

# Coarse Geometry and Inverse Semigroups

---

Diego Martínez

November, 2019

Instituto de Ciencias Matemáticas - Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Visiting Texas A&M

*lumartin@math.uc3m.es*

University of Montana

## (1) Crash Course on Coarse Geometry

Shifting the point of view of geometry & examples

Properties *at infinity*

More examples?

## (2) Inverse semigroups

Definition & examples

The *Cayley* graph of an inverse semigroup

Amenability in inverse semigroups

## (3) Relation with Operator Algebras

Introduction to uniform Roe algebras

# (1) Crash Course on Coarse Geometry

---

# An introduction to coarse geometry

**Recall:** usual approach to (differential) geometry:

- Manifolds  $\leadsto$  object of study.

# An introduction to coarse geometry

**Recall:** usual approach to (differential) geometry:

- Manifolds  $\leadsto$  object of study.
- A manifold *looks like*  $\mathbb{R}^n$  locally.

# An introduction to coarse geometry

**Recall:** usual approach to (differential) geometry:

- Manifolds  $\leadsto$  object of study.
- A manifold *looks like*  $\mathbb{R}^n$  locally.
- Manifolds  $\leadsto$  glue together patches of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

# An introduction to coarse geometry

**Recall:** usual approach to (differential) geometry:

- Manifolds  $\leadsto$  object of study.
- A manifold *looks like*  $\mathbb{R}^n$  locally.
- Manifolds  $\leadsto$  glue together patches of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Remark:**  $M \cong N$  iff there is  $\phi: M \rightarrow N$  respecting those  $\mathbb{R}^n$  patches.

# An introduction to coarse geometry

**Recall:** usual approach to (differential) geometry:

- Manifolds  $\leadsto$  object of study.
- A manifold *looks like*  $\mathbb{R}^n$  locally.
- Manifolds  $\leadsto$  glue together patches of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Remark:**  $M \cong N$  iff there is  $\phi: M \rightarrow N$  respecting those  $\mathbb{R}^n$  patches.

**Coarse idea:** local properties  $\leadsto$  global properties.



# An introduction to coarse geometry

**Recall:** usual approach to (differential) geometry:

- Manifolds  $\leadsto$  object of study.
- A manifold *looks like*  $\mathbb{R}^n$  locally.
- Manifolds  $\leadsto$  glue together patches of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Remark:**  $M \cong N$  iff there is  $\phi: M \rightarrow N$  respecting those  $\mathbb{R}^n$  patches.

**Coarse idea:** local properties  $\leadsto$  global properties.

## Definition

$(X, d_X), (Y, d_Y)$ . Then:  $\phi: X \rightarrow Y$  is a quasi-isometry if:

(1) There are  $L, C > 0$  such that

$$\frac{1}{L}d_X(x, x') - C \leq d_Y(\phi(x), \phi(x')) \leq Ld_X(x, x') + C.$$

# An introduction to coarse geometry

**Recall:** usual approach to (differential) geometry:

- Manifolds  $\leadsto$  object of study.
- A manifold *looks like*  $\mathbb{R}^n$  locally.
- Manifolds  $\leadsto$  glue together patches of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Remark:**  $M \cong N$  iff there is  $\phi: M \rightarrow N$  respecting those  $\mathbb{R}^n$  patches.

**Coarse idea:** local properties  $\leadsto$  global properties.

## Definition

$(X, d_X), (Y, d_Y)$ . Then:  $\phi: X \rightarrow Y$  is a quasi-isometry if:

(1) There are  $L, C > 0$  such that

$$\frac{1}{L}d_X(x, x') - C \leq d_Y(\phi(x), \phi(x')) \leq Ld_X(x, x') + C.$$

(2)  $d_Y(y, \phi(X)) \leq R$  for some  $R > 0$  and all  $y \in Y$ .

# Coarse geometry vs. local geometry I

## Proposition

$(X, d)$  is quasi-isometric to a point  $\Leftrightarrow \sup_{x, x' \in X} d(x, x') < \infty$ .

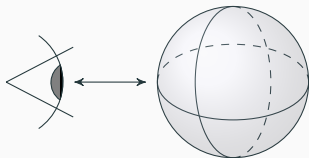
**Proof:**

# Coarse geometry vs. local geometry I

## Proposition

$(X, d)$  is quasi-isometric to a point  $\Leftrightarrow \sup_{x, x' \in X} d(x, x') < \infty$ .

Proof:



# Coarse geometry vs. local geometry I

## Proposition

$(X, d)$  is quasi-isometric to a point  $\Leftrightarrow \sup_{x, x' \in X} d(x, x') < \infty$ .

**Proof:**



# Coarse geometry vs. local geometry I

## Proposition

$(X, d)$  is quasi-isometric to a point  $\Leftrightarrow \sup_{x, x' \in X} d(x, x') < \infty$ .

**Proof:**



# Coarse geometry vs. local geometry I

## Proposition

$(X, d)$  is quasi-isometric to a point  $\Leftrightarrow \sup_{x, x' \in X} d(x, x') < \infty$ .

**Proof:**



# Coarse geometry vs. local geometry I

## Proposition

$(X, d)$  is quasi-isometric to a point  $\Leftrightarrow \sup_{x, x' \in X} d(x, x') < \infty$ .

**Proof:**





# Coarse geometry vs. local geometry I

## Proposition

$(X, d)$  is quasi-isometric to a point  $\Leftrightarrow \sup_{x, x' \in X} d(x, x') < \infty$ .

**Proof:**



## Coarse geometry vs. local geometry II

**Remark:** quasi-isometric is very weak...

## Coarse geometry vs. local geometry II

**Remark:** quasi-isometric is very weak...

**But:**  $((0, 1), d) \not\sim_{\text{q.i.}} (\mathbb{R}, d) \rightsquigarrow \text{Q.I.} \neq \text{homeomorphic.}$

# Coarse geometry vs. local geometry II

**Remark:** quasi-isometric is very weak...

**But:**  $((0, 1), d) \not\sim_{\text{q.i.}} (\mathbb{R}, d) \leadsto \text{Q.I.} \neq \text{homeomorphic.}$

**Example:**



# Coarse geometry vs. local geometry II

**Remark:** quasi-isometric is very weak...

**But:**  $((0, 1), d) \not\sim_{\text{q.i.}} (\mathbb{R}, d) \leadsto \text{Q.I.} \neq \text{homeomorphic.}$

**Example:**



**Facts:** from the above picture it follows that:

- $\text{id}: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a quasi-isometry.
- $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2$  are not quasi-isometric.
- $\{(0, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2\} \sqcup \{(x, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^2\}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2$  are **not** q.i.

# Coarse geometry vs. local geometry II

**Remark:** quasi-isometric is very weak...

**But:**  $((0, 1), d) \not\sim_{\text{q.i.}} (\mathbb{R}, d) \leadsto \text{Q.I.} \neq \text{homeomorphic.}$

**Example:**



**Facts:** from the above picture it follows that:

- $\text{id}: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a quasi-isometry.
- $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2$  are not quasi-isometric.
- $\{(0, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2\} \sqcup \{(x, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^2\}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2$  are **not** q.i.

**Question:** any other natural examples?

# Coarse geometry vs. local geometry II

**Remark:** quasi-isometric is very weak...

**But:**  $((0, 1), d) \not\sim_{\text{q.i.}} (\mathbb{R}, d) \leadsto \text{Q.I.} \neq \text{homeomorphic.}$

**Example:**



**Facts:** from the above picture it follows that:

- $\text{id}: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a quasi-isometry.
- $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2$  are not quasi-isometric.
- $\{(0, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2\} \sqcup \{(x, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^2\}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2$  are **not** q.i.

**Question:** any other natural examples?

**Answer:** Yes.

## A factory of examples

Recall: Cayley graph construction  $\leadsto G = \langle g_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, g_n^{\pm 1} \mid \text{relations} \rangle$ :



## A factory of examples

Recall: Cayley graph construction  $\leadsto G = \langle g_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, g_n^{\pm 1} \mid \text{relations} \rangle$ :

- Graph  $\leadsto \text{Cay}(G, \{g_1, \dots, g_n\}) := (V, E)$ , where

## A factory of examples

Recall: Cayley graph construction  $\leadsto G = \langle g_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, g_n^{\pm 1} \mid \text{relations} \rangle$ :

- Graph  $\leadsto \text{Cay}(G, \{g_1, \dots, g_n\}) := (V, E)$ , where
- Vertices:  $V := G$ .

## A factory of examples

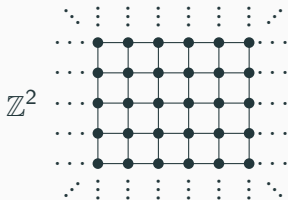
Recall: Cayley graph construction  $\leadsto G = \langle g_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, g_n^{\pm 1} \mid \text{relations} \rangle$ :

- Graph  $\leadsto \text{Cay}(G, \{g_1, \dots, g_n\}) := (V, E)$ , where
- Vertices:  $V := G$ .
- Edges:  $(x, g_i^{\pm 1}x) \in E$ .

# A factory of examples

Recall: Cayley graph construction  $\leadsto G = \langle g_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, g_n^{\pm 1} \mid \text{relations} \rangle$ :

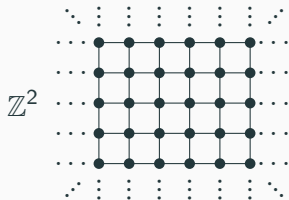
- Graph  $\leadsto \text{Cay}(G, \{g_1, \dots, g_n\}) := (V, E)$ , where
- Vertices:  $V := G$ .
- Edges:  $(x, g_i^{\pm 1}x) \in E$ .



# A factory of examples

Recall: Cayley graph construction  $\leadsto G = \langle g_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, g_n^{\pm 1} \mid \text{relations} \rangle$ :

- Graph  $\leadsto \text{Cay}(G, \{g_1, \dots, g_n\}) := (V, E)$ , where
- Vertices:  $V := G$ .
- Edges:  $(x, g_i^{\pm 1}x) \in E$ .



## Proposition

The large scale geometry of the Cayley graph of  $G$   
does not depend on the generators, i.e.,

$$\text{Cay}(G, \{g_1, \dots, g_n\}) \cong_{\text{q.i.}} \text{Cay}(G, \{h_1, \dots, h_m\}).$$

Okey... All of this is beautiful and everything... So... ?

Okey... All of this is beautiful and everything... So... ?

Look into properties of a metric space:

Okey... All of this is beautiful and everything... So... ?

Look into properties of a metric space:

1. **Not** invariant under quasi-isometry:

- Cardinality (recall compact  $\cong_{\text{q.i.}}$  point).
- Degree of a vertex (number of generators of  $G$ ).



Okey... All of this is beautiful and everything... So... ?

Look into properties of a metric space:

1. **Not** invariant under quasi-isometry:

- Cardinality (recall compact  $\cong_{\text{q.i.}}$  point).
- Degree of a vertex (number of generators of  $G$ ).

2. **Invariant** under quasi-isometry:

- Number of *ends* of  $X$ .
- *Amenability* of  $(X, d)$ .
- *Property A* of  $(X, d)$ .

Okey... All of this is beautiful and everything... So... ?

Look into properties of a metric space:

1. **Not** invariant under quasi-isometry:

- Cardinality (recall compact  $\cong_{\text{q.i.}}$  point).
- Degree of a vertex (number of generators of  $G$ ).

2. **Invariant** under quasi-isometry:

- Number of *ends* of  $X$ .
- *Amenability* of  $(X, d)$ .
- *Property A* of  $(X, d)$ .

For the rest: metric space is  $\text{Cay}(G)$ ,  $G$  finitely generated.

## Definition (von Neumann '29 & Følner '57)

$G$  is amenable if there is  $\{F_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , where  $\emptyset \neq F_n \subset\subset G$  and

$$\frac{|g F_n \cap F_n|}{|F_n|} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 \quad \text{for all } g \in G.$$

## Definition (von Neumann '29 & Følner '57)

$G$  is amenable if there is  $\{F_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , where  $\emptyset \neq F_n \subset\subset G$  and

$$\frac{|g F_n \cap F_n|}{|F_n|} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 \quad \text{for all } g \in G.$$

### Examples:

- Amenable: finite, solvable, subexponential growth.
- Non-amenable:  $\mathbb{F}_2$ ,  $SL(n, \mathbb{Z})$ , infinite prop. (T) groups.

## Definition (von Neumann '29 & Følner '57)

$G$  is amenable if there is  $\{F_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , where  $\emptyset \neq F_n \subset\subset G$  and

$$\frac{|g F_n \cap F_n|}{|F_n|} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 \quad \text{for all } g \in G.$$

### Examples:

- Amenable: finite, solvable, subexponential growth.
- Non-amenable:  $\mathbb{F}_2$ ,  $SL(n, \mathbb{Z})$ , infinite prop. (T) groups.

## Proposition

Amenability is a quasi-isometry invariant:

If  $G \equiv_{q.i.} H$  and  $G$  amenable then  $H$  amenable.

### Proof:

## Definition (von Neumann '29 & Følner '57)

$G$  is amenable if there is  $\{F_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , where  $\emptyset \neq F_n \subset\subset G$  and

$$\frac{|g F_n \cap F_n|}{|F_n|} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 \quad \text{for all } g \in G.$$

### Examples:

- Amenable: finite, solvable, subexponential growth.
- Non-amenable:  $\mathbb{F}_2$ ,  $SL(n, \mathbb{Z})$ , infinite prop. (T) groups.

## Proposition

Amenability is a quasi-isometry invariant:

If  $G \equiv_{q.i.} H$  and  $G$  amenable then  $H$  amenable.

**Proof:** Følner sets are preserved under quasi-isometry.

# Property A

## Definition (Yu '99)

$G$  has  $\underline{A}$  if for all  $\varepsilon, R > 0$  there is  $\xi: G \rightarrow \ell^1(G)$  such that

1.  $\xi_g \geq 0$  and  $\|\xi_g\|_1 = 1$  for all  $g \in G$ .
2. There is  $C > 0$  such that  $\text{supp}(\xi_g) \subset \mathcal{B}_C(g)$  for all  $g \in G$ .
3.  $\|\xi_g - \xi_h\|_1 \leq \varepsilon$  for any  $g, h \in G$  such that  $d(g, h) \leq R$ .

# Property A

## Definition (Yu '99)

$G$  has A if for all  $\varepsilon, R > 0$  there is  $\xi: G \rightarrow \ell^1(G)$  such that

1.  $\xi_g \geq 0$  and  $\|\xi_g\|_1 = 1$  for all  $g \in G$ .
2. There is  $C > 0$  such that  $\text{supp}(\xi_g) \subset \mathcal{B}_C(g)$  for all  $g \in G$ .
3.  $\|\xi_g - \xi_h\|_1 \leq \varepsilon$  for any  $g, h \in G$  such that  $d(g, h) \leq R$ .

## Examples:

- A: amenable groups and free groups... *most things...*
- Not-A: groups with expanders...



# Property A

## Definition (Yu '99)

$G$  has A if for all  $\varepsilon, R > 0$  there is  $\xi: G \rightarrow \ell^1(G)$  such that

1.  $\xi_g \geq 0$  and  $\|\xi_g\|_1 = 1$  for all  $g \in G$ .
2. There is  $C > 0$  such that  $\text{supp}(\xi_g) \subset \mathcal{B}_C(g)$  for all  $g \in G$ .
3.  $\|\xi_g - \xi_h\|_1 \leq \varepsilon$  for any  $g, h \in G$  such that  $d(g, h) \leq R$ .

## Examples:

- A: amenable groups and free groups... *most things*...
- Not-A: groups with expanders... Gromov (2003)...

# Property A

## Definition (Yu '99)

$G$  has A if for all  $\varepsilon, R > 0$  there is  $\xi: G \rightarrow \ell^1(G)$  such that

1.  $\xi_g \geq 0$  and  $\|\xi_g\|_1 = 1$  for all  $g \in G$ .
2. There is  $C > 0$  such that  $\text{supp}(\xi_g) \subset \mathcal{B}_C(g)$  for all  $g \in G$ .
3.  $\|\xi_g - \xi_h\|_1 \leq \varepsilon$  for any  $g, h \in G$  such that  $d(g, h) \leq R$ .

## Examples:

- A: amenable groups and free groups... *most things...*
- Not-A: groups with expanders... Gromov (2003)...

74 pg...

# Property A

## Definition (Yu '99)

$G$  has A if for all  $\varepsilon, R > 0$  there is  $\xi: G \rightarrow \ell^1(G)$  such that

1.  $\xi_g \geq 0$  and  $\|\xi_g\|_1 = 1$  for all  $g \in G$ .
2. There is  $C > 0$  such that  $\text{supp}(\xi_g) \subset \mathcal{B}_C(g)$  for all  $g \in G$ .
3.  $\|\xi_g - \xi_h\|_1 \leq \varepsilon$  for any  $g, h \in G$  such that  $d(g, h) \leq R$ .

## Examples:

- A: amenable groups and free groups... *most things...*
- Not-A: groups with expanders... Gromov (2003)...

74 pg... incomplete proof...

# Property A

## Definition (Yu '99)

$G$  has A if for all  $\varepsilon, R > 0$  there is  $\xi: G \rightarrow \ell^1(G)$  such that

1.  $\xi_g \geq 0$  and  $\|\xi_g\|_1 = 1$  for all  $g \in G$ .
2. There is  $C > 0$  such that  $\text{supp}(\xi_g) \subset \mathcal{B}_C(g)$  for all  $g \in G$ .
3.  $\|\xi_g - \xi_h\|_1 \leq \varepsilon$  for any  $g, h \in G$  such that  $d(g, h) \leq R$ .

## Examples:

- A: amenable groups and free groups... *most things*...
- Not-A: groups with expanders... Gromov (2003)...

74 pg... incomplete proof...

**Remark:** property A is a quasi-isometry invariant since it allows translations of *finite propagation*.

# Property A

## Definition (Yu '99)

$G$  has A if for all  $\varepsilon, R > 0$  there is  $\xi: G \rightarrow \ell^1(G)$  such that

1.  $\xi_g \geq 0$  and  $\|\xi_g\|_1 = 1$  for all  $g \in G$ .
2. There is  $C > 0$  such that  $\text{supp}(\xi_g) \subset \mathcal{B}_C(g)$  for all  $g \in G$ .
3.  $\|\xi_g - \xi_h\|_1 \leq \varepsilon$  for any  $g, h \in G$  such that  $d(g, h) \leq R$ .

## Examples:

- A: amenable groups and free groups... *most things*...
- Not-A: groups with expanders... Gromov (2003)...

74 pg... incomplete proof...

**Remark:** property A is a quasi-isometry invariant since it allows translations of *finite propagation*.

Or, rather, is a *global* property.

## More examples?

**Recall:** examples of coarse structures  $\leadsto \text{Cay}(G)$ .

## More examples?

**Recall:** examples of coarse structures  $\leadsto \text{Cay}(G)$ .

**Remark:** Those are not all of them:

$\mathbb{N}$ :  $0 \text{ --- } 1 \text{ --- } 2 \text{ --- } 3 \text{ --- } 4 \text{ --- } 5 \text{ --- } 6 \text{ --- } 7 \text{ --- } 8 \text{ --- } \dots$

## More examples?

**Recall:** examples of coarse structures  $\leadsto \text{Cay}(G)$ .

**Remark:** Those are not all of them:

$\mathbb{N}$ :  $0 \text{ --- } 1 \text{ --- } 2 \text{ --- } 3 \text{ --- } 4 \text{ --- } 5 \text{ --- } 6 \text{ --- } 7 \text{ --- } 8 \text{ --- } \dots$

- The half line  $\mathbb{N}$  is not a Cayley graph.



## More examples?

**Recall:** examples of coarse structures  $\leadsto \text{Cay}(G)$ .

**Remark:** Those are not all of them:

$\mathbb{N}$ :  $0 \text{ --- } 1 \text{ --- } 2 \text{ --- } 3 \text{ --- } 4 \text{ --- } 5 \text{ --- } 6 \text{ --- } 7 \text{ --- } 8 \text{ --- } \dots$

- The half line  $\mathbb{N}$  is not a Cayley graph.
- Not even quasi-isometric to any Cayley graph.

## More examples?

**Recall:** examples of coarse structures  $\leadsto \text{Cay}(G)$ .

**Remark:** Those are not all of them:

$\mathbb{N}$ :  $0 \text{ --- } 1 \text{ --- } 2 \text{ --- } 3 \text{ --- } 4 \text{ --- } 5 \text{ --- } 6 \text{ --- } 7 \text{ --- } 8 \text{ --- } \dots$

- The half line  $\mathbb{N}$  is not a Cayley graph.
- Not even quasi-isometric to any Cayley graph.
- Actually most graphs are not Cayley graphs.

## More examples?

**Recall:** examples of coarse structures  $\leadsto \text{Cay}(G)$ .

**Remark:** Those are not all of them:

$\mathbb{N}$ :  $0 \text{ --- } 1 \text{ --- } 2 \text{ --- } 3 \text{ --- } 4 \text{ --- } 5 \text{ --- } 6 \text{ --- } 7 \text{ --- } 8 \text{ --- } \dots$

- The half line  $\mathbb{N}$  is not a Cayley graph.
- Not even quasi-isometric to any Cayley graph.
- Actually most graphs are not Cayley graphs.

**Question:** can we study more general coarse structures from a  
*group-like point of view?*

**Note:** the group structure:

## More examples?

**Recall:** examples of coarse structures  $\leadsto \text{Cay}(G)$ .

**Remark:** Those are not all of them:

$\mathbb{N}$ :  $0 \text{ --- } 1 \text{ --- } 2 \text{ --- } 3 \text{ --- } 4 \text{ --- } 5 \text{ --- } 6 \text{ --- } 7 \text{ --- } 8 \text{ --- } \dots$

- The half line  $\mathbb{N}$  is not a Cayley graph.
- Not even quasi-isometric to any Cayley graph.
- Actually most graphs are not Cayley graphs.

**Question:** can we study more general coarse structures from a *group-like point of view*?

**Note:** the group structure:

- Gives insight/tools into coarse geometry.
- Limited to Cayley graphs.

## More examples?

**Recall:** examples of coarse structures  $\leadsto \text{Cay}(G)$ .

**Remark:** Those are not all of them:

$\mathbb{N}$ :  $0 \text{ --- } 1 \text{ --- } 2 \text{ --- } 3 \text{ --- } 4 \text{ --- } 5 \text{ --- } 6 \text{ --- } 7 \text{ --- } 8 \text{ --- } \dots$

- The half line  $\mathbb{N}$  is not a Cayley graph.
- Not even quasi-isometric to any Cayley graph.
- Actually most graphs are not Cayley graphs.

**Question:** can we study more general coarse structures from a *group-like point of view*?

**Note:** the group structure:

- Gives insight/tools into coarse geometry.
- Limited to Cayley graphs.

**Answer:** Using semigroups we can.

## (2) Inverse semigroups

---

# Introduction to inverse semigroups I

$S$  inverse semigroup:

# Introduction to inverse semigroups I

$S$  inverse semigroup: for all  $s \in S$  there is a unique  $s^* \in S$   
such that  $ss^*s = s$  and  $s^*ss^* = s^*$ .



# Introduction to inverse semigroups I

$S$  inverse semigroup: for all  $s \in S$  there is a unique  $s^* \in S$  such that  $\underline{ss^*s = s}$  and  $\underline{s^*ss^* = s^*}$ .

**Example:**  $\mathcal{I}(X) = \{(s, A, B) \mid A, B \subset X \text{ and } s: A \leftrightarrow B\}$ .

- $A = \text{domain of } s = D_{s^*s}$
- $B = \text{range of } s = D_{ss^*}$
- $(t, A, B) \circ (s, C, D) := (ts, s^{-1}(D \cap A), t(D \cap A))$ .

# Introduction to inverse semigroups I

$S$  inverse semigroup: for all  $s \in S$  there is a unique  $s^* \in S$  such that  $\underline{ss^*s = s}$  and  $\underline{s^*ss^* = s^*}$ .

**Example:**  $\mathcal{I}(X) = \{(s, A, B) \mid A, B \subset X \text{ and } s: A \leftrightarrow B\}$ .

- $A = \text{domain of } s = D_{s^*s}$
- $B = \text{range of } s = D_{ss^*}$
- $(t, A, B) \circ (s, C, D) := (ts, s^{-1}(D \cap A), t(D \cap A))$ .

Actually:  $S \subset \mathcal{I}(X)$  as inverse semigroups  $\leadsto \underline{s: D_{s^*s} \mapsto D_{ss^*}}$ .

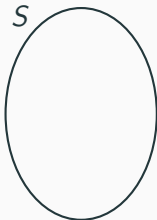
# Introduction to inverse semigroups I

$S$  inverse semigroup: for all  $s \in S$  there is a unique  $s^* \in S$  such that  $\underline{ss^*s = s}$  and  $\underline{s^*ss^* = s^*}$ .

**Example:**  $\mathcal{I}(X) = \{(s, A, B) \mid A, B \subset X \text{ and } s: A \leftrightarrow B\}$ .

- $A = \text{domain of } s = D_{s^*s}$
- $B = \text{range of } s = D_{ss^*}$
- $(t, A, B) \circ (s, C, D) := (ts, s^{-1}(D \cap A), t(D \cap A))$ .

Actually:  $S \subset \mathcal{I}(X)$  as inverse semigroups  $\leadsto \underline{s: D_{s^*s} \mapsto D_{ss^*}}$ .



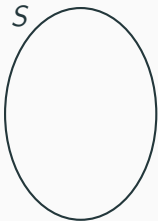
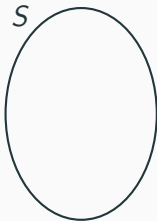
# Introduction to inverse semigroups I

$S$  inverse semigroup: for all  $s \in S$  there is a unique  $s^* \in S$  such that  $\underline{ss^*s = s}$  and  $\underline{s^*ss^* = s^*}$ .

**Example:**  $\mathcal{I}(X) = \{(s, A, B) \mid A, B \subset X \text{ and } s: A \leftrightarrow B\}$ .

- $A = \text{domain of } s = D_{s^*s}$
- $B = \text{range of } s = D_{ss^*}$
- $(t, A, B) \circ (s, C, D) := (ts, s^{-1}(D \cap A), t(D \cap A))$ .

Actually:  $S \subset \mathcal{I}(X)$  as inverse semigroups  $\leadsto \underline{s: D_{s^*s} \mapsto D_{ss^*}}$ .



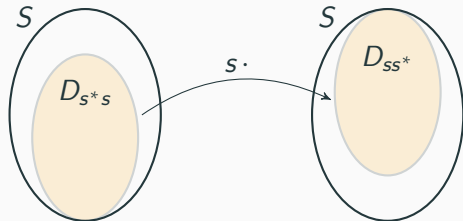
# Introduction to inverse semigroups I

$S$  inverse semigroup: for all  $s \in S$  there is a unique  $s^* \in S$  such that  $\underline{ss^*s = s}$  and  $\underline{s^*ss^* = s^*}$ .

**Example:**  $\mathcal{I}(X) = \{(s, A, B) \mid A, B \subset X \text{ and } s: A \leftrightarrow B\}$ .

- $A = \text{domain of } s = D_{s^*s}$
- $B = \text{range of } s = D_{ss^*}$
- $(t, A, B) \circ (s, C, D) := (ts, s^{-1}(D \cap A), t(D \cap A))$ .

Actually:  $S \subset \mathcal{I}(X)$  as inverse semigroups  $\leadsto \underline{s: D_{s^*s} \mapsto D_{ss^*}}$ .



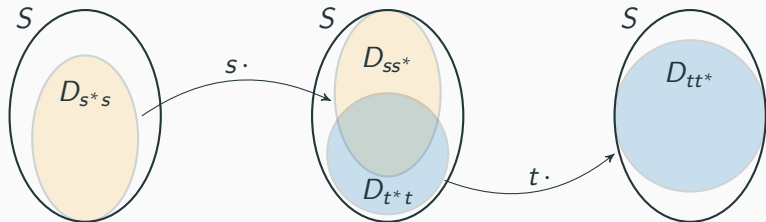
# Introduction to inverse semigroups I

$S$  inverse semigroup: for all  $s \in S$  there is a unique  $s^* \in S$  such that  $\underline{ss^*s = s}$  and  $\underline{s^*ss^* = s^*}$ .

**Example:**  $\mathcal{I}(X) = \{(s, A, B) \mid A, B \subset X \text{ and } s: A \leftrightarrow B\}$ .

- $A = \text{domain of } s = D_{s^*s}$
- $B = \text{range of } s = D_{ss^*}$
- $(t, A, B) \circ (s, C, D) := (ts, s^{-1}(D \cap A), t(D \cap A))$ .

Actually:  $S \subset \mathcal{I}(X)$  as inverse semigroups  $\leadsto \underline{s: D_{s^*s} \mapsto D_{ss^*}}$ .



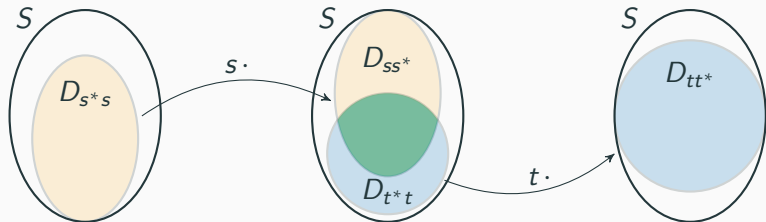
# Introduction to inverse semigroups I

$S$  inverse semigroup: for all  $s \in S$  there is a unique  $s^* \in S$  such that  $\underline{ss^*s = s}$  and  $\underline{s^*ss^* = s^*}$ .

**Example:**  $\mathcal{I}(X) = \{(s, A, B) \mid A, B \subset X \text{ and } s: A \leftrightarrow B\}$ .

- $A = \text{domain of } s = D_{s^*s}$
- $B = \text{range of } s = D_{ss^*}$
- $(t, A, B) \circ (s, C, D) := (ts, s^{-1}(D \cap A), t(D \cap A))$ .

Actually:  $S \subset \mathcal{I}(X)$  as inverse semigroups  $\leadsto \underline{s: D_{s^*s} \mapsto D_{ss^*}}$ .



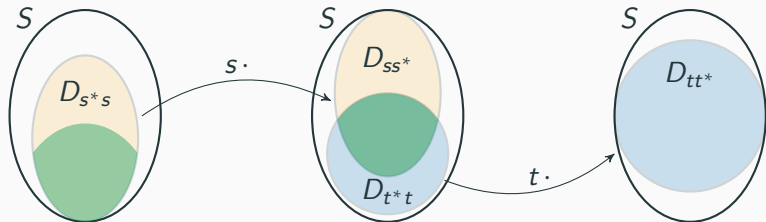
# Introduction to inverse semigroups I

$S$  inverse semigroup: for all  $s \in S$  there is a unique  $s^* \in S$  such that  $\underline{ss^*s = s}$  and  $\underline{s^*ss^* = s^*}$ .

**Example:**  $\mathcal{I}(X) = \{(s, A, B) \mid A, B \subset X \text{ and } s: A \leftrightarrow B\}$ .

- $A = \text{domain of } s = D_{s^*s}$
- $B = \text{range of } s = D_{ss^*}$
- $(t, A, B) \circ (s, C, D) := (ts, s^{-1}(D \cap A), t(D \cap A))$ .

Actually:  $S \subset \mathcal{I}(X)$  as inverse semigroups  $\leadsto \underline{s: D_{s^*s} \mapsto D_{ss^*}}$ .





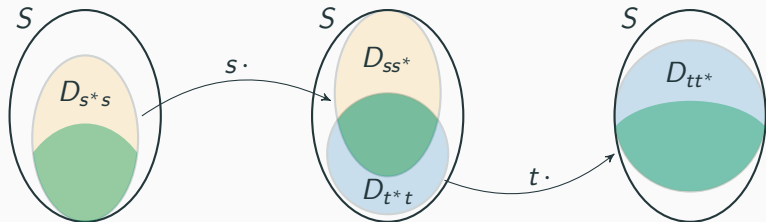
# Introduction to inverse semigroups I

$S$  inverse semigroup: for all  $s \in S$  there is a unique  $s^* \in S$  such that  $\underline{ss^*s = s}$  and  $\underline{s^*ss^* = s^*}$ .

**Example:**  $\mathcal{I}(X) = \{(s, A, B) \mid A, B \subset X \text{ and } s: A \leftrightarrow B\}$ .

- $A = \text{domain of } s = D_{s^*s}$
- $B = \text{range of } s = D_{ss^*}$
- $(t, A, B) \circ (s, C, D) := (ts, s^{-1}(D \cap A), t(D \cap A))$ .

Actually:  $S \subset \mathcal{I}(X)$  as inverse semigroups  $\leadsto \underline{s: D_{s^*s} \mapsto D_{ss^*}}$ .



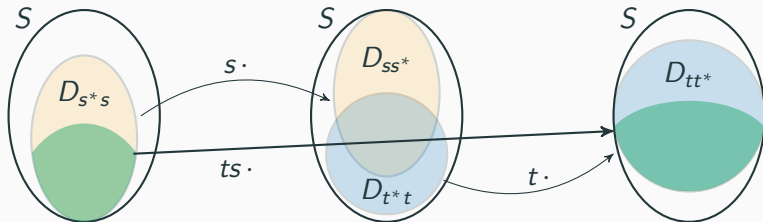
# Introduction to inverse semigroups I

$S$  inverse semigroup: for all  $s \in S$  there is a unique  $s^* \in S$  such that  $\underline{ss^*s = s}$  and  $\underline{s^*ss^* = s^*}$ .

**Example:**  $\mathcal{I}(X) = \{(s, A, B) \mid A, B \subset X \text{ and } s: A \leftrightarrow B\}$ .

- $A = \text{domain of } s = D_{s^*s}$
- $B = \text{range of } s = D_{ss^*}$
- $(t, A, B) \circ (s, C, D) := (ts, s^{-1}(D \cap A), t(D \cap A))$ .

Actually:  $S \subset \mathcal{I}(X)$  as inverse semigroups  $\leadsto \underline{s: D_{s^*s} \mapsto D_{ss^*}}$ .



# Introduction to inverse semigroups II

$$\frac{\text{Groups}}{\text{permutations/full rank mat.}} = \frac{\text{inverse semigroups}}{\text{partial permutations/not full rank mat.}}$$

# Introduction to inverse semigroups II

$$\frac{\text{Groups}}{\text{permutations/full rank mat.}} = \frac{\text{inverse semigroups}}{\text{partial permutations/not full rank mat.}}$$

**Projections:**  $E(S) := \{e \in S \mid e = e^2 (= e^*)\}.$

$E(S)$  is a commutative subsemigroup.

# Introduction to inverse semigroups II

$$\frac{\text{Groups}}{\text{permutations/full rank mat.}} = \frac{\text{inverse semigroups}}{\text{partial permutations/not full rank mat.}}$$

**Projections:**  $E(S) := \{e \in S \mid e = e^2 (= e^*)\}.$

$E(S)$  is a commutative subsemigroup.

**Remark:** groups vs. inverse semigroups  $\leadsto$  partial order:

$$f \leq e \Leftrightarrow fe = f \quad (\leadsto \text{ can extend to } S\dots)$$

# Introduction to inverse semigroups II

$$\frac{\text{Groups}}{\text{permutations/full rank mat.}} = \frac{\text{inverse semigroups}}{\text{partial permutations/not full rank mat.}}$$

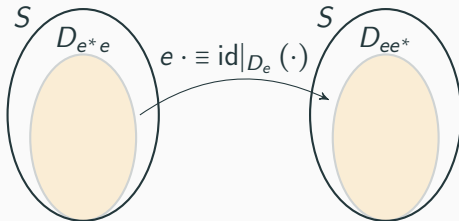
**Projections:**  $E(S) := \{e \in S \mid e = e^2 (= e^*)\}$ .

$E(S)$  is a commutative subsemigroup.

**Remark:** groups vs. inverse semigroups  $\leadsto$  partial order:

$$f \leq e \Leftrightarrow fe = f$$

( $\leadsto$  can extend to  $S \dots$ )



# Introduction to inverse semigroups II

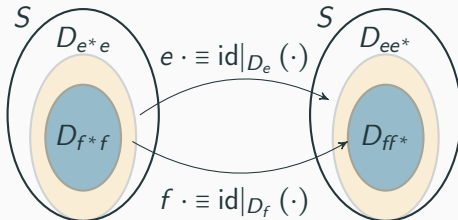
$$\frac{\text{Groups}}{\text{permutations/full rank mat.}} = \frac{\text{inverse semigroups}}{\text{partial permutations/not full rank mat.}}$$

**Projections:**  $E(S) := \{e \in S \mid e = e^2 (= e^*)\}$ .

$E(S)$  is a commutative subsemigroup.

**Remark:** groups vs. inverse semigroups  $\leadsto$  partial order:

$$f \leq e \Leftrightarrow fe = f \quad (\leadsto \text{can extend to } S\dots)$$



# Introduction to inverse semigroups III

Examples:



# Introduction to inverse semigroups III

## Examples:

- Groups  $\leadsto$  all the above notions are trivial.

# Introduction to inverse semigroups III

## Examples:

- Groups  $\leadsto$  all the above notions are trivial.
- Bicyclic monoid:

$$\mathcal{T} := \langle a, a^* \mid a^* a = 1 \rangle$$

# Introduction to inverse semigroups III

## Examples:

- Groups  $\leadsto$  all the above notions are trivial.
- Bicyclic monoid:

$$\mathcal{T} := \langle a, a^* \mid a^* a = 1 \rangle = \{ a^i a^{*j} \mid i, j \in \mathbb{N} \}.$$

# Introduction to inverse semigroups III

## Examples:

- Groups  $\leadsto$  all the above notions are trivial.
- Bicyclic monoid:

$$\mathcal{T} := \langle a, a^* \mid a^* a = 1 \rangle = \{ a^i a^{*j} \mid i, j \in \mathbb{N} \}.$$

$$E(\mathcal{T}) = \{ a^i a^{*i} \mid i \in \mathbb{N} \} = \{ 1, aa^*, a^2 a^{*2}, \dots \} \cong \mathbb{N}.$$

# Introduction to inverse semigroups III

## Examples:

- Groups  $\leadsto$  all the above notions are trivial.
- Bicyclic monoid:

$$\mathcal{T} := \langle a, a^* \mid a^* a = 1 \rangle = \{a^i a^{*j} \mid i, j \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

$$E(\mathcal{T}) = \{a^i a^{*i} \mid i \in \mathbb{N}\} = \{1, aa^*, a^2 a^{*2}, \dots\} \cong \mathbb{N}.$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \ddots \\
 & a^3 & & a^3 a^* & & a^3 a^{*2} & & a^3 a^{*3} & & \dots \\
 & | & & | & & | & & | & & \\
 & a^2 & & a^2 a^* & & a^2 a^{*2} & & a^2 a^{*3} & & \dots \\
 & | & & | & & | & & | & & \\
 & a & & aa^* & & aa^{*2} & & aa^{*3} & & \dots \\
 & | & & | & & | & & | & & \\
 & 1 & & a^* & & a^{*2} & & a^{*3} & & \dots
 \end{array}$$

Outcome of algorithm:

# Schützenberger graphs

## Outcome of algorithm:

- Undirected graph.
- Connected components (one per  $e \in E(S)$  and  $\mathcal{L}$ -class).

# Schützenberger graphs

## Outcome of algorithm:

- Undirected graph.
- Connected components (one per  $e \in E(S)$  and  $\mathcal{L}$ -class).

## Proposition

The large scale geometry of the graph of  $S$

does not depend on the generators, i.e.,

$$(S, d, \{s_1, \dots, s_n\}) \cong_{\text{q.i.}} (S, d', \{t_1, \dots, t_m\}).$$



# Schützenberger graphs

## Outcome of algorithm:

- Undirected graph.
- Connected components (one per  $e \in E(S)$  and  $\mathcal{L}$ -class).

## Proposition

The large scale geometry of the graph of  $S$

does not depend on the generators, i.e.,

$$(S, d, \{s_1, \dots, s_n\}) \cong_{\text{q.i.}} (S, d', \{t_1, \dots, t_m\}).$$

## Definition

Let  $S = \langle s_1, \dots, s_n \mid \text{relations} \rangle$ , and  $u, v \in S$ . Then:

$$d(u, v) := \begin{cases} \min \{ \ell(s) \mid su = v \text{ and } s^*su = u \} & \text{if } u^*u = v^*v, \\ 0 & \text{if } u^*u \neq v^*v. \end{cases}$$

## Resulting graph construction

Remark:  $S$  is a group  $\Leftrightarrow$  only 1 conn. comp.  $\Leftrightarrow d(x, y) < \infty$ .

## Resulting graph construction

**Remark:**  $S$  is a group  $\Leftrightarrow$  only 1 conn. comp.  $\Leftrightarrow d(x, y) < \infty$ .

**Recall:** not all graphs are Cayley graphs. However:

## Resulting graph construction

**Remark:**  $S$  is a group  $\Leftrightarrow$  only 1 conn. comp.  $\Leftrightarrow d(x, y) < \infty$ .

**Recall:** not all graphs are Cayley graphs. However:

### Theorem

Any undirected graph is a conn. comp. of an inverse semigroup.

## Resulting graph construction

**Remark:**  $S$  is a group  $\Leftrightarrow$  only 1 conn. comp.  $\Leftrightarrow d(x, y) < \infty$ .

**Recall:** not all graphs are Cayley graphs. However:

### Theorem

Any undirected graph is a conn. comp. of an inverse semigroup.

**Sketch of proof:**

Given a labeled graph  $(V, E)$  and  $v_0 \in V$ :

# Resulting graph construction

**Remark:**  $S$  is a group  $\Leftrightarrow$  only 1 conn. comp.  $\Leftrightarrow d(x, y) < \infty$ .

**Recall:** not all graphs are Cayley graphs. However:

## Theorem

Any undirected graph is a conn. comp. of an inverse semigroup.

### Sketch of proof:

Given a labeled graph  $(V, E)$  and  $v_0 \in V$ :

- $V \ni w \mapsto$  path starting at  $v_0$  and ending at  $w$ .
- $V \ni w^* \mapsto$  path ending at  $v_0$  and starting at  $w$ .
- $\mathcal{C} := \{\text{cycles starting and ending at } v_0\} = \{w^*w \mid w \in V\}$ .
- $S = \langle \{w, w^*\}_{w \in V} \mid \{c = v_0\}_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \text{ and } v_0 = v_0^* v_0 \rangle$ .

# Amenability in inverse semigroups

Def. (Day - 1957) & Prop. (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2019)

$S$  is amenable if there is an invariant probability measure on it:  
a probability measure  $\mu: \mathcal{P}(S) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that

(1) Domain-measure:  $\mu(A) = \mu(sA)$  for all  $A \subset D_{s^*s}$ .

(2) Localization:  $\mu(B) = \mu(B \cap D_{s^*s})$  for all  $s \in S, B \subset S$ .

# Amenability in inverse semigroups

Def. (Day - 1957) & Prop. (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2019)

$S$  is amenable if there is an invariant probability measure on it:  
a probability measure  $\mu: \mathcal{P}(S) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that

(1) Domain-measure:  $\mu(A) = \mu(sA)$  for all  $A \subset D_{s^*s}$ .

(2) Localization:  $\mu(B) = \mu(B \cap D_{s^*s})$  for all  $s \in S, B \subset S$ .

Invariance *explanation*:



# Amenability in inverse semigroups

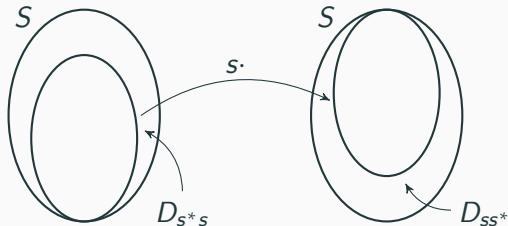
Def. (Day - 1957) & Prop. (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2019)

$S$  is amenable if there is an invariant probability measure on it:  
a probability measure  $\mu: \mathcal{P}(S) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that

(1) Domain-measure:  $\mu(A) = \mu(sA)$  for all  $A \subset D_{s^*s}$ .

(2) Localization:  $\mu(B) = \mu(B \cap D_{s^*s})$  for all  $s \in S, B \subset S$ .

Invariance *explanation*:



# Amenability in inverse semigroups

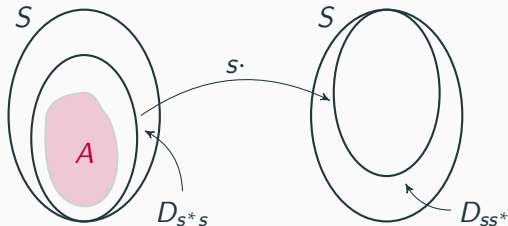
Def. (Day - 1957) & Prop. (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2019)

$S$  is amenable if there is an invariant probability measure on it:  
a probability measure  $\mu: \mathcal{P}(S) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that

(1) Domain-measure:  $\mu(A) = \mu(sA)$  for all  $A \subset D_{s^*s}$ .

(2) Localization:  $\mu(B) = \mu(B \cap D_{s^*s})$  for all  $s \in S, B \subset S$ .

Invariance *explanation*:



# Amenability in inverse semigroups

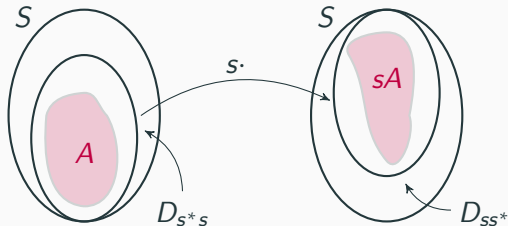
Def. (Day - 1957) & Prop. (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2019)

$S$  is amenable if there is an invariant probability measure on it:  
a probability measure  $\mu: \mathcal{P}(S) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that

(1) Domain-measure:  $\mu(A) = \mu(sA)$  for all  $A \subset D_{s^*s}$ .

(2) Localization:  $\mu(B) = \mu(B \cap D_{s^*s})$  for all  $s \in S, B \subset S$ .

Invariance *explanation*:



# Amenability in inverse semigroups

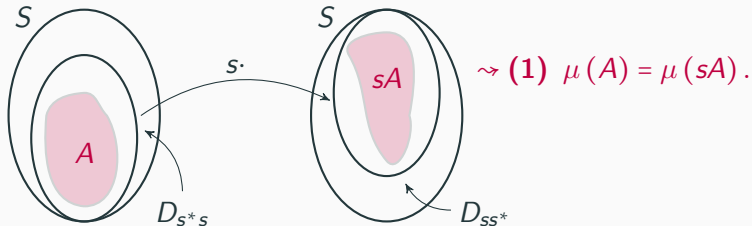
Def. (Day - 1957) & Prop. (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2019)

$S$  is amenable if there is an invariant probability measure on it:  
a probability measure  $\mu: \mathcal{P}(S) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that

(1) Domain-measure:  $\mu(A) = \mu(sA)$  for all  $A \subset D_{s^*s}$ .

(2) Localization:  $\mu(B) = \mu(B \cap D_{s^*s})$  for all  $s \in S, B \subset S$ .

Invariance *explanation*:



# Amenability in inverse semigroups

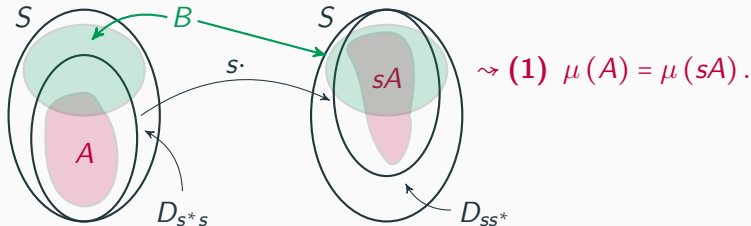
**Def. (Day - 1957) & Prop. (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2019)**

$S$  is amenable if there is an invariant probability measure on it:  
a probability measure  $\mu: \mathcal{P}(S) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that

(1) Domain-measure:  $\mu(A) = \mu(sA)$  for all  $A \subset D_{s^*s}$ .

(2) Localization:  $\mu(B) = \mu(B \cap D_{s^*s})$  for all  $s \in S, B \subset S$ .

**Invariance explanation:**



# Amenability in inverse semigroups

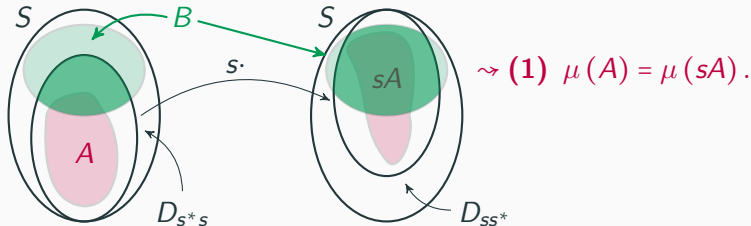
**Def. (Day - 1957) & Prop. (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2019)**

$S$  is amenable if there is an invariant probability measure on it:  
a probability measure  $\mu: \mathcal{P}(S) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that

(1) Domain-measure:  $\mu(A) = \mu(sA)$  for all  $A \subset D_{s^*s}$ .

(2) Localization:  $\mu(B) = \mu(B \cap D_{s^*s})$  for all  $s \in S, B \subset S$ .

**Invariance explanation:**



# Amenability in inverse semigroups

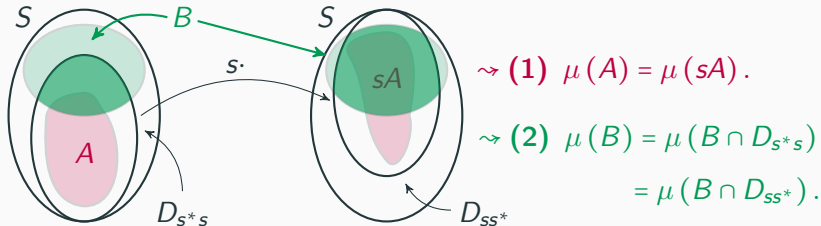
**Def. (Day - 1957) & Prop. (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2019)**

$S$  is amenable if there is an invariant probability measure on it: a probability measure  $\mu: \mathcal{P}(S) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that

(1) Domain-measure:  $\mu(A) = \mu(sA)$  for all  $A \subset D_{s^*s}$ .

(2) Localization:  $\mu(B) = \mu(B \cap D_{s^*s})$  for all  $s \in S, B \subset S$ .

**Invariance explanation:**



# Examples of amenable inverse semigroups

## Examples of amenable inverse semigroups:

1. All amenable groups.



# Examples of amenable inverse semigroups

## Examples of amenable inverse semigroups:

1. All amenable groups.
2.  $0 \in S \rightsquigarrow \mu(\{0\}) = 1$  (or, equivalently,  $\mu = \delta_0$ ).

## Examples of amenable inverse semigroups:

1. All amenable groups.
2.  $0 \in S \rightsquigarrow \mu(\{0\}) = 1$  (or, equivalently,  $\mu = \delta_0$ ).
3.  $S := \mathbb{F}_2 \sqcup \{1\}$  is *not* amenable.

# Examples of amenable inverse semigroups

## Examples of amenable inverse semigroups:

1. All amenable groups.
2.  $0 \in S \rightsquigarrow \mu(\{0\}) = 1$  (or, equivalently,  $\mu = \delta_0$ ).
3.  $S := \mathbb{F}_2 \sqcup \{1\}$  is *not* amenable.

**Remark:** localization is not dynamical... But it allows:

# Examples of amenable inverse semigroups

## Examples of amenable inverse semigroups:

1. All amenable groups.
2.  $0 \in S \rightsquigarrow \mu(\{0\}) = 1$  (or, equivalently,  $\mu = \delta_0$ ).
3.  $S := \mathbb{F}_2 \sqcup \{1\}$  is *not* amenable.

**Remark:** localization is not dynamical... But it allows:

- Amenability of  $S$  can be cut down to *amenability* of  $D_{S^*S}$ .
- Amenability  $\Leftrightarrow$  Følner property from within  $D_{S^*S}$ .
- Følner property  $\rightsquigarrow$  amenability is a quasi-isometry invariant.

## Amenability vs. large scale geometry and A

Recall property A  $\leadsto$  **Question:** When does  $S$  have A?

# Amenability vs. large scale geometry and A

Recall property A  $\leadsto$  **Question:** When does  $S$  have A?

## Theorem (Ozawa - 2000)

$G$  is a countable and discrete group. TFAE:

1.  $G$  has property A.
2. The *uniform Roe algebra*  $\ell^\infty(G) \rtimes_r G$  is *nuclear*.

# Amenability vs. large scale geometry and A

Recall property A  $\leadsto$  **Question:** When does  $S$  have A?

## Theorem (Ozawa - 2000)

$G$  is a countable and discrete group. TFAE:

1.  $G$  has property A.
2. The *uniform Roe algebra*  $\ell^\infty(G) \rtimes_r G$  is nuclear.

We use idea 4: suppose  $E(S)$  is finite and

- $S$  has A  $\Leftrightarrow$  all connected components of  $(S, d)$  have A.
- Conn. Comp. has A  $\Leftrightarrow$  its *uniform Roe algebra* is nuclear.

# Amenability vs. large scale geometry and A

Recall property A  $\leadsto$  **Question:** When does  $S$  have A?

## Theorem (Ozawa - 2000)

$G$  is a countable and discrete group. TFAE:

1.  $G$  has property A.
2. The *uniform Roe algebra*  $\ell^\infty(G) \rtimes_r G$  is nuclear.

We use idea 4: suppose  $E(S)$  is finite and

- $S$  has A  $\Leftrightarrow$  all connected components of  $(S, d)$  have A.
- Conn. Comp. has A  $\Leftrightarrow$  its *uniform Roe algebra* is nuclear.

Study when uniform Roe algebra  $\cong \ell^\infty(S) \rtimes_r S$ .



### (3) Relation with Operator Algebras

---

# Introduction to uniform Roe algebras

**Formal definition:** For a discrete and countable group  $G$  consider:

$$\mathcal{R}_G := \ell^\infty(G) \rtimes_r G \subset \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(G)).$$

# Introduction to uniform Roe algebras

**Formal definition:** For a discrete and countable group  $G$  consider:

$$\mathcal{R}_G := \ell^\infty(G) \rtimes_r G \subset \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(G)).$$

**Observe:**

- $\ell^\infty(G)$  allows to restrict to subsets of  $G$ .
- Action of  $G$  allows to move points in  $G$  to points in  $G$ .  
by multiplying on the left.

# Introduction to uniform Roe algebras

**Formal definition:** For a discrete and countable group  $G$  consider:

$$\mathcal{R}_G := \ell^\infty(G) \rtimes_r G \subset \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(G)).$$

**Observe:**

- $\ell^\infty(G)$  allows to restrict to subsets of  $G$ .
- Action of  $G$  allows to move points in  $G$  to points in  $G$ .  
by multiplying on the left.

**Intuitive definition:**

$\{ \text{bijections of } G \text{ coarsely preserving distances} \}$

# Introduction to uniform Roe algebras

**Formal definition:** For a discrete and countable group  $G$  consider:

$$\mathcal{R}_G := \ell^\infty(G) \rtimes_r G \subset \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(G)).$$

**Observe:**

- $\ell^\infty(G)$  allows to restrict to subsets of  $G$ .
- Action of  $G$  allows to move points in  $G$  to points in  $G$ .  
by multiplying on the left.

**Intuitive definition:**

$\{ \text{bijections of } G \text{ coarsely preserving distances} \} \subset \mathcal{R}_G$ .

# Introduction to uniform Roe algebras

**Formal definition:** For a discrete and countable group  $G$  consider:

$$\mathcal{R}_G := \ell^\infty(G) \rtimes_r G \subset \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(G)).$$

**Observe:**

- $\ell^\infty(G)$  allows to restrict to subsets of  $G$ .
- Action of  $G$  allows to move points in  $G$  to points in  $G$ .  
by multiplying on the left.

**Intuitive definition:**

$$\{ \text{bijections of } G \text{ coarsely preserving distances} \} \subset \mathcal{R}_G.$$

## Theorem

For a discrete and countable group  $G$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\text{span} \{ \text{bijections in } G \text{ coarsely preserving distances} \}} &= \\ &= \ell^\infty(G) \rtimes_G = \mathcal{R}_G. \end{aligned}$$

# Uniform Roe algebras of inverse semigroups

In the same vein:  $\mathcal{R}_S := \ell^\infty(S) \rtimes_r S$   $\subset \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(S))$ .

# Uniform Roe algebras of inverse semigroups

In the same vein:  $\mathcal{R}_S := \ell^\infty(S) \rtimes_r S$   $\subset \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(S))$ .

Recall:

- $(S, d)$  had a conn. comp. for each  $e \in E(S)$

$$\mathcal{R}_S = \oplus_{e \in E(S)} p_e \mathcal{R}_S p_e.$$

- partial translations of  $(S, d)$  leave the components invariant.
- $\mathcal{R}_S$  also comes from *left regular representation*.



# Uniform Roe algebras of inverse semigroups

In the same vein:  $\underline{\mathcal{R}_S := \ell^\infty(S) \rtimes_r S} \subset \mathcal{B}(\ell^2(S))$ .

Recall:

- $(S, d)$  had a conn. comp. for each  $e \in E(S)$

$$\mathcal{R}_S = \oplus_{e \in E(S)} p_e \mathcal{R}_S p_e.$$

- partial traslations of  $(S, d)$  leave the components invariant.
- $\mathcal{R}_S$  also comes from *left regular representation*.

## Theorem

$S$  inverse semigroup, countable and discrete. In some cases:

$$\mathcal{R}_S \cong \overline{\text{span} \{ \text{bijections in } (S, d) \text{ coarsely preserving distances} \}}.$$

## Bibliography & thanks

**Ara, Lledó** and **Martínez**, Amenability in semigroups and  $C^*$ -algebras, ArXiv 1904.13133, 2019.

**Day**, Amenable semigroups. Illinois Journal of Mathematics, 1957.

**Lawson**, Inverse semigroups: the theory of partial symmetries. World Scientific, 1998.

**Nowak** and **Yu**, Large scale geometry. EMS Textbooks in Mathematics, 2012.

**von Neumann**, Zur allgemeinen Theorie des Masses. Fundamenta Mathematica, 1929.

**Yu**, The coarse Baum-Connes conjecture for spaces which admit a uniform embedding into Hilbert space. Inventiones (2000).

Thank you for your attention! Questions?