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Kadec norms on spaces of continuous functions

We study the existence of pointwise Kadec renormings for Banach spaces of the form C(K). (A pointwise Kadec renorming is a norm equivalent to the sup norm for which the norm topology and the topology of pointwise convergence agree on the unit sphere.) We show in particular that such a renorming exists when K is any product of compact linearly ordered spaces, extending the result for a single factor due to Haydon, Jayne, Namioka and Rogers. We show that if $C(K_1)$ has a pointwise Kadec renorming and K_2 belongs to the class of spaces obtained by closing the class of compact metrizable spaces under inverse limits of transfinite continuous sequences of retractions, then $C(K_1 \times K_2)$ has a pointwise Kadec renorming. We also prove a version of the three-space property for such renormings.

This is joint work with W. Kubis and S. Todorcevic.