# Wavelets for higher-rank graph $C^*$ -algebras

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#### Background on graph C\*-algebras:

Higher rank graph  $C^*$ -algebras were introduced by A. Kumjian and D. Pask in 2000. These are generalizations of algebras associated to directed graphs, which in turn generalized the Cuntz algebras  $\mathcal{O}_n$  generated by families of isometries first studied by J. Cuntz in 1977.

**Definition:** (Kumjian-Pask, 2000) Let  $k \ge 1$ . A *k*-graph, or higher-rank graph, is a countable small category  $\Lambda$  equipped with a degree functor  $d : \Lambda \to \mathbb{N}^k$  satisfying the factorization property: if  $d(\lambda) = m + n$ , then there exist unique  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  such that  $d(\mu) = m$ ,  $d(\nu) = n$ , and  $\lambda = \mu\nu$ .

## Background on graph C\*-algebras, continued:

## Examples

- 1. For k = 1,  $\Lambda$  is the path category of a connected graph, and d is the length function.
- For k > 1, Λ is a collection of paths in a multi-colored graph; here paths have a "degree" or "shape" rather than a length.
- 3. Two paths  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  can be concatenated if  $s(\mu) = r(\nu)$ , and then  $d(\mu\nu) = d(\mu) + d(\nu)$ .

By the work of Kumjian and Pask [KP],  $C^*$ -algebras can be associated to higher-rank graphs and higher-rank graphs equipped with a 2-cocycle. Also Kumjian and Pask showed that a *k*-graph  $\Lambda$ has associated to it a path groupoid  $\mathcal{G}_{\Lambda}$ . Fundamental example, k-graph

Let

$$\Omega_k = \{(m,n): m, n \in \mathbb{N}^k : m \leq n\}.$$

The structure maps are given by r(m, n) = m, s(m, n) = n, so that  $(\ell, n) = (\ell, m)(m, n)$  and then d(m, n) = n - m is a functor.

 $\Omega_2$  can be represented by the following bi-colored graph with the factorization rules.



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#### Another example



We choose the following factorization rules:

 $f_1g_1 = g_1f_1$  and  $f_1g_2 = g_2f_1$  $f_2g_1 = g_1f_2$  and  $f_2g_2 = g_2f_2$ 

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Notation and terminology associated to k-graphs

- $\Lambda^n := d^{-1}(n)$  denotes the set of paths of degree *n*.
- The paths  $\Lambda^0$  of degree 0 are called vertices.

For 
$$v, w \in \Lambda^0$$
 and  $n \in \mathbb{N}^k$ ,

$$v\Lambda^n w = \{\lambda \in \Lambda^n : r(\lambda) = v, s(\lambda) = w\}$$

- A k-graph is called finite if  $\Lambda^n$  is finite for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}^k$ .
- We say that  $\Lambda$  has no sources if  $v\Lambda^{e_i} \neq \emptyset$  for all  $v \in \Lambda^0$  and  $i \in \{1, \ldots, k\}$ ..

#### Notation for *k*-graphs, continued:

- We say that a k-graph Λ is strongly connected if, for all v, w ∈ Λ<sup>0</sup>, vΛw ≠ Ø.
- For 1 ≤ i ≤ k, let A<sub>i</sub> be the matrix of M<sub>Λ0</sub>(ℕ) with entries A<sub>i</sub>(v, w) = |vΛ<sup>e<sub>i</sub></sup>w|, the number of paths from w to v with degree e<sub>i</sub>; we call the A<sub>i</sub> the vertex adjacency matrices of Λ.

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## The higher-rank graph algebra $C^*(\Lambda)$

# Definition 1

Let  $\Lambda$  be a finite k-graph with no sources. A Cuntz-Krieger  $\Lambda$ -family consists of partial isometries  $\{t_{\lambda} : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  such that (CK1)  $\{t_{v} : v \in \Lambda^{0}\}$  are mutually orthogonal projections; (CK2)  $t_{\lambda}t_{\mu} = t_{\lambda\mu}$  whenever  $s(\lambda) = r(\mu)$ ; (CK3)  $t_{\lambda}^{*}t_{\lambda} = t_{s(\lambda)}$  for all  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ ; (CK4) for all  $v \in \Lambda^{0}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}^{k}$ , we have  $t_{v} = \sum_{\lambda \in v\Lambda^{n}} t_{\lambda}t_{\lambda}^{*}$ . The C\*-algebra C\*( $\Lambda$ ) of  $\Lambda$  is generated by a universal  $\Lambda$ -family  $\{s_{\lambda}\}$ . We write  $p_{v} := s_{v}$  for  $v \in \Lambda^{0}$ .

### Representations of graph algebras

There is a very well-developed theory of representations of Cuntz-Krieger C\*-algebras associated to directed graphs (where k = 1) on Hilbert spaces. To list just a few names, O. Bratteli and P. Jorgensen, K. Kawamura, D. Dutkay and P. Jorgensen, and M. Marcolli and A. Paolucci have studied representations of Cuntz-Krieger algebras on a variety of Hilbert spaces. In particular, in these papers the Perron-Frobenius theory has been used on the incidence matrices involved to construct measures giving interesting Hilbert spaces on which to represent these algebras.

In addition, M. Marcolli and A. Paolucci [MP] represented Cuntz-Krieger algebras on Hilbert spaces associated to fractals, extending results of A. Jonnson [Jo] to construct a wavelet family associated to particular representations of these  $C^*$ -algebras.

## The Infinite Path Space for a k-graph $\Lambda$

In 2015, A. an Huef, M. Laca, I. Raeburn, and A. Sims [aHLRS2] used the Perron-Frobenius theory associated to incidence matrices for finite higher-rank graphs to construct a probability measure M on the so-called infinite path space  $\Lambda^{\infty}$  associated to  $\Lambda$ , and used this measure in the study of the abelian core of  $C^*(\Lambda)$  as well as to construct KMS states associated to the graph  $C^*$ -algebras.

Farsi, Gillaspy, Kang, and P. represented  $C^*(\Lambda)$  on  $L^2(\Lambda^{\infty}, M)$ , so as to generalize the construction of "wavelets".

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**The Infinite Path Space of**  $\Lambda$ , **continued** Recall the basic example of a *k*-graph:

$$\Omega_k := \{(p,q) \in \mathbb{N}^k imes \mathbb{N}^k : p \leq q\}.$$

Recall that with composition defined by (p, q)(q, m) = (p, m) and degree map given by d(p, q) = q - p,  $\Omega_k$  is a k-graph with no sources.

## Definition 2

Let  $\Lambda$  be a finite k-graph with no sources. An infinite path in a k-graph  $\Lambda$  is a k-graph morphism  $x : \Omega_k \to \Lambda$ . We write  $\Lambda^{\infty}$  for the collection of all infinite paths and call it the infinite path space of  $\Lambda$ . For each  $p \in \mathbb{N}^k$ , we define  $\sigma^p : \Lambda^{\infty} \to \Lambda^{\infty}$  by  $\sigma^p(x)(m,n) = x(m+p,n+p)$  for  $x \in \Lambda^{\infty}$ . For  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  we define  $Z(\lambda) = \{x \in \Lambda^{\infty} : x(0,d(\lambda)) = \lambda\}$  and we call it a *cylinder set*. The cylinder sets  $\{Z(\lambda)\}$  are a basis for the topology on  $\Lambda^{\infty}$ . Note that since  $\Lambda$  is finite,  $\Lambda^{\infty}$  is compact.

## The Perron-Frobenius Measure on $\Lambda^\infty$

Let  $\Lambda$  be a strongly connected *k*-graph with vertex matrices  $A_1, \ldots, A_k$ . Because  $\Lambda$  is strongly connected, these matrices will be irreducible and nonnegative. Because of the factorization property of *k*-graphs, these matrices will commute.

The Perron-Frobenius theory shows that there is a unique common nonnegative unimodular Perron-Frobenius eigenvector  $x^{\Lambda}$  for the vertex matrices  $A_i$ . We will call  $x^{\Lambda}$  the Perron-Frobenius eigenvector of the k-graph  $\Lambda$ .

Eigenvalues associated to  $x^{\Lambda}$  are called the Perron-Frobenius eigenvalues. The Perron-Frobenius eigenvalue for  $A_i$  is the spectral radius  $\rho(A_i)$  of  $A_i$ .

## The Measure on $\Lambda^{\infty}$ , continued

The following definition was originally given in Proposition 8.1 of [aHLRS2].

## Definition 3

Let  $\Lambda$  be a strongly connected finite k-graph with the vertex matrices  $A_i$ . Define a measure M on cylinder sets of  $\Lambda^{\infty}$  by

$$M(Z(\lambda)) = \rho(\Lambda)^{-d(\lambda)} x^{\Lambda}_{s(\lambda)} \quad \text{for all } \lambda \in \Lambda, \tag{1}$$

where  $\rho(\Lambda) = (\rho(A_1), \dots, \rho(A_k))$  and  $x^{\Lambda}$  is the unimodular Perron-Frobenius eigenvector of  $\Lambda$  described in the previous slide. We call *M* the Perron-Frobenius measure on the infinite path space  $\Lambda^{\infty}$ .

# The representation of $C^*(\Lambda)$ on $L^2(\Lambda^{\infty}, M)$

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To construct the representation of the graph algebra  $C^*(\Lambda)$  on  $L^2(\Lambda^{\infty}, M)$  we need to construct partial isometries satisfying the CK conditions.

#### More on the infinite path space

Notation: Let  $\Lambda$  be a strongly connected finite *k*-graph. Define for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  a "prefixing map"  $\sigma_{\lambda} : Z(s(\lambda)) \subset \Lambda^{\infty} \to Z(\lambda) \subset \Lambda^{\infty}$ by  $\sigma_{\lambda}(x) = \lambda x$ , and define "coding maps"  $\{\sigma^m : \Lambda^{\infty} \to \Lambda^{\infty}\}_{m \in \mathbb{N}^k}$ by  $\sigma^m(x) = x(m, \infty)$ . (Note the "prefixing maps" insert a "shape", and the "coding maps" delete a "shape" from a path.) Then

(a) For each  $m \in \mathbb{N}^k$ , the family  $\{\sigma_{\lambda} : d(\lambda) = m\}$  and  $\sigma_m$  satisfy

$$\sigma^m(\sigma_\lambda(x)) = x, x \in Z(\lambda).$$

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(b) If v ∈ Λ<sup>0</sup>, then σ<sub>v</sub> = id, and M(Z(v)) > 0.
(c) Let R<sub>λ</sub> = σ<sub>λ</sub>(Z(λ)). For each λ ∈ Λ, ν ∈ s(λ)Λ, we have R<sub>ν</sub> ⊆ Z(λ) (up to a set of measure 0), and σ<sub>λ</sub>σ<sub>ν</sub> = σ<sub>λν</sub> a.e.
(d) The coding maps satisfy σ<sup>m</sup> ∘ σ<sup>n</sup> = σ<sup>m+n</sup> for any m, n ∈ N<sup>k</sup>.

The representation of  $C^*(\Lambda)$  on  $L^2(\Lambda^{\infty}, M)$  :

We say that a k-graph  $\Lambda$  is aperiodic if for each  $v \in \Lambda^0$ , there exists  $x \in Z(v)$  such that for all  $m \neq n \in \mathbb{N}^k$ , we have  $\sigma^m(x) \neq \sigma^n(x)$ . Theorem 4 (FGKP)

Let  $\Lambda$  be a finite k-graph with no sources, and let the prefixing maps  $\{\sigma_{\lambda} : Z(s(\lambda)) \subset \Lambda^{\infty} \to Z(\lambda) \subset \Lambda^{\infty}\}$  and coding maps  $\{\sigma^m : \Lambda^{\infty} \to \Lambda^{\infty}\}_{m \in \mathbb{N}^k}$  be defined on the measure space  $(\Lambda^{\infty}, M)$ as previously. For each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , define  $S_{\lambda} \in B(L^2(\Lambda^{\infty}, M))$  by

 $S_{\lambda}\xi(x) = \chi_{Z(\lambda)}(x)\rho(\Lambda)^{d(\lambda)/2}\xi(\sigma^{d(\lambda)}(x)).$ 

Then the operators  $\{S_{\lambda}\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  generate a representation of  $C^{*}(\Lambda)$ . If  $\Lambda$  is aperiodic then this representation is faithful. Example of this representation



In this example, we set our factorization rules to be:

 $f_2e = ef_1$  and  $f_1e = ef_2$ 

By these factorization rules, we see that if a particular infinite path in  $x \in \Lambda^{\infty}$  has infinitely many of both  $\{e\}$  and  $\{f_i\}_{i=1}^2$ , it can be chosen to be of the form

$$ef_{i_1}ef_{i_2}ef_{i_3}\cdots$$

The two incidence matrices corresponding to the two colorad of edges and one vertex are  $1 \times 1$  and we have  $(A_1) = (1)$ ,  $(A_2) = (2)$ . Therefore the Perron Frobenius-measure on cylinder sets is:

$$M(Z(e)) = 1, \ M(Z(ef_i)) = 1/2, \ i = 1, 2, \ \text{etc.}$$

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#### Representation example, continued

Using the Theorem, we will find isometries  $S_e$ ,  $S_{f_1}$ , and  $S_{f_2}$  on  $L^2(\Lambda^{\infty}, M)$  satisfying

$$S_e^* S_e = S_{f_1}^* S_{f_1} = S_{f_2}^* S_{f_2} = \mathsf{Id},$$
  
$$S_e S_e^* = S_{f_1} S_{f_1}^* + S_{f_2} S_{f_2}^* = \mathsf{Id}.$$

and finally

$$S_e S_{f_1} = S_{f_2} S_e, \ S_e S_{f_2} = S_{f_1} S_e.$$

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So, for  $\xi \in L^2(\Lambda^{\infty}, M)$  and  $x \equiv ef_{i_1}ef_{i_2}ef_{i_3}\cdots$ ,

#### Representation example, conclusion

we calculate

 $S_e(\xi)(x) = \chi_{Z(e)}(x) 1^{1/2} 2^{0/2} \xi(\sigma^{(1,0)}x) = \xi(ef_{i_1+1}ef_{i_2+1}ef_{i_3+1}\cdots);$ 

where the addition in the subscripts of f is taken modulo 2, and

 $S_{f_1}(\xi)(x) = 2^{1/2} \chi_{Z(f_1)}(x) \xi(\sigma^{(0,1)}x) = 2^{1/2} \chi_{Z(f_1)}(x) \xi(ef_{i_2+1}ef_{i_3+1}\cdots);$ 

 $S_{f_2}(\xi)(x) = \chi_{Z(f_2)}(x) 1^{0/2} 2^{1/2} \xi(\sigma^{(0,1)}x) = 2^{1/2} \chi_{Z(f_2)}(x) \xi(ef_{i_2+1}ef_{i_3+1}\cdots)$ and verify that the appropriate CK relations are satisfied.

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#### Wavelets associated to the representations of $C^*(\Lambda)$

We now follow generalize a construction of M. Marcolli and A. Paolucci for Cuntz-Krieger  $C^*$ -algebras (these are  $C^*$ -algebras associated to directed graphs, k = 1.) Their work in turn was motivated by work of A. Jonnson. In the process, we construct an orthogonal decomposition of  $L^2(\Lambda^{\infty}, M)$ , which we call a wavelet decomposition. We have extended the construction to obtain wavelets corresponding to an arbitrary positive degree, thus answering a question posed by Aidan Sims.

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### Wavelets associated to the representations of $C^*(\Lambda)$ , continued

To construct orthogonal subspaces of  $L^2(\Lambda^{\infty}, M)$ , we first set the initial space  $\mathcal{V}_{0,\lambda}$  equal to the subspace spanned by the functions  $\{\Theta_{\mathbf{v}} : \mathbf{v} \in \Lambda^0\}$ . Note that the functions  $\{\Theta_{\mathbf{v}} : \mathbf{v} \in \Lambda^0\}$  form an orthogonal set in  $L^2(\Lambda^{\infty}, M)$ , whose span includes the constant functions on  $\Lambda^{\infty}$ .

To construct the wavelet subspace  $\mathcal{W}_{0,\Lambda}$ , fix  $v \in \Lambda^0$ , and fix  $(j_1, j_2, \cdots, j_k) \in [\mathbb{N}^+]^k$ . Let

 $D_{\mathbf{v}} = \{\lambda : d(\lambda) = (j_1, \ldots, j_k) \text{ and } r(\lambda) = \mathbf{v}\},\$ 

and write  $d_v$  for  $|D_v|$  (since  $\Lambda$  is a finite k-graph,  $d_v < \infty$ ).

Wavelets associated to the representations of  $C^*(\Lambda)$ , continued Define an inner product on  $\mathbb{C}^{d_v}$  by

$$\langle \vec{v}, \vec{w} \rangle = \sum_{\lambda \in D_{v}} \overline{v_{\lambda}} w_{\lambda} \rho(\Lambda)^{(-j_{1}, \dots, -j_{k})} x_{s(\lambda)}^{\Lambda}$$
(2)

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and let  $\{c^{m,v}\}_{m=1}^{d_v-1}$  be an orthonormal basis for the orthogonal complement of  $(1, \ldots, 1) \in \mathbb{C}^{D_v}$  with respect to this inner product.

For each pair (m, v) with  $1 \le m \le d_v - 1$  and v a vertex in  $\Lambda^0$ , define

$$f^{m,v} = \sum_{\lambda \in D_v} c_{\lambda}^{m,v} \Theta_{\lambda}.$$

Wavelets associated to the representations of  $C^*(\Lambda)$ , continued

By the definition of M on  $\Lambda^{\infty}$ , since the vectors  $c^{m,v}$  are orthogonal to  $(1, \dots, 1)$  in the inner product (2), we have

$$\int_{\Lambda^{\infty}} f^{m,v} \, dM = 0.$$

We also easily check

$$\int_{\Lambda^{\infty}} f^{m,v} \overline{f^{m',v'}} \, dM = \delta_{v,v'} \delta_{m,m'},$$

so that  $\{f^{m,v}\}$  are an orthonormal set in  $L^2(\Lambda^{\infty}, M)$ .

Following Marcolli and Paolucci, we define the wavelet subspace

$$\mathcal{W}_{0,\Lambda} := \overline{\operatorname{span}}\{f^{m,v} : v \in \Lambda^0, 1 \le m \le d_v - 1\}.$$

#### Wavelets associated to the representations of $C^*(\Lambda)$ , main theorem

# Theorem 5 (FGKP)

Let  $\Lambda$  be a strongly connected finite k-graph. For each fixed  $j \in \mathbb{N}_+$  and  $v \in \Lambda^0$ , let  $C_{j,v} := \{\lambda \in \Lambda : s(\lambda) = v, d(\lambda) = (j \cdot j_1, j \cdot j_2, \dots, j \cdot j_k)\}$ , and let  $S_{\lambda}$  be the operator on  $L^2(\Lambda^{\infty}, M)$  described in Theorem 4. Then  $\{S_{\lambda}f^{m,v} : v \in \Lambda^0, \lambda \in C_{j,v}, 1 \le m \le d_v - 1\}$  is an orthonormal set, so that for  $\lambda \in C_{j,v}, \mu \in C_{i,v'}$  with 0 < i < j, we have  $\int_{\Lambda^{\infty}} S_{\lambda}f^{m,v} \overline{S_{\mu}f^{m',v'}} dM = 0 \forall m, m'.$ 

Thus, defining

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{W}_{j,\Lambda} &:= \overline{span} \{ S_{\lambda} f^{m,v} : v \in \Lambda^0, \lambda \in C_{j,v}, 1 \leq m \leq d_v - 1 \} \text{ for } \\ j \geq 1, \text{ we obtain an orthogonal decomposition} \\ L^2(\Lambda^{\infty}, M) &= \mathcal{V}_0 \oplus \bigoplus_{j=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{W}_{j,\Lambda}. \end{split}$$

Example of wavelet decomposition for 2-graph algebra:

## Example 6

We return to the case where  $\Lambda$  has one vertex and three edges (two blue  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  and one red, e). Let M be the Perron-Frobenius measure on  $\Lambda^{\infty}$ , let  $\phi$  be the constant function 1 on  $\Lambda^{\infty}$ , let  $(j_1, j_2) = (1, 1)$ , and let

 $\psi = \chi_{Z(ef_1)} - \chi_{Z(ef_2)}.$ 

By using the theorem or direct calculation we verify that

 $\{\phi\} \cup \cup_{j=0}^{\infty} \{S_{\lambda}(\psi) : \lambda \in \Lambda, d(\lambda) = (j, j)\}$ 

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is an orthonormal basis for  $L^2(\Lambda^{\infty})$ .

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