

# *Classification of noncommutative 2-spheres*

*joint with*

*Wolfgang Lück, Chris Phillips, Samuel Walters*

Satellite conference to ICM 2010 on Operator Algebras  
Chennai, August 11, 2010.

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## Overview of the lecture

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- Introduce non-commutative 2-spheres as crossed products  $A_\theta \rtimes F$  of the irrational rotation algebra  $A_\theta$  by finite subgroup  $F \subseteq \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$ .

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This lecture is based on the paper

*The structure of crossed products of irrational rotation algebras by finite subgroups of  $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$ .*

J. reine angew. Math. (Crelle's Journal) 639 (2010), 173–221.

by S. E. , Wolfgang Lück, Chris Phillips, Sam Walters.

## The commutative 2-sphere (as orbifold)

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Consider the standard action of  $N = \begin{pmatrix} n_{11} & n_{12} \\ n_{21} & n_{22} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$  on  $\mathbb{T}^2$  given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} n_{11} & n_{12} \\ n_{21} & n_{22} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u^{n_{11}} v^{n_{12}} \\ u^{n_{21}} v^{n_{22}} \end{pmatrix}.$$

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Restrict this action to the finite subgroups  $F \subseteq \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$ . Up to conjugacy, these are  $\mathbb{Z}_2, \mathbb{Z}_3, \mathbb{Z}_4, \mathbb{Z}_6$  with generators

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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Then for all choices of  $F = \mathbb{Z}_2, \mathbb{Z}_3, \mathbb{Z}_4, \mathbb{Z}_6$  one gets

$$F \backslash \mathbb{T}^2 \cong S^2 \quad \text{hence} \quad C(\mathbb{T}^2)^F \cong C(F \backslash \mathbb{T}^2) \cong C(S^2).$$

## Noncommutative 2-spheres

Let  $A_\theta = C^*(u_\theta, v_\theta)$  the non-commutative 2-torus generated by unitaries  $u_\theta, v_\theta$  with relation  $u_\theta v_\theta = e^{2\pi i \theta} v_\theta u_\theta$ . Then  $N = \begin{pmatrix} n_{11} & n_{12} \\ n_{21} & n_{22} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$  acts on  $A_\theta$  by

$$N \cdot u_\theta := e^{\pi i n_{11} n_{21} \theta} u_\theta^{n_{11}} v_\theta^{n_{21}} \quad N \cdot v_\theta := e^{\pi i n_{12} n_{22} \theta} u_\theta^{n_{12}} v_\theta^{n_{22}}$$

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$$A_\theta^F := \{a \in A_\theta : N \cdot a = a \ \forall N \in F\}.$$

If  $\theta \in [0, 1] \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ , then:  $A_\theta^F \sim_M A_\theta \rtimes F$ .

Hence in this case we may also regard  $A_\theta \rtimes F$  as a non-commutative version of  $S^2$ !

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**Theorem (Kumjian 90)**

$$K_0(A_\theta \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_2) \cong \mathbb{Z}^6 \quad \text{and} \quad K_1(A_\theta \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_2) = \{0\} \quad \forall \theta$$

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## Theorem (S. Walters 04)

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**Question:** Is it true that  $A_\theta \rtimes F$  is an AF-Algebra for all  $F$  and all irrational  $\theta$ ? Can we give a complete classification?

## Problems (for irrational $\theta$ )

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**Problem 1** Show that  $A_\theta \rtimes F$  is simple and classifiable with respect to the Elliott-programme!

**Problem 2** Compute all relevant invariants (ordered  $K_0$ -groups, the  $K_1$ -group, traces).

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**Theorem (ELPW, but due to Phillips)** The action of  $F$  on  $A_\theta$  satisfies the tracial Rokhlin property and (therefore)  $A_\theta \rtimes F$  is **simple with unique normalized trace  $\tau$  and it is tracially AF.**

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**Theorem (Huaxin Lin 2005)** The above results imply that  $A_\theta \rtimes F$  is **classifiable.**

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- Use a refined version of item 2 to get generators for the  $K$ -theory groups of  $C^*(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F, \omega_\theta)$ .
- Compute the image of  $K_0(C^*(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F, \omega_\theta))$  by the unique trace  $\tau$ .

## Twisted group algebras

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A 2-cocycle on the (discrete) group  $G$  is a map  $\omega : G \times G \rightarrow \mathbb{T}$  such that

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(A similar construction works for locally compact groups  $G$ .)

## Noncommutative Tori (the case $G = \mathbb{Z}^2$ )

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For  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$  define  $\omega_\theta : \mathbb{Z}^2 \times \mathbb{Z}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{T}$  by

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(Analogously for  $n > 2$ :  $C_r^*(\mathbb{Z}^n, \omega) =$  non-commutative  $n$ -torus.)

## Noncommutative 2-spheres as twisted group algebras

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Consider the canonical action of  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  on  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ . For any (finite) subgroup  $F \subseteq SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  form the semidirect product  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F$  with respect to this action. Then we get

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**Lemma** For each  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$  we get a cocycle  $\tilde{\omega}_\theta$  of  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F$  by

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and then  $C_r^*(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F, \tilde{\omega}_\theta) \cong C_r^*(\mathbb{Z}^2, \omega_\theta) \rtimes F \cong A_\theta \rtimes F$ .

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and then  $C_r^*(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F, \tilde{\omega}_\theta) \cong C_r^*(\mathbb{Z}^2, \omega_\theta) \rtimes F \cong A_\theta \rtimes F$ .

Of course, if  $\theta = 0$ , we get the trivial cocycle  $\tilde{\omega}_0 \equiv 1$  and therefore

$$C_r^*(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F, \tilde{\omega}_0) = C_r^*(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F) \cong C(\mathbb{T}^2) \rtimes F$$

## Homotopy of cocycles

**Definition:** Two cocycles  $\omega_0, \omega_1 \in Z^2(G, \mathbb{T})$  are *homotopic*, if there exists a cocycle  $\Omega : G \times G \rightarrow C([0, 1], \mathbb{T})$  such that

$$\omega_0(g, h) = \Omega(g, h)(0) \quad \text{and} \quad \omega_1(g, h) = \Omega(g, h)(1) \quad \forall s, t \in G$$

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**Example:**

- $\Omega : \mathbb{Z}^2 \times \mathbb{Z}^2 \rightarrow C([0, 1], \mathbb{T}); \Omega(\cdot, \cdot)(s) = \omega_{s \cdot \theta}$  is homotopy between  $1 = \omega_0$  and  $\omega_\theta$ .
- Similarly  $\tilde{\Omega} : (\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F) \times (\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F) \rightarrow C([0, 1], \mathbb{T})$  given by  $\tilde{\Omega}(\cdot, \cdot)(s) := \tilde{\omega}_{s \cdot \theta}$  is a homotopy between  $1 = \tilde{\omega}_0$  and  $\tilde{\omega}_\theta$

## The Baum-Connes conjecture

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We say that  $G$  satisfies the **Baum-Connes conjecture with coefficients** if for every  $G$ -algebra  $A$  a certain map

$$K_*^{top}(G; A) = \lim_{X \subset \underline{EG}} KK_*^G(C_0(X), A) \rightarrow K_*(A \rtimes_r G)$$

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**Theorem (Higson-Kasparov, 2001)** Every  $a$ - $T$ -menable (hence every amenable) group  $G$  satisfies the conjecture for all  $G$ -algebras  $A$ .

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**Theorem (Higson-Kasparov, 2001)** Every  $\alpha$ - $T$ -menable (hence every amenable) group  $G$  satisfies the conjecture for all  $G$ -algebras  $A$ .

**Theorem (E-Chabert-Oyono-Oyono, 2004)** Suppose that  $G$  satisfies the conjecture for all  $G$ -algebras  $A$ . Then, if  $\alpha : A \rightarrow B$  is a  $G$ -equivariant  $*$ -homomorphism which induces an isomorphism

$$(\alpha \rtimes L)_* : K_*(A \rtimes L) \rightarrow K_*(B \rtimes L)$$

for all compact subgroups  $L \subseteq G$ , then we also have

$$(\alpha \rtimes G)_* : K_*(A \rtimes G) \xrightarrow{\cong} K_*(B \rtimes G).$$

## Homotopy-invariance of $K$ -theory

Let  $\omega : G \times G \rightarrow \mathbb{T}$  be a cocycle on  $G$ . Then we get an action

$\alpha_\omega : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathcal{K}(l^2(G)))$ ;  $\alpha_\omega(g)(T) = L_\omega(\delta_g)TL_\omega(\delta_g)^*$  and

$C_r^*(G, \omega) \otimes \mathcal{K} \cong \mathcal{K} \rtimes_{\alpha_\omega, r} G$ ;  $f \otimes T \mapsto (g \mapsto TL_\omega(\delta_g)^*) \in C_c(G, A)$ .

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Similarly: A homotopy  $\Omega : G \times G \rightarrow C([0, 1], \mathbb{T})$  between cocycles induces a fiber-wise action

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**Theorem (E.-Williams, 98)** Any fiber-wise action of a compact group  $L$  on  $C([0, 1], \mathcal{K})$  is equivalent to a constant action, i.e., there exists a single action  $\beta : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathcal{K})$  such that  $\alpha \sim \text{id}_{C[0,1]} \otimes \beta$ . As a consequence, evaluation at any  $\theta \in [0, 1]$  induces an isomorphism

$$\text{ev}_\theta : K_*(C([0, 1], \mathcal{K}) \rtimes_\alpha L) \xrightarrow{\cong} K_*(\mathcal{K} \rtimes_{\alpha_\theta} L).$$

(use  $K_*(C([0, 1], \mathcal{K}) \rtimes_{\alpha_\theta} L) \cong K_*(C([0, 1], \mathcal{K} \rtimes_\beta L))$ )

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**Theorem (E-L-P-W):** Suppose that  $G$  satisfies the Baum-Connes conjecture (with coefficients). Then  $K_*(C_r^*(G, \omega))$  only depends on the homotopy class of  $\omega$ .

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**Corollary:** For all  $\theta \in [0, 1]$ ,  $F = \mathbb{Z}_2, \mathbb{Z}_3, \mathbb{Z}_4, \mathbb{Z}_6$ , we have

$$K_*(C_r^*(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F, \tilde{\omega}_\theta)) \cong K_*(C_r^*(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F)) \quad (\cong K_*(C(\mathbb{T}^2) \rtimes F)).$$

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$$K_0(C_r^*(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F)) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}^6 & \text{for } F = \mathbb{Z}_2 \\ \mathbb{Z}^8 & \text{for } F = \mathbb{Z}_3 \\ \mathbb{Z}^9 & \text{for } F = \mathbb{Z}_4 \\ \mathbb{Z}^{10} & \text{for } F = \mathbb{Z}_6 \end{cases}, \quad K_1(C_r^*(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F)) = 0$$

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**There is an alternative proof for the corollary by Skandalis!**

## The generators of $K_0(A_\theta \rtimes F)$

Let  $\Omega : G \times G \rightarrow C([0, 1], \mathbb{T})$  be a cocycle homotopy and write  $\omega_\theta := \Omega(\cdot, \cdot)(\theta)$ . Put  $l^1(G, \Omega) := l^1(G, C([0, 1]))$  with convolution

$$\varphi * \psi(g, \theta) := \sum_{h \in G} \varphi(h, \theta) \psi(h^{-1}g, \theta) \Omega(h, h^{-1}g)(\theta)$$

Define  $C_r^*(G, \Omega) := \overline{l^1(G, \Omega)}^{C^*}$ . One checks that

$$C([0, 1], \mathcal{K}) \rtimes_{\alpha_\Omega} G \cong \mathcal{K} \otimes C_r^*(G, \Omega)$$

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Therefore, if  $G$  satisfies the Baum-Connes conjecture, the canonical evaluation maps

$$q_\theta : C_r^*(G, \Omega) \rightarrow C_r^*(G, \omega_\theta); \varphi \mapsto \varphi(\cdot, \theta)$$

induce isomorphisms in  $K$ -theory.

Generators for  $K_0(C_r^*(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F))$  for  $F = \mathbb{Z}_3$ .

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## Generators for $K_0(C_r^*(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F))$ for $F = \mathbb{Z}_3$ .

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$\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3$  is generated by three elements  $u, v, w$  subject to

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They provide **7** projections:  $1, p_0, p_1, q_0, q_1, r_0, r_1 \in C^*(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)$

$$\begin{aligned} p_0 &= \frac{1}{3}(1 + w + w^2) & q_0 &= \frac{1}{3}(1 + uw + (uw)^2) & r_0 &= \frac{1}{3}(1 + u^2w + (u^2w)^2) \\ p_1 &= \frac{1}{3}(1 + \zeta w + (\zeta w)^2) & q_1 &= \frac{1}{3}(1 + \zeta uw + (\zeta uw)^2) & r_1 &= \frac{1}{3}(1 + \zeta u^2w + (\zeta u^2w)^2) \end{aligned}$$

$\zeta = e(\frac{1}{3})$  when  $e(t) = \exp(2\pi it)$ .

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$\zeta = e(\frac{1}{3})$  when  $e(t) = \exp(2\pi it)$ . **Bott class:**  $\mathcal{E} = \overline{\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R})}$  w.r.t action

$$(\xi \cdot u)(s) = \xi(s+1), \quad (\xi \cdot v)(s) = e(s)\xi(s), \quad (\xi \cdot w)(s) = e\left(\frac{6s^2 - \pi}{12}\right) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \xi(x)e(sx) dx.$$

## Application to non-commutative 2-spheres ( $F = \mathbb{Z}_3$ )

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Let  $a > 0$ ,  $\tilde{\Omega} \in Z^2(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F, C([a, 1], \mathbb{T}))$ ,  $\tilde{\Omega}(\cdot, \cdot)(\theta) = \tilde{\omega}_\theta$ .

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Consider

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images of the generators  $u, v, w$  of  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F$  in  $C_r^*(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F, \tilde{\omega}_\theta)$ .

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$$K_0(C_r^*(\mathbb{Z}^2 \rtimes F, \tilde{\omega}_\theta)) = \langle [1], [p_0^\theta], [p_1^\theta], [q_0^\theta], [q_1^\theta], [r_0^\theta], [r_1^\theta], [\mathcal{E}(\theta)] \rangle$$

$$p_0^\theta = \frac{1}{3}(1 + w_\theta + w_\theta^2),$$

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$\mathcal{E}(\theta) = \overline{\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R})}$  with actions of generators

$$(\xi \cdot u_\theta)(s) = \xi(s+\theta), \quad (\xi \cdot v_\theta)(s) = e(s)\xi(s) \quad (\xi \cdot w_\theta)(s) = \frac{i^{-1/6}}{\sqrt{\theta}} e(\frac{s^2}{2\theta}) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \xi(x) e(\frac{sx}{\theta}) dx.$$

## The main theorem

**Theorem (E., Lück, Phillips, Walters)** Suppose  $\theta \in (0, 1]$  is an irrational number and that  $F \subseteq \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$  is finite subgroup. Then  $A_\theta \rtimes F$  is always an AF-algebra. For all  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$  we have

$$K_0(A_\theta \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_2) \cong \mathbb{Z}^6, \quad K_0(A_\theta \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3) \cong \mathbb{Z}^8$$

$$K_0(A_\theta \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_4) \cong \mathbb{Z}^9, \quad \text{and} \quad K_0(A_\theta \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_6) \cong \mathbb{Z}^{10}$$

If  $F = \mathbb{Z}_k$ ,  $k = 2, 3, 4, 6$ , then the image of  $K_0(A_\theta \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_k)$  under the canonical (and unique) trace is  $\frac{1}{k}(\mathbb{Z} + \theta\mathbb{Z})$ . As a consequence,

$$A_\theta \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_k \cong A_{\theta'} \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_l \Leftrightarrow k = l \text{ and } \theta = \pm\theta' \pmod{\mathbb{Z}}$$

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