

1 Ideals and representations

1.1 Space-time Martin boundary

We now provide definitions and notation for the space-time Martin boundary as in [REF].

Definition 1.1 (Space-time graph). Let Γ be a countable discrete group, and μ be an admissible probability measure on Γ . Then for $z \in \Gamma$, the set of vertices

$$\text{ST}_z = \text{ST}_z(\Gamma, \mu) := \{(y, m) \in \Gamma \times \mathbb{Z}_+ : P^m(y, z) > 0\},$$

where we add an edge between $(x, n), (y, m) \in \text{ST}_z$ if $m = n + 1$ and $P(x, y) > 0$, is called the *space-time graph* of the random walk (Γ, μ) .

Definition 1.2 (Space-time Martin chain). Let Γ be a countable discrete group, and μ be an admissible probability measure on Γ . Then the Markov chain $(Y_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ on ST_e with the transition probabilities given by

$$\mathbb{P}[Y_{n+1} = (y, m + 1) \mid Y_n = (x, m)] = P(x, y),$$

is called the *space-time Martin chain*.

Remark. Note that for ST_z , the transition probabilities take the form

$$\mathbb{P}[Y_{n+1} = (y, m + 1) \mid Y_n = (x, m)] = ?,$$

Remark. Transience and reducibility

The following proposition serves as a definition for a space-time Martin kernel.

Proposition 1.1 (REF). *Let Γ be a countable discrete group, and μ be an admissible probability measure on Γ . Then the corresponding space-time Martin kernel is given by*

$$\begin{aligned} K_{\text{ST}_e} : \text{ST}_e \times \text{ST}_e &\rightarrow (0, \infty), \\ ((x, m), (y, n)) &\mapsto \frac{P^{n-m}(x, y)}{P^n(e, y)}. \end{aligned}$$

Remark. Using the above remark, we see that for an arbitrary $z \in \Gamma$, the space-time Martin kernel is given by

$$\begin{aligned} K_{\text{ST}_z} : \text{ST}_z \times \text{ST}_z &\rightarrow (0, \infty), \\ ((x, m), (y, n)) &\mapsto ?. \end{aligned}$$

Definition 1.3 (Space-time Martin compactification). Let Γ be a countable discrete group, and μ be an admissible probability measure on Γ . Then the 1-Martin compactification of the space-time Markov chain associated with (Γ, μ) is called the *space-time Martin compactification* of Γ and is denoted by $\Delta_{\text{ST}}\Gamma$. We denote the corresponding space-time Martin boundary by $\partial_{\text{ST}}\Gamma$.

Proposition 1.2 (REF). *Let Γ be a countable discrete group, μ be an admissible probability measure on Γ . Then a sequence $(y_k, n_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ in ST_e converges to a point $\xi \in \partial_{\text{ST}}\Gamma$ if for all $(x, m) \in \text{ST}_e$,*

$$\frac{P^{n-m}(x, y)}{P^n(e, y)} \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} h_\xi(x, m)$$

for some function $h_\xi : \text{ST}_e \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$.

1.2 Toeplitz algebra and representations

Definition 1.4 (Fock space). Let Γ be a countable discrete group, and μ be an admissible probability measure on Γ . Then, the Hilbert space

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \mu) := \bigoplus_{z \in \Gamma} \ell^2(\text{ST}_z(\Gamma, \mu))$$

is called the *Fock space* of the random walk (Γ, μ) . For each $z \in \Gamma$, we let $\{e_{x,z}^{(m)}\}_{(x,m) \in \text{ST}_z}$ denote the orthonormal basis of the space

$$\mathcal{H}_z = \mathcal{H}_z(\Gamma, \mu) := \ell^2(\text{ST}_z(\Gamma, \mu)).$$

Remark. Notice that through the identification $\bigoplus_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \ell^2(\text{ST}_z^{(m)}) = \ell^2(\bigsqcup_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \text{ST}_z^{(m)})$ we obtain the following natural decomposition $\bigoplus_{z \in \Gamma} \mathcal{H}_z = \bigoplus_{z \in \Gamma} \bigoplus_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{H}_z^{(m)}$, where we denote $\mathcal{H}_z^{(m)} := \ell^2(\text{ST}_z^{(m)})$.

Remark. Note that the map $\text{ST}_z \rightarrow \text{ST}_{g^{-1}z}, (y, m) \mapsto (g^{-1}y, m)$ induces a canonical action of the group $\Gamma \curvearrowright \mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \mu)$ via the unitaries

$$\begin{aligned} U_g : \mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \mu) &\rightarrow \mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \mu), \\ e_{x,z}^{(m)} &\mapsto e_{g^{-1}x, g^{-1}z}^{(m)}. \end{aligned}$$

These maps are well-defined since $U_g(\mathcal{H}_z) = \mathcal{H}_{g^{-1}z}$, and each of them sends an orthonormal basis to an orthonormal basis.

Remark. The space ... in [DM17] is isometrically isomorphic to the Fock space above. We change the notation to allude to the space-time Markov chain defined on the space-time graph.

Notation. For $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $(x, y) \in \text{Gr}(P)$, denote the bounded operators

$$\begin{aligned} S_{x,y}^{(n)} : \mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \mu) &\rightarrow \mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \mu), \\ e_{y',z}^{(m)} &\mapsto \delta_{y,y'} \sqrt{\frac{P^n(x, y) P^m(y, z)}{P^{n+m}(x, z)}} e_{x,z}^{(n+m)}, \end{aligned}$$

where the adjoints are given by

$$(S_{x,y}^{(n)})^*(e_{x',z}^{(n+m)}) = \delta_{x,x'} \sqrt{\frac{P^m(x, y) P^n(y, z)}{P^{m+n}(x, z)}} e_{y,z}^{(n)}.$$

Moreover, we have that $S_{x,y}^{(n)}(\mathcal{H}_z^{(m)}) \subset \mathcal{H}_z^{(n+m)}$.

Definition 1.5 (Toeplitz algebra, tensor algebra). Let Γ be a countable discrete group, and μ be an admissible probability measure on Γ . Then,

(i) the C^* -algebra

$$\mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu) := C^*(S_{x,y}^{(n)} : (x, y) \in \text{Gr}(P^n), n \in \mathbb{N}) \subset \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \mu)) \quad (1)$$

is called the *Toeplitz algebra* associated with the random walk (Γ, μ) ;

(ii) the operator algebra

$$\mathcal{T}^+(\Gamma, \mu) := \overline{\text{Alg}}^{\|\cdot\|}(S_{x,y}^{(n)} : (x, y) \in \text{Gr}(P^n), n \in \mathbb{N}) \subset \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \mu)) \quad (2)$$

is called the *tensor algebra* associated with the random walk (Γ, μ) .

Definition 1.6 (Cuntz algebra). Let Γ be a countable discrete group, and μ be an admissible probability measure on Γ . Then, the space

$$\mathcal{J} = \mathcal{J}(\Gamma, \mu) := \mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu) \cap \prod_{z \in \Gamma} \mathbb{K}(\mathcal{H}_z(\Gamma, \mu)) \quad (3)$$

is called the *Cuntz ideal* of $\mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu)$, and the quotient C^* -algebra

$$\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}(\Gamma, \mu) := \mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu) / \mathcal{J}(\Gamma, \mu) \quad (4)$$

is called the *Cuntz algebra* associated with the random walk (Γ, μ) .

Definition 1.7 (Cuntz-Pimsner-Viselter algebra). Let Γ be a countable discrete group, and μ be an admissible probability measure on Γ . Then, the space

$$\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{I}(\Gamma, \mu) := \bigoplus_{z \in \Gamma} \mathbb{K}(\mathcal{H}_z(\Gamma, \mu)) \quad (5)$$

is called the *Cuntz-Pimsner-Viselter ideal* of $\mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu)$, and the quotient C^* -algebra

$$\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{V}(\Gamma, \mu) := \mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu) / \mathcal{I}(\Gamma, \mu) \quad (6)$$

is called the *Cuntz-Pimsner-Viselter algebra* associated with the random walk (Γ, μ) .

Notation. For $z \in \Gamma$, we let π_z denote the representations of $\mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu)$ given by

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_z : \mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu) &\rightarrow \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H}_z(\Gamma, \mu)), \\ T &\mapsto T|_{\mathcal{H}_z}, \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

and for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we let $\pi_z^{(n)}$ denote the representations of n -th amplification $M_n(\mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu))$ given by

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_z^{(n)} : M_n(\mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu)) &\rightarrow \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H}_z(\Gamma, \mu)^{\oplus n}), \\ [T_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n &\mapsto [T_{ij}|_{\mathcal{H}_z}]_{i,j=1}^n. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

Remark. We can extend an action $\Gamma \curvearrowright \mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \mu)$ via unitaries to a natural action $\Gamma \curvearrowright \mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu)$ via isometric $*$ -isomorphisms

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ad}_g : \mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu) &\rightarrow \mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu), \\ S_{x,y}^{(n)} &\mapsto U_g S_{x,y}^{(n)} U_g^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

These maps are well-defined since for $g \in \Gamma$, $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$, and $(x, y) \in \text{Gr}(P)$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} (U_g S_{x,y}^{(n)} U_g^{-1})(e_{y',z}^{(m)}) &= U_g S_{x,y}^{(n)}(e_{gy',gz}^{(m)}) \\ &= U_g \left(\delta_{y,gy'} \sqrt{\frac{P^n(x,y)P^m(y,gz)}{P^{n+m}(x,gz)}} e_{x,gz}^{(n+m)} \right) \\ &= \delta_{y,gy'} \sqrt{\frac{P^n(x,y)P^m(y,gz)}{P^{n+m}(x,gz)}} e_{g^{-1}x,z}^{(n+m)} \\ &= \delta_{g^{-1}y,y'} \sqrt{\frac{P^n(g^{-1}x,g^{-1}y)P^m(g^{-1}y,z)}{P^{n+m}(g^{-1}x,z)}} e_{g^{-1}x,z}^{(n+m)} \\ &= S_{g^{-1}x,g^{-1}y}^{(n)}(e_{y',z}^{(m)}). \end{aligned}$$

This action leaves the tensor algebra invariant, and, moreover, is compatible with the representations above in the sense that $\pi_z \circ \text{Ad}_g = \pi_{gz}$ as for $g \in \Gamma$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $(x, y) \in \text{Gr}(P)$, we obtain

$$\pi_z \circ \text{Ad}_g(S_{x,y}^{(n)}) = S_{g^{-1}x, g^{-1}y}^{(n)}|_{\mathcal{H}_z} = S_{x,y}^{(n)}|_{\mathcal{H}_{gz}} = \pi_{gz}(S_{x,y}^{(n)}).$$

Note that the representations are not unitarily equivalent for different elements of the group, so Γ can not act via unitaries.

From [Dor21, Proposition 4.4], we see that $\mathcal{I}(\Gamma, \mu)$ is an ideal in the Toeplitz algebra $\mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu)$ whenever μ is finitely supported. Similar to [DM17, Section 3], using the following short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{I}(\Gamma, \mu) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu) \rightarrow \mathcal{V}(\Gamma, \mu) \rightarrow 0$$

and the discussion preceding [Arv76, Theorem 1.3.4], we see that given any representation ρ , it decomposes uniquely into a central direct sum $\rho = \rho_{\mathcal{I}} \oplus \rho_{\mathcal{V}}$ of representations, where $\rho_{\mathcal{I}}$ is the unique extension of $\rho|_{\mathcal{I}(\Gamma, \mu)}$ to $\mathcal{T}(\Gamma, \mu)$, and $\rho_{\mathcal{V}}$ annihilates $\mathcal{I}(\Gamma, \mu)$. Note that for an irreducible representation, one of the summands is trivial.