The classification problem for Cuntz-Krieger algebras

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Throughout we let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{N}_0)$ be **essential**: no zero rows, no zero columns. We consider A as the adjacency matrix of a graph G_A .



Cuntz-Krieger algebras

Definition

 $\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_A \text{ is the universal } C^*\text{-algebra generated by mutually orthogonal} \\ \text{projections } \{p_v: v \in V(G_A)\} \text{ and partial isometries} \\ \{s_e: e \in E(G_A)\} \text{ with mutually orthogonal ranges, subject to} \\ \bullet s_e^*s_e = p_{r(e)} \\ \bullet p_v = \sum_{s(e)=v} s_e s_e^* \end{aligned}$

Key observations

- $K_0(\mathcal{O}_A) = \operatorname{coker}(A^t I)$ and $K_1(\mathcal{O}_A) = \ker(A^t I)$
- $S_i \mapsto \lambda S_i$ induces a gauge action $\mathbb{T} \mapsto \operatorname{Aut}(\mathcal{O}_A)$
- $\mathcal{O}_{[1]} = C(\mathbb{T}), \ \mathcal{O}_{\left[\begin{smallmatrix} 0 & 1\\ 1 & 0 \end{smallmatrix}\right]} = M_2(C(\mathbb{T}))$ etc.

Geometric classification problem

Describe the equivalence relation on graphs defined by

$$G_A \sim_{C^*} G_B \iff \mathcal{O}_A \otimes \mathbb{K} \simeq \mathcal{O}_B \otimes \mathbb{K}$$

Symbolic dynamics

Definition

Let \mathfrak{a} be a finite set. A **shift space** over \mathfrak{a} is a subset of $\mathfrak{a}^{\mathbb{Z}}$ which is closed (product topology) and shift invariant.

Edge shift

$$X_A = \{(e_n) \in E(G_A) \mid r(e_n) = s(e_{n+1})\}$$

Definition

The suspension flow SX of a shift space X is $X \times \mathbb{R} / \sim$ with

 $(x,t) \sim (\sigma(x),t-1)$

Note that SX has a canonical \mathbb{R} -action.

Definitions

Let X and Y be shift spaces.

- X is conjugate to Y (written X ≃ Y) if there is a shift-invariant homeomorphism φ : X → Y.
- X is flow equivalent to Y (written $X \sim_{\rm FE} Y$) if there is an orientation-preserving homeomorphism $\psi: SX \to SY$

Theorem (Cuntz/Krieger)

 $X_A \sim_{\text{FE}} X_B \Longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_A \otimes \mathbb{K} \simeq \mathcal{O}_B \otimes \mathbb{K}$

Moves

Move (I) Insplit at any vertex, e.g. $\xrightarrow{\bullet}$ $\xrightarrow{\bullet}$ $\xrightarrow{\bullet}$ $\xrightarrow{\bullet}$ $\xrightarrow{\bullet}$ $\xrightarrow{\bullet}$

Move (0)



Theorem (Williams)

The following are equivalent

- $X_A \simeq X_B$
- G_A can be obtained from G_B by a finite number of moves of type (I) and (O), and their inverses.

Move (R)

Reduce a configuration with a transitional vertex, e.g.



Theorem (Parry/Sullivan)

The following are equivalent

- $I X_A \sim_{\rm FE} X_B$
- G_A can be obtained from G_B by a finite number of moves of type (I), (O), and (R), and their inverses.

Example



Conclusion

When G_A can be obtained from G_B by a finite number of moves of type (I), (O), and (R), and their inverses, we have that $G_A \sim_{C^*} G_B$.



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2 Ideals and K-theory





The gauge invariant ideals of \mathcal{O}_A can be determined directly from a block structure of A with irreducible diagonal blocks.



Cuntz' condition (II)

The following are equivalent

- **(**) No irreducible block of A is a permutation matrix
- **2** All ideals of \mathcal{O}_A are gauge invariant
- $\bigcirc \mathcal{O}_A \text{ has a finite number of ideals}$

Theorem (Rørdam 1995)

The K_0 -group $K_0(\mathcal{O}_A)$ is a complete invariant for stable isomorphism of simple Cuntz-Krieger algebras.

Theorem (Rørdam 1997)

The six-term exact sequence

is a complete invariant for stable isomorphism of Cuntz-Krieger algebras with a unique non-trivial ideal \Im .

Theorem (Restorff 2006)

The reduced filtered K-theory $\mathbf{FK}(-)$ consisting of certain partial strands of six-term exact sequences

$$K_1(\mathfrak{J}/\mathfrak{I}) \longrightarrow K_0(\mathfrak{K}/\mathfrak{J}) \longrightarrow K_0(\mathfrak{K}/\mathfrak{I}) \longrightarrow K_0(\mathfrak{J}/\mathfrak{I})$$

arising from a selection of ideals

 $\mathfrak{I} \triangleleft \mathfrak{J} \triangleleft \mathfrak{K} \triangleleft \mathcal{O}_A$

is a complete invariant for stable isomorphism of Cuntz-Krieger algebras with condition (II).

Example

With

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

we have

$$K_0(\mathcal{O}_A) = \mathbb{Z} = K_0(\mathcal{O}_{[1]})$$

but

$$K_0(\mathcal{O}_A)_+ = \mathbb{Z} \neq \mathbb{N}_0 = K_0(\mathcal{O}_{[1]})_+$$

Observation

The **ordered** K_0 -group $K_0(\mathcal{O}_A)$ is a complete invariant for stable isomorphism of **gauge** simple Cuntz-Krieger algebras.

Theorem (E-Restorff-Ruiz-Sørensen)

The **ordered** reduced filtered K-theory $\mathbf{FK}^{+,\gamma}(-)$ remains a complete invariant for stable isomorphism of Cuntz-Krieger algebras satisfying one of the conditions

- The C*-algebra has at most one non-trivial gauge invariant ideal
- The matrix satisfies condition (¬II): Every irreducible component is a permutation matrix.

The order is trivial in the condition (II) case. The $(\neg II)$ case arises naturally in applications such as the quantum lens spaces of Hong/Szymański.



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Theorem (Rørdam 1995)

The following are equivalent when \mathcal{O}_A and \mathcal{O}_B are simple

- $O_A \otimes \mathbb{K} \simeq \mathcal{O}_B \otimes \mathbb{K}$
- **③** X_A is flow equivalent to X_B or to $X_{B'}$ where

$$B' = \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & \cdots & b_{1n} & 0 & 0\\ \vdots & & \vdots & 0 & 0\\ b_{n1} & \cdots & b_{nn} & 1 & 0\\ 0 & \cdots & 1 & 1 & 1\\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Cuntz had reduced $\Im \Longrightarrow 1$ to the case $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ by an argument we will generalize below.

Theorem (Matui-Matsumoto 2013)

The following are equivalent when \mathcal{O}_A and \mathcal{O}_B are simple

- $(\mathcal{O}_A \otimes \mathbb{K}, \mathcal{D}_A \otimes c_0) \simeq (\mathcal{O}_B \otimes \mathbb{K}, \mathcal{D}_B \otimes c_0)$
- $K_0(\mathcal{O}_A) \simeq K_0(\mathcal{O}_B) \text{ and } \det(I-A) = \det(I-B)$
- **3** X_A is flow equivalent to X_B
- G_A can be obtained from G_B by a finite number of moves of type (R), (I) and (O), and their inverses.

Remark

In recent work by Carlsen/E/Ortega/Restorff we managed to find a different proof of the key component of Matsumoto/Matui which generalizes $1 \iff 3$ to any \mathcal{O}_A of type (II).



Geometric version of Rørdam's theorem

Theorem

The following are equivalent when \mathcal{O}_A and \mathcal{O}_B are simple

- $O_A \otimes \mathbb{K} \simeq \mathcal{O}_B \otimes \mathbb{K}$
- $K_0(\mathcal{O}_A) \simeq K_0(\mathcal{O}_B)$
- G_A can be obtained from G_B by a finite number of moves of type (R), (I), (O) and (C), and their inverses.

Theorem (Restorff, E/Ruiz/Sørensen)

When A and B satisfy one of

- A and B have property (II)
- \mathcal{O}_A and \mathcal{O}_B each have at most one non-trivial gauge invariant ideal
- A and B have property $(\neg II)$

the following are equivalent

- $O_A \otimes \mathbb{K} \simeq \mathcal{O}_B \otimes \mathbb{K}$
- G_A can be obtained from G_B by a finite number of moves of type (R), (I), (O) and (C), and their inverses.

Example

The pair of matrices



is not covered by the previous result.



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Example (E-Restorff-Ruiz-Sørensen)

When





we get that

$\mathcal{O}_A \otimes \mathbb{K} \simeq \mathcal{O}_B \otimes \mathbb{K},$

yet G_A can not be obtained from G_B by a finite number of moves of type (**R**), (**I**), (**O**) and (**C**), or their inverses.

Move (P)

"Pulelehua move" on a vertex supporting a single cycle emitting only singly to vertices supporting two cycles



Theorem (E/Restorff/Ruiz/Sørensen)

The following are equivalent

- $O_A \otimes \mathbb{K} \simeq \mathcal{O}_B \otimes \mathbb{K}$
- G_A can be obtained from G_B by a finite number of moves of type (R), (I), (O), (C) and (P), and their inverses.

- Isomorphism is decidable due to of recent results by Boyle/Steinberg.
- The geometric classification results extend to all unital graph algebras.
- The classification is strong and thus leads to exact classification by taking the class of the unit into account.
- By entirely different methods, a complete classification for purely infinite graph algebras with finitely many ideals has been obtained by Bentmann/Meyer.
- No list of moves is known to generate stable isomorphism even for simple (nonunital!) graph algebras.
- There exist two graph algebras each with two non-trivial ideals for which the classification problem is open.