

# Structures of crossed product $C^*$ -algebras

Zhuang Niu

University of Wyoming

Canadian Operator Symposium, 50th anniversary  
Ottawa, June 2, 2022

Consider a free and minimal topological dynamical system  $(X, \Gamma)$ , where

- ▶  $X$ : compact metric space
- ▶  $\Gamma$ : a countable discrete amenable group acting on  $X$ .

The crossed product  $C^*$ -algebra

$$C(X) \rtimes \Gamma$$

is simple unital separable stably finite  $C^*$ -algebra. Let us consider its structures such as

Classifiability, Comparison, and Stable Rank.

# Uniform Rokhlin Property (URP)

## Definition

A Rokhlin tower of  $(X, \Gamma)$  consists of a set  $B$  and a finite set  $\Gamma_0 \subseteq \Gamma$  such that

$$B\gamma, \quad \gamma \in \Gamma_0,$$

are disjoint.

$B$  is called the base set, and if  $B$  is open (closed), then  $(B, \Gamma_0)$  is called an open (closed) tower.

## Remark

$$(B, \Gamma_0) \sim M_{|\Gamma_0|}(C_0(B))$$

## Uniform Rohklin Property (URP)

A topological dynamical system  $(X, \Gamma)$  is said to have Uniform Rohklin Property (URP) if for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  and any finite set  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Gamma$ , there are mutually disjoint open towers

$$(B_1, \Gamma_1), \dots, (B_S, \Gamma_S)$$

such that

1.  $\Gamma_s, s = 1, \dots, S$ , are  $(\mathcal{F}, \varepsilon)$ -invariant,
- 2.

$$\mu(X \setminus \bigcup_{s=1}^S \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma_s} B_s \gamma) < \varepsilon, \quad \mu \in \mathcal{M}_1(X, \Gamma).$$

## Cuntz Comparison of Open sets (COS)

A topological dynamical system  $(X, \Gamma)$  is said to have  $(\lambda, m)$ -Cuntz-comparison of open sets, where  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$  and  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , if for any open sets  $E, F \subseteq X$  with

$$\mu(E) < \lambda\mu(F), \quad \mu \in \mathcal{M}_1(X, \Gamma),$$

one has

$$[E] < m[F] \quad \text{in } C(X) \rtimes \Gamma,$$

where  $[E]$  and  $[F]$  are the Cuntz class of the open sets  $E$  and  $F$  respectively.

The dynamical system  $(X, \Gamma)$  is said to have Cuntz Comparison of Open sets (COS) if it has  $(\lambda, m)$ -Cuntz-comparison of open sets for some  $\lambda$  and  $m$ .

## Theorem

*Any free and minimal dynamical system  $(X, \mathbb{Z}^d)$  has the (URP) and (COS).*

## Theorem

*Any free and minimal dynamical system  $(X, \Gamma)$  has the (URP) and (COS) if  $\Gamma$  has subexponential growth and  $(X, \Gamma)$  has a Cantor factor.*

## Theorem

Let  $(X, \Gamma)$  be a free and minimal dynamical system with the (URP) and (COS). Then

1. if  $(X, \Gamma)$  has zero mean dimension (or, equivalently, Small Boundary Property), then

$$(C(X) \rtimes \Gamma) \otimes \mathcal{Z} \cong C(X) \rtimes \Gamma.$$

In particular,  $C(X) \rtimes \Gamma$  is classifiable if  $(X, \Gamma)$  is uniquely ergodic.

2.

$$\text{rc}(C(X) \rtimes \Gamma) \leq \frac{1}{2} \text{mdim}(X, \Gamma).$$

3. (Li-N) The stable rank of  $C(X) \rtimes \Gamma$ , classifiable or not, is always one. And  $C(X) \rtimes \Gamma$  is  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stable if, and only if,  $C(X) \rtimes \Gamma$  has strict comparison of positive elements (so it satisfies the Toms-Winter conjecture).

## Corollary

1. *If  $(X, \mathbb{Z}^d)$  has zero mean dimension (or, equivalently, Small Boundary Property), then*

$$(C(X) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}^d) \otimes \mathcal{Z} \cong C(X) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}^d.$$

2.

$$\text{rc}(C(X) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}^d) \leq \frac{1}{2} \text{mdim}(X, \mathbb{Z}^d).$$

3. *(Li-N) The stable rank of  $C(X) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}^d$ , classifiable or not, is always one. And  $C(X) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}^d$  is  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stable if, and only if,  $C(X) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}^d$  has strict comparison of positive elements (so  $C(X) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}^d$  satisfies the Toms-Winter conjecture).*

# Proof: Tracial Approximation

## Theorem

If  $(X, \Gamma)$  has the (URP), then, for any finite set  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq C(X) \rtimes \Gamma$  and any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there are  $p : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  and  $C \subseteq C(X) \rtimes \Gamma$  such that

$$C \cong \bigoplus_{s=1}^S M_{|\Gamma_s|}(C_0(B_s)),$$

and

1.  $\|[p, f]\| < \varepsilon, f \in \mathcal{F},$
2.  $pfp \in_\varepsilon C, f \in \mathcal{F},$
3.  $d_\tau(1 - p) < \varepsilon, \tau \in T(C(X) \rtimes \Gamma),$
- $\vdots$

## Remark

In general, the cutting function  $p$  is not a projection.

# C\*-dynamical systems

## Definition

Let  $(A, \Gamma)$  be a C\*-dynamical system, where  $A$  is a unital separable C\*-algebra such that  $\mathbb{T}(A) \neq \emptyset$ , and  $\Gamma$  is a countable discrete amenable group. Then  $(A, \Gamma)$  is said to have the weak Rokhlin property (WRP) if for any exact tiling  $\mathcal{T}$  of  $\Gamma$  with shapes  $K_1, \dots, K_S$ , there are positive contractions  $c_s \in A' \cap A_\omega$ ,  $s = 1, \dots, S$  such that

1.  $\gamma(c_s)$ ,  $\gamma \in \Gamma_s$ ,  $s = 1, 2, \dots, S$ , are mutually orthogonal, and
- 2.

$$1 - \sum_{s=1}^S \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma_s} \gamma(c_s) \in J_{\mathcal{M}_1(A, \Gamma)},$$

where  $\mathcal{M}_1(A, \Gamma)$  is the simplex of invariant tracial states, and  $J_{\mathcal{M}_1(A, \Gamma)}$  is the trace-kernel with respect to invariant traces  $\mathcal{M}_1(A, \Gamma)$ .

# C\*-dynamical systems

## Definition

Let  $(A, \Gamma)$  be a C\*-dynamical system, where  $\Gamma$  is discrete and amenable. It has the property (COS) if there exist  $\gamma \in (0, 1]$  and  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for any  $a, b \in A^+$  satisfying

$$d_\tau(a) < \gamma d_\tau(b), \quad \tau \in \mathcal{M}_1(A, \Gamma),$$

one has

$$a \precsim \underbrace{b \oplus \cdots \oplus b}_m \quad \text{in } A \rtimes \Gamma.$$

### Theorem (Li-N-Wang)

*Assume  $(A, \Gamma)$  has the (WRP) and (COS). Then  $A \rtimes \Gamma$  can be weakly tracially approximated by algebras  $M_n(hAh)$ .*

### Theorem (LNW)

*Let  $(A, \Gamma)$  be a  $C^*$ -dynamical system with the (WRP), where  $A$  is a unital simple  $C^*$ -algebra which is tracially  $\mathcal{Z}$ -absorbing and  $\Gamma$  is a countable discrete amenable group. Then  $A \rtimes \Gamma$  is tracially  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stable.*

### Theorem (LNW)

*Let  $(A, \Gamma)$  be a minimal  $C^*$ -dynamical system with (COS) and (WRP), where  $A$  is a unital  $C^*$ -algebra with  $\mathbb{T}(A) \neq \emptyset$  and  $\Gamma$  is a discrete amenable group. Assume that  $|\Gamma| = \infty$ . Then  $A \rtimes \Gamma$  has stable rank one.*

### Remark

The (URP) and (COS) can also be studied for groupoid  $C^*$ -algebras (work in progress).

Thank you!