorem (1975).** There exists  $(x_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset S_X$  such that

$$\|x_n - x_k\| > 1 \quad (n \neq k).$$

*Let us call this situation:*  $S_X$  contains an infinite  $(1+)$ -separated subset.

**The Elton–Odell theorem (1981).** There exists  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon(X)$  such that  $S_X$  contains a  $(1 + \varepsilon)$ -separated sequence.

# Symmetric separation in the separable case

What about symmetric separation? ( $\|x \pm y\| > \delta$ )?

Theorem (Hájek–K.–Russo, '18)

- *The unit sphere of an infinite-dimensional space contains a symmetrically  $(1+)$ -separated sequence.*

# Symmetric separation in the separable case

What about symmetric separation? ( $\|x \pm y\| > \delta$ )?

Theorem (Hájek–K.–Russo, '18)

- *The unit sphere of an infinite-dimensional space contains a symmetrically  $(1+)$ -separated sequence.*
- *The unit sphere of an infinite-dimensional Banach **lattice** or **separable dual space** contains a symmetrically  $(1+\varepsilon)$ -separated sequence.*

# Symmetric separation in the separable case

What about symmetric separation? ( $\|x \pm y\| > \delta$ )?

Theorem (Hájek–K.–Russo, '18)

- The unit sphere of an infinite-dimensional space contains a symmetrically  $(1+)$ -separated sequence.
- The unit sphere of an infinite-dimensional Banach **lattice** or **separable dual space** contains a symmetrically  $(1+\varepsilon)$ -separated sequence.
- If  $X$  has finite cotype  $q(X)$  (e.g.,  $X$  is **super-reflexive**), then  $S_X$  contains a  $(2^{1/q(X)}-)$ -separated sequence.

# Symmetric separation in the separable case

What about symmetric separation? ( $\|x \pm y\| > \delta$ )?

Theorem (Hájek–K.–Russo, '18)

- The unit sphere of an infinite-dimensional space contains a symmetrically  $(1+)$ -separated sequence.
- The unit sphere of an infinite-dimensional Banach **lattice** or **separable dual space** contains a symmetrically  $(1+\varepsilon)$ -separated sequence.
- If  $X$  has finite cotype  $q(X)$  (e.g.,  $X$  is **super-reflexive**), then  $S_X$  contains a  $(2^{1/q(X)}-)$ -separated sequence.

cotype = inf of  $q$  s.t.  $E\|\sum_{i \in F} r_i x_i\|^2 \leq q^{-2} \sum_{i \in F} \|x_i\|^2$  for all finite tuples  $(x_i)_{i \in F}$  in  $X$ , where  $(r_i)$  is a sequence of i.i.d. symmetric Bernoulli random variables.

# Symmetric separation in the separable case

What about symmetric separation? ( $\|x \pm y\| > \delta$ )?

Theorem (Hájek–K.–Russo, '18)

- The unit sphere of an infinite-dimensional space contains a symmetrically  $(1+)$ -separated sequence.
- The unit sphere of an infinite-dimensional Banach **lattice** or **separable dual space** contains a symmetrically  $(1+\varepsilon)$ -separated sequence.
- If  $X$  has finite cotype  $q(X)$  (e.g.,  $X$  is **super-reflexive**), then  $S_X$  contains a  $(2^{1/q(X)}-)$ -separated sequence.

cotype = inf of  $q$  s.t.  $E\|\sum_{i \in F} r_i x_i\|^2 \leq q^{-2} \sum_{i \in F} \|x_i\|^2$  for all finite tuples  $(x_i)_{i \in F}$  in  $X$ , where  $(r_i)$  is a sequence of i.i.d. symmetric Bernoulli random variables.

Theorem (Russo, '19)

The unit sphere of an infinite-dimensional Banach **space** contains a symmetrically  $(1+\varepsilon)$ -separated sequence.

## Separation under renormings

Given  $X$ , one may find an equiv. norm  $\tilde{X}$  so that  $S_{\tilde{X}}$  contains a 2-sep. sequence.

# Separation under renormings

Given  $X$ , one may find an equiv. norm  $\tilde{X}$  so that  $S_{\tilde{X}}$  contains a 2-sep. sequence.

Take a b.-o. seq.  $(x_n, f_n) \in X \times X^*$  ( $\langle f_k, x_j \rangle = \delta_{kj}$ ,  $\|f_i\| = \|x_i\| = 1$ ) and set

$$\nu(X) = \sup_{i \neq k} |\langle f_i, x \rangle| + |\langle f_k, x \rangle|, \|x\|' = \max\{\|x\|, \nu(x)\}.$$

- $K(X) = \sup\{\sigma > 0: S_X \text{ contains a } \sigma\text{-separated sequence}\}$  (Kottman constant)

# Separation under renormings

Given  $X$ , one may find an equiv. norm  $\tilde{X}$  so that  $S_{\tilde{X}}$  contains a 2-sep. sequence.

Take a b.o. seq.  $(x_n, f_n) \in X \times X^*$  ( $\langle f_k, x_j \rangle = \delta_{kj}$ ,  $\|f_i\| = \|x_i\| = 1$ ) and set

$$\nu(X) = \sup_{i \neq k} |\langle f_i, x \rangle| + |\langle f_k, x \rangle|, \|x\|' = \max\{\|x\|, \nu(x)\}.$$

- $K(X) = \sup\{\sigma > 0: S_X \text{ contains a } \sigma\text{-separated sequence}\}$  (Kottman constant)
- $\tilde{K}(X) = \inf\{K(\tilde{X}): X \cong \tilde{X}\}$  (isomorphic Kottman constant).

# Separation under renormings

Given  $X$ , one may find an equiv. norm  $\tilde{X}$  so that  $S_{\tilde{X}}$  contains a 2-sep. sequence.

Take a b.o. seq.  $(x_n, f_n) \in X \times X^*$  ( $\langle f_k, x_j \rangle = \delta_{kj}$ ,  $\|f_i\| = \|x_i\| = 1$ ) and set

$$\nu(X) = \sup_{i \neq k} |\langle f_i, x \rangle| + |\langle f_k, x \rangle|, \|x\|' = \max\{\|x\|, \nu(x)\}.$$

- $K(X) = \sup\{\sigma > 0: S_X \text{ contains a } \sigma\text{-separated sequence}\}$  (Kottman constant)
  - $\tilde{K}(X) = \inf\{K(\tilde{X}): X \cong \tilde{X}\}$  (isomorphic Kottman constant).
  - $K_f(X) = \sup\{\sigma > 0: \forall N \in \mathbb{N} \exists (x_n)_{n=1}^N \text{ in } B_X \text{ s.t. } \|x_n - x_m\| \geq \sigma \text{ for } n \neq m\}$  (finite Kottman constant)
  - $K_s, \tilde{K}_s$  the symmetric versions.
- 
- $K(c_0) = 2 = \tilde{K}_s(c_0)$ ,

# Separation under renormings

Given  $X$ , one may find an equiv. norm  $\tilde{X}$  so that  $S_{\tilde{X}}$  contains a 2-sep. sequence.

Take a b.o. seq.  $(x_n, f_n) \in X \times X^*$  ( $\langle f_k, x_j \rangle = \delta_{kj}$ ,  $\|f_i\| = \|x_i\| = 1$ ) and set

$$\nu(X) = \sup_{i \neq k} |\langle f_i, x \rangle| + |\langle f_k, x \rangle|, \|x\|' = \max\{\|x\|, \nu(x)\}.$$

- $K(X) = \sup\{\sigma > 0: S_X \text{ contains a } \sigma\text{-separated sequence}\}$  (Kottman constant)
  - $\tilde{K}(X) = \inf\{K(\tilde{X}): X \cong \tilde{X}\}$  (isomorphic Kottman constant).
  - $K_f(X) = \sup\{\sigma > 0: \forall N \in \mathbb{N} \exists (x_n)_{n=1}^N \text{ in } B_X \text{ s.t. } \|x_n - x_m\| \geq \sigma \text{ for } n \neq m\}$  (finite Kottman constant)
  - $K_s, \tilde{K}_s$  the symmetric versions.
- 
- $K(c_0) = 2 = \tilde{K}_s(c_0)$ ,
  - $K(\ell_p) = 2^{1/p} = \tilde{K}_s(\ell_p)$ ;

# Separation under renormings

Given  $X$ , one may find an equiv. norm  $\tilde{X}$  so that  $S_{\tilde{X}}$  contains a 2-sep. sequence.

Take a b.o. seq.  $(x_n, f_n) \in X \times X^*$  ( $\langle f_k, x_j \rangle = \delta_{kj}$ ,  $\|f_i\| = \|x_i\| = 1$ ) and set

$$\nu(X) = \sup_{i \neq k} |\langle f_i, x \rangle| + |\langle f_k, x \rangle|, \|x\|' = \max\{\|x\|, \nu(x)\}.$$

- $K(X) = \sup\{\sigma > 0: S_X \text{ contains a } \sigma\text{-separated sequence}\}$  (Kottman constant)
  - $\tilde{K}(X) = \inf\{K(\tilde{X}): X \cong \tilde{X}\}$  (isomorphic Kottman constant).
  - $K_f(X) = \sup\{\sigma > 0: \forall N \in \mathbb{N} \exists (x_n)_{n=1}^N \text{ in } B_X \text{ s.t. } \|x_n - x_m\| \geq \sigma \text{ for } n \neq m\}$  (finite Kottman constant)
  - $K_s, \tilde{K}_s$  the symmetric versions.
- 
- $K(c_0) = 2 = \tilde{K}_s(c_0)$ ,
  - $K(\ell_p) = 2^{1/p} = \tilde{K}_s(\ell_p)$ ;
  - Kryczka–Prus:  $K(X) \geq \sqrt[5]{4}$  for any non-reflexive  $X$ .

# Preliminary observations

- For a countably incomplete ultrafilter  $\mathcal{U}$  and a space  $X$ , we have

$$1 < K(X) \leq K_f(X) = K(X^{\mathcal{U}}) \leq 2,$$

where  $X^{\mathcal{U}}$  stands for the ultrapower of  $X$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{U}$ .

# Preliminary observations

- For a countably incomplete ultrafilter  $\mathcal{U}$  and a space  $X$ , we have

$$1 < K(X) \leq K_f(X) = K(X^{\mathcal{U}}) \leq 2,$$

where  $X^{\mathcal{U}}$  stands for the ultrapower of  $X$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{U}$ .

- There exists a space  $Z$  for which

$$K(Z) < K(Z^{**}),$$

and it is easy to check that this space also satisfies  $K_s(Z) < K_s(Z^{**})$ . The said space is a  $J$ -sum of  $\ell_1^n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) in the sense of Bellenot; it has the property that  $K(Z) < 2$ , yet  $Z^{**}$  admits a quotient map onto  $\ell_1$  so that  $K_s(Z^{**}) = 2$ .

For every space  $X$ ,  $2 \leq K(X) \cdot K(X^*)$ .

Based on a simple application of Ramsey's theorem:

### Lemma

Let  $(x_n)$  be a bounded sequence in a Banach space. Then there exists an infinite subset  $M$  of  $\mathbb{N}$  such that  $\|x_i - x_j\|$  converges as  $i, j \in M$ ,  $i, j \rightarrow \infty$ .

### Proof.

$X$  contains a basic seq. with basis constant at most  $1 + \varepsilon$ :  $(x_n)_{n=1}^\infty$  in  $X$  and  $(x_n^*)_{n=1}^\infty$  in  $X^*$  with  $\|x_n\| = 1$  and  $\|x_n^*\| \leq 1 + \varepsilon$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) s.t.  $\langle x_i^*, x_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$ . For  $i \neq j$ ,

$$2 = \langle x_i^* - x_j^*, x_i - x_j \rangle \leq \|x_i^* - x_j^*\| \cdot \|x_i - x_j\|.$$

Let us set  $y_n^* = (1 + \varepsilon)^{-1} x_n^*$ . (Passing to a subsequence)  $\|y_i^* - y_j^*\|$  and  $\|x_i - x_j\|$  converge to  $k^*$  and to  $k$ , resp. in the sense of the Lemma. Then

$$2(1 + \varepsilon)^{-1} \leq k^* \cdot k \leq K(X^*) \cdot K(X),$$

hence  $2 \leq K(X) \cdot K(X^*)$ .

# Twisted sums

Castillo–González–K.–Papini

For a short exact sequence of Banach spaces

$$0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow X \rightarrow Z \rightarrow 0,$$

we have

$$\tilde{K}(X) = \max\{\tilde{K}(Y), \tilde{K}(Z)\}.$$

Main idea: the constant is cts w.r.t. to the Kadets metric

$$d_K(M, N) = \inf \max \left\{ \sup_{x \in iB_M} \text{dist}(x, jB_N), \sup_{y \in jB_N} \text{dist}(y, iB_M) \right\},$$

where the inf is taken w.r.t all isometric embeddings  $i, j$  of  $M, N$  into common spaces.

- J.M.F. Castillo and P.L. Papini, On the Kottman constants in Banach spaces, *Banach Center Publ.* 92 (2011), 75–84.
- P. Hájek, T. Kania, and T. Russo, Symmetrically separated sequences in the unit sphere of a Banach space, *J. Funct. Anal.* 275 (2018), 3148–3168.
- C. A. Kottman, Subsets of the unit ball that are separated by more than one. *Studia Math.* 53 (1975), 15–27.

Preprints:

- P. Hájek, T. Kania, and T. Russo, Separated sets and Auerbach systems in Banach spaces, [arXiv:1803.11501](https://arxiv.org/abs/1803.11501).
- J. M. F. Castillo, M. González, T. Kania, and P. Papini, The isomorphic Kottman constant of a Banach space, [arXiv:1910.01626](https://arxiv.org/abs/1910.01626).