

# Cartan MASAs and Exact Sequences of Inverse Semigroups

Adam H. Fuller (University of Nebraska - Lincoln)  
joint work with Allan P. Donsig and David R. Pitts

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Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a von Neumann algebra. A maximal abelian subalgebra (MASA)  $\mathcal{D}$  in  $\mathcal{M}$  is a *Cartan MASA* if

- 1 the unitaries  $U \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $U\mathcal{D}U^* = U^*\mathcal{D}U = \mathcal{D}$  span a weak-\* dense subset in  $\mathcal{M}$ ;
- 2 there is a normal, faithful conditional expectation  $E: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ .

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- 1 the partial isometries  $V \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $V\mathcal{D}V^*, V^*\mathcal{D}V \subseteq \mathcal{D}$  span a weak-\* dense subset in  $\mathcal{M}$ ;
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- 1 the partial isometries  $V \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $VDV^*, V^*\mathcal{D}V \subseteq \mathcal{D}$  span a weak-\* dense subset in  $\mathcal{M}$ ;
- 2 there is a normal, faithful conditional expectation  $E: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ .

We will call the pair  $(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{D})$  a *Cartan pair*. We call the normalizing partial isometries *groupoid normalizers*, written  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathcal{D})$ .

# Examples of Cartan Pairs

## Example

Let  $M_n$  be the  $n \times n$  complex matrices, and let  $D_n$  be the diagonal  $n \times n$  matrices. Then  $(M_n, D_n)$  is a Cartan pair:

- ① the matrix units normalize  $D_n$  and generate  $M_n$ ;
- ② The map

$$E: [a_{ij}] \mapsto \text{diag}[a_{11}, \dots, a_{nn}]$$

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## Example

Let  $\mathcal{D} = L^\infty(\mathbb{T})$  and let  $\alpha$  be an action of  $\mathbb{Z}$  on  $\mathbb{T}$  by irrational rotation. Then  $L^\infty(\mathbb{T})$  is a Cartan MASA in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{T}) \rtimes_\alpha \mathbb{Z}$ .

## Example

Let

$$G = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} : a, b \in \mathbb{R}, a \neq 0 \right\},$$

and let

$$H = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} : b \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

Then  $H$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  and  $L(H)$  is Cartan MASA in  $L(G)$ .

Feldman and Moore (1977) explored Cartan pairs  $(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{D})$  where  $\mathcal{M}_*$  is separable and  $\mathcal{D} = L^\infty(X, \mu)$ . They showed:

- 1 there is a measurable equivalence relation  $R$  on  $X$  with countable equivalence classes and a 2-cocycle  $\sigma$  on  $R$  s.t.

$$\mathcal{M} \simeq \mathbf{M}(R, \sigma) \text{ and } \mathcal{D} \simeq \mathbf{A}(R, \sigma),$$

where  $\mathbf{M}(R, \sigma)$  are “functions on  $R$ ” and  $\mathbf{A}(R, \sigma)$  are the “functions” supported on diag.  $\{(x, x) : x \in X\}$ ;

- 2 every sep. acting pair  $(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{D})$  arises this way.



## A simple example

Consider the Cartan pair  $(M_3, D_3)$ . Let  $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}_{M_3}(D_3)$ . E.g., an element of  $\mathcal{G}$  could look like

$$V = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \lambda & 0 \\ \mu & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \gamma \end{bmatrix},$$

with  $\lambda, \mu, \gamma \in \mathbb{T}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{G} \cap D_n$ . And let  $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{G}/\mathcal{P}$ . So elements of  $\mathcal{S}$  are of the form

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

From  $(M_n, D_n)$  we have 3 semigroups:  $\mathcal{P}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{S}$ .

Conversely, starting with  $S$ , we can construct  $P$ :  $P$  is all the continuous functions from the idempotents of  $S$  into  $\mathbb{T}$ . From  $S$  and  $P$  we can construct  $G$ , since every element of  $G$  is the product of an element in  $S$  and an element in  $P$ . From  $G$  we can construct  $(M_n, D_n)$  as the span of  $G$ .

**Our Objective:** Give an alternative approach using algebraic rather than measure theoretic tools which

- conceptually simpler;
- applies to the non-separably acting case.

# Inverse Semigroups

A semigroup  $S$  is an *inverse semigroup* if for each  $s \in S$  there is a unique “inverse” element  $s^\dagger$  such that

$$ss^\dagger s = s \text{ and } s^\dagger ss^\dagger = s^\dagger.$$

We denote the idempotents in an inverse semigroup  $S$  by  $\mathcal{E}(S)$ . The idempotents form an abelian semigroup. For any element  $s \in S$ ,  $ss^\dagger \in \mathcal{E}(S)$ .

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An inverse semigroup  $S$  has a natural partial order defined by

$$s \leq t \text{ if and only if } s = te$$

for some idempotent  $e \in \mathcal{E}(S)$ .

## Example

Consider the Cartan pair  $(M_n, D_n)$  again. Again, let

$$\begin{aligned} G &= \mathcal{G}_{M_n}(D_n) \\ &= \{\text{partial isometries } V \in M_n: VD_nV^* \subseteq D_n, V^*D_nV \subseteq D_n\}. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $G$  is an inverse semigroup:

- if  $V, W \in G$  then

$$(VW)D_n(VW)^* = V(WD_nW^*)V^* \subseteq D_n,$$

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- $V \leq W$  if  $V = WP$  for some projection  $P \in D_n$ .

More generally...

## Example

Let  $(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{D})$  be a Cartan pair. Then the groupoid normalizers  $\mathcal{G}_M(\mathcal{D})$  form an inverse semigroup.

- if  $V, W \in \mathcal{G}_M(\mathcal{D})$  then

$$(VW)\mathcal{D}(VW)^* = V(W\mathcal{D}W^*)V^* \subseteq \mathcal{D},$$

so  $VW \in \mathcal{G}_M(\mathcal{D})$ ;

- the “inverse” of  $V$  is  $V^*$ ;
- the idempotents are the projections in  $\mathcal{D}$ ;
- $V \leq W$  if  $V = WP$  for some projection  $P \in \mathcal{D}$ .

# Extensions of Inverse Semigroups

Let  $S$  and  $P$  be inverse semigroups. And let

$$\pi: P \rightarrow S,$$

be a surjective homomorphism such that  $\pi|_{\mathcal{E}(P)}$  is an isomorphism from  $\mathcal{E}(P)$  to  $\mathcal{E}(S)$ .

An *idempotent separating extension of  $S$  by  $P$*  is an inverse semigroup  $G$  with

$$P \hookrightarrow G \twoheadrightarrow S$$

and

- $\iota$  is an injective homomorphism;
- $q$  is a surjective homomorphism;
- $q(g) \in \mathcal{E}(S)$  if and only if  $g = \iota(p)$  for some  $p \in P$ ;
- $q \circ \iota = \pi$ .

Note that  $\mathcal{E}(P) \cong \mathcal{E}(G) \cong \mathcal{E}(S)$ .

# The Munn Congruence

Let  $G$  be an inverse semigroup. Define an equivalence relation (*the Munn congruence*)  $\sim$  on  $G$  by

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Thus  $S = G / \sim$  is an inverse semigroup.

Let  $P = \{v \in G : v \sim e \text{ for some } e \in \mathcal{E}(G)\}$ . Then  $P$  is an inverse semigroup.

And  $G$  is an extension of  $S$  by  $P$ :

$$P \hookrightarrow G \rightarrow S.$$

# From Cartan Pairs to Extensions of Inverse Semigroups

Let  $(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{D})$  be a Cartan pair. Let

$$\begin{aligned} G &= \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathcal{D}) \\ &= \{v \in \mathcal{M} \text{ a partial isometry: } v\mathcal{D}v^* \subseteq \mathcal{D} \text{ and } v^*\mathcal{D}v \subseteq \mathcal{D}\}. \end{aligned}$$

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Let  $S = G / \sim$ , where  $\sim$  is the Munn congruence on  $G$  and let

$$P = \{V \in G : V \sim P, P \in \text{Proj}(\mathcal{D})\}.$$

## Definition

We call the extension

$$P \hookrightarrow G \rightarrow S,$$

the *extension associated to the Cartan pair*  $(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{D})$ .



# Properties of associated extensions

Let  $(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{D})$  be a Cartan pair, and let

$$P \hookrightarrow G \rightarrow S,$$

be the associated extension.

Then  $P = \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathcal{D}) \cap \mathcal{D}$ , i.e.  $P$  is simply the partial isometries in  $\mathcal{D}$ .

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The inverse semigroup  $S$  has the following properties

- 1  $S$  is *fundamental*:  $\mathcal{E}(S)$  is maximal abelian in  $S$ ;
- 2  $\mathcal{E}(S)$  is a hyperstonean boolean algebra, i.e. the idempotents are the projection lattice of an abelian  $W^*$ -algebra;
- 3  $S$  is a meet semilattice under the natural partial order on  $S$ ;
- 4 for every pairwise orthogonal family  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq S$ ,  $\bigvee \mathcal{F}$  exists in  $S$ .
- 5  $S$  contains 1 and 0.

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## Definition

An inverse semigroup  $S$ , satisfying the conditions above is called a *Cartan inverse monoid*.

## Example

In the matrix example  $(M_n, D_n)$ , the semigroups  $P$ ,  $G$  and  $S$  are the semigroups discussed earlier:

- 1  $G$  is the partial isometries  $V$  such that  $VD_nV^*, V^*D_nV \subseteq D_n$ ;
- 2  $P$  is the partial isometries in  $D_n$ ;
- 3  $S$  is the matrices in  $G$  with only 0 and 1 entries.

# Equivalent Extensions of Cartan Inverse monoid

Let  $\alpha: S_1 \rightarrow S_2$  be an isomorphism of Cartan inverse monoids. Then  $\mathcal{E}(S_i)$  is the lattice of projections for a  $W^*$ -algebra,  $\mathcal{D}_i = C(\widehat{\mathcal{E}(S_i)})$ . The isomorphism  $\alpha$  induces an isomorphism  $\tilde{\alpha}$  from  $\mathcal{D}_1$  to  $\mathcal{D}_2$ .

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## Definition

Let  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  be isomorphic Cartan inverse monoids. Let  $P_i$  be the partial isometries in  $\mathcal{D}_i$ . Extensions  $G_i$  of  $S_i$  by  $P_i$  are *equivalent* if there is an isomorphism  $\underline{\alpha}: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} P_1 & \xrightarrow{\iota_1} & G_1 & \xrightarrow{q_1} & S_1 \\ \tilde{\alpha} \downarrow & & \underline{\alpha} \downarrow & & \alpha \downarrow \\ P_2 & \xrightarrow{\iota_2} & G_2 & \xrightarrow{q_2} & S_2. \end{array}$$

commutes.

It was shown by Laush (1975) that there is one-to-one correspondence between extensions of  $S$  by  $P$  and the second cohomology group  $H^2(S, P)$ .

It is also shown that every extension of  $S$  by  $P$  is determined by cocycle function  $\sigma: S \times S \rightarrow P$ .

## Theorem

*Let  $(\mathcal{M}_1, \mathcal{D}_1)$  and  $(\mathcal{M}_2, \mathcal{D}_2)$  be two Cartan pairs with associated extensions*

$$P_i \hookrightarrow G_i \rightarrow S_i$$

*for  $i = 1, 2$ .*

*There is a normal isomorphism  $\theta: \mathcal{M}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_2$  such  $\theta(\mathcal{D}_1) = \mathcal{D}_2$  if and only if the two associated extensions are equivalent.*



## Going in the other direction

Let  $S$  be a Cartan inverse monoid. Let  $\mathcal{D} = C(\widehat{\mathcal{E}(S)})$ , and let  $P$  be the partial isometries in  $\mathcal{D}$ . Given an extension

$$P \hookrightarrow G \rightarrow S$$

we want to construct a Cartan pair  $(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{D})$  with associated extension (equivalent to)  $P \hookrightarrow G \rightarrow S$ .

## A $\mathcal{D}$ -valued Reproducing kernel space

Let  $j$  be an order-preserving map,  $j: S \rightarrow G$  such that  $j \circ q = \text{id}$ .  
That is  $j(s) \leq j(t)$  when  $s \leq t$  and  $j: \mathcal{E}(S) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}(G)$  is an isomorphism.

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Define a map

$$K: S \times S \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$$

by  $K(s, t) = j(s^\dagger t \wedge 1)$ .

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The idempotent  $s^\dagger t \wedge 1$  is the minimal idempotent  $e$  such that

$$se = te = s \wedge t.$$

Thus  $K(s, t)$  is the idempotent in  $G$  defining  $j(s) \wedge j(t)$ .

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The map  $K$  is positive: that is for  $c_1, \dots, c_k \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $s_1, \dots, s_k \in S$

$$\sum_{i,j} \overline{c_i} c_j K(s_i, s_j) \geq 0.$$

## A $\mathcal{D}$ -valued Reproducing kernel space

For each  $s \in S$  define a “kernel-map”  $k_s: S \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  by

$$k_s(t) = K(t, s).$$

Let  $\mathfrak{A}_0 = \text{span}\{k_s: s \in S\}$ . The positivity of  $K$  shows that the

$$\langle \sum c_i k_{s_i}, \sum d_j k_{t_j} \rangle = \sum_{i,j} \overline{c_i} d_j K(s_i, t_j)$$

defines a  $\mathcal{D}$ -valued inner product on  $\mathfrak{A}_0$ . Let  $\mathfrak{A}$  be completion of  $\mathfrak{A}_0$ .

Thus  $\mathfrak{A}$  is a reproducing kernel Hilbert  $\mathcal{D}$ -module of functions from  $S$  into  $\mathcal{D}$ .

## A left representation of $G$

For  $g \in G$  define an adjointable operator  $\lambda(g)$  on  $\mathfrak{A}$  by

$$\lambda(g)k_s = k_{q(g)s}\sigma(g, s),$$

where  $\sigma: G \times S \rightarrow P$  is a “cocycle-like” function (related to the cocycles of Lausch). This is determined by the equation

$$gj(s) = j(q(g)s)\sigma(g, s),$$

i.e. elements of the form  $gj(s)$  can be factored into the product of an element in  $j(S)$  by an element in  $P$ .

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i.e. elements of the form  $gj(s)$  can be factored into the product of an element in  $j(S)$  by an element in  $P$ . The mapping

$$\lambda: G \rightarrow L(\mathfrak{A})$$

is a representation of  $G$  by partial isometries.



## A left representation of $G$ on a Hilbert space

Let  $\pi$  be a faithful representation of  $\mathcal{D}$  on a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ . We can form a Hilbert space  $\mathfrak{A} \otimes_{\pi} \mathcal{H}$  by completing  $\mathfrak{A} \otimes \mathcal{H}$  with respect to the inner product

$$\langle a \otimes h, b \otimes k \rangle := \langle h, \pi(\langle a, b \rangle)k \rangle.$$

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$$\langle a \otimes h, b \otimes k \rangle := \langle h, \pi(\langle a, b \rangle)k \rangle.$$

Then  $\pi$  determines a faithful representation  $\hat{\pi}$  of  $L(\mathfrak{A})$  on the Hilbert space  $\mathfrak{A} \otimes_{\pi} \mathcal{H}$  by

$$\hat{\pi}(T)(a \otimes h) = (Ta) \otimes h.$$

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Thus, we have a faithful representation of  $G$  on the hilbert space  $\mathfrak{A} \otimes_{\pi} \mathcal{H}$  by

$$\lambda_{\pi}: g \mapsto \hat{\pi}(\lambda(g)).$$

# Creating Cartan pairs

Let  $\mathcal{M}_q = \lambda(G)''$ , and  $\mathcal{D}_q = \lambda(\mathcal{E}(S))''$ . Then  $(\mathcal{M}_q, \mathcal{D}_q)$  is a Cartan pair such that

- 1 The pair  $(\mathcal{M}_q, \mathcal{D}_q)$  is independent of choice of  $j$  and  $\pi$ ;

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- 1 The pair  $(\mathcal{M}_q, \mathcal{D}_q)$  is independent of choice of  $j$  and  $\pi$ ;
- 2  $\mathcal{D}_q$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{D} = C(\widehat{\mathcal{E}(S)})$ ;

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- ④ The extension associated to  $(\mathcal{M}_q, \mathcal{D}_q)$  is equivalent to

$$P \hookrightarrow G \xrightarrow{q} S$$

(the extension we started with).

## Theorem (Feldman-Moore; Donsig-F-Pitts)

- *If  $S$  is a Cartan inverse monoid and  $P \hookrightarrow G \xrightarrow{q} S$  is an extension of  $S$  by  $P := p.i.(C^*(\mathcal{E}(S)))$ , then the extension determines a Cartan pair  $(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{D})$  which is unique up to isomorphism. Equivalent extensions determine isomorphic Cartan pairs.*
- *Every Cartan pair  $(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{D})$  determines uniquely an extension of a Cartan inverse semigroup  $S$  by  $P$ ,  $P \hookrightarrow G \xrightarrow{q} S$ .*