

## A DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTERS ON THE INFINITE WREATH PRODUCT

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**ABSTRACT.** Let  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$  be the infinity permutation group and  $\Gamma$  an arbitrary group. Then  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$  admits a natural action on  $\Gamma^\infty$  by automorphisms, so one can form a semidirect product  $\Gamma^\infty \rtimes \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ , known as the *wreath product*  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  of  $\Gamma$  by  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$ . We obtain a full description of unitary  $II_1$ -factor-representations of  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  in terms of finite characters of  $\Gamma$ . Our approach is based on extending Okounkov's classification method for admissible representations of  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty \times \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ . Also, we discuss certain examples of representations of type *III*, where the *modular operator* of Tomita-Takesaki expresses naturally by the asymptotic operators, which are important in the theory of characters of  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$ .

### 1. INTRODUCTION

**1.1. A definition of the wreath product.** Let  $\mathbb{N}$  stand for the natural numbers. A bijection  $s : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is called *finite* if the set  $\{i \in \mathbb{N} | s(i) \neq i\}$  is finite. Define  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$  as the group of all finite bijections  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  and set  $\mathfrak{S}_n = \{s \in \mathfrak{S}_\infty | s(i) = i \forall i > n\}$ . For every group  $\Gamma$ , an element of  $\Gamma^n$  can always be written as an ordered collection  $[\gamma_k]_{k=1}^n = (\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_n)$ , where  $\gamma_k \in \Gamma$ . Let  $e$  be the unit of  $\Gamma$ . For any  $n > 1$  we identify the element  $(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_{n-1}) \in \Gamma^{n-1}$  with  $(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_{n-1}, e) \in \Gamma^n$  and set  $\Gamma_e^\infty = \varinjlim \Gamma^n$ . One can view  $\Gamma_e^\infty$  as a group of infinite ordered collections  $[\gamma_k]_{k=1}^\infty$  such that there are finitely many elements  $\gamma_k$  not equal to  $e$ . The *wreath product*  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_n$  is the semidirect product  $\Gamma^n \rtimes \mathfrak{S}_n$  for the natural permutation action of  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  on  $\Gamma^n$  (see [4]). In the same way, we define the group  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty = \Gamma_e^\infty \rtimes \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ .  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  can be also viewed as the inductive limit  $\varinjlim \Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_n$ . Using the embedding  $\gamma \in \Gamma^n \rightarrow (\gamma, \text{id}) \in \Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_n$  and  $s \in \mathfrak{S}_n \rightarrow (e^{(n)}, s) \in \Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_n$ , where  $e^{(n)} = (e, e, \dots, e)$  and  $\text{id}$  is the identical bijection, we may identify  $\Gamma^n$  and  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  with the corresponding subgroups in  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_n$ . If  $\Gamma$  is a topological group, then we equip  $\Gamma^n$  with the natural product topology. Furthermore, we will always consider  $\Gamma_e^\infty$  as a topological group with the inductive limit topology. As a set,  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  is just  $\Gamma_e^\infty \times \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ . Therefore, we equip  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  with the product topology, considering  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$  as a discrete topological space.

**1.2. The results.** In this paper we give a full classification of *indecomposable* characters (see Definitions (3)–(4)) on  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  (Theorem 9). Our approach is based on the semigroup method of Olshanski [7] and the ideas of Okounkov used in the study of *admissible* representations of the groups related to  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$  (see [2],[3]). We have noticed that two double cosets containing the transposition or  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  commute, as the elements of Olshanski semigroup. (see Lemma 17). This observation enables one to develop Okounkov's method for the group  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  (see Section 5). In Section 3 we discuss certain examples of representations of type *III*. The corresponding positive definite functions (p.d.f.)  $\varphi$  are not

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characters, but the following holds:

$$(1.1) \quad \varphi(sg) = \varphi(gs) \quad \text{for all } g \in \Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty \quad \text{and} \quad s \in \mathfrak{S}_\infty.$$

Hence the restriction  $\varphi|_{\mathfrak{S}_\infty}$  is a character. At that, the Okounkov’s asymptotic operators (see (4.4)) are naturally connected to the Tomita-Takesaki modular operator (see subsection 3.3). In fact, this observation is common for p.d.f. with the property (1.1). For those, we are going to produce a complete classification in a subsequent paper.

**1.3. The basic definition and the conjugacy classes.** Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a Hilbert space,  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  an algebra of all bounded operators in  $\mathcal{H}$ , and  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{H}}$  the identity operator in  $\mathcal{H}$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H})$  the unitary subgroup in  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . By a unitary representation of the topological group  $G$  we always mean a *continuous* homomorphism of  $G$  into  $\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H})$ , where  $\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H})$  is equipped with the strong operator topology.

**Definition 1.** A unitary representation  $\pi : G \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H})$  of  $G$  is called a factor-representation if the  $W^*$ -algebra  $\pi(G)''$  generated by the operators  $\pi(g)$  ( $g \in G$ ), is a factor.

**Definition 2.** A unitary representation  $\pi$  is called a factor-representation of finite type if  $\pi(G)''$  is a factor of type  $II_1$ .

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a factor of type  $II_1$  and  $\mathcal{M}$  a subalgebra of  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . If  $\pi(G) \subset \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{M}) = \mathcal{M} \cap \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $\text{tr}_{\mathcal{M}}$  is the unique normal, normalized ( $\text{tr}(I) = 1$ ) trace on  $\mathcal{M}$ , then it determines a *character*  $\phi_\pi^{\mathcal{M}}$  on  $G$  by  $\phi_\pi^{\mathcal{M}}(g) = \text{tr}_{\mathcal{M}}(\pi(g))$ .

**Definition 3.** A continuous function  $\phi$  on  $G$  is called a character if it satisfies the following properties:

- (a)  $\phi$  is central, that is,  $\phi(g_1g_2) = \phi(g_2g_1) \quad \forall g_1, g_2 \in G$ ;
- (b)  $\phi$  is positive definite, that is, for all  $g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n$  the matrix  $[\phi(g_jg_k^{-1})]_{j,k=1}^n$  is non-negatively definite;
- (c)  $\phi$  is normalized, that is,  $\phi(e_G) = 1$ , where  $e_G$  is the unit of  $G$ .

**Definition 4.** A character  $\phi$  is called *indecomposable* if the group representation corresponding to  $\phi$  (according to the GNS construction) is a factor-representation.

In this paper we obtain a complete description of indecomposable characters on  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  in the case when  $\Gamma$  is a separable topological group.

First, let us describe the conjugacy classes in  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ . Recall that the conjugacy classes in  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$  are parametrized by non-increasing sequences  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots)$  of natural numbers such that there are finitely many elements  $\lambda_k$  not equal to 1. Namely,  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots$  are the orders of cycles of a permutation  $s \in \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ . Furthermore, an element  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  can be written as a product of an element of  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$  and an element of  $\Gamma_e^\infty$ , and the commutation rule between these two kinds of elements is as follows:

$$(1.2) \quad s \cdot \gamma = s \cdot (\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots) = (\gamma_{s^{-1}(1)}, \gamma_{s^{-1}(2)}, \dots) \cdot s,$$

where  $s \in \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ ,  $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots) \in \Gamma_e^\infty$ .

By the analogy with the definition of a cycle in  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$  define the generalized cycle in  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ .

**Definition 5.** Say that element  $g = s \cdot \gamma \in \Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ , where  $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots)$  is generalized cycle if  $s$  is cycle and  $\{i \mid \gamma_i \neq e\} \subset \{i \mid s(i) \neq i\}$ .

Let  $s$  be any permutation. Denote  $\mathbb{N}/s$  the set of orbits of  $s$  on  $\mathbb{N}$ . Note that for  $p \in \mathbb{N}/s$  the permutation  $s_p$  given by

$$s_p(k) = \begin{cases} s(k), & \text{if } k \in p, \\ k, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

is a cycle of order  $|p|$ , where  $|p|$  stand for the cardinality of  $p$ . For  $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots) \in \Gamma_e^\infty$  define the element  $\gamma(p) = (\gamma_1(p), \gamma_2(p), \dots) \in \Gamma_e^\infty$  as follows:

$$(1.3) \quad \gamma_k(p) = \begin{cases} \gamma_k, & \text{if } k \in p, \\ e, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Thus, using (1.2), we have the decomposition of  $g = s \cdot \gamma$  onto generalized cycles

$$(1.4) \quad s \cdot \gamma = \prod_{p \in \mathbb{N}/s} s_p \cdot \gamma(p).$$

For an arbitrary group  $G$  denote by  $\mathfrak{c}_G(g)$  the conjugacy class of  $g \in G$ . Let  $g = s \cdot \gamma \in \Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ . Note that for any orbit  $p \in \mathbb{N}/s$  and any  $k_p \in p$  the conjugacy class  $\mathfrak{c}_\Gamma(\gamma_{k_p} \cdot \gamma_{s(k_p)} \cdots \gamma_{s^{(l)}(k_p)} \cdots \gamma_{s^{(|p|-1)}(k_p)})$  does not depend on choice of  $k_p$ . Define the invariant  $\mathfrak{i}(g)$  given by unordered  $\infty$ -tuples of pairs  $\left\{ (|p|, \mathfrak{c}_\Gamma(\gamma_{k_p} \cdot \gamma_{s(k_p)} \cdots \gamma_{s^{(l)}(k_p)} \cdots \gamma_{s^{(|p|-1)}(k_p)})) \right\}_{p \in \mathbb{N}/s}$ , where  $s^{(l)}$  is  $l$ -th iteration of  $s$  and  $k_p$  - any number from the orbit  $p$ . The following statement can be easily proved.

**Proposition 6.** *Let  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  be elements of  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ . Then  $\mathfrak{c}(g_1) = \mathfrak{c}(g_2)$  if and only if  $\mathfrak{i}(g_1) = \mathfrak{i}(g_2)$ .*

For any  $g = s \cdot \gamma \in \Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  denote  $\text{supp}(g) = \{i \in \mathbb{N} \mid s(i) \neq i \text{ or } \gamma_i \neq e\}$  and call this set the *support* of  $g$ . Define for any  $\iota \in \Gamma$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  the element  $\iota(\{k\}) = (\iota_1(\{k\}), \iota_2(\{k\}), \dots, \iota_l(\{k\}), \dots) \in \Gamma_e^\infty$  as follows:

$$(1.5) \quad \iota_l(\{k\}) = \begin{cases} \iota, & \text{if } l = k, \\ e, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**1.4. The multiplicativity.** The following claim gives a useful characterization of the class of indecomposable characters:

**Proposition 7.** *The following assumptions on a character  $\phi$  of  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  are equivalent:*

- (a)  $\phi$  is indecomposable;
- (b)  $\phi(g) = \prod_{p \in \mathbb{N}/s} \phi(s_p \cdot \gamma(p))$  for any  $g = s \cdot \gamma = \prod_{p \in \mathbb{N}/s} s_p \cdot \gamma(p)$  (see 1.4).

*Proof.* To prove the proposition, we consider the elements  $g = s \cdot \gamma$  and  $g' = s' \cdot \gamma'$  of  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  such that  $\text{supp}(g) \cap \text{supp}(g') = \emptyset$ . Then by the properties of the group  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  there exists a sequence  $\{s_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  such that

$$(1.6) \quad s_n \cdot g = g \cdot s_n \quad \text{and} \quad s_n g' s_n^{-1} \cdot h = h \cdot s_n g' s_n^{-1} \quad \text{for all } h \in \Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_n.$$

Suppose now that (a) holds. Using the GNS-construction, we produce the representation  $\pi_\phi$  of  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  which acts in a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}_\phi$  with a cyclic vector  $\xi_\phi$  such that

$$\phi(g) = (\pi_\phi(g) \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi).$$

Let  $A = w - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \pi_\phi(s_n \cdot g' s_n^{-1})$  be a limit of the sequence  $\pi_\phi(s_n \cdot g' s_n^{-1})$  in the *weak operator topology*. Using (1.6), we deduce by Definition 4 that  $A = a\mathcal{I}$ , where  $\mathcal{I}$  is the identity operator in  $\mathcal{H}_\phi$  and  $a$  a complex number. Therefore,

$$\phi(g \cdot g') = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi(g \cdot s_n \cdot g' \cdot s_n^{-1}) = \phi(g) \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi(s_n \cdot g' \cdot s_n^{-1}) = \phi(g) \cdot \phi(g').$$

Thus (b) follows from (a).

Conversely, suppose that (b) holds. For any subset  $\mathcal{S}$  of  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , define its commutant as follows:

$$\mathcal{S}' = \{T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \mid ST = TS \text{ for all } S \in \mathcal{S}\}.$$

If  $\pi_\phi(\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty)' \cap \pi_\phi(\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty)'' = \mathcal{Z}$  is larger than the scalars, then it contains a pair of orthogonal projections  $E$  and  $F$  with the properties

$$(1.7) \quad \phi(E) \neq 0, \quad \phi(F) \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad E \cdot F = 0.$$

By the von Neumann Double Commutant Theorem, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exist  $g_k^E, g_k^F \in \Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_n \subset \Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  ( $n < \infty$ ) and complex numbers  $c_k^E, c_k^F$  ( $k = 1, 2, \dots, N < \infty$ ) such that

$$(1.8) \quad \begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^N c_k^E \pi_\phi(g_k^E) \xi_\phi - E \xi_\phi \right\| &< \varepsilon \phi(E), \\ \left\| \sum_{k=1}^N c_k^F \pi_\phi(g_k^F) \xi_\phi - F \xi_\phi \right\| &< \varepsilon \phi(F). \end{aligned}$$

Consider the bijection

$$\tau(j) = \begin{cases} j + n, & \text{if } j \leq n, \\ j - n, & \text{if } n < j \leq 2n, \\ j, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

By Definition (3), use (1.8) to obtain

$$(1.9) \quad \begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{k=1}^N c_k^E \pi_\phi(\tau g_k^E \tau) \xi_\phi - E \xi_\phi \right\| &< \varepsilon \phi(E), \\ \left\| \sum_{k=1}^N c_k^F \pi_\phi(\tau g_k^F \tau) \xi_\phi - F \xi_\phi \right\| &< \varepsilon \phi(F). \end{aligned}$$

Now, using (b), (1.7), (1.8) and (1.9), we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\varepsilon \sqrt{\phi(E)\phi(F)} \left( \varepsilon \sqrt{\phi(E)\phi(F)} + \sqrt{\phi(E)} + \sqrt{\phi(F)} \right) \\ &> \left| \left( \sum_{k=1}^N c_k^E \pi_\phi(\tau g_k^E \tau) \cdot \sum_{k=1}^N c_k^F \pi_\phi(g_k^F) \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right) \right| \\ &> \left| \left( \sum_{k=1}^N c_k^E \pi_\phi(\tau g_k^E \tau) \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right) \cdot \left( \sum_{k=1}^N c_k^F \pi_\phi(\tau g_k^F \tau) \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right) \right| \\ &> \phi(E)\phi(F)(\varepsilon + 1)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\varepsilon > \left[ \frac{1 - \sqrt{\phi(F)}}{\sqrt{\phi(F)}} + \frac{1 - \sqrt{\phi(E)}}{\sqrt{\phi(E)}} \right]^{-1}.$$

Then, comparing this to (1.7), we get a contradiction.  $\square$

**1.5. The main result.** In [5], E. Thoma obtained the following remarkable description of all *indecomposable* characters of  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$ . The characters of  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$  are labeled by pairs of non-increasing positive sequences of numbers  $\{\alpha_k\}, \{\beta_k\}$  ( $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ) (which are called the Thoma parameters) such that

$$(1.10) \quad \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \beta_k \leq 1.$$

The value of the corresponding character on a permutation with a single cycle of length  $l$  is

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k^l + (-1)^{l-1} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \beta_k^l.$$

Its value on a permutation with several disjoint cycles equals the product of values on each cycle.

Let  $g = s \cdot \gamma$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{N}/s$  be one of the orbits of  $s$ . Then put

$$(1.11) \quad \tilde{\gamma}(p) = \gamma_k \cdot \gamma_{s^{-1}(k)} \cdots \gamma_{s^{(-l)}(k)} \cdots \gamma_{s^{(-|p|+1)}(k)}, \quad \text{where } (k \in p).$$

Now we define an analog of Thoma parameters for characters of the group  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ . Namely, let us call *Thoma parameters* the collection  $\varrho^0, \{\varrho^{\alpha_k}\}, \{\varrho^{\beta_k}\}, \{\alpha_k\}, \{\beta_k\}$ , where  $\varrho^0$  is the representation of  $\Gamma$  of *finite* type,  $\alpha = \{\alpha_k\}, \beta = \{\beta_k\}$  are non-increasing finite or infinite sequences of positive numbers,  $\varrho^\alpha = \{\varrho^{\alpha_k}\}$  and  $\varrho^\beta = \{\varrho^{\beta_k}\}$  are sequences of finite-dimensional irreducible representations of  $\Gamma$  such that  $\sum_k (\alpha_k \cdot \dim \varrho^{\alpha_k} + \beta_k \cdot \dim \varrho^{\beta_k}) \leq 1$ .

For Thoma parameters  $\varrho^0, \{\varrho^{\alpha_k}\}, \{\varrho^{\beta_k}\}, \{\alpha_k\}, \{\beta_k\}$  we define a function  $\phi = \phi_{\varrho^0, \varrho^\alpha, \varrho^\beta, \alpha, \beta}$  by the next three properties:

- (1) for  $g = s \cdot \gamma \in \Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  one has

$$\phi(g) = \prod_{p \in \mathbb{N}/s} \phi(s(p) \cdot \gamma(p)) \quad (\text{see (1.2) - (1.3)});$$

- (2) for the generalized cycle  $g = s \cdot \gamma$  (see definition 5) with  $p = \text{supp}(g)$  and  $s \neq \text{id}$  one has

$$\phi(g) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \alpha_k^{|p|} \cdot \text{Tr}(\varrho^{\alpha_k}(\tilde{\gamma}(p))) + (-1)^{|p|-1} \beta_k^{|p|} \cdot \text{Tr}(\varrho^{\beta_k}(\tilde{\gamma}(p))) \right);$$

- (3) for each  $\iota \in \Gamma$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  one has

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(\iota(\{n\})) &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\alpha_k \cdot \text{Tr}(\varrho^{\alpha_k}(\iota)) + \beta_k \cdot \text{Tr}(\varrho^{\beta_k}(\iota))) \\ &+ \left( 1 - \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} (\alpha_k \cdot \dim \varrho^{\alpha_k} + \beta_k \cdot \dim \varrho^{\beta_k}) \right) \text{tr}_0(\iota) \quad (\text{see (1.5)}), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\text{Tr}$  is the ordinary trace and  $\text{tr}_0$  is the normalized character of the representation  $\varrho^0$ .

**Proposition 8.** *The function  $\phi_{\varrho^0, \varrho^\alpha, \varrho^\beta, \alpha, \beta}$  is an indecomposable character (see definition 3).*

*Proof.* The realizations of the corresponding factor-representations we give in the section 2. □

Here is our main result.

**Theorem 9.** *If  $\phi$  is an indecomposable character on  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ , then there exist Thoma parameters  $\varrho^0, \{\varrho^{\alpha_k}\}, \{\varrho^{\beta_k}\}, \{\alpha_k\}, \{\beta_k\}$ , such that  $\phi = \phi_{\varrho^0, \varrho^\alpha, \varrho^\beta, \alpha, \beta}$ .*

## 2. REALIZATIONS OF $II_1$ -FACTOR-REPRESENTATIONS

A complete family of  $II_1$ -factor-representations of  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  can be constructed using the Vershik-Kerov [8], Olshanski [7] realizations or Okunkov methods (so called mixtures of representations) [3], found for the  $II_1$ -factor-representations of the infinite symmetric group  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$ . We follow the approach developed by Olshanski as it leads to less spadework.

**2.1. A construction of representations.** Let  $\{\alpha_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}, \{\beta_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  be two finite or infinite sets of the positive numbers from  $(0, 1)$  and let  $\varrho^{\alpha_k}$  and  $\varrho^{\beta_k}$  be unitary irreducible finite-dimensional representations of  $\Gamma$  that act in the Hilbert spaces  $\mathcal{H}^{\alpha_k}$  and  $\mathcal{H}^{\beta_k}$  correspondingly. We assume, that

$$\sum_k \alpha_k \cdot \dim \varrho^{\alpha_k} + \sum_k \beta_k \cdot \varrho^{\beta_k} \leq 1.$$

We set

$$\delta = 1 - \sum_k \alpha_k \cdot \dim \varrho^{\alpha_k} - \sum_k \beta_k \cdot \varrho^{\beta_k}.$$

Let  $\mathcal{H}^0$  stand for the Hilbert space, where acts the unitary representation of a finite type  $\varrho^0$  of  $\Gamma$ . Then the formula  $\text{tr}^0(\gamma) = (\varrho^0(\gamma)\xi^{(0)}, \xi^{(0)})_{\mathcal{H}^0}$  defines the character on  $\Gamma$ . We denote by  $(\varrho^{0k}, \mathcal{H}^{0k}, \xi^{(0k)})$  the  $k$ -th copy of the triplet  $(\varrho^0, \mathcal{H}^0, \xi^{(0)})$ .

Let  $\{e_j^{(\alpha_k)}\}_{1 \leq j \leq \dim \mathcal{H}^{\alpha_k}}$  be an orthonormal basis in  $\mathcal{H}^{\alpha_k}$ . Let

$$\mathbf{H} = \left( \left( \bigoplus_k \mathcal{H}^{\alpha_k} \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_k \mathcal{H}^{\beta_k} \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_k \mathcal{H}^{0k} \right) \right) \otimes \left( \left( \bigoplus_k \mathcal{H}^{\alpha_k} \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_k \mathcal{H}^{\beta_k} \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_k \mathcal{H}^{0k} \right) \right)$$

and let

$$\eta^{(m)} = \sum_k \sqrt{\alpha_k} \left( \sum_j e_j^{(\alpha_k)} \otimes e_j^{(\alpha_k)} \right) + \sum_k \sqrt{\beta_k} \left( \sum_j e_j^{(\beta_k)} \otimes e_j^{(\beta_k)} \right) + \sqrt{\delta} \xi^{(0m)} \otimes \xi^{(0m)}.$$

Define the unitary representation  $\varrho$  of  $\Gamma$  in  $\mathbf{H}$  as follows

$$(2.1) \quad \varrho = \left( \left( \bigoplus_k \varrho^{\alpha_k} \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_k \varrho^{\beta_k} \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_k \varrho^{0k} \right) \right) \otimes I,$$

We will identify  $\mathcal{H}^{\alpha_k} \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\alpha_k}, \mathcal{H}^{\beta_k} \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\beta_k}$  and  $\left( \bigoplus_k \mathcal{H}^{0k} \right) \otimes \left( \bigoplus_k \mathcal{H}^{0k} \right)$  with their images with respect in the natural embedding to  $\mathbf{H}$ . Denote by  $\mathbf{H}^m$  the  $m$ -th copy of the Hilbert space  $\mathbf{H}$  and consider the infinite tensor product

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{H}} = \bigotimes_m \left( \mathbf{H}^m, \eta^{(m)} \right).$$

It is convenient to represent  $\widetilde{\mathbf{H}}$  as the closure of the linear span of the vectors of the form

$$\zeta_1 \otimes \zeta_2 \otimes \dots \otimes \zeta_{m-1} \otimes \eta^{(m)} \otimes \eta^{(m+1)} \otimes \dots, \text{ where } \zeta_j \text{ is an any vector from } \mathbf{H}^j.$$

We extend the set  $\{e_j^{(\alpha_k)}\}_{j=1}^{\dim \mathcal{H}^{\alpha_k}} \cup \{e_j^{(\beta_k)}\}_{j=1}^{\dim \mathcal{H}^{\beta_k}}$  to an orthonormal basis  $\mathfrak{A}$  in  $\left( \bigoplus_k \mathcal{H}^{\alpha_k} \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_k \mathcal{H}^{\beta_k} \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_k \mathcal{H}^{0k} \right)$ . Now we fix the orthonormal basis

$$\mathfrak{B} = \{e_j \otimes e_l : e_j, e_l \in \mathfrak{A}\}$$

in  $\mathbf{H}$  and we assume below  $\zeta_j \in \mathfrak{B}$ . Let components of the vector  $\zeta = \zeta_1 \otimes \zeta_2 \otimes \dots \otimes \zeta_{m-1} \otimes \dots$  be of the form  $\zeta_j = v_j \otimes \tau_j$ . Define for  $\mathfrak{s} \in \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  the vector  $\mathfrak{s}(\zeta) = \vartheta_1 \otimes \vartheta_2 \otimes \dots \otimes \vartheta_{m-1} \otimes \dots$  as follows:

$$\vartheta_j = v_{\mathfrak{s}^{-1}(j)} \otimes \tau_j.$$

Now build the sequence  $j(\zeta) = \{j_1 < j_2 < \dots\}$  such, that

$$\zeta_{j_l} = e_m^{(\beta_k)} \otimes f \text{ for some } \beta_k \text{ and } m.$$

Let  $\mathbf{t}$  be a permutation for which  $\mathfrak{s}((j_{\mathbf{t}(1)})) < \mathfrak{s}((j_{\mathbf{t}(2)})) < \dots < \mathfrak{s}((j_{\mathbf{t}(l)})) < \dots$ .

Finally, we set  $\psi(\mathfrak{s}, \check{\zeta}) = \text{sgn}(\mathbf{t})$ . The corresponding representation  $\pi$  of  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  can be

realized in Hilbert space  $\check{\mathbf{H}}$  as follows:

$$(2.2) \quad \begin{aligned} & \pi(\gamma) \left( \zeta_1 \otimes \zeta_2 \otimes \dots \otimes \zeta_{m-1} \otimes \eta^{(m)} \otimes \dots \right) \\ &= \varrho(\gamma_1) \zeta_1 \otimes \varrho(\gamma_2) \zeta_2 \otimes \dots \otimes \varrho(\gamma_{m-1}) \zeta_{m-1} \otimes \varrho(\gamma_m) \eta^{(m)} \otimes \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{and for } \mathfrak{s} \in \mathfrak{S}_\infty \quad \pi(\mathfrak{s}) \left( \zeta_1 \otimes \zeta_2 \otimes \dots \otimes \zeta_{m-1} \otimes \dots \right) = \psi(\mathfrak{s}, \check{\zeta}) \mathfrak{s}(\check{\zeta}).$$

**2.2. The character's formula.** Set  $\check{\eta} = \bigotimes_m \eta^{(m)}$ . Assume that  $\mathfrak{s}$  is the cycle  $(1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow k-1 \rightarrow k)$ , where  $k > 1$ . Let  $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_k, e_\Gamma, e_\Gamma, \dots)$ . Routine calculations provide that

$$(2.3) \quad \left( \pi(\mathfrak{s}\gamma) \check{\eta}, \check{\eta} \right) = \sum_j \alpha_j^k \text{Tr}(\varrho^{\alpha_j}(\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \dots \gamma_k)) + \sum_j \beta_j^k \text{Tr}(\varrho^{\beta_j}(\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \dots \gamma_k)),$$

where  $\text{Tr}(\varrho^r(\gamma)) = \sum_{j=1}^{\dim \varrho^r} \varrho_{j,j}^r(\gamma)$ .

It is obvious, that

$$\left( \pi(\gamma) \check{\eta}, \check{\eta} \right) = \prod_{j=1}^k \left( \sum_i \alpha_i \text{Tr}(\varrho^{\alpha_i}(\gamma_j)) + \sum_i \beta_i \text{Tr}(\varrho^{\beta_i}(\gamma_j)) + (\varrho^0(\gamma_j) \xi^{(0)}, \xi^{(0)}) \right).$$

Since  $\text{tr}^0$  is a character on  $\Gamma$ , one can use (2.3) and the multiplicativity property (see Proposition 7) to obtain the following

**Corollary 10.** *Let  $\chi(g) = \left( \pi(g) \check{\eta}, \check{\eta} \right)$ . Then  $\chi$  is an indecomposable character on  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ .*

### 3. OTHER EXAMPLES

In this section we construct examples of *infinite* type representations of  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ . The corresponding positive definite functions are not characters. On the other hand they satisfy the following condition:

$$\varphi(sg) = \varphi(gs) \quad \text{for all } g \in G = \Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty \quad \text{and } s \in \mathfrak{S}_\infty.$$

In the generic case the representation  $\pi_\varphi$  built by GNS-construction from  $\varphi$  is of type *III*. Furthermore, the state  $\varphi$  on the  $W^*$ -algebra  $\pi_\varphi(G)''$  is faithful. These properties allow one to construct the Tomita-Takesaki modular operator  $\Delta_\varphi$ . Surprisingly,  $\Delta_\varphi$  is naturally related to the Okounkov operator  $\mathcal{O}_k$  (see (4.4)), which is an important object in the representation theory of symmetric group (see [2], [3]).

**3.1. A construction.** Let  $X_i = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{0, 1\} \times \{0, 1\}$ . Define a probability measure  $\nu_i$  on  $X_i$  by  $\nu_i((k, l)) = p_{kl}$ . Let  $(X, \mu) = \prod_i (X_i, \nu_i)$  and  $x = (x_i) \in X$ , where  $x_i = (x_i^{(0)}, x_i^{(1)}) \in X_i$ ,  $x_i^{(k)} \in \{0, 1\}$ . Define an action  $\mathfrak{a}$  of  $g = (s_0, s_1) \in \mathfrak{S}_\infty \times \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  on  $(X, \mu)$  as follows:

$$(\mathfrak{a}_g(x))_i^{(k)} = x_{s_k(i)}^{(k)} \quad (k = 0, 1).$$

*Remark 1.* The measure  $\mu$  is  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty \times \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ -quasiinvariant if and only if  $p_{ij} \neq 0$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1$ .

We are about to construct a unitary representation  $\pi_\mu$  of  $G \times G$  in  $L^2(X, \mu)$ . With  $\varsigma \in L^2(X, \mu)$  set

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{aligned} (\pi_\mu((s_0, s_1))\varsigma)(x) &= \left( \frac{d\mu(\mathbf{a}_g(x))}{d\mu(x)} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \varsigma(\mathbf{a}_g(x)), \\ (\pi_\mu((\gamma^{(0)}, \gamma^{(1)}))\varsigma)(x) &= (-1)^{\left( \sum_{i,k} \gamma_i^{(k)} x_i^{(k)} \right)} \varsigma(x), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\gamma^{(0)} = (\gamma_i^{(0)}) \in \mathbb{Z}_2^\infty$ ,  $\gamma^{(1)} = (\gamma_i^{(1)}) \in \mathbb{Z}_2^\infty$ , and  $(\gamma^{(0)}, \gamma^{(1)}) \in \mathbb{Z}_2^\infty \times \mathbb{Z}_2^\infty$ . Let  $\pi_\mu^{(0)}(g) = \pi_\mu((g, e_G))$  and  $\pi_\mu^{(1)}(g) = \pi_\mu((e_G, g))$ .

**Proposition 11.**  $\pi_\mu$  is irreducible. Hence,  $\pi_\mu^{(0)}$  and  $\pi_\mu^{(1)}$  are factor-representations of  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ .

*Proof.* Obvious. □

**3.2. A cyclic separating vector.** Let  $\mathbb{I}$  be an element of  $L^2(X, \mu)$  given by the function identically equal to 1.

**Theorem 12.** If  $\det[p_{ij}] \neq 0$ , then  $\mathbb{I}$  is a cyclic separating vector for  $\pi_\mu^{(0)}(G)''$  and  $\pi_\mu^{(1)}(G)''$ . That is,

$$\left[ \pi_\mu^{(0)}(G)''\mathbb{I} \right] = \left[ \pi_\mu^{(1)}(G)''\mathbb{I} \right] = L^2(X, \mu).$$

*Proof.* Let  $(k, l)$  be a transposition from  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$ . First notice that the operator

$$\mathcal{O}_k^{(j)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{l=1}^n \pi_\mu^{(j)}((k, l)) \quad (\text{see (4.4)})$$

belongs to  $\pi_\mu^{(j)}(G)''$  ( $j = 0, 1$ ). Since

$$(L^2(X, \mu), \mathbb{I}) = \bigotimes_{i=1}^{\infty} (L^2(X_i, \nu_i), \mathbb{I})$$

one can apply the law of large numbers to deduce that

$$\mathcal{O}_i^{(j)} = I \otimes I \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{O}_i^{(j,i)} \otimes I \otimes \dots$$

$i$ -th

Furthermore, if  $\chi_{kl}^{(i)}$  is the indicator of the point  $(k, l) \in X_i = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ , the matrices of  $\mathcal{O}_i^{(0,i)}$  and  $\mathcal{O}_i^{(1,i)}$  in the orthonormal basis  $\left\{ e_{kl}^{(i)} = \frac{\chi_{kl}^{(i)}}{\sqrt{p_{kl}}} \right\}_{k,l=0,1}$  are as follows:

$$(3.2) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_i^{(0,i)} &\leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} p_{00}+p_{01} & 0 & \sqrt{p_{00}p_{10}}+\sqrt{p_{01}p_{11}} & 0 \\ 0 & p_{00}+p_{01} & 0 & \sqrt{p_{00}p_{10}}+\sqrt{p_{01}p_{11}} \\ \sqrt{p_{00}p_{10}}+\sqrt{p_{01}p_{11}} & 0 & p_{10}+p_{11} & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{p_{00}p_{10}}+\sqrt{p_{01}p_{11}} & 0 & p_{10}+p_{11} \end{bmatrix}, \\ \mathcal{O}_i^{(1,i)} &\leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} p_{00}+p_{10} & \sqrt{p_{00}p_{01}}+\sqrt{p_{10}p_{11}} & 0 & 0 \\ \sqrt{p_{00}p_{01}}+\sqrt{p_{10}p_{11}} & p_{01}+p_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p_{00}+p_{10} & \sqrt{p_{00}p_{01}}+\sqrt{p_{10}p_{11}} \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{p_{00}p_{01}}+\sqrt{p_{10}p_{11}} & p_{01}+p_{11} \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

By the construction,

$$\pi_\mu^{(k)}(\gamma^{(k)}) = \bigotimes_{i=1}^{\infty} \pi_\mu^{(k,i)}(\gamma_i^{(k)}),$$



where  $\pi_\mu^{(0,i)}(\gamma_i^{(0)})$  and  $\pi_\mu^{(1,i)}(\gamma_i^{(1)})$  are determined by the matrices

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (-1)\gamma_i^{(0)} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (-1)\gamma_i^{(0)} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & (-1)\gamma_i^{(1)} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (-1)\gamma_i^{(1)} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Use the map

$$(3.4) \quad \mathfrak{J}_i : \sum_{m,n=0,1} a_{mn} e_{mn}^{(i)} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a_{00} & a_{01} \\ a_{10} & a_{11} \end{bmatrix},$$

to identify  $L^2(X_i, \nu_i)$  to the full matrix algebra  $M_2(\mathbb{C})$ , so that

$$\mathfrak{J}_i(\mathbb{I}) = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{p_{00}} & \sqrt{p_{01}} \\ \sqrt{p_{10}} & \sqrt{p_{11}} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Equip  $M_2(\mathbb{C})$  with the Hermitian form

$$\langle a, b \rangle_i = \text{Tr}(b^* a),$$

then  $\mathfrak{J}_i$  is a unitary and  $\mathfrak{J}_i L^2(X_i, \nu_i) = M_2(\mathbb{C})$ . Now as an elementary consequence of (3.2) and (3.3) one has:

$$(3.5) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathfrak{J}_i \mathcal{O}_i^{(0,i)} \mathfrak{J}_i^{-1} a &= \begin{bmatrix} p_{00} + p_{01} & \sqrt{p_{00}p_{10}} + \sqrt{p_{01}p_{11}} \\ \sqrt{p_{00}p_{10}} + \sqrt{p_{01}p_{11}} & p_{10} + p_{11} \end{bmatrix} a, \\ \mathfrak{J}_i \mathcal{O}_i^{(1,i)} \mathfrak{J}_i^{-1} a &= a \begin{bmatrix} p_{00} + p_{10} & \sqrt{p_{00}p_{01}} + \sqrt{p_{10}p_{11}} \\ \sqrt{p_{00}p_{01}} + \sqrt{p_{10}p_{11}} & p_{01} + p_{11} \end{bmatrix}, \\ \mathfrak{J}_i \pi_\mu^{(0,i)}(\gamma_i^{(0)}) \mathfrak{J}_i^{-1} a &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & (-1)\gamma_i^{(0)} \end{bmatrix} a, \\ \mathfrak{J}_i \pi_\mu^{(1,i)}(\gamma_i^{(1)}) \mathfrak{J}_i^{-1} a &= a \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & (-1)\gamma_i^{(1)} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{where } a \in M_2(\mathbb{C}). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, in view of Remark 1 (see p. 307), the algebra  $\mathfrak{M}_i^k$  generated by the operators  $\mathfrak{J}_i \mathcal{O}_i^{(k,i)} \mathfrak{J}_i^{-1}$  and  $\mathfrak{J}_i \pi_\mu^{(0,i)}(\gamma_i^{(k)}) \mathfrak{J}_i^{-1}$  is just  $M_2(\mathbb{C})$ . Since  $\det(\mathfrak{J}_i(\mathbb{I})) \neq 0$ , one has finally  $\mathfrak{M}_i^0 \mathfrak{J}_i(\mathbb{I}) = \mathfrak{M}_i^1 \mathfrak{J}_i(\mathbb{I}) = M_2(\mathbb{C})$ .  $\square$

**3.3. The modular operator.** Consider the Hilbert space  $\mathfrak{H} = \bigotimes_{i=1}^{\infty} (M_2(\mathbb{C}), \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_i, \mathfrak{J}_i(\mathbb{I}))$ . It is convenient to represent  $\mathfrak{H}$  as the closure of the linear span of the vectors  $a_1 \otimes a_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes a_i \otimes \mathfrak{J}_{i+1}(\mathbb{I}) \otimes \mathfrak{J}_{i+2}(\mathbb{I}) \cdots$ , where  $a_i \in M_2(\mathbb{C})$ . If  $\mathfrak{J} = \bigotimes_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathfrak{J}_i$ , one has by Theorem 12

$$\mathfrak{J} L^2(X, \mu) = \mathfrak{H}.$$

Let  $\mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{H})$  and  $\mathcal{R}(\mathfrak{H})$  be the  $W^*$ -algebras generated in  $\mathfrak{H}$  by the operators of left and right multiplication by elements of the form

$$a_1 \otimes a_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes a_i \otimes I_2 \otimes I_2 \otimes \cdots, \quad \text{where } a_i \in M_2(\mathbb{C}), \quad I_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Proposition 13.**  $\pi_\mu^{(0)}(G)'' = \mathfrak{J}^{-1} \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{H}) \mathfrak{J}$  and  $\pi_\mu^{(1)}(G)'' = \mathfrak{J}^{-1} \mathcal{R}(\mathfrak{H}) \mathfrak{J}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\mathfrak{A}_n^{(j)}$  stand for the  $W^*$ -algebra generated by the operators  $\left\{ \mathcal{O}_i^{(j)} \right\}_{i=1}^n$  and  $\left\{ \pi_\mu^{(j)}(\Gamma^n) \right\}$  ( $j = 0, 1$ ). In view of (3.5),  $\mathfrak{A}_n^{(j)}$  is isomorphic  $\bigotimes_{i=1}^n M_2(\mathbb{C})$ . Therefore,  $\pi_\mu^{(j)}(\mathfrak{S}_n) \subset \mathfrak{A}_n^{(j)}$ . Finally, use (3.5) deduce  $\mathfrak{A}_n^{(0)} \subset \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{H})$  and  $\mathfrak{A}_n^{(1)} \subset \mathcal{R}(\mathfrak{H})$ .  $\square$

Let  $\xi = \mathfrak{J}_1(\mathbb{I}) \otimes \mathfrak{J}_2(\mathbb{I}) \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathfrak{J}_{i+2}(\mathbb{I}) \otimes \cdots$ . Since the vector  $\xi$  is cyclic and separating for  $\mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{H})$  (Theorem 12), one can construct the modular operator  $\Delta_\xi$  (see [9]). Namely, if  $S$  and  $F$  are closures of antilinear operators given by

$$S(a\xi) = a^*\xi \quad \text{for all } a \in \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{H}) \quad \text{and} \quad F(\xi a') = \xi(a')^* \quad \text{for all } a' \in \mathcal{R}(\mathfrak{H}),$$

then

$$F = S^* \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta_\xi = FS.$$

Hence, with  $a = a_1 \otimes a_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes a_i \otimes I_2 \otimes I_2 \otimes \cdots$  one has

$$a^*\xi = \xi \cdot \left( \bigotimes_{j=1}^i \mathfrak{J}_j(\mathbb{I}) \right)^{-1} \otimes I_2 \otimes I_2 \otimes \cdots \cdot a^* \cdot \left( \bigotimes_{j=1}^i \mathfrak{J}_j(\mathbb{I}) \right) \otimes I_2 \otimes I_2 \otimes \cdots.$$

Therefore,

$$\Delta_\xi(a\xi) = F(a^*\xi) = \xi \cdot \left( \bigotimes_{j=1}^i \mathfrak{J}_j(\mathbb{I}) \right)^* \otimes I_2 \otimes \cdots \cdot a \cdot \left( \bigotimes_{j=1}^i (\mathfrak{J}_j(\mathbb{I}))^* \right)^{-1} \otimes I_2 \otimes \cdots.$$

Finally, use the relation  $\mathfrak{J}_j(\mathbb{I}) (\mathfrak{J}_j(\mathbb{I}))^* = \mathfrak{J}_j \mathcal{O}_j^{(0,j)} \mathfrak{J}_j^{-1}$  (see (3.5)) to obtain

$$(3.6) \quad \begin{aligned} \Delta_\xi(a\xi) &= \bigotimes_{j=1}^i \left( \mathfrak{J}_j \mathcal{O}_j^{(0,j)} \mathfrak{J}_j^{-1} \right) a \left( \bigotimes_{j=1}^i \mathfrak{J}_j \mathcal{O}_j^{(0,j)} \mathfrak{J}_j^{-1} \right)^{-1} \\ &\quad \otimes \mathfrak{J}_{i+1}(\mathbb{I}) \otimes \mathfrak{J}_{i+2}(\mathbb{I}) \otimes \cdots. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the modular operator  $\Delta_\xi$  is defined in a natural way by the Okounkov operator  $\mathcal{O}_j$  (see (4.4), [2], [3]).

#### 4. THE CHARACTERS OF $G$ AND SPHERICAL FUNCTIONS OF THE PAIR $(G \times G, \text{diag } G)$

In what follows,  $(\pi_\phi, \mathcal{H}_\phi, \xi_\phi)$  is the unitary representation of  $G = \Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  that corresponds by GNS-construction to the character  $\phi$ . In particular, the operators  $\pi(G)$  act in  $\mathcal{H}_\phi$  with *cyclic separating* vector  $\xi_\phi$ . That is,

$$(4.1) \quad [\pi_\phi(G) \xi_\phi] = [\pi_\phi(G)' \xi_\phi] = \mathcal{H}_\phi,$$

where  $[\mathcal{S}]$  stands for the closed subspace in  $\mathcal{H}_\phi$  generated by  $\mathcal{S}$ . Moreover  $\phi(g) = (\pi_\phi(g) \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi)$  for all  $g \in G$ .

The property (4.1) allows one to produce a unitary spherical representation  $\pi_\phi^{(2)}$  of the Olshanski pair  $(G \times G, K)$ , where  $K = \text{diag } G = \{(g, g)\}_{g \in G}$ . Namely,

$$(4.2) \quad \pi_\phi^{(2)}(g_1, g_2) x \xi_\phi = \pi_\phi(g_1) x \pi_\phi(g_2)^* \xi_\phi \quad \text{for all } x \in \pi_\phi(G)''.$$

Let

$$G_n(\infty) = \{g = s \cdot \gamma \in G \mid s(l) = l \text{ and } \gamma_l = e \text{ for all } l = 1, 2, \dots, n\},$$

$$K_n(\infty) = K \cap (G_n(\infty) \times G_n(\infty)), \quad G_n = \Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_n, \quad K_n = (G_n \times G_n) \cap K.$$

It follows from the definition that  $G_0(\infty) = G_\infty = G$ ,  $K_0(\infty) = K_\infty = K$ .

Set

$$\mathcal{H}_\phi^{K_n(\infty)} = \left\{ \eta \in \mathcal{H}_\phi \mid \pi_\phi^{(2)}(g) \eta = \eta \text{ for all } g \in K_n(\infty) \right\},$$

and let  $P_n$  be the orthogonal projection onto  $\mathcal{H}_\phi^{K_n(\infty)}$ .

**Lemma 14.**  $\bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{H}_\phi^{K_n(\infty)}$  is a dense subspace in  $\mathcal{H}_\phi$ . In different terms,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_n = \mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{H}_\phi}$  in the strong operator topology.

*Proof.* It follows from the definition of  $\pi_\phi^{(2)}$  (see (4.2)) that

$$(4.3) \quad [\pi_\phi(G_n)\xi_\phi] \subset \mathcal{H}_\phi^{K_n(\infty)}.$$

On the other hand,  $\xi_\phi$  is a cyclic vector. That is,  $\left[ \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \pi_\phi(G_n)\xi_\phi \right] = \mathcal{H}_\phi$ . Now our statement follows from (4.3).  $\square$

Remind a construction of asymptotic operators which appears in [2], [3]. Consider the transposition  $(i, n) \in \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  and the operator

$$(4.4) \quad \mathcal{O}_k = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{l=1}^n \pi_\phi((k, l)).$$

The limit exists in the strong operator topology.

**Lemma 15.** Let  $i(p)$  be an element of  $p \in \mathbb{N}/s$ . Given any  $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_n, \dots) \in \Gamma_e^\infty$ , there exists  $\tilde{\gamma} \in \Gamma_e^\infty$  with the property  $\tilde{\gamma} \cdot s \cdot \gamma \cdot \tilde{\gamma}^{-1} = s \cdot \gamma'$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma'_{s^{(l-1)}(i(p))} &= e_\Gamma \quad \text{for all } l = 1, 2, \dots, \quad |p| - 1 \quad \text{and } p \in \mathbb{N}/s, \\ \gamma'_{s^{(|p|-1)}(i(p))} &= \gamma_{s^{(|p|-1)}(i(p))} \cdot \gamma_{s^{(|p|-2)}(i(p))} \cdots \gamma_{i(p)}. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Let the  $\tilde{\gamma}$  be defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\gamma}_{i(p)} &= e_\Gamma, \tilde{\gamma}_{s(i(p))} = \gamma_{i(p)}^{-1}, \tilde{\gamma}_{s^{(2)}(i(p))} = \gamma_{i(p)}^{-1} \cdot \gamma_{s(i(p))}^{-1}, \dots, \\ \tilde{\gamma}_{s^{(|p|-1)}(i(p))} &= \gamma_{i(p)}^{-1} \cdot \gamma_{s(i(p))}^{-1} \cdots \gamma_{s^{(|p|-2)}(i(p))} \quad \text{for all } p \in \mathbb{N}/s. \end{aligned}$$

Now our statement can be readily verified.  $\square$

**Lemma 16.** Let  $s$  be a cycle from  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$ . Suppose that for  $\beta, \gamma \in \Gamma_e^\infty$  the following relations hold:

$$\beta_k = \gamma_k = e_\Gamma \quad \text{for all } k \in \{j \in \mathbb{N} \mid s(j) = j\}.$$

If  $s\beta$  and  $s\gamma$  are in the same conjugate class, then there exists  $\tilde{\gamma} \in \Gamma_e^\infty$  such that  $s\gamma = \tilde{\gamma} \cdot s\beta \cdot \tilde{\gamma}^{-1}$ .

*Proof.* One may assume without loss of generality that

$$s(k) = k + 1 \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots, m - 1, \quad s(m) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad s(l) = l \quad \text{for all } l > m.$$

By Lemma 15 there exist  $\tilde{\gamma}, \tilde{\beta} \in \Gamma_e^\infty$  with the properties

$$(4.5) \quad \begin{aligned} \tilde{\gamma} \cdot s \cdot \gamma \cdot \tilde{\gamma}^{-1} &= s \cdot \gamma', \quad \tilde{\beta} \cdot s \cdot \beta \cdot \tilde{\beta}^{-1} = s \cdot \beta', \quad \text{where} \\ \gamma'_k &= \beta'_k = e_\Gamma \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots, m - 1, m + 1, \dots \end{aligned}$$

Let  $s \in \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  and  $\delta \in \Gamma_e^\infty$  be such that

$$(t\delta) s \gamma' (t\delta)^{-1} = s \beta'.$$

One has the following relations:

$$(4.6) \quad \begin{array}{rcl} \delta_2 \gamma'_1 & = & \beta'_{t(1)} \delta_1 \\ \delta_3 \gamma'_2 & = & \beta'_{t(2)} \delta_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \delta_m \gamma'_{m-1} & = & \beta'_{t(m-1)} \delta_{m-1} \\ \delta_1 \gamma'_m & = & \beta'_{t(m)} \delta_m. \end{array}$$

By assumptions of the Lemma,  $t(\{1, 2, \dots, m\}) = \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ , and we may assume that  $t(k) = k$  for all  $k > m$ . Hence, there exists a map  $f$  from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{N}$  such that

$$t(k) = s^{f(k)}(k) \quad \text{for } k \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Now use the relation  $ts = st$  to obtain

$$(4.7) \quad f(k) = l \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots, m.$$

Since  $s^m$  is the identity, it suffices to consider the case  $l \in \{1, 2, \dots, m-1\}$ .

Use (4.6) to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_1 &= \dots = \delta_{m-l}, & \delta_{m-l+1} &= \dots = \delta_m, \\ \beta'_m &= \delta_m \delta_1^{-1}, & \gamma'_m &= \delta_1^{-1} \delta_m. \end{aligned}$$

These relations together with (4.5) yield the following relation:

$$\delta' s \gamma' (\delta')^{-1} = s \beta', \quad \text{where } \delta' = (\delta_m^{-1} \delta_1, \delta_m^{-1} \delta_2, \dots, \delta_m^{-1} \delta_1, \dots).$$

□

## 5. A PROOF OF THE MAIN RESULT

The proof of Theorem 9 splits into a few lemmas.

For each *indecomposable* character  $\phi$  let  $(\pi_\phi, \mathcal{H}_\phi, \xi_\phi)$  denote the cyclic representation of the group  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  associated to  $\phi$  via the GNS-construction.

**Lemma 17.** *If a  $W^*$ -algebra  $\mathfrak{A}$  is generated by the operators  $\pi_\phi(\Gamma_e^\infty)$ ,  $\{\mathcal{O}_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ , and  $\mathcal{C}(\mathfrak{A})$  is a center of  $\mathfrak{A}$ , then  $\{\mathcal{O}_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}} \subset \mathcal{C}(\mathfrak{A})$ .*

*Proof.* The relation  $\mathcal{O}_k \cdot \mathcal{O}_l = \mathcal{O}_l \cdot \mathcal{O}_k$  allows an easy verification by definition (4.4) (see [2] or [3]).

Now prove the relation

$$(5.1) \quad \mathcal{O}_l \cdot \pi_\phi(\gamma) = \pi_\phi(\gamma) \cdot \mathcal{O}_l \quad \text{for all } \gamma \in \Gamma_e^\infty \text{ and } l \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Let  $K_n^\mathfrak{S}(\infty) = K_n(\infty) \cap (\mathfrak{S}_\infty \times \mathfrak{S}_\infty)$  and  $K_n^\mathfrak{S}(m) = K_n^\mathfrak{S}(\infty) \cap (G_m \times G_m)$ , where  $m > n$ . If  $P_n^\mathfrak{S}$  stands for the orthogonal projection onto  $\mathcal{H}_\phi^{K_n^\mathfrak{S}(\infty)}$ , then

$$(5.2) \quad P_n^\mathfrak{S} = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(m-n)!} \sum_{g \in K_n^\mathfrak{S}(m)} \pi_\phi^{(2)}(g)$$

in the strong operator topology and  $P_n^\mathfrak{S} \geq P_n^1$ . Hence, using (4.4) and (5.2), we obtain for  $i \leq n < k$

$$(5.3) \quad P_n^\mathfrak{S} \mathcal{O}_i P_n^\mathfrak{S} = P_n^\mathfrak{S} \pi_\phi((i, k)) P_n^\mathfrak{S} \quad \text{and} \quad P_n \mathcal{O}_i P_n = P_n \pi_\phi((i, k)) P_n.$$

In the case when  $\gamma_l = e$  the equality (5.1) easily follows from (4.4). Therefore, it suffices to prove (5.1) for the elements  $\gamma = \gamma(\{l\})$  (see (1.3)).

<sup>1</sup>See the page 311 (4.3) for definition of  $P_n$

If  $i \leq n < k$ , then, using (4.4), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& P_n \pi_\phi(\gamma(\{i\})) \mathcal{O}_i P_n \left\{ P_n^{\mathfrak{S}} \cong P_n \right\} P_n P_n^{\mathfrak{S}} \pi_\phi(\gamma(\{i\})) \mathcal{O}_i P_n^{\mathfrak{S}} P_n \\
& \stackrel{\{(4.4), (5.2)\}}{=} P_n \pi_\phi(\gamma(\{i\})) P_n^{\mathfrak{S}} \pi_\phi((i, k)) P_n^{\mathfrak{S}} P_n \\
& = P_n P_n^{\mathfrak{S}} \pi_\phi((i, k)) \pi_\phi(\gamma(\{k\})) P_n^{\mathfrak{S}} P_n \\
& = P_n P_n^{\mathfrak{S}} \pi_\phi((i, k)) \pi_\phi(\gamma(\{k\})) \pi_\phi^{(2)}((\gamma(\{k\})^{-1}, \gamma(\{k\})^{-1})) P_n \\
& \stackrel{(4.2)}{=} P_n P_n^{\mathfrak{S}} \pi_\phi^{(2)}((e, \gamma(\{k\})^{-1})) \pi_\phi((i, k)) P_n \\
& = P_n \pi_\phi^{(2)}((\gamma(\{k\}), \gamma(\{k\}))) \pi_\phi^{(2)}((e, \gamma(\{k\})^{-1})) \pi_\phi((i, k)) P_n \\
& = P_n \pi_\phi(\gamma(\{k\})) \pi_\phi((i, k)) P_n = P_n \pi_\phi((i, k)) \pi_\phi(\gamma(\{i\})) P_n \\
& \stackrel{(4.4)}{=} P_n \mathcal{O}_i \pi_\phi(\gamma(\{i\})) P_n.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_n = \mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{H}_\phi}$  (see Lemma 14), the relation

$$\pi_\phi(\gamma(\{i\})) \mathcal{O}_i = \mathcal{O}_i \pi_\phi(\gamma(\{i\}))$$

follows.  $\square$

We use the notation  $(i_0, i_1, \dots, i_{q-1})$  for the cyclic permutation  $s$  which acts as follows

$$s(i) = \begin{cases} i_{k+1 \pmod{q}}, & \text{if } i = i_k \in \{i_0, i_1, \dots, i_{q-1}\}, \\ i, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 18.** *If  $\mathcal{O}_i$  is defined as in (4.4) and*

$$\mathbb{D}(m, n, q) = \left\{ \vec{k} = (k_1, k_2, \dots, k_q) \in \mathbb{N} \mid k_i \neq k_j \text{ and } m < k_i \leq n \ \forall i, j = 1, \dots, q \right\},$$

then for every positive integer  $m$

$$\mathcal{O}_i^q = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^q} \sum_{\vec{k} \in \mathbb{D}(m, n, q)} \pi_\phi((k_q, k_{q-1}, \dots, k_1, i)).$$

*Proof.* If we notice that

$$(i, k_1) \cdot (i, k_2) \cdots (i, k_q) = (k_q, k_{q-1}, \dots, k_1, i)$$

for pairwise different  $i, k_1, k_2, \dots, k_q$  and  $\text{Card}(\mathbb{D}(m, n)) = \prod_{j=0}^{q-1} (n - m - j)$ , the proof becomes obvious.  $\square$

**Lemma 19.** *Let  $g = \prod_{p \in \mathbb{N}/s} s_p \cdot \gamma(p)$  be a decomposition of  $g = s \cdot \gamma \in \Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$  (see (1.4))*

*and  $i(p)$  any element from  $p \in \mathbb{N}/s$ . Define  $\gamma^{(i(p))} \in \Gamma_e^\infty$  as follows:*

$$(5.4) \ \gamma_k^{(i(p))} = \begin{cases} \gamma_{i(p)} \cdot \gamma_{s^{-1}(i(p))} \cdots \gamma_{s^{(-|p|+2)}(i(p))} \cdot \gamma_{s^{(-|p|+1)}(i(p))}, & \text{if } k = i(p), \\ e, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

*If  $\phi$  is an indecomposable character on  $\Gamma \wr \mathfrak{S}_\infty$ , then*

$$(5.5) \quad \left( \pi_\phi(s \cdot \gamma) \prod_j \mathcal{O}_j^{r_j} \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right) = \prod_{p \in \mathbb{N}/s} \left( \pi_\phi(\gamma^{(i(p))}) \mathcal{O}_{i(p)}^{|p|-1 + \sum_{j \in p} r_j} \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right).$$

*Proof.* By Proposition 7 we have

$$(5.6) \quad \left( \pi_\phi(s \cdot \gamma) \prod_j \mathcal{O}_j^{r_j} \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right) = \prod_{p \in \mathbb{N}/s} \left( \pi_\phi(s_p \cdot \gamma(p)) \prod_{j \in p} \mathcal{O}_j^{r_j} \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right).$$

Therefore it suffices to prove (5.5) in the case when  $s$  is a single cycle and  $\gamma = \gamma(p)$ , where  $p \in \mathbb{N}/s$  and  $|p| > 1$ . Let  $s = (i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{|p|})$ . By a virtue of Lemma 16, we find  $\tilde{\gamma} \in \Gamma_e^\infty$  such that

$$(5.7) \quad \tilde{\gamma} \cdot s \cdot \gamma \cdot \tilde{\gamma}^{-1} = s \cdot \gamma^{(i_1)}.$$

Thus, by Lemma 17,

$$(5.8) \quad \left( \pi_\phi(s \cdot \gamma) \prod_{j \in p} \mathcal{O}_j^{r_j} \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right) = \left( \pi_\phi(\gamma^{(i_1)}) \pi_\phi(s) \prod_{j \in p} \mathcal{O}_j^{r_j} \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right).$$

Let

$$\mathfrak{S}_\infty^j = \{ \tau \in \mathfrak{S}_\infty \mid \tau(j) = j \}.$$

Now use Lemma 18 to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \pi_\phi(\gamma^{(i_1)}) \pi_\phi(s) \prod_{j \in p} \mathcal{O}_j^{r_j} \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^q} \sum_{\vec{k} \in \mathbb{D}(m, n, q)} \left( \pi_\phi(\gamma^{(i_1)}) \pi_\phi \left( \left( k_{r_{i_1}}^{(i_1)}, k_{r_{i_1}-1}^{(i_1)}, \dots, k_1^{(i_1)}, i_2, \right. \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. \left. k_{r_{i_2}}^{(i_2)}, \dots, k_1^{(i_2)}, i_3, \dots, i_{|p|}, k_{r_{i_{|p|}}}^{(i_{|p|})}, \dots, k_1^{(i_{|p|})}, i_1 \right) \right) \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\vec{k} = \left( k_{r_{i_1}}^{(i_1)}, k_{r_{i_1}-1}^{(i_1)}, \dots, k_1^{(i_1)}, k_{r_{i_2}}^{(i_2)}, \dots, k_1^{(i_2)}, \dots, k_{r_{i_{|p|}}}^{(i_{|p|})}, \dots, k_1^{(i_{|p|})} \right), \quad q = \sum_{j \in p} r_j.$$

Hence, by the relation  $\tau \cdot \gamma^{(i_1)} \tau^{-1} = \gamma^{(i_1)}$  ( $\tau \in \mathfrak{S}_\infty^{i_1}$ ), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \pi_\phi(\gamma^{(i_1)}) \pi_\phi(s) \prod_{j \in p} \mathcal{O}_j^{r_j} \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^{q'}} \sum_{\vec{k} \in \mathbb{D}(m, n, q')} \left( \pi_\phi(\gamma^{(i_1)}) \pi_\phi \left( \left( k_{r_{i_1}}^{(i_1)}, k_{r_{i_1}-1}^{(i_1)}, \dots, k_1^{(i_1)}, i_2, \right. \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. \left. k_{r_{i_2}}^{(i_2)}, \dots, k_1^{(i_2)}, i_3, \dots, i_{|p|}, k_{r_{i_{|p|}}}^{(i_{|p|})}, \dots, k_1^{(i_{|p|})}, i_1 \right) \right) \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{k} &= \left( k_{r_{i_1}}^{(i_1)}, k_{r_{i_1}-1}^{(i_1)}, \dots, k_1^{(i_1)}, i_2, k_{r_{i_2}}^{(i_2)}, \dots, k_1^{(i_2)}, i_3, \dots, i_{|p|}, k_{r_{i_{|p|}}}^{(i_{|p|})}, \dots, k_1^{(i_{|p|})} \right), \\ q' &= |p| - 1 + \sum_{j \in p} r_j. \end{aligned}$$

This relation, in view of Lemma 18, implies the statement of Lemma 19.  $\square$

We use the notation  $\mathfrak{A}_j$  for the  $W^*$ -algebra generated by  $\pi_\phi(\gamma)$ ,  $\gamma = (e, \dots, e, \gamma_j, e, \dots)$ , and  $\mathcal{O}_j$ . Given an operator  $A$  from  $\mathfrak{A}_j$ , denote by  $A^{(k)}$  its copy in  $\mathfrak{A}_k$ :

$$A^{(k)} = \pi_\phi((j, k)) A \pi_\phi((j, k)) \quad (A^{(j)} = A).$$

The next assertion follows from Lemma 19.

**Lemma 20.** *Let  $s, i(p)$  be the same as in Lemma 19. If  $A_j, B_j \in \mathfrak{A}_j$ , then*

$$\begin{aligned}
 (5.9) \quad & \left( \pi_\phi(s) \prod_j A_j \xi_\phi, \prod_j B_j \xi_\phi \right) \\
 &= \prod_{p \in \mathbb{N}/s} \left( A_{i(p)}^{(i(p))} \left( B_{i(p)}^{(i(p))} \right)^* A_{s^{-1}(i(p))}^{(i(p))} \left( B_{s^{-1}(i(p))}^{(i(p))} \right)^* \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \dots A_{s^{1-|p|}(i(p))}^{(i(p))} \left( B_{s^{1-|p|}(i(p))}^{(i(p))} \right)^* \mathcal{O}_{i(p)}^{|p|-1} \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

The following lemma is an analogue of Theorem 1 from [3].

**Lemma 21.** *Let  $\Delta = [a, b]$  be an interval in  $[-1, 0]$  or in  $[0, 1]$  with the property  $\min\{|a|, |b|\} > \varepsilon > 0$ . If  $E_\Delta^{(i)}$  is a spectral projection of  $\mathcal{O}_i$  corresponding to  $\Delta$ , then for any orthogonal projection  $E$  from  $\mathfrak{A}_i$  one has  $(EE_\Delta^{(i)} \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi)^2 \geq \varepsilon (EE_\Delta^{(i)} \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi)$ .*

*Proof.* Using Lemmas 17 and 20, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (5.10) \quad & \left| \left( \pi_\phi((i, i+1)) EE_\Delta^{(i)} \xi_\phi, EE_\Delta^{(i)} \xi_\phi \right) \right| \\
 &= \left| \left( \mathcal{O}_i EE_\Delta^{(i)} \xi_\phi, EE_\Delta^{(i)} \xi_\phi \right) \right| > \varepsilon \left| \left( EE_\Delta^{(i)} \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right) \right|.
 \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, under the assumption  $E^{(i+1)} = \pi_\phi((i, i+1)) E \pi_\phi((i, i+1))$ , one has

$$EE_\Delta^{(i)} \cdot E^{(i+1)} E_\Delta^{(i+1)} \cdot \pi_\phi((i, i+1)) = \pi_\phi((i, i+1)) \cdot EE_\Delta^{(i)} \cdot E^{(i+1)} E_\Delta^{(i+1)}.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| \left( \pi_\phi((i, i+1)) EE_\Delta^{(i)} \xi_\phi, EE_\Delta^{(i)} \xi_\phi \right) \right| \\
 &= \left| \left( \pi_\phi((i, i+1)) E^{(i+1)} E_\Delta^{(i+1)} EE_\Delta^{(i)} \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right) \right| \\
 &\leq \left| \left( E^{(i+1)} E_\Delta^{(i+1)} EE_\Delta^{(i)} \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right) \right| \stackrel{(\text{Prop. 7})}{=} \left( EE_\Delta^{(i)} \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi \right)^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, using (5.10), we obtain our statement.  $\square$

The following statement is well known (see [3]) and also follows from Lemma 21.

**Corollary 22.** *There exists at most countable set of numbers  $\alpha_i, \beta_i$  from  $(0, 1)$  and a set of pairwise orthogonal projections  $\{E^{(k)}(\alpha_i), E^{(k)}(\beta_i)\} \subset \mathfrak{A}_k$  such that*

$$(5.11) \quad \mathcal{O}_k = \sum \alpha_i E^{(k)}(\alpha_i) - \sum \beta_i E^{(k)}(\beta_i).$$

The following assertion is an analogue of Theorem 2 from [3].

**Lemma 23.** *Let  $r$  be a number from  $\{\alpha_i, \beta_i\}$  and let  $E$  be any projection from  $\mathfrak{A}_k$ . If  $(E \cdot E^{(k)}(r) \xi_\phi, \xi_\phi) = r \nu(r) \neq 0$ , then  $\nu(r) \in \mathbb{Z}$ .*

*Proof.* For completeness of the proof, we use the arguments of Kerov, Olshanski, Vershik and Okounkov from [1] and [3].

For any  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , define the projection  $e_m(r)$  as follows:

$$e_m(r) = \prod_{j=1}^m E^{(j)} \cdot E^{(j)}(r), \quad \text{where}$$

$$E^{(j)} = \pi_\phi((j, k)) E \pi_\phi((j, k)), \quad E^{(j)}(r) = \pi_\phi((j, k)) E^{(k)}(r) \pi_\phi((j, k)).$$

Let  $\mathbb{P}_m(s)$  be the set of orbits  $s$  on  $\{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ . If  $s \in \mathfrak{S}_m$ , then by Lemma 20 we obtain

$$(5.12) \quad (\pi_\phi(s) e_m(r) \xi_\phi, e_m(r) \xi_\phi) = \nu(r)^{|\mathbb{P}_m(s)|} \prod_{p \in \mathbb{P}_m(s)} r^{|p|}.$$

Set  $\phi_r(s) = \frac{(\pi_\phi(s)e_m(r)\xi_\phi, e_m(r)\xi_\phi)}{(e_m(r)\xi_\phi, e_m(r)\xi_\phi)}$ . Using (5.12), we have

$$(5.13) \quad \phi_r(s) = \frac{\nu(r)^{|\mathbb{P}_m(s)|}}{\nu(r)^m}.$$

Therefore,  $\phi_r$  is an indecomposable character on  $\mathfrak{S}_\infty$  in view of Proposition 7.

We following G. Olshanski (see [6]) in expounding the proof of the following formula:

$$(5.14) \quad \sum_{s \in \mathfrak{S}_m} \operatorname{sgn}(s) t^{|\mathbb{P}_m(s)|} = t(t-1) \cdots (t-m+1).$$

For that, we consider the canonical projection  $p_{m,m-1}$  from  $\mathfrak{S}_m$  onto  $\mathfrak{S}_{m-1}$

$$(p_{m,m-1}(s))(i) = \begin{cases} s(i), & \text{if } s(i) < m, \\ s(m), & \text{if } s(i) = m. \end{cases}$$

Since  $|\mathbb{P}_{m-1}(p_{m,m-1}(s))| = |\mathbb{P}_m(s)|$  when  $s \notin \mathfrak{S}_{m-1}$ , and  $|\mathbb{P}_{m-1}(p_{m,m-1}(s))| = |\mathbb{P}_m(s)| - 1$  when  $s \in \mathfrak{S}_{m-1}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{s \in \mathfrak{S}_m} \operatorname{sgn}(s) t^{|\mathbb{P}_m(s)|} &= \sum_{s \in \mathfrak{S}_{m-1}} \sum_{\tilde{s} \in \mathfrak{S}_m: p_{m,m-1}(\tilde{s})=s} \operatorname{sgn}(\tilde{s}) t^{|\mathbb{P}_m(\tilde{s})|} \\ &= t \cdot \sum_{s \in \mathfrak{S}_{m-1}} t^{|\mathbb{P}_m(s)|} - (m-1) \cdot \sum_{s \in \mathfrak{S}_{m-1}} t^{|\mathbb{P}_m(s)|} = (t-m+1) \sum_{s \in \mathfrak{S}_{m-1}} t^{|\mathbb{P}_m(s)|}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence (5.14) is now accessible by an elementary induction argument.

We follow the idea of A. Okounkov in considering the orthogonal projection

$$\operatorname{Alt}_r(m) = \frac{1}{m!} \sum_{s \in \mathfrak{S}_m} \operatorname{sgn}(s) \pi_{\phi_r}(s).$$

Since  $\sum_{s \in \mathfrak{S}_m} \operatorname{sgn}(s) \phi_r(s) \geq 0$ , then, using (5.13) and (5.14), we obtain for  $r > 0$

$$\nu(r) \cdot (\nu(r) - 1) \cdots (\nu(r) - m + 1) \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } m \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Thus, we get a contradiction in the case  $\nu(r) > 0$ . The opposite case  $\nu(r) < 0$  can be considered in a similar way. For that, one should use the formula

$$\sum_{s \in \mathfrak{S}_m} t^{|\mathbb{P}_m(s)|} = t(t+1) \cdots (t+m-1) \quad (\text{see [6]})$$

and consider the projection

$$\operatorname{Sym}_r(m) = \frac{1}{m!} \sum_{s \in \mathfrak{S}_m} \pi_{\phi_r}(s).$$

□

*Proof of Theorem 9.* Let  $E_k(r)$  be the spectral projection of  $\mathcal{O}_k$  (see (4.4), (5.11)). By Lemma 23, for  $r \neq 0$  the  $W^*$ -algebra  $E_k(r)\mathfrak{A}_k$  (see p. 314) is finite-dimensional. On the other hand, use Lemma 17 to obtain the unitary representation  $\left(E_k(r)\pi_\phi|_\Gamma, E_k(r)\mathcal{H}_\phi\right)$  of the group  $\Gamma$  in the space  $E_k(r)\mathcal{H}_\phi$ . Thus, the representations  $\varrho^r$  for  $r \neq 0$  as in Theorem 9 are the irreducible components of  $\left(E_k(r)\pi_\phi|_\Gamma, E_k(r)\mathcal{H}_\phi\right)$ . The formula for characters follows from Lemmas 17 and 20. Finally, for each character as in Theorem 9 we construct the realization as in Section 2. □



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