

# $C^*$ -ALGEBRAS OF LABELLED GRAPHS

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ABSTRACT. We describe a class of  $C^*$ -algebras which simultaneously generalise the ultragraph algebras of Tomforde and the shift space  $C^*$ -algebras of Matsumoto. In doing so we shed some new light on the different  $C^*$ -algebras that may be associated to a shift space. Finally, we show how to associate a simple  $C^*$ -algebra to an irreducible sofic shift.

KEYWORDS:  $C^*$ -algebras, labelled graph, ultragraph, Matsumoto algebra, shift space.

MSC (2000): 46L05, 37B10.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper is to introduce a class of  $C^*$ -algebras associated to labelled graphs. Our motivation is to provide a common framework for working with the ultragraph algebras of Tomforde (see [26, 27]) and the  $C^*$ -algebras associated to shift spaces studied by Matsumoto and Carlsen (see [14, 17, 6, 8] amongst others). Here a labelled graph  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  over an alphabet  $\mathcal{A}$  is a directed graph  $E$ , together with a map  $\mathcal{L} : E^1 \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ . An ultragraph  $\mathcal{G}$  is a particular example of a labelled graph (see Example 3.3 (ii)), and a shift space  $\Lambda$  has many presentations as a labelled graph (see [13], Example 3.3 (iii)). Hence it is natural to give our common framework in terms of labelled graphs.

To a two-sided shift space  $\Lambda$  over a finite alphabet, Matsumoto associates two  $C^*$ -algebras  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*}$  generated by partial isometries (see [8]). Although  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*}$  are generated by elements satisfying the same relations, it turns out that they are not isomorphic in general (see [8, Theorem 4.1]). This fact manifests itself in our realisation in section 6.2 of  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*}$  as the  $C^*$ -algebras of the labelled graphs  $(E_\Lambda, \mathcal{L}_\Lambda)$  and  $(E_{\Lambda^*}, \mathcal{L}_{\Lambda^*})$  respectively, which are not necessarily isomorphic as labelled graphs. Moreover, in Corollary 6.9 we show that using labelled graphs gives us the facility to canonically associate a simple  $C^*$ -algebra to an irreducible sofic shift (cf. [8, 6, 7]).

In fact we can associate a number of (possibly different)  $C^*$ -algebras to a labelled graph. This leads us to the notion of a labelled space, which we describe in section 3. Briefly, a labelled space  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  consists of a labelled graph  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  together with a collection  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq 2^{E^0}$  which plays the same role as  $\mathcal{G}^0$  in [26] and is related to the abelian AF-subalgebra  $A_\Lambda$  (resp.  $A_{\Lambda^*}$ ) in  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  (resp.  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*}$ ) generated by the source projections.

In section 4 we define a representation of a labelled space in terms of partial isometries  $\{s_a : a \in \mathcal{A}\}$  and projections  $\{p_A : A \in \mathcal{B}\}$  subject to certain relations. Our relations generalise those found in [26, 14]. In order to build a nondegenerate  $C^*$ -algebra from a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  it is necessary for  $\mathcal{B}$  to be weakly left-resolving: a condition which is a generalisation of the left-resolving property for labelled graphs. Hence we may define  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  to be the  $C^*$ -algebra which is universal for representations of the weakly left-resolving labelled space  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$ . Since any ultragraph has a natural realisation as a left-resolving labelled graph, the class of  $C^*$ -algebras of labelled spaces contains the ultragraph algebras (and hence, graph algebras and Exel-Laca algebras).

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*Date:* March 17, 2005.

This research was supported by the University of Newcastle and the University of New South Wales.

In section 5 we give a version of the gauge invariant uniqueness theorem for  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  which will ultimately allow us to make the connection with the Matsumoto algebras.

In section 6 we give three applications of our uniqueness theorem: In section 6.1 we show how to construct a dual labelled space, which is the analogue of the higher block presentation of a shift space (cf. [13]). We give an isomorphism theorem for dual labelled spaces which is a generalisation of [2, Corollary 2.5] and forms a starting point for future work (see [4]). In section 6.2 we show that if  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  (resp.  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*}$ ) has a gauge action, then it is isomorphic to the  $C^*$ -algebra of a certain labelled space. Then in section 6.3 we give necessary conditions for the  $C^*$ -algebra of a labelled space to be isomorphic to the  $C^*$ -algebra of the underlying directed graph. We then show how to associate a simple  $C^*$ -algebra to an irreducible shift space. By example, we show that in general the  $C^*$ -algebra of a labelled space will not be isomorphic to the  $C^*$ -algebra of any directed graph; hence labelled graph  $C^*$ -algebras form a strictly larger class of  $C^*$ -algebras than graph algebras.

This paper has benefitted from several helpful suggestions made by the anonymous referee and Toke Carlsen.

Since we seek to generalise them, we begin by giving a brief description of Ultragraph algebras and Matsumoto algebras.

## 2. ULTRAGRAPH ALGEBRAS AND MATSUMOTO ALGEBRAS

**2.1. Ultragraph Algebras.** An ultragraph  $\mathcal{G} = (G^0, \mathcal{G}^1, r, s)$  consists of a countable set of vertices  $G^0$ , a countable set of edges  $\mathcal{G}^1$ , and functions  $s : \mathcal{G}^1 \rightarrow G^0$  and  $r : \mathcal{G}^1 \rightarrow 2^{G^0}$ . Let  $\mathcal{G}^0$  be the smallest collection of  $2^{G^0}$  which contains  $s(e)$  and  $r(e)$  for all  $e \in \mathcal{G}^1$  and is closed under finite intersections and unions. The ultragraph algebra  $C^*(\mathcal{G})$  is the universal  $C^*$ -algebra for Cuntz-Krieger  $\mathcal{G}$ -families: collections of partial isometries  $\{s_e : e \in \mathcal{G}^1\}$  with mutually orthogonal ranges, and projections  $\{p_A : A \in \mathcal{G}^0\}$  satisfying the relations

1.  $p_\emptyset = 0$ ,  $p_A p_B = p_{A \cap B}$  and  $p_{A \cup B} = p_A + p_B - p_{A \cap B}$  for all  $A, B \in \mathcal{G}^0$
2.  $s_e^* s_e = p_{r(e)}$  and  $s_e s_e^* \leq p_{s(e)}$  for all  $e \in \mathcal{G}^1$
3.  $p_v = \sum_{s(e)=v} s_e s_e^*$  whenever  $0 < |s^{-1}(v)| < \infty$

(see [26, Definition 2.7]). Recall that  $v \in G^0$  is an infinite emitter if  $|s^{-1}(v)| = \infty$ .

If  $\mathcal{G}$  has no infinite emitters, then the underlying graph (see Examples 3.3 (ii)) can still fail to be row-finite. With this in mind we make the following definition (cf. [26, Remark 2.6]):

**Definition 2.1.** The ultragraph  $\mathcal{G}$  is *row-finite* if there are no infinite emitters and  $r(e)$  is finite for all  $e \in \mathcal{G}^1$ .

Ultragraph algebras simultaneously generalise graph  $C^*$ -algebras and Exel-Laca algebras (see [26, Sections 3 and 4]). By [27, Corollary 5.5] there is a non row-finite ultragraph whose  $C^*$ -algebra is not isomorphic to a graph algebra or an Exel-Laca algebra.

**2.2. Matsumoto Algebras.** For an introduction to shift spaces we refer the reader to the excellent treatment in [13]. Let  $\Lambda$  be a two-sided shift space over a finite alphabet  $\mathcal{A}$ . Let

$$(1) \quad X_\Lambda = \{(x_i)_{i \geq 1} : (x_i)_{i \in \mathbf{Z}} \in \Lambda\}$$

denote the set of all right-infinite sequences in  $\Lambda$ .

For each  $k \geq 1$ , let  $\Lambda^k$  be the set of all words with length  $k$  appearing in some  $x \in \Lambda$ .

We set  $\Lambda_\ell = \bigcup_{k=0}^{\ell} \Lambda^k$  and  $\Lambda^* = \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} \Lambda^k$  where  $\Lambda^0$  denotes the empty word  $\emptyset$ .

Following [8] there are two  $C^*$ -algebras associated to  $\Lambda$ . Each  $C^*$ -algebra is generated by partial isometries  $\{t_a : a \in \mathcal{A}\}$  subject to

$$(2) \quad \sum_{a \in \mathcal{A}} t_a t_a^* = 1, \text{ and } t_\alpha^* t_\alpha t_\beta = t_\beta t_{\alpha\beta}^* t_{\alpha\beta}, \text{ where } \alpha, \beta, \alpha\beta \in \Lambda^*.$$

As in [8] we denote by  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  the  $C^*$ -algebra defined directly on Hilbert space in [18, 19] and by  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*}$  the  $C^*$ -algebra defined using the Fock space construction in [14, 17, 16, 15, 21]. Because of the different ways in which the relations (2) are realised it turns out that  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*}$  are not isomorphic in general (see [8, Section 6]).

There is a uniqueness theorem for  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  (resp.  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*}$ ) when  $\Lambda$  satisfies condition (I) (resp. condition  $(I^*)$ ) given in [8, Section 4] (resp. [8, Section 3]).

**Condition (I):** For  $x \in X_\Lambda$  and  $l \in \mathbf{N}$  put  $\Lambda_l(x) = \{\mu \in \Lambda_l : \mu x \in X_\Lambda\}$ . Two infinite paths  $x, y \in X_\Lambda$  are *l-past equivalent* (written  $x \sim_l y$ ) if  $\Lambda_l(x) = \Lambda_l(y)$ . The shift space  $X_\Lambda$  satisfies condition (I) if for any  $l \in \mathbf{N}$  and  $x \in X_\Lambda$  there exists  $y \in X_\Lambda$  such that  $y \neq x$ ,  $y \sim_l x$ .

**Condition  $(I^*)$ :** For  $\omega \in \Lambda^*$  and  $l \in \mathbf{N}$  we set  $\Lambda_l(\omega) = \{\mu : |\mu| \leq l, \mu\omega \in \Lambda^*\}$ . Two words  $\mu, \nu \in \Lambda^*$  are said to be *l-past equivalent* (written  $\mu \sim_l \nu$ ) if  $\Lambda_l(\mu) = \Lambda_l(\nu)$ . The subset  $\Lambda_l^* \subseteq \Lambda^*$  is defined by

$$\Lambda_l^* := \{\omega \in \Lambda^* : |\{\mu \in \Lambda^* : \mu \sim_l \omega\}| < \infty\}.$$

The shift space  $\Lambda$  satisfies condition  $(I^*)$  if for every  $l \in \mathbf{N}$  and  $\mu \in \Lambda_l^*$  there exist distinct words  $\xi_1, \xi_2 \in \Lambda^*$  with  $|\xi_1| = |\xi_2| = m$  such that

$$\mu \sim_l \xi_1 \gamma_1 \text{ and } \mu \sim_l \xi_2 \gamma_2$$

for some  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in \Lambda_{l+m}^*$ .

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be a two-sided shift space over a finite alphabet which satisfies condition (I). Then there is a strongly continuous action  $\beta$  of  $\mathbf{T}$  on  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  such that  $\beta_z(t_a) = z t_a$  for all  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $z \in \mathbf{T}$ .*

*Proof.* That each  $\beta_z$  is an automorphism of  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  for each  $z \in \mathbf{T}$  follows from [8, Proposition 4.2]. A standard  $\frac{\epsilon}{3}$  argument shows that  $\beta$  is strongly continuous.  $\square$

By [14, p. 363] there is always a gauge action on  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*}$ . In [21] Matsumoto defines  $\lambda$ -graph systems  $\mathcal{L}_\Lambda$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{\Lambda^*}$  associated to a two-sided shift space  $\Lambda$  together with corresponding  $C^*$ -algebras  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{L}_\Lambda}$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{L}_{\Lambda^*}}$ . By [8, Theorem 5.6] we see that if  $\Lambda$  satisfies condition (I) then  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda \cong \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{L}_\Lambda}$  and if  $\Lambda$  satisfies condition  $(I^*)$  then  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*} \cong \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{L}_{\Lambda^*}}$ . Hence, for our purposes, it suffices to work with  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*}$ .

### 3. LABELLED SPACES

A directed graph  $E$  consists of a quadruple  $(E^0, E^1, r, s)$  where  $E^0$  and  $E^1$  are countable sets of vertices and edges respectively and  $r, s : E^1 \rightarrow E^0$  are maps giving the direction of each edge. A path  $\lambda = e_1 \dots e_n$  is a sequence of edges  $e_i \in E^1$  such that  $r(e_i) = s(e_{i+1})$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n-1$ . The collection of paths of length  $n$  in  $E$  is denoted  $E^n$  and the collection of all finite paths in  $E$  by  $E^*$ , so that  $E^* = \cup_{n \geq 0} E^n$ . The edge shift  $(X_E, \sigma_E)$  associated to a directed graph  $E$  with no sinks or sources is defined by:

$$X_E = \{x \in (E^1)^{\mathbf{Z}} : s(x_{i+1}) = r(x_i) \text{ for all } i \in \mathbf{Z}\} \text{ and } (\sigma_E x)_i = x_{i+1} \text{ for } i \in \mathbf{Z}.$$

The following definition is adapted from [13, Definition 3.1.1]:

**Definition 3.1.** A *labelled graph*  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  over an alphabet  $\mathcal{A}$  consists of a directed graph  $E$  together with a labelling map  $\mathcal{L} : E^1 \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ .

Without loss of generality we may assume that the map  $\mathcal{L}$  is onto. We say that the labelled graph  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  is *row-finite* if the underlying graph  $E$  is row-finite.

Given a labelled graph  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  such that every vertex in  $E$  emits and receives an edge, we may define a subshift  $(\mathbf{X}_{(E, \mathcal{L})}, \sigma)$  of  $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbf{Z}}$  by

$$\mathbf{X}_{(E, \mathcal{L})} = \{y \in \mathcal{A}^{\mathbf{Z}} : \text{there exists } x \in \mathbf{X}_E \text{ such that } y_i = \mathcal{L}(x_i) \text{ for all } i \in \mathbf{Z}\},$$

where  $\sigma$  is the shift map. The labelled graph  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  is said to be a *presentation* of the shift space  $X = \mathbf{X}_{(E, \mathcal{L})}$ . As shown in [13, §3.1] a shift space may have many different presentations (see Examples 3.3 (ii), (vi), (vii)).

Let  $\mathcal{A}^*$  be the collection of all *words* in the symbols of  $\mathcal{A}$  (see [25, §0.2]). The map  $\mathcal{L}$  extends naturally to a map  $\mathcal{L} : E^n \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^*$ , where  $n \geq 1$ : for  $\lambda = e_1 \dots e_n \in E^n$  put  $\mathcal{L}(\lambda) = \mathcal{L}(e_1) \dots \mathcal{L}(e_n)$ ; in this case the path  $\lambda \in E^n$  is said to be a *representative* of the *labelled path*  $\mathcal{L}(e_1) \dots \mathcal{L}(e_n)$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}(E^n)$  denote the collection of all labelled paths in  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  of length  $n$ , then  $\mathcal{L}^*(E) = \cup_{n \geq 1} \mathcal{L}(E^n)$  denotes the collection of all words in the alphabet  $\mathcal{A}$  which may be represented by paths in the labelled graph  $(E, \mathcal{L})$ . In this way  $\mathcal{L}$  induces a map from the language  $\cup_{n \geq 1} E^n$  of the subshift of finite type  $\mathbf{X}_E$  associated to  $E$  into  $\mathcal{L}^*(E)$ , the language of the shift space  $\mathbf{X}_{(E, \mathcal{L})}$  presented by  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  (see [13, §3]). The usual length function  $|\cdot| : E^* \rightarrow \mathbf{N}$  transfers naturally over to  $\mathcal{L}^*(E)$ .

For  $\alpha$  in  $\mathcal{L}^*(E)$  we put

$$s_{\mathcal{L}}(\alpha) = \{s(\lambda) \in E^0 : \mathcal{L}(\lambda) = \alpha\} \text{ and } r_{\mathcal{L}}(\alpha) = \{r(\lambda) \in E^0 : \mathcal{L}(\lambda) = \alpha\},$$

so that  $r_{\mathcal{L}}, s_{\mathcal{L}} : \mathcal{L}^*(E) \rightarrow 2^{E^0}$ . We shall drop the subscript on  $r_{\mathcal{L}}$  and  $s_{\mathcal{L}}$  if the context in which it is being used is clear. For  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  we have  $\alpha\beta \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  if and only if  $r(\alpha) \cap s(\beta) \neq \emptyset$ .

Where possible we shall denote the elements of  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{L}(E^1)$  as  $a, b$ , etc., elements of  $\mathcal{L}^*(E)$  as  $\alpha, \beta$ , etc., leaving  $e, f$  for elements of  $E^1$  and  $\lambda, \mu$  for elements of  $E^*$ .

Let  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  and  $(F, \mathcal{L}')$  be graphs labelled by the same alphabet. A graph isomorphism  $\phi : E \rightarrow F$  is a *labelled graph isomorphism* if  $\mathcal{L}'(\phi(e)) = \mathcal{L}(e)$  for all  $e \in E^1$  and we write  $\phi : (E, \mathcal{L}) \rightarrow (F, \mathcal{L}')$ .

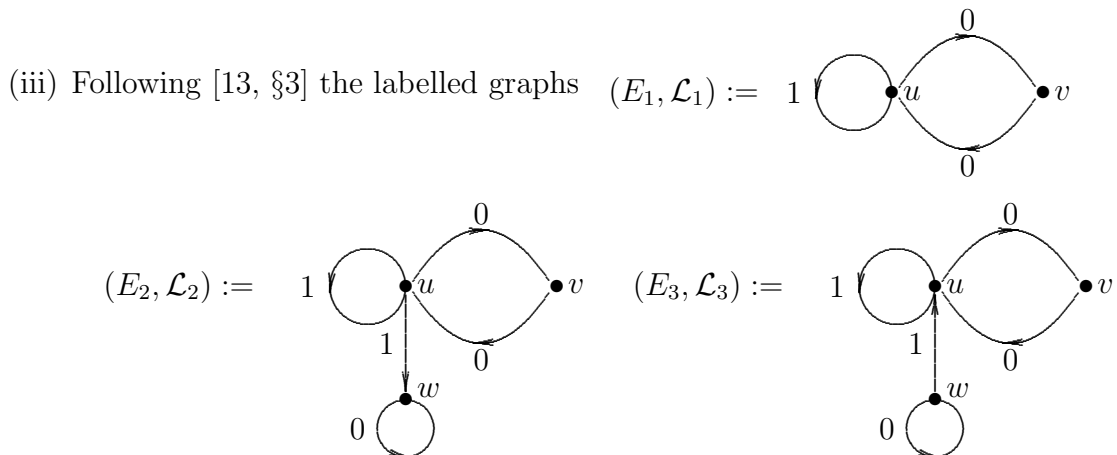
**Definition 3.2.** The labelled graph  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  is *left-resolving* if for all  $v \in E^0$  the map  $\mathcal{L} : r^{-1}(v) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is injective.

The left-resolving condition ensures that for all  $v \in E^0$  the labels  $\{\mathcal{L}(e) : r(e) = v\}$  of all incoming edges to  $v$  are all different. In particular if  $\lambda, \mu \in \cup_{n \geq 1} E^n$  satisfy  $\mathcal{L}(\lambda) = \mathcal{L}(\mu)$  and  $r(\lambda) = r(\mu)$  then  $\lambda = \mu$ .

*Examples 3.3.* (i) Let  $E$  be a directed graph. Put  $\mathcal{A} = E^1$  and let  $\mathcal{L} : E^1 \rightarrow E^1$  be the identity map (the *trivial labelling*) then  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  is a left-resolving labelled graph.

(ii) Let  $\mathcal{G} = (G^0, \mathcal{G}^1, r, s)$  be an ultragraph. Define  $E = E_{\mathcal{G}}$  by putting  $E^0 = G^0$ ,  $E^1 = \{(e, w) : e \in \mathcal{G}^1, w \in r(e)\}$  and defining  $r', s' : E^1 \rightarrow E^0$  by  $s'(e, w) = s(e)$ ,  $r'(e, w) = w$ . Set  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{G}^1$  and define  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{G}} : E^1 \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  by  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{G}}(e, w) = e$ . The resulting labelled graph  $(E_{\mathcal{G}}, \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{G}})$  is left-resolving since the source map is single-valued. If  $\mathcal{G}$  is row-finite in the sense of Definition 2.1 then  $E_{\mathcal{G}}$  is row-finite.

Conversely, given a left-resolving labelled graph  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  over an alphabet  $\mathcal{A}$  where  $s_{\mathcal{L}} : \mathcal{L}^*(E) \rightarrow 2^{E^0}$  is single-valued, we can form a ultragraph  $\mathcal{G}_{(E, \mathcal{L})} = (E^0, \mathcal{A}, r', s')$  with  $s' = s_{\mathcal{L}}$  and  $r' = r_{\mathcal{L}}$ . If  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  is row-finite then the ultragraph  $\mathcal{G}_{(E, \mathcal{L})}$  is row-finite.



have the same language as the even shift  $Y$  since between any two 1's there must be an even number of 0's. Hence  $X_{(E_i, \mathcal{L}_i)} = Y$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3$  by [13, Proposition 1.3.4 (3)]. Only graphs  $(E_1, \mathcal{L}_1)$  and  $(E_2, \mathcal{L}_2)$  are left-resolving.

- (iv) Let  $E$  be a directed graph and  $\Gamma$  a group which acts on (the right of)  $E$ . Define  $\mathcal{L}_q : E^1 \rightarrow E^1/\Gamma$  by  $\mathcal{L}_q(e) = q(e)$  where  $q : E^1 \rightarrow E^1/\Gamma$  is the quotient map. If the action of  $\Gamma$  is free on  $E^1$ , then the resulting labelled graph  $(E, \mathcal{L}_q)$  is left-resolving. More generally, if  $p : F \rightarrow E$  is a graph morphism then there is a labelling  $\mathcal{L}_p : F^1 \rightarrow E^1$  given by  $\mathcal{L}_p(f) = p(f)$  for all  $f \in F^1$ . If  $p$  is a covering map then  $\mathcal{L}_p$  is left-resolving.
- (v) Recall from [3, §3], that an out-splitting of a directed graph  $E$  is formed by a partition  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $s^{-1}(v)$  into  $m(v) \geq 1$  non-empty subsets for each  $v \in E^0$  (if  $s^{-1}(v) = \emptyset$  then  $m(v) = 0$ ). Given such a partition  $\mathcal{P}$  one may construct a directed graph  $E_s(\mathcal{P})$  where  $E_s(\mathcal{P})^1 = \{e^j : e \in E^1, 1 \leq j \leq m(r(e))\} \cup \{e : m(r(e)) = 0\}$ . Define  $\mathcal{L} : E_s(\mathcal{P})^1 \rightarrow E^1$  by  $\mathcal{L}(e^j) = e$  for  $1 \leq j \leq m(r(e))$  and  $\mathcal{L}(e) = e$  if  $m(r(e)) = 0$ . For an in-splitting (see [3, §5]) of  $E$  using a partition  $\mathcal{P}$ , a similar construction also yields a labelled graph. However the resulting labelling  $\mathcal{L}$  of the in-split graph  $E_r(\mathcal{P})$  will not be left-resolving in general.
- (vi) Let  $\Lambda$  be a two-sided shift space over a finite alphabet  $\mathcal{A}$  with  $X_\Lambda$  defined as in (1). Let  $X_\Lambda^- = \{(x_i)_{i \leq 0} : (x_i)_{i \in \mathbf{Z}} \in \Lambda\}$  so that any element  $x \in \Lambda$  may be written as  $x = x^- x^+$ . For arbitrary  $x^+ \in X_\Lambda$  and  $x^- \in X_\Lambda^-$  the bi-infinite sequence  $y = x^- x^+$  may not belong to  $\Lambda$ . Define the past set of  $t \in X_\Lambda$  as

$$P_\infty(t) = \{x^- \in X_\Lambda^- : x^- t \in \Lambda\}.$$

A shift is *sofic* if and only if the number of past sets is finite [11, 13].

For  $s, t \in X_\Lambda$ , we say that  $s$  is *past equivalent* to  $t$  (denoted  $s \sim_\infty t$ ) if  $P_\infty(s) = P_\infty(t)$ . Define a labelled graph  $(E_\Lambda, \mathcal{L}_\Lambda)$  as follows: let  $E_\Lambda^0 = \{[v] : v \in X_\Lambda / \sim_\infty\}$ ,  $E_\Lambda^1 = \{([v], a, [w]) : a \in \mathcal{A}, aw \sim_\infty v\}$  with  $s([v], a, [w]) = [v]$  and  $r([v], a, [w]) = [w]$ . If  $([v], a, [w]) \in E_\Lambda^1$  we put  $\mathcal{L}_\Lambda([v], a, [w]) = a$ . The resulting left-resolving labelled graph is usually referred to as the *left-Krieger cover* of  $\Lambda$  and the construction is evidently independent of the choice of representatives (see [11]).

If  $Y$  is the even shift then  $(E_Y, \mathcal{L}_Y)$  is labelled graph isomorphic to  $(E_2, \mathcal{L}_2)$  in (iii) above. Let  $Z$  be shift over the alphabet  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  in which the words

$$\{12^k 1, 32^k 12, 32^k 13, 42^k 14 : k \geq 0\}$$

do not occur (see [8, §4]) then  $(E_Z, \mathcal{L}_Z)$  has six vertices.

- (vii) Let  $\Lambda$  be a two-sided shift over a finite alphabet  $\mathcal{A}$ . We construct a variant of the predecessor graph  $(E_{\Lambda^*}, \mathcal{L}_{\Lambda^*})$  in the following way. For  $\mu \in \Lambda^*$  we define

$$P(\mu) := \{\lambda : \lambda\mu \in \Lambda^*\}$$

and define an equivalence relation by  $\mu \sim \nu$  if  $P(\mu) = P(\nu)$ . A shift is sofic if and only if the number of predecessor sets is finite [13].

Let  $\Lambda_{\infty}^*$  denote those  $\mu \in \Lambda^*$  which have an infinite equivalence class. Since  $\mathcal{A}$  is finite  $\Lambda_{\infty}^*/\sim$  can be identified with  $\Omega_{\Lambda^*} = \lim_{\leftarrow} \Omega_i^*$  as described in [17, Section 2]. We set  $E_{\Lambda^*}^0 = \Lambda_{\infty}^*/\sim$ ,  $E_{\Lambda^*}^1 = \{([\mu], a, [\nu]) : a \in \mathcal{A}, [\mu] = [a\nu]\}$ ,  $r([\mu], a, [\nu]) = [\nu]$  and  $s([\mu], a, [\nu]) = [\mu]$ . The labelling map is defined by  $\mathcal{L}_{\Lambda^*}([\mu], a, [\nu]) = a$ . The resulting labelled graph is evidently left-resolving.

If  $Y$  is the even shift then  $(E_{Y^*}, \mathcal{L}_{Y^*})$  is labelled graph isomorphic to  $(E_2, \mathcal{L}_2)$  in (iii) above (cf. [6, 17]). If  $Z$  is the sofic shift described in Example 3.3 (vi) then  $(E_{Z^*}, \mathcal{L}_{Z^*})$  has seven vertices and contains  $(E_Z, \mathcal{L}_Z)$  as a subgraph.

**Definition 3.4.** Let  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  be a labelled graph. For  $A \subseteq E^0$  and  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  the *relative range of  $\alpha$  with respect to  $A$*  is defined to be

$$r(A, \alpha) = \{r(\lambda) : \lambda \in E^*, \mathcal{L}(\lambda) = \alpha, s(\lambda) \in A\}.$$

*Remark 3.5.* For any  $A, B \subseteq E^0$  and  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  we have

$$r(A \cap B, \alpha) \subseteq r(A, \alpha) \cap r(B, \alpha) \text{ and } r(A \cup B, \alpha) = r(A, \alpha) \cup r(B, \alpha).$$

For all  $A \subseteq E^0$  and  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  we have  $r(A, \alpha) = r(A \cap s(\alpha), \alpha)$ .

A collection  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq 2^{E^0}$  of subsets of  $E^0$  is said to be *closed under relative ranges for  $(E, \mathcal{L})$*  if for all  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  we have  $r(A, \alpha) \in \mathcal{B}$ . If  $\mathcal{B}$  is closed under relative ranges for  $(E, \mathcal{L})$ , contains  $r(\alpha)$  for all  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  and is also closed under finite intersections and unions, then we say that  $\mathcal{B}$  is *accommodating* for  $(E, \mathcal{L})$ .

**Definition 3.6.** A *labelled space* consists of a triple  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$ , where  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  is a labelled graph and  $\mathcal{B}$  is accommodating for  $(E, \mathcal{L})$ .

**Definition 3.7.** A labelled space  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  is *weakly left-resolving* if for every  $A, B \in \mathcal{B}$  and every  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  we have  $r(A, \alpha) \cap r(B, \alpha) = r(A \cap B, \alpha)$ .

In particular  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  is weakly left-resolving if no pair of disjoint sets  $A, B \in \mathcal{B}$  can emit paths  $\lambda, \mu$  respectively with  $\mathcal{L}(\lambda) = \mathcal{L}(\mu)$  and  $r(\lambda) = r(\mu)$ . If  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  is left-resolving then  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  is weakly left-resolving for any  $\mathcal{B}$ . Evidently if  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  is weakly left-resolving, then  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B}')$  is weakly left-resolving for any  $\mathcal{B}' \subseteq \mathcal{B}$ .

Consider the following subsets of  $2^{E^0}$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E} &= \{\{v\} : v \in E^0 \text{ is a source or a sink}\} \cup \{r(\alpha) : \alpha \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)\} \cup \{s(\alpha) : \alpha \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)\} \\ \mathcal{E}^- &= \{\{v\} : v \in E^0 \text{ is a sink}\} \cup \{r(\alpha) : \alpha \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)\}. \end{aligned}$$

The following definition is analogous to the definition of  $\mathcal{G}^0$  in [26].

**Definition 3.8.** Let  $\mathcal{E}^0$  (resp.  $\mathcal{E}^{0,-}$ ) denote the smallest subset of  $2^{E^0}$  containing  $\mathcal{E}$  (resp.  $\mathcal{E}^-$ ) which is accommodating for  $(E, \mathcal{L})$ .

*Remark 3.9.* If  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  are such that  $\alpha\beta \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  then

$$r(s(\alpha), \alpha\beta) = r(\alpha\beta) \text{ and } r(r(\alpha), \beta) = r(\alpha\beta).$$

For  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  with  $\alpha\beta \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  and  $A \subseteq E^0$  we have  $r(r(A, \alpha), \beta) = r(A, \alpha\beta)$ .

For labelled spaces  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0)$  which are weakly left-resolving Remark 3.5 and Remark 3.9 show that to form  $\mathcal{E}^0$  it suffices to form

$$\mathcal{E} \cup \{r(A, \alpha) : A \in \mathcal{E}, \alpha \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)\}$$

and then close under finite intersections and unions. To form  $\mathcal{E}^{0,-}$ , by Remark 3.5 it suffices to close  $\mathcal{E}^-$  under finite intersections and unions. Evidently,  $\mathcal{E}^{0,-} \subseteq \mathcal{E}^0$ ; the containment can be strict, for instance this occurs when  $E$  has sources. One can show that  $\mathcal{E}^0 = \mathcal{E}^{0,-}$  if and only if for every  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$ ,  $s(\alpha)$  can be written as a finite union of sets of the form  $\cap_{i=1}^n r(\beta_i)$ . Since  $E^0$ ,  $\mathcal{L}^*(E)$  and  $\mathcal{E}$  are countable it follows that  $\mathcal{E}^0$  and  $\mathcal{E}^{0,-}$  are countable.

For  $A \in 2^{E^0}$  and  $n \geq 1$  let

$$L_A^n = \{\alpha \in \mathcal{L}(E^n) : A \cap s(\alpha) \neq \emptyset\}$$

denote those labelled paths of length  $n$  whose source intersects  $A$  nontrivially.

#### 4. $C^*$ -ALGEBRAS OF LABELLED SPACES

**Definition 4.1.** Let  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  be a weakly left-resolving labelled space. A representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  consists of projections  $\{p_A : A \in \mathcal{B}\}$  and partial isometries  $\{s_a : a \in \mathcal{L}(E^1)\}$  with the properties that

- (i) If  $A, B \in \mathcal{B}$  then  $p_A p_B = p_{A \cap B}$  and  $p_{A \cup B} = p_A + p_B - p_{A \cap B}$ , where  $p_\emptyset = 0$ .
- (ii) If  $a \in \mathcal{L}(E^1)$  and  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  then  $p_A s_a = s_a p_{r(A,a)}$ .
- (iii) If  $a, b \in \mathcal{L}(E^1)$  then  $s_a^* s_a = p_{r(a)}$  and  $s_a^* s_b = 0$  unless  $a = b$ .
- (iv) For  $A \in \mathcal{B}$ , if  $L_A^1$  is finite and non-empty we have

$$(3) \quad p_A = \sum_{a \in L_A^1} s_a p_{r(A,a)} s_a^*.$$

If  $a, b \in \mathcal{L}(E^1)$  are such that  $ab \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  then we have

$$(s_a^* s_a)(s_b s_b^*) = p_{r(a)} s_b s_b^* = s_b p_{r(r(a),b)} s_b^* = s_b s_b^* p_{r(a)} = (s_b s_b^*)(s_a^* s_a).$$

Hence  $s_a s_b$  is a partial isometry which is nonzero if and only if  $s_a$  and  $s_b$  are. Therefore we may define  $s_{ab} = s_a s_b$  and similarly define  $s_\alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$ . One checks that Definition 4.1 (ii) holds for  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$ , Definition 4.1 (iii) holds for  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{L}(E^n)$  for  $n \geq 1$  and Definition 4.1 (iv) holds for  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  with finite and nonempty  $L_A^n$  for  $n \geq 1$ . Then (cf. (2)) we have

$$(4) \quad s_\alpha^* s_\alpha s_\beta = p_{r(\alpha)} s_\beta = s_\beta p_{r(r(\alpha),\beta)} = s_\beta p_{r(\alpha,\beta)} = s_\beta s_\alpha^* s_\alpha s_\beta.$$

To justify the requirement that  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  is weakly left-resolving in Definitions 4.1, consider the following: Let  $\{p_A, s_a\}$  be a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  in which  $p_A \neq 0$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{B}$ . By Definition 4.1 (i) we have  $(p_A - p_{A \cap B})(p_B - p_{A \cap B}) = 0$  for all  $A, B \in \mathcal{B}$ . Suppose, for contradiction, that there is  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  such that  $r(A, \alpha) \cap r(B, \alpha) \neq r(A \cap B, \alpha)$ . From Definition 4.1 (iv) we have

$$p_A - p_{A \cap B} \geq s_\alpha (p_{r(A,\alpha)} - p_{r(A \cap B, \alpha)}) s_\alpha^* \text{ and } p_B - p_{A \cap B} \geq s_\alpha (p_{r(B,\alpha)} - p_{r(A \cap B, \alpha)}) s_\alpha^*$$

so  $(p_A - p_{A \cap B})(p_B - p_{A \cap B}) \neq 0$ , a contradiction. Thus a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  will be degenerate if  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  is not weakly left-resolving.

Relation (iv) in Definition 4.1 can make sense even if  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  emits infinitely many edges in  $E$ : If there are only finitely many different labels attached to the edges which  $A$  emits then  $L_A^1$  is finite. For directed graphs the analogue of equation (3) holds when a vertex has finite valency; when this is true at every vertex, the graph is called row-finite. With this in mind, we make the following definition:

**Definition 4.2.** Let  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  be a labelled space. We say that  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  is *singular* if  $L_A^1$  is infinite. If no set  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  is singular we say that  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  is *set-finite*.

If  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  is set-finite, then  $L_A^n$  is finite for all  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  and all  $n \geq 1$ . In the examples below, the resulting labelled space will be set-finite whenever the original graph is row-finite.

- Examples 4.3.*
- (i) Let  $E$  be a directed graph with the trivial labelling  $\mathcal{L}$ . Then  $\mathcal{E}^0$  consists of all the finite subsets of  $E^0$ . If  $E$  is row-finite then  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0)$  and  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^{0,-})$  are set-finite. One may show that a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0)$  is a Cuntz-Krieger  $E$ -family and conversely (see [1, 2] for instance). If all sources in  $E$  have finite valency, then the  $*$ -algebra generated by a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^{0,-})$  contains a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0)$ . If there is a source  $v \in E^0$  with infinite valency then there is no representative of  $p_v$  in the  $*$ -algebra generated by a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^{0,-})$ .
  - (ii) Under the identification of an ultragraph  $\mathcal{G}$  with a labelled graph  $(E_{\mathcal{G}}, \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{G}})$  we have  $\mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{G}}^0 = \mathcal{G}^0$ . Since  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{G}^1$  a representation of  $(E_{\mathcal{G}}, \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{G}}, \mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{G}}^0)$  is a Cuntz-Krieger  $\mathcal{G}$ -family (see [26, Definition 2.7]). If  $\mathcal{G}$  has sources which are singular then we get similar behaviour to that described in (i) above.
  - (iii) In Examples 3.3 (iii) we have  $\mathcal{E}_i^0 = 2^{E_i^0}$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3$ . However  $\mathcal{E}_1^{0,-} = 2^{E_1^0}$ ,  $\mathcal{E}_2^{0,-} = \{\{w\}, \{u, w\}, \{v, w\}, \{u, v, w\}\}$  and  $\mathcal{E}_3^{0,-} = \{\emptyset, \{u\}, \{v\}, \{u, v\}, \{u, v, w\}\}$ . A representation of  $(E_2, \mathcal{L}_2, \mathcal{E}_2^{0,-})$ , is generated by partial isometries  $s_0, s_1$  satisfying the relations in [14, Proposition 8.3] and [6, §2] for  $\mathcal{O}_Y$ , where  $Y$  is the even shift.
  - (iv) A covering  $p : F \rightarrow E$  of directed graphs yields a labelling  $\mathcal{L}_p : F^1 \rightarrow E^1$ . We may identify  $\mathcal{F}^0$  with the collection of inverse images of the finite subsets of  $E^0$ . A representation of  $(F, \mathcal{L}_p, \mathcal{F}^0)$  is a Cuntz-Krieger  $E$ -family. If  $F$  has sources with infinite valency, then we get similar behaviour to that described in (i) above.
  - (v) An outsplitting  $E_s(\mathcal{P})$  of  $E$  gives rise to a labelling  $\mathcal{L} : E_s(\mathcal{P})^1 \rightarrow E^1$ . If  $\mathcal{P}$  is proper then we may identify  $\mathcal{E}_s(\mathcal{P})^0$  with the collection of finite subsets of  $E^0$ , and a representation of  $(E_s(\mathcal{P}), \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}_s(\mathcal{P})^0)$  is a Cuntz-Krieger  $E$ -family. If  $E$  has sources with infinite valency then, we get similar behaviour to that described in (i) above, even when the outsplitting is proper.
  - (vi) An arbitrary shift  $\Lambda \subseteq \mathcal{A}^{\mathbf{Z}}$  gives rise to a left-resolving labelled graph  $(E_{\Lambda}, \mathcal{L}_{\Lambda})$  with no sources or sinks. If  $\mathcal{A}$  is finite then the generators of  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda}$  form a representation of  $(E_{\Lambda}, \mathcal{L}_{\Lambda}, \mathcal{E}_{\Lambda}^{0,-})$  (cf. [8, 14]).
  - (vii) An arbitrary shift  $\Lambda \subseteq \mathcal{A}^{\mathbf{Z}}$  gives rise to a left-resolving labelled graph  $(E_{\Lambda^*}, \mathcal{L}_{\Lambda^*})$  with no sources or sinks. If  $\mathcal{A}$  is finite then the generators of  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*}$  form a representation of  $(E_{\Lambda^*}, \mathcal{L}_{\Lambda^*}, \mathcal{E}_{\Lambda^*}^{0,-})$  (cf. [8, 14]).

Examples 4.3 (i)-(v) show that it is possible for  $\mathcal{E}^0$  and  $\mathcal{E}^{0,-}$  to be different, but for the  $*$ -algebras generated by representations of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0)$  and  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^{0,-})$  to be the same.

Let  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  be a labelled space. Let  $\mathcal{B}^* = \mathcal{L}^*(E) \cup \mathcal{B}$  and extend  $r, s$  to  $\mathcal{B}^*$  by  $r(A) = A$ ,  $s(A) = A$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{B}$ . For  $A \in \mathcal{B}$ , put  $s_A = p_A$ , so  $s_{\beta}$  is defined for all  $\beta \in \mathcal{B}^*$ .

**Lemma 4.4.** *Let  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  be a weakly left-resolving labelled space and  $\{s_a, p_A\}$  a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$ . Then any nonzero product of  $s_a, p_A$  and  $s_b^*$  can be written as a finite combination of elements of the form  $s_{\alpha} p_A s_{\beta}^*$  for some  $A \in \mathcal{B}$ , and  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{B}^*$  satisfying  $A \subseteq r(\alpha) \cap r(\beta) \neq \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $s_{\alpha} p_A s_{\beta}^* = s_{\alpha} p_{r(\alpha) \cap A \cap r(\beta)} s_{\beta}^*$  it follows that  $s_{\alpha} p_A s_{\beta}^*$  is zero unless  $A \cap r(\alpha) \cap r(\beta) \neq \emptyset$  and without loss of generality we may assume that  $A \subseteq r(\alpha) \cap r(\beta)$ . For

$\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  and  $A, B \in \mathcal{B}$  we have

$$(5) \quad (s_\alpha p_A s_\beta^*) (s_\gamma p_B s_\delta^*) = \begin{cases} s_{\alpha\gamma'} p_{r(A,\gamma') \cap B} s_\delta^* & \text{if } \gamma = \beta\gamma' \\ s_\alpha p_{A \cap r(B,\beta')} s_{\delta\beta'}^* & \text{if } \beta = \gamma\beta' \\ s_\alpha p_{A \cap B} s_\delta^* & \text{if } \beta = \gamma \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

To see this, suppose  $\gamma = \beta\gamma'$  then as  $A \subseteq r(\beta) \cap r(\alpha)$

$$\begin{aligned} s_\alpha p_A s_\beta^* s_\gamma p_B s_\delta^* &= s_\alpha p_A s_\beta^* s_\beta s_{\gamma'} p_B s_\delta^* = s_\alpha p_A p_{r(\beta)} s_{\gamma'} p_B s_\delta^* \\ &= s_\alpha p_A s_{\gamma'} p_B s_\delta^* = s_{\alpha\gamma'} p_{r(A,\gamma') \cap B} s_\delta^* \end{aligned}$$

A similar calculation gives the desired formulas in the cases  $\beta = \gamma\beta'$  and  $\beta = \gamma$ . If  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  have no common initial segment, then without loss of generality, assume that  $\beta \in \mathcal{L}(E^n)$  and  $\gamma \in \mathcal{L}(E^m)$  with  $n > m$ . Write  $\beta = \beta'\beta''$  where  $\beta' \in \mathcal{L}(E^m)$ , and then by Definition 4.1(iv) we have  $s_\beta^* s_\gamma = s_{\beta''}^* s_{\beta'}^* s_\gamma = 0$  since  $\beta' \neq \gamma$  and so  $s_\alpha p_A s_\beta^* s_\gamma p_B s_\delta^* = 0$ . By Definition 4.1 (i) and (ii) we may extend (5) to the case when  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in \mathcal{B}^*$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.5.** *Let  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  be a weakly left-resolving labelled space. There exists a  $C^*$ -algebra  $B$  generated by a universal representation of  $\{s_a, p_A\}$  of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$ . Furthermore the  $s_a$ 's are nonzero and every  $p_A$  with  $A \neq \emptyset$  is nonzero.*

*Proof.* Let  $S_{(E,\mathcal{L},\mathcal{B})} := \{(\alpha, A, \beta) : \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{B}^*, A \in \mathcal{B}, A \subseteq r(\alpha) \cap r(\beta)\}$  and let  $k_{(E,\mathcal{L},\mathcal{B})}$  be the space of functions of finite support on  $S_{(E,\mathcal{L},\mathcal{B})}$ . The set of point masses  $\{e_\tau : \tau \in S_{(E,\mathcal{L},\mathcal{B})}\}$  forms a basis for  $k_{(E,\mathcal{L},\mathcal{B})}$ . Set  $(\alpha, A, \beta)^* := (\beta, A, \alpha)$ ; then thinking of  $e_{(\alpha,A,\beta)}$  as  $s_\alpha p_A s_\beta^*$  and using (5) we can define a multiplication with respect to which  $k_{(E,\mathcal{L},\mathcal{B})}$  is a  $*$ -algebra.

As a  $*$ -algebra  $k_{(E,\mathcal{L},\mathcal{B})}$  is generated by  $q_A := e_{(A,A,A)}$  for  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  and  $t_a := e_{(a,r(a),r(a))}$  for  $a \in \mathcal{L}(E^1)$ . Our definition of multiplication ensures that properties (ii) and (iii) of Definition 4.1 hold; moreover  $q_A q_B = q_{A \cap B}$ . We mod out by the ideal  $J$  generated by the elements  $q_{A \cup B} - q_A - q_B + q_{A \cap B}$  for  $A, B \in \mathcal{B}$ , and  $q_A - \sum_{a \in L_A^1} s_a p_{r(A,a)} s_a^*$  for  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  with  $L_A^1$  nonempty and finite. Then the images  $r_A$  of  $q_A$  and  $u_a$  of  $t_a$  in  $k_{(E,\mathcal{L},\mathcal{B})}/J$  form a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  that generates  $k_{(E,\mathcal{L},\mathcal{B})}/J$ . The triple  $(k_{(E,\mathcal{L},\mathcal{B})}/J, r_A, u_a)$  has the required universal property, but is not a  $C^*$ -algebra. Using a standard argument we can convert this triple to a  $C^*$ -algebra  $B$  satisfying the required properties (see [10, Theorem 2.1] for instance).

Now for each  $a \in \mathcal{L}(E^1)$  and  $e \in \mathcal{L}^{-1}(a)$ , let  $\mathcal{H}_{(a,e)}$  be an infinite-dimensional Hilbert space. Also for each  $v \in s(a)$  we define  $\mathcal{H}_{(a,v)} := \bigoplus_{\{e:s(e)=v, \mathcal{L}(e)=a\}} \mathcal{H}_{(a,e)}$ . If  $v$  is a sink let  $\mathcal{H}_v$  be an infinite-dimensional Hilbert space. For  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  we define  $\mathcal{H}_A := \bigoplus_{b \in L_A^1} \bigoplus_{v \in s(b) \cap A} \mathcal{H}_{(b,v)}$  and then note that each Hilbert space we have defined is a subspace of

$$\mathcal{H} := \left( \bigoplus_{a \in \mathcal{L}(E^1)} \bigoplus_{v \in s(a)} \mathcal{H}_{(a,v)} \right) \oplus_{\{v:s^{-1}(v)=\emptyset\}} \mathcal{H}_v.$$

For each  $a \in \mathcal{L}(E^1)$ , let  $S_a$  be a partial isometry with initial space  $\mathcal{H}_{r(a)}$  and final space  $\bigoplus_{v \in s(a)} \mathcal{H}_{(a,v)} \subseteq \mathcal{H}_{s(a)}$ . For  $A \in \mathcal{B}$ , define  $P_A$  to be the projection of  $\mathcal{H}$  onto  $\mathcal{H}_A$ , where this is interpreted as the zero projection when  $A = \emptyset$ .

It is easy to verify that since  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  is weakly left-resolving, the operators  $\{S_a, P_A\}$  form a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  in which  $S_a, P_A$  are nonzero. By the universal property there exists a homomorphism  $\pi_{S,P} : B \rightarrow C^*(\{S_a, P_A\})$ . Since the  $S_a$ 's and  $P_A$ 's are nonzero, it follows that the  $s_a$ 's and  $p_A$ 's are also nonzero.  $\square$

**Definition 4.6.** Let  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  be a weakly left-resolving labelled space, then  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  is the universal  $C^*$ -algebra generated by a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$ .

Let  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  be a weakly left-resolving labelled space and  $\{s_a, p_A\}$  be the universal representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$ , then by Lemma 4.4

$$\text{span} \{s_\alpha p_A s_\beta^* : \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{L}^*(E), A \in \mathcal{B}, A \subseteq r(\alpha) \cap r(\beta)\}$$

is a dense  $*$ -subalgebra of  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$ . The following result may be proved along the same lines as [26, Lemma 3.2].

**Lemma 4.7.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be finite,  $E$  have no sinks, and  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  be a weakly left-resolving labelled space. Then  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  is unital.*

*Proof.* Observe that  $\sum_{a \in \mathcal{A}} s_a s_a^*$  is a unit for  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 4.8.** *If  $\phi : (E, \mathcal{L}) \rightarrow (F, \mathcal{L}')$  is a labelled graph isomorphism, then for all  $\mathcal{B}$  which are accommodating for  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  we have  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B}) \cong C^*(F, \mathcal{L}', \phi(\mathcal{B}))$ .*

*Proof.* The map  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the generators of  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  and  $C^*(F, \mathcal{L}', \phi(\mathcal{B}))$  and so by the universal property there are homomorphisms from one  $C^*$ -algebra to the other which are also inverses of each other.  $\square$

## 5. GAUGE INVARIANT UNIQUENESS THEOREM

Let  $\{s_a, p_A\}$  be the universal representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  which generates  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$ . For  $z \in \mathbf{T}$ ,  $a \in \mathcal{L}(E^1)$  and  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  let

$$t_a := \gamma_z s_a = z s_a \text{ and } q_A := \gamma_z p_A = p_A$$

then the family  $\{t_a, q_A\} \in C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  is also a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$ . By universality of  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  and a routine  $\epsilon/3$  argument we see that  $\gamma$  extends to a strongly continuous action

$$\gamma : \mathbf{T} \rightarrow \text{Aut } C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$$

which we call the *gauge action*.

- Proposition 5.1.**
- i) *Let  $E$  be a directed graph with the trivial labelling  $\mathcal{L}$ . Then  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0) \cong C^*(E)$ .*
  - ii) *Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be an ultragraph. Then  $C^*(E_{\mathcal{G}}, \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{G}}, \mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{G}}^0) \cong C^*(\mathcal{G})$ , where  $(E_{\mathcal{G}}, \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{G}})$  is the labelled graph associated to  $\mathcal{G}$ .*
  - iii) *Let  $p : F \rightarrow E$  be a covering map with induced labelling  $\mathcal{L}_p : F^1 \rightarrow E^1$ . Then  $C^*(F, \mathcal{L}_p, \mathcal{F}^0) \cong C^*(E)$ .*
  - iv) *Let  $E$  be a directed graph and let  $E_s(\mathcal{P})$  be an outsplitting. Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be the labelling of  $E_s(\mathcal{P})$  induced by the outsplitting. If  $\mathcal{P}$  is a proper partition then  $C^*(E_s(\mathcal{P}), \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}_s(\mathcal{P})^0) \cong C^*(E)$ .*

*Proof.* In each case the left hand side contains a generating set for the  $C^*$ -algebra on the right as shown in Examples 4.3. We apply the appropriate gauge-invariant uniqueness theorem for the algebra on the right hand side to obtain the isomorphism.  $\square$

To establish connections with the Matsumoto algebras we need a version of the gauge-invariant uniqueness theorem for labelled graph algebras.

**Lemma 5.2.** *Let  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  be a weakly left-resolving labelled space,  $\{s_a, p_A\}$  a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$ , and  $Y = \{s_{\alpha_i} p_{A_i} s_{\beta_i}^* : i = 1, \dots, N\}$  be a set of partial isometries in  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  which is closed under multiplication and taking adjoints. If  $q$  is a minimal projection in  $C^*(Y)$  then either*

- (i)  $q = s_{\alpha_i} p_{A_i} s_{\alpha_i}^*$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq N$

- (ii)  $q = s_{\alpha_i} p_{A_i} s_{\alpha_i}^* - q'$  where  $q' = \sum_{l=1}^m s_{\alpha_{k(l)}} p_{A_{k(l)}} s_{\alpha_{k(l)}}^*$  and  $1 \leq i \leq N$ ; moreover there is a nonzero  $r = s_{\alpha_i \beta} p_{r(A_i, \beta)} s_{\alpha_i \beta}^* \in C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  such that  $q'r = 0$  and  $q \geq r$ .

*Proof.* By equation (5) any projection in  $C^*(Y)$  may be written as

$$\sum_{j=1}^n s_{\alpha_{i(j)}} p_{A_{i(j)}} s_{\alpha_{i(j)}}^* - \sum_{l=1}^m s_{\alpha_{k(l)}} p_{A_{k(l)}} s_{\alpha_{k(l)}}^*$$

where the projections in each sum are mutually orthogonal and for each  $l$  there is a unique  $j$  such that  $s_{\alpha_{i(j)}} p_{A_{i(j)}} s_{\alpha_{i(j)}}^* \geq s_{\alpha_{k(l)}} p_{A_{k(l)}} s_{\alpha_{k(l)}}^*$ .

If  $q = \sum_{j=1}^n s_{\alpha_{i(j)}} p_{A_{i(j)}} s_{\alpha_{i(j)}}^* - \sum_{l=1}^m s_{\alpha_{k(l)}} p_{A_{k(l)}} s_{\alpha_{k(l)}}^*$  is a minimal projection in  $C^*(Y)$  then we must have  $n = 1$ . If  $m = 0$  then  $q = s_{\alpha_i} p_{A_i} s_{\alpha_i}^*$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq N$ . If  $m \neq 0$  then  $q = s_{\alpha_i} p_{A_i} s_{\alpha_i}^* - q'$  where  $q' = \sum_{l=1}^m s_{\alpha_{k(l)}} p_{A_{k(l)}} s_{\alpha_{k(l)}}^*$  and  $1 \leq k \leq N$ . Since  $q'$  is the sum of finitely many projections and  $q \neq 0$  it follows by repeated use of Definition 4.1 (iv) that there is a nonzero  $r = s_{\alpha_i \beta} p_{r(A_i, \beta)} s_{\alpha_i \beta}^* \in C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  such that  $rq' = 0$  and  $q \geq r$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 5.3.** *Let  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  be a weakly left-resolving labelled space and let  $\{S_a, P_A\}$  be a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  on Hilbert space. Take  $\pi_{S,P}$  to be the representation of  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  satisfying  $\pi_{S,P}(s_a) = S_a$  and  $\pi_{S,P}(p_A) = P_A$ . Suppose that each  $P_A$  is nonzero whenever  $A \neq \emptyset$ , and that there is a strongly continuous action  $\beta$  of  $\mathbf{T}$  on  $C^*(S_\alpha, P_A)$  such that for all  $z \in \mathbf{T}$ ,  $\beta_z \circ \pi_{S,P} = \pi_{S,P} \circ \gamma_z$ . Then  $\pi_{S,P}$  is faithful.*

*Proof.* A straightforward argument along the lines of [22, Lemma 2.2.3] shows that

$$C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})^\gamma = \overline{\text{span}}\{s_\alpha p_A s_\beta^* : \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{L}(E^n) \text{ for some } n \text{ and } A \subseteq r(\alpha) \cap r(\beta)\}$$

where  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})^\gamma$  is the fixed point algebra of  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  under the gauge action  $\gamma$ . We claim that  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})^\gamma$  is AF. Let  $Y$  be a finite subset of  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})^\gamma$ . Since  $y \in Y$  may be approximated by a finite linear combination of elements of the form  $s_\alpha p_A s_\beta^*$  where  $|\alpha| = |\beta|$  we may assume that  $Y = \{s_{\alpha_i} p_{A_i} s_{\beta_i}^* : |\alpha_i| = |\beta_i|, i = 1 \dots N\}$ .

Let  $M$  be the length of the longest word in  $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_N\}$ . Let  $W$  denote the collection of all words in  $\mathcal{L}^*(E)$  of length at most  $M$  that can be formed from composing subwords of  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_N, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_N$ . Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be the collection all finite intersections of  $\{A_i\}_{i=1}^n$  and  $\{r(A_i, \gamma) : 1 \leq i \leq N, \gamma \in W\}$ . By equation (5) a non-zero product of elements of  $Y$  is of the form  $s_\gamma p_A s_\delta^*$  where  $\gamma, \delta \in W$  and  $A \in \mathcal{C}$ . Since  $W$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  are finite it follows that  $Y' = \{s_\gamma p_A s_\delta^* : \gamma, \delta \in W, A \in \mathcal{C}\}$  is finite, closed under adjoints and  $C^*(Y) = C^*(Y')$ . Hence we may assume that  $Y$  is closed under multiplication and taking adjoints. Thus  $C^*(Y) = \overline{\text{span}}(Y)$  is finite dimensional and so  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})^\gamma$  is AF by [5, Theorem 2.2], establishing our claim.

To show that the canonical map  $\pi_{S,P} : C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B}) \rightarrow C^*(S_a, P_A)$  is injective on  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})^\gamma$  we write  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})^\gamma$  as  $\bigcup C^*(Y_n)$  where  $\{Y_n : n \geq 1\}$  is an increasing family of finite sets which are closed under multiplication and taking adjoints. Suppose, for contradiction, that  $\pi_{S,P}$  is not faithful on  $C^*(Y_n)$  for some  $n$ . Then its kernel is an ideal and so must contain a nonzero minimal projection  $q$ . If  $Y_n = \{s_{\alpha_i} p_{A_i} s_{\beta_i}^* : i = 1 \dots, N(n)\}$  then by Lemma 5.2 either  $q = s_{\alpha_i} p_{A_i} s_{\alpha_i}^*$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq N(n)$  or  $q = s_{\alpha_i} p_{A_i} s_{\alpha_i}^* - q'$  where  $q' = \sum_{k=1}^m s_{\alpha_{i(k)}} p_{A_{i(k)}} s_{\alpha_{i(k)}}^*$  and  $1 \leq i \leq N(n)$ . In the first case  $\pi_{S,P}(s_{\alpha_i} p_{A_i}) = S_{\alpha_i} P_{A_i}$  is a partial isometry with initial projection  $P_{A_i}$  and final projection  $S_{\alpha_i} P_{A_i} S_{\alpha_i}^*$ . But  $P_{A_i} = \pi_{S,P}(p_{A_i}) \neq 0$  by hypothesis and so  $\pi_{S,P}(q) = \pi_{S,P}(s_{\alpha_i} p_{A_i} s_{\alpha_i}^*) = S_{\alpha_i} P_{A_i} S_{\alpha_i}^* \neq 0$  which is a contradiction. In the second case by Lemma 5.2 (ii) there is  $r = s_{\alpha_i \beta} p_{r(A_i, \beta)} s_{\alpha_i \beta}^*$  such that  $q \geq r$  and  $q'r = 0$ . We may apply the above argument to show that  $\pi_{S,P}(r) \neq 0$  and hence  $\pi_{S,P}(q) \geq \pi_{S,P}(r) \neq 0$  which is also a contradiction. Hence  $\pi_{S,P}$  is injective on  $C^*(Y_n)$  and the result follows by arguments similar to those in [2, Theorem 2.1].  $\square$

## 6. APPLICATIONS

**6.1. Dual Labelled Graphs.** Let  $E$  have no sinks and  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  be a labelled graph over alphabet  $\mathcal{A}$ . From this data we may form the *dual labelled graph*  $(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\mathcal{L}})$  over alphabet  $\widehat{\mathcal{A}} := \mathcal{L}(E^2)$  as follows: Let  $\widehat{E}^0 = E^1$ ,  $\widehat{E}^1 = E^2$  and the maps  $r', s' : \widehat{E}^1 \rightarrow \widehat{E}^0$  be given by  $r'(ef) = f$  and  $s'(ef) = e$ . The labelling  $\widehat{\mathcal{L}} : \widehat{E}^1 \rightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{A}}$  is induced by the original labelling, so that  $\widehat{\mathcal{L}}(ef) = \mathcal{L}(e)\mathcal{L}(f)$ . For  $ab \in \widehat{\mathcal{L}}(\widehat{E}^1) = \mathcal{L}(E^2)$  we have

$$r_{\widehat{\mathcal{L}}}(ab) = \{f : \widehat{\mathcal{L}}(ef) = ab\}, \text{ and } s_{\widehat{\mathcal{L}}}(ab) = \{e : \widehat{\mathcal{L}}(ef) = ab\}$$

and for  $B \in 2^{E^1}$

$$r_{\widehat{\mathcal{L}}}(B, ab) = \{f : \widehat{\mathcal{L}}(ef) = ab, e \in B\}.$$

These maps extend naturally to  $\widehat{\mathcal{L}}^*(\widehat{E}) = \cup_{n \geq 1} \widehat{\mathcal{L}}(\widehat{E}^n)$  where for  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\widehat{\mathcal{L}}(\widehat{E}^n)$  is identified with  $\mathcal{L}(E^{n+1})$ . Consider the following subsets of  $2^{E^1}$

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\mathcal{E}} &= \{\{e\} : s(e) \text{ is a source}\} \cup \{r_{\widehat{\mathcal{L}}}(\alpha) : \alpha \in \widehat{\mathcal{L}}^*(\widehat{E})\} \cup \{s_{\widehat{\mathcal{L}}}(\alpha) : \alpha \in \widehat{\mathcal{L}}^*(\widehat{E})\} \\ \widehat{\mathcal{E}}^- &= \{r_{\widehat{\mathcal{L}}}(\alpha) : \alpha \in \widehat{\mathcal{L}}^*(\widehat{E})\}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}^0$  (resp.  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}^{0,-}$ ) be the smallest collection of subsets of  $2^{E^1}$  containing  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  (resp.  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}^-$ ) which is accommodating for  $(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\mathcal{L}})$ . One checks easily that if  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{B})$  is left-resolving, then  $(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\mathcal{L}}, \widehat{\mathcal{B}})$  is weakly left-resolving for  $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{E}^0, \mathcal{E}^{0,-}$ .

For  $B \in \widehat{\mathcal{E}}^0$  (resp.  $B \in \widehat{\mathcal{E}}^{0,-}$ ) we set

$$\widehat{L}_B^1 = \{ab \in \widehat{\mathcal{L}}(\widehat{E}^1) : s_{\widehat{\mathcal{L}}}(ab) \cap B \neq \emptyset\}.$$

If  $E$  has no sources and sinks, the shift  $X_{(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\mathcal{L}})}$  determined by the dual labelled graph  $(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\mathcal{L}})$  of  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  is the second higher block shift  $X_{(E, \mathcal{L})}^{[2]}$  formed from  $X_{(E, \mathcal{L})}$  (cf. [13, §1.4]).

*Remarks 6.1.* Suppose that  $ab \in \mathcal{L}(E^2)$  then  $c \in L_{r(ab)}^1$  if and only if  $bc \in \widehat{L}_{r_{\widehat{\mathcal{L}}}(ab)}^1$ ; moreover  $r(r(ab), c) = r(s(r_{\widehat{\mathcal{L}}}(ab)), bc)$ . Suppose that  $A \in \mathcal{E}^0$  (resp.  $A \in \mathcal{E}^{0,-}$ ) then  $a \in L_A^1$  and  $ab \in \mathcal{L}(E^2)$  if and only if  $ab \in \widehat{L}_{s^{-1}(A)}^1$ .

**Theorem 6.2.** *Let  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  be a set-finite, left-resolving labelled graph with no sinks then  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0) \cong C^*(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\mathcal{L}}, \widehat{\mathcal{E}}^0)$ , moreover  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^{0,-}) \cong C^*(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\mathcal{L}}, \widehat{\mathcal{E}}^{0,-})$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\{s_a, p_A\}$  be a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0)$  and  $\{t_{ab}, q_B\}$  be a representation of  $(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\mathcal{L}}, \widehat{\mathcal{E}}^0)$ . For  $ab \in \widehat{\mathcal{L}}(\widehat{E}^1)$  and  $B \in \widehat{\mathcal{E}}^0$  let  $T_{ab} = s_a s_b s_b^*$  and

$$Q_B := \sum_{ab \in \widehat{L}_B^1} s_a p_{r(s(B), ab)} s_{ab}^*.$$

Since  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0)$  is set-finite  $(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\mathcal{L}}, \widehat{\mathcal{E}}^0)$  is set-finite by Remarks 6.1 and so the above sum is finite. One checks that  $\{T_{ab}, Q_B\}$  is a representation of  $(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\mathcal{L}}, \widehat{\mathcal{E}}^0)$ .

By the universal property there is a homomorphism  $\pi_{T, Q} : C^*(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\mathcal{L}}, \widehat{\mathcal{E}}^0) \rightarrow C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0)$  with  $\pi_{T, Q}(t_{ab}) = T_{ab}$  and  $\pi_{T, Q}(q_B) = Q_B$ . Since  $\pi_{T, Q}$  intertwines the respective gauge actions and  $Q_B \neq 0$  it follows from Theorem 5.3 that  $\pi_{T, Q}$  is faithful. We claim that  $\pi_{T, Q}$

is surjective. For  $a \in \mathcal{L}(E^1)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 s_a &= s_a p_{r(a)} = s_a \sum_{b \in L_{r(a)}^1} s_b p_{r(r(a),b)} s_b^* = \sum_{b \in L_{r(a)}^1} s_a s_b s_b^* s_b p_{r(ab)} s_b^* \\
 &= \sum_{b \in L_{r(a)}^1} s_a s_b s_b^* \sum_{c \in L_{r(ab)}^1} s_{bc} p_{r(r(ab),c)} s_{bc}^* \\
 &= \sum_{b \in L_{r(a)}^1} T_{ab} \sum_{bc \in \widehat{L}_{r_{\widehat{c}}}(ab)}^1 s_{bc} p_{r(s(r_{\widehat{c}}(ab)),bc)} s_{bc}^* \text{ by Remarks 6.1} \\
 &= \sum_{b \in L_{r(a)}^1} T_{ab} Q_{r_{\widehat{c}}(ab)}
 \end{aligned}$$

and so  $s_a \in C^*(T_{ab}, Q_B)$ . For  $A \in \mathcal{E}^0$ , by Remarks 6.1 we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_A &= \sum_{a \in L_A^1} s_a p_{r(A,a)} s_a^* = \sum_{a \in L_A^1} s_a \sum_{b \in L_{r(A,a)}^1} s_b p_{r(r(A,a),b)} s_b^* s_a^* \\
 &= \sum_{ab \in \widehat{L}_{s^{-1}(A)}^1} s_{ab} p_{r(A,ab)} s_{ab}^* = Q_{s^{-1}(A)}
 \end{aligned}$$

which establishes our claim. The second isomorphism is proved along similar lines.  $\square$

## 6.2. Matsumoto Algebras.

**Theorem 6.3.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be a shift space over a finite alphabet  $\mathcal{A}$  which satisfies condition (I) and has left-Krieger cover  $(E_\Lambda, \mathcal{L}_\Lambda)$  then  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda \cong C^*(E_\Lambda, \mathcal{L}_\Lambda, \mathcal{E}_\Lambda^{0,-})$ . Moreover, if  $\Lambda$  has predecessor graph  $(E_{\Lambda^*}, \mathcal{L}_{\Lambda^*})$  then  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*} \cong C^*(E_{\Lambda^*}, \mathcal{L}_{\Lambda^*}, \mathcal{E}_{\Lambda^*}^{0,-})$ .*

*Proof.* By definition every  $A \in \mathcal{E}_\Lambda^{0,-}$  can be written as a union of sets of the form  $A_j = \bigcap_{i=1}^{m(j)} r(\mu_i^j)$  for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ . For  $\mu \in \Lambda^*$  let  $q_{r(\mu)} = t_\mu^* t_\mu$ , then since the projections  $\{t_\mu^* t_\mu : \mu \in \Lambda^*\}$  are mutually commutative (see [17, p.686]) we may define  $q_{r(\mu) \cap r(\nu)} = q_{r(\mu)} q_{r(\nu)}$ , and hence define  $q_{A_j}$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n$ . By the inclusion-exclusion principle one may further define

$$q_A = \sum_{j=1}^n q_{A_j} - \sum_{j \neq k} q_{A_j} q_{A_k} + \dots + (-1)^{n+1} q_{A_1} \cdots q_{A_n}.$$

Using calculations along the lines of those in [14, §3] one checks that  $\{t_a, q_A\}$  is a representation of  $(E_\Lambda, \mathcal{L}_\Lambda, \mathcal{E}_\Lambda^{0,-})$ .

Let  $\{s_a, p_A\}$  be a representation of  $(E_\Lambda, \mathcal{L}_\Lambda, \mathcal{E}_\Lambda^{0,-})$ . By the universal property for  $C^*(E_\Lambda, \mathcal{L}_\Lambda, \mathcal{E}_\Lambda^{0,-})$  there is a map  $\pi_{t,q} : C^*(E_\Lambda, \mathcal{L}_\Lambda, \mathcal{E}_\Lambda^{0,-}) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  such that  $\pi_{t,q}(s_a) = t_a$  and  $\pi_{t,q}(p_A) = q_A$ , in particular  $\pi_{t,q}$  is surjective.

Since  $\Lambda$  satisfies condition (I) it follows by Proposition 2.2 that  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  carries a strongly continuous action  $\beta$  of  $\mathbf{T}$ . Since  $\beta_z \circ \pi_{t,q} = \pi_{t,q} \circ \gamma_z$  for all  $z \in \mathbf{T}$  and  $\pi_{t,q}(p_A) = q_A \neq 0$  it follows from Theorem 5.3 that  $\pi_{t,q}$  is injective, which completes the proof of the first statement.

The second statement is proved similarly.  $\square$

*Remarks 6.4.* (i) In [8, §5] a condition (\*) is given under which for shift spaces  $\Lambda$  satisfying (\*) conditions (I) and (I\*) are equivalent and  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda \cong \mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*}$ . This suggests that if  $\Lambda$  satisfies (\*) then  $(E_\Lambda, \mathcal{L}_\Lambda)$  is labelled graph isomorphic to  $(E_{\Lambda^*}, \mathcal{L}_{\Lambda^*})$  and the isomorphism of  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*}$  can be deduced from Theorem 4.8. However [8,

Theorem 6.1] shows that, in general,  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda^*}$  are not isomorphic. In particular,  $(E_\Lambda, \mathcal{L}_\Lambda)$  and  $(E_{\Lambda^*}, \mathcal{L}_{\Lambda^*})$  are not labelled graph isomorphic in general.

- (ii) The isomorphism of  $C^*(E_\Lambda, \mathcal{L}_\Lambda, \mathcal{E}_\Lambda^{0,-})$  and  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  identifies  $C^*(p_A : A \in \mathcal{E}_\Lambda^{0,-})$  with  $A_\Lambda \subset \mathcal{O}_\Lambda$ . Recall from [17, Corollary 4.7] that  $A_\Lambda \cong C(\Omega_\Lambda)$ , hence we may think of the elements of  $\mathcal{E}_\Lambda^{0,-}$  as indexing closed sets in  $\Omega_\Lambda$ .
- (iii) In [7] Carlsen constructs a  $C^*$ -algebra which has  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  as a quotient, that is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{O}_\Lambda$  if  $\Lambda$  satisfies condition (I), and always carries a gauge action. A proof along the lines of Theorem 6.3 shows that this new algebra is isomorphic to  $C^*(E_\Lambda, \mathcal{L}_\Lambda, \mathcal{E}_\Lambda^{0,-})$  for all  $\Lambda$ .

### 6.3. Finiteness Conditions.

**Definition 6.5.** A labelled graph  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  is *label-finite* if  $|\mathcal{L}^{-1}(a)| < \infty$  for all  $a \in \mathcal{L}(E^1)$ .

If  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  is label-finite then  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}(\alpha)$  is finite for all  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}^*(E)$  and so all sets in  $\mathcal{E}^0$  are finite (and conversely). If  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  is label-finite then  $(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\mathcal{L}})$  is label-finite. If  $E$  is row-finite and  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  is label-finite then  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0)$  is set-finite.

The following result generalises [2, Corollary 2.5] (see also [3, Remark 3.3 (i)]).

**Theorem 6.6.** *Let  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  be a row-finite left-resolving labelled graph which is label-finite and satisfies  $\{v\} \in \mathcal{E}^0$  for all  $v \in E^0$ . Then  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0) \cong C^*(E)$ ; moreover if  $\{v\} \in \mathcal{E}^{0,-}$  for all  $v \in E^0$  then  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^{0,-}) \cong C^*(E)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\{s_e, p_v\}$  be the canonical Cuntz-Krieger  $E$ -family and  $\{t_a, q_A\}$  be the canonical generators of  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0)$ . For  $a \in \mathcal{L}(E^1)$  and  $A \in \mathcal{E}^0$  let

$$T_a = \sum_{e \in E^1: \mathcal{L}(e)=a} s_e, \text{ and } Q_A = \sum_{v \in A} p_v.$$

The above sums make sense since  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  is label-finite. Since  $E$  is row-finite one may easily check that these operators define a representation of  $(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0)$ . By the universal property of  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0)$  there is a homomorphism  $\pi_{T,Q} : C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0) \rightarrow C^*(E)$  given by  $\pi_{T,Q}(t_a) = T_a$  and  $\pi_{T,Q}(q_A) = Q_A$  for all  $a \in \mathcal{L}(E^1)$  and  $A \in \mathcal{E}^0$ .

Since  $\{v\} \in \mathcal{E}^0$  for all  $v \in E^0$ , we have  $p_v = Q_v \in C^*(T_a, Q_A)$  for all  $v \in E^0$ . Since our labelled graph is left-resolving we have  $s_e = T_{\mathcal{L}(e)} Q_{r(e)} \in C^*(T_a, Q_A)$  for all  $e \in E^1$ , and so  $\pi_{T,Q}$  is surjective. The canonical gauge actions on  $C^*(E)$  and  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}^0)$  satisfy the required properties and  $\pi_{T,Q}(q_A) = Q_A \neq 0$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{E}^0$ , so  $\pi_{T,Q}$  is an isomorphism by Theorem 5.3.

The proof of the second isomorphism is essentially the same. □

**Corollary 6.7.** *Let  $\mathcal{G} = (G^0, \mathcal{G}^1, r, s)$  be a row-finite ultragraph then  $C^*(\mathcal{G}) \cong C^*(E_{\mathcal{G}})$  where  $E_{\mathcal{G}}$  is the underlying directed graph of  $\mathcal{G}$ .*

*Proof.* From Examples 3.3 (ii) a row-finite ultragraph  $\mathcal{G}$  may be realised as a row-finite left-resolving labelled graph  $(E_{\mathcal{G}}, \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{G}})$ . As  $E_{\mathcal{G}}$  is row-finite it follows that  $(E_{\mathcal{G}}, \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{G}})$  is label-finite. Since the source map is single-valued it follows that  $v \in \mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{G}}^0$  for all  $v \in G^0 = E_{\mathcal{G}}^0$  and hence the result follows from Theorem 6.6. □

The following result was first observed in [6, Theorem 3.5] (see also [24, Corollary 3.4.5]).

**Corollary 6.8.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be a sofic shift over a finite alphabet then*

$$\mathcal{O}_\Lambda \cong C^*(E_\Lambda)$$

where  $(E_\Lambda, \mathcal{L}_\Lambda)$  is the left-Krieger cover of  $\Lambda$ .

*Proof.* As  $E_\Lambda^0$  is finite and each  $v \in E_\Lambda^0$  has a different past there are  $\alpha_v \in \mathcal{L}^*(E_\Lambda)$  with  $r_{\mathcal{L}_\Lambda}(\alpha_v) = \{v\}$ . Hence  $\{v\} \in \mathcal{E}_\Lambda^{0,-}$  for all  $v \in E_\Lambda^0$ . The result follows by Theorem 6.6.  $\square$

From [13, Theorem 3.3.18] any two minimal left-resolving representations  $(E, \mathcal{L}), (F, \mathcal{L}')$  of an irreducible sofic shift are labelled graph isomorphic and so  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}_-^0) \cong C^*(F, \mathcal{L}', \mathcal{F}_-^0)$  by Lemma 4.8. Moreover, one may use the minimality of the representation to show that the underlying graph  $E$  is irreducible (cf. [13, Lemma 3.3.10]). Hence we have:

**Corollary 6.9.** *Let  $(E, \mathcal{L})$  be a minimal left-resolving presentation of an irreducible sofic shift over a finite alphabet, then  $C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}_-^{0,-}) \cong C^*(E, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{E}_-^0)$  is simple.*

*Remark 6.10.* Recall that the graph  $(E_2, \mathcal{L}_2)$  in Examples 3.3 (ii) is the left-Krieger cover of the even shift  $Y$ . Although  $Y$  is irreducible,  $(E_2, \mathcal{L}_2)$  is not a minimal left-resolving presentation of  $Y$  and  $\mathcal{O}_Y \cong C^*(E_2)$  is not simple. However the graph  $(E_1, \mathcal{L}_1)$  Examples 3.3 (ii) is a minimal left-resolving cover of  $Y$  and so

$$C^*(E_1, \mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{E}_1^{0,-}) \cong C^*(E_1, \mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{E}_1^0) \cong C^*(E_1)$$

is simple. Similarly  $C^*(E_Z, \mathcal{L}_Z, \mathcal{E}_Z^{0,-}) \cong C^*(E_Z)$  is simple where  $Z$  is the irreducible shift introduced in Examples 3.3 (vi).

Thus, if one wishes to associate a simple  $C^*$ -algebra to an irreducible sofic shift  $\Lambda$ , then one should use the minimal left-resolving presentation of  $\Lambda$ . (cf. [6, 7]).

For a general shift space  $\Lambda$ , either  $(E_\Lambda, \mathcal{L}_\Lambda)$  will not be row-finite or there will be  $v \in E_\Lambda^0$  with  $v \notin \mathcal{E}_\Lambda^{0,-}$ . This indicates that the  $C^*$ -algebras corresponding to presentations of such shift spaces will not be Morita equivalent to graph algebras. The shift associated to a certain Shannon graph (see [20, Theorem 7.7]) provides such an example.

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