## Almost Elementary $C^*$ -Dynamics and $\mathcal{Z}$ -Stability of Crossed Products

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Joint work with

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#### Conjecture (Toms-Winter)

For a simple separable unital nuclear C\*-algebra A tfae:

- A has finite nuclear dimension;
- A has strict comparison, ie d<sub>τ</sub>([a]) < d<sub>τ</sub>([b]) ∀τ trace implies
  [a] ≤ [b] in Cuntz semigroup of A.
  (Here d<sub>τ</sub>([a]) = lim<sub>n</sub> τ(a<sup>1/n</sup>) is the "measure" of the support of a)

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For a simple separable unital nuclear C\*-algebra A tfae:

- A has finite nuclear dimension;
- **2**  $A \cong A \otimes \mathcal{Z}$ , ie A is  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stable;

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 $\mathcal{Z}$ -stability minimal regularity condition since  $E(A) = E(A \otimes \mathcal{Z})$ .

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## Definition (Winter, Z)

A cpc map  $\varphi : A \to B$  is order zero (" $cpc_{\perp}$ ") if  $\forall a_1, a_2 \in A_+, a_1a_2 = 0 \Rightarrow \varphi(a_1)\varphi(a_2) = 0.$ 

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#### Definition (nuclear dimension, (Winter, Z))

 $\begin{aligned} \dim_{nuc}(A) &\leq d \text{ iff } \forall F \subset \subset A, \ \forall \varepsilon > 0, \ \exists \text{ finite-dimensional } \mathsf{C}^*\text{-algebra } \mathcal{C}, \\ \text{cpc maps } \psi : A \to \mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}_0 \oplus \ldots \oplus \mathcal{C}_d \text{ and order zero maps } (\textit{cpc}_{\perp}) \\ \varphi_i : \mathcal{C}_i \to A \text{ such that } \|(\varphi_0 + \ldots + \varphi_d) \circ \psi(a) - a\| < \varepsilon, \ \forall a \in F. \end{aligned}$ 

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## Theorem (tracial Z-stability, (Hirshberg-Orovitz))

A simple unital nuclear C\*-algebra A is Z-stable if  $\forall F \subset \subset A$ ,  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\forall n$ ,  $\forall b \in A_+ \setminus \{0\}, \exists cpc_{\perp} \varphi : M_n \to A \text{ s.t. } \|[F, \varphi((M_n)_{\leq 1})]\| < \varepsilon \text{ and}$  $1 - \varphi(1) \leq_{Cu} b.$ 

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Very natural class of simple separable unital nuclear C\*-algebras come from dynamical systems,

 $\alpha : G \curvearrowright X$  or  $\alpha : G \curvearrowright A$ ,

with associated crossed product C\*-algebras

$$C(X) \rtimes_{\alpha} G$$
 or  $A \rtimes_{\alpha} G$ .

Good criteria for their simplicity, tools to determine their K-theory; nuclear if A is and G amenable; UCT automatic for  $C(X) \rtimes_{\alpha} G$  and for many  $A \rtimes_{\alpha} G$ .

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#### Goal:

Identify conditions on  $\alpha$  :  $G \curvearrowright A$  ensuring classifiability of  $A \rtimes_{\alpha} G$ .

For A commutative, ie actions  $\alpha : G \curvearrowright X$  on cpt metric spaces, the concept of **almost finite actions** (Kerr) is a very effective tool to prove  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stablity of  $C(X) \rtimes_{\alpha} G$ , close to being equivalent.

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#### Theorem (Kerr+ generalising Rokhlin dim results by Szabo-Wu-Z)

Crossed products by almost finite actions are  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stable. Almost finite actions of amenable groups on Cantor sets are generic. Free minimal actions of elementary amenable groups on finite dimensional compact spaces are almost finite. For A commutative, ie actions  $\alpha : G \curvearrowright X$  on cpt metric spaces, the concept of **almost finite actions** (Kerr) is a very effective tool to prove  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stablity of  $C(X) \rtimes_{\alpha} G$ , close to being equivalent.

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Crossed products by almost finite actions are *Z*-stable. Almost finite actions of amenable groups on Cantor sets are generic. Free minimal actions of elementary amenable groups on finite dimensional compact spaces are almost finite.

We define new property, almost elementariness of  $\alpha : G \curvearrowright A$ , A noncommutative, ensuring classifiability of  $A \rtimes_{\alpha} G$ , reducing to  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stability for  $G = \{e\}$ , and almost finiteness for A = C(X). To do so we need to generalise the following two concepts for actions  $\alpha : G \frown X$  on spaces to actions  $\alpha : G \frown A$  on general C\*-algebras.

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#### 1. Dynamical strict comparison:

Definition (Kerr (using ideas by Winter))

Given  $\alpha : G \curvearrowright X$  we define for open sets  $U, V \subseteq X$ ,

$$U \preceq_G V$$

if  $\forall$  compact  $K \subseteq U$ ,  $\exists U_1, ..., U_k \subseteq X$  open,  $\exists g_1, ..., g_k \in G$  s.t.  $K \subseteq U_1 \cup ... \cup U_k$  and  $g_1U_1 \dots g_kU_k$  are disjoint subsets in V.

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**Open tower:** (S, B) (=(shape, base)), where  $S \subset \subset G$  and  $B \subseteq X$  open s.t. the sets gB, where  $g \in S$  are pairwise disjoint.

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For *G* amenable,  $\alpha : G \curvearrowright X$  is almost finite if

 $\forall F \subset \subset G, \ \forall \varepsilon > 0, \ \exists \text{ open castle in } X \text{ s.t.}$ 

- **1** diam(each level)  $< \varepsilon$ ,
- 2 each shape is  $(F, \varepsilon)$ -Følner,

**③** the remainder of the castle is small:  $\exists S'_i \subset S_i, \frac{|S'_i|}{|S_i|} < \varepsilon : X \setminus \bigcup_i S_i B_i \preceq_G \bigcup_i S'_i B_i.$ 

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A castle can be regarded as a simultaneous approximation of the space and the action **up to a dynamically/tracially small remainder**.

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Image: A matrix

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Start off with usual Cuntz comparison: for  $a, b \in A_+$  (or  $M_{\infty}(A)_+$ ), write  $a \leq_{Cu} b$  or just  $a \leq b$  if  $\inf_{x \in A} ||a - x^*bx|| = 0$ , leading to

 $W(A) := (M_{\infty}(A)_+, \oplus, \preceq_{Cu}); \quad Cu(A) := ((A \otimes K)_+, \oplus, \preceq_{Cu}).$ 

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if for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is  $\delta > 0$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , elements  $g_1, \ldots, g_n \in G$  and positive elements  $x_1, \ldots, x_n \in M_{\infty}(A)$  such that

$$(a - \varepsilon)_+ \preceq \bigoplus_i \alpha_{g_i}(x_i) \text{ and } \bigoplus_i x_i \preceq (b - \delta)_+$$

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This relation is not transitive in general; develop a general quotient/adjoining construction to define  $W_G(A) = W(A) / \sim_G$ .

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Image: A matrix

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A tower for  $\alpha : G \curvearrowright A$  is a  $cpc_{\perp}$  map  $\lambda : M_n \otimes C(S) \to A$ , where  $S \subset \subset G$ , st  $\forall g, h \in S$ , we have

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(partial covariance condition) A castle for  $\alpha : G \curvearrowright A$  is a  $cpc_{\perp}$  map  $\lambda : \bigoplus_{i=1}^{k} M_{n_i} \otimes C(S_i) \to A$  st  $\lambda_i = \lambda | M_{n_i} \otimes C(S_i)$  is a tower.

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For a castle  $\lambda : \bigoplus_{i=1}^{k} M_{n_i} \otimes C(S_i) \to C(X)$  we must have  $n_i = 1$  for all i, hence  $\lambda$  is of the form  $\lambda : \bigoplus_{i=1}^{k} C(S_i) \to C(X)$ . Then the open supports of  $\lambda_i(\delta_g)_{i=1,\dots,k;g\in S_i}$  form a castle of open sets in X.

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In this case castles are families of orthogonal positive elements covariant along towers.

 $\begin{array}{l} \alpha: G \curvearrowright A \text{ is } \mathsf{AE}_{abs} \text{ if } \forall F \subset \subset A, \forall E \subset \subset G \text{ , } \forall \varepsilon > 0, \forall b \in A_+ \setminus \{0\}, \\ \exists (\lambda, h) : \lambda: C := \bigoplus_{i=1}^k M_{n_i} \otimes C(S_i) \to A_{\infty} \text{ castle, } h \in C_{+, \leq 1} \text{ st} \end{array}$ 

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• dist $(\lambda(h)^{1/2}F\lambda(h)^{1/2},\lambda(C)) < \varepsilon$  (approximation)

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- dist $(\lambda(h)^{1/2}F\lambda(h)^{1/2},\lambda(C)) < \varepsilon$  (approximation)
- $1 \lambda(h) \preceq_{G} b$ ,  $\|\lambda(h)\| = 1$  (small remainder, non-deg),

 $\begin{array}{l} \alpha: G \curvearrowright A \text{ is AE}_{abs} \text{ if } \forall F \subset \subset A, \forall E \subset \subset G \text{ , } \forall \varepsilon > 0, \forall b \in A_+ \setminus \{0\}, \\ \exists (\lambda, h) : \lambda: C := \bigoplus_{i=1}^k M_{n_i} \otimes C(S_i) \rightarrow A_{\infty} \text{ castle, } h \in C_{+, \leq 1} \text{ st} \end{array}$ 

- dist $(\lambda(h)^{1/2}F\lambda(h)^{1/2},\lambda(C)) < \varepsilon$  (approximation)
- 2  $||[F, \lambda(h)]|| < \varepsilon$  (almost central),
- $1 \lambda(h) \preceq_{G} b$ ,  $\|\lambda(h)\| = 1$  (small remainder, non-deg),
- $||h g \cdot h|| < \varepsilon$ ,  $\forall g \in E$  (almost invariant).

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$$\|[F,\lambda(h)]\| (almost central),$$

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#### Definition (equivalent approximation version, (BPWZ))

 $\alpha: \mathcal{G} \curvearrowright \mathcal{A} \text{ is } \widehat{\mathsf{AE}}_{abs} \text{ if }$ 

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• dist $(\lambda(h)^{1/2}F\lambda(h)^{1/2},\lambda(C)) < \varepsilon$  (approximation)

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$$\|[F,\lambda(h)]\| (almost central),$$

- $1 \lambda(h) \preceq_{G} b$ ,  $\|\lambda(h)\| = 1$  (small remainder, non-deg),
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#### Theorem (BPWZ)

Let  $\alpha$  :  $G \curvearrowright A$  be a minimal action, then

AE, AE<sub>abs</sub>, AE<sub>rel</sub>, AE<sub>abs</sub> + (DSC), AE<sub>rel</sub><sup>mea</sup> + (DSC)

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Theorem (BPWZ)

For A = C(X) and G amenable,  $\alpha : G \curvearrowright A$  is almost elementary iff  $\alpha : G \curvearrowright X$  is almost finite.

## Theorem (BPWZ)

Let A be a simple separable nuclear unital infinite-dimensional C\*-algebra. Then A is almost elementary if and only if A is  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stable.

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Let A be simple and Z-stable and let  $\alpha : G \curvearrowright A$  have the weak tracial Rokhlin property. Then  $\alpha : G \curvearrowright A$  is almost elementary.

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# Thank you very much !

Image: A matrix

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