GROUPOID MODELS OF $C^*$-ALGEBRAS AND GELFAND DUALITY

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Abstract. We construct a large class of morphisms, which we call partial morphisms, of groupoids that induce $*$-morphisms of maximal and minimal groupoid $C^*$-algebras. We show that the association of a groupoid to its maximal (minimal) groupoid $C^*$-algebra and the association of a partial morphism to its induced morphism are functors (both of which extend the Gelfand functor). We show how to geometrically visualize lots of $*$-morphisms between groupoid $C^*$-algebras. As an application, we construct a groupoid models of the entire inductive systems of the Jiang-Su algebra $\mathcal{Z}$ and the Razak-Jacelon algebra $\mathcal{W}$.

1. Introduction

Modeling $C^*$-algebras using groupoids and bundles over groupoids is a long established method by which one can investigate a $C^*$-algebra using ideas from geometric topology, representation theory, topological dynamics and so on. One of the most notable reasons why modeling $C^*$-algebras using groupoids is important is due to the monumental achievement of J. L. Tu in [29] that the $C^*$-algebra of an amenable groupoid satisfies the UCT (see also [2] by S. Barlak and X. Li for a generalization to twisted groupoid $C^*$-algebras). Another notable result is the remarkable characterization in [24] by J. Renault that all Cartan pairs are of the form $(C^*(G,\sigma),C_0(G^{(0)}))$ where $G$ is an étale groupoid and $\sigma:G^{(2)}\to T$ is a 2-cocycle (see also [18]). In fact, while the current authors were working on this paper, X. Li in [20] showed that a unital, simple, separable, finite nuclear dimensional $C^*$-algebra satisfies the UCT if and only if it has a Cartan subalgebra and hence every $C^*$-algebra in the Elliott classification program is a twisted groupoid $C^*$-algebra of an amenable groupoid. The aim of this paper is to provide a systematic approach to groupoid modeling of $C^*$-algebras by making it functorial and geometric.

Let $\mathcal{G}$ denote the category of locally compact groupoids (equipped with a fixed Haar system of measures) with morphisms given by partial morphisms which will be explained in Section 3. $\mathcal{G}$ has a full subcategory $\mathcal{T}$ of locally compact Hausdorff spaces with partial proper continuous maps (see Section 3 or Appendix 8). Let $\mathcal{C}$ denote the category of $C^*$-algebras with $*$-morphisms and let $\mathcal{COMM}$ denote the full subcategory of $\mathcal{C}$ consisting of commutative $C^*$-algebras with $*$-morphisms. The objective of this paper is to prove the following.

Theorem 1. There exists contravariant functors $\Gamma_{\text{max}}$ and $\Gamma_{\text{min}}$ from $\mathcal{G}$ to $\mathcal{C}$ such that

1. $\Gamma_{\text{max}}$ and $\Gamma_{\text{min}}$ both respect finite sums and map inverse limits to direct limits.
2. $\Gamma_{\text{max}}$ and $\Gamma_{\text{min}}$ both extend the Gelfand duality functor and, moreover, both are equivalences between $\mathcal{T}$ and $\mathcal{COMM}$ (see Remark 1.1).

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**Remark 1.1.** Recall that the classical Gelfand duality theorem does not give an equivalence of the categories of locally compact spaces with proper continuous maps and the commutative $C^*$-algebras with $*$-morphisms. Only $*$-morphisms which map approximate units to approximate units can be modeled by pullbacks of proper continuous functions, see Appendix 8 for a full explanation with examples.

Our methods allow us to construct concrete geometric models for the Jiang-Su algebra [16] and Razak-Jacelon algebra [15], as summarized in the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.2.** ([Theorem 6.3, Theorem 6.9]) There exists inverse sequences of groupoids whose image under $\Gamma_{\min}$ (or $\Gamma_{\max}$) are exactly the inductive systems used in the construction of $\mathcal{Z}$ in [16] and $\mathcal{W}$ in [15]. The inverse limits of these inverse sequences are groupoid models for $\mathcal{Z}$ and $\mathcal{W}$, respectively.

**Theorem 2.** There exists contravariant functors $\Gamma_{\sigma}^{\max}$ and $\Gamma_{\sigma}^{\min}$ from $\mathcal{G}^\sigma$ to $\mathcal{C}$ such that

1. $\Gamma_{\sigma}^{\max}$ and $\Gamma_{\sigma}^{\min}$ both respect finite sums and map inverse limits to direct limits.
2. $\Gamma_{\sigma}^{\min}$ extends $\Gamma_{\min}$ and $\Gamma_{\sigma}^{\max}$ extends $\Gamma_{\max}$

**Remark 1.3.** The following is a list of consequences for $\Gamma_{\min}$ and $\Gamma_{\max}$.

1. A. Buss and A. Sims in [6] show that $\Gamma_{\min}$ and $\Gamma_{\max}$ are not surjective as every groupoid $C^*$-algebra is isomorphic to its opposite algebra and there exists $C^*$-algebras which are not isomorphic to their opposite algebras.
2. By work [11] of R. Exel and M. Pardo, the class of Katsura algebras (and hence also Kirchberg algebras that satisfy the UCT) are in the range of both $\Gamma_{\min}$ and $\Gamma_{\max}$ and hence the Kirchberg algebras are in the range of both $\Gamma_{\min} : \Gamma_{\max}$.
3. I. Putnam in [22] shows that if $(G_0, G_1)$ is a pair groups with $G_0$ a simple, acyclic dimension group and $G_1$ a countable, torsion-free, abelian group, there exists a minimal, amenable, étale equivalence relation $R$ on a Cantor set whose associated $C^*$-algebra $\Gamma_{\min}(R)$ is Elliott classifiable and, moreover has $K_1(\Gamma_{\min}(R)) = G_1$ and $K_0(\Gamma_{\min}(R)) = G_0$.
4. More generally, X. Li in [20] shows that all Elliott classifiable $C^*$-algebras are in the range of $\Gamma_{\min}$ (and also for $\Gamma_{\max}$).
5. R. Holkar in [14] also noted functoriality of the groupoid $C^*$-algebra construction using $C^*$-correspondences.
6. In [10], R. Deeley, K. Strung, and I. Putnam also construct a groupoid model for $\mathcal{Z}$ using topological dynamics; i.e. they show that $\mathcal{Z}$ is in the image of both $\Gamma_{\min}$ and $\Gamma_{\max}$.

In the process of completing this paper, X. Li in [20] posted a paper that shows that $\mathcal{Z}$ and $\mathcal{W}$ are twisted étale groupoid $C^*$-algebras and some of his techniques are quite similar to ours. His method of modeling comes from the works [2] and [3]. Some notable differences with the modeling done in those works with the modeling done in the current work are

1. We work with both minimal and maximal completions of groupoid convolution algebras whereas they work only with reduced completions.
2. Our modeling works for groupoids with general Haar systems of measures and not just for étale groupoids.
(3) Our concept of partial morphisms allows us to model exactly lots of morphisms of $C^*$-algebras whereas they have to break $*$-morphisms into two pieces and model each piece separately.

Our groupoid models for $\mathcal{Z}$ and $\mathcal{W}$ are isomorphic to the models constructed in [20], but it is worth noting that both our models differ considerably to the models of R. Deeley, I. Putnam, and K. Strung in [10]. For one, we make no use of the classification theory whereas the authors in [10] make critical use of it (see the proof of Proposition 2.8 in [10] for example).

The first issue with building inverse approximations of groupoids and their Haar systems is that, in order for these approximations to be useful at the level of groupoid $C^*$-algebras, we need the bonding maps between the groupoids in the inverse systems to induce morphisms at the level of $C^*$-algebras. In [1], the first author along with M. Georgescu defined a class of morphisms between groupoids with Haar systems, which they called *Haar system preserving morphisms*, whose pullback maps induce an $I$-norm continuous $*$-morphisms of convolution algebras and hence induce $*$-morphisms of maximal completions (see Lemma 3.2 in [3] for a definition of Haar system preserving for étale groupoids). Because pullback morphisms have serious limitations, see the end of section 3 in [1] for example, we were forced to consider more general morphisms of groupoids, which we call *partial morphisms*. Partial morphisms generalize Haar system preserving morphisms and their induced morphisms of both maximal and minimal groupoid $C^*$-algebras also generalize pullback maps. The main reason we needed this concept of partial morphism comes from the need to model morphisms of the form $M_n \to M_n \otimes M_m$ where $T \to T \otimes \text{id}_m$. As shown in the end of section 3 of [1], a pullback map will never be able to model this kind of $*$-morphism.

In Section 3, we prove that $\Gamma_{\text{min}}$ and $\Gamma_{\text{max}}$ are functors and we also prove that inverse limits of groupoids with partial morphisms as bonding maps always exist. In Section 4, we provide examples of groupoid models for any UHF algebra, infinite tensor products of any countable collection of groupoid $C^*$-algebras, and we furthermore show that a Bernoulli action on infinite tensor powers of a fixed groupoid $C^*$-algebra $C^*(G)$ is a crossed product of a groupoid model for $\mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{Z}$ and $\mathcal{W}$ by a shift action of $\Gamma$. The importance of understanding such crossed products relates to group $C^*$-algebras of wreath products, see [8] for more information.

Since we began our journey trying to construct more approachable models of the Jiang-Su algebra, our first goal in this work was to provide groupoid models for a large class of unital subalgebras of $C(X,M_n)$ where $X$ is a locally compact Hausdorff space; in particular, we needed first to find concrete and workable groupoid models for dimension drop algebras and for building block algebras (see Proposition 5.7 below). Once we constructed these models, we needed to develop methods by which one can model the bonding maps in the construction of the Jiang-Su algebra $\mathcal{Z}$ and the Razak-Jacelon algebra $\mathcal{W}$. This was no easy task as one needs to take models for interval algebras and twist them by paths of unitaries and therefore we needed to build all the necessary infrastructure for doing that at the groupoid level. All of this is done in Section 5. In Section 6, we show that the inductive systems used in the original constructions for $\mathcal{Z}$ and $\mathcal{W}$ are the image of inverse systems can be modeled at the groupoid level. In other words, we find inverse sequences of groupoids with Haar systems and partial morphism bonding maps whose image under $\Gamma_{\text{min}}$ (or $\Gamma_{\text{max}}$) is exactly the inductive systems used in the original constructions of $\mathcal{Z}$ and $\mathcal{W}$. The inverse limits of those sequences are groupoid models for $\mathcal{Z}$ and $\mathcal{W}$.

In Section 7, we discuss some possible future avenues of groupoid modeling using the techniques and ideas of this paper. In particular, we show how one can interpret the concepts of self-absorption and strong self-absorption at the groupoid level. One can thus try to tackle the open conjecture of classifying all strongly self absorbing $C^*$-algebras at the groupoid level. The authors plan to
investigate this problem in the future. Additionally, in that section, we also show how to create
some basic models for a large class of recursive subhomogenous \( C^* \)-algebras and ask some basic
questions regarding them. We also show how to model the endomorphisms of \( M_n \) that one needs
when constructing the Cuntz-algebras \( O_n \) for \( 2 \leq n < \infty \) and we lay the plans for future work in
defining groupoid crossed products by “endomorphisms.”

In Appendix 8, we show how the concept of partial morphism allows one to complete Gelfand
duality (i.e. consider all \(*\)-morphisms of commutative \( C^* \)-algebras and not just the ones which map
approximate units to approximate units).

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2. Preliminaries on Groupoid \( C^* \)-Algebras

Recall that a groupoid is a small category in which every morphism is invertible. As is standard
throughout the literature, we adopt the “arrows only” view of category theory so we view a groupoid
\( G \) as just a collection of arrows. We denote the object space of \( G \) by \( G^{(0)} \) and the arrow space of
\( G \) by \( G^{(1)} \).

Notation 2.1. We will denote arrows of groupoids using the letters \( x, y \) and \( z \) and we will use \( u, v \)
and \( w \) to denote objects.

Recall that there are maps \( s \) and \( r \) mapping \( G \) to \( G^{(0)} \) by taking each arrow to its source or range,
respectively. For each \( u \in G^{(0)} \), we let \( G^u \) denote the fiber of \( u \) under the range map and we let \( G_u \)
denote the fiber of \( u \) under the source map; i.e. it is the collection \( \{ x \in G : t(x) = u \} \). A topological
groupoid is a groupoid \( G \) equipped with locally compact and Hausdorff topology that makes the
composition of arrows and the inversion of arrows continuous and, furthermore, carries a fixed Haar
system of measures. Recall that a Haar system of measures for \( G \) is a collection \( \{ \mu^u : u \in G^{(0)} \} \) of
positive Radon (see Remark 2.2) measures on \( G \) such that

1. \( \mu^u \) is supported on \( G^u \).
2. For each \( f \in C_c(G) \), the function \( u \rightarrow \int_G f(x)d\mu^u(x) \) is continuous on \( G^{(0)} \).
3. For all \( x \in G^{(1)} \) and \( f \in C_c(G) \), the following equality holds:
   \[
   \int_G f(y)d\mu^{t(x)}(y) = \int_G f(xy)d\mu^{s(x)}(y).
   \]

Remark 2.2. Because the concept of Radon measures does not seem to be totally agreed upon
throughout the literature, we define a Radon measure \( \mu \) on a locally compact Hausdorff space \( X \)
to be locally finite Borel measure such that, for every measurable set \( A \subset X \) with \( \mu(A) < \infty \) and
for every \( \epsilon > 0 \), there exists a compact subset \( K \subset A \subset X \) and an open subset \( A \subset U \subset X \) such that
\( \mu(A \setminus K) < \epsilon \) and \( \mu(U \setminus A) < \epsilon \). Recall that if \( X \) is \( \sigma \)-compact then the requirement \( \mu(A) < \infty \) can
be removed from the above condition.

By the Riesz-Markov-Kakutani theorem, the collection of positive Radon measures on a locally
compact space \( X \) are in one-to-one correspondence with positive functionals \( C_c(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \).
A groupoid $G$ is principal if the collection $G(u) = \{ x \in G : s(x) = t(x) = u \}$ contains only one element, namely $u$, for every $u \in G^{(0)}$. Recall from [5] that a locally compact and principal groupoid $G$ is isomorphic to an equivalence relation on its object space $G^{(0)}$, with the minor modification that the topology one has to take on $G^{(0)} \times G^{(0)}$ may be finer than the product topology. A groupoid $G$ is said to be r-discrete if the object space $G^{(0)}$ is open in $G$. Recall that a groupoid $G$ is étale if one of the following equivalent conditions holds, see Proposition 2.8 in Chapter 1 of ([23])

1. The range map is a local homeomorphism.
2. $G$ is r-discrete and has an open range map.
3. $G$ is r-discrete and has any Haar system of measures.
4. $G$ is r-discrete and counting measures form a Haar system for $G$.

Recall that if $G$ is a topological group (a groupoid with one object) with Haar measure $\mu$ then one can turn a function $f \in C_c(G)$ into a kernel $k : G \times G \to \mathbb{C}$ by defining $k(x, y) = f(xy^{-1})$. The convolution product $f \ast g$ for $f, g \in C_c(G)$ is defined to be the function in $C_c(G)$ obtained by integrating $g$ against the kernel associated to $f$; i.e.

$$f \ast g(x) = \int_G f(xy^{-1})g(y) d\mu(y)$$

For the case of a topological groupoid $G$ with Haar system of measures $\{\mu^u : u \in G^{(0)}\}$, a function $f \in C_c(G)$ defines a continuous field of kernels $K_u(x, y) : G^u \times G^u$ where $k_u(x, y) = f(xy^{-1})$. The following formula shows how to interpret the convolution product $f \ast g$ by integrating $g$ against the continuous field of kernels associated to $f$.

$$f \ast g(x) = \int_G f(xy^{-1})g(y) d\mu^u(x)(y)$$

With $\ast$ as multiplication and the following adjoint operation and norm $\| \cdot \|_I$, $C_c(G)$ becomes a topological *-algebra (with inductive limit topology).

$$f^*(x) = \overline{f(x^{-1})}$$

$$\| f \|_I = \max \left\{ \sup_{u \in G^{(0)}} \int_G |f(g)| d\mu^u(g), \sup_{u \in G^{(0)}} \int_G |f(g^{-1})| d\mu^u(g) \right\}.$$

The maximal (or full) groupoid $C^*$-algebra of $G$, denoted by $C^*(G)$, is defined to be the completion of $C_c(G)$ with the following norm

$$\| f \|_{max} = \sup_{\pi} \| \pi(f) \|,$$

where $\pi$ runs over all continuous (with respect to the norm $\| \cdot \|_I$) *-representations of $C_c(G)$. The minimal (or reduced groupoid $C^*$-algebra $C^*_r(G)$ is defined to be the smallest completion of $C_c(G)$ such that all the representations $\{\text{Ind}(\delta_u) : u \in G^{(0)}\}$ are continuous where $\text{Ind}(\delta_u)$ is the representation defined as follows: Firstly, we use the standard method of turning the Dirac measures $\delta_u$ for $u \in G^{(0)}$ into representations by first defining the new measure $\theta_u$ to be the unique regular Radon measure defined by

$$\int_G f d\theta_u = \int_{G^{(0)}} \int_G f d\mu^w d\delta_u(w).$$

Now, we define a representation $\text{Ind}(\delta_u) : C_c(G) \to B(L^2(G, \theta_u))$ by
\[
\text{Ind}(\delta_u)(f)(\xi)(x) = \int_G f(xy^{-1})\xi(y)d\theta_u(y)
\]

The reduced norm \(\|\cdot\|_r\) on \(C_c(G)\) is defined by \(\|f\|_r = \sup_{u \in G^{(0)}} \|\text{Ind}(\delta_u)(f)\|\). Note that \(\|\cdot\|_r \leq \|\cdot\|_{\max}\).

**Definition 2.3.** Let \(G\) and \(H\) be locally compact groupoids with Haar systems of measures \(\{\mu^u : u \in G^{(0)}\}\) and \(\{\nu^v : v \in H^{(0)}\}\). A groupoid morphism \(\phi : G \to H\) is a proper continuous functor. \(\phi\) is said to be **Haar system preserving** if, for all \(v \in H^{(0)}\) and for all \(u \in \phi^{-1}(v)\), we have that \(\phi_*\mu^u = \nu^v\).

**Remark 2.4.** If \(G\) and \(H\) are étale groupoids then \(\phi\) is Haar system preserving if and only if for each \(u \in G^{(0)}\), \(\phi\) bijectively maps the set \(G^u\) to \(H^{\phi(u)}\).

The following comes from Proposition 3.2 in [1], but we decided to add the proof for completeness.

**Proposition 2.5.** Let \(q : G \to H\) be a Haar system preserving morphism of locally compact Hausdorff groupoids with Haar systems \(\{\mu^u : u \in G^{(0)}\}\) and \(\{\nu^v : v \in H^{(0)}\}\), respectively. The pullback map \(q^* : C_c(H) \to C_c(G)\) is a *-morphism of topological *-algebras and is I-norm decreasing. If additionally \(q\) is surjective, then \(q^*\) is I-norm preserving.

**Proof.** The usual pullback of \(\phi\) induces a \(C\)-module homomorphism \(\phi^* : C_c(H) \to C_c(G)\). We claim that it is a *-algebra morphism. Let \(f_1, f_2 \in C_c(H)\) and \(y \in G\). We define \(F_1, F_2 \in C_c(H)\) by \(F_1(h) = f_1(\phi(y)h)\) for \(h \in \phi(s(y))\) and \(F_2(h) = f_2(h^{-1})\) for \(h \in H\). We have

\[
(\phi^*(f_1) \ast \phi^*(f_2))(y) = \int_G f_1(\phi(y))f_2(\phi(x^{-1})) \, d\mu^{\phi(y)}(x) = \int_H (F_1 \cdot F_2)(\phi(x)) \, d\mu^{\phi(y)}(x) = \int_H (F_1 \cdot F_2)(z) \, d\mu^{\phi(y)}(z) = \int_H f_1(\phi(y)z)f_2(z^{-1}) \, d\mu^{\phi(y)}(z) = (f_1 \ast f_2)(\phi(y)) = (\phi^*(f_1 \ast f_2))(y).
\]

An even easier computation shows that \(\phi^*\) preserves the adjoint and hence is a *-morphism. We will leave the simple proof that \(\phi\) is I-norm decreasing to the reader.

**Proposition 2.6.** Let \(\phi : G \to H\) be a Haar system preserving morphism of locally compact Hausdorff groupoids with Haar systems \(\{\mu^u : u \in G^{(0)}\}\) and \(\{\nu^v : v \in H^{(0)}\}\), respectively. The pullback map \(q^* : C_c(H) \to C_c(G)\) is a *-morphism of topological *-algebras that extends to reduced completions. If \(\phi\) is surjective, then \(\phi^*\) is isometric with respect to the reduced norms \(\|\cdot\|_r\).

**Proof.** Let \(u \in G^{(0)}\) and notice that for all \(g \in C_c(H)\), we have

\[
\int_{G^{(0)}} \int_G \phi^*(g)(z)d\mu^u(z)d\delta_{\phi(u)}(w) = \int_{H^{(0)}} \int_H g d\nu^v(y)d\delta_{\phi(u)}(v)
\]

because \(\nu^v\phi(u)(y)\) is the pushforward measure of \(\mu^u\) and because \(\delta_{\phi(u)}\) is the pushforward measure of \(\delta_u\). It therefore follows that the representation \(\text{Ind}(\delta_{\phi(u)})\) is the composition \(\text{Ind}(\delta_u) \circ \phi^*\). It follows that \(\phi^*\) extends to reduced completions. The fact that \(\phi^*\) is isometric if \(\phi\) is surjective follows from the fact that each measure \(\delta_u \in \{\delta_u : u \in H^{(0)}\}\) is the image \(\delta_v\) for \(v \in G^{(0)}\) and, furthermore, the pushforward of the measure \(\theta_v\) is \(\theta_u\).

\[\square\]
The following proposition, proven in [1], shows that there are indeed lots of morphisms of groupoids that preserve Haar systems.

**Proposition 2.7.** Let $G$ be a topological groupoid with Haar system and let $f : X \to Y$ be a proper continuous function of locally compact Hausdorff spaces. Then the morphism $id_G \times f : G \times X \to G \times Y$ is Haar measure preserving (here, we take the Haar system to be $\mu^y \times \delta_x$ for $(x, y) \in G(0) \times X$).

The following are some examples of Proposition 2.7

- Suppose that $G$ is a groupoid with Haar system and $F$ is a compact Hausdorff space. Then the coordinate projection $G \times X \to G$ is Haar system preserving and, furthermore, has pullback map given by $C^*(G) \to C^*(G) \otimes C(X)$ given by $a \to a \otimes 1$.
- Suppose that $f : X \to Y$ is a proper continuous map of locally compact Hausdorff spaces and let $G_n$ be as in Example 4.1 then the map $f \times id_{G_n} : X \times G_n \to Y \times G_n$ is Haar system preserving and, furthermore, the pullback map induces the morphism $M_n(C_0(Y)) \to M_n(C_0(X))$ where $(g_{i,j}) \to (f^*(g_{i,j}))$.

In most cases in this paper, it is straightforward to see that a particular map is Haar system preserving by simply checking the definition. Even though the definition seems quite rigid, all of the morphisms we use in this paper can be easily checked to be Haar system preserving.

**Definition 2.8.** Let $G$ and $H$ be locally compact Hausdorff groupoids with Haar systems of measures $\{\mu^u : u \in G^0\}$ and $\{\lambda^v : v \in H^0\}$. We define the product of $G$ and $H$, denoted by $G \times H$, to be the groupoid with object space $G^0 \times H^0$ and with arrows $G^1 \times H^1$. We give $G \times H$ the Haar system $\mu^u \times \lambda^v : (u, v) \in G^0 \times H^0$.

**Lemma 2.9.** Let $G$ and $H$ be locally compact Hausdorff groupoids with Haar systems of measures $\{\mu^u : u \in G(0)\}$ and $\{\lambda^v : v \in H(0)\}$, respectively. Then $C^*(G \times H) \cong C^*(G) \otimes_{\max} C^*(H)$ and $C^*_r(G \times H) \cong C^*_r(G) \otimes_{\min} C^*_r(H)$.

**Proof.** Consider the usual topological vector space isomorphism $\phi : C_c(G) \otimes C_c(H) \to C_c(G \times H)$ (with inductive limit topologies) given by $\phi(f \otimes g)((x, y)) = f(x)g(y)$ for simple tensors and extended linearly over sums of simple tensors. To see that $\phi$ is convolution product preserving, let $f_i \in C_c(G)$ and $g_i \in C_c(H)$ for $i = 1, 2$ and consider

$$
\phi((f_1 \otimes g_1 \ast f_2 \otimes g_2)((x, y))) = \phi(f_1 \ast f_2 \otimes g_1 \ast g_2)((x, y)) = \left(\int_G f_1(z^{-1})f_2(xz)d\mu^x(z)\right)\left(\int_H g_1(w^{-1})f_2(yw)d\lambda^y(w)\right).
$$

Notice that the above calculation extends to sums of simple tensors. A straightforward calculation shows that $\phi$ preserves adjoints.

To see that the maximal completion of $C_c(G \times H)$ is isomorphic to $C^*(G) \otimes_{\max} C^*(H)$, one just needs to notice that $L$-norm continuous morphisms of $C_c(G \times H)$ are in one-to-one correspondence with commuting $L$-norm continuous representations of $C_c(G)$ and $C_c(H)$.
As for the reduced case, notice that the representations $\text{Ind}(\delta_{(x,y)}) = \text{Ind}(\delta_x \times \delta_y)$ correspond exactly to the representation $\text{Ind}(\delta_x) \otimes \text{Ind}(\delta_y)$ on the Hilbert space $L^2(G,\theta_x) \otimes L^2(H,\theta_y)$. This corresponds exactly to the completion $C_r^*(G) \otimes_{\min} C_r^*(H)$. \hfill \qed

The following is a generalization of Theorem A in [1] which includes the case of reduced completions and can be considered as a corollary of Theorem A and Proposition 2.6. See subsection 3.1 for an introduction to twisted groupoid $C^*$-algebras.

**Theorem 2.10.** Let $\{G_\alpha, \sigma_\alpha, \{\mu_\alpha^u : u \in G^0_\alpha\}, q^\alpha, \beta, A\}$ be an inverse system of groupoids with Haar systems and 2-cocycles and with proper, continuous, surjective, Haar system preserving and cocycle preserving bonding maps. The inverse limit groupoid $G = \lim_\alpha G_\alpha$ exists and has a Haar system of measures $\{\mu^u : u \in G^0\}$ and 2-cocycle $\sigma$ such that $(p_\alpha)_*(\mu^u) = \mu^u_\alpha$ and $p_\alpha^*(\sigma) = \sigma_\alpha$; moreover, the pullback morphisms induce a direct system $\{C^*(G_\alpha,\sigma_\alpha), (p_\alpha^0)^*, A\}$ of convolution algebras that extends to a directed system of maximal completions and to a directed system of reduced completions. We have $C^*(G,\sigma) = \lim_\alpha C^*(G_\alpha,\sigma_\alpha)$ and $C^*_r(G,\sigma) = \lim_\alpha C^*_r(G_\alpha,\sigma_\alpha)$.

3. Partial Morphisms, Induced Maps, and Inverse Systems

**Definition 3.1.** Let $G$ be a topological groupoid with Haar system of measures and suppose that $K \subset G$ is a open subgroupoid. Then $K$ carries a Haar system of measures so that the extension of $f \in C_c(K)$ to $G$ by setting $f(g) = 0$ for all $g \in G \setminus K$ is a $*$-morphism of convolution algebras. An open subgroupoid $K \subset G$ with this Haar system of measures will be referred to as a **Haar subgroupoid**.

When working with inductive systems of $C^*$-algebras, one often requires that the bonding maps be unital or that a particular bonding map lands in a particular subalgebra. As mentioned in the introduction, one cannot model the morphism $M_k \to M_k \otimes M_n$ given by $T \to T \otimes id_n$ with pullback maps (in fact, the reader can easily verify this fact on their own). The following concept is designed precisely to make up for the failings of pullback maps, by allowing more flexibility with their domains.

**Definition 3.2.** Let $G$ and $H$ be topological groupoid with Haar systems of measures. A **partial morphism** from $G$ to $H$ is a pair $(f, K)$ where $K$ is an Haar subgroupoid of $G$ ($K$ may be all of $G$) and $f : K \to H$ is a Haar system preserving morphism of groupoids.

**Notation 3.3.** Sometimes we will write $f : G \to H$ as a partial morphism and suppress the $K$, especially when $K$ is not relevant to the point we are making.

**Remark 3.4.** A Haar system preserving morphism of groupoids is a partial morphism and corresponds to the case where $G = K$ in the above definition. Also note that $f = id_K$ corresponds to the inclusion of $C_c(K) \to C_c(G)$, but we have artificially made this inclusion contravariant.

**Remark 3.5.** Partial morphisms are motivated by the concepts of subhomomorphisms or local homomorphisms of skew fields. In fact, our idea of taking inverse limits with partial morphism bonding maps is closely related to the work of A. I. Lichtman in [19].

**Definition 3.6.** Let $G$ and $H$ be groupoids with Haar systems of measures and let $(f, K) : G \to H$ be a partial morphism. We define the **induced map** to be the composition

$$C_c(H) \xrightarrow{f^*} C_c(K) \xrightarrow{\text{canonical}} C_c(G)$$

where the canonical inclusion $C_c(K) \to C_c(G)$ was outlined in Definition 3.1.
Remark 3.7. Note that if \( \phi : G \to H \) is a partial morphism then by Proposition 2.5, the induced map \( \phi^* \) is a \(*\)-morphism of (maximal) groupoid \( C^* \)-algebras. If, additionally, the partial morphism is surjective, then the induced \(*\)-morphism is isometric. By Proposition 2.6, we know that \( \phi^* \) also extends to minimal completions.

The following proposition is one of the key reasons why we are looking at partial morphisms and their induced maps in this paper. We omit the straightforward proof.

Proposition 3.8. Let \( G \) and \( H \) be étale groupoids with \( G^{(0)} \) compact and let \( \phi : G \times H \to H \) be the partial map defined by projection of the open subgroupoid \( G^{(0)} \times H \to H \). The induced morphism, composed with the isomorphism \( C^*(G \times H) \to C^*(G) \otimes C^*(H) \) (which is the inverse of the isomorphism defined in the proof of Proposition 2.9) is the morphism \( C^*(H) \to C^*(G) \otimes C^*(H) \) given by \( a \to 1 \otimes a \). The result is also true if one takes minimal completions.

Let \( \mathcal{G} \) denote the category whose objects are locally compact Hausdorff groupoids with Haar systems of measures and with partial morphisms. Notice that if \( \phi : G \to H \) and \( \psi : H \to K \) are partial morphisms then the domain of \( \psi \) is an open subset of \( H \) and hence its preimage is open in \( G \). Moreover, because \( \phi \) is Haar measure preserving, it follows that the pre-image of the domain of \( \psi \) via \( \phi \), which we will denote by \( A \), is a Haar subgroupoid of the domain of \( \phi \) and hence is a Haar subgroupoid of \( G \). We define the composition of \( \phi \) and \( \psi \) to be \( \psi \circ \phi_A \). \( \mathcal{G} \) has a full subcategory \( \mathcal{T} \) consisting of locally compact and Hausdorff spaces and with partial morphisms between spaces.

It is straightforward to check that the association of a groupoid \( G \) to its convolution algebra \( C_c(G) \) and to a partial morphism \( \phi : G \to H \) the induced map \( \phi^* : C_c(H) \to C_c(G) \) is a functor from \( \mathcal{G} \) to the category of topological \(*\)-algebras with continuous and \(*\)-preserving algebra morphisms. Extending to the maximal or minimal completions, we get the following key result.

Theorem 3.9. Let \( \mathcal{C} \) denote the category of \( C^* \)-algebras with \(*\)-morphisms. The association \( \Gamma_{\text{max}} \) (\( \Gamma_{\text{min}} \)) which takes each object of \( \mathcal{G} \) and assigns its maximal (minimal) groupoid \( C^* \)-algebra and assigns partial morphisms to their induced map is a contravariant functor. Moreover, both \( \Gamma_{\text{max}} \) and \( \Gamma_{\text{min}} \) are extensions of the Gelfand duality functor \( \Gamma_c \).

Remark 3.10. The reader may be thinking whether \( \Gamma_{\text{min}} \) is a categorical equivalence like it is for commutative \( C^* \)-algebras (see Subsection 8). Unfortunately, we have \( \Gamma_{\text{min}}(T) \) and \( \Gamma_{\text{min}}(Z) \) are both \( C(T) \) where we view \( T \) as a compact Hausdorff space and \( Z \) as a discrete group. The same example works for \( \Gamma_{\text{max}} \).

If we define a morphism of Cartan Pairs \( f : (A,B) \to (B,C) \) to be a pointed star morphism (i.e. \( f(B) \subset C \)) that commutes with the given conditional expectations (see Section 5 of [20]) then we in fact have that the association of a partial function to its induced map defines a functor from the category of groupoids to Cartan pairs. In Section 5 of [20], the author characterizes the morphisms of Cartan pairs in terms of groupoid morphisms of the associated Weyl groupoids. The Weyl groupoid construction, though quite powerful, has its drawbacks in terms of being an inverse functor for \( \Gamma_{\text{min}} \) or \( \Gamma_{\text{max}} \). The biggest issue is that it does not provide an inverse functor for a large class of non-essentially free groupoids (see Propositions 4.10 and 4.11 in [24]).

Definition 3.11. We call a diagram \((G_\alpha,p^\beta_\alpha,\Delta)\) in \( \mathcal{G} \) an inverse system of groupoids if

1. \( \Delta \) is a directed set and for all \( \alpha, \beta \in \Delta \) there exists \( \gamma \in \Delta \) with \( \gamma \geq \beta, \alpha \) and \( p^\beta_\alpha : G_\gamma \to G_\alpha \) and \( p^\gamma_\beta : G_\gamma \to G_\beta \) are both in \( (G_\alpha,p^\beta_\alpha,\Delta) \).
2. \( p^\beta_\alpha : G_\alpha \to G_\beta \) is a surjective partial morphism in \( \mathcal{C} \).
3. \( p^\alpha_\alpha = \text{id}_{G_\alpha} \) for all \( \alpha \).
(4) \( p_\beta^3 \circ p_\beta^2 = p_\gamma^3 \) for all \( \alpha \geq \beta \geq \gamma \)

We will refer to the maps \( p_\beta^n \) in Definition 3.11 as bonding maps. If \( G \) is the inverse limit of an inverse system \( \{ G_\alpha, p_\beta^\gamma, \Delta \} \) then we refer to the maps \( q_\alpha : G \to G_\alpha \) given by the universal property as projections.

Using the contravariant functor described in Theorem 3.9, we have the following easy observation.

**Observation 3.12.** Every generalized inverse system \( \{ G_\alpha, A_\alpha, p_\beta^\gamma, \Delta \} \) induces a directed system of groupoid convolution algebras. It is straightforward to check that if \( G \) is the inverse limit \( \lim_{\alpha} G_\alpha \) then \( \lim_{\alpha} C_c(G_\alpha) = C_c(G) \).

**Theorem 3.13.** Let \( (G_\alpha, (p_\beta^\gamma, U_\alpha), A) \) be an inverse system in \( G \) with surjective bonding maps. There exists an inverse limit \( G \) in \( G \).

**Proof.** We will first show that there is a locally compact space \( G \) that is the inverse limit of the underlying spaces of the inverse system. Once this is done, it is fairly straightforward to put a groupoid structure and a Haas system of measures on \( G \).

For each \( \beta \in A \), let \( X_\beta \) be the subspace of the product \( \Pi_{\alpha \geq \beta} G_\beta \) consisting of those tuples \( (x_\alpha)_{\alpha} \) such that \( p_\beta^3(x_\alpha) = x_\beta \). Let \( X' = \cup_{\alpha \in A} X_\alpha \) and we define an equivalence relation on \( X' \) by setting \( (x_\alpha)_{\alpha \geq \gamma_1} \sim (y_\alpha)_{\alpha \geq \gamma_2} \) if and only if there exists \( \gamma_3 \geq \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \) and \( (z_\alpha)_{\alpha \geq \gamma_3} \) such that \( x_\alpha = y_\alpha = z_\alpha \) for all \( \alpha \geq \gamma_3 \). Let \( G = X'/\sim \) and give \( G \) the quotient topology. The quotient of the disjoint union by the above described equivalence relation is exactly an increasing union of open embeddings.

We observe that the proper-ness of the connecting morphisms in the inverse sequence ensures that \( G \) locally compact Hausdorff. Let \( A_\alpha \) be the image of \( X_\alpha \) (the above described set of partial threads that project to \( G_\alpha \)) under the quotient, and define a partial morphism \( q_\alpha : A_\alpha \to G_\alpha \) by the usual coordinate projection. Notice that the maps \( \{ q_\alpha \} \) commute with the inverse sequence in the sense that \( q_\beta^3 \circ q_\beta^2 = q_\gamma^3 \) for all \( \alpha \geq \beta \).

Now to check the universal property of the inverse limit, let \( Z \) be a locally compact Hausdorff space with partial maps \( \{ \rho_\alpha, U_\alpha \} : Z \to G_\alpha \) such that \( q_\beta^3 \circ \rho_\alpha = \rho_\beta \) for all \( \alpha \geq \beta \), we define \( \rho : \cup_\alpha U_\alpha \to G \) by \( \rho(y) = (\rho_\alpha(y)) \). It is straightforward to verify that \( p_\alpha \circ \rho = \rho_\alpha \). Clearly, \( (\rho, \cup_\alpha U_\alpha) \) is the unique partial morphism satisfying \( p_\alpha \circ \rho = \rho_\alpha \).

Finally, notice that if all the bonding maps were full morphisms then \( G \) would be the inverse limit in the usual sense.

As \( G \) is an increasing union of bona fide inverse systems of groupoids, each satisfying the hypothesis of Theorem 2.10 and hence we know that \( G \) is a direct limit of locally compact Hausdorff groupoids, each with a Haar system. This increasing union structure of \( G \) gives it a natural Haar system of measures (see Theorem 9.2 in Appendix), whose continuity and left invariance properties follow directly from the corresponding properties of the Haar systems of each of the open subgroups. More specifically, if \( f \in C_c(G) \), then as \( G \) is the increasing union of open subgroups, the support of \( f \) lies in one of those open subgroups, where the continuity and left invariance is already known.

**Proposition 3.14.** Let \( (G_\alpha, p_\beta^\gamma, A) \) be a generalized inverse system of locally compact Hausdorff groupoids with fixed Haar systems \( \{ \mu_\alpha^u : u \in G_\alpha(0) \} \). If \( G_\alpha \) is an equivalence relation for each \( \alpha \), then \( G := \lim_{\alpha} G_\alpha \) is an equivalence relation. Moreover, if \( G_\alpha \) is étale for each \( \alpha \) then \( G \) is étale.

**Proof.** As we have noted in the proof of Theorem 3.13, inverse limits of generalized inverse systems are increasing unions of inverse limits. It is clear that direct limits of principal groupoids (groupoids arising from equivalence relations) are principal. To see that inverse limits of principal groupoids
are principal, we just need to recall that a groupoid $G$ is principal if and only if for every $u \in G^{(0)}$, the isotropy subgroup \( \{ g \in G : r(g) = s(g) = u \} \) is trivial. For if $g$ (in the inverse limit $G$) is in its isotropy group at $u \in G^{(0)}$, $p_\alpha(g)$ is in the isotropy group of $p_\alpha(u)$ for all $\alpha$. It follows that $g$ is a string of identity elements and is hence an identity element.

To see $G$ is étale, just notice that the object space of $G$ is exactly the union of the preimages of the object spaces of all the $G_\alpha$ via the projection maps from inverse limit. It follows then that $G$ has open object space and has a Haar system of measures and so by the characterization above, we have that $G$ is étale. \( \Box \)

**Theorem 3.15.** Let \( \{ G_\alpha : p_\beta^\alpha \} \) be an inverse system in $\mathcal{G}$ with surjective partial bonding maps and suppose $G = \varprojlim \alpha G_\alpha$. We have that \( \{ C^*(G_\alpha), (p_\beta^\alpha)^* \} \) and \( \{ C^*_r(G_\alpha), (p_\beta^\alpha)^* \} \) are inductive systems of $C^*$-algebras and, furthermore, $C^*(G) = \varprojlim \alpha C^*(G_\alpha)$ and $C^*_r(G) = \varprojlim \alpha C^*_r(G_\alpha)$.

**Proof.** This follows immediately from the fact that \( \{ C_c(G_\alpha) : (p_\beta^\alpha)^* \} \) is a directed system of topological $\ast$-algebras and that $C_c(G) = \varprojlim \alpha C_c(G_\alpha)$. \( \Box \)

### 3.1 Twisted Groupoid $C^*$-Algebras

For completeness, we will show how to extend all the results of this section so far to the case of twisted groupoid $C^*$-algebras.

**Definition 3.16.** A 2-cocycle is a map $\sigma : G^{(2)} \to \mathbb{T}$ such that whenever $(g, h), (h, k) \in G^{(2)}$ we have

\[
\sigma(g, h)\sigma(h, k) = \sigma(g, hk)\sigma(h, k).
\]

The map $\sigma(g, h) = 1$ for all $(g, h) \in G^{(2)}$ is always a 2-cocycle, called the **trivial cocycle**; the set of 2-cocycles on $G$ form a group under pointwise multiplication and pointwise inverse.

**Definition 3.17.** If $(G, \sigma_G)$ and $(H, \sigma_H)$ are locally compact groupoids with 2-cocycles, a morphism $q : (G, \sigma_G) \to (H, \sigma_H)$ is said to be **cocycle preserving** if it is a proper morphism of groupoids such that $\sigma_G(g, h) = \sigma_H(q(g), q(h))$.

If $(G, \sigma)$ is a topological groupoid with Haar system \( \{ \mu^u : u \in G^{(0)} \} \), we let $C_c(G, \sigma)$ denote the collection of compactly supported continuous complex valued functions on $G$. With the following multiplication, adjoint operation, and norm $\| \cdot \|_1$, $C_c(G, \sigma)$ becomes a topological $\ast$-algebra.

\[
f \ast g(x) = \int_G f(xy)g(y^{-1})\sigma(xy, y^{-1})d\mu^\sigma(x)(y)
\]

\[
f^\ast(x) = \int f(x^{-1})\sigma(x, x^{-1})
\]

\[
\|f\|_1 = \max\left\{ \sup_{x \in G^{(0)}} \int_G |f(g)|d\mu^\sigma(g), \sup_{x \in G^{(0)}} \int_G |f(g^{-1})|d\mu^\sigma(g) \right\}.
\]

The **maximal (or full) twisted groupoid $C^*$-algebra of $G$**, denoted by $C^*(G, \sigma)$, is defined to be the completion of $C_c(G, \sigma)$ with the following norm

\[
\| f \|_{\text{max}} = \sup_{\pi} \| \pi(f) \|
\]

where $\pi$ runs over all continuous (with respect to the norm $\| \cdot \|_1$) $\ast$-representations of $C_c(G, \sigma)$.

The representations $\text{Ind}(\delta_u)$ also make sense for twisted convolution algebras. Let $u \in G^{(0)}$ and let $\theta_u$ be the measure on $G$ as defined previously. Define $\text{Ind}(\delta_u) : C_c(G, \sigma) \to B(L^2(G, \theta_u))$ by...
\[ \text{Ind}(\delta_n)(f)(\xi)(x) = \int_G f(xy)\xi(y^{-1})\sigma(xy, y^{-1}) d\theta_n(y). \]

As for non-twisted convolution algebras, we define the reduced norm \( \| \cdot \|_r \) on \( C_\ell(G, \sigma) \) by

\[ \|f\|_r = \sup_{u \in G^{(0)}} \|\text{Ind}(\delta_n)(f)\| \]

The completion of \( C_\ell(G, \sigma) \) with \( \| \cdot \|_r \) will be called the **minimal (or reduced) twisted groupoid \( C^* \)-algebra** and will be denoted by \( C^*_\ell(G, \sigma) \).

It is a straightforward to adapt the proofs of Propositions 2.6 and 2.5 to show that if \( q : (G, \sigma_G) \to (G, \sigma_H) \) is Haar system preserving and cocycle preserving then the induced map \( q^* : C_\ell(H, \sigma_H) \to C_\ell(G, \sigma_G) \) (the pullback map) extends to maximal and minimal completions.

Let \((G, \sigma)\) be a topological groupoid with 2-cocycle. Notice that if \( U \subset G \) is an open subgroupoid then the restriction \( \sigma|_U \) is a cocycle on \( U \) and, furthermore, if \( U \) is a Hausdorff subgroupoid of \( G \) then the natural inclusion \((K, \sigma|_K) \to (G, \sigma)\) induces a \(*\)-embedding \( C_\ell(K, \sigma|_K) \to C_\ell(G, \sigma)\). To avoid introducing new notation for this extended category, we will call a pair \((K, \sigma|_K)\) a **Haar subgroupoid** of \((G, \sigma)\). For the sake of simplifying notation, if we say \((K, \tau)\) is a Haar subgroupoid of \((G, \sigma)\), we mean that \( \tau = \sigma|_K \). We analogously define a **partial morphism** \((\phi, K) : (G, \sigma_G) \to (H, \sigma_H)\) to be a Haar subgroupoid \((K, \tau) \subset (G, \sigma_G)\) and a cocycle preserving and Haar system preserving morphism \( \phi : (U, \tau) \to (H, \sigma_H)\). We define the **induced map** to be the composition

\[ C_\ell(H, \sigma_H) \xrightarrow{f^*} C_\ell(K, \tau) \xrightarrow{\text{canonical}} C_\ell(G, \sigma_G). \]

Let \( \mathcal{G}_\sigma \) denote the category whose objects are pairs \((G, \sigma)\) where \( G \) is a topological groupoid (with a fixed Haar system of measures) and equipped with a 2-cocycle \( \sigma : G^{(2)} \to T \) and whose morphisms are partial morphisms.

**Theorem 3.18.** Let \( \mathcal{C} \) denote the category of \( C^* \)-algebras with \(*\)-morphisms. The association \( \Gamma^\sigma_{\max} \) (\( \Gamma^\sigma_{\min} \)) which takes each object of \( \mathcal{G}_\sigma^* \) and assigns its maximal (minimal) groupoid \( C^* \)-algebra and assigns partial morphisms to their induced map is a contravariant functor. Moreover, both \( \Gamma^\sigma_{\max} \) and \( \Gamma^\sigma_{\min} \) are extensions of the Gelfand duality functor \( \Gamma_\ell \).

The reader can easily check that Theorem 3.13 can be extended also to include cocycles. Being that we are not using cocycles in our inverse systems of groupoids for our applications, we will omit the proof and defer the reader to Section 3 of [3] for taking inverse limits of cocycled groupoids.

## 4. Examples

The purpose of this section is to show how to use Theorem 3.13 to build a wide variety of groupoid models for inductive systems and direct limits of \( C^* \)-algebras.

### 4.1. AF Algebras
In this subsection, we will show how to model all unital morphisms between finite dimensional \( C^* \)-algebras. It will more or less follow from Theorem 3.13 that one can model any inductive system of AF-algebras and therefore one can model any AF algebra with a groupoid, an already well known result (see [12] for example). The key focus here is not that we can model any (unital) AF algebra, but that we can easily model all unital morphisms between finite dimensional \( C^* \)-algebras.

**Example 4.1.** For any \( n \), there exists a groupoid \( G_n \) with \( M_n \) as groupoid \( C^* \)-algebra.
Proof. Let $G_n$ denote the product groupoid $\{1,2,\ldots,n\} \times \{1,2,\ldots,n\}$; i.e., the trivial equivalence relation on an $n$ point set. We notice that $G_n$ has precisely $n^2$ elements and, if $G$ is given the discrete topology and Haar system of measures equal to the counting measures over each object, one can identify $C^*(G_n)$ with the set $M_n$ of $n \times n$ matrices by simply noticing that the characteristic function of a point $(i,j)$ behaves exactly as the elementary matrix $e_{i,j}$.

Remark 4.2. It is very easy to see by definitions that $G_n \times G_m \cong G_{mn}$ for any numbers $m$ and $n$ (in fact, this follows from the commutativity of taking products of sets).

As we know that any finite dimensional $C^*$-algebra is isomorphic to $M_{n_1} \oplus M_{n_2} \oplus \cdots \oplus M_{n_k}$, we have the following example, which follows from Example 4.1 and the fact that $C^*(G \sqcup H) \cong C^*(G) \oplus C^*(H)$ where the disjoint union of groupoids is defined in the canonical way.

Example 4.3. For any finite dimensional $C^*$-algebra $F$, there exists a groupoid $G_F$ whose groupoid $C^*$-algebra is $F$.

A subclass of AF algebras of immense importance are the UHF algebras, which are inductive limits of matrix algebras with unital connecting maps. As an illustration of the 3.13, we describe UHF algebras through a limiting process. Our building blocks are the groupoids $G_n$ from 4.1.

Example 4.4. For any UHF algebra $U$, there exists a groupoid $G$ whose groupoid $C^*$-algebra is $U$.

Proof. Let $n = \prod_{k=0}^\infty n_k$ be the supernatural number associated with the sequence of natural numbers $n_1, n_2, \ldots$, and let $U$ be the UHF algebra associated with $n$. Defining $G^k = G_{n_1} \times G_{n_2} \times \cdots \times G_{n_k}$, we consider the generalized inverse system with bonding maps given by the projection $G_{n_1} \times G_{n_2} \times \cdots \times G_{n_{l-1}} \times G_{n_l} \to G^{l-1}$, which by Proposition 3.8 induces an unital embedding given by $T \to T \otimes \text{id}_1$. By 3.13 we conclude that $G_n = \lim_k G^k$ exists, and it clearly has $C^*$ algebra $U$.

A particularly interesting case is CAR algebra $M_{2^n}$, which is the UHF Algebra corresponding to the the supernatural number $\prod_{n=0}^\infty 2^n$, which comes from the inductive limits of the groupoids $G_{2^n}$.

Example 4.5. For every unital AF-algebra $A$, there exists a generalized inverse sequence $\{G_\alpha, p_\beta^\alpha, D\}$ where

- $G_\alpha$ is a model for a finite dimensional algebra as constructed in Example 4.3 for each $\alpha$.
- $\lim \alpha G_\alpha$ is a groupoid model for $A$.

Proof. Recall that a unital AF algebra is a direct limit of finite dimensional algebras with unital bonding maps. As soon as we have shown that any unital bonding map between finite dimensional algebras can be modeled with partial morphisms, we are finished because one can use Example 4.3 for the pieces in the direct system. Note also, that our problem can be reduced to showing that the unital embeddings $M_k \to \bigoplus_j M_{jk}$ given by $T \to \sum_j T \otimes \text{id}_j$ can be obtained as an induced map of a partial morphism. This just amounts to using Proposition 3.8 on each piece of the groupoid $\sqcup_j G_{jk}$.

It would be interesting to understand the relationship between the groupoid constructed in the proof of Theorem 4.5 and the groupoids obtained in [12] obtained using tail equivalence relations on a Bratteli Diagram.
4.2. Infinite Tensor Powers of Groupoid $C^*$-algebras. In this section, we will provide an alternative description of infinite tensor powers of groupoid $C^*$-algebras using our inverse limit machinery.

First, we will describe a “spectral decomposition” of the $C^*$-algebra $\mathcal{G}_{i=1}^{\infty}(F) := \lim_{\to} \mathcal{G}_i F$ where $F$ is a finite dimensional $C^*$-algebra as this algebra has many important applications in dynamics. Let $n_1, n_2, \ldots, n_k \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ be such that $F = \oplus_{i=1}^{n_k} M_{n_i}$. It is easy to see that this is isomorphic to the continuous sections of a continuous field of UHF algebras over the Cantor set $K = \{ n_1, n_2, \ldots, n_k \}^\mathbb{N}$ in which the fiber of $(n_{\alpha(i)})_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$ is the algebra $\mathcal{G}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} M_{n_{\alpha(i)}}$. Notice that each of the fibers of the bundle are unital and hence $C(K)$ embeds into $A$. In fact, $C(K)$ is exactly the center of $A$.

Let $G = G_{n_1} \cup G_{n_2} \cup \ldots \cup G_{n_k}$ with counting measures as Haar system. The groupoid $C^*$-algebra for $G$ is clearly $\oplus_{i=1}^{n_k} M_{n_i} = F$. For each $k \geq 1$, we define the groupoid $G^k = G \times G \times \ldots \times G$ and notice that counting measures is a Haar system of measures for $G^k$. Clearly the generalized inverse system $(G^1, \pi_k)$ where the partial maps $\pi_k : G^1 \times G^{0(k)} \to G^k$ is the projection mapping has generalized inverse limit $H$ with $\mathcal{G}_{i=1}^{\infty}(F)$ as groupoid $C^*$-algebra.

In general, let $\{G_i\}$ be a countable collection of topological groupoids. By all the observations made thusfar, it is clear that the generalized inverse limit of the groupoids $H_k = \Pi_{i=1}^{k} G_k$ with partial bonding maps $\pi_k^m : H^k \times G_{k+1}^{0} \times \ldots G_{m}^{0} \to H_k$ for $m \geq k$ has groupoid $C^*$-algebra equal to $\mathcal{G}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} C^*(G_i)$. The analogous statements hold for reduced completions.

4.3. Groupoid Models for The Crossed product of Infinite Tensor Powers by Bernoulli Actions. Let $\Gamma$ be a countable discrete group and let $G$ be a locally compact Hausdorff groupoid with Haar system of measures $\{\mu^x : x \in G^{0(k)}\}$. We will show how the crossed product $\mathcal{G}_\Gamma C^*(G) \times \Gamma$ has a groupoid model in the case the action is by the Bernoulli shift (i.e. $\Gamma$ just shifts the indices of the tensor factors). Let $G^\infty$ denote the groupoid model for $\mathcal{G}_\Gamma C^*(G)$ as in the previous subsection.

Let $k \in \Gamma$ and notice that the shift of the indices on the left by $k$ of $G^\infty$ when viewed as a subspace of the product $\Pi_{i=1}^{\infty} G_i$ induces a Haar system preserving groupoid isomorphism of $G^\infty$ whose induced map is exactly the automorphism of $\mathcal{G}_\Gamma C^*(G)$ given by shifting the indices on the left by $k$. The reader can easily verify that shifting the indices of $G^\infty$ on the left by elements of $\Gamma$ is an action of $\Gamma$ on $G$ and, by our observations, it induces the Bernoulli action on $\mathcal{G}_\Gamma C^*(G)$ (see [4] for a definition of one groupoid acting on another and what the associated semi-direct product groupoid is). It is a straightforward check that the groupoid $C^*$-algebra of the semi-direct product groupoid $G^\infty \rtimes \Gamma$ (whose Haar system is given by the product the original Haar system with counting measure) is a groupoid model for $\mathcal{G}_\Gamma C^*(G) \rtimes \Gamma$. By the same reasoning, we also have that $C^*_r(G^\infty \rtimes \Gamma) \cong \mathcal{G}_\Gamma C^*_r(G) \rtimes \Gamma$.

The importance of examples like this is the connection to the group $C^*$-algebras of wreath products like $\mathbb{Z} \wr \mathbb{Z}$, see [8].

5. Basics of Modeling with Partial Morphisms

One of the easiest ways of constructing new groupoids from old ones will be to use the following proposition proven in [1].

**Proposition 5.1.** [Proposition 3.4 of [1]] Let $G$ and $H$ be topological groupoids and let $q : G \to H$ be a surjective morphism of groupoids such that $q$ is topologically a quotient map (or an open map). Suppose $G$ has a Haar system of measures $\{\mu^x : x \in G^{0}\}$. If, for all $u \in H^0$ and for all $v \in q^{-1}(u)$ and all $f \in C_0(H)$, we have
then $H$ admits a natural Haar system of measures $\{\nu^u : u \in H^0\}$ that makes $q$ Haar measure preserving.

**Definition 5.2.** Suppose that $G$ is a locally compact groupoid with fixed Haar system and Haar subgroupoid $H$. If $q : H \to K$ is a quotient map that satisfies the hypotheses of Proposition 5.1, then we call $K$, with the induced Haar system, a **partial quotient of $G$** and we call $q$ the **partial quotient map**.

The following Lemma follows easily from Lemma 2.9 and Example 4.1.

**Lemma 5.3.** For any natural number $n$ and locally compact space $X$, there exists a groupoid $G_n(X)$ whose groupoid $C^*$-algebra is $M_n(C_0(X))$.

For a natural number $n$, let $Z_n$ denote the $C^*$-subalgebra of $C([0,1],M_n)$ of functions $f$ such that $f(0) = I$.

**Lemma 5.4.** For each natural number $n$, there exists a groupoid $G_{Z_n}$ whose groupoid $C^*$-algebra is $Z_n$.

**Proof.** Let $G'_{Z_n} = G_n \times [0,1] \times \{(g,0) : g \in G^{(1)} \setminus G^{(0)}\}$. It is clear that $G'_{Z_n}$ is a proper étale subgroupoid of $G_n \times [0,1]$ as it is $r$-discrete and the range map is clearly open since the range map for $G_n \times [0,1]$ is open. Notice that the inclusion of $G'_{Z_n} \to G_n \times [0,1]$ is the inclusion of all the functions $f : [0,1] \to M_n$ where

$$f(0) = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_3 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Let $G_{Z_n} = G'_{Z_n}/\sim$ where $(g,0) \sim (h,0)$ for all $g,h \in G^{(0)}$. Notice that the quotient map $q : G'_{Z_n} \to G_{Z_n}$ is Haar measure preserving and that the image of the induced map $q^*$ is exactly all
the functions \( f : [0, 1] \to M_n \) where \( f(0) = \lambda I \) where \( I \) denotes the identity of \( M_n \) (see Figure 1 for a geometric visualization when \( n = 2 \)). It follows that the groupoid \( C^*\)-algebra of \( G_{Z_n} \) is \( Z_n \) and the induced map of the parital map \( q \) is the inclusion of those functions \( f[0,1] \to M_n \) such that \( f(0) = \lambda I \) for some \( \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \).

\[ \square \]

5.1. Dimension Drop Groupoids.

**Definition 5.5.** If \( m \) and \( n \) are natural numbers, define the **dimension drop algebra** \( Z_{m,n} \) by

\[ Z_{m,n} = \{ f \in C([0,1], M_m \otimes M_n) : f(0) \in M_m \otimes \mathbb{C}, f(1) \in \mathbb{C} \otimes M_n \} \]

**Lemma 5.6.** For each pair of natural numbers \( m \) and \( n \), there exists a groupoid, \( G_{m,n} \) whose groupoid \( C^*\)-algebra is \( Z_{m,n} \).

**Proof.** The construction of \( G_{m,n} \) is almost identical to the construction of \( G_{Z_n} \) as in the proof of Lemma 5.4.

Let \( G'_{m,n} \) be the open subspace of the groupoid \( G_m \times G_n \times [0,1] \) taken by deleting the points \( \{(h,g,0) : g \in G_n^1 \setminus G_n^{0)} \} \) and \( \{(h,g,1) : h \in G_m^1 \setminus G_m^{0)} \} \). It is clear that the groupoid \( C^*\)-algebra of \( G'_{m,n} \), embeds into the groupoid \( C^*\)-algebra of \( G_m \times G_n \times [0,1] \) (equal to \( C([0,1], M_m \otimes M_n) \)) as all the functions \( f : [0,1] \to M_m \otimes M_n \) which satisfy \( f(0) = D_0 \otimes M_0 \) and \( f(1) = M_1 \otimes D_1 \) where \( D_i \) are diagonal matrices and \( M_i \) are any matrices.

Now, let \( q : G'_{m,n} \to G_{m,n} \) be the quotient under the equivalence relation \( (g,h,1) \sim (g,h',1) \) and \( (g,h,0) \sim (g',h,0) \). Once can check that the image of the induced map \( q^* \) in \( C^*(G_m \times G_n \times [0,1]) = C([0,1], M_m \otimes M_n) \) is exactly the dimension drop algebra \( Z_{m,n} \).

\[ \square \]

5.2. **Twisting Intervals of Matrix Groupoids by Paths of Unitaries.** We will be interested in taking the groupoid \( G_n([0,1]) \) (and its subgroups and quotients thereof) and considering a twist by a path \( u_t \) of unitaries in \( M_n \). The issue is that we cannot do the twisting in \( G_n([0,1]) \). We need a larger ambient groupoid to make the twist. Let \( \{e_{i,j} : 1 \leq i,j \leq n\} \) be the usual orthonormal basis for \( M_n \). For each unitary \( U \in U_n \), notice that \( G_n^U := \{ U^* e_{i,j} U : 1 \leq i,j \leq n \} \) carries a natural étale groupoid structure and is isomorphic to \( G_n \). Let \( V_n := \{ (U,x) : x \in G_n^U \text{ and } U \in U_n \} \). Recall that the source and range maps for a groupoid \( G \) to its object space \( G^{(0)} \) are denoted by \( s \) and \( r \), respectively. We define \( s(U,x) = (U, s(x)) \) and similarly for \( r \). With the obvious composition and inverse, it is readily seen that \( V_n \) is a groupoid. We claim that this is a locally compact, Hausdorff, and second countable groupoid when endowed with the subspace topology of \( U_n \times M_n \).

The reader should first observe that \( V_n \) is a closed subspace of \( U_n \times M_n \) and hence is a locally compact, Hausdorff, and second countable. We leave the simple proof to the reader to verify that \( V_n \) is a topological groupoid; i.e. that the partial multiplication and inverse are continuous. We will call \( V_n \) the **groupoid Steifel variety**. Observe that \( G_n \) embeds into \( V_n \) as the set of tuples \( \{i d_n, e_{i,j} : 1 \leq i, j \leq n\} \).

Notice that a unitary \( U \in U_n \) defines a groupoid isomorphism \( \hat{U} \) between the subgroupoids \( \{(V,x) : x \in G_n^V \} \) and \( \{(U V, x) : x \in G_n^{U V} \} \) defined by \( (V,x) \to (U V, U^* x U) \). \( \hat{U} \) is clearly Haar system preserving and induces a groupoid \( C^*\)-algebra isomorphism.

Notice that \( G_n \times [0,1] \) is an étale subgroupoid of the product groupoid \( V_n \times [0,1] \). Notice also that any path of unitaries \( u_t \) defines a topological groupoid isomorphism of \( G_n \times [0,1] \) via the function \( \tilde{u}_t \) defined by \( \tilde{u}_t((U,x)) = (U u_t, u_t^* x u_t) \) and hence the image of \( G_n \times [0,1] \), which we will denote by \( G_n^U([0,1]) \), under \( \tilde{u}_t \) is also a second countable locally compact and Hausdorff étale groupoid and is the collection given by \( \{ u_t, u_t e_{i,j} u_t^*, t : t \in [0,1], 1 \leq i, j \leq n \} \). Notice then that each of the groupoids \( G_n^U([0,1]) \) (one for each such path \( u_t \)) are isomorphic by an isomorphism that is
a homeomorphism and preserves Haar systems. We will refer to groupoids \( G_n^u([0,1]) \) as **paths of the groupoids** \( M_n \).

5.3. **Standard Subalgebras.** Recall (by Lemma 3.10 of [17] for instance) that every unital subalgebra of \( M_n \) is conjugate (by some invertible matrix) to an algebra of the form \( \Phi_{i=1}^k id_{a_i} \otimes M_{b_i} \), where \( \sum_{i=1}^k a_i b_i = n \). Using projections, one can easily show that in fact every subalgebra with a unit (perhaps not equal to the unit on \( M_n \)) is of the form \( \left( \Phi_{i=1}^k id_{a_i} \otimes M_{b_i} \right) + 0_m \) where \( \sum_{i=1}^k a_i b_i = n - m \) (where \( 0_m \) denotes the 0 matrix on \( \mathbb{C}^m \)). We will call subalgebras of that form to be **standard subalgebras**.

**Proposition 5.7.** Let \( n \geq 1 \), \( u : [0,1] \to U_n \) a proper continuous map, and \( F \subset [0,1] \) be a finite subset. Let \( A_x \subset M_n \) be a standard \( C^* \)-subalgebra. There exists a groupoid \( G(A_x : x \in F) \) which is a subquotient of \( G_n^u([0,1]) \) (defined in subsection 5.2) whose \( C^* \)-algebra is isomorphic to the \( C^* \)-subalgebra \( C \) of \( C([0,1],M_n) \) (at least, the isomorphic copy under the induced map) which consists of those functions \( f \) such that the quotient map \( G \) is a proper continuous map, and \( G(B_x : x \in F) \) is a standard subalgebra for each \( x \in F \), then the groupoid model \( G(B_x : x \in F) \) is a subquotient of \( G(A_x : x \in F) \).

**Proof.** Assume that the path \( u_t \) is the constant path equal to the identity for all \( t \). The general case is a minor adaptation of this case.

Let \( G_n \) be defined as in Example 4.1. We will outline how to construct a groupoid \( H \) which is a quotient of an open Haar subgroupoid of \( G_n \) (as defined in the proof of Lemma 4.1) such that the embedded image of \( C^*(H) \) in \( C^*(G) \) under the induced map is exactly of the form \( \Phi_{i=1}^k id_{a_i} \otimes M_{b_i} \). Notice that the elements of \( G_n \) correspond to matrix entries by the identification of the characteristic function \( \chi_{i,j} \). Notice that the subalgebra \( \Phi_{i=1}^k \left( \Phi_{j=1}^{a_i} M_{b_i} \right) \) of \( M_n \) corresponds uniquely to an open subgroupoid \( H' \) of \( G_n \) simply by removing the points of \( G_n \) that correspond to matrix entries that are 0. If we label the subset of arrows that corresponds to the subalgebra \( \Phi_{j=1}^{a_i} M_{b_i} \) by \( \{ \epsilon_{i,j} : 1 \leq i, j \leq b_i \} \) and, for each \( i \) make the identifications \( e_{i,j}^{k_1} \sim e_{i,j}^{k_2} \) for all \( 1 \leq k_1, k_2 \leq a_i \), then it is easy to see that the quotient map \( q : H' \to H := H' \sim \) satisfies the hypothesis of Proposition 5.1 and hence we can give the quotient \( H \) a Haar system of measures that makes the quotient map \( H' \) measure preserving (in this case, it is just counting measure over each fiber). It is a straightforward check that the embedded image of the induced map from \( G_n \) to \( H \) is the inclusion of the subalgebra \( \Phi_{i=1}^k id_{a_i} \otimes M_{b_i} \).

Perform this procedure for \( (x, G_n) \) for each point \( x \in F \) and notice that the induced map of the resulting subquotient will be exactly the inclusion of the subalgebra \( C \). We leave the simple proof of the moreover assertion to the reader. \( \square \)

6. **Groupoid Model for the Jiang-Su Algebra and the Razak-Jacelon Algebra**

**Definition 6.1** (Jiang-Su [16]). The **Jiang-Su algebra**, denoted by \( Z \), is the inductive limit of any sequence \( A_1 \xrightarrow{\phi_1} A_2 \xrightarrow{\phi_2} A_3 \xrightarrow{\phi_3} \cdots \), where \( A_n = Z_{p_n,q_n} \) is a prime dimension drop algebra such that the connecting morphisms \( \phi_m = \phi_{m-1} \circ \cdots \circ \phi_{m+1} \circ \phi_m : A_m \to A_n \) is an injective morphism of the form

\[
\phi_{m,n}(f) = u^* \begin{pmatrix}
 f \circ \xi_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
 0 & f \circ \xi_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & f \circ \xi_k 
\end{pmatrix} u
\]

where \( \xi_i \) are projections.
where \( f \in A_n \), \( u \) is a continuous path of unitaries in \( U_{M_{p,n,q}} \), \( \xi_i \) is a sequence of continuous paths in \([0,1]\), each satisfying

\[
|\xi_i(x) - \xi_i(y)| \leq \frac{1}{2^{n-m}} \quad \forall x, y \in [0,1]
\]

and

\[
\bigcup_{i=1}^{k} \xi_i([0,1]) = [0,1]
\]

**Definition 6.2.** For every pair of natural numbers \( p \) and \( q \) and path \( u : [0,1] \to U_n \), let \( G_{p,q}^u \) denote the groupoid obtained using Proposition 5.7 which is a subquotient of \( G_{pq}^u([0,1]) \) whose \( C^* \)-algebra is \( Z_{p,q} \). For the constant path \( u : [0,1] \to \{id_n\} \), we denote the groupoid \( G_{p,q}^u \) by \( G_{p,q} \).

**Theorem 6.3.** There exists a generalized inverse sequence \( \{H_i, \phi_{j,i}^i\} \) of groupoids whose inverse limit groupoid \( G_Z \) is a groupoid model for the Jiang-Su algebra. Moreover, \( G_Z \) is an étale equivalence relation on a compact metric space with covering dimension at most 1.

**Remark 6.4.** In fact, the dual directed system of \( C^* \)-algebras is equal to the system constructed in the proof of Proposition 2.5 in [16].

**Proof.** The main idea, in view of section 3, is to show that the bonding maps created in the proof of Proposition 2.5 of [16] are induced maps of partial morphisms defined between certain groupoid models for dimension drop algebras. As soon as we have modeled the bonding maps as partial morphisms, one just applies 3.13 to obtain a groupoid model for the Jiang-Su algebra.

Throughout the proof, we will use \( V_k \) to denote the groupoid Steifel variety as defined in Section 5.2 and we will use \( G_k \) to denote the groupoid model of \( M_k \) as defined in the proof of Example 4.1.

As usual, we will define \( H_i \) inductively. Let \( H_1 = G_{2,3} \) as defined in the proof of Lemma 5.6 and suppose that \( H_i \) and the bonding maps \( \phi_{j,i}^i \) have been chosen for \( j \leq i \) so that

1. \( H_i \) is equal to \( G_{p_i,q_i}^u \) for some path of unitaries \( U_i \) in \( M_{p_i,q_i} \) (see Definition 3.6).
2. The induced map of \( \phi_{j,i}^i \), denoted by \( \phi_{j,i} \), satisfies all the required properties as laid out in Definition 6.1.

The construction of \( H_{i+1} \) and \( \phi_{i+1}^i \): Let \( k_0 > 2q_i \) and \( k_1 > 2p_i \) be primes such that \( p_i k_0 \) and \( q_i k_1 \) are relatively prime and define \( p_{i+1} = p_i k_0 \) and \( q_{i+1} = q_i k_1 \). Let \( k = k_0 k_1 \) and let \( r_0 \) be the integer such that

\[
0 < r_0 \leq q_{i+1} \quad \text{and} \quad r_0 \equiv k(\text{mod } q_{i+1}).
\]

As noted in the proof of Proposition 2.5 in [16], we have that \( r_0 q_i \) and \( k - r_0 \) are both divisible by \( q_{i+1} \).

Similarly, define \( r_1 \) to be the unique integer such that

\[
0 < r_1 \leq p_{i+1} \quad \text{and} \quad r_1 \equiv k(\text{mod } p_{i+1}).
\]

Again, we have \( k - r_1 \) and \( r_1 p_i \) are both divisible by \( p_{i+1} \). As observed in [16] (at the bottom of page 370), we have that \( k - r_1 - r_0 > 0 \).

In order to construct \( H_{i+1} \), we must first appeal to an auxiliary groupoid which we will denote by \( K \). We construct \( K \) as follows:

Define embeddings \( \iota_j : M_{p,q} \to M_k(M_{p,q}) \) for \( j = 1, 2, \ldots, k_0 k_1 \) where \( \iota_j \) is the defined by
Next define a path $W_t$ of unitaries in $M_{p,q+1}$ as follows. Let $\eta_j$ be some element of the standard basis element of $\mathbb{C}^{p_{j+1}}$ and choose $n$ to be the unique integer such that $np_jq_i \leq j < (n + 1)p_jq_i$. We first define $k$ paths $\xi_i : [0, 1] \to [0, 1]$ by

$$
\xi_i(t) = \begin{cases} 
\frac{t}{2} & i \leq r_0 \\
\frac{1}{2} & r_0 < i < r_1 \\
\frac{(t + 1)}{2} & r_1 \leq i \leq k 
\end{cases}
$$

and then we define a path of unitaries $W_t$ by

$$
W_t(\eta_j) = \iota_n(U_{\xi_n(t)}(\eta_j)).
$$

Let $K$ denote the subquotient of $G^W_{p,q+1}([0, 1])$ such that $C^*(K)$ consists of those functions $f : [0, 1] \to \bigoplus_{i=1}^k M_{p,q_i}$ such that

|   | 1 | 2 | ... | $r_0$ | $r_0 + 1$ | ... | $k$ |
|---|---|---|-----|------|-------|-----|----|
| 1 | $id_{q_i} \otimes M$ | 0 | ... | 0 | 0 | ... | 0 |
| 2 | 0 | $id_{q_i} \otimes M$ | ... | 0 | 0 | ... | 0 |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| $r_0$ | 0 | 0 | ... | 0 | $id_{q_i} \otimes M$ | ... | 0 |
| $r_0 + 1$ | 0 | 0 | ... | 0 | $M'$ | ... | 0 |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| $k$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $M'$ |

and

|   | 1 | 2 | ... | $k - (r_1 + 1)$ | $k - r_1$ | ... | $k$ |
|---|---|---|-----|-----------------|----------|-----|----|
| 1 | $N'$ | 0 | ... | 0 | 0 | ... | 0 |
| 2 | 0 | $N'$ | ... | 0 | 0 | ... | 0 |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| $k - (r_1 + 1)$ | 0 | 0 | ... | $N'$ | 0 | ... | 0 |
| $k - r_1$ | 0 | 0 | ... | 0 | $id_{p_i} \otimes N$ | ... | 0 |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| $k$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $id_{p_i} \otimes N$ |

where $M \in M_{p_1}, N \in M_{q},$ and $M', N' \in M_{p,q_i}$. $K$ is the Haar system preserving quotient of the groupoid $\mathbb{K}$ which is the disjoint union of $k$ groupoids where the first $r_0$ many are all of the form $L^1$, $k - r_0 - r_1$ are of the form $L^2$, and $r_1$ many are of the form $L^3$ where we define $L^1$ as follows: $L^1$ is obtained by taking the closed subgroupoid of $H_i$ given by taking all coordinates with $0 \leq t \leq 1/2$ and then by stretching the interval coordinate by 2; so that 0 is fixed and 1/2 is pulled to 1. $L^2$ is the groupoid $G^W_{n+1} \times [0, 1]$ and $L^3$ is the closed subgroupoid of $H_i$ given by taking all coordinates.
with $1/2 \leq t \leq 1$ and then by stretching the interval coordinate the function $2t - 1$ (the inverse map of $(t + 1)/2$) so that the 1 coordinate is fixed and the 1/2 coordinate is pulled to 0. In order to get $K$, we need to make identifications at the interval coordinate $t = 0$ and $t = 1$. Notice that the groupoid $C^*$-algebra of $K_0$ is the collection of functions $f : [0, 1] \to \oplus_{i=1}^{k} M_{p_i,q_i}$ such that

$$f(0) = \begin{pmatrix}
1 & 2 & \cdots & r_0 & r_0 + 1 & \cdots & k \\
1 & id_{q_1} \otimes M_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
2 & 0 & id_{q_1} \otimes M_2 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
r_0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & id_{q_{r_0}} \otimes M_{r_0} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
r_0 + 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & M'_1 & \cdots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
k & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & M'_{k-r_0}
\end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$f(1) = \begin{pmatrix}
1 & 2 & \cdots & k-(r_1+1) & k-r_1 & \cdots & k \\
1 & N'_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
2 & 0 & N'_2 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
k-r_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & id_{p_1} \otimes N_1 & \cdots & 0 \\
k & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & id_{p_1} \otimes N_{k-r_1}
\end{pmatrix}$$

$K$ is obtained by taking the quotient by identifying the first $r_0$ many of the groupoid along their 0-coordinates and identifying the last $k-r_0$ many groupoids along their 0 coordinates in the obvious way. Similarly one has to identify the first $k-(r_1+1)$ groupoids along their 1 coordinate and also identically identify the last $r_1$ many groupoids along their 1 level.

We define $\psi : K \to H_i$ by mapping the subgroupoids $L^1$ to $H_i$ by shrinking their $[0, 1]$ coordinate by 2 and sending them in the obvious way to the subset of $H_i$ whose interval coordinates are between 0 and 1/2. The groupoids of the form $L^2$ are mapped to $H_i$ by first squashing their interval coordinate to the point 1/2 and then mapping them to $H_i$ by sending them to the 1/2 level in the obvious way. We similarly define the map from $L^3$ to $H_i$ by first applying the map $(t + 1)/2$ to the interval coordinates (pulling 1/2 to 0 and leaving 1 fixed) and canonically mapping them over to the points in $H_i$ with interval coordinate $1/2 \leq t \leq 1$. The reader can check that $\psi$ is Haar system preserving and, furthermore, that the induced map of the partial morphism $\psi : K \to H_i$ is given by

$$f \mapsto \begin{pmatrix}
0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
f \circ \xi_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
0 & f \circ \xi_2 & \cdots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\
f \circ \xi_k & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & \cdots & f \circ \xi_k
\end{pmatrix}$$

As noted in [16] in the proof, there exists a path of permutation unitaries $u_t$ in $M_{p_i+q_i,1}$ such that conjugation by $u_t$ defines an embedding of $C^*(K)$ in $Z_{p_i+q_i,1}$. It follows that $K$ is groupoid isomorphic (via a Haar preserving groupoid isomorphism) to a subquotient $K'$ of a subquotient
$H_{i+1}$ of $G_{n,i+1}^W$ whose groupoid $C^*$-algebra is exactly $Z_{p_{i+1},q_{i+1}}$. Let $\psi : K \to K'$ be the groupoid isomorphism and let $q : H_{i+1} \to K'$ be the partial quotient map.

Observe now that the partial morphism $\phi_{i+1} : H_{i+1} \to H_i$ given by the composition $\Phi \circ \psi \circ q$ is exactly the morphism $\phi_{i+1}$ defined in the proof of Proposition 2.5 in [16]. It follows that the generalized inverse system $\{H_i = \phi_{ij}\}$ is a groupoid model for the inductive system constructed in the proof of Proposition 2.5 in [16].

The groupoid $G_Z$ is an étale equivalence relation because each groupoid $H_n$ is an étale equivalence relation by Proposition 3.14.

□

**Remark 6.5.** There is another interesting construction of $Z$ given in Theorem 3.4 in [25] by considering a self map $\phi$ of an infinite prime dimension drop algebra $Z_{p,q}$ which factors through $Z$ as follows $Z_{p,q} \to Z \to Z_{p,q}$. It would be very interesting to understand this morphism at the level of groupoids. As $Z$ is the inductive limit of $Z_{p,q}$ with constant bonding map $\phi$, this would give yet another groupoid model for $Z$ by considering the generalized inverse limit of the associated groupoids.

The convenience of our constructions is that one can use essentially the same type of proof as in Theorem 6.3 to prove that there exists a groupoid with groupoid $C^*$-algebra equal to the Razak-Jacelon algebra as one should be able to do as the constructions for those algebras are essentially the same.

**Definition 6.6.** For every pair of natural numbers $n$ and $n'$ with $n|n'$ and $a = n'/n - 1 > 0$, recall that the **building block algebras** $A(n,n')$ are of the form

$$A(n,n') = \{ f \in C([0,1], M_{n'}) : f(0) = \text{diag}(c,c,\ldots,c,0) \text{ and } f(1) = \text{diag}(c,c,\ldots,c) \text{ where } c \in M_n \}.$$  

**Definition 6.7.** For every pair of natural numbers $n$ and $n'$ with $n|n'$ and path $u_t : [0,1] \to U_n$, let $G^n(n,n')$ denote the groupoid obtained using Proposition 5.7 which is a subquotient of $G^u((0,1])$ whose $C^*$-algebra is $A(n,n')$. For the constant path $u_t : [0,1] \to \{id_n\}$, we denote the groupoid $G^n(n,n')$ by $G(n,n')$. We call the groupoids $G^n(n,n')$ **building block groupoids**.

**Definition 6.8 (Jacelon [15]).** The Razak-Jacelon algebra is the inductive limit of any sequence $A_1 \xrightarrow{\phi_1} A_2 \xrightarrow{\phi_2} A_3 \xrightarrow{\phi_3} \ldots$, where $A_n = A(m_n,(a_n + 1)m_n)$ is a building block algebra such that the connecting morphism $\phi_{m,n} = \phi_{n-1} \circ \ldots \circ \phi_{m+1} \circ \phi_m : A_m \to A_n$ is an injective morphism of the form

$$\phi_{m,n}(f) = u^* \begin{pmatrix} f \circ \xi_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & f \circ \xi_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & f \circ \xi_3 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & f \circ \xi_k \end{pmatrix} u$$

where $f \in A_m$, $u$ is a continuous path of unitaries in $U_{M_{p_{n+1}}}$, $\xi_k$ is a sequence of continuous paths in $[0,1]$, each satisfying

$$|\xi_i(x) - \xi_i(y)| \leq 2^{n-m} \quad \forall x, y \in [0,1].$$

and

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^k \xi_i([0,1]) = [0,1]$$
Theorem 6.9. There exists a generalized inverse sequence \( \{ H_i = G_i^u (n_j, (a_j + 1)n_j), \psi^i_j \} \) of building block groupoids whose induced direct system of \( C^* \)-algebras is equal to the directed system constructed in the proof of Proposition 3.1 in [15]. It follows that the groupoid \( C^* \)-algebra of the generalized inverse limit \( \varprojlim H_i \) is the Razak-Jacelon algebra \( W \). Moreover, \( G_W \) is an \( \acute{e} \)tale equivalence relation on a locally compact and non-compact second countable space with covering dimension at most 1.

Proof. Let \( H_1 \) be a building block groupoid model (see Definition 6.7) for \( A_1 \) as in the first line of the proof of Proposition 3.1 in [15] and suppose that \( H_j \) and \( \psi^k_j \) have been defined for \( 1 \leq j \leq k \leq l \) so that \( H_j \) is a building block model for \( A_j \) and the induced map of \( \psi^k_j \) is equal to the bonding map \( \varphi_{jk} \) defined by Jacelon in the proof of Proposition 3.1 in [15].

Let \( a_j = n_j/n_l - 1 \) and notice that \( a_j > 0 \). Let \( b = 2a_l + 1, n_l+1 = bn_l \), and \( m = 2b \).

For any natural numbers \( k/l \), we define embeddings \( \iota_j : M_k \rightarrow M_l \simeq M_{l/k}(M_k) \) for \( j = 1, 2, \ldots l/k \) where \( \iota_j \) is the defined by

\[
\iota_j(T) = \begin{pmatrix}
1 & 2 & \cdots & j & \cdots & l/k \\
1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
2 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
& T & & & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\
& & & & & & & \\
& & & & & & & \\
& & & & & & & \\
& & & & & & & \\
\end{pmatrix}
\]

Next define a path \( W_t \) of unitaries in \( M_{p_i + 1, n_i + 1} \) as follows. Let \( \eta_j \) be some element of the standard basis element of \( \mathbb{C}^{p_i + 1, q_i + 1} \) and choose \( n \) to be the unique integer such that \( np_i q_i \leq j \leq (n + 1)p_i q_i \).

We first define \( k \) paths \( \xi_i : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1] \) by

\[
\xi_i(t) = \begin{cases}
t/2 & 1 \leq i \leq b \\
1/2 & r_i \leq b + 1 \\
(t + 1)/2 & b + 1 \leq i \leq 2b
\end{cases}
\]

and then we define a path of unitaries \( W_t \) by

\[
W_t(\eta_i) = \iota_n(U_{\xi_i(t)}(\eta_j)).
\]

Use Proposition 5.7 to construct a groupoid \( K \) which is a subquotient of \( G_1^{W} \) whose \( C^* \)-algebra is the subalgebra of \( C([0, 1], M_{n_i + 1}) \) consisting of functions \( f \) such that

\[
f(0) = \begin{pmatrix}
1 & 2 & \cdots & b & b + 1 & \cdots & 2b \\
1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
2 & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
& & & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots & \cdots & \cdots \\
& & & & & & & \\
& & & & & & & \\
\end{pmatrix}
\]

and
for fixed matrices $M \in M_n$ and $N \in M_{n'}$. Notice that $K$ is just a Haar system preserving quotient of the disjoint union of $2b$ groupoids where the first $b$ of them are equal to the subgroupoid of $H_i$ given by restricting the interval coordinates to the values $0 \leq t \leq 1/2$, but stretched by a factor of $2$ so as to make them bona fide interval groupoids. The $b+1$st groupoid is exactly equal to the $1/2$, level of $H_i$, but thickened up by the interval in the obvious way. The last $b-1$ groupoids are equal to the subgroupoid of $H_i$ given by restricting the interval coordinates to the values $1/2 < t < 1$, but again these are stretched by a factor of $2$ so as to make them bona fide interval groupoids. $K$ is the quotient by identifying the $0$-coordinates of the first $b$ groupoids and then identifying the $1$-coordinate of the last $b$ groupoids. The first $b$ groupoids maps canonically to $H_i$ by the morphism which puts them into the first half of the groupoid $H_i$. The $b+1$st groupoid maps to $H_i$ by squashing the interval coordinates to a point and then placing the groupoid at the $1$-coordinate of the last $b$ groupoids. The first $b$ groupoids maps to $H_i$ by placing them cannonically into the subgroupoid whose interval coordinates are between $1/2$ and $1$. Let $\Phi$ denote the map just described and notice that $\Phi$ is Haar system preserving and, moreover, the morphism induced by $\Phi$ is of the form

$$f \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} f \circ \xi_1 & 0 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\ 0 & f \circ \xi_2 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & f \circ \xi_3 & \ldots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \ldots & f \circ \xi_k \end{pmatrix}$$

As noted by Jacelon in the proof of Proposition 3.1 in [15], there exists a path of permutation unitaries $u_t$ in $M_{(b+1)_n}$ such that conjugation by $u_t$ defines an embedding of $C^* \Phi$ in $A(n_{i+1}, n'_{i+1})$. It follows that $K$ is groupoid isomorphic (via a Haar preserving groupoid isomorphism) to a subquotient $K'$ of subquotient $H_{i+1}$ of $G_{n_{i+1}}^{W}$ whose groupoid $C^*$-algebra is exactly $A(n_{i+1}, n'_{i+1})$. Let $\psi: K \rightarrow K'$ be the groupoid isomorphism and let $q: H'_{i+1} \rightarrow K'$ be the partial quotient map.

Observe now that the partial morphism $\phi^{i+1}_j: H_{i+1} \rightarrow H_i$ given by the composition $\Phi \circ \psi \circ q$ has exactly the morphism $\phi^{i+1}_{i+1}$ defined in the proof of Proposition 3.1 in [15]. It follows that the generalized inverse system $\{H_i = \phi^i_j\}$ is a groupoid model for the inductive system built by Jacelon in Proposition 3.1 of [15].

\[ \square \]

7. Future Directions

7.1. Self Absorption at the Level of Groupoids. As far as the authors know, all of the current examples of self absorbing and strongly self absorbing $C^*$-algebras have groupoid models. It makes sense then to try to understand both concepts at the level of groupoids.

Recall that Proposition 2.9 says that the groupoid $C^*$ algebra of a product $G \times H$ is the tensor product $C^*(G) \otimes C^*(H)$. It follows then that if a groupoid $G$ has the property that if $G \times G$ and $G$
are isomorphic (via a Haar system preserving isomorphism), then \( C^*(G) \) is self absorbing. We say that a groupoid \( G \) is **self absorbing** if there is a Haar system preserving isomorphism between \( G \) and \( G \times G \). Notice that if \( G \) is self absorbing, then one clearly has \( C_c(G) \otimes C_c(G) \cong C_c(G) \) and hence self absorbing groupoids are stronger than self absorbing \( C^* \)-algebras as there is no need to appeal to completions.

**Proposition 7.1.** Let \( n \) be a supernatural number such that, if a prime \( p \mid n \) then \( p^\infty \mid n \), then the UHF groupoid \( G_n \) is self absorbing.

**Proof.** Let \( n = \Pi_i p_i^{n_i} \) and, for each \( k \geq 1 \), let \( G^k = \Pi_{i=1}^k G_{p_i^{2k}} \) and let the bonding maps \( G^k \to G^{k-1} \) be defined as follows: notice that \( G^k = G^{k-1} \times \Pi_{i=1}^{k-1} G_{p_i^{2k}} \times G_{p_k} \) and notice that, by Proposition 3.8, the partial bonding map \( G^{k-1} \times \Pi_{i=1}^{k-1} G_{p_i^{(0)}} \times G_{p_k^{(0)}} \to G^{k-1} \) given by coordinate projection induces the morphism \( T \to T \otimes id_{p_i^{2k}} \). Clearly, the inverse limit of the sequence of \( G^k \) with bonding maps just described is a groupoid model for \( M_n \). Alternatively, suppose that \( H^k \) was defined to be \( \Pi_{i=1}^k G_{p_i^k} \) with bonding maps defined analogously, we would also have that the inverse limit of the groupoids \( H^k \) would be a groupoid model for \( M_n \). Notice that the generalized inverse system \( \{ G^k \} \) is equal to a subsystem of \( \{ H^k \} \) (as \( G^k = H^{2k} \) and the bonding maps match up exactly) so they clearly have the same generalized inverse limit, call it \( G \).

Notice that \( G \times G = \varprojlim (H^k \times H^k) = \varprojlim G^k = G \) and so we conclude that \( G \) is self absorbing. \( \Box \)

By Proposition 2.9, we know that \( C^*(G_Z \times G_Z) \cong C^*(G_Z) \otimes C^*(G_Z) \cong Z \otimes Z \cong Z \) and hence the groupoids \( \Pi_i G_{Z^i} \) is a groupoid model for \( Z \) for every countable cardinal \( \kappa \).

**Proposition 7.2.** The countable infinite product \( G_Z^\infty := \Pi \{ G_Z \} \) is a self absorbing groupoid model for \( Z \).

Unfortunately, being that our groupoid model is isomorphic to the model in [20], the object space \( G_Z^{(0)} \) is 1-dimensional and hence the object space of \( G_Z \times G_Z \) will be 2-dimensional. The covering dimension of \( G_Z^\infty \) will be infinite. For purely topological considerations, a groupoid \( G \) is self absorbing only if \( G^{(0)} \) has covering dimension 0 or \( \infty \). The authors would like to thank Kung Li for pointing out that Xin Li in [20] shows that no groupoid model for \( Z \) can have object space with covering dimension zero. To see this, notice that any groupoid model \( G \) for \( Z \) must be étale with compact object space (as \( Z \) is unital) and so \( C(G^{(0)}) \) embeds into \( C^*(G) = Z \). However, \( C(G^{(0)}) \) contains lots of projections if \( G^{(0)} \) is zero-dimensional and so, as \( Z \) is projectionless, this cannot be.

### 7.2. Groupoid Crossed Products By an Endomorphism

Recall that the Cuntz Algebras \( O_n \) for \( 1 \leq n < \infty \) are defined as the crossed product of the UHF algebra \( M_n \) by the canonical endomorphism which maps \( M_n \otimes M_n \) isomorphically into its subalgebra \( M_n \otimes e_{1,1} \).

There are many groupoid models for \( O_n \), but we want to explain how one can create an alternative groupoid model for \( O_n \) in a way that highlights our above description. First, if \( G \) is the groupoid model of \( M_n \) obtained in Example 4.4 then notice that \( G \times G_n \cong G \) (where \( G_n \) is defined in as Example 4.1), the latter which is clearly groupoid isomorphic (preserving the Haar system) to the Haar subgroupoid \( G \times \{ e_{1,1} \} \) of \( G \times G_n \). Let \( \phi : G \times G_n \to G \) be the partial map which projects the Haar subgroupoid \( G \times \{ e_{1,1} \} \) to its first coordinate. The reader can easily check that the induced map is the endomorphism described above.
The only examples of groupoid crossed products by endomorphisms that seem to exist in the literature is the work [9] by V. Deaconu. In his work, he shows how to define a crossed product of a compact Hausdorff space by a surjective self map and shows that his construction corresponds to crossed products when the self map is a genuine homeomorphism. We propose an extension of Deaconu’s construction by considering surjective partial maps of groupoids. If the reader is interested in such a construction, we refer the reader to the work [4] by R. Brown for an introduction to groupoid semi-direct products.

7.3. Completely Positive Maps. There has been a lot of work trying to understand completely positive order zero maps and this has resulted in many very important ideas such as dynamic asymptotic dimension defined by E. Guentner, R. Willett, and G. Yu in [13] and the concept of amenability dimension defined by G. Szabo, J. Wu, and J. Zachariou in [27].

From the point of view of Stinespring’s theorem, completely positive mappings are just compressions of *-morphisms by a fixed bounded operator. If that operator happens to be a projection, then it is already understood how to model corners at the groupoid level via the concept of linking groupoids, see [21] or [26] for a reference. Our question is whether Stinespring’s characterization for completely positive approximation of groupoid $C^*$-algebras has a geometric interpretation via partial morphisms and linking groupoid-type constructions. An interesting problem in its own right would be to find a groupoid model for $B(H)$, the bounded operators on a countable dimensional Hilbert space. Due to the scope of Stinespring’s theorem, it seems unavoidable to have to find a groupoid model for $B(H)$.

8. Appendix: Full Gelfand Duality in the Commutative Case

As this appendix is of independent interest, we make an effort to make it self contained and independent of the rest of the paper. Recall that if $A$ is a $C^*$-algebra then an approximate unit for $A$ is a net $\{e_\alpha, \alpha \in \Delta\} \subset A$ of self adjoint elements such that for every $a \in A$ we have $\lim_\alpha |a - e_\alpha a| = \lim_\alpha |a - ae_\alpha| = 0$.

The Gelfand duality functor associates to every locally compact space $X$ the $C^*$-algebra $C_0(X)$ and to every proper continuous function $f : X \to Y$ the pullback morphism $f^* : C_0(Y) \to C_0(X)$. It is a much celebrated result that each commutative $C^*$-algebra is of the form $C_0(X)$ for a unique locally compact space $X$ and every morphism that maps approximate units to approximate units is induced by a unique proper and continuous function. This success perhaps hides another very important class of morphisms of commutative $C^*$-algebras that actually can be modeled at the level of locally compact spaces, namely the *-morphisms such that the image does not contain an approximate unit for the codomain algebra.

Notice that the inclusion $U \subset X$ of an open subspace induces a nonunital embedding $C_0(U) \to C_0(X)$ given by extending continuous functions in $C_0(U)$ to be 0 on $X \setminus U$. This is a perfectly natural $C^*$-morphism to consider. Even more generally, we can consider induced morphisms that come from both extension and pullbacks if we consider partial proper continuous maps defined these as follows: Let $X$ and $Y$ be locally compact Hausdorff spaces. A partial proper continuous function from $X$ to $Y$ is a pair $(f,U)$ where $U \subset X$ is open and $f : U \to Y$ is a proper and continuous function. Notice that the pullback $f^* : C_0(Y) \to C_0(U)$ composed with the inclusion $C_0(U) \to C_0(X)$ just described defines a *-morphism from $C_0(Y)$ to $C_0(X)$ and it does not need to be unital or a *-embedding. We will call the composition $C_0(Y) \xrightarrow{f^*} C_0(U) \xrightarrow{\text{canonical}} C_0(X)$ the induced morphism.
Here is an example: Notice that there is only one continuous map from the discrete space \( \{x_1, x_2\} \) to the discrete space \( \{y\} \) and the pullback morphism is given by \( \lambda \mapsto (\lambda, \lambda) \) mapping \( \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C} \). It is impossible for the morphism \( \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C} \) given by \( \lambda \mapsto (\lambda, 0) \) to be the pullback of a continuous function \( f : \{x_1, x_2\} \rightarrow \{y\} \). But this morphism is induced by the partial mapping which maps \( x_1 \) to \( y \) and does nothing to \( x_2 \).

Let \( \mathcal{T} \) denote the category of locally compact spaces with partial proper continuous functions; i.e. it is the full subcategory of \( \mathcal{G} \) consisting of locally compact spaces with partial morphisms between them. Let \( \text{Comm} \) denote the category of commutative \( C^* \)-algebras with \( \ast \)-homomorphisms.

**Theorem 8.1.** The extension of the functor \( \Gamma_e \), which we will denote by \( \Gamma^e \), that associates each locally compact space \( X \) to \( C_0(X) \) and associates each partial proper and continuous map to its induced morphism is an opposite equivalence of the categories \( \mathcal{T} \) and \( \text{Comm} \).

**Proof.** Let \( A = C_0(Y) \) and \( B = C_0(X) \) be commutative \( C^* \)-algebras and let \( \phi : A \rightarrow B \) be a \( \ast \)-morphism. Notice that \( C := \phi(A) \subset B \). We will show that \( C \) determines an open subset \( U_A \subset X \). Let \( \overline{C} \) denote the closure of \( C \) in \( \ell^\infty(X) \) (after embedding \( C_0(X) \) into \( \ell^\infty(X) \) via the universal representation) and notice that the s.o. limit (i.e. limit in pointwise convergence topology) of an approximate identity for \( C \) converges to the unit \( 1_{\overline{C}} \) of \( \overline{C} \). \( 1_C \) is a projection in \( \ell^\infty(X) \) and hence corresponds to the characteristic function of some set \( U \subset X \). Notice that \( U \) is open in \( X \) as it is the union of the supports of an approximate identity for \( C \). Notice now that \( C \) is a \( C^* \)-subalgebra of \( C_0(U) \), when viewed as a subalgebra of \( C_0(X) \) by extending functions to be 0 outside of \( U \), and contains an approximate unit and hence there must exist a unique proper continuous mapping \( f : U \rightarrow Y \) such that \( f^* : C_0(Y) \rightarrow C_0(U) \) is equal to \( \phi : A \rightarrow C_0(Y) \subset C_0(X) \). It is straightforward to see that \( U \) is the unique subset of \( X \) such that \( C \subset C_0(U) \subset C_0(X) \) with the first of those inclusions being an approximately unital embedding. The uniqueness of \( f \) is by Gelfand duality. \( \square \)

**Remark 8.2.** One can say that a large part of this paper is better understanding the \( C^* \)-algebraic interpretation of groupoids. Because a morphism \( \phi : A \rightarrow B \) of algebras are really of the form \( \phi : A \rightarrow \phi(A) \) composed with the inclusion \( \phi(A) \hookrightarrow B \), it makes sense that this behavior should be reflected at the topological (or groupoid) level.

9. **APPENDIX: DIRECT LIMITS OF MEASURE SPACES**

As the proof of Theorem 3.13 shows, inverse limits of inverse systems in \( \mathcal{G} \) are actually increasing unions of inverse limits. As is usual, the hardest part of approximation of groupoids with Haar systems is approximating the Haar systems. We have shown in the proof of Theorem A in [1] how to take inverse limits of regular Radon measures (which we will replicate in the proof of Theorem 3.13). The purpose of this appendix is to show how to define a regular Radon measure on an increasing union of regular Radon measures spaces.

**Definition 9.1.** We say that \((X_\alpha, \Omega_\alpha, \mu_\alpha, p^\alpha, \beta, A)\) is a direct system of Borel measure spaces if

1. \( A \) is directed
2. \( X_\alpha \) is a locally compact Hausdorff space for each \( \alpha \).
3. \( \mu_\alpha \) is a regular Radon measure for each \( \alpha \).
4. \( p^\alpha_\beta : X_\alpha \rightarrow X_\beta \) is an inclusion of an open subset for all \( \beta \geq \alpha \).
5. \( (p^\alpha_\beta)^* \mu_\alpha = \mu_\beta |_{p^\alpha_\beta(X_\alpha)} \) where \( \mu_\beta |_{p^\alpha_\beta(X_\alpha)} \) represents the measure restricted to the submeasure space \( p^\alpha_\beta(X_\alpha) \).
6. \( p^\alpha_\alpha = id_{X_\alpha} \) for all \( \alpha \).
(7) $p_\beta^\alpha \circ p_\gamma^\beta = p_\gamma^\alpha$ for all $\alpha \geq \beta \geq \gamma$.

**Theorem 9.2.** Let $(X_\alpha, \Omega_\alpha, \mu_\alpha, p^\alpha, \beta, A)$ be a direct system of Borel measure spaces. Denote $X := \bigcup_\alpha X_\alpha$ in and $\Omega$ be the smallest $\sigma$-algebra generated by $\bigcup_\alpha \Omega_\alpha$. $\Omega$ is contained in the Borel sigma-algebra on $X$, and moreover, contains all compact subsets of $X$. The union of the measures $\mu_\alpha$ (when viewed as partial functions in $\Omega \times [0, \infty]$) extends uniquely to a measure $\mu'$ on $X$. There exists a unique regular Radon measure $\mu$ on $X$ such that integration of $f \in C_c(X)$ against $\mu'$ is equal to integration against $\mu$.

**Proof.** Let $p_\alpha : X_\alpha \to X$ be the inclusion mappings. It is clear that $X$ is locally compact and Hausdorff by the requirement that it is the union of open locally compact Hausdorff subspaces.

Recall that the direct limit of $\sigma$-algebras is just the $\sigma$-algebra generated by the images of the $\sigma$-algebras of the pieces in the inverse system. It is clear that the $\sigma$-algebra generated by the images of the Borel subset of the pieces is contained in the Borel subsets of $X$. However, as we are only allowed to take countable sums of sets coming from $\bigcup_\alpha \Omega_\alpha$, we only get open sets which are countable sums of open sets. It is easy to see that every compact set in $X$ is the image of a compact subset of $X_\alpha$ for some $\alpha$, so $\Omega$ clearly contains all the compact subsets of $X$.

Let $\Omega$ denote the $\sigma$-algebra generated by the measures $\mu_\alpha$ (viewed as partial functions in $\Omega \times [0, \infty]$). We first extend $\mu'$ to a function $\mu : \Omega \to [0, \infty]$. Let $B \in \Omega \setminus \bigcup_\alpha p_\alpha(\Omega_\alpha)$. Then $B = \bigcup_{i=1}^\infty B_\alpha$, where $B_\alpha \in \Omega_\alpha$. We define $\mu(B) = \sum_{i=1}^\infty \mu_\alpha(B_\alpha)$. The reader can check easily that this is well defined by condition 5 of Definition 9.1. To show that $\mu$ is sigma-additive, let $\{C_\alpha\}$ be a disjoint countable subset of $\Omega$. Notice that $\sum_{i=1}^\infty \mu(C_\alpha) = \sum_{i,j=1}^\infty \mu_\alpha(C_\alpha \cap p_\alpha(X_\alpha))$. As $\mu_\alpha$ is sigma-additive for each $\alpha$, we have that $\sum_{i=1}^\infty \mu_\alpha(C_\alpha \cap p_\alpha(X_\alpha)) = \mu_\alpha(\bigcup_{i=1}^\infty C_\alpha \cap p_\alpha(X_\alpha))$. Hence we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^\infty \mu(C_\alpha) = \sum_{i,j=1}^\infty \mu_\alpha(C_\alpha \cap p_\alpha(X_\alpha)) = \sum_{j=1}^\infty \sum_{i=1}^\infty \mu_\alpha(C_\alpha \cap p_\alpha(X_\alpha)) = \mu(\bigcup_{i=1}^\infty C_\alpha).$$

The fact that $\mu$ is positive and inner regular is clear. Notice that $\mu$ is locally finite and outer regular because $p_\alpha(X_\alpha)$ is open in $X$ for all $\alpha$ and each $\mu_\alpha$ is locally finite and outer regular. One can show that integration against $\mu$ induces a positive linear functional on $C_c(X)$. The last assertion follows from the Riesz-Markov-Kakutani theorem.

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