

TURBULENCE, ORBIT EQUIVALENCE, AND THE CLASSIFICATION OF NUCLEAR C*-ALGEBRAS

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ABSTRACT. We bound the Borel cardinality of the isomorphism relation for nuclear simple separable C*-algebras: It is turbulent, yet Borel reducible to the action of the automorphism group of the Cuntz algebra \mathcal{O}_2 on its closed subsets. The same bounds are obtained for affine homeomorphism of metrizable Choquet simplexes. As a by-product we recover a result of Kechris and Solecki, namely, that homeomorphism of compacta in the Hilbert cube is Borel reducible to a Polish group action. These results depend intimately on the classification theory of nuclear simple C*-algebras by K-theory and traces. Both of necessity and in order to lay the groundwork for further study on the Borel complexity of C*-algebras, we prove that many standard C*-algebra constructions and relations are Borel, and we prove Borel versions of Kirchberg's \mathcal{O}_2 -stability and embedding theorems. We also find a C*-algebraic witness for a K_σ hard equivalence relation.

The authors dedicate this article to the memory of Greg Hjorth.

1. INTRODUCTION

The problem of classifying a category of objects by assigning objects of another category as complete invariants is fundamental to many disciplines of mathematics. This is particularly true in C*-algebra theory, where the problem of classifying the nuclear simple separable C*-algebras up to isomorphism is a major theme of the modern theory. Recent contact between descriptive set theorists and operator algebraists has highlighted two quite different views of what it means to have such a classification. Operator algebraists have concentrated on finding complete invariants which are assigned in a functorial manner, and for which there are good computational tools (K-theory, for instance.) Descriptive set theorists, on the other hand, have developed an abstract *degree theory* of classification problems, and have found tools that allow us to compare the complexity of different classification problems, and, importantly, allow us to rule out the use of certain types of invariants in a complete classification of highly complex concrete classification problems.

The aim of this paper is to investigate the complexity of the classification problem for nuclear simple separable C*-algebras from the descriptive set theoretic point of view. A minimal requirement of any reasonable classification is that the invariants are somehow definable or calculable from the objects being classified themselves. For example, it is easily seen that there are at most continuum many non-isomorphic separable C*-algebras, and so it is possible, in principle, to assign to each isomorphism class of separable C*-algebras a unique real number, thereby classifying the separable C*-algebras completely up to isomorphism. Few mathematicians working in C*-algebras would find this a satisfactory solution to the classification problem for separable C*-algebras, let alone nuclear simple separable C*-algebras, since we do not obtain a way of computing the invariant, and therefore do not have a way of effectively distinguishing the isomorphism classes.

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Since descriptive set theory is the theory of definable sets and functions in Polish spaces, it provides a natural framework for a theory of classification problems. In the past 30 years, such an abstract theory has been developed. This theory builds on the fundamental observation that in most cases where the objects to be classified are themselves either countable or separable, there is a natural standard Borel space which parameterizes (up to isomorphism) all the objects in the class. From a descriptive set theoretic point of view, a classification problem is therefore a pair (X, E) consisting of a standard Borel space X , the (parameters for) objects to be classified, and an equivalence relation E , the relation of isomorphism among the objects in X . In most interesting cases, the equivalence relation E is easily definable from the elements of X , and is seen to be Borel or, at worst, analytic.

Definition 1.1. Let (X, E) and (Y, F) be classification problems, in the above sense. A *Borel reduction* of E to F is a Borel function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ such that

$$xEy \iff f(x)Ff(y).$$

If such a function f exists then we say that E is *Borel reducible* to F , and we write $E \leq_B F$.

If f is a Borel reduction of E to F , then evidently f provides a complete classification of the points of X up to E equivalence by an assignment of F equivalence classes. The “effective” descriptive set theory developed in 1960s and 1970s (see e.g. [20]) established in a precise way that the class of Borel functions may be thought of as a very general class of calculable functions. Therefore the notion of Borel reducibility provides a natural starting point for a systematic theory of classification which is both generally applicable, and manages to ban the trivialities provided by the Axiom of Choice. Borel reductions in operator algebras have been studied in the recent work of Sasyk-Törnquist [26, 25, 27], who consider the complexity of isomorphism for various classes of von Neumann factors, and in that of Kerr-Li-Pichot [16] and Farah [5], who concentrate on certain representation spaces and, in [16], group actions on the hyperfinite II_1 factor. This article initiates the study of Borel reducibility in separable C^* -algebras.

In [14], Kechris introduced a standard Borel structure on the space of separable C^* -algebras, providing a natural setting for the study of the isomorphism relation on such algebras. This relation is of particular interest for the subset of (unital) nuclear simple separable C^* -algebras, as these are the focus of G. A. Elliott’s long running program to classify such algebras via K -theoretic invariants. To situate our main result for functional analysts, let us mention that an attractive class of invariants to use in a complete classification are the countable structures type invariants, which include the countable groups and countable ordered groups, as well as countable graphs, fields, boolean algebras, etc. If (X, E) is a classification problem, we will say that E is *classifiable by countable structures* if there is a Borel reduction of E to the isomorphism relation for some countable structures type invariant. If (X, E) is not classifiable by countable structures, then it may still allow *some* reasonable classification, in the sense that it is Borel reducible to the orbit equivalence relation of a Polish group action on a standard Borel space. Our main result is the following theorem (which is proved in §5 and in §7):

Theorem 1.2. *The isomorphism relation E for unital simple separable nuclear C^* -algebras is turbulent, hence not classifiable by countable structures. Moreover, if \mathcal{L} is any countable language and $\simeq^{\text{Mod}(\mathcal{L})}$ denotes the isomorphism relation for countable models of \mathcal{L} , then $\simeq^{\text{Mod}(\mathcal{L})}$ is Borel reducible to E . On the other hand, E is Borel reducible to the orbit equivalence relation of a Polish group action, namely, the action of $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ on the closed subsets of \mathcal{O}_2 .*

This establishes that the isomorphism problem for nuclear simple separable unital C*-algebras does not have the maximal complexity among analytic classification problems, and rules out the usefulness of some additional types of invariants for a complete classification of nuclear simple separable unital C*-algebras. It also establishes that this relation has higher complexity than the isomorphism relation of any class of countable structures. Remarkably, establishing both the lower and upper \leq_B bounds of Theorem 1.2 requires that we prove Borel versions of two well-known results from Elliott’s K-theoretic classification program for nuclear simple separable C*-algebras. The lower bound uses the classification of the unital simple approximately interval (AI) algebras via their K_0 -group and simplex of tracial states, while the upper bound requires that we prove a Borel version of Kirchberg’s Theorem that a simple unital nuclear separable C*-algebra satisfies $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \cong \mathcal{O}_2$.

By contrast with Theorem 1.2, we shall establish in [6] that Elliott’s classification of unital AF algebras via the ordered K_0 -group amounts to a classification by countable structures. This will follow from a more general result regarding the Borel computability of the Elliott invariant. We note that there are non-classification results in the study of simple nuclear C*-algebras which rule out the possibility of classifying all simple nuclear separable C*-algebras via the Elliott invariant in a functorial manner (see [23] and [29]). At heart, these examples exploit the structure of the Cuntz semigroup, an invariant whose descriptive set theory will be examined in [6].

The proof of Theorem 1.2 allows us to draw conclusions about the complexity of metrizable Choquet simplexes, too.

Theorem 1.3. *The relation of affine homeomorphism on metrizable Choquet simplexes is turbulent, yet Borel reducible to the orbit equivalence relation of a Polish group action.*

Furthermore, and again as a by-product of Theorem 1.2, we recover an unpublished result of Kechris and Solecki:

Theorem 1.4 (Kechris-Solecki, 2006). *The relation of homeomorphism on compact subsets of the Hilbert cube is Borel reducible to the orbit equivalence relation of a Polish group action.*

Finally, we show that a Borel equivalence relation which is *not* Borel reducible to any orbit equivalence relation of a Polish group action has a C*-algebraic witness. Recall that E_{K_σ} is the complete K_σ equivalence relation.

Theorem 1.5. *E_{K_σ} is Borel reducible to bi-embeddability of unital AF algebras.*

The early sections of this paper are dedicated to establishing that a variety of standard constructions in C*-algebra theory are Borel computable, and that a number of important theorems in C*-algebra theory have Borel computable counterparts. This is done both of necessity—Theorems 1.2–1.5 depend on these facts—and to provide the foundations for a general theory of calculability for constructions in C*-algebra theory. Constructions that are shown to be Borel computable include passage to direct limits, minimal tensor products, unitization, and the calculation of states, pure states, and traces. Theorems for which we establish Borel counterparts include Kirchberg’s Exact Embedding Theorem, as well as Kirchberg’s $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \simeq \mathcal{O}_2$ Theorem for unital simple separable nuclear A .

Figure 1 summarizes the Borel reductions we obtain in this article, in addition to some known reductions. All classes of C*-algebras occurring in the diagram are unital and separable. Unless otherwise specified, the equivalence relation on a given class is the isomorphism relation. The bi-reducibility between the isomorphism for UHF algebras and bi-embeddability of UHF algebras is

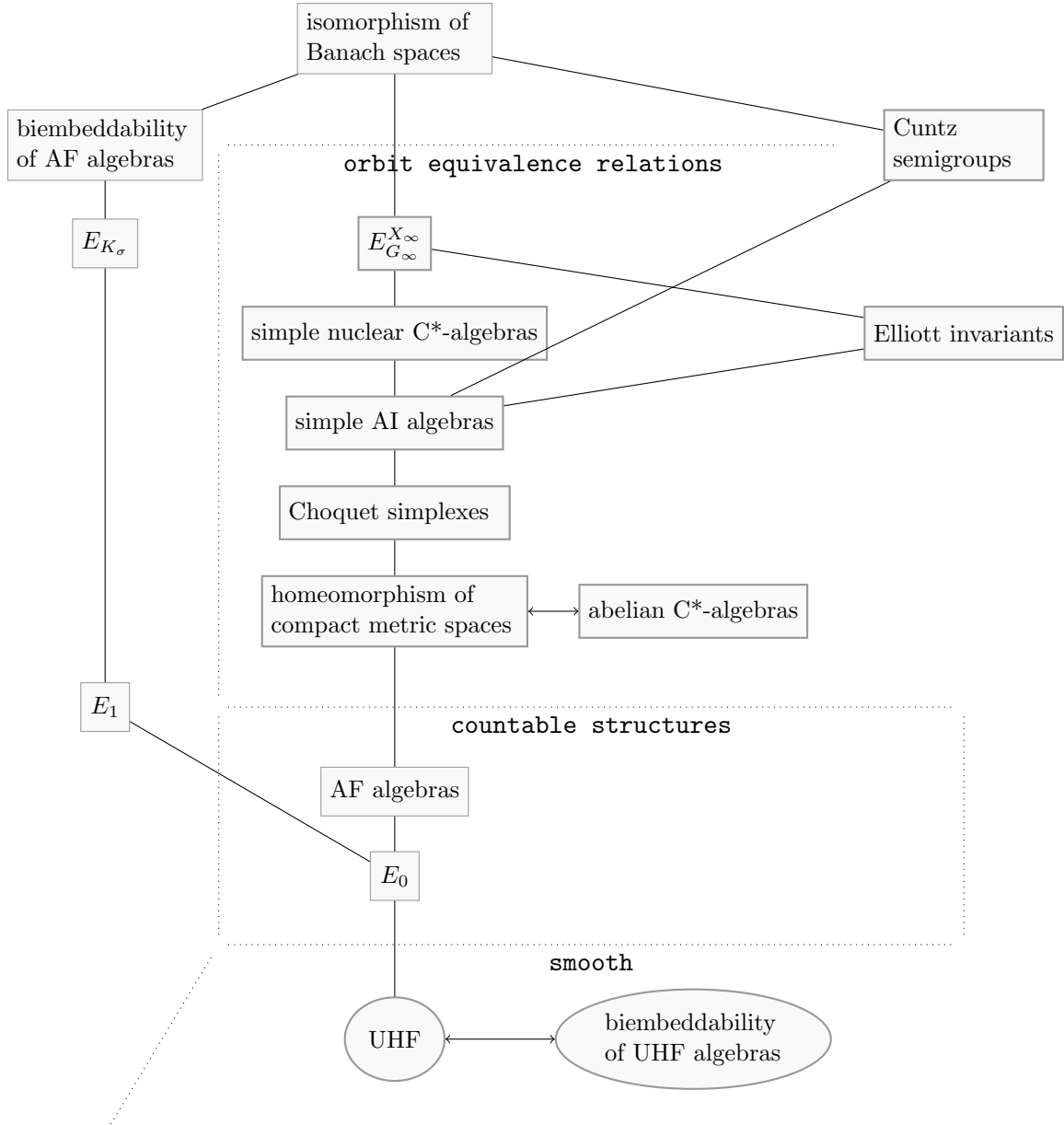


FIGURE 1. Borel reducibility diagram

an immediate consequence of Glimm’s characterization of UHF algebras, or rather of its (straight-forward) Borel version. E_0 denotes the eventual equality relation in the space $2^{\mathbb{N}}$. The fact that E_0 is the minimal non-smooth Borel equivalence relation is the Glimm–Effros dichotomy, proved by Harrington, Kechris and Louveau (see [10]). E_1 denotes the eventual equality relation in $[0, 1]^{\mathbb{N}}$. By [15] E_1 is not Borel-reducible to any Polish group action. E_{K_σ} is the complete K_σ equivalence relation, and $E_{G_\infty}^{X_\infty}$ is the maximal orbit equivalence relation of a Polish group action (see [10]). The nontrivial direction of Borel bi-reducibility between abelian C*-algebras and compact metric spaces

follows from Lemma 3.17. A Borel reduction from compact metric spaces to Choquet simplexes is given in Lemma 4.8. A Borel reduction from Choquet simplexes to simple AI algebras is given in Corollary 5.2. The Borel version of Elliott’s reduction of simple AI algebras to Elliott invariant follows from Elliott’s classification result and the fact that the computation of the Elliott invariant is Borel, proved in [6]. The reduction of the Elliott invariant to $E_{G_\infty}^{X_\infty}$, as well as the facts about the Cuntz semigroup, is proved in [6]. Bi-embeddability of AF algebras is proved to be above E_{K_σ} in Section 8. The isomorphism of separable Banach spaces is the complete analytic equivalence relation by [30]. Some of the reductions in Figure 1 are not known to be sharp. For example, it is not known whether the homeomorphism of compact metric spaces is equireducible with $E_{G_\infty}^{X_\infty}$ (cf. remark at the end of §9).

The standard reference for descriptive set theory is [13] and specific facts about Borel-reducibility can be found in [9, 10] and [8]. The general theory of C*-algebras can be found in [2] and references for Elliott’s classification program are [22] and [4].

The paper is organized as follows: In section 2 we introduce a notion of standard Borel parameterization of a category of objects, and define several equivalent parameterizations of the class of separable C*-algebras. In section 3 we prove that most standard constructions in C*-algebra theory correspond to Borel functions and relations. In Section 4 we give a parameterization of the set of metrizable separable Choquet simplexes. In section 5 we establish the lower bound of Theorem 1.2. A Borel version of Kirchberg’s Exact Embedding Theorem is obtained in section 6. The upper bound in Theorem 1.2 is proved in Section 7 using the Borel version of Kirchberg’s $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \simeq \mathcal{O}_2$ Theorem; Theorem 1.3 is also established. Section 8 establishes Theorem 1.5, and Section 9 discusses several questions that remain open and warrant further investigation.

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2. PARAMETERIZING SEPARABLE C*-ALGEBRAS

In this section we describe several standard Borel spaces that in a natural way parameterize the set of all separable C*-algebras. To make this precise, we adopt the following definition.

Definition 2.1. Let \mathcal{C} be a category of objects.

- (1) A *standard Borel parameterization* of \mathcal{C} is a pair (X, f) consisting of standard Borel space X and a function $f : X \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ such that $f(X)$ meets each isomorphism class in \mathcal{C} . (For brevity, we often simply call (X, f) a *parameterization* of \mathcal{C} . We will also usually abuse notation by suppressing f and writing X . Finally, note that despite the terminology, it is X rather than the parameterization that is standard Borel.)
- (2) The equivalence relation $\simeq^{(X,f)}$ on X is defined by

$$x \simeq^{(X,f)} y \iff f(x) \text{ is isomorphic to } f(y).$$

- (3) A parameterization (X, f) is called *good* if $\simeq^{(X,f)}$ is analytic as a subset of $X \times X$.
- (4) Let (X, f) and (Y, g) be two parameterizations of the same category \mathcal{C} . A *homomorphism* of (X, f) to (Y, g) is a function $\psi : X \rightarrow Y$ such that for $\psi(x)$ is isomorphic to $g(\psi(x))$ for all

$x \in X$. An isomorphism of (X, f) and (Y, g) is a bijective homomorphism; a monomorphism is an injective homomorphism.

- (5) We say that (X, f) and (Y, g) are *equivalent* if there is a Borel isomorphism from (X, f) to (Y, g) .
- (6) We say that (X, f) and (Y, g) are *weakly equivalent* if there are Borel homomorphisms $\psi : X \rightarrow Y$ of (X, f) to (Y, g) and $\phi : Y \rightarrow X$ of (Y, g) to (X, f) .

When f is clear from the context, we will allow a slight *abus de langage* and say that X is a parameterization of \mathcal{C} when (X, f) is. Further, we will usually write \simeq^X for $\simeq^{(X, f)}$. Note that by the Borel Schröder-Bernstein Theorem ([13, Theorem 15.7]), (5) is equivalent to

- (5') There are Borel monomorphisms $\psi : X \rightarrow Y$ of (X, f) to (Y, g) and $\phi : Y \rightarrow X$ of (Y, g) to (X, f) .

We now introduce four different parameterizations of the class of separable C^* -algebras, which we will later see are all (essentially) equivalent and good.

2.1. The space $\Gamma(H)$. Let H be a separable infinite dimensional Hilbert space and let as usual $\mathcal{B}(H)$ denote the space of bounded operators on H . The space $\mathcal{B}(H)$ becomes a standard Borel space when equipped with the Borel structure generated by the weakly open subsets. Following [14] we let

$$\Gamma(H) = \mathcal{B}(H)^{\mathbb{N}},$$

and equip this with the product Borel structure. Every $\gamma \in \Gamma(H)$ is identified with a sequence γ_n , for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, of elements of $\mathcal{B}(H)$. For each $\gamma \in \Gamma(H)$ we let $C^*(\gamma)$ be the C^* -algebra generated by the sequence γ . If we identify each $\gamma \in \Gamma(H)$ with the $C^*(\gamma)$, then naturally $\Gamma(H)$ parameterizes all separable C^* -algebras acting on H . Since every separable C^* -algebra is isomorphic to a C^* -subalgebra of $\mathcal{B}(H)$ this gives us a standard Borel parameterization of the category of all separable C^* -algebras. If the Hilbert space H is clear from the context we will write Γ instead of $\Gamma(H)$. Following Definition 2.1, we define

$$\gamma \simeq^{\Gamma} \gamma' \iff C^*(\gamma) \text{ is isomorphic to } C^*(\gamma').$$

2.2. The space $\hat{\Gamma}(H)$. Let $\mathbb{Q}(i) = \mathbb{Q} + i\mathbb{Q}$ denote the complex rationals. Following [14], let $(\mathfrak{p}_j : j \in \mathbb{N})$ enumerate the non-commutative $*$ -polynomials without constant term in the formal variables X_k , $k \in \mathbb{N}$, with coefficients in $\mathbb{Q}(i)$, and for $\gamma \in \Gamma$ write $\mathfrak{p}_j(\gamma)$ for the evaluation of \mathfrak{p}_j with $X_k = \gamma(k)$. Then $C^*(\gamma)$ is the norm-closure of $\{\mathfrak{p}_j(\gamma) : j \in \mathbb{N}\}$. The map $\Gamma \rightarrow \hat{\Gamma} : \gamma \mapsto \hat{\gamma}$ where $\hat{\gamma}(j) = \mathfrak{p}_j(\gamma)$ is clearly a Borel map from Γ to $\hat{\Gamma}$. If we let

$$\hat{\Gamma}(H) = \{\hat{\gamma} : \gamma \in \Gamma(H)\},$$

then $\hat{\Gamma}(H)$ is a standard Borel space and provides another parameterization of the C^* -algebras acting on H ; we suppress H and write $\hat{\Gamma}$ whenever possible. For $\gamma \in \hat{\Gamma}$, let $\check{\gamma} \in \Gamma$ be defined by

$$\check{\gamma}(n) = \gamma(i) \iff \mathfrak{p}_i = X_n,$$

and note that $\hat{\Gamma} \rightarrow \Gamma : \gamma \mapsto \check{\gamma}$ is the inverse of $\Gamma \rightarrow \hat{\Gamma} : \gamma \mapsto \hat{\gamma}$. We let $\simeq^{\hat{\Gamma}}$ be

$$\gamma \simeq^{\hat{\Gamma}} \gamma' \iff C^*(\gamma) \text{ is isomorphic to } C^*(\gamma').$$

It is clear from the above that Γ and $\hat{\Gamma}$ are equivalent parameterizations.

An alternative picture of $\hat{\Gamma}(H)$ is obtained by considering the free (i.e., surjectively universal) countable unnormed $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ -*-algebra \mathfrak{A} . We can identify \mathfrak{A} with the set $\{\mathfrak{p}_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$. Then

$$\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}}(H) = \{f : \mathfrak{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H) : f \text{ is a } *\text{-homomorphism}\}$$

is easily seen to be a Borel subset of $\mathcal{B}(H)^{\mathfrak{A}}$. For $f \in \hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}}$ let $C^*(f)$ be the norm closure of $\text{im}(f)$, and define

$$f \simeq^{\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}}} f' \iff C^*(f) \text{ is isomorphic to } C^*(f').$$

Clearly the map $\hat{\Gamma} \rightarrow \hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}} : \gamma \mapsto f_{\gamma}$ defined by $f_{\gamma}(\mathfrak{p}_j) = \gamma(j)$ provides a Borel bijection witnessing that $\hat{\Gamma}$ and $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}}$ are equivalent (and therefore they are also equivalent to Γ .)

We note for future reference that if we instead consider the free countable *unital* unnormed $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ -*-algebra \mathfrak{A}_u and let

$$\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(H) = \{f : \mathfrak{A}_u \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H) : f \text{ is a } \textit{unital} *\text{-homomorphism}\},$$

then this gives a parameterization of all unital C*-subalgebras of $\mathcal{B}(H)$. Note that \mathfrak{A}_u may be identified with the set of all formal *-polynomials in the variables X_k with coefficients in $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ (allowing a constant term.)

2.3. The space Ξ . Consider the Polish space $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$. We let Ξ be the space of all $\delta \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that for some separable C*-algebra A and a sequence $y = (y_n)$ in A generating it we have that

$$\delta(j) = \|\mathfrak{p}_j(y)\|_A.$$

Each $\delta \in \Xi$ defines a seminorm $\|\mathfrak{p}_j\|_{\delta} = \delta(j)$ on \mathfrak{A} which satisfies the C*-axiom. Letting $I = \{\mathfrak{p}_j : \delta(j) = 0\}$ we obtain a norm on \mathfrak{A}/I . The completion of this algebra is then a C*-algebra, which we denote by $B(\delta)$. It is clearly isomorphic to any C*-algebra A with $y = (y_n)$ as above satisfying $\|\mathfrak{p}_j(y)\| = \delta(j)$.

Lemma 2.2. *The set Ξ is closed in $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$.*

Proof. Assume $\delta^n \in \Xi$ converges to $\delta \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$ pointwise. Fix C*-algebras A_n and sequences $y^n = (y_i^n \in A_n : i \in \mathbb{N})$ such that $\delta^n(j) = \|\mathfrak{p}_j(y^n)\|_{A_n}$ for all n and j . For a nonprincipal ultrafilter \mathcal{U} on \mathbb{N} , let A_{∞} be the subalgebra of the ultraproduct $\prod_{\mathcal{U}} A_n$ generated by the elements $\mathbf{y}_i = (y_i^0, y_i^1, \dots)$, for $i \in \mathbb{N}$. Then clearly $\delta(j) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \mathcal{U}} \|\mathfrak{p}_j(y^n)\|_{A_n} = \|\mathfrak{p}_j(\mathbf{y}_i)\|_{A_{\infty}}$, hence A witnesses $\delta \in \Xi$. \square

Thus Ξ provides yet another parameterization of the category of separable C*-algebras, and we define in Ξ the equivalence relation

$$\delta \simeq^{\Xi} \delta' \iff B(\delta) \text{ is isomorphic to } B(\delta').$$

Below we will prove that this parameterization is equivalent to Γ and $\hat{\Gamma}$. Note that an alternative description of Ξ is obtained by considering the set of $f \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathfrak{A}}$ which define a C*-seminorm on \mathfrak{A} ; this set is easily seen to be Borel since the requirements of being C*-seminorm are Borel conditions.

2.4. The space $\hat{\Xi}$. Our last parameterization is obtained by considering the set

$$\hat{\Xi} \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}} \times \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{Q}(i) \times \mathbb{N}} \times \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}} \times \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \times \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$$

of all tuples (f, g, h, k, r) such that the operations (with m, n in \mathbb{N} and $q \in \mathbb{Q}(i)$) defined by

$$\begin{aligned} m +_f n &= f(m, n) \\ q \cdot_g n &= g(q, n) \\ m \cdot_h n &= h(m, n) \\ m^{*k} &= k(m) \\ \|n\|_r &= r(n) \end{aligned}$$

give \mathbb{N} the structure of a normed $*$ -algebra over $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ which further satisfies the “ C^* -axiom”,

$$\|n \cdot_h n^{*k}\|_r = \|n\|_r^2$$

for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. The set $\hat{\Xi}$ is Borel since the axioms of being a normed $*$ -algebra over $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ are Borel conditions. For $A \in \hat{\Xi}$, let $\hat{B}(A)$ denote the completion of A with respect to the norm and equipped with the extension of the operations on A to $\hat{B}(A)$. Note in particular that the operation of scalar multiplication may be uniquely extended from $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ to \mathbb{C} . We define for $A_0, A_1 \in \hat{\Xi}$ the equivalence relation

$$A_0 \simeq^{\hat{\Xi}} A_1 \iff \hat{B}(A_0) \text{ is isomorphic to } \hat{B}(A_1).$$

For future reference, we note that the infinite symmetric group $\text{Sym}(\mathbb{N})$ acts naturally on $\hat{\Xi}$: If $\sigma \in \text{Sym}(\mathbb{N})$ and $(f, g, h, k, r) \in \hat{\Xi}$, we let $\sigma \cdot f \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}}$ be defined by

$$(\sigma \cdot f)(m, n) = k \iff f(\sigma^{-1}(m), \sigma^{-1}(n)) = \sigma^{-1}(k),$$

and defined $\sigma \cdot g, \sigma \cdot h, \sigma \cdot k$ and $\sigma \cdot r$ similarly. Then we let $\sigma \cdot (f, g, h, k, r) = (\sigma \cdot f, \sigma \cdot g, \sigma \cdot h, \sigma \cdot k, \sigma \cdot r)$. It is clear that σ induces an isomorphism of the structures (f, g, h, k, r) and $\sigma \cdot (f, g, h, k, r)$. However, it clearly *does not* induce the equivalence relation $\simeq^{\hat{\Xi}}$, which is strictly coarser.

Remark 2.3. (1) It is useful to think of Γ and $\hat{\Gamma}$ as parameterizations of *concrete* C^* -algebras, while Ξ and $\hat{\Xi}$ can be thought of as parameterizing *abstract* C^* algebras.

(2) The parameterizations $\Gamma, \hat{\Gamma}$ and Ξ all contain a unique element corresponding to the trivial C^* -algebra, which we denote by 0 in all cases. Note that $\hat{\Xi}$ does not parameterize the trivial C^* -algebra.

2.5. Equivalence of $\Gamma, \hat{\Gamma}, \Xi$ and $\hat{\Xi}$. We now establish that the four parameterizations described above give us equivalent parameterizations of the non-trivial separable C^* -algebras. First we need the following lemma.

Lemma 2.4. *Let X be a Polish space and let Y be any of the spaces $\Gamma, \hat{\Gamma}, \Xi$ or $\hat{\Xi}$. Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a Borel function such that $f(x) \neq 0$ for all $x \in X$. Then there is a Borel injection $\tilde{f} : X \rightarrow Y$ such that for all $x \in X$, $f(x) \simeq^Y \tilde{f}(x)$.*

Proof. $Y = \Gamma$: We may assume that $X = [\mathbb{N}]^\infty$, the space of infinite subsets of \mathbb{N} . (Under the natural identification this is a G_δ subset of $2^\mathbb{N}$ and therefore Polish. It is then homeomorphic to the set of irrationals.) Given $\gamma \in \Gamma \setminus \{0\}$ and $x \in X$, let $n_0(\gamma) \in \mathbb{N}$ be the least such that $\gamma(n_0) \neq 0$ and define

$$\gamma_x(k) = \begin{cases} i\gamma(n_0(\gamma)) & \text{if } k = 2^i \text{ for some } i \in x; \\ \gamma(j) & \text{if } k = 3^j \text{ for some } j \in \mathbb{N}; \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Clearly $C^*(\gamma) = C^*(\gamma_x)$, and $\tilde{f} : X \rightarrow \Gamma \setminus \{0\}$ defined by $\tilde{f}(x) = (f(x))_x$ is a Borel injection.

$Y = \hat{\Gamma}$: Clear, since Γ and $\hat{\Gamma}$ are equivalent.

$Y = \Xi$. We may assume that $X = \mathbb{R}_+$. Fix $x \in X$, let $\delta = f(x)$, and let $n_0(\delta) \in \mathbb{N}$ be least such that $\mathbf{p}_{n_0} = X_{i_0}$ for some $i_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\delta(n_0) \neq 0$. Let A be a C*-algebra and $y = (y_n)$ be a dense sequence in A such that $\delta(n) = \|\mathbf{p}_n(y)\|_A$, and let $\tilde{y} = (\tilde{y}_n)$ be

$$\tilde{y}_n = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{\|y_n\|_A} y_n & \text{if } n = i_0; \\ y_n & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then define $\tilde{f}(x)(n) = \|\mathbf{p}_n(\tilde{y})\|_A$. Clearly $\tilde{f}(x) \simeq^\Xi f(x)$ for all $x \in X$, and since $\|\mathbf{p}_{n_0}(\tilde{y})\|_A = x$, the function \tilde{f} is injective. (Note that $\tilde{f}(x)$ does not depend on the choice of A and y , so it is in fact a function.) Finally, \tilde{f} is Borel by [13, 14.12], since

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{f}(x) = \delta' &\iff (\exists \gamma, \gamma' \in \Gamma)(\exists \delta \in \Xi \setminus \{0\})f(x) = \delta \wedge (\forall n)\delta(n) = \|\mathbf{p}_n(\gamma)\| \wedge \\ &(\forall i)((i \neq n_0(\delta) \wedge \gamma'(i) = \gamma(i)) \vee (i = n_0(\delta) \wedge \gamma'(i) = \frac{x}{\|\gamma(i)\|}\gamma(i))), \end{aligned}$$

gives an analytic definition of the graph of \tilde{f} (with $n_0(\delta)$ defined as above.)

$Y = \hat{\Xi}$: Assume $X = [2\mathbb{N}]^\infty$, the infinite subsets of the *even* natural numbers. Given $(f, g, h, k, r) \in \hat{\Xi}$ and $x \in X$, we can find, in a Borel way, a permutation $\sigma = \sigma_{(f,g,h,j,r),x}$ of \mathbb{N} so that

$$x = \{2^n \cdot \sigma_g 1 : n \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

Then $\tilde{f}(x) = \sigma_{(f,g,h,j,r),x} \cdot f(x)$ works. □

Remark 2.5. The classical principle [13, 14.12] that a function whose graph is analytic is Borel will be used frequently in what follows, usually without comment.

Proposition 2.6. $\Xi \setminus \{0\}$ and $\hat{\Xi}$ are equivalent.

Proof. By the previous Lemma, it suffices to show that $\Xi \setminus \{0\}$ and $\hat{\Xi}$ are weakly equivalent.

Identify $\Xi \setminus \{0\}$ with a subset of $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$ in the natural way, and define

$$E = \{(\delta, m, n) \in \Xi \setminus \{0\} \times \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} : \delta(\mathbf{p}_m - \mathbf{p}_n) = 0\}.$$

Then the section $E_\delta = \{(m, n) \in \mathbb{N}^2 : (\delta, m, n) \in E\}$ defines an equivalence relation on \mathbb{N} . Let $f_n : \Xi \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ be Borel functions such that each $f_n(\delta)$ is the least element in \mathbb{N} not E_δ -equivalent to $f_m(\delta)$ for $m < n$. If we let $I_\delta = \{\mathbf{p}_n : \delta(\mathbf{p}_n) = 0\}$, then $n \mapsto f(n)I_\delta$ provides a bijection between \mathfrak{A}/I_δ and \mathbb{N} , and from this we can define (in a Borel way) algebra operations and the norm on \mathbb{N} corresponding to $A \in \hat{\Xi}$ such that $A \simeq \mathfrak{A}/I_\delta$.

Conversely, given a normed $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ -*-algebra $A \in \hat{\Xi}$ (with underlying set \mathbb{N}), an element $\delta_A \in \Xi$ is defined by letting $\delta_A(n) = \|\mathbf{p}_n(X_i = i : i \in \mathbb{N})\|_A$, where $\mathbf{p}_n(X_i = i : i \in \mathbb{N})$ denotes the evaluation of \mathbf{p}_n in A when letting $X_i = i$. □

Proposition 2.7. Γ and Ξ are equivalent. Thus Γ , $\hat{\Gamma}$ and Ξ are equivalent parameterizations of the separable C*-algebras, and $\Gamma \setminus \{0\}$, $\hat{\Gamma} \setminus \{0\}$, $\Xi \setminus \{0\}$ and $\hat{\Xi}$ are equivalent parameterizations of the non-trivial separable C*-algebras.

For the proof of this we need the following easy (but useful) Lemma:

Lemma 2.8. Let H be a separable infinite dimensional Hilbert space. Then:

(1) A function $f : X \rightarrow \Gamma(H)$ on a Polish space X is Borel if and only if for some (any) sequence (e_i) with dense span in H we have that the functions

$$x \mapsto (f(x)(n)e_i|e_j)$$

are Borel, for all $n, i, j \in \mathbb{N}$.

(2) Suppose $g : X \rightarrow \bigcup_{x \in X} \Gamma(H_x)$ is a function such that for each $x \in X$ we have $g(x) \in \Gamma(H_x)$, where H_x is a separable infinite dimensional Hilbert space, and there is a system $(e_i^x)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ with $\text{span}\{e_i^x : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ dense in H_x . If for all $n, i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ we have that the functions

$$X \rightarrow \mathbb{C} : x \mapsto (e_i^x | e_j^x)$$

and

$$X \rightarrow \mathbb{C} : x \mapsto (g(n)(x)e_i^x | e_j^x)$$

are Borel, then there is a Borel $\hat{g} : X \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H)$ and a family $T_x : H \rightarrow H_x$ of linear isometries such that for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$g(x)(n) = T_x \hat{g}(x)(n) T_x^{-1}.$$

We postpone the proof of Lemma 2.8 until after the proof of Proposition 2.7.

Proof of Proposition 2.7. By Lemma 2.4, it is again enough to show that Γ and Ξ are weakly equivalent. For the first direction, the map $\psi : \Gamma \rightarrow \Xi$ given by

$$\psi(\gamma)(n) = \|\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)\|$$

clearly works.

For the other direction we rely on the GNS construction (e.g. [2, II.6.4]). For each $\delta \in \Xi$ let $S(\delta)$ be the space of all $\phi \in \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that

- (1) $|\phi(k)| \leq \delta(k)$ for all k ,
- (2) $\phi(k) = \phi(m) + \phi(n)$, whenever $\mathfrak{p}_k = \mathfrak{p}_m + \mathfrak{p}_n$,
- (3) $\phi(k) \geq 0$ whenever $\mathfrak{p}_k = \mathfrak{p}_m^* \mathfrak{p}_m$ for some m .

Then $S(\delta)$ is a compact subset of $\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}}$ for each $\delta \in \Xi$, and so since the relation

$$\{(\delta, \phi) \in \Xi \times \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}} : \phi \in S(\delta)\}$$

is Borel, it follows by [13, 28.8] that $\Xi \rightarrow K(\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}}) : \delta \mapsto S(\delta)$ is a Borel function into the Polish space $K(\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}})$ of compact subsets of $\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}}$. Consider the set

$$N = \{(\delta, \phi, n, m) \in \Xi \times \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}} \times \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} : \phi \in S(\delta) \wedge (\exists k) \mathfrak{p}_k = (\mathfrak{p}_n - \mathfrak{p}_m)^* (\mathfrak{p}_n - \mathfrak{p}_m) \wedge \phi(k) = 0\}.$$

Then for each δ and ϕ the relation $N_{\delta, \phi} = \{(n, m) \in \mathbb{N}^2 : (\delta, \phi, n, m) \in N\}$ is an equivalence relation on \mathbb{N} . Without any real loss of generality we can assume that $N_{\delta, \phi}$ always has infinitely many classes. Let $\sigma_n : \Xi \times \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ be a sequence of Borel maps such that for all δ and ϕ fixed the set

$$\{\sigma_n(\delta, \phi) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

meets every $N_{\delta, \phi}$ class once. For δ and ϕ fixed we can then define an inner product on \mathbb{N} by

$$(n|m)_{\delta, \phi} = \phi(k) \iff \mathfrak{p}_k = \mathfrak{p}_{\sigma_n(\delta, \phi)}^* \mathfrak{p}_{\sigma_m(\delta, \phi)}.$$

Let $H(\delta, \phi)$ denote the completion of this pre-Hilbert space. Then there is a unique operator $\gamma(n) \in \mathcal{B}(H(\delta, \phi))$ extending the operator acting on $(\mathbb{N}, (\cdot|\cdot)_{\delta, \phi})$ defined by letting $\gamma_{\delta, \phi}(n)(m) = k$ iff there is some $k' \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$\mathfrak{p}_{\sigma_n(\delta, \phi)} \mathfrak{p}_{\sigma_m(\delta, \phi)} = \mathfrak{p}_{k'}$$

and $(\delta, \phi, k', \sigma_k(\delta, \phi)) \in N$. Note that $n \mapsto \gamma_{\delta, \psi}$ corresponds to the GNS representation of the normed $*$ -algebra over $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ that corresponds to δ . Since the elements of \mathbb{N} generate $H(\delta, \psi)$ and the map

$$(\delta, \psi) \mapsto (\gamma_{\delta, \psi}(n)(i)|j)_{\delta, \psi}$$

is Borel, it follows from Lemma 2.8 that there is a Borel function

$$\Xi \times \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \Gamma(H) : (\delta, \psi) \mapsto \tilde{\gamma}(\delta, \psi)$$

such that $\tilde{\gamma}(\delta, \psi) \in \Gamma(H)$ is conjugate to $(\gamma_{\delta, \phi}(n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \Gamma(H(\delta, \psi))$ for all δ, ψ .

Since the map $\Xi \rightarrow K(\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}}) : \delta \mapsto S(\delta)$ is Borel, by the Kuratowski–Ryll–Nardzewski theorem ([13, Theorem 12.13]) there are Borel maps $\phi_n : \Xi \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that for every $\delta \in \Xi$ the set $\phi_n(\delta)$, for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, is dense in $S(\delta)$. Writing $H = \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} H_n$ where H_n are infinite dimensional Hilbert spaces, we may then by the above find a Borel map $\Xi \rightarrow \Gamma(H) : \delta \mapsto \gamma(\delta)$ such that the restriction $\gamma(\delta) \upharpoonright H_n$ is conjugate to $\tilde{\gamma}(\delta, \phi_n)$. Since the sequence $(\phi_n(\delta))$ is dense in $S(\delta)$, it follows that $\gamma(\delta)$ is a faithful representation of the algebra corresponding to δ . \square

Proof of Lemma 2.8. (1) is clear from the definition of $\Gamma(H)$. To see (2), first note that the Gram–Schmidt process provides orthonormal bases $(f_i^x)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ for the H_x such that

$$f_i^x = \sum_{j=1}^i r_{i,j}^x e_j^x$$

and the coefficient maps $x \mapsto r_{i,j}^x$ are Borel. Therefore the maps

$$X \mapsto \mathbb{C} : (g(n)(x) f_i^x | f_j^x)$$

are Borel for all $n, i, j \in \mathbb{N}$, and so we may in fact assume that $(e_i^x)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ forms an orthonormal basis to begin with. But then if $(e_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ is an orthonormal basis a function $\hat{g} : X \rightarrow \Gamma(H)$ is defined by

$$\hat{g}(x)(n) = S \iff (\forall i, j)(S e_i, e_j) = (g(n)(x) e_i^x, e_j^x),$$

and since this also provides a Borel description of the graph of \hat{g} , \hat{g} is Borel by [13, 14.12]. Finally, defining $T_x : H \rightarrow H_x$ to be the isometry mapping e_i to e_i^x for each x provides the desired conjugating map. \square

2.6. Parameterizing unital C*-algebras. We briefly discuss the parameterization of unital C*-algebras. Define

$$\Gamma_u = \{\gamma \in \Gamma : C^*(\gamma) \text{ is unital}\}.$$

We will see (Lemma 3.14) that this set is Borel. We can similarly define $\hat{\Gamma}_u \subseteq \hat{\Gamma}$, $\Xi_u \subseteq \Xi$ and $\hat{\Xi}_u \subseteq \hat{\Xi}$. However, as noted in 2.2, the set

$$\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(H) = \{f : \mathfrak{A}_u \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H) : f \text{ is a unital } *- \text{homomorphism}\}$$

is Borel and naturally parameterizes the unital C*-subalgebras of $\mathcal{B}(H)$. In analogy, we define

$$\Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u} = \{f \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathfrak{A}_u} : f \text{ defines a } C^* \text{-seminorm on } \mathfrak{A}_u \text{ with } f(1) = 1\},$$

which is also Borel. Then a similar proof to that of Proposition 2.7 shows:

Proposition 2.9. *The Borel sets $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}$ and $\Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u}$ provide equivalent parameterizations of the unital C*-algebras.*

In §3 we will see that $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}$ and $\Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u}$ are also equivalent to Γ_u (and therefore also $\hat{\Gamma}_u$, Ξ_u and $\hat{\Xi}_u$.) For future use, we fix once and for all an enumeration $(\mathfrak{q}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of all the formal $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ -*-polynomials (allowing constant terms), so that naturally $\mathfrak{A}_u = \{\mathfrak{q}_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$. Also for future reference, we note that Lemma 2.4 holds for $Y = \hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}$ and $Y = \Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u}$ (the easy proof is left to the reader.)

2.7. Basic maps and relations. We close this section by making two simple, but useful, observations pertaining to the parameterization Γ . While Borel structures of the weak operator topology, strong operator topology, σ -weak operator topology and σ -strong operator topology all coincide, the Borel structure of the norm topology is strictly finer. However, we have:

Lemma 2.10. *Every norm open ball in $\mathcal{B}(H)$ is a Borel subset of Γ , and for every $\varepsilon > 0$ the set $\{(a, b) : \|a - b\| < \varepsilon\}$ is Borel. It follows that the maps*

$$\mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : a \mapsto \|a\|, \quad \mathcal{B}(H)^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : (a, b) \mapsto \|a - b\|$$

are Borel.

Proof. Clearly $\{a : \|a\| > \varepsilon\}$ is weakly open for all $\varepsilon \geq 0$. Hence norm open balls are F_σ . \square

Lemma 2.11. *The relations*

$$\{(\gamma, \gamma') \in \Gamma \times \Gamma : C^*(\gamma) \subseteq C^*(\gamma')\}$$

and

$$\{(\gamma, \gamma') \in \Gamma \times \Gamma : C^*(\gamma) = C^*(\gamma')\}$$

are Borel.

Proof. We have

$$C^*(\gamma) \subseteq C^*(\gamma') \iff (\forall n)(\forall \varepsilon > 0)(\exists m)\|\gamma'_n - \mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma)\| < \varepsilon,$$

which is Borel by Lemma 2.10. \square

3. BASIC DEFINABILITY RESULTS

In this section we will show that a wide variety of standard C^* -algebra constructions correspond to Borel relations and functions in the spaces Γ and Ξ .

Proposition 3.1.

- (1) *The relation \lesssim on Γ , defined by $\gamma \lesssim \delta$ if and only if $C^*(\gamma)$ is isomorphic to a subalgebra of $C^*(\delta)$, is analytic.*
- (2) *The relation \simeq^Γ is analytic. In particular, Γ , $\hat{\Gamma}$, Ξ and $\hat{\Xi}$ are good standard Borel parameterizations of the class of separable C^* -algebras.*

Before the proof of Proposition 3.1 we introduce some terminology and prove a lemma. The following terminology will be useful both here and later: We call $\Phi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ a *code* for a $*$ -homomorphism $C^*(\gamma) \rightarrow C^*(\gamma')$ if for all m, n, k we have:

- (1) For each fixed m the sequence $a_{m,k} = \mathfrak{p}_{\Phi(m)(k)}(\gamma')$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$, is Cauchy. Write $a_m = \lim_k a_{m,k}$.
- (2) If $\mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma) + \mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma) = \mathfrak{p}_k(\gamma)$ then $a_m + a_n = a_k$.
- (3) If $\mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma)\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma) = \mathfrak{p}_k(\gamma)$ then $a_m a_n = a_k$.
- (4) If $\mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma)^* = \mathfrak{p}_k(\gamma)$ then $a_m^* = a_k$.
- (5) $\|\mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma)\| \leq \|a_m\|$.

We call Φ a code for a *monomorphism* if equality holds in (5).

3.1. Definitions of R_{hom} , R_{mono} and R_{iso} . Let H_0 and H_1 be separable complex Hilbert spaces. Then it is easy to see that the relations $R_{\text{hom}}^{H_0, H_1}, R_{\text{mono}}^{H_0, H_1} \subseteq \Gamma(H_0) \times \Gamma(H_1) \times (\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}})^{\mathbb{N}}$ defined by

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\text{hom}}^{H_0, H_1}(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi) &\iff \Phi \text{ is a code for a } *\text{-homomorphism } C^*(\gamma) \rightarrow C^*(\gamma') \\ R_{\text{mono}}^{H_0, H_1}(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi) &\iff \Phi \text{ is a code for a } *\text{-monomorphism } C^*(\gamma) \rightarrow C^*(\gamma') \end{aligned}$$

are Borel. We let $R_{\text{hom}}^H = R_{\text{hom}}^{H, H}$ and $R_{\text{mono}}^H = R_{\text{mono}}^{H, H}$ for any Hilbert space H . If H_0, H_1 or H are clear from the context or can be taken to be any (separable) Hilbert spaces then we will suppress the superscript and write R_{hom} and R_{mono} . The following is immediate from the definitions:

Lemma 3.2. *If $(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi) \in R_{\text{hom}}$ then there is a unique homomorphism $\hat{\Phi} : C^*(\gamma) \rightarrow C^*(\gamma')$ which satisfies*

$$\hat{\Phi}(\gamma(j)) = a_j$$

for all $j \in \mathbb{N}$. If $(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi) \in R_{\text{mono}}$ then $\hat{\Phi}$ is a monomorphism.

Proof. If $(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi) \in R_{\text{hom}}$ then

$$\mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma) \mapsto a_m$$

is a $*$ -homomorphism from a dense subalgebra of $C^*(\gamma)$ into a subalgebra of $C^*(\delta)$. Since it is a contraction it extends to a $*$ -homomorphism of $\hat{\Phi} : C^*(\gamma) \rightarrow C^*(\gamma')$ onto a subalgebra of $C^*(\gamma)$. If $(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi) \in R_{\text{mono}}$ holds then $\hat{\Phi}$ is clearly a monomorphism. \square

We also define a relation R_{iso} (we are suppressing H_0 and H_1) by

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\text{iso}}(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi) &\iff R_{\text{mono}}(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi) \wedge \\ &(\forall m)(\forall \varepsilon > 0)(\exists k \in \mathbb{N})(\forall n > k) \|\mathfrak{p}_{\Phi(m)(n)}(\gamma) - \mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma')\| < \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

This relation states that Φ is a monomorphism and an epimorphism, and therefore an isomorphism. It is Borel because R_{mono} is Borel.

Proof of Proposition 3.1. (1) Clear, since

$$\gamma \lesssim \gamma' \iff (\exists \Phi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}) R_{\text{mono}}(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi).$$

(2) We have

$$C^*(\gamma) \simeq C^*(\gamma') \iff (\exists \Phi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}) R_{\text{iso}}(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi),$$

giving an analytic definition of \simeq^{Γ} , and so Γ is a good parameterization. The last assertion follows from the equivalence of the four parameterizations. \square

Remark 3.3. Note that the equivalence relation E on Γ defined by $\gamma E \delta$ if and only if there is a unitary $u \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ such that $uC^*(\gamma)u^* = C^*(\delta)$ is a proper subset of \simeq^{Γ} and that E is induced by a continuous action of the unitary group. We don't know whether the relation \simeq^{Γ} is an orbit equivalence relation induced by the action of a Polish group action on Γ , see discussion at the end of §9.

For future use, let us note the following.

Lemma 3.4. *The set Y of all $\gamma \in \Gamma$ such that $\gamma_n, n \in \mathbb{N}$, is a Cauchy sequence (in norm) is Borel. The function $\Psi : Y \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H)$ that assigns the limit to a Cauchy sequence is Borel.*

Proof. We have $\gamma \in Y$ if and only if $(\forall \varepsilon > 0)(\exists m)(\forall n \geq m)\|\gamma_m - \gamma_n\| < \varepsilon$. By Lemma 2.10, the conclusion follows.

It suffices to show that the graph G of Ψ is a Borel subset of $\mathcal{B}(H)^{\mathbb{N}} \times \mathcal{B}(H)$. But $(\gamma, a) \in G$ if and only if for all $\varepsilon > 0$ there is m such that for all $n \geq m$ we have $\|\gamma_m - a\| \leq \varepsilon$, which is by Lemma 2.10 a Borel set. \square

3.2. Directed systems, inductive limits, and \mathbf{R}_{dir} . A directed system of C^* -algebras can be coded by a sequence $(\gamma_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ in Γ and a sequence $\Phi_i : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$, for $i \in \mathbb{N}$, such that

$$(\forall i \in \mathbb{N}) \mathbf{R}_{\text{hom}}(\gamma_i, \gamma_{i+1}, \Phi_i).$$

The set $\mathbf{R}_{\text{dir}} \subseteq \Gamma^{\mathbb{N}} \times ((\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}})^{\mathbb{N}})^{\mathbb{N}}$ of codes for inductive systems is defined by

$$((\gamma_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}, (\Phi_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}) \in \mathbf{R}_{\text{dir}} \iff (\forall i \in \mathbb{N}) \mathbf{R}_{\text{hom}}(\gamma_i, \gamma_{i+1}, \Phi_i)$$

and is clearly Borel.

Proposition 3.5. *There are Borel maps $\text{LIM} : \mathbf{R}_{\text{dir}} \rightarrow \Gamma$ and $\Psi_i : \mathbf{R}_{\text{dir}} \rightarrow (\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}})^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that*

$$C^*(\text{LIM}((\gamma_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}, (\Phi_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}})) \simeq \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} (C^*(\gamma_i), \hat{\Phi}_i)$$

and it holds that

$$(\forall n \in \mathbb{N}) \mathbf{R}_{\text{hom}}(\gamma_n, \text{LIM}((\gamma_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}, (\Phi_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}), \Psi_n((\gamma_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}, (\Phi_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}))$$

and $\hat{\Psi}_n((\gamma_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}, (\Phi_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}) : C^*(\gamma) \rightarrow C^*(\text{LIM}((\gamma_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}, (\Phi_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}))$ satisfies

$$\hat{\Psi}_{n+1} \circ \hat{\Phi}_n = \hat{\Psi}_n,$$

i.e. the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C^*(\gamma_{n+1}) & \xrightarrow{\hat{\Psi}_{n+1}} & \text{LIM}((\gamma_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}, (\Phi_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}) \\ \hat{\Phi}_n \uparrow & \nearrow \hat{\Psi}_n & \\ C^*(\gamma_n) & & \end{array}$$

commutes.

We start by noting the simpler Lemma 3.6 below. The constant i sequence is denoted \bar{i} . For $(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi) \in \mathbf{R}_{\text{hom}}$ define the function $f : \mathbf{R}_{\text{hom}} \rightarrow \Gamma$ by

$$f(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi)(m) = \begin{cases} \gamma'_k & \text{if } m = 3^k \text{ for } k \geq 1 \\ a & \text{if } m = 2^k \text{ and } \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \gamma'_{\Phi(k)(i)} = a \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then the following is obvious:

Lemma 3.6. *The function f introduced above is Borel and for all $(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi) \in \mathbf{R}_{\text{hom}}$ we have*

$$C^*(\gamma') \simeq C^*(f(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi)).$$

Moreover, for $\Psi, \Phi' : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ defined by $\Phi'(m) = \overline{2^m}$ and $\Psi(m) = \overline{3^m}$ for $m \geq 1$, we have that $\mathbf{R}_{\text{iso}}(\gamma', f(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi), \Psi)$, $\mathbf{R}_{\text{hom}}(\gamma, f(\gamma, \gamma', \Phi), \Phi')$ and

$$\hat{\Psi} \circ \hat{\Phi} = \hat{\Phi}'.$$

Proof of Proposition 3.5. By Proposition 2.7 it will suffice to define LIM with the range in Ξ . Fix $((\gamma_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}, (\Phi_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}) \in \mathbf{R}_{\text{dir}}$, let

$$A = \varinjlim_{i \rightarrow \infty} (C^*(\gamma_i), \hat{\Phi}_i),$$

and let $f_i : C^*(\gamma_i) \rightarrow A$ be the connecting maps satisfying $f_{i+1} \circ \hat{\Phi}_i = f_i$. By Lemma 3.6 we may assume that for all $m \in \mathbb{N}$ the sequence $\Phi_i(m)$, for $i \in \mathbb{N}$, is constant. Let $\varphi_i(m) = \Phi_i(m)(1)$, define $\varphi_{i,j} = \varphi_i \circ \cdots \circ \varphi_j$ for $j < i$, and let $\beta : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ be a fixed bijection. Let $\tilde{\gamma} \in \Gamma$ be defined by

$$\tilde{\gamma}(i) = f_{\beta(i)_0}(\gamma_{\beta(i)_0}(\beta(i)_1)).$$

Then a code $\delta \in \Xi$ for $\tilde{\gamma}$ is given by

$$\delta(i) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|\mathbf{p}_{\varphi_{k, \beta(i)_0}(\beta(i)_1)}(\gamma_k)\|$$

and if we define

$$\Psi_j((\gamma_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}, (\Phi_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}})(m)(n) = k \iff \beta(k)_0 = j \wedge \beta(k)_1 = m$$

then Ψ_j is a code for f_j . □

Next we prove that most standard constructions and relations that occur in C*-algebra theory correspond to Borel maps and relations in the parameterizations we have introduced. The first lemma follows easily from the definitions, and we leave the proof to the reader.

Lemma 3.7. *The following maps are Borel.*

- (1) $\mathcal{B}(H) \times \mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H) : (a, b) \mapsto ab$,
- (2) $\mathcal{B}(H) \times \mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H) : (a, b) \mapsto a + b$,
- (3) $\mathcal{B}(H) \times \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H) : (a, \lambda) \mapsto \lambda a$,
- (4) $\mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H) : a \mapsto a^*$,
- (5) $\mathcal{B}(H) \times \mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H) \otimes_{\min} \mathcal{B}(H) : (a, b) \mapsto a \otimes b$ (where $\mathcal{B}(H) \otimes_{\min} \mathcal{B}(H)$ is identified with $\mathcal{B}(H)$ by fixing a *-isomorphism),
- (6) $\mathcal{B}(H) \times \mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow M_2(\mathcal{B}(H)) : (a, b) \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix}$ (where $M_2(\mathcal{B}(H))$ is identified with $\mathcal{B}(H)$ by fixing a *-isomorphism).

Lemma 3.8. *The following subsets of $\mathcal{B}(H)$, $\mathcal{B}(H)^2$, and Γ are Borel.*

- (1) $\{(a, b) : ab = ba\}$.
- (2) $\mathcal{B}(H)_{\text{sa}} = \{a : a = a^*\}$.
- (3) $\mathcal{B}(H)_+ = \{a \in \mathcal{B}(H)_{\text{sa}} : a \geq 0\}$.
- (4) $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{B}(H)) = \{a \in \mathcal{B}(H) : a \text{ is a projection}\}$.
- (5) $\{a : a \text{ is a partial isometry}\}$.
- (6) $\{a : a \text{ is invertible}\}$.
- (7) $\{a : a \text{ is normal}\}$.

Proof. (4) Immediate since the maps $a \mapsto a - a^2$ and $a \mapsto a - a^*$ are Borel measurable.

(5) Since a is a partial isometry if and only if a^*a and aa^* are both projections, this follows from the Borel-measurability of these maps and (4).

(6) Let ξ_n be a countable dense subset of the unit ball of $\mathcal{B}(H)$. Then a is invertible if and only if there is $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $\|a\xi_n\| \geq \varepsilon$ and $\|a^*\xi_n\| \geq \varepsilon$ for all n ([21, 3.2.6]).

(7) Immediate since the map $a \mapsto [a, a^*]$ is Borel. □

Next we consider formation of the matrix algebra over a C^* -algebra. For this purpose, fix bijections $\beta_n : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{n \times n}$ for each n . While the next Lemma is in some sense a special case of the Lemma that follows it (which deals with tensor products) the formulation given below will be used later for the proof of Theorem 1.2.

Lemma 3.9. *For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ there are Borel functions $M_n : \Gamma(H) \rightarrow \Gamma(H^n)$ and $\theta_n : \Gamma(H) \times (\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}})^n \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that*

(1)

$$M_n(\gamma) = \left(\begin{array}{ccc} \gamma_{\beta_n(l)(1,1)} & \cdots & \gamma_{\beta_n(l)(1,n)} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \gamma_{\beta_n(l)(n,1)} & \cdots & \gamma_{\beta_n(l)(n,n)} \end{array} \right) : l \in \mathbb{N}$$

(2) *If $(\gamma, \Psi_i) \in R_{\text{hom}}^H$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$ then*

$$(\gamma, M_n(\gamma), \theta_n(\gamma, \Psi_1, \dots, \Psi_n)) \in R_{\text{hom}}^{H, H^n}$$

and

$$\theta_n(\gamma, \Psi_1, \dots, \Psi_n)(k)(i) = m \implies \mathfrak{p}_m(M_n(\gamma)) = \text{diag}(\gamma(\Psi_1(k)(i)), \dots, \gamma(\Psi_n(k)(i))).$$

That is, $\theta_n(\gamma, \Psi_1, \dots, \Psi_n)$ codes the diagonal embedding twisted by the homomorphisms $\hat{\Psi}_i$.

Proof. (1) is clear. (2) follows by letting $\theta_n(\gamma, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_n)(k)(i) = m$ if and only if m is the least such that

$$\mathfrak{p}_m(M_n(\gamma)) = \text{diag}(\gamma(\Psi_1(k)(i)), \dots, \gamma(\psi_n(k)(i))).$$

□

Lemma 3.10. *There is a Borel-measurable map $\text{Tensor} : \Gamma \times \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma$ such that*

$$C^*(\text{Tensor}(\gamma, \delta)) \cong C^*(\gamma) \otimes_{\min} C^*(\delta)$$

for all γ and δ in Γ .

Moreover, there is a Borel-measurable map $\text{Tensor}_0 : \Gamma \times \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma$ such that if $1 \in C^*(\delta)$ then $C^*(\text{Tensor}_0(\gamma, \delta))$ is the canonical copy of $C^*(\gamma)$ inside $C^*(\gamma) \otimes_{\min} C^*(\delta)$.

Proof. Fix a $*$ -isomorphism $\Psi : \mathcal{B}(H) \otimes_{\min} \mathcal{B}(H) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H)$. Define

$$\text{Tensor}(\gamma, \delta)_{2^m(2n+1)} = \Psi(\gamma_m \otimes \delta_n).$$

Then Tensor is clearly Borel and the algebra generated by $\text{Tensor}(\gamma, \delta)$ is $C^*(\gamma) \otimes_{\min} C^*(\delta)$. For the moreover part, $\text{Tensor}_0(\gamma)_m = \Psi(\gamma_m \otimes 1)$ clearly works. □

It is not difficult to see that the set $\{\gamma \in \Gamma : 1 \in C^*(\gamma)\}$ is Borel (cf. Lemma 3.14) but we shall not need this fact.

Lemma 3.11. *If X is a locally compact Hausdorff space then there is a Borel measurable map $\Phi : \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma$ such that*

$$\Phi(\gamma) \cong C_0(X, C^*(\gamma))$$

for all $\gamma \in \Gamma$. In particular, letting $X = (0, 1)$, we conclude that there is a Borel map Φ such that $\Phi(\gamma)$ is isomorphic to the suspension of $C^*(\gamma)$.

Proof. This is immediate from Lemma 3.10 since $C(X, A) \cong C(X) \otimes_{\min} A$. □

Lemma 3.12. *There is a Borel function $\text{Unit}: \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma$ such that $C^*(\text{Unit}(\gamma))$ is isomorphic to the unitization of $C^*(\gamma)$.*

Proof. Fix a partial isometry v such that $vv^* = 1$ and v^*v is a projection onto a space of codimension 1. Let $\text{Unit}(\gamma)_0 = 1$ and $\text{Unit}(\gamma)_{n+1} = v^*\gamma_n v$. Then $C^*(\gamma)$ is as required. \square

3.3. Effective enumerations.

Lemma 3.13.

- (1) *There is a Borel map $\text{Sa}: \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma$ such that for every $\gamma \in \Gamma$ the set $\{\text{Sa}(\gamma)(n) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a norm-dense subset of the set of self-adjoint elements of $C^*(\gamma)$.*
- (2) *There is a Borel map $\text{Un}: \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma$ such that the set $\{\text{Un}(\gamma) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is norm-dense in the set of unitaries in $C^*(\gamma)$ whenever $C^*(\gamma)$ is unital.*
- (3) *There is a Borel map $\text{Pos}: \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma$ such that for every $\gamma \in \Gamma$ the set $\{\text{Pos}(\gamma)(n) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a norm-dense subset of the set of positive elements of $C^*(\gamma)$.*
- (4) *There is a Borel map $\text{Proj}: \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma$ such that for every $\gamma \in \Gamma$ the set $\{\text{Proj}(\gamma)(n) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a norm-dense subset of the set of projections of $C^*(\gamma)$.*

Proof. (1) Let $\text{Sa}(\gamma)(n) = \frac{1}{2}(\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma) + \mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)^*)$ for all n . Clearly each $\text{Sa}(\gamma)(n)$ is self-adjoint. If $a \in C^*(\gamma)$ is self-adjoint then $\|a - \text{Sa}(\gamma)(n)\| \leq \|a - \mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)\|$. Therefore the range of Sa is norm-dense subset of the set of self-adjoint elements of $C^*(\gamma)$.

(2) Let $\text{Un}(\gamma)(n) = \exp(i \text{Sa}(\gamma)(n))$.

(3) Let $\text{Pos}(\gamma)(n) = \mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)^* \mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)$ for all n . Pick a positive $a \in C^*(\gamma)$ and fix $\varepsilon > 0$. Pick $b \in C^*(\gamma)$ such that $a = b^*b$. Let n be such that $\|\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma) - b\| < \varepsilon/(2\|b\|)$ and $\|\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)\| \leq \|b\|$. Then

$$\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)^* \mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma) - a = (\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)^* - b^*)\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma) + b^*(\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma) - b)$$

and the right hand side clearly has norm $< \varepsilon$.

(4) Fix a function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that the iterates f^n , $n \in \mathbb{N}$, of f converge uniformly to the function defined by $g(x) = 0$, $x \leq 1/4$ and $g(x) = 1$ for $x \geq 3/4$ on $(-\infty, 1/4] \cup [3/4, \infty)$. For example, we can take

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \leq 0 \\ \frac{x}{2}, & 0 < x \leq \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{3}{2}x - \frac{1}{4}, & \frac{1}{4} < x \leq \frac{3}{4} \\ 1 - (1 - x)/2, & \frac{3}{4} < x \leq 1 \\ 1, & x > 1. \end{cases}$$

The set $X = \mathcal{B}(H)_{\text{sa}}$ is a Borel subset of $\mathcal{B}(H)$ by Lemma 3.8. Note that $X \cap \{\text{Pos}(\gamma)(n) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is dense in $X \cap C^*(\gamma)$. Let $\Psi: X \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H)^{\mathbb{N}}$ be defined by

$$\Psi(a)(n) = f^n(a).$$

By Lemma 3.4 the set $Y = \{b \in X : \Psi(b) \text{ is Cauchy}\}$ is Borel. For n such that $\text{Pos}(\gamma)(n) \in Y$ let $\text{Proj}(\gamma)(n)$ be the limit of this sequence, and let $\text{Proj}(\gamma)(n) = 0$ otherwise. By Lemma 3.4 again, Proj is Borel.

Fix γ and n . Clearly, the operator $\text{Proj}(\gamma)(n)$ is positive and its spectrum is a subset of $\{0, 1\}$. Therefore it is a projection in $C^*(\gamma)$. We need to check that for every projection $p \in C^*(\gamma)$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ there is n such that $\|\text{Proj}(\gamma)(n) - p\| < \varepsilon$.

We may assume $\varepsilon < 1/4$. Pick n so that $\|\text{Pos}(\gamma)(n) - p\| < \varepsilon$. Since $\varepsilon < 1/4$, the spectrum of $\text{Pos}(\gamma)(n)$ is included in $(-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \cup (1-\varepsilon, 1+\varepsilon) \subseteq (-1/4, 1/4) \cup (3/4, 5/4)$ and therefore the sequence $f^j(\text{Pos}(\gamma)(n))$, $j \in \mathbb{N}$, converges to a projection, q . Clearly $\|p - q\| < 2\varepsilon$. \square

Recall from 2.6 that Γ_u denotes the set of $\gamma \in \Gamma$ parameterizing unital C^* -algebras. From the previous Lemma we now obtain:

Lemma 3.14. *The set Γ_u is Borel, and there is a Borel map $u : \Gamma_u \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that $\text{Proj}(\gamma)(u(\gamma))$ is the unit in $C^*(\gamma)$.*

Proof. For projections p and q we have that $p \leq q$ and $p \neq q$ implies $\|p - q\| = 1$. Therefore $C^*(\gamma)$ is unital if and only if $\text{Proj}(\gamma)(n)$ is its unit for some n . Also, p is a unit in A if and only if $pa = a = ap$ when a ranges over a dense subset of A . Therefore $C^*(\gamma)$ is unital if and only if there is m such that for all n we have

$$(3.1) \quad \text{Proj}(\gamma)(m)\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma) = \mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)\text{Proj}(\gamma)(m) = \mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma).$$

To define $u : \Gamma_u \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, simply let $u(\gamma) = m$ if and only if $m \in \mathbb{N}$ is least such that 3.1 holds for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. \square

Corollary 3.15. *The parameterization $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}, \Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u}, \Gamma_u, \hat{\Gamma}_u, \Xi_u$ and $\hat{\Xi}_u$ of unital separable C^* -algebras all equivalent.*

Proof. It is clear from the previous Lemma and Propositions 2.6 and 2.7 that $\Gamma_u, \hat{\Gamma}_u, \Xi_u$ and $\hat{\Xi}_u$ are equivalent standard Borel parameterizations. On the other hand, it is easy to see that Lemma 2.4 hold for $Y = \hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}$, and so it is enough to show weak equivalence of Γ_u and $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}$. In one direction, the natural map $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u} \rightarrow \Gamma : f \rightarrow \gamma(f)$ given by $\gamma(f)(n) = f(\mathfrak{q}_n)$ clearly works. The other direction can be proven by a GNS argument analogous to the proof of proposition 2.7. \square

3.4. Effros Borel structure. If X is a Polish space then $F(X)$ denotes the space of all closed subsets of X equipped with the σ -algebra generated by the sets

$$\{K \in F(X) : K \cap U \neq \emptyset\}$$

for $U \subseteq X$ open. This is a standard Borel space ([13, §12.C]) and its subspaces are typically used as Borel spaces of separable Banach spaces, von Neumann algebras, etc. Since by a result of Junge and Pisier there is no universal separable C^* -algebra ([11]), the space of subalgebras of a given separable C^* -algebra cannot be a Borel space of all C^* -algebras. However, the subspace of $F(\mathcal{O}_2)$ consisting of subalgebras of \mathcal{O}_2 (where \mathcal{O}_2 is the Cuntz algebra with two generators) is, by a result of Kirchberg, a Borel space of all exact C^* -algebras (see §7 and cf. Lemma 6.2).

For $A \subseteq X \times Y$ and $x \in X$ let A_x denote the (vertical) *section* of A at x , that is, $A_x = \{y : (x, y) \in A\}$. Below (and later) we will need the following well-known fact (see [13, 28.8])

Lemma 3.16. *Let X and Y be Polish spaces and assume that $A \subseteq X \times Y$ is Borel and all sections A_x are compact. Then the set $A^+ = \{(x, A_x) : x \in X\}$ is a Borel subset of $X \times F(Y)$, and the map $x \mapsto A_x$ is Borel.*

3.5. Coding states. Roughly following [14, §2], we shall describe a coding of states on $C^*(\gamma)$. If ϕ is a functional on $C^*(\gamma)$ then, being norm-continuous, it is uniquely determined by its restriction to $\{\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$. Also, writing $\Delta(r) = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| \leq r\}$ we have $\|\phi\| \leq 1$ if and only if for every n we have $\phi(\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)) \in \Delta(\|\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)\|)$. Therefore we can identify ϕ with $\hat{\phi} \in \prod_n \Delta(\|\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)\|)$. Clearly, the set of $\hat{\phi}$ such that ϕ is additive is compact in the product metric topology. Since ϕ is positive

if and only if $\phi(\mathfrak{p}_n^*(\gamma)\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)) \geq 0$ for all n , the set of all states is also compact. Similarly, the set of all traces is compact. By the obvious rescaling of the coordinates, we can identify $\prod_n \Delta(\|\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)\|)$ with $\Delta^{\mathbb{N}}$ (writing Δ for $\Delta(1)$). Consider the space $\mathbb{K} = K_c(\Delta^{\mathbb{N}})$ of compact subsets of $\Delta^{\mathbb{N}}$ and its subspace \mathbb{K}_{conv} of compact convex subsets of $\Delta^{\mathbb{N}}$.

Lemma 3.17. *With the above identifications, there are Borel maps $\mathbb{S}: \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$, $\mathbb{P}: \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$ and $\mathbb{T}: \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$ such that $\mathbb{S}(\gamma)$ is the set of all states on $C^*(\gamma)$, $\mathbb{P}(\gamma)$ is the closure of the set of all pure states on $C^*(\gamma)$ and $\mathbb{T}(\gamma)$ is the set of all tracial states on $C^*(\gamma)$.*

Proof. For \mathbb{S} and \mathbb{T} this is obvious from the above discussion and Lemma 3.16. The existence of \mathbb{P} can be proved by a proof similar to that of [14, Lemma 2.2]. \square

Lemma 3.18. *There are Borel maps $\text{State}: \Gamma \rightarrow (\Delta^{\mathbb{N}})^{\mathbb{N}}$, $\text{Pure}: \Gamma \rightarrow (\Delta^{\mathbb{N}})^{\mathbb{N}}$ and $\text{Trace}: \Gamma \rightarrow (\Delta^{\mathbb{N}})^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that $\text{State}(\gamma)(m)$, for $m \in \mathbb{N}$, is a dense subset of $\mathbb{S}(\gamma)$, $\text{Pure}(\gamma)(m)$, for $m \in \mathbb{N}$ is a dense subset of $\mathbb{P}(\gamma)$ and $\text{Trace}(\gamma)(m)$, for $m \in \mathbb{N}$, is a dense subset of $\mathbb{T}(\gamma)$.*

Proof. For State and Trace this is a consequence of the previous lemma and the Kuratowski–Ryll–Nardzewski Theorem ([13, Theorem 12.13]). The construction of the map Pure , was given in [14, Corollary 2.3]. \square

4. CHOQUET AND BAUER SIMPLEXES

Let us first recall the pertinent definitions. All compact convex sets considered here will be metrizable, and therefore without a loss of generality subsets of the Hilbert cube. For such S its *extreme boundary*, denoted ∂S , is the set of its extremal points. By the Krein–Milman theorem S is contained in the closure of the convex hull of ∂S . A *metrizable Choquet simplex* is a simplex S as above with the following property: for every point x in S there exists a unique probability boundary measure μ (i.e., a measure concentrated on ∂S) such that x is the barycentre of μ . This notion has a number of equivalent definitions, see [1, §II.3]. The isomorphism relation in the category of Choquet simplexes is affine homeomorphism.

The extreme boundary of a Choquet simplex S is always G_δ , and in the case that it is compact S is said to be a *Bauer simplex*. It is not difficult to see that in this case S is isomorphic to the space $P(\partial S)$ of Borel probability measures on ∂S . In particular Bauer simplexes S and L are isomorphic if and only if their extreme boundaries ∂S and ∂L are homeomorphic.

Let Δ_n denote the n -simplex ($n \in \mathbb{N}$). Every metrizable Choquet simplex S can be represented as an inverse limit of finite-dimensional Choquet simplexes

$$(4.1) \quad S \simeq \varprojlim (\Delta_{n_i}, \psi_i),$$

where and $\psi_i: \Delta_{n_i} \rightarrow \Delta_{n_{i-1}}$ is an affine surjection for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$. This was proved in [18, Corollary to Theorem 5.2] and we shall prove a Borel version of this result in Lemma 4.7.

4.0.1. Order unit spaces. Let (A, A^+) be an ordered real Banach space. Here A^+ is a cone in A and the order is defined by $a \leq b$ if and only if $b - a \in A^+$. Such a space is *Archimedean* if for every $a \in A$ the set $\{ra : r \in \mathbb{R}^+\}$ has an upper bound precisely when a is *negative*, i.e., $a \leq 0$. An element $1_A \in A$ is an *order unit* if for every $a \in A$ there is $r \in \mathbb{R}^+$ such that $-r1_A \leq a \leq r1_A$. We say that an Archimedean ordered vector space with a distinguished unit $(A, A^+, 1_A)$ is an *order unit space*, and define a norm on A by

$$\|a\| = \inf\{r > 0 : -r1_A \leq a \leq r1_A\}.$$

Our interest in order unit spaces stems from the fact that the category of separable complete order unit spaces is the dual category to the category of metrizable Choquet simplexes. For a Choquet simplex S , the associated dual object is $\text{Aff}(S)$, the real-valued affine functions on S , with the natural ordering and order unit set to be the constant function with value 1. Conversely, given an order unit space $(A, A^+, 1_A)$, the associated dual object is the space of positive real functionals ϕ on A of norm one, with respect to the weak*-topology. In the case of Bauer simplexes S there is also a natural identification of the complete separable order unit spaces $\text{Aff}(S)$ and $C_{\mathbb{R}}(\partial S)$ obtained by restriction. In particular, for the simplex Δ_n we have

$$\text{Aff}(\Delta_n) \cong (\mathbb{R}^{n+1}, (\mathbb{R}^+)^{n+1}, (1, 1, \dots, 1)).$$

Setting e_0 to be the origin in \mathbb{R}^n , the co-ordinate functions $f_k : \Delta_n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $0 \leq k \leq n$, given by the formula

$$f_k(e_i) = \begin{cases} 1 & i = k \\ 0 & i \neq k \end{cases}$$

on vertices and extended affinely, form a canonical basis for $\text{Aff}(\Delta_n)$.

Let X and Y be separable order unit spaces with order units 1_X and 1_Y . Let as usual $L(X, Y)$ denote the set of linear, continuous maps, and let $L_1(X, Y) = \{T \in L(X, Y) : \|T\| \leq 1\}$. The space $L_1(X, Y)$ is a Polish space when given the strong topology. The set of order unit preserving maps in L_1 ,

$$L_{\text{ou}}(X, Y) = \{T \in L_1(X, Y) : (\forall x, x' \in X) x \leq x' \implies T(x) \leq T(x') \wedge T(1_X) = 1_Y\}$$

is a closed subset of $L_1(X, Y)$, and is therefore Polish in its own right. (Our definition of L_{ou} involves some redundancy since it is a standard fact that $T \in L_1(X, Y)$ such that $T(1_X) = 1_Y$ is automatically order preserving.)

4.1. Parameterizing metrizable Choquet simplexes and their duals.

4.1.1. *The space Λ .* If $X = \text{Aff}(K)$ and $Y = \text{Aff}(L)$ for metrizable Choquet simplexes K and L , then $L_{\text{ou}}(X, Y)$ is the set of morphisms dual to the affine continuous maps from L to K . It follows from (4.1) that the separable complete order unit spaces all arise as direct limits of sequences

$$\mathbb{R}^{m_1} \xrightarrow{\phi_1} \mathbb{R}^{m_2} \xrightarrow{\phi_2} \mathbb{R}^{m_3} \xrightarrow{\phi_3} \dots$$

with $\phi_n \in L_{\text{ou}}(\mathbb{R}^{m_n}, \mathbb{R}^{m_{n+1}})$. Since we can identify an operator in $L_{\text{ou}}(\mathbb{R}^{m_n}, \mathbb{R}^{m_{n+1}})$ with its matrix, $L_{\text{ou}}(\mathbb{R}^{m_n}, \mathbb{R}^{m_{n+1}})$ is affinely homeomorphic with a closed subspace of $m_n \times m_{n+1}$ matrices. We can therefore parameterize the separable complete order unit spaces (and therefore their duals) using

$$\Lambda = \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \times \prod_{(m,n) \in \mathbb{N}^2} L_{\text{ou}}(\mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{R}^n)$$

in the following way: each $(f, \psi) \in \Lambda$ corresponds to the limit $X(f, \psi)$ of the system

$$\mathbb{R}^{f(1)} \xrightarrow{\psi(f(1), f(2))} \mathbb{R}^{f(2)} \xrightarrow{\psi(f(2), f(3))} \mathbb{R}^{f(3)} \xrightarrow{\psi(f(3), f(4))} \dots$$

Since Λ is a Polish space with respect to the product topology, we have what we will refer to as the *standard Borel space of metrizable Choquet simplexes*. We note that our parameterization is similar in spirit to that of Γ , as we identify our objects with something akin to a dense sequence. This is a good Borel parameterization (see Definition 2.1).

4.1.2. *The space Λ_2 .* The following Borel space of metrizable Choquet simplexes was essentially defined by Lazar and Lindenstrauss in [18] where the emphasis was put on Banach spaces X instead of the simplexes $B(X^*)$. Another difference is that in [18] the authors studied a wider class of spaces whose dual is L^1 .

A simple analysis of an $n \times (n + 1)$ matrix shows that, modulo permuting the basis of \mathbb{R}^{n+1} , every $\phi \in L_{\text{ou}}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^{n+1})$ is of the form

$$(4.2) \quad \phi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_i)$$

where $0 \leq a_i \leq 1$ and $\sum_i a_i = 1$ is in $L_{\text{ou}}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^{n+1})$.

A *representing matrix* of a Choquet simplex is a matrix $(a_{ij})_{(i,j) \in \mathbb{N}^2}$ in which all entries are non-negative, $\sum_{i=1}^n a_{in} = 1$, and $a_{in} = 0$ for $i > n$. By the above, such a matrix codes a directed system

$$\mathbb{R}^1 \xrightarrow{\phi_1} \mathbb{R}^2 \xrightarrow{\phi_2} \mathbb{R}^3 \xrightarrow{\phi_3} \dots$$

where $\phi_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \sum_{i=1}^n a_{in} x_i)$. A limit of this directed system is a Banach space X and the unit ball of its dual is a Choquet simplex with respect to its weak*-topology. This is because an inverse limit of Choquet simplexes is again a Choquet simplex. We let Λ_2 denote the set of all representing matrices, which is a closed set when viewed as a subset of $[0, \infty)^{\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}}$.

On p. 184 of [18] the authors refer to the Borel space of representing matrices when they point out that “It seems to be a very difficult problem to determine the set of all representing matrices of a given separable infinite-dimensional predual of $L_1(\mu)$. We know the answer to this question only for one such space, namely the space of Gurarii and even here the situation is not entirely clear.” Gurarii space is dual to the Poulsen simplex and the Lazar–Lindenstrauss characterization alluded to above implies that a dense G_δ set of representing matrices corresponds to the Poulsen simplex. (By removing zeros, here we identify the matrix a_{in} , $i \leq n \in \mathbb{N}$ with an element of $\prod_n [0, 1]^n$.) This can be taken as a remark about the Borel complexity of certain set, close to the point of view of the present paper or of [14].

4.1.3. *The space Λ_3 .* Let $\delta_n = 2^{-2n}$ and for each n consider the set of all $\phi \in L_{\text{ou}}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^{n+1})$ of the form (4.2) such that all a_i are of the form $k2^{-2n}$ for $k \in \mathbb{N}$. Let \mathcal{F}_n be the set of all $n \times (n+1)$ matrices representing such ϕ . Modulo permuting basis of \mathbb{R}^{n+1} , the set \mathcal{F}_n is δ_n -dense in $L_{\text{ou}}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^{n+1})$.

Lemma 4.1. *For all $m \leq n$ in \mathbb{N} and every $\Phi \in L_{\text{ou}}(\mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{R}^n)$ there are $F_i \in \mathcal{F}_i$ for $m \leq i \leq n$ such that $F_{n-1} \circ \dots \circ F_{m+1} \circ F_m$ is within 2^{-m} from Φ composed with a permutation of the canonical basis of \mathbb{R}^n in the operator norm.*

Proof. The linear operator Φ is coded by an $n \times m$ -matrix (a_{ij}) that has at least one entry equal to 1 in each column. After possibly re-ordering the basis, we may then assume $a_{ii} = 1$ for all $i \leq m$. Furthermore, we can canonically write Φ as a composition of $m - n$ operators

$$\Phi_{n-1} \circ \Phi_{n-2} \circ \dots \circ \Phi_m$$

so that $\Phi_k \in L_{\text{ou}}(\mathbb{R}^k, \mathbb{R}^{k+1})$, and the last row of the matrix of Φ_k is the k -th row of the matrix of Φ padded with zeros. Now choose F_{n-1}, \dots, F_m in $\prod_{k=m}^{n-1} \mathcal{F}_k$ such that $\|F_k - \Phi_k\| < 2^{-2k}$. Then $F = F_{n-1} \circ \dots \circ F_m$ is within 2^{-m} of Φ in the operator norm, as required. \square

Let Λ_3 be the compact metric space $\prod_n \mathcal{F}_n$. By identifying $\psi \in \Lambda_3$ with $(\text{id}, \psi) \in \Lambda$, one sees that each element of Λ_3 represents a Choquet simplex. We fix a well-ordering $\prec_{\mathcal{F}}$ of finite sequences of elements of $\bigcup_n \mathcal{F}_n$, to be used in the proof of Lemma 4.7.

4.1.4. *The space \mathbb{K}_{Choq} .* Recall that \mathbb{K}_{conv} is the space of all compact convex subsets of the Hilbert cube. Let \mathbb{K}_{Choq} denote the space of all Choquet simplexes in $K \in \mathbb{K}_{\text{conv}}$. In Lemma 4.7 we shall show that \mathbb{K}_{Choq} is a Borel subspace of \mathbb{K} , and therefore \mathbb{K}_{Choq} is the ‘natural’ parameterization of Choquet simplexes.

4.1.5. *Our Borel parameterizations of Choquet simplexes are weakly equivalent.* Weak equivalence of Borel parameterizations was defined in (4’) of Definition 2.1.

Proposition 4.2. *The four Borel parameterizations of Choquet simplexes introduced above, Λ , Λ_2 , Λ_3 , and \mathbb{K}_{Choq} , are all weakly equivalent.*

A proof of Proposition 4.2 will take up the rest of this section. Clearly the space \mathbb{K}_{conv} is a closed subset of $K_c(\Delta^{\mathbb{N}})$. In the following consider the Effros Borel space $F(\mathbb{C}_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta))$ of all closed subsets of $\mathbb{C}_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta)$ (see §3.4).

Recall that a *peaked partition of unity* in an order-unit space $(A, A^+, 1_A)$ is a finite set f_1, \dots, f_n of positive elements of A such that $\sum_i f_i = 1_A$ and $\|f_i\| = 1$ for all i . A peaked partition of unity P' *refines* a peaked partition of unity P if every element of P is a convex combination of the elements of P' .

We shall need two facts about real Banach spaces. For a separable Banach space X let $S(X)$ denote the space of closed subspaces of X , with respect to the Effros Borel structure (§3.4). It was proved by Banach that $S(\mathbb{C}_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta))$ is universal for separable Banach spaces, and therefore this space with respect to its Effros Borel structure can be considered as the standard Borel space of separable Banach spaces (see Lemma 4.4). Consider the space $\mathbb{K}_{\text{conv}} \subseteq K_c(\Delta^{\mathbb{N}})$ of compact convex subsets of the Hilbert cube, $\Delta^{\mathbb{N}}$. With respect to the Borel structure induced by the Hausdorff metric, this is the standard Borel space of all compact convex metrizable spaces. For a Banach space X let $B(X^*)$ denote the unit ball of the dual of X , with respect to the weak*-topology. Then $B(X^*)$ is a compact convex space, and it is metrizable if X is separable. The idea in the following is taken from the proof of [14, Lemma 2.2].

Lemma 4.3. *If X is a separable Banach space then there is a Borel map $\Phi: S(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{K}_{\text{conv}}$ such that $\Phi(Y)$ is affinely homeomorphic to the unit ball $B(Y^*)$ of Y^* , with respect to its weak*-topology.*

Proof. By Kuratowski–Ryll–Nardzewski’s theorem ([13, Theorem 12.13]) there are Borel $f_n: S(X) \rightarrow X$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\{f_n(Y) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a dense subset of Y for every Y .

Fix an enumeration $F_n = (r_{n,i} : i \leq k_n)$, for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, of finite sequences of rationals. Define $h_n: S(X) \rightarrow X$ by

$$h_n(Y) = \sum_{i=1}^{k_n} r_{n,i} f_i(Y).$$

Then $\{h_n(Y) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a dense linear subspace of Y for each $Y \in S(X)$.

Let $\Delta(Y) = \prod_n [-\|h_n(Y)\|, \|h_n(Y)\|]$. Let $K(Y)$ be the set of all $\phi \in \Delta(Y)$ such that

(*) $F_i + F_j = F_l$ (where the sum is taken pointwise) implies $\phi(i) + \phi(j) = \phi(l)$, for all i, j and l .

Such a ϕ defines a functional of norm ≤ 1 on a dense subspace of Y , and therefore extends to an element of $B(Y^*)$. Moreover, every functional in $B(Y^*)$ is obtained in this way. Therefore the set of ϕ satisfying (*) is affinely homeomorphic to $B(Y^*)$.

It remains to rescale $K(Y)$. Let $\Phi(Y) = \{\phi \in \Delta^{\mathbb{N}} : (\phi(n)\|h_n(Y)\|)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in K(Y)\}$. Then $\phi \in \Phi(Y)$ if and only if

$$\phi(i)\|h_i(Y)\| + \phi(j)\|h_j(Y)\| = \phi(l)\|h_l(Y)\|$$

for all triples i, j, l satisfying $F_i + F_j = F_l$ (a condition not depending on Y).

Since the map $y \mapsto \|y\|$ is continuous, the map $Y \mapsto \Phi(Y)$ is Borel, and clearly $\Phi(Y)$ is affinely homeomorphic to $K(Y)$ and therefore to $B(Y^*)$. \square

Lemma 4.4. *There is a Borel map $\Psi: \mathbb{K}_{\text{conv}} \rightarrow S(C_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta))$ such that the Banach spaces $\text{Aff}(K)$ and $\Psi(K)$ are isometrically isomorphic for all K .*

Proof. Identify $\Delta^{\mathbb{N}}$ with $\prod_n [-1/n, 1/n]$. Consider the compatible ℓ_2 metric d_2 on $\Delta^{\mathbb{N}}$ and the set

$$\mathcal{Z} = \{(K, x, y) : K \in \mathbb{K}_{\text{conv}}, x \in \Delta^{\mathbb{N}}, y \in K, \text{ and } d_2(x, y) = \inf_{z \in K} d_2(x, z)\}.$$

Since the map $(K, x) \mapsto \inf_{z \in K} d_2(x, z)$ is continuous on $\{K \in \mathbb{K}_{\text{conv}} : K \neq \emptyset\}$, this set is closed. Also, for every pair K, x there is the unique point y such that $(K, x, y) \in \mathcal{Z}$ (e.g., [21, Lemma 3.1.6]). By compactness, the function χ that sends (K, x) to the unique y such that $(K, x, y) \in \mathcal{Z}$ is continuous. Fix a continuous surjective map $\eta: \Delta \rightarrow \Delta^{\mathbb{N}}$. Then $\chi_K(x) = \chi(K, \eta(x))$ defines a continuous surjection from Δ onto K and $K \mapsto \chi_K$ is a continuous map from \mathbb{K}_{conv} into $C(\Delta, \Delta^{\mathbb{N}})$ with respect to the uniform metric. The set

$$\mathcal{Y} = \{(K, f) \in \mathbb{K}_{\text{conv}} \times C_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta) : \text{for some } g \in \text{Aff}(K)\}$$

is closed. To see this, note that $(K, f) \notin \mathcal{Y}$ iff one of the following two conditions happens:

- (1) There are x and y such that $f(x) \neq f(y)$ but $\chi(K, f)(x) = \chi(K, f)(y)$, or
- (2) There are x, y, z and $0 < t < 1$ such that $f(tx + (1-t)y) \neq z$ but

$$t\chi(K, f)(x) + (1-t)\chi(K, f)(y) = \chi(K, f)(z).$$

We need to prove that the map that sends K to $\mathcal{Y}_K = \{f : (K, f) \in \mathcal{Y}\}$ is Borel. Since \mathcal{Y}_K is clearly isometric to $\text{Aff}(K)$, this will conclude the proof.

Let g_n , for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, be a countable dense subset of $C_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta)$. By compactness

$$h_n(K) = (g_n \upharpoonright K) \circ \chi_K \circ \eta$$

is a continuous map from \mathbb{K}_{conv} to $C_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta)$ such that $h_n(K) \in \mathcal{Y}_K$. Moreover, the set $\{h_n(K) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is dense in \mathcal{Y}_K for every K . Since $\mathcal{Y}_K \neq \emptyset$, we conclude that the map $\Psi(K) = \mathcal{Y}_K$ is Borel. This follows by [13, 12.14] or directly by noticing that $\Psi^{-1}(\{X \in S(C_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta)) : X \cap U \neq \emptyset\}) = \bigcap_n h^{-1}(U)$ is Borel for every open $U \subseteq C_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta)$. \square

Let $\Psi: \mathbb{K}_{\text{conv}} \rightarrow S(C_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta))$ be the Borel-measurable map that sends K to $\text{Aff}(K) \subseteq C_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta)$ from Lemma 4.4. For every K and n the set

$$\text{PPU}_n(K) \subseteq (C_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta))^n$$

of all n -tuples in $\Psi(K)$ forming a peaked partition of unity is closed, by compactness of K .

The following lemma is a reformulation of (4.1).

Lemma 4.5. *For a metrizable compact convex set K the following are equivalent.*

- (1) K is a Choquet simplex,
- (2) for every finite $F \subseteq \text{Aff}(K)$, every $\epsilon > 0$ and every peaked partition of unity P in $\text{Aff}(K)$ there is a peaked partition of unity P' that refines P and is such that every element of F is within ϵ of the span of P' . \square

Another equivalent condition, in which (2) is weakened to approximate refinement, follows from [31] and it will be reproved during the course of the proof of Lemma 4.7 below.

Lemma 4.6. *The map from \mathbb{K}_{conv} to $F(C_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta)^n)$ that sends K to $\text{PPU}_n(K)$ is Borel for every fixed n .*

Proof. The set of all $(K, f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n) \in \mathbb{K}_{\text{conv}} \times (C_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta))^n$ such that $f_i \in \Psi(K)$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $\sum_{i \leq n} f_i \equiv 1$ is a relatively closed subset of the set of all (K, f_1, \dots, f_n) such that $f_i \in \Psi(K)$ for all $i \leq n$, and the conclusion follows. \square

By [13, Theorem 12.13] or the proof of Lemma 4.4 and the above we have Borel maps $h_n: \mathbb{K}_{\text{conv}} \rightarrow C_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta)$ such that $\{h_n(K) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a dense subset of $\Psi(K)$, and Borel maps $P_{i,n}: \mathbb{K}_{\text{conv}} \rightarrow (C_{\mathbb{R}}(\Delta))^n$, for $i \in \mathbb{N}$, such that $\{P_{i,n}(K) : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a dense subset of $\text{PPU}_n(K)$, for every $K \in \mathbb{K}_{\text{conv}}$. Also fix $h_i: \mathbb{K} \rightarrow \Delta^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that $\{h_i(K) : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a dense subset of K for all K .

Lemma 4.7. *The set \mathbb{K}_{Choq} is a Borel subset of \mathbb{K} . Moreover, there is a Borel map $\Upsilon: \mathbb{K}_{\text{Choq}} \rightarrow \Lambda_3$ such that $\Upsilon(K)$ is a parameter for K .*

Proof. We shall prove both assertions simultaneously. Let $\varepsilon_i = i^{-2}2^{-i-4}$.

Fix $K \in \mathbb{K}_{\text{Choq}}$ for a moment. Let us say that a partition of unity P ε -refines a partition of unity P' if every element of P' is within ε of the span of P . By Lemma 4.5, there are sequences $d(j) = d(j, K)$, $i(j) = i(j, K)$ and $n(j) = n(j, K)$, for $j \in \mathbb{N}$, such that for each j we have

- (1) $P_{i(j+1), n(j+1)}(K)$ is in $\text{PPU}_{d(j)}(K)$,
- (2) $\{h_i(K) \upharpoonright K : i \leq j\}$ and the restriction of all elements of $P_{i(j), n(j)}(K)$ to K are within ε_j of the rational linear span of the restrictions of elements of $P_{i(j+1), n(j+1)}(K)$ to K ,
- (3) $i(j+1), n(j+1)$ is the lexicographically minimal pair for which (1) and (2) hold.

The set of all triples $(K, (i(j) : j \in \mathbb{N}), (n(j) : j \in \mathbb{N}))$ such that (1) and (2) hold is Borel. Since a function is Borel if and only if its graph is Borel ([13]), the function sending K to $((i(j, K), n(j, K)) : j \in \mathbb{N})$ is Borel.

Still having K fixed, let us write P_j for $P_{i(j, K), n(j, K)}(K)$. Since each $f \in P_j$ is within ε_j of the span of P_{j+1} , [31, Lemma 2.7] implies there is an isometry $\Phi_j: \text{span}(P_j) \rightarrow \text{span}(P_{j+1})$ such that $\|\Phi_j(f) - f\| < 2^{-j}$ for all $f \in \text{span}(P_j)$. Using Lemma 4.1, we can fix the $\prec_{\mathcal{F}}$ -least composition of operators in $\bigcup_n \mathcal{F}_n$ (see §4.1.2), $\psi(j)$, that 2^{-j} -approximates Φ_j in the operator norm. This defines an element ψ of Λ_3 . Again, the function that associates ψ to K is Borel since its graph is a Borel set.

It remains to prove that the direct limit of $\mathbb{R}^{d(j)}$, for $j \in \mathbb{N}$, determined by ψ is isometric to $\text{Aff}(K)$. For every fixed k the sequence of linear operators $\psi(k+j) \circ \psi(k+j-1) \circ \dots \circ \psi(k)$ for $j \in \mathbb{N}$ forms a Cauchy sequence in the supremum norm. Therefore the image of P_k under this sequence converges to a peaked partition of unity, denoted by Q_k , of $\text{Aff}(K)$. Then Q_k , for $k \in \mathbb{N}$, form a refining sequence of peaked partitions of unity of $\text{Aff}(K)$ such that the span of $\bigcup_k Q_k$ is dense in $\text{Aff}(K)$. Thus with the dependence of ψ on K understood, we have that $\Upsilon(K) := \psi$ is the required parameter for K in Λ_3 . \square

The following Lemma will only be used later in Section 5, but we include it here as it fits thematically in this section.

Lemma 4.8. *There is a Borel map $\Psi: K_c(\Delta^{\mathbb{N}}) \rightarrow \Lambda_3$ such that $\Psi(K)$ represents a Choquet simplex affinely homeomorphic to the Bauer simplex $P(K)$.*

Proof. By Lemma 4.7 it suffices to define a Borel map $\Psi_0: K_c(\Delta^{\mathbb{N}}) \rightarrow \mathbb{K}_{\text{Choq}}$ so that $\Psi_0(K)$ is affinely homeomorphic to $P(K)$ for all K . For each $K \in K_c(\Delta^{\mathbb{N}})$ the set $P(K)$ is affinely

homeomorphic to a closed convex subset Y_K of $P(\Delta^{\mathbb{N}})$, by identifying each measure ν on K with its canonical extension ν' to $\Delta^{\mathbb{N}}$, $\nu'(A) = \nu(A \cap K)$. Moreover, the map $K \mapsto Y_K$ is continuous with respect to the Hausdorff metric. Fix an affine homeomorphism of $P(\Delta^{\mathbb{N}})$ into $\Delta^{\mathbb{N}}$. For example, if f_n , for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, is a sequence uniformly dense in $\{f : \Delta^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \Delta\}$ then take $\nu \mapsto (\int f_n d\nu : n \in \mathbb{N})$. By composing the map $K \mapsto Y_K$ with this map we conclude the proof. \square

Proof of Proposition 4.2. A Borel homomorphism from the parametrization \mathbb{K}_{Choq} to Λ_3 was given in Lemma 4.7. If $\psi \in \Lambda_3$ then (possibly after permuting the basis of \mathbb{R}^{n+1}) each $\psi(n)$ defines a_{1n}, \dots, a_{nn} as in §4.1.2. Therefore we have a canonical Borel homomorphism from the parametrization Λ_3 into Λ_2 . This map is continuous, and even Lipschitz in the sense that $\psi(n)$ determines all a_{in} for $i \leq n$. Similarly, every representing matrix in Λ_2 canonically defines a directed system in Λ .

We therefore only need to check that there is a Borel homomorphism from Λ to \mathbb{K}_{Choq} .

Given $(f, \psi) \in \Lambda$, we define $K = K(f, \psi)$ as follows. With $f(0) = 0$ let $k_n = \sum_{i=0}^n f(i)$. For $a \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$ and $n \geq 0$ let $a_n = a \upharpoonright [k_n, k_{n+1})$ and identify $a \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$ with $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$. Let $B = \{a \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}} : (\forall n) \psi_n(a_n) = a_{n+1}\}$. Then $B = B(f, \psi)$ is a separable subspace of ℓ_∞ closed in the product topology. Also, $(f, \psi) \mapsto B(f, \psi) \cap \Delta^{\mathbb{N}}$ is a continuous map from Λ into the hyperspace of $\Delta^{\mathbb{N}}$, and therefore the map $(f, \psi) \mapsto B(f, \psi)$ is a Borel map from Λ into $F(\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}})$.

Let $K(f, \psi)$ denote the unit ball $B^*(f, \psi)$ of the dual of the Banach space $B(f, \psi)$. When equipped with the weak*-topology, $K(f, \psi)$ is affinely homeomorphic to the Choquet simplex represented by (f, ψ) . We complete the proof by applying Lemma 4.3. \square

5. THE ISOMORPHISM RELATION FOR AI ALGEBRAS

Recall that an *approximately interval* (or *AI*) C*-algebra is a direct limit

$$A = \varinjlim (A_i, \phi_i),$$

where, for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$, $A_i \cong F_i \otimes C([0, 1])$ for some finite-dimensional C*-algebra F_i and $\phi_i : A_i \rightarrow A_{i+1}$ is a *-homomorphism. In this section we will prove the following (Λ is the space defined in §4 and notation $X(f, \psi)$ was introduced in §4.1.1):

Theorem 5.1. *There is a Borel function $\zeta : \Lambda \rightarrow \Gamma$ such that for all $(f, \psi) \in \Lambda$,*

- (1) $C^*(\zeta(f, \psi))$ is a unital simple AI algebra.
- (2) $(K_0(C^*(\zeta(f, \psi))), K_0^+(C^*(\zeta(f, \psi))), 1) \simeq (\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}^+, 1)$ and $K_1(C^*(\zeta(f, \psi))) \simeq \{1\}$.
- (3) If T is the tracial state simplex of $C^*(\zeta(f, \psi))$ then $\text{Aff}(T) \simeq X(f, \psi)$.

We note that Theorem 5.1 immediately implies Theorem 1.2:

Corollary 5.2. *The following relations are Borel reducible to isomorphism of simple unital AI algebras:*

- (1) Affine homeomorphism of Choquet simplexes.
- (2) Homeomorphisms of compact Polish spaces.
- (3) For any countable language \mathcal{L} , the isomorphism relation $\simeq^{\text{Mod}(\mathcal{L})}$ on countable models of \mathcal{L} .

Moreover, isomorphism of simple unital AI algebras is not classifiable by countable structures, and is not a Borel equivalence relation.

Proof. For (1), let ζ be as in Theorem 5.1. Since simple unital AI algebras are classified by their Elliott invariant and since $(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}^+, 1)$ has a unique state, it follows that $(f, \psi) \simeq^\Lambda (f', \psi')$ if and only if $C^*(\zeta(f, \psi)) \simeq C^*(\zeta(f', \psi'))$.

For (2), note that by Lemma 4.8, homeomorphism of compact subsets of $[0, 1]^{\mathbb{N}}$ is Borel reducible to affine homeomorphism in Λ .

(3) follows from (2) and [9, 4.21], where it was shown $\simeq^{\mathcal{L}}$ is Borel reducible to homeomorphism.

It was shown in [9, 4.22] that homeomorphism of compact subsets of \mathbb{K} is not classifiable by countable structures, and so by (2) neither is isomorphism of AI algebras. Finally, it was shown in [7] that $\simeq^{\text{Mod}(\mathcal{L})}$ is not Borel when \mathcal{L} consists of just a single binary relation symbol, and so it follows from (3) that isomorphism of simple unital AI algebras is not Borel. \square

The strategy underlying the proof of Theorem 5.1 is parallel to the main argument in [28]. As a first step, we prove the following:

Lemma 5.3. *There is a Borel map $\varsigma : \Lambda \rightarrow L_{\text{ou}}(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1])^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that for all $(f, \psi) \in \Lambda$ we have*

$$(5.1) \quad X(f, \psi) \simeq \lim(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1], \varsigma(f, \psi)_n).$$

Proof. Let $f_{1,1} \in C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1]$ be the constant 1 function, and for each $n > 1$ and $0 \leq i \leq n-1$, let $f_{n,i} : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the function such that

$$f_{n,i} \left(\frac{j}{n-1} \right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j = i \\ 0 & \text{if } j \neq i \end{cases}$$

and which is piecewise linear elsewhere. Then $\mathcal{P}_n = \{f_{n,i} : 0 \leq i \leq n\}$ is a peaked partition of unity. For each n , let $\eta_n : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1]$ be the linear map given on the standard basis (e_i) of \mathbb{R}^n by $\eta_n(e_i) = f_{n,i}$, and let $\beta_n : C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be given by $\beta_n(f)_i = f(\frac{i}{n-1})$. Then η_n and β_n are order unit space homomorphisms and $\beta_n \circ \eta_n = \text{id}_{\mathbb{R}^n}$. Define $\varsigma(f, \psi)_n = \eta_{f(n+1)} \circ \psi(f(n), f(n+1)) \circ \beta_{f(n)}$ and note that ς is continuous, and so it is Borel. Since the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} C_{\mathbb{R}}([0, 1]) & \xrightarrow{\varsigma(f, \psi)_1} & C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1] & \xrightarrow{\varsigma(f, \psi)_2} & C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1] & \xrightarrow{\varsigma(f, \psi)_3} & \dots \\ \beta_{f(1)} \downarrow & & \beta_{f(2)} \downarrow & & \beta_{f(3)} \downarrow & & \\ \mathbb{R}^{f(1)} & \xrightarrow{\psi(f(1), f(2))} & \mathbb{R}^{f(2)} & \xrightarrow{\psi(f(2), f(3))} & \mathbb{R}^{f(3)} & \xrightarrow{\psi(f(3), f(4))} & \dots \end{array}$$

commutes, (5.1) holds. \square

Before proceeding, we fix our notation and collect the key results from [28] that we need. We identify $C[0, 1] \otimes \mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{C})$ and $\mathbb{M}_n(C[0, 1])$ in the natural way. We call a *-homomorphism $\phi : \mathbb{M}_n(C[0, 1]) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_m(C[0, 1])$ a *standard homomorphism* when there are continuous functions

$$f_1, \dots, f_{\frac{m}{n}} : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$$

such that $\phi(g) = \text{diag}(g \circ f_1, \dots, g \circ f_{\frac{m}{n}})$. Following [28], we will call the sequence $f_1, \dots, f_{\frac{m}{n}}$ the *characteristic functions* of the standard homomorphism ϕ . The tracial state space of $\mathbb{M}_n(C[0, 1])$ is canonically identified with the Borel probability measures on $[0, 1]$ (see [28, p. 606]), and so we can canonically identify $\text{Aff}(T(\mathbb{M}_n(C[0, 1])))$ and $C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1]$.

The following Lemma collects the results from [28] that we need.

Lemma 5.4 (Thomsen).

- (1) *Any AI algebra can be represented as an inductive limit $\lim_n(\mathbb{M}_n(C[0, 1], \phi_n)$, where each ϕ_n is a standard homomorphism.*

(2) If $\phi : \mathbb{M}_n(C[0, 1]) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_m(C[0, 1])$ is a standard homomorphism with characteristic functions $f_1, \dots, f_{\frac{m}{n}}$, then the induced order unit space homomorphism $\hat{\phi} : C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1] \rightarrow C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1]$ (under the natural identification with the tracial state spaces) is given by

$$\hat{\phi}(g) = \frac{n}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{m}{n}} g \circ f_i.$$

(3) Let $\phi_i, \psi_i \in L_{\text{ou}}(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1])$ be order unit morphisms ($i \in \mathbb{N}$) and let $\delta_i \in \mathbb{R}_+$ be a sequence such that $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \delta_i < \infty$. Suppose there are finite sets $F_k \subseteq C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1]$ such that

(a) $F_k \subseteq F_{k+1}$ for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$;

(b) $\bigcup_k F_k$ has dense span in $C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1]$;

(c) for all $f \in F_k$ there are $g, h \in F_{k+1}$ such that $\|\phi_i(f) - g\|, \|\psi_i(f) - h\| \leq \delta_{k+1}$ for all $i \leq k$;

(d) for all $f \in F_k$ we have $\|\phi_k(f) - \psi_k(f)\| \leq \delta_k$.

Then $\lim_{\rightarrow} (C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1], \phi_i)$ and $\lim_{\rightarrow} (C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1], \psi_i)$ are isomorphic as order unit spaces.

(4) For any order unit homomorphism $\psi : C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1] \rightarrow C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1]$, $f_0 \in C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1]$, finite $F \subseteq C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1]$, $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ there is $m = m_0nk \in \mathbb{N}$ and continuous $f_1, \dots, f_{\frac{m}{n}} : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that for all $g \in F$ we have

$$(5.2) \quad \|\psi(g) - \frac{n}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{m}{n}} g \circ f_i\|_{\infty} < \varepsilon.$$

Proof. (1) and (2) are simply restatements of Lemma 1.1 and Lemma 3.5 in [28], while (3) follows immediately from [28, Lemma 3.4]. For (4), note that by the Krein-Milman type theorem [28, Theorem 2.1], we can find a multiple d of k and continuous $\tilde{f}_1, \dots, \tilde{f}_N : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that $\|\psi(g) - \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{n_i}{d} (g \circ \tilde{f}_i)\|_{\infty} < \varepsilon$ where $1 \leq n_i \leq d$ satisfy $\sum_{i=1}^N n_i = d$. Let $m = dn$ and let $f_1, \dots, f_{\frac{m}{n}}$ be the list of functions obtained by repeating n_1 times \tilde{f}_1 , then n_2 times \tilde{f}_2 , etc. Then (5.2) is clearly satisfied. \square

For the next lemma we refer back to §3.1 and Lemma 3.9 for the definition of the relation $R_{\text{hom}}^{H_0, H_1}$ and the functions $M_n : \Gamma(H) \rightarrow \Gamma(H^n)$ and $\theta_n : \Gamma(H) \times (\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}})^n \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$.

Lemma 5.5. *View $C[0, 1]$ as multiplication operators on $H = L^2([0, 1])$. Then there is an element $\gamma \in \Gamma(H)$ such that $C^*(\gamma)$ is equal to $C[0, 1]$ and such that there are Borel maps*

$$d_N : L_{\text{ou}}(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1])^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi_N : L_{\text{ou}}(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1])^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$$

for all $N \in \mathbb{N}$, so that for all $\vec{\zeta} \in L_{\text{ou}}(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1])^{\mathbb{N}}$ we have:

(I) For all $N \in \mathbb{N}$ we have $(M_{d_N(\vec{\zeta})}(\gamma), M_{d_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})}(\gamma), \Phi_N(\vec{\zeta})) \in R_{\text{hom}}^{H^{d_N(\vec{\zeta})}, H^{d_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})}}$.

(II) The limit

$$A_{\vec{\zeta}} = \lim_N (C^*(M_{d_N(\vec{\zeta})}(\gamma)), \hat{\Phi}_N(\vec{\zeta}))$$

is a unital simple AI algebra, which satisfies

$$(K_0(A_{\vec{\zeta}}), K_0^+(A_{\vec{\zeta}}), [1_{A_{\vec{\zeta}}}]) \simeq (\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}^+, 1), \quad K_1(A_{\vec{\zeta}}) = \{1\}$$

and

$$\text{Aff}(T(A_{\vec{\zeta}})) \simeq \lim_N (C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1], \vec{\zeta}_N).$$

Proof. Fix a sequence of continuous functions $\lambda_n : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ which is dense in $C([0, 1], [0, 1])$ and such that $\lambda_1(x) = x$ and λ_{2n} enumerates all rational valued constant functions with infinite repetition. Also fix a dense sequence $g_n \in C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1]$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, closed under composition with the λ_n (i.e., for all $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ there is $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $g_i \circ \lambda_j = g_k$.)

Pick $\gamma \in \Gamma(H)$ to consist of the operators on H that correspond to multiplication by the g_n . Each λ_n induces an endomorphism $\psi_{n,m}$ of $C^*(M_m(\gamma))$ by entry-wise composition. Let $\Psi_{n,m} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ enumerate a sequence of codes corresponding to the $\psi_{n,m}$. These may even be chosen so that $\Psi_{n,m}(l)$ is always a constant sequence since we assumed that the sequence (g_n) is closed under composition with the λ_k .

Define for each $N \in \mathbb{N}$ a relation $R_N \subseteq L_{\text{ou}}(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1]) \times \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{Q}_+ \times \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ by

$$R_N(\psi, n, k, \varepsilon, m, t) \iff \frac{m}{nk} \in \mathbb{N} \wedge \text{length}(t) = \frac{m}{n} \wedge t(1) = 1 \wedge t(2) = 2N \wedge$$

$$(\forall j \leq N) \|\psi(g_j) - \frac{n}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{m}{n}} g_j \circ \lambda_{t(i)}\|_{\infty} < \varepsilon$$

Note that this is an open relation in the product space when $L_{\text{ou}}(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1])$ has the strong topology (and \mathbb{N} , \mathbb{Q}_+ and $\mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ have the discrete topology.) By Lemma 5.4.(4) it holds that for all ψ , n , k and ε there is m and t such that $R_N(\psi, n, k, \varepsilon, m, t)$ holds. (Note that this still holds although we have fixed the first two elements of the sequence t , since m can be picked arbitrarily large.) Let $t_N(\psi, n, k, \varepsilon)$ be the lexicographically least $t \in \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ such that $R_N(\psi, n, k, \varepsilon, n \text{length}(t), t)$ holds. We let $m_N(\psi, n, k, \varepsilon) = n \text{length}(t)$, and note that t_N and m_N define Borel functions.

Fix a sequence $(\delta_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ in \mathbb{Q}_+ such that $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \delta_i < \infty$. Let $q_i \in \mathbb{N}$ enumerate the primes with each prime repeated infinitely often. We can then define Borel functions $G_N : L_{\text{ou}}(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1])^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, $d_N : L_{\text{ou}}(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1])^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, $\mathbf{d}_N : L_{\text{ou}}(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1])^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ and $s_N : L_{\text{ou}}(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1]) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{<\mathbb{N}}$ recursively such that the following is satisfied:

- (A) G_1, d_1 and \mathbf{d}_1 are the constant 1 functions, s_1 is constantly the empty sequence.
- (B) $G_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})$ is the least natural number k such that for all $i \leq N$ and $j \leq G_N(\vec{\zeta})$ there are $j_0, j_1 \leq k$ such that

$$\left\| \sum_{l=1}^{\mathbf{d}_N} g_j \circ \lambda_{s_i(\vec{\zeta})_l} - g_{j_0} \right\| \leq \delta_N$$

and

$$\|\vec{\zeta}_i(g_j) \circ \lambda_{s_i(\vec{\zeta})_l} - g_{j_1}\| \leq \delta_N.$$

- (C) $d_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta}) = m_{G_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})}(\vec{\zeta}_{N+1}, d_N(\vec{\zeta}), q_1 \cdots, q_N, \delta_{N+1})$.
- (D) $s_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta}) = t_{G_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})}(\vec{\zeta}_{N+1}, d_N(\vec{\zeta}), q_1 \cdots, q_N, \delta_{N+1})$.
- (E) $\mathbf{d}_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta}) = \frac{d_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})}{d_N(\vec{\zeta})} = \text{length}(s_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta}))$.

Note that \mathbf{d}_N takes integer values by the definition of d_N . Define

$$\Phi_N(\vec{\zeta}) = \theta_{\mathbf{d}_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})}(M_{d_N(\vec{\zeta})}(\gamma), \Psi_{s_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})_1, d_N(\vec{\zeta})}, \dots, \Psi_{s_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})_{\mathbf{d}_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})}, d_N(\vec{\zeta})}).$$

Then Φ_N and d_N are Borel functions for all $N \in \mathbb{N}$, and (I) of the Lemma holds by definition of θ_n .

We proceed to prove that (II) also holds. Fix $\vec{\zeta} \in L_{\text{ou}}(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1])^{\mathbb{N}}$. Note that the inductive system $(C^*(M_{d_N(\vec{\zeta})}(\gamma), \hat{\Phi}_N(\vec{\zeta}))$ is isomorphic to the system $(\mathbb{M}_{d_N(\vec{\zeta})}(C[0, 1]), \phi_N)$ where

$$\phi_N(f) = \text{diag}(f \circ \lambda_{s_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})_1}, \dots, f \circ \lambda_{s_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})_{\mathbf{d}_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})}}).$$

Since each natural number divides some $d_N(\vec{\zeta})$ we have

$$(K_0(A_{\vec{\zeta}}), K_0^+(A_{\vec{\zeta}}), [1_{A_{\vec{\zeta}}}], \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}^+, 1)$$

while $K_1(A_{\vec{\zeta}}) = \{1\}$ since $[0, 1]$ is contractible.

To establish that $\text{Aff}(T(A_{\vec{\zeta}})) \simeq \lim_i(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1], \vec{\zeta}_i)$ we apply Lemma 5.4. By Lemma 5.4.(2) the order unit space morphism induced by ϕ_N is given by

$$\hat{\phi}_N(f) = \frac{1}{\mathbf{d}_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})} \sum_{i=1}^{\mathbf{d}_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})} f \circ \lambda_{s_{N+1}(\vec{\zeta})_i}.$$

Letting $F_N = \{g_i : i \leq G_N(\vec{\zeta})\}$, it is clear that (a) and (b) of Lemma 5.4.(3) are satisfied. That (c) of 5.4.(3) then also is satisfied for the sequences $\hat{\phi}_N, \vec{\zeta}_N \in C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1]$ follows from property (B) above. Finally, 5.4.(3).(d) holds by (D) and the definition of t_N and R_N . Thus

$$\lim_i(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1], \vec{\zeta}_i) \simeq \lim_i(C_{\mathbb{R}}[0, 1], \hat{\phi}_i) \simeq \text{Aff}(T(A_{\vec{\zeta}})).$$

It remains only to verify that $A_{\vec{\zeta}}$ is simple. For this we need only prove that if $0 \neq f \in \mathbb{M}_{d_N(\vec{\zeta})}(C[0, 1])$, then for all $t \in [0, 1]$ we have

$$\phi_{N,j}(f) := (\phi_{j-1} \circ \phi_{j-2} \circ \cdots \circ \phi_N)(f)$$

is nonzero at t for some (and hence all larger) $j \geq N$. By the definition of the sequence (λ_n) , there is some $j \geq l$ such that $f \circ \lambda_{2j} \neq 0$. By the definition of the relations R_n , f is a direct summand of $\phi_{l,j}(f)$, and so the constant function $f \circ \lambda_{2j} \neq 0$ is a direct summand of $\phi_{N,j+1}$. This implies $\phi_{N,j+1}(f)(t) \neq 0$ for each $t \in [0, 1]$, as required. \square

Proof of Theorem 5.1. Combine Lemma 5.3 with Lemma 5.5. \square

Corollary 5.6. *There is a Borel measurable map Φ from $\{\gamma : C^*(\gamma) \text{ is unital and abelian}\}$ into $\{\gamma : C^*(\gamma) \text{ is simple and unital AI}\}$ such that $C^*(\gamma) \cong C^*(\gamma')$ if and only if $C^*(\Phi(\gamma)) \cong C^*(\Phi(\gamma'))$.*

In other words, unital abelian C-algebras can be effectively classified by simple, unital AI algebras.*

Proof. By Gelfand–Naimark duality a unital abelian C*-algebra A is isomorphic to $C(\mathbb{P}(A))$, where $\mathbb{P}(A)$ denotes the pure states of A . We therefore only need to compose three Borel maps: The map taking the algebra A to the space of its pure states (Lemma 3.17), the map taking a compact Hausdorff space X to the Bauer simplex $P(X)$ (Lemma 4.8), and the map from the space of Choquet simplexes into the set of AI-algebras that was defined in Theorem 5.1. \square

6. A SELECTION THEOREM FOR EXACT C*-ALGEBRAS

For $2 \leq n < \infty$, we will denote by \mathcal{O}_n the Cuntz algebra generated by n isometries s_1, \dots, s_n satisfying $\sum_{i=1}^n s_i s_i^* = 1$ (see [22, 4.2].)

Kirchberg’s exact embedding Theorem states that the exact separable C*-algebras are precisely those which can be embedded into \mathcal{O}_2 . The purpose of this section is to prove a Borel version of this: There is a Borel function on Γ selecting an embedding of $C^*(\gamma)$ into \mathcal{O}_2 for each $\gamma \in \Gamma$ that codes an exact C*-algebra. In the process we will also see that the set of $\gamma \in \Gamma$ such that $C^*(\gamma)$ is exact forms a Borel set.

6.1. Parameterizing exact C*-algebras. There is a multitude of ways of parameterizing exact separable C*-algebras, which we now describe. Eventually, we will see that they are all equivalent good standard Borel parameterizations.

Define

$$\Gamma_{\text{Exact}} = \{\gamma \in \Gamma : C^*(\gamma) \text{ is exact}\},$$

and let $\Gamma_{\text{Exact},u} = \Gamma_{\text{Exact}} \cap \Gamma_u$ denote the set of unital exact C*-algebras¹. An alternative parameterization of the exact separable C*-algebras is given by elements of $\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_2) = \mathcal{O}_2^{\mathbb{N}}$, equipped with the product Borel structure, where we identify $\gamma \in \mathcal{O}_2^{\mathbb{N}}$ with the C*-subalgebra generated by this sequence. Let $\Gamma_u(\mathcal{O}_2)$ denote the set of $\gamma \in \Gamma(\mathcal{O}_2)$ which code unital C*-subalgebras of \mathcal{O}_2 .

Note that a parameterization weakly equivalent to $\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_2)$ is obtained by considering in the Effros Borel space $F(\mathcal{O}_2)$ of closed subsets of \mathcal{O}_2 , the (Borel) set

$$\text{SA}(\mathcal{O}_2) = \{A \in F(\mathcal{O}_2) : A \text{ is a sub-C}^*\text{-algebra of } \mathcal{O}_2\}.$$

Recall the parameterization $\Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u}$ of unital separable C*-algebras from 2.6. We define $\Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u, \text{Exact}}$ to be the subset of $\Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u}$ corresponding to exact unital C*-algebras. Recall also that \mathfrak{A} is the free countable unnormed $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ -*-algebra, \mathfrak{A}_u the unital counterpart. Define

$$\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}}(\mathcal{O}_2) = \{\xi : \mathfrak{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_2 : \xi \text{ is a } \mathbb{Q}(i)\text{-*-algebra homomorphism } \mathfrak{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_2\}$$

and

$$\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2) = \{\xi : \mathfrak{A}_u \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_2 : \xi \text{ is a unital } \mathbb{Q}(i)\text{-*-algebra homomorphism } \mathfrak{A}_u \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_2\},$$

and note that $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ and $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ are closed (and therefore Polish) in the subspace topology, when $\mathcal{O}_2^{\mathfrak{A}}$ and $\mathcal{O}_2^{\mathfrak{A}_u}$ are given the product topology. As previously noted, \mathfrak{A} can be identified with the set of formal $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ -*-polynomials \mathfrak{p}_n in the formal variables X_i without constant term, and \mathfrak{A}_u with the formal $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ -*-polynomials (allowing a constant term), which we enumerated as \mathfrak{q}_n . We define $g : \hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2) \rightarrow \Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u}$ by $g(\xi)(\mathfrak{q}_n) = \|\xi(\mathfrak{q}_n)\|_{\mathcal{O}_2}$. Note that g is continuous. By the exact embedding Theorem we have $g(\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2)) = \Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u, \text{Exact}}$.

Define an equivalence relation E^g in $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ by

$$\xi E^g \xi' \iff g(\xi) = g(\xi').$$

For $\xi \in \hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2)$, a norm is defined on $\mathfrak{A}_u / \ker(\xi)$ by letting $\|\mathfrak{q}_n \ker(\xi)\|_{\xi} = \|\xi(\mathfrak{q}_n)\|_{\mathcal{O}_2}$. We define $A_u(\xi)$ to be the unital C*-algebra obtained from completing $(\mathfrak{A}_u, \|\cdot\|_{\xi})$, and we note that ξ extends to an injection $\tilde{\xi} : A_u(\xi) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_2$. It is clear that the definition of A_u is E^g -invariant.

Proposition 6.1. *With notation as above, there is a Borel set in $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ meeting every E^g class exactly once (i.e., there is a Borel transversal for E^g).*

Before giving the proof, we first prove two general lemmas.

Lemma 6.2. *Let X, Y be Polish spaces. Suppose $B \subseteq X \times Y$ is a Borel relation such that for all $x \in X$ the section B_x is closed (and possibly \emptyset .) Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1) *The map $X \rightarrow F(Y) : x \mapsto B_x$ is Borel;*
- (2) *$\text{proj}_X(B)$ is Borel and there are Borel functions $f_n : \text{proj}_X(B) \rightarrow Y$ such that for all $x \in \text{proj}_X(B)$ we have $f_n(x) \in B_x$ and $(f_n(x))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ enumerates a dense sequence in B_x ;*

¹The sets Γ_{Exact} and $\Gamma_{\text{Exact},u}$ are prima facie analytic, but since we will show they are Borel, the use of the language of Definition 2.1 is warranted.

(3) the relation $R \subseteq X \times \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{Q}_+$ defined by

$$R(x, n, \varepsilon) \iff (\exists y \in Y) y \in B_x \wedge d(y, y_n) < \varepsilon$$

is Borel for some (any) complete metric d inducing the topology on Y and $(y_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ dense in Y .

In particular, if any of (1)–(3) above hold, there is a Borel function $F_0 : X \rightarrow Y$ such that $F_0(x) \in B_x$ for all $x \in X$, and $F_0(x)$ depends only on B_x .

Proof. The equivalence of the first two is well-known, see [13, 12.13 and 12.14]. Clearly (2) implies (3) since

$$R(x, n, \varepsilon) \iff (\exists i) d(y_n, f_i(x)) < \varepsilon.$$

To see (3) \implies (1), simply notice that (3) immediately implies that for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{Q}_+$ the set

$$\{x \in X : B_x \cap \{y \in Y : d(y, y_n) < \varepsilon\} \neq \emptyset\}$$

is Borel. This shows that the inverse images under the map $x \mapsto B_x$ of the sets $\{F \in F(Y) : F \cap \{y \in Y : d(y, y_n) < \varepsilon\} \neq \emptyset\}$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{Q}_+$ are Borel, and since the latter sets generate the Effros Borel structure, it follows that the map $X \rightarrow B(Y) : x \mapsto F_x$ is Borel, as required.

Finally, the last statement follows from (1) and the Kuratowski–Ryll–Nardzewski Theorem ([13, Theorem 12.13]). \square

Lemma 6.3. *Let X, Y and $B \subseteq X \times Y$ be as in Lemma 6.2, and suppose moreover that $\text{proj}_X(B)$ is Borel. Let G be a Polish group, and suppose there is a continuous G -action on Y such that the sets B_x are G -invariant for all $x \in X$, and that for all $(x, y) \in B$ we have that the G -orbit of $y \in B_x$ is dense in B_x . Let d be a complete metric on Y and let y_n be dense in Y . Then R defined as in the previous Lemma is Borel, and so in particular (1) and (2) hold for B .*

Proof. It is clear from the definition that

$$R(x, n, \varepsilon) \iff (\exists y \in Y) y \in B_x \wedge d(y_n, y) < \varepsilon$$

is an analytic set. To see that it is in fact Borel, fix a dense sequence $g_n \in G$. Then since all G -orbits are dense in B_x we also have

$$R(x, n, \varepsilon) \iff x \in \text{proj}_X(B) \wedge (\forall y \in Y) y \notin B_x \vee (\exists i) d(g_i \cdot y, y_n) < \varepsilon,$$

which gives a co-analytic definition of R , so that R is Borel. \square

We now turn to the proof of Proposition 6.1. Recall that if A, B are C*-algebras, B is unital, and $\varphi_0, \varphi_1 : A \rightarrow B$ are *-homomorphisms, we say that φ_0 and φ_1 are *approximately unitarily equivalent* if for all finite $F \subseteq A$ and all $\varepsilon > 0$ there is a unitary $u \in B$ such that $\|u^* \varphi_0(x) u - \varphi_1(x)\| < \varepsilon$ for all $x \in F$.

Proof of Proposition 6.1. Let $U(\mathcal{O}_2)$ denote the unitary group of \mathcal{O}_2 . The group $U(\mathcal{O}_2)$ acts continuously on $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ by

$$u \cdot \xi(\mathfrak{q}_n) = u^* \xi(\mathfrak{q}_n) u = \text{Ad}_u(\xi(\mathfrak{q}_n)),$$

and this action preserves the equivalence classes of E^g . Further, it is clear that E^g is closed as a subset of $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2)^2$.

We claim that for all $\xi \in \hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2)$, the $U(\mathcal{O}_2)$ -classes in $[\xi]_{E^g}$ are dense. To see this, let $\xi' E^g \xi$, and let $\tilde{\xi} : A_u(\xi) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_2$, $\tilde{\xi}' : A_u(\xi') \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_2$ be the injections defined before Proposition 6.1.

Since $A_u(\xi) = A_u(\xi')$, it follows by [22, Theorem 6.3.8] that $\bar{\xi}$ and $\bar{\xi}'$ are approximately unitarily equivalent, and so we can find $u \in U(\mathcal{O}_2)$ such that $u \cdot \xi$ is as close to ξ' as we like in $\mathcal{O}_2^{\mathfrak{A}}$.

Applying Lemma 6.3 and 6.2, we get a Borel function $F_0 : \hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2) \rightarrow \hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ selecting a unique point in each E^g -class. Then the set $F_0(\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2)) = \{\gamma \in \hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2) : F_0(\gamma) = \gamma\}$ is clearly a Borel transversal. \square

From Proposition 6.1 we can obtain a Borel version of Kirchberg's exact embedding theorem. We first need a definition.

Definition 6.4. Let A be a separable C^* -algebra and $\gamma \in \Gamma$. Call $\Psi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$ a *code* for an embedding of $C^*(\gamma)$ into A if for all $n, m, k \in \mathbb{N}$ we have:

- (1) If $\mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma) + \mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma) = \mathfrak{p}_k(\gamma)$ then $\Psi(m) + \Psi(n) = \Psi(k)$;
- (2) if $\mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma) = \mathfrak{p}_n^*(\gamma)$ then $\Psi(m) = \Psi(n)^*$;
- (3) if $\mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma)\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma) = \mathfrak{p}_k(\gamma)$ then $\Psi(m)\Psi(n) = \Psi(k)$;
- (4) $\|\Psi(m)\|_A = \|\mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma)\|$.

It is clear that if $\Psi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$ is such a code then there is a unique $*$ -monomorphism $\hat{\Psi} : C^*(\gamma) \rightarrow A$ satisfying $\hat{\Psi}(\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)) = \Psi(\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma))$. If A is unital with unit 1_A and $C^*(\gamma)$ is unital, and Ψ further satisfies

- (5) if $1_{C^*(\gamma)}$ is the unit in $C^*(\gamma)$ then $\hat{\Psi}(1_{C^*(\gamma)}) = 1_A$

then we will call Ψ a code for a *unital* embedding into A . Let $P^A \subseteq \Gamma \times A^{\mathbb{N}}$ be the relation

$$P^A(\gamma, \Psi) \iff \Psi \text{ is a code for an embedding into } A$$

and, assuming A is unital, let $P_u^A \subseteq \Gamma_u \times A^{\mathbb{N}}$ be

$$P_u^A(\gamma, \Psi) \iff \Psi \text{ is a code for a unital embedding into } A.$$

We note that the sections P_γ^A and $(P_u^A)_\gamma$ are closed for all $\gamma \in \Gamma$.

Theorem 6.5 (Borel Kirchberg exact embedding Theorem, unital case).

- (1) *The sets $\Gamma_{\text{Exact},u}$, $\Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u, \text{Exact}}$, $\Gamma_u(\mathcal{O}_2)$ and $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ are Borel and provide equivalent good parameterizations of the unital separable exact C^* -algebras.*
- (2) *There is a Borel function $f : \Gamma_{\text{Exact},u} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_2^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that $f(\gamma)$ is a code for a unital embedding of $C^*(\gamma)$ into \mathcal{O}_2 for all $\gamma \in \Gamma_{\text{Exact},u}$. In other words, the relation $P_u^{\mathcal{O}_2}$ admits a Borel uniformization.*

Proof. (1) Let T be a selector for E^g as guaranteed by Proposition 6.1. Then $g : \hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2) \rightarrow \Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u}$ is injective on T , and so $\text{ran}(g) = \text{ran}(g \upharpoonright T) = \Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u, \text{Exact}}$ is Borel, and admits a Borel right inverse $h : \Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u, \text{Exact}} \rightarrow \hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2)$. Since Lemma 2.4 also holds with $Y = \Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u}$, there is a Borel injection $\tilde{g} : \hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2) \rightarrow \Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u}$ such that $g(\xi) \simeq^{\Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u}} \tilde{g}(\xi)$ for all $\xi \in \hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2)$, and this shows that $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ and $\Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u, \text{Exact}}$ are equivalent good parameterizations.

Since Γ_u and $\Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u}$ are equivalent (Corollary 3.15), any witness to this is also a witness to that $\Gamma_{\text{Exact},u}$ and $\Xi_{\mathfrak{A}_u, \text{Exact}}$ are equivalent, in particular $\Gamma_{\text{Exact},u}$ is also Borel. Finally, by fixing a faithful representation of \mathcal{O}_2 on the Hilbert space H we obtain a Borel injection of $\Gamma_u(\mathcal{O}_2)$ into $\Gamma_{\text{Exact},u}(H)$, while on the other hand there clearly is a natural Borel injection from $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}_u}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ into $\Gamma_u(\mathcal{O}_2)$. This finishes the proof of (1).

(2) Arguing exactly as in the proof of Proposition 6.1, the action of $U(\mathcal{O}_2)$ on the sections of $P_u^{\mathcal{O}_2}$ satisfy Lemma 6.3, since any two injective unital embeddings of $C^*(\gamma)$ are approximately unitarily equivalent for $\gamma \in \Gamma_{\text{Exact},u}$. \square

Since by Lemma 3.12 the map that assigns to $\gamma \in \Gamma$ its unitization is Borel, we obtain:

Theorem 6.6 (Borel Kirchberg exact embedding Theorem, non-unital case).

- (1) *The sets Γ_{Exact} , $\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_2)$ and $\hat{\Gamma}_{\mathfrak{A}}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ are Borel and provide equivalent parameterizations of the separable exact C*-algebras.*
- (2) *There is a Borel function $f : \Gamma_{\text{Exact}} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_2^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that $f(\gamma)$ is a code for an embedding of $C^*(\gamma)$ into \mathcal{O}_2 for all $\gamma \in \Gamma_{\text{Exact}}$. In other words, the relation $P^{\mathcal{O}_2}$ admits a Borel uniformization.*

7. BELOW A GROUP ACTION

Conjugacy of unitary operators on a separable Hilbert space cannot be reduced to isomorphism of countable structures by [12]. However, a complete classification of this relation is provided by the spectral measures. We may therefore consider a more general notion of classifiability: being reducible to an orbit equivalence relation of a Polish group action. We don't know whether isomorphism of separable (simple) C*-algebras is implemented by a Polish group action. (see Question 9.2 and Problem 9.3). In this section we will prove that isomorphism of *unital* nuclear simple separable C*-algebras is indeed Borel reducible to an orbit equivalence relation induced by a Polish group action, Theorem 7.3 below. We also note a simpler fact that this also applies to isomorphism of abelian separable C*-algebras (Proposition 7.8). Before turning to the proof of this we briefly discuss Question 9.2 in general.

Theorem 7.1. *Assume A and B are separable weakly dense subalgebras of $\mathcal{B}(H)$. Then $A \cong B$ if and only if there is a unitary u such that $uAu^* = B$.*

Proof. Only the direct implication requires a proof. Let $\alpha : A \rightarrow B$ be an isomorphism. Fix a unit vector $\xi \in H$ and let ω_ξ denote the vector state corresponding to ξ , $\omega_\xi(a) = (a\xi|\xi)$. Since A is weakly dense in $\mathcal{B}(H)$, the restriction of ω_ξ to A is a pure state of A , and similarly the restriction of ω_ξ to B is a pure state of B . By [17] there is an automorphism β of B such that $\omega_\xi \upharpoonright B = \beta \circ \alpha \circ \omega_\xi$. The isomorphism $\beta \circ \alpha$ extends to the isomorphism between the GNS representations of A and B corresponding to the pure states $\omega_\xi \upharpoonright A$ and $\omega_\xi \upharpoonright B$. This automorphism of $\mathcal{B}(H)$ is implemented by a unitary u as required. \square

By the previous theorem, in order to give a positive answer to Question 9.2 it would suffice to have a natural Borel space whose points are separable C*-subalgebras of $\mathcal{B}(H)$. The space Γ defined in 2.1 appears to be similar to such a space, but the following proposition, suggested to the first author by Alekos Kechris, is an obstacle to the direct approach.

Proposition 7.2. *On the space Γ consider the relation $\gamma E \gamma'$ iff $C^*(\gamma') = C^*(\gamma)$. Then the quotient Borel structure is nonstandard, even when restricted to $\{\gamma \in \Gamma : C^*(\gamma) \text{ is simple, unital, and nuclear}\}$.*

Proof. Note that E is Borel by Lemma 2.11. It will suffice to construct a Borel map $\Phi : 2^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \Gamma$ such that $x E_0 y$ if and only if $C^*(\Phi(x)) = C^*(\Phi(y))$. (Here E_0 denotes eventual equality in the space $2^{\mathbb{N}}$.) We will assure that every parameter in the range of Φ corresponds to a simple nuclear algebra. Let H_j be the two-dimensional complex Hilbert space and let ζ_j denote the vector $(1 \ 0)$ in H_j . Identify H with $\bigotimes_{j \in \mathbb{N}} (H_j, \zeta_j)$. For $x \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ let

$$u_x = \bigotimes_{j \in x} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

This is a unitary operator on H . Fix a set γ_j , for $j \geq 1$, that generates the CAR algebra $A = \bigotimes_j M_2(\mathbb{C})$, represented on H so that the j 'th copy of $M_2(\mathbb{C})$ maps to $\mathcal{B}(H_j)$. Let $\Phi(x) = \gamma$ be such that $\gamma_0 = u_x$ and γ_j , for $j \geq 1$, are as above.

Then $C^*(\Phi(x)) = C^*(\Phi(y))$ if and only if $u_x u_y^* \in A$, if and only if $x \Delta y$ is finite. \square

7.1. A reduction to an action of $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{O}_2)$. Let $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ denote the automorphism group of \mathcal{O}_2 , and equip $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ with the strong topology, which makes it a Polish group. We now aim to prove:

Theorem 7.3. *The isomorphism relation for nuclear simple unital separable C^* -algebras is Borel reducible to an orbit equivalence relation induced by a Borel action of $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ on a standard Borel space.*

The proof of this requires some preparation, the most substantial part being a version of Kirchberg's " $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \simeq \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ Theorem" for nuclear simple unital and separable A . However, we start by noting the following:

Proposition 7.4. *The set*

$$\{\gamma \in \Gamma : C^*(\gamma) \text{ is simple}\}$$

is Borel.

Proof. We use the facts that a C^* -algebra A is simple if and only if for every state ϕ the GNS representation π_ϕ is an isometry and that the operator norm in the GNS representation reads as $\|\pi_\phi(a)\| = \sup_{\phi(b^*b) \leq 1} \phi(b^*a^*ab)$ for all $a \in A$.

Recall from 3.5 the coding of states. We define $R \subseteq \Gamma \times \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}}$ by

$$R(\gamma, \hat{\phi}) \iff \hat{\phi} \text{ codes a state on } C^*(\gamma).$$

Then R is easily Borel, and as noted in 3.5, the sections $R_\gamma = \{\hat{\phi} \in \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}} : R(\gamma, \hat{\phi})\}$ are compact. For $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\varepsilon > 0$, define $Q_{n,\varepsilon} \subseteq \Gamma \times \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}}$ by

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{n,\varepsilon}(\gamma, \hat{\phi}) \iff & (\forall k)(\forall l)(\forall m)(\mathfrak{p}_k(\gamma) = \mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma)^* \mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)^* \mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma) \mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma) \\ & \wedge \mathfrak{p}_l(\gamma) = \mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma)^* \mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma) \wedge \hat{\phi}(l) \leq 1 \implies \hat{\phi}(k) + \varepsilon \leq \|\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)\|). \end{aligned}$$

Then $Q_{n,\varepsilon}$ is Borel, and the sections $(Q_{n,\varepsilon})_\gamma$ are closed, and therefore compact. Thus the sets

$$S_{n,\varepsilon} = \{\gamma \in \Gamma : (\exists \hat{\phi}) Q_{n,\varepsilon}(\gamma, \hat{\phi})\}$$

are Borel, by [13, Theorem 28.8]. We claim that

$$\{\gamma \in \Gamma : C^*(\gamma) \text{ is simple}\} = \Gamma \setminus \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}, \varepsilon > 0} S_{n,\varepsilon}.$$

To see this, first note that if $C^*(\gamma)$ is simple then the GNS representation of any state ϕ on $C^*(\gamma)$ is faithful, and so for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$ we have

$$(7.1) \quad \sup\{\phi(\mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma)^* \mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)^* \mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma) \mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma)) : \phi(\mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma) \mathfrak{p}_m(\gamma)^* \leq 1)\} = \|\mathfrak{p}_n(\gamma)\|$$

Hence $\gamma \notin S_{n,\varepsilon}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. On the other hand, if $\gamma \notin S_{n,\varepsilon}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\varepsilon > 0$, then (7.1) holds, and so all states are faithful. Hence $C^*(\gamma)$ is simple. \square

A strengthening of Proposition 7.4 will be given in [6].

Since Effros has shown that the class of nuclear separable C^* -algebras is Borel (see [14, §5] for a proof), we now have:

Corollary 7.5. *The set*

$$\{\gamma \in \Gamma : C^*(\gamma) \text{ is simple, nuclear and unital}\}$$

is Borel.

7.2. A Borel version of Kirchberg’s $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ Theorem. For A and B fixed separable C*-algebras, let

$$\text{Hom}(A, B) = \{f : A \rightarrow B : f \text{ is a } *\text{-homomorphism}\}.$$

Then $\text{Hom}(A, B) \subseteq L_1(A, B)$, the set of bounded linear maps from A to B with operator norm at most 1, and is closed in the strong operator topology, hence is a Polish space. We let $\text{End}(A) = \text{Hom}(A, A)$.

Kirchberg’s $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ Theorem states that A is nuclear simple separable and unital if and only if $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ is isomorphic to $\mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$. The latter is itself isomorphic to \mathcal{O}_2 by a result of Elliott, see e.g. [22, 7.1.2 and 5.2.1]. Our next theorem is an effective version of this theorem.

Let $\text{SA}_u(\mathcal{O}_2)$ denote the standard Borel space of closed unital *-subalgebras of \mathcal{O}_2 . Since the parameterizations $\Gamma_{\text{Exact}, u}$ and $\text{SA}_u(\mathcal{O}_2)$ are weakly equivalent (see 6.1), it follows from Corollary 7.5 that the set

$$\text{SA}_{\text{uns}}(\mathcal{O}_2) = \{A \in \text{SA}_u(\mathcal{O}_2) : A \text{ is nuclear and simple}\}$$

is Borel. We will work with this parameterization of unital nuclear simple separable C*-algebras below.

Theorem 7.6. *There is a Borel map $F : \text{SA}_{\text{uns}}(\mathcal{O}_2) \rightarrow \text{End}(\mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2)$ such that $F(A)$ is a monomorphism of $\mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ onto $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$.*

The proof uses an approximate intertwining argument² that we now describe. Let A be a simple unital separable nuclear C*-algebra, viewed as a unital subalgebra of \mathcal{O}_2 . Recall that for such A , the algebra $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ (and so in particular $\mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \cong \mathcal{O}_2$) has the property that every unital *-endomorphism is approximately inner (see [22, 6.3.8].) Fix a *-isomorphism $\gamma : \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_2$ and a summable sequence (ϵ_n) of strictly positive tolerances. We will apply Elliott’s Intertwining Argument to the *a priori* non-commuting diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & \dots \\ \downarrow \iota & \nearrow \eta & \downarrow \iota & \nearrow \eta & \downarrow \iota & \nearrow \eta & \\ \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & \dots \end{array}$$

where ι is the tensor product of the inclusion $A \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O}_2$ with the identity map on \mathcal{O}_2 and η is given by $a \mapsto 1_A \otimes \gamma(a)$. Let us describe the procedure step-by-step, so that we may refer back to this description when arguing that the intertwining can be carried out effectively.

Fix a dense sequence (x_n^A) in $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ and a dense sequence (y_n) in $\mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$. Fix also a dense sequence of unitaries $u_n^A \in A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ and a dense sequence of unitaries $v_n \in \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$. We assume that $u_1^A = 1_{A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2}$ and $v_1 = 1_{\mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2}$. We define by recursion a sequence of finite sets $F_k^A \subseteq A$ and $G_k^A \subseteq \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$, sequences $(n_k^A)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ and $(m_k^A)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ of natural numbers, and homomorphisms $\iota_k : A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$, $\eta_k : \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \rightarrow A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ subject to the following conditions: $n_1^A = 1$, $m_1^A = 1$, $F_1^A = G_1^A = \emptyset$, $\iota_1^A = \iota$, $\eta_1^A = \eta$, and for $k > 1$ we require that

²We refer the reader to [22, 2.3] for a general discussion of approximate intertwining. The argument is also known as Elliott’s Intertwining Argument.

- (1) $F_k^A = \{x_{k-1}^A\} \cup F_{k-1}^A \cup \eta_{k-1}(G_{k-1}^A)$.
- (2) $G_k^A = \{y_{k-1}^A\} \cup G_{k-1}^A \cup \iota_{k-1}(F_k^A)$.
- (3) $n_k^A > n_{k-1}^A$ is least such that if we let $\eta_k^A = \text{Ad}(u_{n_k^A}^A) \circ \eta$ then the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \\ \downarrow \iota_{k-1}^A & \nearrow \eta_k^A & \\ \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 & & \end{array}$$

commutes up to ϵ_k on F_k^A . This is possible because any two endomorphisms of $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ are approximately unitarily equivalent and the sequence (u_n^A) is dense in the unitaries of $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$.

- (4) $m_k^A > m_{k-1}^A$ is least such that if we let $\iota_k^A = \text{Ad}(v_{m_k^A}) \circ \iota$ then the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \\ & \nearrow \eta_k^A & \downarrow \iota_k^A \\ \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \end{array}$$

commutes up to ϵ_k on G_k^A . This is possible because any two endomorphisms of $\mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ are approximately unitarily equivalent and the sequence (v_n) is dense in the unitaries of $\mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$.

With these definitions the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & \dots \\ \downarrow \iota_1^A & \nearrow \eta_2^A & \downarrow \iota_2^A & \nearrow \eta_3^A & \downarrow \iota_3^A & \nearrow \eta_4^A & \\ \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & \dots \end{array}$$

is an approximate intertwining (in the sense of [22, 2.3.1]), and so

$$\eta_\infty^A : \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \rightarrow A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 : \eta_\infty^A(b) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \eta_k(b)$$

defines an isomorphism.

Proof of Theorem 7.6. Fix a dense sequence $z_n \in \mathcal{O}_2$. Also, let $y_n, v_n \in \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ be as above. By the Kuratowski-Ryll-Nardzewski Selection Theorem we can find Borel maps $f_n : \text{SA}_u(\mathcal{O}_2) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_2$ such that $(f_n(A))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a dense sequence in A . Let $\pi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^2$ be a bijection with $\pi(n) = (\pi_1(n), \pi_2(n))$. Associating the $\mathbb{Q} + i\mathbb{Q}$ span of $\{f_{\pi_1(n)}(A) \otimes z_{\pi_2(n)} \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ to A is clearly Borel, and this span is dense; let us denote it by x_n^A . From (the proof of) Lemma 3.13.(2), we obtain a sequence of Borel maps $\text{Un}_k : \text{SA}_u(\mathcal{O}_2) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ such that $\text{Un}_k(A)$ is dense in the set of unitaries in $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$. We let $u_k^A = \text{Un}_k(A)$.

With these definitions there are unique Borel maps $A \mapsto F_k^A$, $A \mapsto G_k^A$, $A \mapsto n_k^A$ and $A \mapsto m_k^A$ satisfying (1)–(4) above; in particular, if these maps have been defined for $k = l - 1$, and F_l^A is defined, then n_l^A is defined as the least natural number n greater than n_k^A such that

$$(\forall a \in F_k^A) \| \text{Ad}(u_n^A u_{n_{l-1}}^A \dots u_{n_1}^A) \circ \eta \circ \text{Ad}(v_{m_{l-1}} \dots v_{m_1}) \circ \iota(a) - a \|_{\mathcal{O}_2} < \epsilon_k.$$

Thus the graph of $A \mapsto n_l^A$ is Borel. Similarly, $A \mapsto m_k^A$ is seen to be Borel for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$. But now we also have that the map $F : \text{SA}_u(\mathcal{O}_2) \rightarrow \text{End}(\mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{O}_2) : A \mapsto \eta_\infty^A$ is Borel, since

$$F(A) = \eta_\infty^A \iff (\forall l) F(A)(y_l) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \text{Ad}(u_{n_k} u_{n_{k-1}} \cdots u_1) \circ \eta(y_l)$$

provides a Borel definition of the graph of F . □

Proof of Theorem 7.3. The Polish group $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ acts naturally in a Borel way on $\text{SA}_u(\mathcal{O}_2)$ by $\sigma \cdot A = \sigma(A)$. Let E be the corresponding orbit equivalence relation. We claim that isomorphism in $\text{SA}_{\text{uns}}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ is Borel reducible to E .

By the previous Theorem there is a Borel map $g : \text{SA}_{\text{uns}}(\mathcal{O}_2) \rightarrow \text{SA}_{\text{uns}}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ with the following properties:

- $g(A) \cong A$.
- For all $A \in \text{SA}_{\text{uns}}(\mathcal{O}_2)$ there is an isomorphism $G_A : A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_2$ under which $G_A(A \otimes 1_{\mathcal{O}_2}) = g(A)$.

In other words, there is an effective unital embedding of nuclear unital simple separable C*-algebras into \mathcal{O}_2 with the property that the relative commutant of the image of any such algebra in \mathcal{O}_2 is in fact isomorphic to \mathcal{O}_2 . We claim that g is a Borel reduction of $\cong^{\text{SA}_{\text{uns}}(\mathcal{O}_2)}$ to E .

Fix $A, B \in \text{SA}_{\text{uns}}(\mathcal{O}_2)$. Clearly if $g(A)Eg(B)$ then $A \cong B$. On the other hand, if $A \cong B$ then there is an isomorphism $\varphi : A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \rightarrow B \otimes \mathcal{O}_2$ which maps $A \otimes 1_{\mathcal{O}_2}$ to $B \otimes 1_{\mathcal{O}_2}$. Thus

$$\sigma = G_B \circ \varphi \circ G_A^{-1} \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{O}_2)$$

satisfies $\sigma \cdot A = B$. □

Since by Corollary 5.2 it holds that the homeomorphism relation for compact subsets of $[0, 1]^{\mathbb{N}}$ is Borel reducible to isomorphism of nuclear simple unital AI algebras, we recover the following unpublished result of Kechris and Solecki:

Theorem 7.7 (Kechris-Solecki). *The homeomorphism relation for compact subsets of $[0, 1]^{\mathbb{N}}$ is below a group action.*

Note that the set $A = \{\gamma \in \Gamma : C^*(\gamma) \text{ is abelian}\}$ is Borel since A is clearly closed in the weak operator topology in Γ . As a subspace of Γ it therefore provides a good standard Borel parameterization for abelian C*-algebras, used in the following.

Proposition 7.8. *The isomorphism relation for unital abelian separable C*-algebras is Borel reducible to isomorphism of AI algebras, and therefore to an orbit equivalence relation induced by a Polish group action.*

Proof. For $\gamma \in A$ we have that $C^*(\gamma) \cong C(X)$ where X is the pure state space of $C^*(\gamma)$. The result now follows by Lemma 3.17 and Corollary 5.2. An alternative proof of the last claim appeals to Theorem 7.7 instead. □

8. BI-EMBEDDABILITY OF AF ALGEBRAS

In this section we will show that the bi-embeddability relation of separable unital AF algebras is not Borel-reducible to a Polish group action (Corollary 8.2). More precisely, we prove that every K_σ -equivalence relation is Borel reducible to this analytic equivalence relation. (Recall that a subset of a Polish space is K_σ if it is a countable union of compact sets.) This Borel reduction is curious

since bi-embeddability of separable unital UHF algebras is bi-reducible with the isomorphism of separable unital UHF algebras, and therefore smooth. For f and g in the Baire space $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ we define

$$\begin{aligned} f \leq^{\infty} g & \text{ if and only if } (\exists m)(\forall i)f(i) \leq g(i) + m \\ f =^{\infty} g & \text{ if and only if } f \leq^{\infty} g \text{ and } g \leq^{\infty} f \end{aligned}$$

This equivalence relation, also denoted $E_{K_{\sigma}}$, was introduced by Rosenthal in [24]. Rosenthal proved that $E_{K_{\sigma}}$ is *complete* for K_{σ} equivalence relation in the sense that (i) every K_{σ} equivalence relation is Borel reducible to it and (ii) $E_{K_{\sigma}}$ is itself K_{σ} . By a result of Kechris and Louveau ([15]), $E_{K_{\sigma}}$ is not Borel reducible to any orbit equivalence relation of a Polish group action. In particular, $E_{K_{\sigma}}$, or any analytic equivalence relation that Borel-reduces $E_{K_{\sigma}}$, is not effectively classifiable by the Elliott invariant.

If A and B are C^* -algebras then we denote by $A \hookrightarrow B$ the existence of a $*$ -monomorphism of A into B ; A is therefore bi-embeddable with B if and only if $A \hookrightarrow B$ and $B \hookrightarrow A$.

Proposition 8.1. *There is a Borel-measurable map $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \Gamma : f \mapsto C_f$ such that*

- (1) *each C_f is a unital AF algebra;*
- (2) *C_f isomorphically embeds into C_g if and only if $f \leq^{\infty} g$;*
- (3) *C_f is bi-embeddable with C_g if and only if $f =^{\infty} g$.*

Proof. We first describe the construction and then verify it is Borel. Let $p_i, i \in \mathbb{N}$, be the increasing enumeration of all primes. For $f \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$ define UHF algebras

$$A_f = \bigotimes_{i=1}^{\infty} M_{p_i^{f(i)}}(\mathbb{C}) \quad \text{and} \quad B_n = \bigotimes_{i=1}^{\infty} M_{p_i^n}(\mathbb{C}).$$

Hence B_n is isomorphic to A_f if $f(i) = n$ for all i . For f and g we have that $A_f \hookrightarrow A_g$ if and only if $f(i) \leq g(i)$ for all i . Also, $A_f \hookrightarrow A_g \otimes B_n$ if and only if $f(i) \leq g(i) + n$ for all i . Therefore, $f \leq^{\infty} g$ if and only if $A_f \hookrightarrow A_g \otimes B_n$ for a large enough n . Let C_f be the unitization of $A_f \otimes \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n$. We claim that $f \leq^{\infty} g$ if and only if $C_f \hookrightarrow C_g$.

First assume $f \leq^{\infty} g$ and let n be such that $f(i) \leq g(i) + n$ for all i . Then by the above $A_f \otimes B_m \hookrightarrow A_g \otimes B_{m+n}$ for all m , and therefore $C_f \hookrightarrow C_g$.

Now assume $C_f \hookrightarrow C_g$. Then in particular $A_f \hookrightarrow \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} A_g \otimes B_n$. Since A_f is simple, we have $A_f \hookrightarrow A_g \otimes B_n$ for some n and therefore $f \leq^{\infty} g$. We have therefore proved that the map $f \mapsto C_f$ satisfies (2). Clause (3) follows immediately.

It remains to find a Borel measurable map $\Phi: \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \Gamma$ such that $C^*(\Phi(f))$ is isomorphic to C_f for all f . Since \otimes (for nuclear C^* -algebras) and \bigoplus are Borel (by Lemma 3.7 for the former; the latter is trivial), it suffices to show that there is a Borel map $\Psi: \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \Gamma$ such that $C^*(\Psi(f))$ is isomorphic to A_f for all f .

Let D denote the maximal separable UHF algebra, $\bigotimes_{i=1}^{\infty} \bigotimes_{n=1}^{\infty} M_{p_i}(\mathbb{C})$. Let ϕ be its unique trace and let $\pi_{\phi}: D \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H_{\phi})$ be the GNS representation corresponding to ϕ . Then H_{ϕ} is a tensor product of finite-dimensional Hilbert spaces $H_{n,i}$ such that $\dim(H_{n,i}) = i^2$. Also, for each pair n, i there is an isomorphic copy $D_{n,i}$ of $M_i(\mathbb{C})$ acting on $H_{n,i}$ and a unit vector $\xi_{n,i}$ such that $\omega_{\xi_{n,i}}$ agrees with the normalized trace on $D_{n,i}$. The algebra generated by $D_{n,i}$, for $n, i \in \mathbb{N}$, is isomorphic to D .

Now identify H_{ϕ} with H as used to define Γ . Each $D_{n,i}$ is singly generated, so we can fix a generator $\gamma_{n,i}$. Fix a bijection χ between \mathbb{N} and \mathbb{N}^2 , and write $\chi(n) = (\chi_0(n), \chi_1(n))$. For $f \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ let $\Psi(f) = \gamma$ be defined by $\gamma_n = 0$ if $f(\chi_1(n)) < \chi_0(n)$ and $\gamma_n = \gamma_{\chi_0(n), \chi_1(n)}$ if $f(\chi_1(n)) \geq \chi_0(n)$.

Then $C^*(\gamma)$ is isomorphic to the tensor product of the $D_{n,i}$ for $n \leq f(i)$, which is in turn isomorphic to A_f . Moreover, the map $f \mapsto \Psi(f)$ is continuous when Γ is considered with the product topology, because finite initial segments of $\Psi(f)$ are determined by finite initial segments of f . \square

Corollary 8.2. *E_{K_σ} is Borel reducible to the bi-embeddability relation E on separable AF C*-algebras. Therefore E is not Borel reducible to a Polish group action.* \square

9. CONCLUDING REMARKS AND OPEN PROBLEMS

In this section we discuss several open problems and possible directions for further investigations related to the theme of this paper. The first is related to Section 8.

Problem 9.1. *Is the bi-embeddability relation for nuclear simple separable C*-algebras a complete analytic equivalence relation? What about bi-embeddability of AF algebras?*

We remark that the bi-embeddability, and even isomorphism, of separable Banach spaces is known to be complete for analytic equivalence relation ([30]). Moreover, bi-embeddability of countable graphs is already complete for analytic equivalence relations by [19]

Question 9.2. *Is isomorphism of separable (simple) C*-algebras implemented by a Polish group action?*

George Elliott observed that the isomorphism of nuclear simple separable C*-algebras is Borel reducible to an orbit equivalence relation induced by a Borel action of the automorphism group of $\mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{K}$. This is proved by an extension of the proof of Theorem 7.3 together with Borel version of Kirchberg’s result that $A \otimes \mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{K}$ is isomorphic to $\mathcal{O}_2 \otimes \mathcal{K}$ for every nuclear simple separable C*-algebra A . The following is an extension of Question 9.2.

Problem 9.3. *What is the Borel cardinality of the isomorphism relation of larger classes of separable C*-algebras (simple or not), such as:*

- (i) nuclear C*-algebras;
- (ii) exact C*-algebras;
- (iii) arbitrary C*-algebras?

Do these problems have strictly increasing Borel cardinality? Are all of them Borel reducible to the orbit equivalence relation of a Polish group action on a standard Borel space?

We can ask still more of the classes in Problem 9.3. On the space $\Delta^{\mathbb{N}}$ (recall that Δ is the closed unit disk in \mathbb{C}) define the relation E_1 by letting $x E_1 y$ if $x(n) = y(n)$ for all but finitely many n . In [15] it was proved that E_1 is not Borel-reducible to any orbit equivalence relation of a Polish group action, and therefore $E_1 \leq_B E$ implies E is not Borel-reducible to an orbit equivalence relation of a Polish group action. Kechris and Louveau have even conjectured that for Borel equivalence relations reducing E_1 is equivalent to not being induced by a Polish group action. While Corollary 5.2 implies that the relations considered in Problem 9.3 are not Borel, it is natural to expect that they either reduce E_1 or can be reduced to an orbit equivalence relation of a Polish group action.

We defined several Borel parameterizations (see Definition 2.1) of separable C*-algebras that were subsequently shown to be equivalent. The phenomenon that all natural Borel parameterizations of a given classification problem seem to wind up being equivalent has been observed by other authors. One may ask the following general question.

Problem 9.4. *Assume Γ_1 and Γ_2 are good standard Borel parameterizations that model isomorphism of structures in the same category \mathcal{C} .*

Find optimal assumptions that guarantee the existence of a Borel-isomorphism $\Phi: \Gamma_1 \rightarrow \Gamma_2$ that preserves the isomorphism in class \mathcal{C} in the sense that

$$A \cong B \text{ if and only if } \Phi(A) \cong \Phi(B).$$

A theorem of this kind could be regarded as an analogue of an automatic continuity theorem.

We have addressed many basic C^* -algebra constructions here and proved that they are Borel. We have further proved that various natural subclasses of separable C^* -algebras are Borel. There is, however, much more to consider.

Problem 9.5. *Determine whether the following C^* -algebra constructions and/or subclasses are Borel:*

- (i) *the maximum tensor product, and tensor products more generally;*
- (ii) *crossed products, full and reduced;*
- (iii) *groupoid C^* -algebras;*
- (iv) *\mathcal{Z} -stable C^* -algebras;*
- (v) *C^* -algebras of finite or locally finite nuclear dimension;*
- (vi) *approximately subhomogeneous (ASH) algebras;*
- (vii) *the Thomsen semigroup of a C^* -algebra.*

Items (iv)–(vi) above are of particular interest to us as they are connected to Elliott’s classification program (see [4]). Items (iv) and (v) are connected to the radius of comparison by the following conjecture of Winter and the second author.

Conjecture 9.1. *Let A be a simple separable unital nuclear C^* -algebra. The following are equivalent:*

- (i) *A has finite nuclear dimension;*
- (ii) *A is \mathcal{Z} -stable;*
- (iii) *A has radius of comparison zero.*

We have shown here that simple unital nuclear separable C^* -algebras form a Borel set. We will show in a forthcoming article that separable C^* -algebras with radius of comparison zero also form a Borel set. Thus, those A as in the conjecture which satisfy (iii) form a Borel set. It would be interesting to see if the same is true if one asks instead for (i) or (ii). Clearly, the \mathcal{Z} -stable algebras form an analytic set. As for item (vi) of Problem 9.5, the question of whether every unital simple separable nuclear C^* -algebra with a trace is ASH has been open for some time. One might try to attack this question by asking where these formally different classes of algebras sit in the Borel hierarchy.

In [3], Elliott introduced an abstract approach to functorial classification. A feature of his construction is that morphisms between classifying invariants lift to morphisms between the objects to be classified. This property is shared with the classification of C^* -algebras, where morphisms between K -theoretic invariants lift to (outer, and typically not unique) automorphisms of the original objects. It would be interesting to have a set-theoretic analysis of this phenomenon parallel to the set-theoretic analysis of abstract classification problems used in the present paper.

Problem 9.6. *Is there a set-theoretic model for the functorial inverse in the sense of Elliott? More precisely, if the categories are modelled by Borel spaces and the functor that assigns invariants is Borel, is the inverse functor necessarily Borel?*

Finally, the following question was posed by Greg Hjorth to the third author:

Problem 9.7. *Is \simeq^{Elli} Borel reducible to \simeq^{Λ} ? That is, does isomorphism of Elliott invariants Borel reduce to affine isomorphism of separable metrizable Choquet simplexes?*

We will show in a forthcoming article that at least the Elliott invariant is below a group action. It would also be natural to try to obtain an answer to the following:

Problem 9.8. *Is isomorphism of separable metrizable Choquet simplexes Borel reducible to homeomorphism of compact Polish spaces? I.e., is \simeq^{Λ} Borel reducible to $\simeq_{\text{homeo}}^{\mathbb{K}}$?*

In connection to this problem we should point out a misstatement in [10]. In [10, p. 326] it was stated that Kechris and Solecki have proved that the homeomorphism of compact Polish spaces is Borel bi-reducible to $E_{G_{\infty}}^{X_{\infty}}$. The latter is an orbit equivalence relation of a Polish group action with the property that every other orbit equivalence relation of a Polish group action is Borel-reducible to it. If true, this would give a positive solution to Problem 9.8. However, Kechris and Solecki have proved only one direction, referred to in Theorem 1.4. The other direction is still open.

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