

Amenability and coarse geometry of (inverse) semigroups and C^* -algebras

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Thesis (e-)defense

Outline

- (1) Main schemes and questions
- (2) Inverse semigroups and Day's amenability
 - Day's amenability split
 - The type semigroup and Følner's condition
 - 2-norm approximations and amenable traces
- (3) Coarse geometry of an inverse semigroup
 - Finite labelings and uniform Roe algebras
 - Domain-measurability as a coarse invariant
 - Property A as a C^* -property
- (4) The universal groupoid and its amenability
- (5) Norm approximations and quasi-diagonality

1. Main schemes and questions

Pyramid schemes and paradoxical behaviors

Do Ponzi schemes exist?

Pyramid schemes and paradoxical behaviors

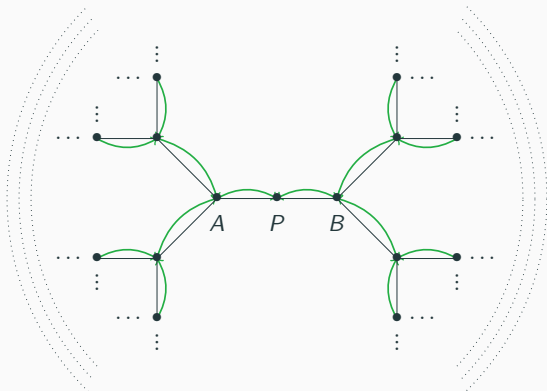
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- Everybody gains money in a **finite time** by **moving** it around
- Needs infinitely many people *in a certain form*:



Groups: von Neuman, Tarski and Følner

Let G be a countable and discrete group:

- G is amenable if there is a prob. measure $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that $\mu(g^{-1}A) = \mu(A)$ for all $g \in G$ and $A \subset G$
- G satisfies the Følner condition if for every $\varepsilon > 0$ and $K \Subset G$ there is $F \Subset G$ such that $|KF \cup F| \leq (1 + \varepsilon)|F|$
- G is paradoxical if there are $A_i, B_j \subset G$ and $a_i, b_j \in G$ with $G = \sqcup_{i=1}^n a_i A_i = \sqcup_{j=1}^m b_j B_j \supset (\sqcup_{i=1}^n A_i) \sqcup (\sqcup_{j=1}^m B_j)$

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Theorem (von Neumann 1927, Tarski 1929, Følner 1956)

G is amenable $\Leftrightarrow G$ satisfies the Følner condition
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First goal: extend these to inverse semigroups

2. Inverse semigroups and Day's amenability

Inverse semigroups and Wagner-Preston

Definition (Wagner 1952 and Preston 1954)

S is an inverse semigroup if for every $s \in S$ there is a unique $s^* \in S$ such that $ss^*s = s$ and $s^*ss^* = s^*$

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- *Bicyclic monoid*: $\mathcal{B} = \langle a, a^* \mid a^*a = 1 \rangle = \{a^i a^{*j} \mid i, j \geq 0\}$

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- $E(S) = \{e \in S \mid e^2 = e\} = \{s^*s \mid s \in S\}$ is commutative
- $D_{s^*s} := \{x \in S \mid x = s^*sx\} = s^*s \cdot S$ is the *domain of s^*s*
- $s: D_{s^*s} \rightarrow D_{ss^*}$, where $x \mapsto sx$ is a bijection

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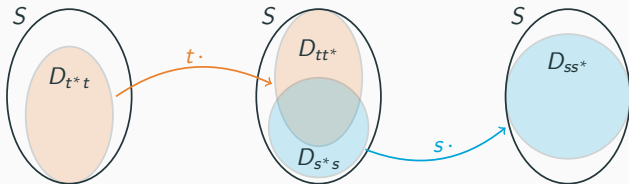
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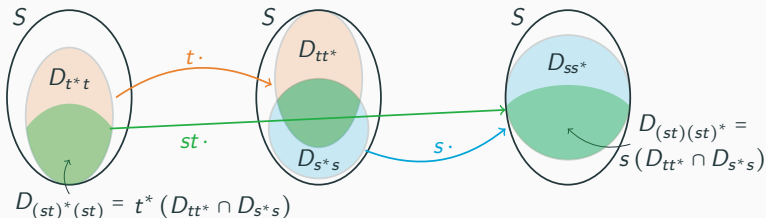
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Remarks:

- Day follows closely von Neumann's steps
- This definition is **irksome**, as it involves pre-images

2. Inverse semigroups and Day's amenability

2.1. Day's amenability split

Day's amenability framed in the inverse case

Pick S and μ invariant measure ($\mu(A) = \mu(s^{-1}A)$). Then:

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Theorem (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2020)

μ is invariant \Leftrightarrow both following conditions are satisfied:

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

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

Domain-measurable semigroups

Examples of **domain-measurable** semigroups:

- All amenable semigroups.
- Non-ame. & domain-measurable: $S = \mathbb{F}_2 \sqcup \{1\}$ and $\mu = \delta_1$.

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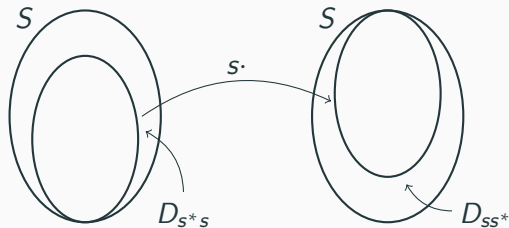
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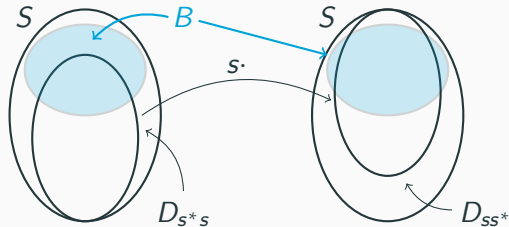


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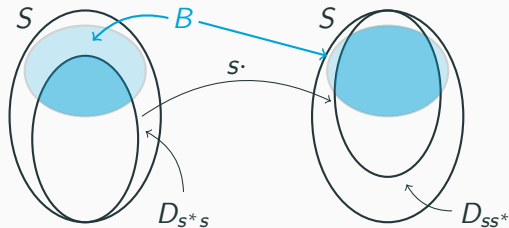


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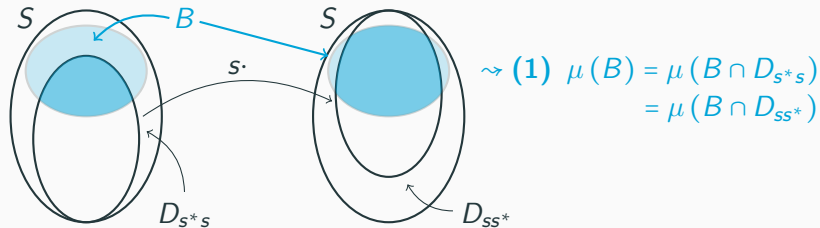


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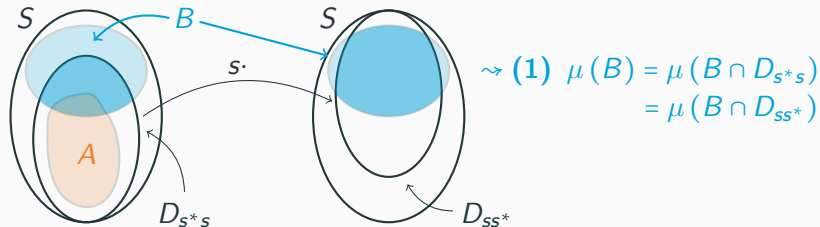


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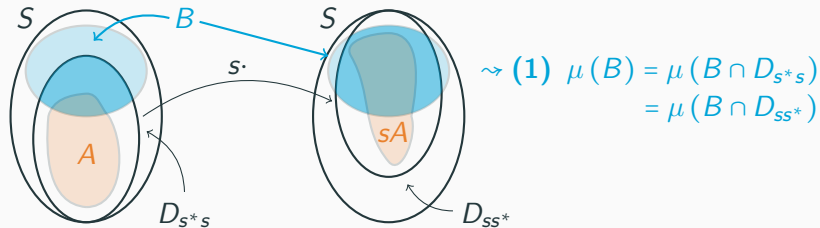


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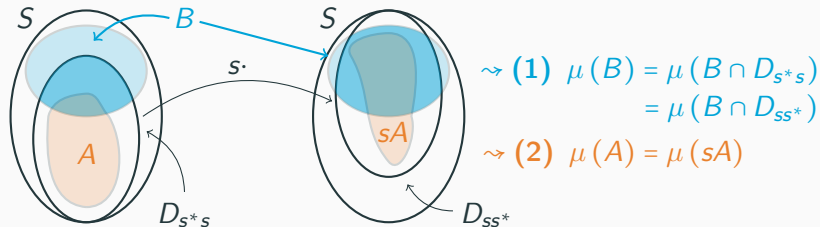


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Localization and **domain-measurability** explanation:



2. Inverse semigroups and Day's amenability

2.2. Paradoxicality and Følner's condition

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Følner & paradoxicality \rightsquigarrow from a *domain point of view*

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Definition (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2020)

Let S be a (countable) inverse semigroup.

(1) S is domain-Følner if there are $F_n \in S$ such that

$$|s(F_n \cap D_{s^*s}) \cup F_n| / |F_n| \rightarrow 1 \text{ for every } s \in S$$

(2) S is paradoxical if $\exists s_i, t_j \in S$, $A_i \subset D_{s_i^*s_i}$ and $B_j \subset D_{t_j^*t_j}$ with

$$S = s_1 A_1 \sqcup \cdots \sqcup s_n A_n = t_1 B_1 \sqcup \cdots \sqcup t_m B_m$$

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Remarks: Note that if $F \cap D_{s^*s} = \emptyset$ then $|s(F \cap D_{s^*s}) \cup F| = |F|$

Classical equivalences renovated

Theorem (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2020)

Let S be an inverse semigroup. The following are equivalent:

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(2) \Rightarrow (1): based on constructing a *type semigroup* $\text{Typ}(S)$,
i.e., a commutative monoid that encapsulates when
 $\mu(A) = \mu(B)$ for $A, B \subset S$

Role of the localization

Recall: Day's amenable \Leftrightarrow localized + dom. measurable

Theorem (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2020)

An inverse semigroup S is amenable iff there are $F_n \in S$ such that eventually $F_n \subset D_{s*s}$ and $|sF_n \cup F_n| / |F_n| \rightarrow 1$ for all $s \in S$

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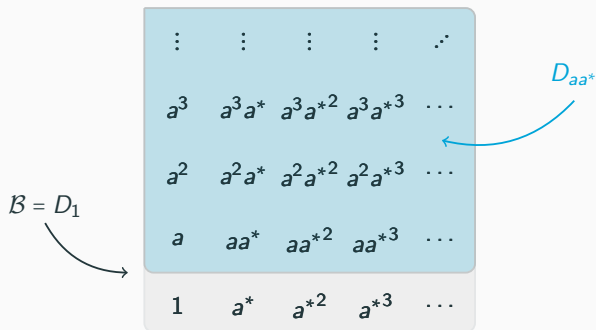
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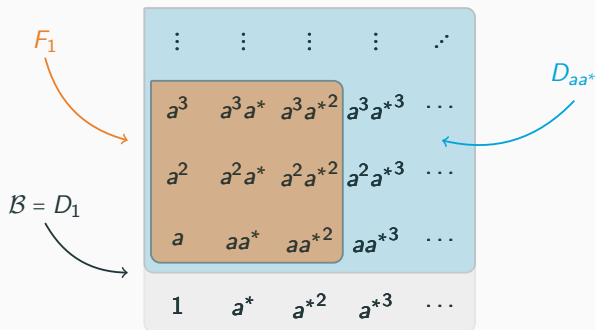
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2. Inverse semigroups and Day's amenability

2.3. 2-norm approximations and amenable traces

Left regular representation and the uniform Roe algebra

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Moreover $\ell^\infty(S) \subset \mathcal{B}(\ell^2 S)$ as diagonal operators, and

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Proposition (Lledó, M. - 2021)

One can give $S \curvearrowright \ell^\infty(S)$ such that $\mathcal{R}_S \cong \ell^\infty(S) \rtimes_r S$.

2-norm approximations and amenable traces

Theorem (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2020)

The following (among others) are equivalent:

- (1) S is domain-measurable.
- (2) S is not paradoxical.
- (3) \mathcal{R}_S has an amenable trace.
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(1) \Rightarrow (3): the functional $\tau: \mathcal{B}(\ell^2 S) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{E}} \ell^\infty(S) \xrightarrow{m} \mathbb{C}$, where

- $m(p_B) = \mu(B)$ and extended linearly
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Theorem (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2020)

There is a bijection between the domain-measures of S and the traces of \mathcal{R}_S . In particular, all the traces of \mathcal{R}_S are amenable.

3. Coarse geometry of an inverse semigroup

Coarse idea: study metric spaces *globally* instead of *locally*

Example (finite objects seen coarsely)

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

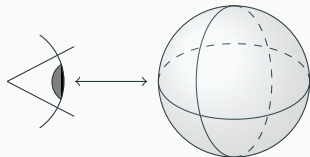
Crash course on coarse geometry

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Group coarse geometry

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

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

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Proposition (classical)

The large scale geometry of the Cayley graph of G
does not depend on the generators

Goal: reproduce these constructions for inverse semigroups
i.e., construct Λ_S undirected graph such that $\mathcal{R}_S \cong C_u^*(\Lambda_S)$

Infinite distances, and why they are necessary

Remark: we need to consider *extended* metric spaces

Proposition (Lledó, M. - 2021)

Let $x, y \in S$, and $d: S \times S \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ be a distance.

- (1) If $d(x, y) < \infty$ then $M_{x,y} \in C_u^*(S, d)$
- (2) If $x^*x \neq y^*y$ then $M_{x,y} \notin \mathcal{R}_S$

Hence if $x^*x \neq y^*y$ then $d(x, y) = \infty$

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- $x\mathcal{L}y$ if $x^*x = y^*y$
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- $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{L}$ and \mathcal{R}
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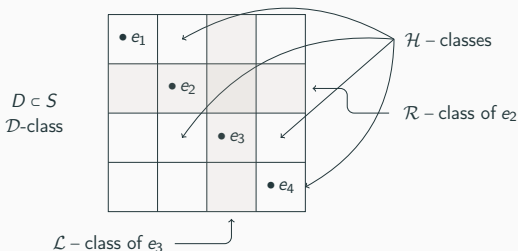
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Schützenberger graphs I: \mathcal{L} -classes

Definition (Schützenberger - 1959)

Let $S = \langle K \rangle$, where $K = K^*$. Given an \mathcal{L} -class $L \subset S$, let Λ_L be

- the graph whose vertices are the points of L and
- where $x, y \in L$ are joined by a k -labeled edge if $kx = y$.

Likewise, let $\Lambda_S = \sqcup_{e \in E(S)} \Lambda_{L_e}$.

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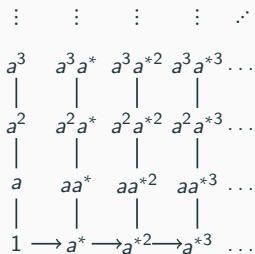
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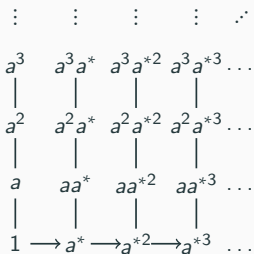
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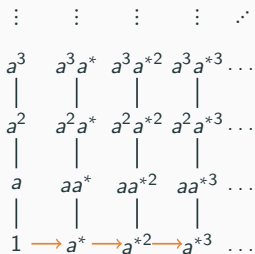
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Schützenberger graphs II: right invariance

Remark: not all graphs are Cayley graphs. However:

Theorem (Stephen - 1990)

$$\{\text{connected graphs}\} = \{\text{Schützenberger graphs}\}$$

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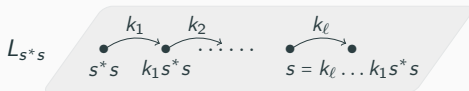
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Lemma (right invariance)

Let $S = \langle K \rangle$. If $x \in D_{s^*s}$ then $d(x, sx) \leq d(s^*s, s)$.

In particular, if $xx^* = s^*s$ then $d(x, sx) = d(s^*s, s)$.

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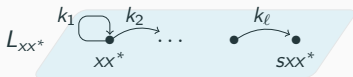
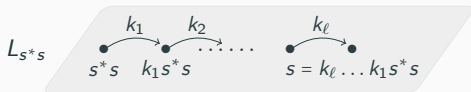
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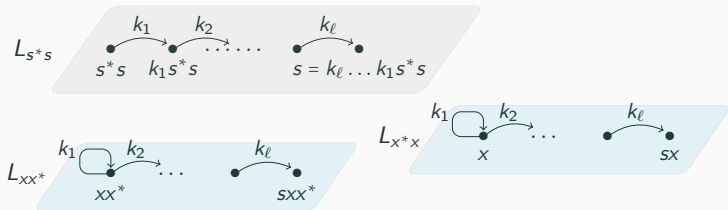
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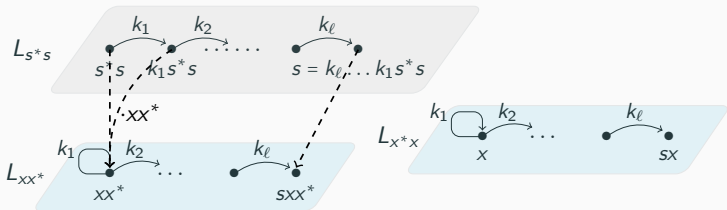
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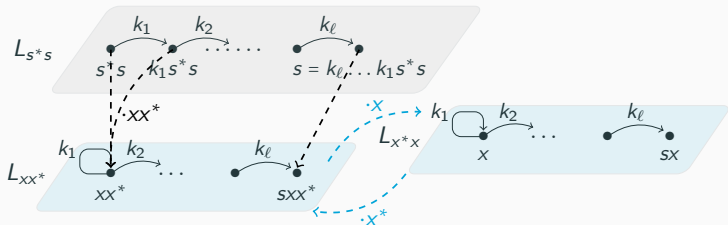
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3. Coarse geometry of an inverse semigroup

3.1. Finite labelings and uniform Roe algebras

Finite labeling I: \mathcal{R}_S as a uniform Roe algebra

Proposition (Lledó, M. - 2021)

Let $S = \langle K \rangle$. Then $\mathcal{R}_S \subset C_u^*(\Lambda_S)$.

Proof: generators of \mathcal{R}_S have finite propagation.

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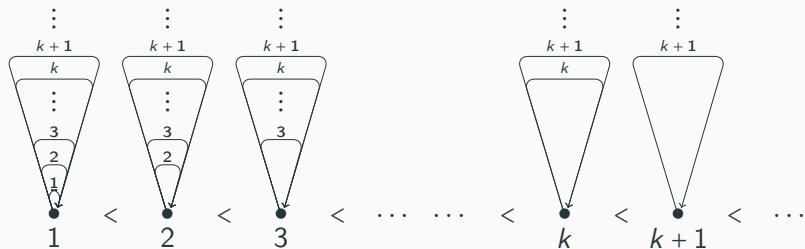
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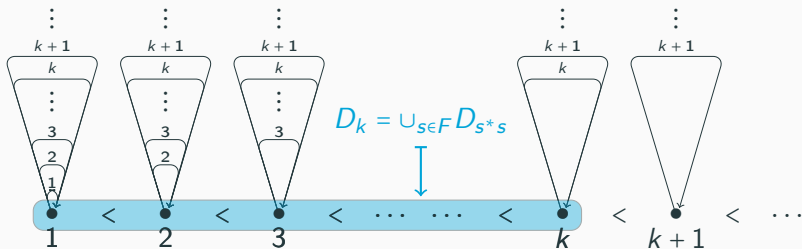
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Examples:

- (1) Finitely generated semigroups
- (2) F-inverse semigroups with Λ_S of bounded geometry

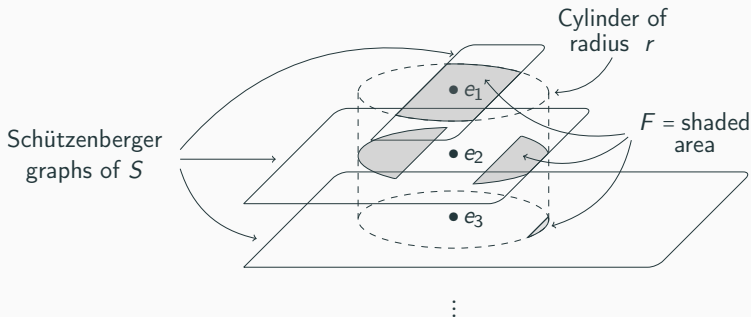
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Definition (Lledó, M. - 2021)

Let $S = \langle K \rangle$. We say (S, K) admits a finite labeling if for any $r \geq 0$ there is $F \in S$ such that if $d(s^*s, s) \leq r$ then there is $m \in F$ such that $ms^*s = s$.

Examples:

- (1) Finitely generated semigroups
- (2) F-inverse semigroups with Λ_S of bounded geometry



Finite labeling III: importance

Theorem (Lledó, M. - 2021)

(S, K) admits a finite labeling $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{R}_S = \ell^\infty(S) \rtimes_r S = C_u^*(\Lambda_S)$.

Proof \Rightarrow : take $T \in C_u^*(\Lambda_S)$ such that

$$\text{prop}(T) = \sup \{d(x, y) \mid \langle \delta_y, T\delta_x \rangle \neq 0\} = r < \infty$$

Choose $F \in S$ labeling all the r -paths in $\Lambda_S \rightsquigarrow$ for all $x, y \in S$ with $d(x, y) < r$ there is $t_{x,y} \in F$ such that $t_{x,y}x = y$. Then

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$$\mathcal{R}_S \ni \sum_{s \in F} \xi_s V_s = T, \text{ where } \xi_s(y) = \begin{cases} \langle \delta_y, T\delta_{s^*y} \rangle & \text{if } s = t_{s^*y,y} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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Remark: somehow, the Theorem says that if (S, K) is not FL then maybe change your generating set K ...

Theorem (classical - for groups!)

For arbitrary groups: $\mathcal{R}_G = \ell^\infty(G) \rtimes_r G = C_u^*(G)$.

3. Coarse geometry of an inverse semigroup

3.2. Domain-measurability as a coarse invariant

Domain-measurability in the Schützenberger graphs

Følner condition: $s(F_n \cap D_{s^*s}) \rightsquigarrow$ only moving in \mathcal{L} -classes.

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Therefore:

Domain-measurable \Leftrightarrow Schützenberger graphs have *small growth*:

Proposition (Lledó, M. - 2021)

Suppose $S = \langle K \rangle$ admits a FL. S is domain-measurable iff
for every $r, \varepsilon > 0$ there is $F \in S$ such that $|\mathcal{N}_r^+ F| \leq (1 + \varepsilon) |F|$.

Domain-measurability in the Schützenberger graphs

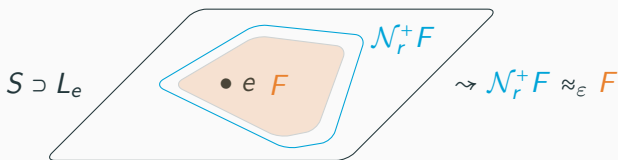
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Quasi-isometric invariance of domain-measurability

Theorem (Lledó, M. - 2021)

Let S and T be quasi-isometric and admitting finite labelings.

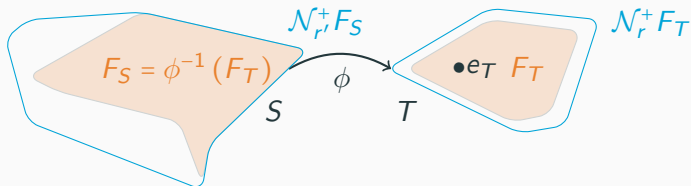
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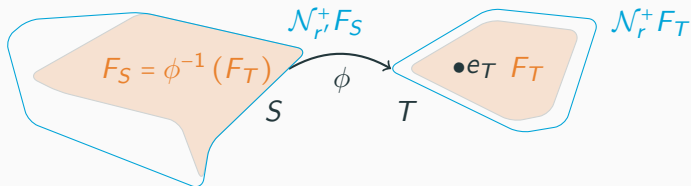


Quasi-isometric invariance of domain-measurability

Theorem (Lledó, M. - 2021)

Let S and T be quasi-isometric and admitting finite labelings.
If T is domain-measurable then so is S .

Proof:



Remark: amenability is not a q.i. invariant:

- $S = \mathbb{F}_2 \sqcup \{0\}$ and $T = \mathbb{F}_2 \sqcup \{1\}$
- $\phi: S \rightarrow T$, where $\phi(\omega) = \omega$ and $\phi(0) = 1$ is a q.i.

3. Coarse geometry of an inverse semigroup

3.3. Property A as a C^* -property

Schützenberger graphs and property A

Definition (Yu - 1999)

(X, d) has property A if for every $r, \varepsilon > 0$ there is

$\xi: X \rightarrow \ell^1(X)_1^+$ and $c > 0$ such that $\text{supp}(\xi_x) \subset B_c(x)$ and

$\|\xi_x - \xi_y\|_1 \leq \varepsilon$ for every $x, y \in X$ such that $d(x, y) \leq r$.

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Remarks:

- Property A generalizes amenability for groups (**not** in general)
- Non-property A groups are hard to come by

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Remarks:

- Property A generalizes amenability for groups (**not** in general)
- Non-property A groups are hard to come by

Theorem (Ozawa - 2000)

Let G be a countable group. The following are equivalent:

- (1) G has property A.
- (2) \mathcal{R}_G is a nuclear C^* -algebra.
- (3) $C_r^*(G)$ is an exact C^* -algebra.

Theorem (Lledó, M. - 2021)

Let $S = \langle K \rangle$. Consider:

- (1) Λ_S has property A (as a graph).
- (2) \mathcal{R}_S is a nuclear C^* -algebra.
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Then (1) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3), and (3) \Rightarrow (1) when (S, K) admits a FL.

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Proof:

- Usual arguments for (1) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3)
- Nuclearity = exactness for $\mathcal{R}_S = C_u^*(\Lambda_S)$ [Sako 2021]

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Remark: (1) \Rightarrow (2) \leadsto nuclearity does not pass to sub-algebras!

4. The universal groupoid and its amenability

Paterson's universal groupoid and its amenability

Theorem (Paterson - 1999)

Given S there is $G_{\mathcal{U}}(S) = \{\text{filters of } E(S)\} \rtimes_{\theta} S$ such that
 $C_r^*(S) = C_r^*(G_{\mathcal{U}}(S))$ and $C^*(S) = C^*(G_{\mathcal{U}}(S))$

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Recall: for arbitrary (discrete) groups:

G is amenable $\Leftrightarrow C_r^*(G)$ is nuclear $\Leftrightarrow C_r^*(G) = C^*(G)$

And this has become a driving force of groupoid amenability:

Theorem (Anantharaman-Delaroche and Renault)

An (étale) groupoid \mathcal{G} is amenable $\Leftrightarrow C_r^*(\mathcal{G})$ is nuclear.

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Question:

- Relation between $G_{\mathcal{U}}(S)$ amenable and S amenable?
- How does $G_{\mathcal{U}}(S)$ enter the picture?

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Groupoid amenability vs domain-measurability

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Short answer: no

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Short answer: no relation, as

- (1) S amenable/domain-measurable \rightsquigarrow traces in \mathcal{R}_S
- (2) $G_{\mathcal{U}}(S)$ amenable \rightsquigarrow nuclearity of $C_r^*(S)$ \rightsquigarrow nuclearity of \mathcal{R}_S

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Examples:

- (i) $\mathbb{F}_2 \sqcup \{0\}$ is amenable but non-nuclear reduced C^* -algebra
(Can also be done with a *box space* with a prop. (T) group)
- (ii) $C_r^*(\mathbb{F}_2 \sqcup \{0\}) \neq C^*(\mathbb{F}_2 \sqcup \{0\})$
- (iii) Nica gave a non-amenable semigroup with nuclear C^* -algebra

Groupoid amenability and property A

However, property A of $\Lambda_S \rightsquigarrow$ exactness of $C_r^*(S)$:

Proposition (Lledó, M. - 2021)

Let $S = \langle K \rangle$ with (S, K) admitting a finite labeling.

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Remarks:

- Alternate argument via the definitions involved \rightsquigarrow not C^*
- Is not an equivalence, as \mathbb{F}_2 has prop. A and is not amenable

5. Norm approximations and quasi-diagonality

From QD to domain-measurability

Definition/Theorem (Voiculescu, based on Halmos)

A C*-algebra A is quasi-diagonal if there are u.c.p. maps

$\varphi_n: A \rightarrow M_{k(n)}$ such that for all $a, b \in A$

$$\|\varphi_n(ab) - \varphi_n(a)\varphi_n(b)\| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \|\varphi_n(a)\| \rightarrow \|a\|$$

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Theorem (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2020)

If $C_r^*(S)$ is quasi-diagonal then S is domain-measurable.

The reverse implication is false.

Sketch of proof:

As $\|\cdot\|_2 \leq \|\cdot\| \rightsquigarrow$ QD is stronger than the previous 2-approx.

\rightsquigarrow dom. measurable = amenable trace = 2-norm approx.

(Any wk-* cluster point of $\{\text{tr}_{k(n)} \circ \varphi_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ gives a dom. measure)

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Lastly, $\mathcal{B} = \langle a, a^* \mid a^*a = 1 \rangle$ is amenable but $V_{aa^*} \sim 1$ in $C_r^*(\mathcal{B})$

Groupoid-TWW approach to going back

Goal: use algebraic properties of $S \rightsquigarrow$ prove quasi-diagonality.

There currently are two strategies:

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(TWW) Nuclearity + UCT + faithful trace $\Rightarrow C_r^*(S)$ is QD

(Alt) Exploit the inner structure of S

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Unfortunately, (TWW) does not quite work in this context:

Proposition (M. - 2021)

Suppose $G_{\mathcal{U}}(S)$ is minimal and $C_r^*(S)$ stably finite.

If S is not a group then S is isomorphic to $E \times H \times E \sqcup \{0\}$,
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Remarks:

- Minimality is needed to guarantee faithfulness of the trace.
- Stable finiteness follows from quasi-diagonality.

Using \mathcal{D} -classes to prove quasi-diagonality

Theorem (M. - 2021)

Suppose that:

- (1) No \mathcal{D} -class in S has infinitely many projections
- (2) All the subgroups of S are amenable

Then $C_r^*(S)$ is quasi-diagonal.

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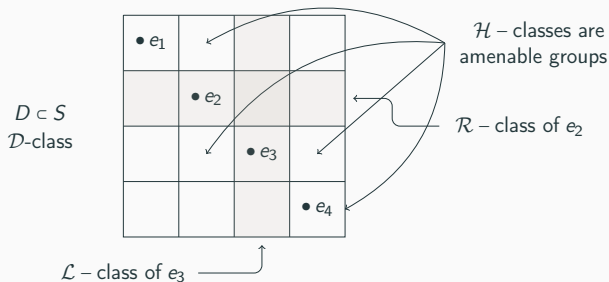
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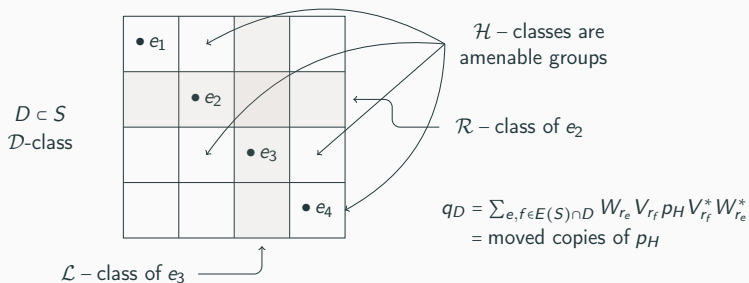
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6. Summary and future work

Summary

Day's amenability:

- Split into **dom.-measurable** + **localization** \rightsquigarrow *forward* dynamics.
- **Dom.-measurable** \rightsquigarrow adequate Følner and paradoxicality.
- These measures characterize the (amenable) traces of \mathcal{R}_S .

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Schützenberger graphs:

- Equipped S with a proper and right invariant metric
 \rightsquigarrow distinguishes \mathcal{L} -classes, but does not implement \geq
- Viewed \mathcal{R}_S as a crossed product and $C_u^*(\Lambda_S)$
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Groupoids, quasi-diagonality and related notions:

- Related this study with groupoid amenability
- Upgraded 2-norm approx. \rightsquigarrow norm-approx. (in some cases)

About metrics and property A:

- **Unique** proper and right invariant metric?
Role of the finite labelings? Do these appear?
- Semigroups without property A \rightsquigarrow *natural* examples?
- Reproduce non-A metric spaces with semigroups.

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Quasi-diagonality and norm approximations:

- Characterize quasi-diagonality of $C_r^*(S)$ in terms of S .
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Interesting C^* -algebras and their semigroup counterparts:

- Study the coarse geometry of AF-monoids. *Classifiable* ones?
- Inverse semigroup equivalent of \mathcal{Z} .

- [1] F. Lledó and D. Martínez, *Notions of infinity in quantum physics*, 60 Years Alberto Ibort Fest Classical and Quantum Physics, Chapter 14, Springer (2019) (pp. 14)
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-24748-5_14
- [2] P. Ara, F. Lledó and D. Martínez, *Amenability and paradoxicality in semigroups and C^* -algebras*, J. Func. Anal. **279** (2020) 108530 (pp. 43)
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jfa.2020.108530>
- [3] F. Lledó and D. Martínez, *The uniform Roe algebra of an inverse semigroup*, J. Math. Anal. Appl. **499** (2021) 124996 (pp. 28)
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmaa.2021.124996>
- [4] D. Martínez, *Quasi-diagonality for reduced inverse semigroup C^* -algebras*, in preparation (2021)

Thank you for your attention. Questions?

7. Some extra slides

Semigroups and Day's amenability

S semigroup \rightsquigarrow binary and associative operation $(s, t) \mapsto st$

Key idea: multiplication is not injective... maybe \nexists inverse s^{-1}

$$s^{-1}A := \{x \in S \mid sx \in A\} \rightsquigarrow ss^{-1}A \not\subseteq A \not\subseteq s^{-1}sA$$

Definition (Day 1957)

S is amenable if there is a prob. measure $\mu: \mathcal{P}(S) \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that $\mu(s^{-1}A) = \mu(A)$ for every $s \in S$ and $A \subset S$

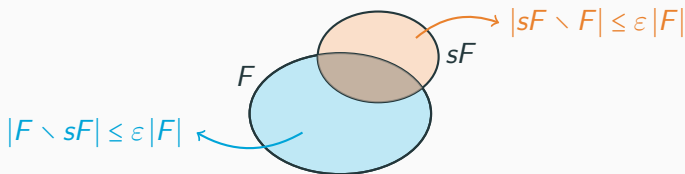
Examples:

- All amenable groups.
- $0 \in S \rightsquigarrow \mu(\{0\}) = 1$.
- $\mathbb{F}_2 \sqcup \{1\}$ is not amenable.
- $S := \{a, b\}$ where $ab = aa = a$ and $ba = bb = b$ is not amenable.

Questions: Følner condition? Paradoxical characterization?

Classical equivalences in semigroups

Note we have a choice to make:



- In general $|sF| \leq |F|$
 - $|sF \setminus F| \leq |F \setminus sF|$, and equality when $|sF| = |F|$
 - **Warning:** $|sF|$ small, and $sF \cap F = \emptyset \Rightarrow |sF \setminus F|$ small
- (1) S satisfies the Følner condition if for every $\epsilon > 0$ and $K \Subset S$ there is $F \Subset S$ such that $|sF \setminus F| \leq \epsilon |F|$ for every $s \in K$
 - (2) S satisfies the strong Følner condition if for every $\epsilon > 0$ and $K \Subset S$ there is $F \Subset S$ such that $|F \setminus sF| \leq \epsilon |F|$ for every $s \in K$

Amenable, Følner and algebraic amenability

Theorem (many hands)

Let S be a semigroup. Consider:

- (1) S has a strong Følner sequence
- (2) S is amenable
- (3) S has a Følner sequence
- (4) $\mathbb{C}S$ is algebraically amenable

Then (1) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3) \Rightarrow (4)

Proof: (1) \Rightarrow (2): $\mu(A) = \lim_{\omega} |A \cap F_n| / |F_n|$

(2) \Rightarrow (3): Namioka 1964, based on Følner 1957

(3) \Rightarrow (4): $\{F_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a Følner sequence then

$$\frac{\dim(s\mathbb{C}F_n + \mathbb{C}F_n)}{\dim(\mathbb{C}F_n)} \leq \frac{\dim(\mathbb{C}(sF_n \cup F_n))}{\dim(\mathbb{C}F_n)} = \frac{|sF_n \cup F_n|}{|F_n|} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 1$$

Reversing the classical equivalences

Remark: none of the reverse implications hold.

(2) $\not\Rightarrow$ (1): Klawe 1977 \leadsto right cancellative amenable semigroup
not strong Følner nor left cancellative

(3) $\not\Rightarrow$ (2): as $S = \{a, b\}$ is:

- Finite $\leadsto F := S$ is a nice Følner set
- Not amenable: $\mu(\{a\}) = \mu(b^{-1}\{a\}) = 0 = \mu(a^{-1}\{b\}) = \mu(\{b\})$

(4) $\not\Rightarrow$ (3): a bit more involved...

Example (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2020)

Consider $\mathbb{F}_2^+ = \langle a, b \rangle \subset \mathbb{F}_2$, and

$$\alpha: \mathbb{F}_2^+ \rightarrow \text{End}(\mathbb{N}), \quad \alpha_a(n) = \alpha_b(n) = \begin{cases} n-1 & \text{if } n \geq 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } n = 0 \end{cases}$$

Then $\mathbb{N} \rtimes_{\alpha} \mathbb{F}_2^+$ is algebraically amenable but not Følner.

An argument for and against injectivity

All of the above differences boil down to $|F| \neq |sF|$

Definition: S is (left) cancellative if $sx = sy$ then $x = y$

Nice behavior with cancellation:

- $A = s^{-1}sA$
- $|F| = |sF|$, and hence
- Strong Følner \Leftrightarrow amenable \Leftrightarrow Følner

Naughty behavior with cancellation:

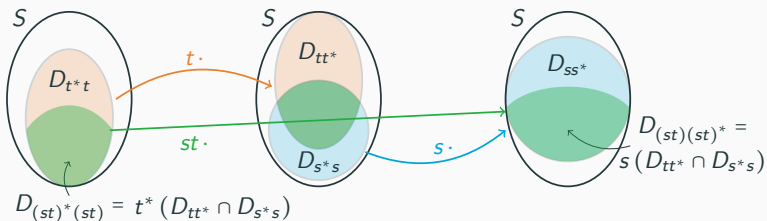
- $ss^{-1}A \not\subseteq A$
- Not a clear candidate for *paradoxicality*, as
 $\nexists t \in S$ such that $t^{-1}s^{-1}A = A \rightsquigarrow S$ lacks the inverse of s

Solution: having sets $D_{s,i} \subset S$ such that $s: D_{s,1} \rightarrow D_{s,2}$ is bijective, and do everything up to these *domains*

Inverse semigroups and Wagner-Preston

Recall that the Wagner-Preston representation $v: S \rightarrow \mathcal{I}(S)$ is

- $D_{s^*s} := \{x \in S \mid x = s^*sx\} = s^*s \cdot S$ is the *domain* of s^*s
- $s: D_{s^*s} \rightarrow D_{ss^*}$, where $x \mapsto sx$



This idea can be taken a bit further:

Definition (Sieben - 1997)

A representation of S on the discrete set X is a homomorphism $\alpha: S \rightarrow \mathcal{I}(X)$, where $s \mapsto (\alpha_s: D_{s^*s} \rightarrow D_{ss^*})$

Representations - and one example to contain them all

Recall: $\mathcal{I}(X) = \{(t, A, B) \mid A, B \subset X \text{ and } t: A \rightarrow B \text{ is a bijection}\}$

- In particular $\mathcal{I}(\mathbb{N})$ contains every countable inverse semigroup
- $\frac{\text{bijections}}{\text{groups}} = \frac{\text{partial bijections}}{\text{inv. semigroups}}$
- Idempotents $e \in E(S) \rightsquigarrow$ subsets of X

Remark: recall that if $S = G$ is a group then

$$\begin{aligned} \{\text{actions } \alpha: G \rightarrow \text{Perm}(X)\} &\leftrightarrow \{\text{congruences in } G\} \\ &\leftrightarrow \{\text{normal subgroups } N \subset G\} \end{aligned}$$

However, $\alpha: S \rightarrow \mathcal{I}(X)$ induces only a congruence on S

Warning: no clear notion of *normal sub-semigroup*
 \rightsquigarrow no obvious description of $\{\text{congruences on } S\}$

The type semigroup

Given $\alpha: S \rightarrow \mathcal{I}(X)$ consider the commutative monoid

$\text{Typ}(\alpha) := \langle [A] \text{ where } A \subset X \rangle$ subject to

- (i) $[\emptyset] = 0$
- (ii) $[A] = [\alpha_s(A)]$ whenever $A \subset D_{s^*s}$
- (iii) $[A \cup B] = [A] + [B]$ if $A \cap B = \emptyset$

Lastly, $\alpha, \beta \in \text{Typ}(\alpha)$ then $\underline{\alpha \leq \beta}$ if $\alpha + \gamma = \beta$ for some $\gamma \in \text{Typ}(\alpha)$

Lemma (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2020)

Let $\text{Typ}(\alpha)$ be as above, and let $[A], [B] \in \text{Typ}(\alpha)$. Then

- (1) If $[A] \leq [B]$ and $[B] \leq [A]$ then $[A] = [B]$
- (2) If $n \cdot [A] = n \cdot [B]$ for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$ then $[A] = [B]$
- (3) If $(n+1) \cdot [A] \leq n \cdot [A]$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$ then $[A] = 2 \cdot [A]$

Classical equivalences renovated I

Theorem (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2020)

Let $\alpha: S \rightarrow \mathcal{I}(X)$ be an inverse semigroup. TFAE:

- (1) X is domain-measurable.
- (2) X is not paradoxical.
- (3) X is domain-Følner.

(1) \Rightarrow (3): follow the algorithm:

- $m(p_B) := \mu(B) +$ extend by linearity and continuity
- $m \in (\ell^\infty(X))^*$ is a normalized functional
- Recall: $\{\text{normal states}\} \subset (\ell^\infty(X))^*$ are dense (weak-*)

Approximating m by normal states, and applying Namioka's trick

$$\rightsquigarrow h_\lambda \in \ell^1(X)_1^+ \text{ such that } \|s^* h_\lambda - s^* s h_\lambda\|_1 \rightarrow 0$$

Some *inner level set* of h_λ is a good enough Følner set.

Classical equivalences renovated II

(1) \Rightarrow (2): if it was paradoxical then

$$\begin{aligned} 2 &= \sum_{i=1}^n \mu(s_i A_i) + \sum_{j=1}^m \mu(t_j B_j) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mu(A_i) + \sum_{j=1}^m \mu(B_j) \\ &= \mu(A_1 \sqcup \dots \sqcup A_n \sqcup B_1 \sqcup \dots \sqcup B_m) \leq \mu(X) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

(2) \Rightarrow (1): note $2 \cdot [X] \not\leq [X]$ in $\text{Typ}(\alpha)$, and by the Lemma

$$(n+1) \cdot [X] \not\leq n \cdot [X] \text{ for any } n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Theorem (Tarski - 1929)

Let $(\mathcal{T}, +)$ be a commutative monoid, with neutral element and $\epsilon \in \mathcal{T}$. The following are equivalent:

- (a) $(n+1) \cdot \epsilon \not\leq n \cdot \epsilon$ for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$
- (b) There is a homo. $\nu: \mathcal{T} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ with $\nu(\epsilon) = 1$

Hence there is a homomorphism $\nu: \text{Typ}(\alpha) \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ with $\nu([X]) = 1$. Then $\mu(B) := \nu([B])$ is a domain-measure.

The localization condition localized in time

The **localization** already appeared in previous work:

Theorem (Gray, Kambites - 2017)

Let S be a semigroup satisfying the *Klawe condition*. Then
 S is amenable \Leftrightarrow there are $F_n \subset S$ such that

$$|sF_n \setminus F_n| / |F_n| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{and} \quad |sF_n| = |F_n|$$

F_n can be **found** where s acts injectively $\leadsto D_{s^*s}$

Indeed: if $\alpha = \nu: S \rightarrow \mathcal{I}(S)$, and S is amenable when F_n is
eventually within $D_{s^*s} \leadsto F_n \subset D_{s^*s} \Rightarrow |F_n| = |sF_n|$

Wagner-Preston case, or when $X = S$

Before: what happens when $X = S$ and $\alpha = v: S \rightarrow \mathcal{I}(S)$?

Consider the *action* of S given by:

- $E_{S^*S} = \{f \in \ell^\infty(S) \mid \text{supp}(f) \subset D_{S^*S}\}$
- For any $f \in E_{S^*S}$ consider $(sf)(x) := f(S^*x)$ when $x \in D_{SS^*}$

And construct $\ell^\infty(S) \rtimes_r S \subset \mathcal{B}(\ell^2 S \otimes \ell^2 S)$

Proposition (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2020)

With the above notation: $\mathcal{R}_S \cong \ell^\infty(S) \rtimes_r S$

Proof: check that $U(\ell^\infty(S) \rtimes_r S)U^* \cong 1 \otimes \mathcal{R}_S \cong \mathcal{R}_S$, where

$$U: \ell^2 S \otimes \ell^2 S \rightarrow \ell^2 S \otimes \ell^2 S, \quad \delta_x \otimes \delta_y \mapsto \begin{cases} \delta_x \otimes \delta_{yx} & \text{if } xx^* = y^*y \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

All the traces of \mathcal{R}_S are amenable

Theorem (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2020)

There is a bijection between the domain-measures on X and the traces of \mathcal{R}_X . In particular, all the traces of \mathcal{R}_X are amenable.

Proof: the map $\mu \mapsto \tau: \mathcal{B}(\ell^2 X) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{E}} \ell^\infty(X) \xrightarrow{m} \mathbb{C}$ is a bijection:

→ τ is a trace (see above Theorem)

→ The map is bijective since:

Lemma (Ara, Lledó, M. - 2020)

All traces of \mathcal{R}_S factor under \mathcal{E} , and hence $m = \mathcal{E} \circ \tau$ is a mean.

Key point: if $sX \neq X$ for all $X \in A \subset D_{S^*S}$ it can be 3-colored, i.e.,

$A = B_1 \sqcup B_2 \sqcup B_3$ where $sB_i \cap B_i = \emptyset$. Hence for every trace φ

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(V_s p_A) &= \varphi(V_s p_{B_1}) + \varphi(V_s p_{B_2}) + \varphi(V_s p_{B_3}) \\ &= \varphi(p_{B_1} V_s p_{B_1}) + \varphi(p_{B_2} V_s p_{B_2}) + \varphi(p_{B_3} V_s p_{B_3}) = 0\end{aligned}$$

Property A and nuclearity of \mathcal{R}_S

Theorem (Lledó, M. - 2021)

If Λ_S has property A (as a graph) then \mathcal{R}_S is nuclear.

Note: this is based on a similar result for \mathcal{L} -classes:

Proof: given a $\xi: X \rightarrow \ell^1(X)_1^+$ and $c > 0$ consider

$$\varphi: \mathcal{R}_S \rightarrow \prod_{x \in S} M_{B_c(x)} \subset \ell^\infty(S) \otimes M_k, \text{ where } a \mapsto (p_{B_c(x)} a p_{B_c(x)})_{x \in S}$$

and

$$\psi: \ell^\infty(S) \otimes M_k \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_S, \text{ where } (b_x)_{x \in S} \mapsto \sum_{x \in S} \xi_x^* b_x \xi_x$$

with $\xi_x \delta_y := \xi_y(x) \delta_y$ gives a c.p.c. approximation of \mathcal{R}_S :

- Both φ and ψ are completely positive
- $\|fV_S - \psi(\varphi(fV_S))\| \leq \|fV_S\| \cdot \sup_{y \in D_{S^*S}} |1 - \langle \xi_{Sy}, \xi_y \rangle| \leq \varepsilon$

E-unitary semigroups and relation with property A

Recall: $G(S) = S/\sigma$, where $s\sigma t$ iff $se = te$ for some $e \in E(S)$

- Known as the *maximal homomorphic image of S*
- $G(S)$ is always a group, and let $\sigma: S \rightarrow G(S)$ the quotient map

Theorem (Duncan and Namioka - 1978)

S is amenable if, and only if, $G(S)$ is amenable.

However: $G(S)$ loses information of $S \rightsquigarrow$ might even $G(S) = \{1\}$

Definition (classical)

S is E-unitary if $\sigma: S \rightarrow G(S)$ is injective in every \mathcal{L} -class.

Theorem (Anantharaman-Delaroche - 2016)

Let S be E-unitary. $C_r^*(S)$ is exact $\Leftrightarrow G(S)$ is exact.

E-unitary semigroups and relation with property A

Goal: prove Anantharaman-Delaroche's result geometrically

Theorem (Lledó, M. - 2021)

Let $S = \langle K \rangle$ be E-unitary and (S, K) admit a finite labeling.
 Λ_S has property A $\Leftrightarrow G(S)$ has property A.

(Recall that, by Ozawa, property A = exactness for groups)

Proof \Rightarrow : given $\xi: S \rightarrow \ell^1(S)_+^1$ for S let

$$\zeta: G(S) \rightarrow \ell^1(G(S)), \text{ where } \zeta_{\sigma(s)}(\sigma(t)) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \omega} \xi_{se_n}(te_n)$$

for some $e_1 \geq \dots \geq e_n \geq \dots \in E(S)$ is *eventually below everything*

- Locally $G(S)$ is Λ_{L_e} for e sufficiently small
- Hence, the same approx. for Λ_S does the trick for $G(S)$

Proof \Leftarrow : only known via C^* -arguments

Paterson's universal groupoid

Recall the construction of Paterson's universal groupoid $G_{\mathcal{U}}(S)$:

- Unit space $G_{\mathcal{U}}(S)^{(0)} := \{\xi \subset E(S) \text{ filter}\} \subset \{0, 1\}^{E(S)}$
- Action of S : $\theta_s: D_{s^*s}^\theta \rightarrow D_{ss^*}^\theta$, $\theta_s(\xi) = \{e \geq sfs^*\}_{f \in \xi}$
- Groupoid $G_{\mathcal{U}}(S) = \{[s, \xi] \text{ where } s \in S \text{ and } \xi \in D_{s^*s}^\theta\}$
Subject to some germ-like equivalence relation...
- Operation: $[t, \theta_s(\xi)] \cdot [s, \xi] = [ts, \xi]$

Example: $\mathcal{B} = \langle a, a^* \mid a^*a = 1 \rangle$ then

- $G_{\mathcal{U}}(\mathcal{B})^{(0)} = E(S) \sqcup \{\infty\} = \mathbb{N} \sqcup \{\infty\}$
- $G_{\mathcal{U}}(\mathcal{B})_k = \{[s, k]\}_{s^*s \geq a^ka^*k} = \{[a^i a^{*j}, k]\}_{j \leq k}$
- $G_{\mathcal{U}}(\mathcal{B})_\infty = \mathbb{Z}$

Groupoid amenability, nuclearity and weak containment

Theorem (Lance '70s, for groups!)

G is amenable $\Leftrightarrow C_r^*(G)$ is nuclear $\Leftrightarrow C_r^*(G) = C^*(G)$

This has become a driving force of groupoid amenability:

Definition (Renault - 1980)

G (étale) is amenable if for any $\varepsilon > 0$ and compact $K \subset G$ there is a cont. compc. supported $\eta: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that for all $s \in K$

$$\left| 1 - \sum_{s(h)=r(g)} \eta(h) \right| \leq \varepsilon \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{s(h)=r(g)} |\eta(h) - \eta(hg)| \leq \varepsilon$$

Question:

- Relation between $G_{\mathcal{U}}(S)$ amenable and S amenable?
- How does $G_{\mathcal{U}}(S)$ enter the picture?

Groupoid amenability vs domain-measurability

Question: relation between $G_{\mathcal{U}}(S)$ amenable and S amenable?

Short answer: no relation, as

- (1) S amenable/domain-measurable \rightsquigarrow traces in \mathcal{R}_S
- (2) $G_{\mathcal{U}}(S)$ amenable \rightsquigarrow nuclearity of $C_r^*(S)$ \rightsquigarrow nuclearity of \mathcal{R}_S

Examples:

- (i) $\mathbb{F}_2 \sqcup \{0\}$ is amenable but non-nuclear reduced C^* -algebra
(Can also be done with a *box space* with a prop. (T) group)
- (ii) $C_r^*(\mathbb{F}_2 \sqcup \{0\}) \neq C^*(\mathbb{F}_2 \sqcup \{0\})$
- (iii) Nica gave a non-amenable semigroup with nuclear C^* -algebra