

**MF  $C^*$ -algebras, MF Traces and Lower Bounds for  
Topological Free Entropy Dimension**

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# 1 Let's take a moment

$(\mathcal{M}, \tau)$  von Neumann algebra with a faithful trace  $\tau$

$$\mathcal{M} = W^*(x_1, \dots, x_n), \vec{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

$m = m(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  \*-monomial in  $n$  free variables

$$\tau(m(x_1, \dots, x_n)) = m^{th} \text{ moment of } \vec{x}.$$

Suppose  $(\mathcal{N}, \rho)$  and  $\mathcal{N} = W^*(y_1, \dots, y_n)$ .

**THM**  $\tau(m(\vec{x})) = \rho(m(\vec{y}))$  for all \*-monomials  $m$   
 $\Leftrightarrow \exists$  normal \*-isomorphism  $\pi : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$  such that  
 $\rho \circ \pi = \tau$ .

If  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we say that  $(\vec{x}, \tau)$  and  $(\vec{y}, \rho)$  are  $(\mathbb{N}, \varepsilon)$ -**close** if

$$|\tau(m(\vec{x})) - \rho(m(\vec{y}))| < \varepsilon$$

for all \*-monomials  $m$  with  $\deg m \leq N$ .

## Voiculescu's Free Entropy Dimension

Given  $\mathcal{M} = W^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and faithful trace  $\tau$ .

Let  $R > \max \{\|x_1\|, \dots, \|x_n\|\} = \|\vec{x}\|$

$\mathcal{M}_k(\mathbb{C}) = k \times k$  complex matrices,  $\tau_k = \frac{1}{k} \text{Tr}$

For  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  define

$\Gamma_R(\vec{x}, N, \varepsilon, k) \subseteq \{\vec{A} \in \mathcal{M}_k(\mathbb{C})^n : \|\vec{A}\| < R\}$  by:

$\vec{A} \in \Gamma_R(\vec{x}, N, \varepsilon, k) \Leftrightarrow (\vec{x}, \tau), (\vec{A}, \tau_k)$  are  $(N, \varepsilon)$ -close

We want to "measure" the sets  $\Gamma_R(\vec{x}, N, \varepsilon, k)$ .

## COVERING NUMBERS

$(X, d)$  is a totally bounded metric space,

$$\omega > 0$$

$\nu_d(X, \omega) =$  minimal number of  $\omega$ -balls needed to cover  $X$ .

$$\text{Ex: } (1/\omega)^m \leq \nu_{\|\cdot\|}(\text{ball } \mathbb{R}^m, \omega) \leq (3/\omega)^m$$

$\mathcal{A}$   $C^*$ -algebra  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{A} = d < \infty \implies$

$$(1/\omega)^{d^2} \leq \nu_{\|\cdot\|}(\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{A}), \omega) \leq (9\pi e/\omega)^{d^2}$$

.

## BOX DIMENSION

The **Box Dimension (Minkowski Dimension)** is defined as

$$\dim_{\text{box}}(X) = \limsup_{\omega \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\log \nu_d(X, \omega)}{-\log \omega}.$$

If  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $X$  bounded with positive Lebesgue measure, then

$$\dim_{\text{box}}(X) = n$$

# Voiculescu's free entropy dimension

Define for  $\vec{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$

$$\delta_0(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \frac{\log(v(\Gamma_R(\vec{x}; N, \varepsilon, k), \omega))}{-\log \omega}$$

# Voiculescu's free entropy dimension

Define for  $\vec{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$

$$\delta_0(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \frac{\log(v(\Gamma_R(\vec{x}; N, \varepsilon, k), \omega))}{-k^2 \log \omega}$$

# Voiculescu's free entropy dimension

Define for  $\vec{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$

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# Voiculescu's free entropy dimension

Define for  $\vec{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$

$$\delta_0(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \inf_{N \in \mathbb{N}, \varepsilon > 0} \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log(v(\Gamma_R(\vec{x}; N, \varepsilon, k), \omega))}{-k^2 \log \omega}$$

# Voiculescu's free entropy dimension

Define for  $\vec{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$

$$\delta_0(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \limsup_{\omega \rightarrow 0^+} \inf_{N \in \mathbb{N}, \varepsilon > 0} \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log(v(\Gamma_R(\vec{x}; N, \varepsilon, k), \omega))}{-k^2 \log \omega}$$

This is independent of  $R > \|\vec{x}\|$ .

**Szarek:**  $\delta_0$  unchanged if we use the covering numbers with respect to  $\|\cdot\|_2$ .

## APPLICATIONS

Many results of the form: If  $\mathcal{M} = W^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  has some particular property, then  $\delta_0(\vec{x}) \leq 1$ .

conclusion: If  $\delta_0(\vec{x}) > 1$  (e.g.,  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbb{F}_n}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ ), then  $\mathcal{M}$  does not have the property.

Voiculescu: Cartan subalgebra

Ge: Prime Factors, Simple Masas

Ge, Shen: Deep results absorbing all previous results

Shen, H: New invariant  $\mathfrak{K}_2$  involving covering by unitary orbits of  $\omega$ -balls that gives elementary proofs of extended Ge-Shen results.

Many exciting recent results: Jung, Dykema, Shlyakhtenko, etc.

**Thm (H 1998: Shanghai Theorem)** Suppose  $\mathcal{M} = W^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is **hyperfinite** with a faithful normal trace  $\tau$  and suppose  $\omega > 0$  and  $R > \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \|x_j\|$ . Then there are  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that, for every finite factor  $(\mathbb{N}, \rho)$  and every  $\vec{A}, \vec{B} \in \mathcal{N}^n$  with  $\|\vec{A}\| \leq R$ , if  $(\vec{A}, \rho)$  and  $(\vec{B}, \rho)$  are both  $(N, \varepsilon)$ -close to  $(\vec{x}, \tau)$ , then there is a unitary  $U \in \mathcal{N}$  such that

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \|B_j - U A_j U^*\|_2 < \omega.$$

Note:  $R$  is unnecessary.

**COR.**  $W^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  hyperfinite  $\implies$

$$\delta_0(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leq 1.$$

**Note:** If you find a nice  $A$  then any  $B$  is almost unitarily equivalent to  $A$

The proof is based on **tracial ultraproducts**.

Sakai An ultraproduct of finite factors is a factor von Neumann algebra

Weihua Li & H: A tracial ultraproduct of C\*-algebras is a von Neumann algebra.

Sample application:

For every  $\varepsilon > 0$  and every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there is a  $\delta > 0$  such that, for every tracial C\*-algebra  $(\mathcal{A}, \tau)$  and every  $T \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathcal{A})$ , if  $\|T\| \leq 1$  and  $\|T^*T - TT^*\|_2 < \delta$ , then there are normal contractions  $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \mathcal{A}$  and a unitary  $U \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathcal{A})$  such that

$$\left\| T - U \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & & & \\ & A_2 & & \\ & & \dots & \\ & & & A_n \end{pmatrix} U^* \right\|_2 < \varepsilon.$$

## C\*-algebra Version

$$\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{C}^*(x_1, \dots, x_n), \mathcal{B} = \mathcal{C}^*(y_1, \dots, y_n)$$

$\{p_1(t_1, \dots, t_n), p_2(t_1, \dots, t_n), p_2(t_1, \dots, t_n), \dots\} =$  all  
\*-polynomials over  $\mathbb{Q} + i\mathbb{Q}$ .

**THM** There is a unital \*-isomorphism  $\pi : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  sending each  $x_j$  to  $y_j$  iff

$$\|p_m(\vec{x})\| = \|p_m(\vec{y})\|$$

for all  $m \geq 1$ .

$\vec{x}, \vec{y}$  are **topologically**  $(N, \varepsilon)$ -close  $\Leftrightarrow$  top- $(N, \varepsilon)$ -close  
 $\Leftrightarrow$

$$\left| \|p_j(\vec{x})\| - \|p_j(\vec{y})\| \right| < \varepsilon$$

for  $1 \leq j \leq N$ .

## Voiculescu's Topological Free Entropy Dimension

Given  $\mathcal{A} = C^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ .

For  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  define

$\Gamma^{\text{top}}(\vec{x}, N, \varepsilon, k) \subseteq \mathcal{M}_k(\mathbb{C})^n$  by:

$\vec{A} \in \Gamma^{\text{top}}(\vec{x}, N, \varepsilon, k) \Leftrightarrow \vec{x}, \vec{A}$  are top- $(N, \varepsilon)$ -close

$$\delta_{\text{top}}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \limsup_{\omega \rightarrow 0^+} \inf_{N \in \mathbb{N}, \varepsilon > 0} \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log(v(\Gamma_R(\vec{x}; N, \varepsilon, k), \omega))}{-k^2 \log \omega}$$

**Szarek:**  $\delta_{\text{top}}$  unchanged if we use the covering numbers with respect to  $\|\cdot\|_2$ .

Junhao Shen & H:  $\mathcal{A} = C^*(\vec{x})$  commutative or finite-dimensional  $\implies$

$$\delta_{\text{top}}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 1 - \frac{1}{\dim \mathcal{A}}$$

Shen & H: Formula for direct sums

Shen, Qihui Li & H:  $\delta_{\text{top}}$  additive for full free products

Shen, Qihui Li & H:

$\mathcal{A}$  nuclear  $\implies \delta_{\text{top}}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leq 1$ .



## Domain of $\delta_0$

$\delta_0(x_1, \dots, x_n; \tau)$  defined  $\Leftrightarrow \forall \varepsilon > 0, N \in \mathbb{N} \exists k \in \mathbb{N}$   
such that  $\Gamma(\vec{x}, N, \varepsilon, k) \neq \emptyset$

$\Leftrightarrow$

$W^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  embeddable in a tracial ultrapower of  
the hyperfinite  $II_1$  factor (Connes' embedding problem)

$\Leftrightarrow$

$W^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  embeddable in a tracial ultraproduct  
 $\prod_{k \in \mathbb{N}}^{\alpha} (\mathcal{M}_k(\mathbb{C}), \tau_k)$

## Domain of $\delta_{\text{top}}$

$\delta_{\text{top}}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  defined  $\Leftrightarrow \forall \varepsilon > 0, N \in \mathbb{N} \exists k \in \mathbb{N}$   
such that  $\Gamma(\vec{x}, N, \varepsilon, k) \neq \emptyset$ .

$\Leftrightarrow$

$C^*(\vec{x})$  is an **MF algebra** (Blackadar-Kirchberg), i.e.,

$C^*(\vec{x})$  can be embedded in

$$\prod_{1 \leq s < \infty} \mathcal{M}_{k_s}(\mathbb{C}) / \sum_{1 \leq s < \infty} \mathcal{M}_{k_s}(\mathbb{C})$$

for some increasing sequence  $\{k_s\}$  of positive integers

$\Leftrightarrow$

$C^*(\vec{x})$  can be embedded in a  $C^*$ -ultraproduct  $\prod_{k \in \mathbb{N}}^{\alpha} \mathcal{M}_k(\mathbb{C})$ .

$C^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is an  $MF$ -algebra if there are sequences  $\{k_s\}$  of positive integers and  $\vec{A}_s = (A_{1s}, \dots, A_{ns}) \in \mathcal{M}_{k_s}(\mathbb{C})^n$  such that, for every  $*$ -polynomial  $p$ ,

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \|p(A_{1s}, \dots, A_{ns})\| = \|p(x_1, \dots, x_n)\|.$$

We call this **convergence in topological distribution**, and write

$$\vec{A}_s \xrightarrow{\text{top}} \vec{x}.$$

In the tracial von Neumann algebra case, we write

$$(\vec{A}_s, \tau_{k_s}) \xrightarrow{\text{dist}} (\vec{x}, \tau)$$

if  $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \tau_{k_s}(m(\vec{A}_s)) = \tau(m(\vec{x}))$  for every  $*$ -monomial  $m$ .

## 2 MF-traces

**Definition 1** Suppose  $\mathcal{A} = C^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is an MF  $C^*$ -algebra. A tracial state  $\tau$  on  $\mathcal{A}$  is an MF-trace if there are sequences  $\{k_s\}$  in  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $\vec{A}_s$  in  $\mathcal{M}_{k_s}(\mathbb{C})^n$  such that, for every  $*$ -polynomial  $p$ ,

1.  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|p(A_{1k}, \dots, A_{nk})\| = \|p(x_1, \dots, x_n)\|$ , and
2.  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \tau_{m_k}(p(A_{1k}, \dots, A_{nk})) = \tau(p(x_1, \dots, x_n))$ .

$\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{A}) =$  the set of all tracial states on  $\mathcal{A}$

$\mathcal{T}_{MF}(\mathcal{A}) =$  the set of all MF-traces on  $\mathcal{A}$ .

**Notation:**  $\tau$  a tracial state,  $\tau(a) = (\pi_\tau(a)e, e) =$  GNS representation for  $\tau$ ,  $\hat{\tau} : \pi_\tau(\mathcal{A})'' \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\hat{\tau}(T) = (Te, e)$  faithful normal trace

$\tau$  is **finite-dimensional** if  $\dim \pi_\tau(\mathcal{A}) < \infty$ .

**Proposition 2** *If  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{C}^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is MF, then*

1.  $\mathcal{T}_{MF}(\mathcal{A})$  is a nonempty weak\*-compact convex set.
2. Every finite-dimensional tracial state on  $\mathcal{A}$  is in  $\mathcal{T}_{MF}(\mathcal{A})$ ,
3. If  $\pi$  is a unital \*-homomorphism on  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\pi(\mathcal{A})$  is an MF-algebra, then

$$\{\varphi \circ \pi : \varphi \in \mathcal{T}_{MF}(\pi(\mathcal{A}))\} \subseteq \mathcal{T}_{MF}(\mathcal{A}).$$

4.  $\tau \in \mathcal{T}_{MF}(\mathcal{A}) \iff$  there is a free ultrafilter on  $\mathbb{N}$ , and embedding  $\pi : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \prod_{k \in \mathbb{N}}^{\alpha} \mathcal{M}_k(\mathbb{C})$  such that for every  $a \in \mathcal{A}$ ,

$$\tau(a) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \alpha} \tau_k(A_k),$$

where  $\pi(a) = \{A_k\}_{\alpha}$ .

### 3 MF-nuclear C\*-algebras

$\mathcal{A} = C^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is **nuclear** if, for every representation  $\pi : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow B(H)$  we have  $\pi(\mathcal{A})''$  is hyperfinite.

$\mathcal{A}$  is **MF-nuclear** if  $\mathcal{A}$  is MF and, for every  $\tau \in \mathcal{T}_{MF}(\mathcal{A})$ , we have  $\pi_\tau(\mathcal{A})''$  is hyperfinite.

The class of MF-nuclear C\*-algebras is **closed under: direct sums, nice tensor products, direct limits, and MF-representations.**

**THM** If  $\mathcal{A} = C^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is MF and

$$\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} = \bigcup_{j=1}^m E_j,$$

and  $C^*(E_j)$  is MF-nuclear for  $1 \leq j \leq m$ , then

$$\delta_{\text{top}}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leq m.$$

## Lower Bounds

If  $A = (A_1, \dots, A_n) \in \mathcal{M}_k^n(\mathbb{C})$ , we define the *unitary orbit* of  $\vec{A}$  by

$$\mathcal{U}(\vec{A}) = \{(UA_1U, UA_2U^*, \dots, UA_nU^*) : U \in \mathcal{U}_k\}.$$

**THM** (Dostal, H.) If  $W^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is hyperfinite and if there are sequences  $\{k_s\}$  in  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $\vec{A}_s$  in  $\mathcal{M}_{k_s}(\mathbb{C})^n$  such that  $\vec{A}_s \vec{x}$  and  $\{\|\vec{A}_s\|\}$  is bounded, then

$$\delta_0(\vec{x}) = \limsup_{\omega \rightarrow 0^+} \limsup_{s \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log(v(\mathcal{U}(\vec{A}_s), \omega))}{-k_s^2 \log \omega}$$

. **THM** (Li, Li, Shen, H.) If  $\mathcal{A} = C^*(\vec{x})$  is MF-nuclear, then, for every  $\tau \in \mathcal{T}_{MF}$

$$\delta_{\text{top}}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \geq \delta_0(x_1, \dots, x_n; \tau).$$

**Theorem 3** Suppose  $\mathcal{A} = C^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is a unital  $MF$ -algebra and  $\tau \in \mathcal{T}_{MF}(\mathcal{A})$ . Suppose  $b = b^* \in \pi_\tau(\mathcal{A})''$ . Then

$$\delta_{top}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \geq \delta_0(b, \tau).$$

**Voiculescu:**  $x = x^* \implies$

$$\delta_0(x; \tau) = 1 - \sum_{\lambda \in \sigma_p(x)} \tau(\chi_{\{\lambda\}}(x))^2.$$

so  $\delta_0(x; \tau) = 1 \iff x$  has no eigenvalues.



In a finite von Neumann algebra every selfadjoint element has an eigenvalue  $\Leftrightarrow$

it has a normal finite-dimensional representation  $\Leftrightarrow$

it has no minimal projection  $\Leftrightarrow$

it is **diffuse**.

We call a unital  $C^*$ -algebra  **$C^*$ -diffuse** if it has no finite-dimensional representations.

**Theorem 4** Suppose  $\mathcal{A} = C^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is an MF-algebra and either

1.  $\mathcal{A}$   $C^*$ -diffuse, or
2.  $\mathcal{A}$  has infinitely many non-unitarily equivalent finite-dimensional representations.

Then  $\delta_{top}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \geq 1$ .

**Corollary 5** If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a unital residually finite-dimensional  $C^*$ -algebra, then, for any generating set  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  of  $\mathcal{A}$ , we have

$$\delta_{top}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{\dim \mathcal{A}}.$$

If, in addition,  $\mathcal{A}$  is MF-nuclear, then equality holds.

**Corollary 6** *Suppose  $\mathcal{A}$  is a unital finitely generated MF  $C^*$ -algebra and  $G$  is a finitely generated infinite abelian group and  $\alpha : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathcal{A})$  is a group homomorphism. If  $\mathcal{A} \rtimes_{\alpha} G$  is MF, then, for every set  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  of generators for  $\mathcal{A} \rtimes_{\alpha} G$ , we have*

$$\delta_{top}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \geq 1.$$

*If, in addition,  $\mathcal{A}$  is MF-nuclear, then*

$$\delta_{top}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 1.$$

**Corollary 7** *If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a simple, MF-nuclear  $C^*$ -algebra, then, for any generating set  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  of  $\mathcal{A}$ , we have*

$$\delta_{top}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 1 - \frac{1}{\dim \mathcal{A}}.$$

## The MF-Ideal

$$I_{MF}(\mathcal{A}) = \{a \in \mathcal{A} : \tau(a^*a) = 0 \forall \tau \in \mathcal{T}_{MF}(\mathcal{A})\}$$

**Theorem 8** *Suppose  $\mathcal{A} = C^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is an MF-algebra and  $\dim \mathcal{A}/\mathcal{I}_{MF}(\mathcal{A}) = d < \infty$ . Then*

$$\delta_{top}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 1 - \frac{1}{d}.$$

**Theorem 9** *If  $\mathcal{A} = C^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is an MF-nuclear and  $\mathcal{A}/\mathcal{I}_{MF}(\mathcal{A})$  is RFD algebra, then*

$$\delta_{top}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 1 - \frac{1}{\dim \mathcal{A}/\mathcal{I}_{MF}}.$$

**Example 10** Suppose  $\mathcal{B}$  is a unital separable MF- $C^*$ -algebra that is not nuclear, e.g.,  $\mathcal{B} = C_r^*(\mathbb{F}_2)$ , and let  $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{B} \otimes \mathcal{K}(\ell^2)$ . Then  $\mathcal{D}$  is singly generated, and every tracial state vanishes on  $\mathcal{D}$ . Let  $\mathcal{D}^+$  be the  $C^*$ -algebra obtained by adjoining the identity to  $\mathcal{D}$  and suppose  $\mathcal{N}$  is a finitely generated nuclear MF  $C^*$ -algebra. Then  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{N} \otimes \mathcal{D}^+$  is finitely generated and MF, but not nuclear. However,  $1 \otimes \mathcal{D}^+ \subseteq \mathcal{I}_{MF}(\mathcal{A})$ , so

$$\mathcal{I}_{MF}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{I}_{MF}(\mathcal{N}) \otimes \mathcal{D}.$$

Thus  $\mathcal{A}/\mathcal{I}_{MF}(\mathcal{A})$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{N}/\mathcal{I}_{MF}(\mathcal{N})$ , which is nuclear. Hence, for every set  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  of generators of  $\mathcal{A}$ , we have

$$\delta_{top}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leq 1.$$

We now consider the class  $\mathcal{S}$  of separable  $MF$   $C^*$ -algebras for which every trace is an MF-trace, i.e.,  $\mathcal{TS}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{T}_M(\mathcal{A})$ .

**Lemma 11** *The following are true.*

1. *If  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{S}$ , then  $\mathcal{A} \oplus \mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{S}$ .*
2. *If  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{S}$ , then  $\mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{C}) \in \mathcal{S}$  for every  $n \geq 1$ .*
3.  *$\mathcal{S}$  is closed under direct (inductive) limits.*
4. *Every separable commutative  $C^*$ -algebra is in  $\mathcal{S}$ .*
5. *Every  $AH$   $C^*$ -algebra is in  $\mathcal{S}$ .*
6.  *$\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{S} \Leftrightarrow$  every **factor** tracial state on  $\mathcal{A}$  is in  $\mathcal{T}_{MF}(\mathcal{A})$*

7. If  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{S}$ , then  $\mathcal{A} \otimes_{\min} \mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{S}$ .

8. Connes' embedding counterexample  $\implies$  There is MF  
 $\mathcal{A} \notin \mathcal{S}$

**Theorem 12** Suppose  $\mathcal{A} = C^*(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathcal{S}$ . Then either

1. There is a  $\tau \in \mathcal{T}_{MF}(\mathcal{A})$  and an  $A \in \pi_\tau(\mathcal{A})''$  such that  $\delta_0(A) = 1$ , or
2.  $\mathcal{A}/\mathcal{I}_{MF}(\mathcal{A})$  is RFD.

Therefore, either  $\delta_{top}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \geq 1$  or  $\dim \mathcal{A}/\mathcal{I}_{MF}(\mathcal{A}) < \infty$ .

**Corollary 13** If  $\mathcal{A} = C^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is MF-nuclear and  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{S}$ , then

$$\delta_{top}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 1 - \frac{1}{\dim \mathcal{A}}$$



We now want to focus on the class  $\mathcal{W}$  of all separable  $MF$   $C^*$ -algebras  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\mathcal{I}_{MF}(\mathcal{A}) = \{0\}$ . The main reason is the following.

**Proposition 14** *Suppose  $\mathcal{A} = C^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is  $MF$ -nuclear and  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{W}$ . Then*

$$\delta_{top}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 1 - \frac{1}{\dim \mathcal{A}}.$$

**Theorem 15** *The following are true.*

1. *If  $\{\mathcal{A}_i : i \in I\} \subseteq \mathcal{W}$ , and  $\mathcal{A}$  is a separable unital subalgebra of the  $C^*$ -direct product  $\prod_{i \in I} \mathcal{A}_i$ , then  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{W}$ .*
2. *If  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{W}$ , then  $\mathcal{A} \otimes_{\min} \mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{W}$ .*
3. *Every separable unital simple  $MF$   $C^*$ -algebra is in  $\mathcal{W}$ .*

4. *Every separable unital RFD  $C^*$ -algebra is in  $\mathcal{W}$ .*

5.  *$\mathcal{W}$  is not closed under direct limits.*