

## GRAPH $C^*$ -ALGEBRAS AND TOPOLOGICAL ENTROPY

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ABSTRACT. Given a directed graph  $E$ , it is well known that there exists a universal  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(E)$  generated by a Cuntz-Krieger  $E$  family. For example, Cuntz-Krieger algebras  $\mathcal{O}_A$  are graph  $C^*$ -algebras associated with finite graphs.  $\mathcal{O}_A$  was first introduced and studied as an invariant of the topological conjugacy class of the topological Markov shift  $(X_A, \sigma_A)$  ([CK]), and the map  $\Phi_E : C^*(E) \rightarrow C^*(E)$  defined by

$$\Phi_E(x) = \sum_{e \in E^1} s_e x s_e^*$$

played an important role in that direction of research. Choda ([Ch1]) proved that for the Cuntz algebra  $\mathcal{O}_n$  the Voiculescu's topological entropy ([Vo]) becomes  $ht(\Phi_n) = \log n$ , which has been extended to Cuntz-Krieger algebras  $\mathcal{O}_A$  in [BG] and [PWY] when  $A$  is an (irreducible) finite matrix with no sinks. In this paper we discuss the Voiculescu's topological entropy  $ht(\Phi_E)$  of the (completely positive) map  $\Phi_E$  defined on a  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(E)$  when  $E$  is an arbitrary directed graph ([JP2]). We also deal with some of other entropies like the (classical) topological entropy  $h_{top}(X_E)$ , Gurevic entropy, and a variant of the Salama's block entropy of the edge shift space of  $E$ .

### 1. INTRODUCTION

**1.1.** It is well known that for a directed graph  $E$  there exists a universal  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(E)$  associated with  $E$  (see [KPR]). Recently the ideal structures, pure infiniteness conditions, and stability conditions of graph  $C^*$ -algebras have been obtained by many authors ([BHRS], [KPRR], [Hj], etc.). It is also known about when  $C^*(E)$  has real rank zero in terms of loops in  $E$  ([JPS], [JP1]). More recently, the possible stable range for  $C^*(E)$  has been obtained ([JPS], [DHS], [KPRR], [BHRS]).

This class of graph  $C^*$ -algebras includes the Cuntz-Krieger algebras  $\mathcal{O}_A$ . Briefly, if  $A = (A_{ij})$  is an  $n \times n$   $\{0, 1\}$ -matrix the algebra  $\mathcal{O}_A$  is defined to be the universal  $C^*$ -algebra generated by  $n$  partial isometries  $\{s_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  with orthogonal range projections satisfying the relations:

$$s_i^* s_i = \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij} s_j s_j^*,$$

and if  $E$  is the finite graph with the incidence matrix  $A$  then  $\mathcal{O}_A$  is the graph algebra  $C^*(E)$ . Besides the class of  $C^*$ -algebras arising from graphs, there have

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been many generalizations of the Cuntz-Krieger algebras (for example, [EL], [Ma], [Pm] among others).

**1.2.** The Cuntz-Krieger algebras  $\mathcal{O}_A$  were introduced in [CK] to study the shift space induced by the  $n \times n$   $\{0, 1\}$ -matrix  $A$ . Such a matrix  $A$  is used as a transition matrix in symbolic dynamics. Let  $\sigma_A$  be the subshift acting on the compact one-sided shift space  $X_A$ . Then it is proved in [CK] that the Cuntz-Krieger algebra  $\mathcal{O}_A$  is an invariant for the topological conjugacy class of  $\sigma_A$ . The positive linear map  $\Phi_A : \mathcal{O}_A \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_A$  defined by

$$\Phi_A(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n s_i x s_i^*$$

played an important role in the study of the algebra  $\mathcal{O}_A$ . If  $D_A$  is the commutative  $C^*$ -subalgebra of  $\mathcal{O}_A$  generated by  $\{\Phi_A^k(s_i s_i^*) \mid 1 \leq i \leq n, k \geq 0\}$  then  $D_A$  is identified with  $C(X_A)$  in such a way that  $\Phi_A|_{D_A}$  corresponds to the endomorphism on  $C(X_A)$  induced by the shift  $\sigma_A$ .

**1.3.** The map  $\Phi_A$  on the algebra  $\mathcal{O}_A$  is in fact a completely positive (cp) map which is not necessarily a  $*$ -homomorphism, in general. Voiculescu [Vo] introduced the topological entropy  $ht(\alpha)$  for an automorphism of a unital nuclear  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$ , and later the notion was extended to automorphisms on exact  $C^*$ -algebras by Brown [Br]. But as described in [BG], even for a cp map  $\Phi$  on an exact  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$  one has the same definition of the topological entropy  $ht(\Phi)$  simply by replacing  $\alpha$  by  $\Phi$ .

Let  $\mathcal{O}_n$  be the Cuntz algebra, that is,  $\mathcal{O}_n = \mathcal{O}_A$  for the  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  with all entries equal to 1. Then  $\mathcal{O}_n$  is a simple unital purely infinite nuclear algebra on which  $\Phi_n (= \Phi_A)$  becomes a  $*$ -endomorphism. In [Ch1] Choda computed the topological entropy of  $\Phi_n$  showing that

$$ht(\Phi_n) = \log n.$$

On the other hand, if  $E$  is a finite graph, then one can consider two entropies, that is, the block entropy  $h(X_E) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log |E^n|$  and the topological entropy  $h_{top}(X_E)$  associated with the (compact) edge shift space  $(X_E, \sigma_E)$ , and then from [Wt, Theorem 7.13] we see that the two entropies coincide each other. Moreover it is easy to see that  $h(X_E) = \log n = \log r(A_E)$  if  $E$  is the graph consisting of  $n$  simple loops at a single vertex (so that  $C^*(E) \cong \mathcal{O}_n$ ) and  $r(A_E)$  is the spectral radius of the edge matrix  $A_E$  of  $E$ . Thus for the Cuntz algebras  $\mathcal{O}_n$ , Choda's result means that

$$ht(\Phi_n) = \log n = \log r(A_E) = h(X_E) = h_{top}(X_E),$$

and this has been extended by Boca and Goldstein [BG] to a Cuntz-Krieger algebra  $\mathcal{O}_A$  when  $A$  is the edge matrix of a strongly connected finite graph  $E$ . More generally, the same equality  $ht(\Phi_E) = \log r(A_E)$  is obtained for any finite graph  $E$  with no sinks in [PWY] where the full  $C^*$ -dynamical systems are deeply investigated.

If  $E$  is a finite graph possibly with sinks, the cp map  $\Phi_E (= \Phi_{A_E})$  is not unital. We defined in [JP2] another cp map  $\Psi_E : C^*(E) \rightarrow C^*(E)$  which is unital to prove

that

$$ht(\Psi_E) = \log r(A_E),$$

and then using this fact we also proved that  $ht(\Phi_E) = \log r(A_E)$ .

**1.4.** Let  $E$  be an infinite graph and  $C^*(E) = C^*\{p_v, s_e \mid v \in E^0, e \in E^1\}$  be its graph  $C^*$ -algebra. Then as in the case of finite graph one would think of the map  $\Phi_E : C^*(E) \rightarrow C^*(E)$  given by

$$\Phi_E(x) = \sum_{e \in E^1} s_e x s_e^*$$

and its topological entropy  $ht(\Phi_E)$ . But we first need to prove that the sum converges and the map is a cp map. In [JP2], it is shown that if  $E$  is locally finite, that is, if every vertex receives and emits only finitely many edges, then  $\Phi_E$  is a well defined contractive cp map. Thus the topological entropy  $ht(\Phi_E)$  is defined. Another problem we meet in dealing with the edge shift space  $X_E$  is that it is not compact any more, and so  $h_{top}(X_E)$  is not given. Nevertheless, if we use Gurevic's compactification  $\overline{X}_E$  ([Gu]) the following inequality can be shown ([JP2]);

$$h_{top}(\overline{X}_E) \leq ht(\Phi_E),$$

whenever  $E$  is a locally finite irreducible infinite graph. In fact, the left hand side is equal to  $\sup_{E'} h_{top}(X_{E'})$ , where the supremum is taken over the set of all finite subgraphs  $E'$  of  $E$  ([Gu]). The inequality is proved by finding a commutative  $C^*$ -subalgebra  $D_E$  of  $C^*(E)$  such that  $\Phi_E(D_E) \subseteq D_E$  and  $h_{top}(\overline{X}_E) = ht(\Phi_E|_{D_E})$ .

Finally we consider the topological entropy  $ht(\Phi_E|_{\mathcal{A}})$  of the map  $\Phi_E$  restricted to the AF subalgebra  $\mathcal{A}_0$  which is invariant under  $\Phi_E$  and  $D_E \subset \mathcal{A}$ . It is proved in [JP3] that

$$ht(\Phi_E|_{\mathcal{A}_0}) \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log |E^n(v)|,$$

where  $E^n(v)$  denotes the set of all finite paths with length  $n$  passing through the vertex  $v$ . Here the value  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log |E^n(v)|$  does not depend on the choice of a vertex  $v$  if  $E$  is irreducible.

## 2. GRAPHS AND GRAPH $C^*$ -ALGEBRAS

Let  $E = (E^0, E^1, r, s)$  be a directed graph (or simply a graph) with a countable vertex and edge sets  $E^0$  and  $E^1$ , where  $r, s : E^1 \rightarrow E^0$  are the range and source maps. By  $\mathcal{S}(E)$  we denote the set of all sinks  $v$  ( $s^{-1}(v) = \emptyset$ ) of  $E$ . If a finite sequence  $\alpha = \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \cdots \alpha_n$  of edges satisfies  $r(\alpha_i) = s(\alpha_{i+1})$  for each  $i = 1, \dots, n-1$ ,  $\alpha$  is called a (finite) *path of length*  $|\alpha| = n$  with the range  $r(\alpha) = r(\alpha_n)$  and the source  $s(\alpha) = s(\alpha_1)$ .  $E^n$  will be the set of all finite paths of length  $n$ , and we put  $E^* = \cup_{n \geq 0} E^n$  (regarding each vertex as a finite path of length zero). A path  $\alpha$  ( $|\alpha| > 0$ ) with  $s(\alpha) = r(\alpha)$  is called a *loop*.

A graph  $E$  is said to have property (L) if every loop has an exit, and (K) if there are at least two distinct loops at  $v$  whenever  $v$  lies on a loop.

For a graph  $E$ , a family  $\{s_e, p_v \mid e \in E^1, v \in E^0\}$  of partial isometries  $s_e$  and mutually orthogonal projections  $p_v$  is called a *Cuntz-Krieger  $E$ -family* if it satisfies

the following relations:

$$s_e^* s_e = p_{r(e)}, \quad s_e s_e^* \leq p_{s(e)},$$

$$p_v = \sum_{s(e)=v} s_e s_e^* \quad \text{if } 0 < |s^{-1}(v)| < \infty.$$

It is known (see [BHRS], [KPR] for example) that there exists a universal  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(E)$  generated by a Cuntz-Krieger  $E$ -family  $\{s_e, p_v\}$ . We call  $C^*(E)$  the *graph  $C^*$ -algebra associated with  $E$* . By universality there is the *gauge action*  $\gamma : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \text{Aut}(C^*(E))$  given by

$$\gamma_z(p_v) = p_v \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma_z(s_e) = z s_e.$$

If a row finite graph  $E$  satisfies (L) any two Cuntz-Krieger  $E$ -families of non-zero elements give rise to the isomorphic  $C^*$ -algebra ([KPR]), which is called the uniqueness theorem of graph algebras. Also if  $E$  is an arbitrary graph and  $\{S_e, P_v \mid e \in E^1, v \in E^0\} \subset B(H)$  is a Cuntz-Krieger  $E$ -family with an action  $\beta : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \text{Aut}(C^*(S_e, P_v))$  such that  $\beta_z \circ \pi = \pi \circ \gamma_z$  for  $z \in \mathbb{T}$  ( $\pi : C^*(E) \rightarrow C^*(S_e, P_v)$  is the  $*$ -homomorphism such that  $s_e \mapsto S_e$  and  $p_v \mapsto P_v$ , such a homomorphism  $\pi$  exists by universality of the graph algebra) then  $\pi$  is in fact an isomorphism ([BHRS]).

From definition it follows immediately that all graph algebras are separable since we consider graphs  $E$  with countable vertices and edges (see (b) below). Moreover the following useful and interesting facts are known for graph algebras.

- (a)  $C^*(E)$  is unital if and only if  $E$  has finitely many vertices.
- (b) The linear span of the set  $\{s_\alpha s_\beta^* \mid \alpha, \beta \in E^*\}$  is norm dense in  $C^*(E)$ , where  $s_\alpha = s_{\alpha_1} \cdots s_{\alpha_k}$  for  $\alpha = \alpha_1 \cdots \alpha_k \in E^k$ ,  $k \geq 1$ , and  $s_\alpha = p_v$  for  $\alpha = v \in E^0$ .
- (c)  $C^*(E)$  is AF if and only if  $E$  has no loops ([KPR]).
- (d)  $C^*(E) \times_\gamma \mathbb{T}$  is always AF: The crossed product  $C^*(E) \times_\gamma \mathbb{T}$  is stably isomorphic to a graph  $C^*$ -algebra associated with a graph which has no loops ([KP]).
- (e) Graph  $C^*$ -algebras are nuclear:  $C^*(E)$  is stably isomorphic to

$$(C^*(E) \times_\gamma \mathbb{T}) \times_{\hat{\gamma}} \hat{\mathbb{T}} \cong AF \times_{\hat{\gamma}} \mathbb{Z}$$

by the Takesaki-Takai duality ([Ku, p.193]).

- (f)  $C^*(E)$  is simple if and only if  $E$  is a cofinal graph with (L) ( $E$  is cofinal if  $v \in E^0$  and  $\alpha = \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \cdots$  is an infinite path there exists a finite path  $\beta$  such that  $s(\beta) = v$  and  $r(\beta) = s(\alpha_i)$  for some  $i$ ). Moreover, if  $C^*(E)$  is simple then it is either AF (when there is no loops in  $E$ ) or purely infinite (there are loops in  $E$ ). We refer the reader to [KR] for the definition of purely infinite  $C^*$ -algebras.
- (g) Let  $E$  be a locally finite directed graph with no sinks. Then  $C^*(E)$  is purely infinite if and only if no quotient of  $C^*(E)$  contains an AF ideal, nor does it contain a corner isomorphic to  $M_n(C(\mathbb{T}))$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  ([Hj]).

- (h) The ideal structure of  $C^*(E)$  can be read from the graph itself ([BHRS]). Particularly, if a locally finite graph  $E$  has (K), there is a lattice isomorphism between the ideals of  $C^*(E)$  and the lattice of saturated hereditary subsets of  $E^0$  ([KPRR]).
- (i) A  $C^*$ -algebra is of *real rank zero* ( $RR(A) = 0$ ) if every non-zero hereditary  $C^*$ -subalgebra of  $A$  contains an approximate identity of projections ([BP]). It is known that  $RR(C^*(E)) = 0$  if and only if  $E$  satisfies (K) ([JP1]).
- (j) The only possible values of the stable rank of  $C^*(E)$  are 1, 2, or  $\infty$  ([DHS]). In particular,  $sr(C^*(E)) = 1$  if and only if no loops in  $E$  has an exit ([JPS], [DHS]).

### 3. SHIFT SPACE AND ENTROPIES

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a finite set and let  $X \subset \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{N}}$  be a (one-sided) *shift space* with the shift map  $\sigma_X$ . Then the *entropy*  $h(X)$  of  $X$  is defined by

$$h(X) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log |W_n(X)|,$$

where  $W_n(X)$  is the set of all words of length  $n$  that appear in a sequence of  $X$  ([LM, Definition 4.1.1] or [Kt, p.23]). If  $X \neq \emptyset$  we have  $0 \leq h(X) < \log |\mathcal{A}| < \infty$  since  $1 \leq |W_n(X)| \leq |\mathcal{A}|^n$ . In particular, the full shift space  $X_n = \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{N}}$ ,  $|\mathcal{A}| = n$ , has  $h(X_n) = \log n$ . If  $X = \emptyset$  then  $h(X) = -\infty$  by definition.

Let  $T : X \rightarrow X$  be a continuous map on a compact space  $X$ . If  $\mathcal{U}$  is an open cover of  $X$  then so is  $T^{-1}\mathcal{U}$ . By  $N(\mathcal{U})$  we denote the number of sets in a finite subcover of  $\mathcal{U}$  with smallest cardinality. Then the *entropy of  $T$  relative to  $\mathcal{U}$*  is given by

$$h_{top}(T, \mathcal{U}) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log(N(\bigvee_{i=0}^{n-1} T^{-i}\mathcal{U})),$$

where  $\mathcal{U} \vee \mathcal{V}$  denotes the join of  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $\mathcal{V}$ , and the *topological entropy of  $T$*  is defined by

$$h_{top}(T) = \sup_{\mathcal{U}} h_{top}(T, \mathcal{U}),$$

where the supremum is taken over all the open covers (or equivalently, over all the finite open covers) of  $X$  ([Wt, Chapter 7]).

*Remark 3.1.* Let  $E$  be a finite graph and  $X_E$  be the one-sided shift space associated with  $E$ .

- (a) Let  $X_E = \{\alpha = (\alpha_i) \in (E^1)^{\mathbb{N}} \mid r(\alpha_i) = s(\alpha_{i+1}) \text{ for all } i \in \mathbb{N}\}$  be the edge shift space with the shift map  $\sigma = \sigma_E$  given by  $\sigma(\alpha)_i = \alpha_{i+1}$  for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . If there is an infinite path in  $E$

$$h_{top}(X_E) = h(X_E).$$

Otherwise  $X_E = \emptyset$  and so  $h(X_E) = -\infty$  ([Wt, Theorem 7.13]).

- (b)  $h(X_E) = \log \lambda_E = \log r(A_E)$ , where  $\lambda_E$  is the Perron value of the edge matrix  $A_E$  of  $E$  and  $r(A_E)$  is the spectral radius of  $A_E$  (see [JP2], for example).

4. VOICULESCU'S TOPOLOGICAL ENTROPY OF CP MAPS  $\Phi_E$ 

Let  $\pi : A \rightarrow B(H)$  be a faithful representation of a  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$  and let  $Pf(A)$  be set of all finite subsets of  $A$ . Put

- $CPA(\pi, A) = \{(\phi, \psi, B) \mid \phi : A \rightarrow B, \psi : B \rightarrow B(H) \text{ are contractive completely positive maps and } \dim B < \infty\}$ ,
- $rcp(\pi, \omega, \delta) = \inf\{\text{rank}(B) \mid (\phi, \psi, B) \in CPA(\pi, A), \|\psi \circ \phi(x) - \pi(x)\| < \delta \text{ for all } x \in \omega\}$ , where  $\text{rank}(B)$  denotes the dimension of a maximal abelian subalgebra of  $B$ .

Since  $C^*(E)$  is nuclear (hence exact) and every exact  $C^*$ -algebra is nuclearly embeddable ([Kr]), for each  $\omega \in Pf(C^*(E))$  and  $\delta > 0$  the value  $rcp(\pi, \omega, \delta)$  is finite and moreover is independent of the choice of  $\pi$  ([Br], [BG]). Assuming that  $C^*(E) \subset B(H)$  for a Hilbert space  $H$  we may write  $rcp(\omega, \delta)$  for  $rcp(\pi, \omega, \delta)$ .

**Definition 4.1.** ([Br], [BG]) Let  $A \subset B(H)$  be an exact  $C^*$ -algebra and  $\Phi : A \rightarrow A$  be a cp (completely positive) map. Then we define

$$\begin{aligned} ht(\Phi, \omega, \delta) &= \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log (rcp(\omega \cup \Phi(\omega) \cup \dots \cup \Phi^{n-1}(\omega), \delta)), \\ ht(\Phi, \omega) &= \sup_{\delta > 0} ht(\Phi, \omega, \delta), \\ ht(\Phi) &= \sup_{\omega \in Pf(A)} ht(\Phi, \omega). \end{aligned}$$

$ht(\Phi)$  is called the *topological entropy* of  $\Phi$ .

*Remark 4.1.* (a) ([De]) Let  $T : X \rightarrow X$  be a continuous map on a compact metric space  $X$ . Then  $ht(T^*) = h_{top}(X, T)$ , where  $T^* : C(X) \rightarrow C(X)$  is the cp map given by  $T^*(f) = f \circ T$ ,  $f \in C(X)$ .

(b) Let  $\alpha$  be an automorphism of a unital  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$ . Choda ([Ch2]) introduced the  $C^*$ -dynamical entropy  $ht_\phi(\alpha)$  with respect to an  $\alpha$ -invariant state  $\phi$  of  $A$ , and proved that  $h_\phi(\alpha) \leq ht_\phi(\alpha) \leq ht(\alpha)$ , where  $h_\phi(\alpha)$  is the CNT-entropy.

(c) The following basic results are well known.

- (i) If  $\Phi : A \rightarrow A$  is a cp map and  $\theta : A \rightarrow B$  is a  $C^*$ -isomorphism then  $\theta\Phi\theta^{-1} : B \rightarrow B$  is also a cp map and

$$ht(\Phi) = ht(\theta\Phi\theta^{-1}).$$

- (ii) Let  $\tilde{A}$  be the unital  $C^*$ -algebra obtained by adjoining a unit. Let  $\tilde{\Phi} : \tilde{A} \rightarrow \tilde{A}$  be the extension of  $\Phi$ . Then

$$ht(\tilde{\Phi}) = ht(\Phi).$$

- (iii) Let  $\Phi$  be a cp map on  $A$ . If  $A_0 \subset A$  is a  $C^*$ -subalgebra of  $A$  such that  $\Phi(A_0) \subset A_0$ . Then

$$ht(\Phi|_{A_0}) \leq ht(\Phi).$$

Let  $E$  be a finite graph with the sinks  $\mathcal{S}(E)$ . Then the graph algebra  $C^*(E) = C^*\{s_e, p_v\}$  is unital with the unit  $\sum_{v \in E^0} p_v$ . Consider the following cp maps  $\Phi_E, \Psi_E : C^*(E) \rightarrow C^*(E)$  given by

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi_E(x) &= \sum_{e \in E^1} s_e x s_e^*, \\ \Psi_E(x) &= \Phi_E(x) + \sum_{v \in \mathcal{S}(E)} p_v x p_v.\end{aligned}$$

The map  $\Psi_E$  is always unital while  $\Phi_E$  may not. We call  $\Phi_E$  the *canonical cp map* of  $C^*(E)$ .

**Proposition 1.** ([JP2]) *Let  $E$  be a finite graph with the edge matrix  $A_E$ . If  $E$  contains an infinite path then*

$$ht(\Psi_E) = \log r(A_E),$$

where  $r(A_E)$  is the spectral radius of the edge matrix  $A_E$  of  $E$ .

The inequality  $\log r(A_E) \leq ht(\Psi_E)$  follows from Remark 3.1.(b) by applying Remark 4.1.(c)(iii) to the  $\Psi_E$ -invariant commutative  $C^*$ -subalgebra  $D_E$  of  $C^*(E)$  that is isomorphic to  $C(X_E)$  and  $\Phi_E|_{D_E}$  corresponds to the shift map  $\sigma_{X_E}$ .

We can prove the following theorem using the above proposition.

**Theorem 2.** ([Ch1], [BG], [PWY], [JP2]) *Let  $E$  be a finite graph. Then the topological entropy of the cp map  $\Phi_E$  is*

$$ht(\Phi_E) = \log r(A_E) = h_{top}(X_E).$$

Now let  $E$  be a locally finite infinite graph. Then it is known in [JP2] that the map

$$\Phi_E : C^*(E) \rightarrow C^*(E), \quad \Phi_E(x) = \sum_{e \in E^1} s_e x s_e^*, \quad x \in C^*(E)$$

is a well defined contractive cp map. Hence we can think of its topological entropy  $ht(\Phi_E)$ . As in the case of finite graph, one might expect that  $h_{top}(X_E)$  is the lower bound for  $ht(\Phi_E)$ . But the locally compact shift space  $X_E$  may not be compact, hence  $h_{top}(X_E)$  is not defined and we need to consider a compactification of  $X_E$ . So let  $\bar{X}_E$  be the Gurevic's compactification of  $X_E$  ([Gu]).

**Theorem 3.** ([JP2]) *Let  $E$  be a locally finite irreducible infinite graph. Then*

$$h_{top}(\bar{X}_E) = \sup_{E'} h(X_{E'}) \leq ht(\Phi_E),$$

where the supremum is taken over all the finite subgraphs of  $E$ .

The first equality in the theorem is proved in [Gu]. One can consider the one point compactification  $\tilde{X}_E$  of the locally compact space  $X_E$ . It is easy to see that if  $E$  is locally finite then  $\tilde{X}_E$  is topologically conjugate to Gurevic's compactification

$\overline{X}_E$ . Hence they have the same topological entropy,  $h_{top}(\widetilde{X}_E) = h_{top}(\overline{X}_E)$ . Also the topological entropy by Gurevic coincides with the growth rate of the number of loops of length  $n$  from any fixed vertex to itself if the graph is irreducible.

Now let  $E$  be an irreducible infinite graph, and let  $\mathcal{A}_0$  be the AF subalgebra of  $C^*(E)$  generated by  $\{s_\alpha s_\beta^* \mid \alpha, \beta \in E^*, |\alpha| = |\beta|\}$ . Then clearly  $D_E \subset \mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{A}_0$  is  $\Phi_E$ -invariant so that  $ht(\Phi_E|_{\mathcal{A}_0}) \leq ht(\Phi_E)$ . Also an AF subalgebra  $\mathcal{A}_v = C^*\{s_\alpha s_\beta^* \mid \alpha, \beta \in E^*, |\alpha| = |\beta|, r(\alpha) = r(\beta) = v\}$  of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  is  $\Phi_E$ -invariant for each  $v \in E^0$ . Recall that the Salama's block entropy of the shift space  $(X_E, \sigma_E)$  is given by  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log |B_n(v)|$ , where  $B_n(v)$  is the set of all finite paths  $\alpha$  with  $|\alpha| = n$ ,  $s(\alpha) = v$ . The entropy value does not depend on the choice of a vertex  $v$  if  $E$  is irreducible. If  $B'_n(v)$  is the set of all finite paths  $\alpha$  with  $r(\alpha) = v$ ,  $|\alpha| = n$ , then we can think of a variant of Salama's entropy, that is,  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log |B'_n(v)|$ .

**Theorem 4.** ([JP3]) *Let  $E$  be a locally finite irreducible infinite graph and let  $E^n(v)$  be the set of all finite paths  $\alpha$  passing through  $v$  and  $|\alpha| = n$ . Then*

$$ht(\Phi_E|_{\mathcal{A}_0}) \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log |E^n(v)|,$$

and  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log |E^n(v)|$  is independent of the choice of  $v$ . Also we have

$$ht(\Phi_E|_{\mathcal{A}_v}) \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log |B'_n(v)|.$$

*Remark 4.2.* Theorem 4 implies that  $ht(\Phi_E) = \infty$  in many cases. It would be important to find an upper bound for  $ht(\Phi_E)$  or a better lower bound for  $ht(\Phi_E|_{\mathcal{A}_0})$  than the Gurevic entropy. These efforts will be helpful for computing the entropy  $ht(\Phi_E)$ .

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