

New examples of W^* and C^* -superrigid groups

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(joint with Ionut Chifan and Alec Diaz-Arias)

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Group von Neumann algebras

Murray and von Neumann

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Definition. The **reduced C*-algebra** of Γ , denoted by $C_r^*(\Gamma)$, is the norm closure of $\mathbb{C}[\Gamma] \subset \mathbb{B}(\ell^2(\Gamma))$.

$\rightsquigarrow \mathbb{C}[\Gamma] \subset C_r^*(\Gamma) \subset L(\Gamma)$.

Main theme of study

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- Can Γ be completely recovered from $L(\Gamma)$?

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Dykema '93. If $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_n$ and $\Lambda_1, \dots, \Lambda_n$ are infinite amenable groups, then $L(\Gamma_1 * \dots * \Gamma_n) \cong L(\Lambda_1 * \dots * \Lambda_n)$.

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Popa's strong rigidity theorem '04: If $G_i = \mathbb{Z}_2 \wr \Gamma_i$, where Γ_i is a property (T) group for any i with $L(G_1) \cong L(G_2)$, then $G_1 \cong G_2$.

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\rightsquigarrow Popa's deformation rigidity/theory led to **many** other rigidity results.

W^* -superrigidity, I

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Conjecture (Connes '80s, Popa '07)

Any icc property (T) group is W^* -superrigid.

\rightsquigarrow Completely open.

Recall. If $\Gamma \curvearrowright I$, then the *generalized wreath product group* $\Sigma \wr_I \Gamma$ is $\Sigma^{(I)} \rtimes_{\sigma} \Gamma$, where $\sigma_g((x_i)_{i \in I}) = (x_{g^{-1}i})_{i \in I}$.

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Let $G = \mathbb{Z}_2 \wr_{K/B} K$, where K is icc property (T) group and $B < K$ is infinite amenable malnormal (i.e. $gBg^{-1} \cap B$ is finite for any $g \in K \setminus B$).

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$\rightsquigarrow C_r^*(G)$ completely remembers G .

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(G has trivial amenable radical, so $C_r^*(\Gamma)$ has a unique trace by Breuillard, Kalantar, Kennedy, and Ozawa '14)

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Remark (Phillips '87). If $L(\Lambda)$ is a full factor, then there exist uncountably many unitaries $w \in L(\Lambda)$ that implement **outer** automorphisms of $C_r^*(\Lambda)$.

Corollary (Chifan, Ioana '17)

Let $G = (K \times K) *_{\Delta(B)} (K \times K)$, where $B = \mathbb{Z} \wr \mathbb{Z}$, $K = \mathbb{Z} \wr \mathbb{F}_n$ and $\Delta(B) = \{(b, b) | b \in B\} < K \times K$.

Then G is C^* -superrigid.

(G has trivial amenable radical, so $C_r^*(\Gamma)$ has a unique trace by Breuillard, Kalantar, Kennedy, and Ozawa '14)

\rightsquigarrow First class of C^* -superrigid groups.

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\rightsquigarrow Almost a stability result: If Γ_0 is a hyperbolic, property (T) group such that $A_0 \rtimes \Gamma_0$ is W^* -superrigid satisfying "certain conditions", then $A_0^I \rtimes \tilde{\Gamma}$ is W^* -superrigid.

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