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KK-rigidity of simple nuclear C^ -algebras*

A landmark result in C^* -algebra theory is the classification of unital separable simple nuclear $\mathcal{Z}$ -stable C^* -algebras satisfying the universal coefficient theorem (UCT) in terms of their K -theory and traces. I will discuss this result with a focus on the role of UCT. In the infinite setting, without the UCT, two unital Kirchberg algebras are isomorphic if and only they are KK -equivalent in a unit-preserving way. I'll discuss some results along these lines in the finite case.