

MIKAEL RØRDAM'S TALK AT MASTERCLASS ON
CLASSIFICATION OF C*-ALGEBRAS

1. SIMPLE C*-ALGEBRAS

Theorem 1. For a simple C*-algebra $A \neq \mathbb{C}$ TFAE

- (1) $\forall B \subset A$ hereditary subalgebra, $B \neq \{0\}$, B contains an infinite projection.
- (2) $\forall a, b \in A \setminus \{0\} \exists x, y \in A : b = xay$
- (3) $RR(A) = 0$ and all projections in A are properly infinite ($p \oplus p \lesssim p$)
- (4) $W(A) = Cu(A) \cong [0, \infty]$

Definition 2. If one (and hence all) of the statements in the above theorem is true, we say that A is a purely infinite simple C*-algebra.

Example 3. For $n \in \mathbb{N}$ set

$$(1.1) \quad \mathcal{O}_n = C^*(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n | \forall j : s_j^* s_j = 1, \sum_{j=1}^n s_j s_j^* = 1)$$

and set

$$(1.2) \quad \mathcal{O}_\infty = C^*(s_1, s_2, \dots | \forall j : s_j^* s_j = 1, i \neq j \Rightarrow s_i s_i^* \perp s_j s_j^*).$$

Then \mathcal{O}_n is purely infinite and simple and $K_1(\mathcal{O}_n) = 0$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ while $K_0(\mathcal{O}_n) = \mathbb{Z}_{n-1}$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $K_0(\mathcal{O}_\infty) = \mathbb{Z}$.

Theorem 4. For a simple C*-algebra A we have that A is purely infinite iff $T(A) = \emptyset$.

Theorem 5. It is possible to exhaust (K_0, K_1) by purely infinite simple C*-algebras of the following two types:

- $A = \lim_{\rightarrow} \oplus_{j=1}^n M_{n_j}(\mathcal{O}_{r_j}) \otimes C(\Pi)$ where simple implies purely infinite.
- $A \rtimes \mathbb{Z}$ for some simple stable Π -algebra A .

Theorem 6. If A is a simple, separable, exact, stable C*-algebra where $T(A) \neq \emptyset$ and $A \otimes \mathcal{Z} \cong A$, and $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$ then $A \rtimes \mathbb{Z}$ purely infinite iff A has no α -invariant traces.

Definition 7. We say that a C*-algebra A is a Kirchberg algebra if it is purely infinite, simple, separable and nuclear.

Definition 8. We say that a C*-algebra has the SP if $\forall B \subset A$ hereditary subalgebra, $B \neq \{0\}$, B contains a nontrivial projection.

Theorem 9. There exists a stably infinite simple C*-algebra A with $RR(A) \neq 0$ and not being purely infinite having the SP.

Question 10. If A is a simple C*-algebra, do $RR(A) = 0$ and A stably infinite imply A purely infinite?

Question 11. *If A is simple and all projections in A are infinite, does $P(A) \neq 0$ imply A purely infinite?*

Question 12. *If A is stably infinite does that imply that A has the SP?*

Theorem 13 (Kirchberg). *If A, B simple not type I C*-algebras then if both are stably infinite or one is stably finite and the other stably infinite $A \otimes_{\min} B$ is purely infinite. If both are stably finite and exact $A \otimes_{\min} B$ is stably finite, if they not both are exact the result is not known.*

Theorem 14 (Kirchberg). *If A is a simple, separable, nuclear C*-algebra A is purely infinite iff $A \cong A \otimes \mathcal{O}_\infty$.*

Remark 15. $K_x(\mathcal{O}_\infty) \cong K_x(\mathbb{C})$

Theorem 16 (Kirchberg). *A C*-algebra A is simple, separable, unitary and nuclear iff $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \cong \mathcal{O}_2$.*

Remark 17. $K_x(\mathcal{O}_2) = 0$

Theorem 18 (Kirchberg). *A C*-algebra A is separable and exact iff $A \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O}_2$.*

Theorem 19 (Kirchberg, Phillips). *If A, B are Kirchberg algebras:*

- $A \otimes \mathcal{K} \cong B \otimes \mathcal{K} \Leftrightarrow A \sim_{KK} B$
- If A, B have the UCT then $A \otimes \mathcal{K} \cong B \otimes \mathcal{K} \Leftrightarrow (K_0(A), K_1(A)) \cong (K_0(B), K_1(B))$.

2. NON-SIMPLE C*-ALGEBRAS

Theorem 20. *If A is a C*-algebra with no nonzero abelian quotient TFAE*

- (1) $\forall a, b \in A_+ : a \in \overline{AbA} \Leftrightarrow a \lesssim b$
- (2) $\forall a \in A_+ a$ is properly infinite ($a \oplus a \lesssim a$)

Definition 21. *If A fullfils one (and hence all) of the statements in the theorem we say that A is purely infinite.*

Definition 22. *If $x \in W(A)$ the we say that x is properly infinite if $2x \leq x$.*

Definition 23. *We say that $x \in W(A)$ is infinite if $\exists y \neq 0 \in W(A). x + y \leq x \Rightarrow x + y = x$*

Remark 24. *A is purely infinite iff $W(A)$ is properly infinite, where $W(A)$ is properly infinite iff $\forall x \in W(A) x$ is properly infinite.*

Remark 25. *The function $W(A) \rightarrow \text{Ideal}(A)$ defined by $\langle a \rangle \rightarrow \overline{AaA}$ is welldefined and surjective. And this map is injective (equivalent: this map is an order isomorphism) iff A is purely infinite.*

Example 26. *If $A \in M_n(\{0, 1\})$ then is the Cuntz-Kneyr-algebra*

$$(2.1) \quad \mathcal{O}_A = C^*(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n \mid \sum_{j=1}^n s_j s_j^* = 1, s_j^* s_j = \sum_{i=1}^n A_{i,j} s_i s_i^*)$$

properly infinite.

Example 27. *If A is a C*-algebra then $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_\infty$ is purely infinite.*

Example 28. $C_0(\mathbb{R}) \otimes \mathcal{O}_\infty$ is purely infinite.

Theorem 29. (1) *If we have $0 \rightarrow I \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow 0$ then I, B are purely infinite iff A is purely infinite.*

(2) *If $A = \lim_{\rightarrow} A_i$ and all A_i are purely infinite then A is purely infinite.*

(3) *If A, B are purely infinite and A is exact then $A \otimes_{\min} B$ is purely infinite.*

Question 30. *Does A or B purely infinite imply that $A \otimes_{\min} B$ is purely infinite?*

Question 31. *Does A purely infinite imply that $A \otimes_{\min} C([0, 1])$ is purely infinite?*

Definition 32. *We say that A is strongly purely infinite if*

$$(2.2) \quad \forall \begin{pmatrix} a & \lambda^* \\ \lambda & b \end{pmatrix} \in M_2(A)_+ \forall \epsilon > 0 \exists d_1, d_2 \in A : \\ \left\| \begin{pmatrix} d_1 & 0 \\ 0 & d_2 \end{pmatrix}^* \begin{pmatrix} a & \lambda^* \\ \lambda & b \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d_1 & 0 \\ 0 & d_2 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix}^* \right\| < \epsilon$$

Definition 33. *We say that A is weakly purely infinite if $\exists k \in \mathbb{N} \forall x \in W(A) : kx$ properly infinite.*

Remark 34. *$W(A)$ has no dimension function iff $\forall x \in W(A) \exists k \in \mathbb{N} : kx$ is properly infinite.*

Theorem 35. *Let A be a separable, exact C*-algebra and look at these properties:*

- (1) $A \cong A \otimes \mathcal{O}_\infty$
- (2) A strongly purely infinite
- (3) A purely infinite
- (4) A weakly purely infinite
- (5) $l_\infty(A)/C_0(A)$ traceless
- (6) A traceless

We have that

- In general (1) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3) \Rightarrow (4) \Leftrightarrow (5) \Rightarrow (6).
- If A is separable and nuclear (2) \Rightarrow (1), but not true in general.
- If A is simple, $RR(A) = 0$ or $A \cong A \otimes \mathcal{Z}$ (4) \Rightarrow (3) \Rightarrow (2), unknown if true in general.
- If $A \cong A \otimes \mathcal{Z}$ (6) \Rightarrow (5), but not in general.

Definition 36. *Let A be a C*-algebra then we define $\text{Prim}(A) = \{\ker(\pi) \mid \pi \text{ irreducible representation of } A\}$, and equip it with the Jacobson topology giving us a T_0 -space.*

Example 37. *If X is a locally compact Hausdorff space then $\text{Prim}(C(X)) = X$.*

Theorem 38 (Kirchberg). *If A, B are separable nuclear C*-algebras and $X := \text{Prim}(A) = \text{Prim}(B)$ we have that $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_\infty \otimes \mathcal{K} \cong B \otimes \mathcal{O}_\infty \otimes \mathcal{K}$ iff $A \sim_{KK} B$. If A, B are strongly purely infinite we can skip \mathcal{O}_∞ .*

Corollary 39. *If A, B are separable nuclear C*-algebras TFAE*

- (1) $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{K} \cong B \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{K}$
- (2) $\text{Prim}(A) \cong \text{Prim}(B)$
- (3) $\text{Ideal}(A) \cong \text{Ideal}(B)$

Question 40. *Which T_0 -spaces can arise as $\text{Prim}(A)$ for A a separable C*-algebra? Which if A is nuclear?*

Example 41. Let $(t_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq]0, 1[$ and look at the sequence

$$(2.3) \quad C_0(]0, 1]) \rightarrow_{\phi_1} M_2(C_0(]0, 1])) \rightarrow_{\phi_2} M_4(C_0(]0, 1])) \rightarrow_{\phi_4} \dots$$

where

$$(2.4) \quad \phi_n(f)(t) = \begin{pmatrix} f(t) & 0 \\ 0 & f(t \wedge t_n) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let A be the inductive limit of this sequence, then A is a AH_0 -algebra and $\text{Ideal}(A) \approx [0, 1]$ totally ordered.

We have $A \cong A \otimes M_{2^\infty} \Rightarrow A \cong A \otimes \mathcal{Z}$ and $A \cong A \otimes \mathcal{O}_\infty \Leftrightarrow A$ traceless, which is the case, so we have that A is purely infinite.

(2.5)

$$A \sim_{h, \text{ideal}} 0 \Leftrightarrow_{\text{def}} \exists \phi_t : A \rightarrow A, \phi_t \leq h, t \in [0, 1], \phi_1 = \text{id}, \phi_0 = 0, \forall J \triangleleft A, \phi_t(j) \subseteq J$$

A strongly purely infinite, separable, nuclear then $A \sim_{h, \text{ideal}} 0 \Rightarrow A \cong A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$.

Fact 42. If A has no projections then $\forall I \triangleleft A : A/I$ has no projections.

Theorem 43. If A is nuclear, separable, stable, strongly purely infinite C^* -algebra then $A \sim_{h, \text{ideal}} 0$ implies that $A \cong A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ and A is an AH_0 -algebra.

Fact 44. If A is an AH_0 -algebra then A can be embedded in an AF -algebra D and A is quasidiagonal. If $A \cong A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ and B separable and exact then $CB \hookrightarrow C\mathcal{O}_2 \hookrightarrow A \hookrightarrow D$.