

# Tracial oscillation zero and stable rank one

Xuanlong Fu

University of Toronto



(joint with Huaxin Lin)

May 31, 2022 at University of Ottawa. COSy 50th anniversary

The Jiang-Su algebra  $\mathcal{Z}$  is an infinite dimensional separable simple unital nuclear  $C^*$ -algebra which shares the same Elliott invariant (K-groups and trace simplex) with  $\mathbb{C}$ . Being  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stable (i.e.,  $A \otimes \mathcal{Z} \cong A$ ) is an important condition in the classification of  $C^*$ -algebras.

**Theorem** (By many people's work, including Kirchberg-Phillips, Elliott-Gong, Gong-Lin-Niu, Elliott-Gong-Lin-Niu, Tikuisis-White-Winter, Castillejos-Evington-Tikuisis-White-Winter,...)

*Unital simple separable nuclear  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stable UCT  $C^*$ -algebras can be classified by their Elliott invariant.*

## Picture for elements in $\mathcal{Z}$ -stable algebras

Let  $A$  be a  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stable algebra (or a tracially approximately divisible algebra, or a tracially  $\mathcal{Z}$ -absorbing algebra). For any finite subset  $\mathcal{F} \subset A$ , any  $\epsilon > 0$ , any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$x \approx_{\epsilon} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha(x) & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha(x) & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \alpha(x) \end{pmatrix}_{n \times n} + (\text{small } \beta(x)),$$

where  $x \in \mathcal{F}$ .

Note that these two parts may not be orthogonal.

Being  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stable implies many regularity properties. One of them is the dichotomy of finiteness:

**Theorem (Rørdam, 2004)**

*Let  $A$  be a unital simple  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stable  $C^*$ -algebra. Then  $A$  is either purely infinite or has stable rank one.*

- $C^*$ -algebra  $A$  is said to be has stable rank one, if  $\widetilde{A} = \overline{GL(\widetilde{A})}$ ,

## Nonunital case?

Theorem (Robert, 2015)

Let  $A$  be a simple  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stable projectionless  $C^*$ -algebra. Then  $A$  almost has stable rank one. In fact, every  $x$  in  $A$  can be approximated by products of two nilpotents in  $\text{Her}(x)$ .

- $A$  is said to be almost has stable rank one, if for all hereditary subalgebra  $B \subset A$ ,  $B \subset \overline{GL(\widetilde{B})}$ .
- The subtle difference between stable rank one and almost stable rank one is,  $A \subset \overline{GL(\widetilde{A})}$  may not imply  $\widetilde{A} = \overline{GL(\widetilde{A})}$ .
- When  $A$  is simple and has a projection,  $A$  almost has stable rank one is equivalent to  $A$  has stable rank one.

## Nonunital case?

Theorem (F.-Li-Lin, 2021)

*Let  $A$  be a simple  $\mathcal{Z}$ -stable (not necessary unital)  $C^*$ -algebra. Then  $A$  is either purely infinite or has stable rank one.*

Above theorem was obtained by combining Robert's theorem and the following:

Theorem (F.-Li-Lin, 2021)

*Let  $A$  be a  $\sigma$ -unital projectionless simple  $C^*$ -algebra with continuous scale. Suppose that, for any  $\sigma$ -unital hereditary subalgebra  $B \subset A$ , any non-invertible element in  $B$  can be approximated (in norm) by products of two nilpotent elements in  $B$ . Then  $A$  has stable rank one.*

# Further Development: Oscillation Zero & Tracial Matricial Property

## Further Result

- There are examples show that, in general (not assuming simplicity), almost stable rank one may not imply stable rank one.

Question: When does almost stable rank one implies stable rank one?

Theorem (F.-Lin, 2021)

Let  $A$  be a separable simple  $C^*$ -algebra with  $\widetilde{QT}(A) \setminus \{0\} \neq \emptyset$ , has strict comparison and  $\Gamma : \text{Cu}(A) \rightarrow \text{LAff}_+(\widetilde{QT}(A))$  is surjective.

Then  $A$  has stable rank one if and only if  $A$  has almost stable rank one.

- $\widetilde{QT}(A)$  is the set of densely defined 2-quasitrace on  $A \otimes \mathcal{K}$ .

## Notations and terminologies

- Let  $\tau$  be a 2-quasitrace on  $A$ . The dimension function induced by  $\tau$  is given by  $d_\tau(a) := \lim_n \tau(a^{1/n})$  for all  $a \in A_+$ .
- $A$  is said to have strict comparison, if  $d_\tau(a) < d_\tau(b)$  for all 2-quasitrace  $\tau$  implies  $a \lesssim b$ .
- $\Gamma : \text{Cu}(A) \rightarrow \text{LAff}_+(\widetilde{QT}(A))$ ,  $\Gamma([a])(\tau) = d_\tau(a)$ .
- Suppose that  $A$  is a  $\sigma$ -unital  $C^*$ -algebra with  $\widetilde{QT}(A) \setminus \{0\} \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $T \subset \widetilde{QT}(A)$  be a compact subset with  $T \neq \{0\}$ . Define

$$I_T = \{\{x_n\} \in l^\infty(A) : \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup\{\tau(x_n^* x_n) : \tau \in T\} = 0\}.$$

Then  $I_T$  is a (closed two-sided) ideal of  $l^\infty(A)$ .

- Let  $\Pi_T : l^\infty(A) \rightarrow l^\infty(A)/I_T$  be the quotient map.

# Tracial Approximate Oscillation Zero

Definition (F.-Lin, 2021)

Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra with  $\widetilde{QT}(A) \neq \emptyset$ . For each  $a \in \text{Ped}(A \otimes \mathcal{K})_+$ ,

$$\omega(a) := \inf \{ \sup \{ d_\tau(a) - \tau(c) : \tau \in \widetilde{QT}(A) \} : c \in \overline{(a(A \otimes \mathcal{K})a)}_+^1 \}.$$

The number  $\omega(a)$  is called the (tracial) oscillation of  $a$ .

Also define

$$\Omega^T(a) = \inf \{ \| \Pi_T(\iota(a) - \{b_n\}) \| : \{b_n\} \in l^\infty(\text{Her}(a))_+,$$

$$\|b_n\| \leq \|a\|, \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \omega(b_n) = 0 \}.$$

# Tracial Approximate Oscillation Zero

Definition (F.-Lin, 2021)

Let  $A$  be a  $\sigma$ -unital  $C^*$ -algebra with  $QT(A) \neq \emptyset$ . Define

$$\mathbb{O}(A) = \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \{ \sup \{ \Omega^T(a) : a \in \text{Ped}(M_n(A))_+^{\mathbf{1}} \} \}.$$

If  $\mathbb{O}(A) = 0$ , then we say  $A$  has  $T$ -tracial approximate oscillation zero.

## Proposition

*If  $A$  is a simple  $C^*$ -algebra which has  $T$ -tracial approximate oscillation zero, then every hereditary  $C^*$ -subalgebras also has  $T$ -tracial approximate oscillation zero.*

## Proposition

*Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra of real rank zero. Then  $A$  has  $T$ -tracial approximate oscillation zero.*

An example for  $C^*$ -algebras that has T-tracial approximate oscillation zero.

### Theorem (F.-Lin, 2021)

Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra with countable  $\partial_e(T_b)$  (for some  $b \in \text{Ped}(A)_+ \setminus \{0\}$ ), where  $\partial_e(T_b)$  is the set of extremal points of  $T_b$ . Then

$$\Omega^T(a) = 0 \text{ for all } a \in \text{Ped}(A \otimes \mathcal{K})_+.$$

In particular,  $A$  has T-tracial approximate oscillation zero.

### Theorem (F.-Lin, 2021)

Let  $A$  be an algebraically simple  $C^*$ -algebra with  $QT(A) \neq \emptyset$ . If  $A$  has  $T$ -tracial approximate oscillation zero, then  $l^\infty(A)/I_{\overline{QT(A)}^w}$  has real rank zero.

### Theorem (F.-Lin, 2021)

Let  $A$  be an algebraically simple  $C^*$ -algebra with  $T(A) \neq \emptyset$ . Suppose that  $A$  has strict comparison and  $T$ -tracial approximate oscillation zero. Then  $l^\infty(A)/I_{\overline{QT(A)}^w}$  has stable rank one.

### Theorem (F.-Lin, 2021)

Let  $A$  be a non-elementary and  $\sigma$ -unital simple  $C^*$ -algebra with  $\widetilde{QT}(A) \setminus \{0\} \neq \emptyset$  and strict comparison. Suppose that  $A$  has  $T$ -tracial approximate oscillation zero. Then  $\Gamma$  is surjective.

# Tracially Matricial Property

Definition (F.-Lin, 2021)

Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra and  $S \subset \widetilde{QT}(A) \setminus \{0\} \neq \emptyset$ .  $A$  is said to have property (TM), if for any  $a \in \text{Ped}(A \otimes \mathcal{K})_+$ , any  $\epsilon > 0$ , any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there is a c.p.c. order zero map  $\phi : M_n \rightarrow \text{Her}(a)$  such that

$$\|a - \phi(1_n)a\|_{2,S} < \epsilon.$$

Recall that a c.p.c. order zero map  $\phi : M_n \rightarrow A$  brings a matricial structure. Hence the name Tracially Matricial Property.

Proposition

Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $\phi : M_n \rightarrow A$  be a c.p.c. order zero map. Then  $\text{Her}(\phi(1_n)) \cong \text{Her}(\phi(e_{1,1})) \otimes M_n$ .

## Theorem (F.-Lin, 2021)

Let  $A$  be a separable simple  $C^*$ -algebra which admits at least one non-trivial 2-quasitrace and has strict comparison.

Then the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $A$  has tracial approximate oscillation zero;
- (2)  $A$  has stable rank one;
- (3)  $\Gamma$  is surjective and  $A$  has almost stable rank one;
- (4)  $A$  has property (TM).

## Why Tracial Matricial Property leads to stable rank one

$$a = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & a_{n1} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \approx_{\epsilon} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ x_{11} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ x_{n1} & x_{n2} & \cdots & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 & y_{11} & \cdots & y_{1n} \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & y_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $a \in A \subset l^\infty(A)/I_T$  which is not invertible. By Rørdam's method, we may assume  $\{a\}^\perp \neq \{0\}$ . Then the facts that  $A$  has property (TM) and  $l^\infty(A)/I_T$  is stable rank one imply the above in  $l^\infty(A)/I_T$ . Then lift nilpotents and handle a tracially small part. If  $A$  is non-unital, need to use a theorem above.

Thank you!