

# Cuntz-Pimsner Algebras and a potential $L^p$ version

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# Outline

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# Operator Algebras.

We denote by  $\mathcal{L}(E)$  the bounded linear operator on a Banach space  $E$ . This is a Banach algebra with norm

$$\|a\| := \sup_{\|\xi\|=1} \|a(\xi)\|$$

- If  $\mathcal{H}$  is a Hilbert space, any  $a \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  has an adjoint  $a^* \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  characterized by  $\langle a(\xi), \eta \rangle = \langle \xi, a^*(\eta) \rangle$ .
- If  $\mathcal{H}$  is a Hilbert space,  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$  is a norm closed selfadjoint subalgebra of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ .
- If  $(X, \mu)$  is a measure space and  $p \in [1, \infty)$ , an  $L^p$ -operator algebra  $A$  is a norm closed subalgebra of  $\mathcal{L}(L^p(X, \mu))$ .

$\mathcal{O}_d$ 

Let  $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 2}$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  an infinite dimensional separable Hilbert space. Then, there are elements  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_d \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  such that

$$s_j^* s_j = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{j=1}^d s_j s_j^* = 1 \quad (1)$$

For  $d = 2$ . Let  $\{\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots\}$  be an orthonormal basis for  $\mathcal{H}$ . Define  $s_j : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  for  $j = 1, 2$  by

$$s_1(\xi_n) = \xi_{2n} \quad \text{and} \quad s_2(\xi_n) = \xi_{2n-1} \quad n \geq 1$$

One quickly checks that

$$s_1^*(\xi_n) = \begin{cases} \xi_{n/2} & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ 0 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad s_2^*(\xi_n) = \begin{cases} \xi_{(n+1)/2} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ 0 & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

$$s_1^* s_1 = 1 = s_2^* s_2$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & s_1 & & s_1^* & \\
 \xi_1 & \mapsto & \xi_2 & \mapsto & \xi_1 \\
 \xi_2 & \mapsto & \xi_4 & \mapsto & \xi_2 \\
 \xi_3 & \mapsto & \xi_6 & \mapsto & \xi_3 \\
 \xi_4 & \mapsto & \xi_8 & \mapsto & \xi_4 \\
 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{and} \quad
 \begin{array}{ccccc}
 & s_2 & & s_2^* & \\
 \xi_1 & \mapsto & \xi_1 & \mapsto & \xi_1 \\
 \xi_2 & \mapsto & \xi_3 & \mapsto & \xi_2 \\
 \xi_3 & \mapsto & \xi_5 & \mapsto & \xi_3 \\
 \xi_4 & \mapsto & \xi_7 & \mapsto & \xi_4 \\
 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots
 \end{array}$$

Therefore,  $s_1^* s_1 = 1 = s_2^* s_2$ .

$$s_1 s_1^* + s_2 s_2^* = 1$$

	$s_1^*$		$s_1$			$s_2^*$		$s_2$	
$\xi_1$	$\mapsto 0$		$\mapsto 0$		and	$\xi_1$	$\mapsto \xi_1$	$\mapsto \xi_1$	
$\xi_2$	$\mapsto \xi_1$		$\mapsto \xi_2$			$\xi_2$	$\mapsto 0$	$\mapsto 0$	
$\xi_3$	$\mapsto 0$		$\mapsto 0$			$\xi_3$	$\mapsto \xi_2$	$\mapsto \xi_3$	
$\xi_4$	$\mapsto \xi_2$		$\mapsto \xi_4$			$\xi_4$	$\mapsto 0$	$\mapsto 0$	
$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\vdots$			$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	

Hence,  $s_1 s_1^* + s_2 s_2^* = 1$ .

# Universal Property for $\mathcal{O}_2$

## Definition

We define  $\mathcal{O}_d$ , the Cuntz algebra of order  $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 2}$ , as the sub- $C^*$  algebra in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  generated by  $s_1, \dots, s_d$ .

The algebra  $\mathcal{O}_d$  is a simple, unital  $C^*$ -algebra and has the following universal property: If  $A$  is a unital  $C^*$ -algebra containing elements  $a_1, \dots, a_d$  such that

$$a_j^* a_j = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{j=1}^d a_j a_j^* = 1,$$

then there is a unique  $*$ -homomorphism  $\varphi : \mathcal{O}_d \rightarrow A$  such that  $\varphi(s_j) = a_j$ .

## Definition

For  $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 2}$ , look at the generating isometries  $s_1, \dots, s_{d+1} \in \mathcal{O}_{d+1}$  and let  $\mathcal{E}_d$  be the sub- $C^*$  algebra in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  generated by  $s_1, \dots, s_d$ . That is,  $\mathcal{E}_d$  is the universal unital  $C^*$ -algebra generated by  $d$  isometries, whose orthogonal ranges do not add up to 1.

The Cuntz algebra  $\mathcal{O}_d$  has elements satisfying the relations of  $\mathcal{E}_d$ , so by universality there is a surjective map  $\mathcal{E}_d \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_d$ . The kernel of this map is the ideal in  $\mathcal{E}_d$  generated by  $s_{d+1}s_{d+1}^* = 1 - \sum_j^d s_j s_j^*$ , which we denote by  $\mathcal{J}_d$ . Then  $\mathcal{E}_d/\mathcal{J}_d \cong \mathcal{O}_d$ .



# $A$ -valued right inner product.

## Definition

Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra and  $E$  a complex vector space which is also a right  $A$ -module. An  **$A$ -valued right inner product on  $E$**  is a map

$$\begin{aligned} E \times E &\rightarrow A \\ (\xi, \eta) &\mapsto \langle \xi, \eta \rangle_A \end{aligned}$$

such that for any  $\xi, \eta, \eta_1, \eta_2 \in E$ ,  $a \in A$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  we have

- 1  $\langle \xi, \eta_1 + \alpha\eta_2 \rangle_A = \langle \xi, \eta_1 \rangle_A + \alpha\langle \xi, \eta_2 \rangle_A.$
- 2  $\langle \xi, \eta a \rangle_A = \langle \xi, \eta \rangle_A a.$
- 3  $\langle \xi, \eta \rangle_A^* = \langle \eta, \xi \rangle_A.$
- 4  $\langle \xi, \xi \rangle_A \geq 0$  in  $A.$
- 5  $\langle \xi, \xi \rangle_A = 0 \implies \xi = 0.$

# Hilbert Modules

## Definition

Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra. A **Hilbert  $A$ -module** is a complex vector space  $E$  which is a right  $A$ -module with an  $A$ -valued right inner product and so that  $E$  is complete with the norm

$$\|\xi\| := \|\langle \xi, \xi \rangle_A\|^{1/2}.$$

We say that  $E$  is **full** if

$$\text{span}\langle E, E \rangle_A := \text{span}\{\langle \xi, \eta \rangle_A : \xi, \eta \in E\}$$

is dense in  $A$ .

# Hilbert Modules: Examples

## Example

Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a Hilbert space with the physicists convention that the inner product is linear in the second variable. Then,  $\mathcal{H}$  is clearly a full Hilbert  $\mathbb{C}$ -module.

## Example

Any  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$  is clearly a full Hilbert  $A$ -module with inner product given by  $(a, b) \mapsto a^*b$ . More generally,  $A^n$  is also a full Hilbert  $A$ -module with the obvious “euclidean” inner product.

## Example

The set of continuous sections of a vector bundle over a compact Hausdorff space  $X$  equipped with a Riemannian metric  $g$  is a Hilbert  $C(X)$ -module.

# Direct Sum of Hilbert Modules

## Example

If  $(E_\lambda)_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  is an arbitrary family of Hilbert  $A$ -modules, we can form their direct sum

$$\bigoplus_{\lambda \in \Lambda} E_\lambda := \left\{ \xi = (\xi_\lambda)_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \in \prod_{\lambda \in \Lambda} E_\lambda : \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \langle \xi_\lambda, \xi_\lambda \rangle \text{ converges in } A \right\}$$

which is a right  $A$ -module with coordinate-wise action and it becomes a Hilbert  $A$ -module when equipped with the well defined  $A$ -valued inner product

$$\langle \xi, \eta \rangle := \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \langle \xi_\lambda, \eta_\lambda \rangle$$

# Adjointable maps

A main difference between Hilbert modules and Hilbert spaces is that not every bounded linear map between Hilbert  $A$ -modules has an adjoint.

## Definition

Let  $E$  and  $F$  be Hilbert  $A$ -modules. A map  $t : E \rightarrow F$  is said to be **adjointable** if there is a map  $t^* : F \rightarrow E$  such that for any  $\xi \in E$ , and  $\eta \in F$

$$\langle t(\xi), \eta \rangle = \langle \xi, t^*(\eta) \rangle$$

The space of adjointable maps from  $E$  to  $F$  is denoted by  $\mathcal{L}_A(E, F)$  and  $\mathcal{L}_A(E) := \mathcal{L}_A(E, E)$ .

It's almost immediate that adjointable maps between Hilbert modules are linear and bounded. A standard argument shows that  $\mathcal{L}_A(E)$  is a  $C^*$ -algebra when equipped with the operator norm.

# Generalized Compact Operators

We will have special interest for a particular case of adjointable maps, those of “rank 1”:

## Definition

Let  $E$  and  $F$  be Hilbert  $A$ -modules. For  $\xi \in E$  and  $\eta \in F$ , we define a map  $\theta_{\xi,\eta} : F \rightarrow E$  by

$$\theta_{\xi,\eta}(\zeta) := \xi \langle \eta, \zeta \rangle_A$$

One easily checks that

- $\theta_{\xi,\eta} \in \mathcal{L}_A(E, F)$
- $(\theta_{\xi,\eta})^* = \theta_{\eta,\xi} \in \mathcal{L}_A(F, E)$
- $\|\theta_{\xi,\eta}\| \leq \|\xi\| \|\eta\|$

# Generalized Compact Operators

The maps  $\theta_{\xi,\eta}$  give an analogues of the of rank-one operators on Hilbert spaces. So, we define an analogues of the compact operators by letting

$$\mathcal{K}_A(E, F) := \overline{\text{span}\{\theta_{\xi,\eta} : \xi \in E, \eta \in F\}}$$

It's also not hard to verify that  $\mathcal{K}_A(E) := \mathcal{K}_A(E, E)$  is a closed two sided ideal in  $\mathcal{L}_A(E)$ , whence  $\mathcal{K}(E)$  is also a  $C^*$ -algebra.

# $C^*$ -correspondences

## Definition

Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra. A  $C^*$ -correspondence over  $A$  is a pair  $(E, \varphi)$  where  $E$  is a Hilbert right  $A$ -module and a  $\varphi : A \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_A(E)$  is a  $*$ -homomorphism.

## Remark

Even though it's not strictly necessary, from now on we will assume that the map  $\varphi$  of a  $C^*$ -correspondence over  $A$  is injective and therefore isometric. This is done for simplicity.



# Inner Tensor Product

Given  $(E, \varphi_E)$  and  $(F, \varphi_F)$  two  $C^*$ -correspondence over  $A$ , we use the inner tensor product construction to produce  $(E \otimes_{\varphi_F} F, \widetilde{\varphi_E})$ , a new  $C^*$ -correspondence over  $A$ .

More precisely,  $E \otimes_{\varphi_F} F$  is a Hilbert module such that the middle action is glued:

$$\xi a \otimes \eta - \xi \otimes \varphi_F(a)\eta = 0,$$

it's an  $A$ -module with right action satisfying

$$(\xi \otimes \eta)a = \xi \otimes (\eta a),$$

it has an  $A$ -valued right inner product such that

$$\langle \xi_1 \otimes \eta_1, \xi_1 \otimes \eta_2 \rangle = \langle \eta_1, \varphi_F(\langle \xi_1, \xi_2 \rangle) \eta_2 \rangle.$$

# Inner Tensor Product

In fact,  $E \otimes_{\varphi_F} F$  is the completion of the algebraic tensor product  $E \odot_A F$  with respect to the norm induced by the above inner product.

Finally,  $\widetilde{\varphi}_E : A \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_A(E \otimes_{\varphi_F} F)$  is defined on elementary tensors by

$$\widetilde{\varphi}_E(a)(\xi \otimes \eta) = (\varphi_E(a)(\xi)) \otimes \eta$$

From now on we'll do an abuse of notation and drop the  $\sim$  on top of  $\varphi_F$ . In fact, any adjointable map acting on a Hilbert  $A$  module, also acts on  $E \otimes -$  by only acting on the  $E$  portion.

# The Fock space

## Definition

Given  $(E, \varphi)$  a  $C^*$ -correspondence over  $A$ , the Fock space of  $E$  is the Hilbert  $A$ -module given by

$$\mathcal{F}(E) := \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} E^{\otimes n},$$

where  $E^{\otimes 0} := A$  and  $E^{\otimes n} := \underbrace{E \otimes_{\varphi} \dots \otimes_{\varphi} E}_{n \text{ times}}$ .

An arbitrary element of  $\mathcal{F}(E)$  is a tuple  $(\kappa_n)_{n \geq 0}$  where each  $\kappa_n$  is an element of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  degree tensor product of  $E$ .

# Creation and Annihilation Operators

For a fixed  $\xi \in E$  and any  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$  we have a *creation operator*  $c_\xi : E^{\otimes n} \rightarrow E^{\otimes(n+1)}$  given by

$$c_\xi(\eta) := \xi \otimes \eta, \quad \forall \eta \in E^{\otimes n}$$

If  $n = 0$  we set  $c_\xi : A \rightarrow E$

$$c_\xi(a) := \xi a, \quad \forall a \in A$$

Each  $c_\xi$  is an adjointable map where, if  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$ ,  $c_\xi^* : E^{\otimes(n+1)} \rightarrow E^{\otimes n}$  is an *annihilation operator*, satisfying

$$c_\xi^*(\zeta \otimes \eta) = \varphi(\langle \xi, \zeta \rangle)\eta, \quad \forall \zeta \in E, \eta \in E^{\otimes n}$$

and  $c_\xi^* : E \rightarrow A$  is simply

$$c_\xi^*(\zeta) = \langle \xi, \zeta \rangle, \quad \forall \zeta \in E,$$

# Creation and Annihilation Operators

Notice that  $c_\xi$  increases the degree by one, whereas  $c_\xi^*$  decreases the degree by one. Let  $\xi, \zeta \in E$  and  $n \geq 0$ . The map  $c_\xi^* c_\zeta : E^{\otimes n} \rightarrow E^{\otimes n}$  satisfies:

$$c_\xi^* c_\zeta = \varphi(\langle \xi, \zeta \rangle) \in \mathcal{L}_A(E^{\otimes n}),$$

Also the map  $c_\xi c_\zeta^* : E^{\otimes(n+1)} \rightarrow E^{\otimes(n+1)}$ , satisfies

$$c_\xi c_\zeta^* = \theta_{\xi, \zeta} \in \mathcal{L}_A(E^{\otimes(n+1)}).$$

We abuse notation and consider the elements  $c_\xi$  as elements of  $\mathcal{L}_A(\mathcal{F}(E))$  acting coordinate-wise:

$$c_\xi((\kappa_n)_{n \geq 0}) := (c_\xi(\kappa_n))_{n \geq 0} \quad \text{and} \quad c_\xi^*((\kappa_n)_{n \geq 0}) := (c_\xi^*(\kappa_n))_{n \geq 1}$$

## Definition

Let  $(E, \varphi)$  be a  $C^*$ -correspondence over  $A$ . We define  $\mathcal{T}_E$ , the Toeplitz algebra of  $E$ , as the  $C^*$ -subalgebra in  $\mathcal{L}_A(\mathcal{F}(E))$  generated by the creation operators  $\{c_\xi : \xi \in E\}$ .

Universal property: Suppose  $B$  is another  $C^*$ -algebra and that there is a  $*$ -homomorphism  $\pi : A \rightarrow B$ , a linear map  $t : E \rightarrow B$  such that

- ①  $t(\xi)^*t(\zeta) = \pi(\langle \xi, \zeta \rangle)$  for  $\xi, \zeta \in E$ ,
- ②  $\pi(a)t(\xi) = t(\varphi(a)\xi)$

Then  $\pi$  has a unique extension  $\hat{\pi} : \mathcal{T}_E \rightarrow B$  that sends  $c_\xi$  to  $t(\xi)$ .

## Theorem

Let  $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 2}$  and regard  $\mathbb{C}^d$  as a Hilbert  $\mathbb{C}$ -module. Let  $\varphi : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{C}^d)$  be given by

$$\varphi(z)(\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_d) := (z\zeta_1, \dots, z\zeta_d)$$

Then  $(\mathbb{C}^d, \varphi)$  is a  $C^*$  correspondence and  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{C}^d} \cong \mathcal{E}_d$ .

**Proof.** Consider  $v_1 := c_{(1,0)}$  and  $v_2 := c_{(0,1)}$ .

$$(v_1^* v_1) = c_{(1,0)}^* c_{(1,0)} = \varphi(\langle (1,0), (1,0) \rangle) = \varphi(1) = \text{id}$$

and similarly  $v_2^* v_2 = \text{id}$ . This gives a surjective  $*$ -homomorphism  $\psi : \mathcal{E}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{C}^2}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\pi : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_2$  be given by  $\pi(z) := z1$  and  $t : \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_2$  be given by

$$t(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) = \zeta_1 s_1 + \zeta_2 s_2$$

It's obvious that  $\pi$  is a  $*$ -homomorphism and that  $t$  is a linear map. Since  $s_j^* s_j = 1$ , we get

$$t(\zeta_1, \zeta_2)^* t(\eta_1, \eta_2) = (\overline{\zeta_1} \eta_1 + \overline{\zeta_2} \eta_2) 1 = \pi(\langle (\zeta_1, \zeta_2), (\eta_1, \eta_2) \rangle)$$

Finally,

$$\pi(z) t(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) = z 1 (\zeta_1 s_1 + \zeta_2 s_2) = z \zeta_1 s_1 + z \zeta_2 s_2 = t(\varphi(z)(\zeta_1, \zeta_2))$$

Hence, universality gives the  $*$ -homomorphism  $\hat{\pi} : \mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{C}^2} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_2$ , the inverse of  $\psi$ . ■



## Remark

Notice that  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{C}^2} \neq \mathcal{O}_2$ . Indeed, if  $v_1 := c_{(1,0)}$  and  $v_2 := c_{(0,1)}$  are as in the proof, then  $v_1v_1^* + v_2v_2^*$  does not quite act as the identity on all degrees of  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{C}^2)$ . In fact, it only fails to do so at degree 0, because the adjoint kills everything at  $n = 0$ . Indeed,

$$(v_1v_1^* + v_2v_2^*)((\kappa_n)_{n \geq 0}) = ((\kappa_n)_{n \geq 1})$$

Thus,  $1 - (v_1v_1^* + v_2v_2^*)$  is in fact a rank one operator who extracts the 0 coefficient, that is

$$1 - (v_1v_1^* + v_2v_2^*) = \theta_{(1,0,0,\dots), (1,0,0,\dots)}$$

This problem will no longer occur when we define the Cuntz-Pimsner algebra  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{C}^2}$ , as we will be taking a quotient by a set that contains  $1 - (v_1v_1^* + v_2v_2^*)$ .

# Killing some finite rank operators

## Definition

For a  $C^*$  correspondence  $(E, \varphi)$  over  $A$ , we define the ideal  $J_E := \varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{K}_A(E))$ .

## Lemma

Let  $(E, \varphi)$  be a  $C^*$  correspondence over  $A$ . Then  $\mathcal{F}(E)J_E$  is a Hilbert  $J_E$ -module and

$$\mathcal{K}_{J_E}(\mathcal{F}(E)J_E) = \overline{\text{span}}\{\theta_{\kappa a, \tau} : \kappa, \tau \in \mathcal{F}(E), a \in J_X\} \trianglelefteq \mathcal{L}_A(\mathcal{F}(E))$$

We will now consider the quotient  $C^*$ -algebra

$\mathcal{Q}_A(E) := \mathcal{L}_A(\mathcal{F}(E))/\mathcal{K}_{J_E}(\mathcal{F}(E)J_E)$  together with the quotient map  $q : \mathcal{L}_A(\mathcal{F}(E)) \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}_A(E)$ .



## Definition

Let  $(E, \varphi)$  be a  $C^*$ -correspondence over  $A$ . We define  $\mathcal{O}_E$ , the Cuntz-Pimsner algebra of  $E$ , as the  $C^*$ -subalgebra in  $\mathcal{Q}_A(E)$  generated by the image of the creation operators  $\{q(c_\xi) : \xi \in E\}$ .

Universal property. Suppose  $B$  is another  $C^*$ -algebra and that there is a  $*$ -homomorphism  $\pi : A \rightarrow B$ , a linear map  $t : E \rightarrow B$  s.t.

1.  $t(\xi)^*t(\zeta) = \pi(\langle \xi, \zeta \rangle)$  for  $\xi, \zeta \in E$ ,
2.  $\pi(a)t(\xi) = t(\varphi(a)\xi)$

Further, if  $\Theta_t : \mathcal{K}_A(E) \rightarrow B$  is s.t.  $\Theta_t(\theta_{\xi, \zeta}) = t(\xi)t(\zeta)^*$  for  $\xi, \zeta \in E$ , and suppose also that

3.  $\pi(a) = \Theta_t(\varphi(a))$  for  $a \in J_E$

Then there is a unique extension  $\hat{\pi} : \mathcal{O}_E \rightarrow B$  that sends  $q(c_\xi)$  to  $t(\xi)$ .

## Theorem

Let  $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 2}$  and regard  $\mathbb{C}^d$  as a Hilbert  $\mathbb{C}$ -module. Let  $\varphi : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{C}^d)$  be given by

$$\varphi(z)(\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_d) := (z\zeta_1, \dots, z\zeta_d)$$

Then  $(\mathbb{C}^d, \varphi)$  is a  $C^*$  correspondence and  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{C}^d} \cong \mathcal{O}_d$ .

**Proof.** We will show that  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{C}^2}$  fits the universal property for  $\mathcal{O}_2$ . Well, if  $v_1 := q(c_{(1,0)})$  and  $v_2 := q(c_{(0,1)})$ . Using our computations from the Toeplitz case we have

$$v_1^*v_1 = v_2^*v_2 = q(\text{id}_{\mathcal{L}_A(\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{C}^2))}) = 1$$

**Proof.** Notice that  $\theta_{(1,0,0,\dots),(1,0,0,\dots)} \in \mathcal{K}_{J_E}(\mathcal{F}(E)J_E)$  because in this case  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{C}^2) = \mathcal{K}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{C}^2)$  and therefore  $J_{\mathbb{C}^2} = \mathbb{C}$ . Thus, following the computations from a previous Remark we have

$$v_1 v_1^* + v_2 v_2^* = q(\text{id} - \theta_{(1,0,0,\dots),(1,0,0,\dots)}) = q(\text{id}) = 1$$

Hence, universality gives a surjective  $*$ -homomorphism  $\mathcal{O}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{C}^2}$  sending  $s_j$  to  $v_j$ , for  $j = 1, 2$ . Since  $\mathcal{O}_2$  is simple, such homomorphism has to be injective and we are done. ■

# The $L^p$ -Cuntz algebra

## Definition

Let  $d \geq 2$  be an integer. We define the **Leavitt algebra**  $L_d$  to be the universal complex unital algebra generated by elements  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_d, t_1, t_2, \dots, t_d$  satisfying

$$t_j s_k = \delta_{j,k} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{j=1}^d s_j t_j = 1$$

There is a well defined norm on  $L_d$  that comes from a particular kind of algebraic representations of  $L_d$  on  $\sigma$ -finite  $L^p$  spaces. The completion of  $L_d$  with respect to this norm is the  $L^p$ -Cuntz algebra  $\mathcal{O}_d^p$ .

I have been working on a Fock space-type construction for an  $L^p$  operator algebra  $A$  that yields a class of  $L^p$ -operator algebras that contains the  $L^p$ -Cuntz algebras. Looks like looking at the notion of Rigged Hilbert modules introduced by D.P. Blecher gives a reasonable starting point.

One needs to give an operator space type definition for  $L^p$  spaces. Some issues that might appear along the road will require to fix a representation  $\pi : A \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(L^p(X, \mu))$ , choose a particular tensor product and a particular type of completion.

# Questions?