

# Structure and classification of free Araki-Woods factors

Operator Algebras and Mathematical Physics

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**Stefaan Vaes\***



Joint work with C. Houdayer and D. Shlyakhtenko  
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- ▶ A free probability analog of the CAR,  
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- ▶ **Open problem:**  
    classify these von Neumann algebras  $M$  in terms of  $(U_t)_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ .

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- ▶ For  $H = \mathbb{C}^n$ , we have  $L(\mathbb{F}_n) \cong \{l(e_i) + l(e_i)^* \mid i = 1, \dots, n\}''$ .

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**Basic question:** classify  $\Gamma(K_{\mathbb{R}} \subset H)''$  in terms of  $K_{\mathbb{R}} \subset H$ ;

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**Note:** conversely  $S(\xi + i\eta) = \xi - i\eta$  for all  $\xi, \eta \in K_{\mathbb{R}}$  and then  $S = J\Delta^{1/2}$ .

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- ▶ that is almost periodic iff  $U$  is almost periodic, in which case  $\text{Sd}(M) = \text{Sd}(U) := \text{subgroup of } \mathbb{R}_+^* \text{ generated by the eigenvalues of } U$ .

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Houdayer (2008): free Araki-Woods factors have a trivial bicentralizer.

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The free quasi-free state has trivial centralizer, resp. diffuse abelian centralizer.

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**Further applications:** many free products of amenable von Neumann algebras are **not** isomorphic to free Araki-Woods factors.

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# Strong solidity

Free Araki-Woods factors really are “type III free group factors”.

Free group factors  $M = L(\mathbb{F}_n)$

- ▶ (Voiculescu, 1995) have no Cartan subalgebra,
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**Note:** only consider subalgebras that are the range of a faithful normal conditional expectation.

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we prove that tracial von Neumann algebras with CMAP and a malleable deformation in the sense of Popa are **stably strongly solid**.