

THE HYPERRIGIDITY OF TENSOR ALGEBRAS OF C*-CORRESPONDENCES

ELIAS G. KATSOULIS AND CHRISTOPHER RAMSEY

ABSTRACT. Given a C*-correspondence X , we give necessary and sufficient conditions for the tensor algebra \mathcal{T}_X^+ to be hyperrigid. In the case where X is coming from a topological graph we obtain a complete characterization.

1. INTRODUCTION

A not necessarily unital operator algebra \mathcal{A} is said to be *hyperrigid* if given any non-degenerate *-homomorphism

$$\tau: C_{\text{env}}^*(\mathcal{A}) \longrightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$$

then τ is the only completely positive, completely contractive extension of the restricted map $\tau|_{\mathcal{A}}$. Arveson coined the term hyperrigid in [1] but he was not the only one considering properties similar to this at the time, e.g. [4].

There are many examples of hyperrigid operator algebras such as those which are Dirichlet but the situation was not very clear in the case of tensor algebras of C*-correspondences. It was known that the tensor algebra of a row-finite graph is hyperrigid [4], [5] and Dor-On and Salmomon [3] showed that row-finiteness completely characterizes hyperrigidity for such graph correspondences. These approaches, while successful, did not lend themselves to a more general characterization.

The authors, in a previous work [11], developed a sufficient condition for hyperrigidity in tensor algebras. In particular, if Katsura's ideal acts non-degenerately on the left then the tensor algebra is hyperrigid. The motivation was to provide a large class of hyperrigid C*-correspondence examples as crossed products of operator algebras behave in a very nice manner when the operator algebra is hyperrigid. This theory was in turn leveraged to provide a positive confirmation to the Hao-Ng isomorphism problem in the case of graph correspondences and arbitrary groups. For further reading on the subject please see [9, 10, 11].

In this paper, we provide a necessary condition for the hyperrigidity of a tensor algebra, that a C*-correspondence cannot be σ -degenerate, and show

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that this completely characterizes the situation where the C^* -correspondence is coming from a topological graph, which generalizes both the graph correspondence case and the semicrossed product arising from a multivariable dynamical system.

1.1. Regarding hyperrigidity. The reader familiar with the literature recognizes that in our definition of hyperrigidity, we are essentially asking that the restriction on \mathcal{A} of any non-degenerate representation of $C_{\text{env}}^*(\mathcal{A})$ possesses the *unique extension property* (abbr. UEP). According to [3, Proposition 2.4] a representation $\rho : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$, degenerate or not, has the UEP if and only if ρ is a maximal representation of \mathcal{A} , i.e., whenever π is a representation of \mathcal{A} dilating ρ , then $\pi = \rho \oplus \pi'$ for some representation π' . Our definition of hyperrigidity is in accordance with Arveson's nomenclature [1], our earlier work [7, 11] and the works of Dor-On and Salomon [3] and Salomon [17], who systematized quite nicely the non-unital theory.

An alternative definition of hyperrigidity for \mathcal{A} may ask that *any* representation of $C_{\text{env}}^*(\mathcal{A})$, not just the non-degenerate ones, possesses the UEP when restricted on \mathcal{A} . It turns out that for operator algebras with a positive contractive approximate unit¹, such a definition would be equivalent to ours [17, Proposition 3.6 and Theorem 3.9]. However when one moves beyond operator algebras with an approximate unit, there are examples to show that the two definitions differ. One such example is the non-unital operator algebra \mathcal{A}_V generated by the unilateral forward shift V . It is easy to see that \mathcal{A}_V is hyperrigid according to our definition and yet the zero map, as a representation on $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}$, does not have the UEP. (See for instance [17, Example 3.4].)

2. MAIN RESULTS

A C^* -correspondence $(X, \mathcal{C}, \varphi_X)$ (often just (X, \mathcal{C})) consists of a C^* -algebra \mathcal{C} , a Hilbert \mathcal{C} -module $(X, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ and a (non-degenerate) $*$ -homomorphism $\varphi_X : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(X)$ into the C^* -algebra of adjointable operators on X .

An isometric (Toeplitz) representation (ρ, t, \mathcal{H}) of a C^* -correspondence (X, \mathcal{C}) consists of a non-degenerate $*$ -homomorphism $\rho : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$ and a linear map $t : X \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$, such that

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(c)t(x) &= t(\varphi_X(c)(x)), \quad \text{and} \\ t(x)^*t(x') &= \rho(\langle x, x' \rangle), \end{aligned}$$

for all $c \in \mathcal{C}$ and $x, x' \in X$. These relations imply that the C^* -algebra generated by this isometric representation equals the closed linear span of

$$t(x_1) \cdots t(x_n)t(y_1)^* \cdots t(y_m)^*, \quad x_i, y_j \in X.$$

Moreover, there exists a $*$ -homomorphism $\psi_t : \mathcal{K}(X) \rightarrow B$, such that

$$\psi_t(\theta_{x,y}) = t(x)t(y)^*,$$

¹which includes all operator algebras appearing in this paper

where $\mathcal{K}(X) \subset \mathcal{L}(X)$ is the subalgebra generated by the operators $\theta_{x,y}(z) = x\langle y, z \rangle$, $x, y, z \in X$, which are called by analogy the compact operators.

The Cuntz-Pimsner-Toeplitz C^* -algebra \mathcal{T}_X is defined as the C^* -algebra generated by the image of (ρ_∞, t_∞) , the universal isometric representation. This is universal in the sense that for any other isometric representation there is a $*$ -homomorphism of \mathcal{T}_X onto the C^* -algebra generated by this representation in the most natural way.

The *tensor algebra* \mathcal{T}_X^+ of a C^* -correspondence (X, \mathcal{C}) is the norm-closed subalgebra of \mathcal{T}_X generated by $\rho_\infty(\mathcal{C})$ and $t_\infty(X)$. See [15] for more on these constructions.

Consider Katsura's ideal

$$\mathcal{J}_X \equiv \ker \varphi_X^\perp \cap \varphi_X^{-1}(\mathcal{K}(X)).$$

An isometric representation (ρ, t) of $(X, \mathcal{C}, \varphi_X)$ is said to be covariant (or Cuntz-Pimsner) if and only if

$$\psi_t(\varphi_X(c)) = \rho(c),$$

for all $c \in \mathcal{J}_X$. The Cuntz-Pimsner algebra \mathcal{O}_X is the universal C^* -algebra for all isometric covariant representations of (X, \mathcal{C}) , see [13] for further details. Furthermore, the first author and Kribs [8, Lemma 3.5] showed that \mathcal{O}_X contains a completely isometric copy of \mathcal{T}_X^+ and $C_{\text{env}}^*(\mathcal{T}_X^+) \simeq \mathcal{O}_X$.

We turn now to the hyperrigidity of tensor algebras. In [11] a sufficient condition for hyperrigidity was developed, Katsura's ideal acting non-degenerately on the left of X . To be clear, non-degeneracy here means that $\overline{\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)X} = X$ which by Cohen's factorization theorem implies that we actually have $\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)X = X$.

Theorem 2.1 (Theorem 3.1, [11]). *Let (X, \mathcal{C}) be a C^* -correspondence. If $\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)$ acts non-degenerately on X , then \mathcal{T}_X^+ is a hyperrigid operator algebra.*

The proof shows that if $\tau': \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$ is a completely contractive and completely positive map that agrees with a $*$ -homomorphism of \mathcal{O}_X on \mathcal{T}_X^+ then the multiplicative domain of τ' must be everything. This is accomplished through the multiplicative domain arguments of [2, Proposition 1.5.7] and the use of Kasparov's Stabilization Theorem. In earlier versions of [11], Theorem 2.1 was claimed for countably generated C^* -correspondences only but a slight modification of the earlier proof makes it work for arbitrary C^* -correspondences.

A C^* -correspondence (X, \mathcal{C}) is called *regular* if and only if \mathcal{C} acts faithfully on X by compact operators, i.e., $\mathcal{J}_X = \mathcal{C}$. We thus obtain the following which also appeared in [11].

Corollary 2.2. *The tensor algebra of a regular C^* -correspondence is necessarily hyperrigid.*

We seek a converse to Theorem 2.1.

Definition 2.3. Let (X, \mathcal{C}) be a C^* -correspondence and let \mathcal{J}_X be Katsura's ideal. We say that $\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)$ acts σ -degenerately on X if there exists a representation $\sigma: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$ so that

$$\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)X \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H} \neq X \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H}.$$

Remark 2.4. In particular, if there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}$ so that

$$(\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X) \otimes \text{id})X^{\otimes n} \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H} \neq X^{\otimes n} \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H}.$$

then by considering the Hilbert space $\mathcal{K} := X^{\otimes n-1} \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H}$, we see that

$$\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)X \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{K} \neq X \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{K}.$$

and so $\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)$ acts σ -degenerately on X .

The following gives a quick example of a σ -degenerate action. Note that this is possibly stronger than having a not non-degenerate action.

Proposition 2.5. *Let (X, \mathcal{C}) be a C^* -correspondence. If $(\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)X)^\perp \neq \{0\}$, then $\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)$ acts σ -degenerately on X .*

Proof. Let $0 \neq f \in (\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)X)^\perp$. Let $\sigma: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$ be a $*$ -representation and $h \in \mathcal{H}$ so that $\sigma(\langle f, f \rangle^{1/2})h \neq 0$. Then,

$$\langle f \otimes_\sigma h, f \otimes_\sigma h \rangle = \langle h, \sigma(\langle f, f \rangle)h \rangle = \|\sigma(\langle f, f \rangle^{1/2})h\| \neq 0.$$

A similar calculation shows that

$$0 \neq f \otimes_\sigma h \in (\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)X \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H})^\perp$$

and we are done. ■

We need the following

Lemma 2.6. *Let (X, \mathcal{C}) be a C^* -correspondence and (ρ, t) an isometric representation of (X, \mathcal{C}) on \mathcal{H} .*

- (i) *If $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ is an invariant subspace for $(\rho \times t)(\mathcal{T}_X^+)$, then the restriction $(\rho|_{\mathcal{M}}, t|_{\mathcal{M}})$ of (ρ, t) on \mathcal{M} is an isometric representation.*
- (ii) *If $\rho(c)h = \psi_t(\varphi_X(c))h$, for all $c \in \mathcal{J}_X$ and $h \in [t(X)\mathcal{H}]^\perp$, then (ρ, t) is a Cuntz-Pimsner representation.*

Proof. (i) If p is the orthogonal projection on \mathcal{M} , then p commutes with $\rho(\mathcal{C})$ and so $\rho|_{\mathcal{M}}(\cdot) = p\rho(\cdot)p$ is a $*$ -representation of \mathcal{C} .

Furthermore, for $x, y \in X$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} t|_{\mathcal{M}}(x)^* t|_{\mathcal{M}}(y) &= pt(x)^* pt(y)p \\ &= pt(x)^* t(y)p \\ &= p\rho(\langle x, y \rangle)p = \rho|_{\mathcal{M}}(\langle x, y \rangle) \end{aligned}$$

and the conclusion follows.

(ii) It is easy to see on rank-one operators and therefore by linearity and continuity on all compact operators $K \in \mathcal{K}(X)$ that

$$t(Kx) = \psi_t(K)t(x), \quad x \in X.$$

Now if $c \in \mathcal{J}_X$, then for any $x \in X$ and $h \in \mathcal{H}$ we have

$$\rho(c)t(x)h = t(\varphi_X(c)x)h = \psi_t(\varphi_X(c))t(x)h.$$

By assumption $\rho(c)h = \psi_t(\varphi_X(c))h$, for any $h \in [t(X)\mathcal{H}]^\perp$ and the conclusion follows. \blacksquare

Theorem 2.7. *Let (X, \mathcal{C}) be a C^* -correspondence. If Katsura's ideal \mathcal{J}_X acts σ -degenerately on X then the tensor algebra \mathcal{T}_X^+ is not hyperrigid.*

Proof. Let $\sigma: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$ so that

$$\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)X \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H} \neq X \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H}$$

and let $\mathcal{M}_0 := (\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)X \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H})^\perp$.

We claim that

$$(1) \quad (\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X) \otimes I)\mathcal{M}_0 = \{0\}.$$

Indeed for any $f \in \mathcal{M}_0$ and $j \in \mathcal{J}_X$ we have

$$\langle (\varphi_X(j) \otimes I)f, (\varphi_X(j) \otimes I)f \rangle = \langle f, (\varphi_X(j^*j) \otimes I)f \rangle = 0$$

since $f \in (\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)X \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H})^\perp$. This proves the claim.

We also claim that

$$(2) \quad (\varphi_X(\mathcal{C}) \otimes I)\mathcal{M}_0 = \mathcal{M}_0.$$

Indeed this follows from the fact that

$$(\varphi_X(\mathcal{C}) \otimes I)(\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)X \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H}) = \varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)X \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H},$$

which is easily verified.

Using the subspace \mathcal{M}_0 we produce a Cuntz-Pimsner representation (ρ, t) of (X, \mathcal{C}) as follows. Let (ρ_∞, t_∞) be the universal representation of (X, \mathcal{C}) on the Fock space $\mathcal{F}(X) = \bigoplus_{n=0}^\infty X^{\otimes n}$, $X^{\otimes 0} := \mathcal{C}$. Let

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_0: \mathcal{C} &\longrightarrow B(\mathcal{F}(X) \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H}); c \longmapsto \rho_\infty(c) \otimes I \\ t_0: X &\longrightarrow B(\mathcal{F}(X) \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H}); x \longmapsto t_\infty(x) \otimes I. \end{aligned}$$

Define

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M} &:= 0 \oplus \mathcal{M}_0 \oplus (X \otimes \mathcal{M}_0) \oplus (X^{\otimes 2} \otimes \mathcal{M}_0) \oplus \dots \\ &= (\rho_0 \rtimes t_0)(\mathcal{T}_X^+)(0 \oplus \mathcal{M}_0 \oplus 0 \oplus 0 \oplus \dots) \subseteq \mathcal{F}(X) \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H}, \end{aligned}$$

with the second equality following from (2). Clearly, \mathcal{M} is an invariant subspace for $(\rho_0 \rtimes t_0)(\mathcal{T}_X^+)$.

Let $\rho := \rho_0|_{\mathcal{M}}$ and $t := t_0|_{\mathcal{M}}$. By Lemma 2.6(i), (ρ, t) is a representation of (X, \mathcal{C}) . We claim that (ρ, t) is actually Cuntz-Pimsner.

Indeed by Lemma 2.6(ii) it suffices to examine whether $\psi_t(\varphi_X(j))h = \rho(j)h$, for any $h \in \mathcal{M} \ominus t(X)\mathcal{M}$. Note that since

$$t(X)\mathcal{M} = 0 \oplus 0 \oplus (X \otimes \mathcal{M}_0) \oplus (X^{\otimes 2} \otimes \mathcal{M}_0) \oplus \dots,$$

we have that

$$\mathcal{M} \ominus t(X)\mathcal{M} = 0 \oplus \mathcal{M}_0 \oplus 0 \oplus 0 \oplus \dots$$

From this it follows that for any $h \in \mathcal{M} \ominus t(X)\mathcal{M}$ we have

$$t_0(x)^*h \in (\mathcal{C} \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H}) \oplus 0 \oplus 0 \oplus \dots, \quad x \in X$$

and so in particular for any $j \in \mathcal{J}_X$ we obtain

$$\psi_t(\varphi_X(j))h \in t_{0|\mathcal{M}}(X)(t_{0|\mathcal{M}}(X))^*h = \{0\}.$$

On the other hand,

$$\rho(j)h \in 0 \oplus (\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X) \otimes I)\mathcal{M}_0 \oplus 0 \oplus 0 \oplus \dots = \{0\},$$

because of (2). Hence (ρ, t) is Cuntz-Pimsner.

At this point by restricting on \mathcal{T}_X^+ , we produce the representation $\rho \rtimes t|_{\mathcal{T}_X^+}$ of \mathcal{T}_X^+ coming from a $*$ -representation of its C^* -envelope \mathcal{O}_X , which admits a dilation, namely $\rho_0 \rtimes t_0|_{\mathcal{T}_X^+}$. If we show now that $\rho_0 \rtimes t_0|_{\mathcal{T}_X^+}$ is a non-trivial dilation of $\rho \rtimes t|_{\mathcal{T}_X^+}$, i.e. \mathcal{M}_0 is not reducing for $(\rho_0 \rtimes t_0)(\mathcal{T}_X^+)$, then $\rho \rtimes t|_{\mathcal{T}_X^+}$ is not a maximal representation of \mathcal{T}_X^+ . Proposition 2.4 [3] shows $\rho \rtimes t|_{\mathcal{T}_X^+}$ does not have the UEP and so \mathcal{T}_X^+ is not hyperrigid, as desired.

Towards this end, note that

$$\mathcal{M}^\perp = \mathcal{C} \oplus (\varphi_X(\mathcal{J}_X)X \otimes_\sigma H) \oplus (X \otimes \mathcal{M}_0)^\perp \oplus \dots$$

and so

$$t_0(X)\mathcal{M}^\perp = 0 \oplus (XC \otimes_\sigma \mathcal{H}) \oplus 0 \oplus 0 \oplus \dots \not\subseteq \mathcal{M}^\perp$$

Therefore \mathcal{M}^\perp is not an invariant subspace for $(\rho_0 \rtimes t_0)(\mathcal{T}_X^+)$ and so \mathcal{M} is not a reducing subspace for $(\rho_0 \rtimes t_0)(\mathcal{T}_X^+)$. This completes the proof. \blacksquare

3. TOPOLOGICAL GRAPHS

A broad class of C^* -correspondences arises naturally from the concept of a topological graph. For us, a topological graph $G = (G^0, G^1, r, s)$ consists of two σ -locally compact spaces G^0, G^1 , a continuous proper map $r : G^1 \rightarrow G^0$ and a local homeomorphism $s : G^1 \rightarrow G^0$. The set G^0 is called the base (vertex) space and G^1 the edge space. When G^0 and G^1 are both equipped with the discrete topology, we have a discrete countable graph.

With a given topological graph $G = (G^0, G^1, r, s)$ we associate a C^* -correspondence X_G over $C_0(G^0)$. The right and left actions of $C_0(G^0)$ on $C_c(G^1)$ are given by

$$(fFg)(e) = f(r(e))F(e)g(s(e))$$

for $F \in C_c(G^1)$, $f, g \in C_0(G^0)$ and $e \in G^1$. The inner product is defined for $F, H \in C_c(G^1)$ by

$$\langle F | H \rangle(v) = \sum_{e \in s^{-1}(v)} \overline{F(e)}H(e)$$

for $v \in G^0$. Finally, X_G denotes the completion of $C_c(G^1)$ with respect to the norm

$$(3) \quad \|F\| = \sup_{v \in G^0} \langle F | F \rangle (v)^{1/2}.$$

When G^0 and G^1 are both equipped with the discrete topology, then the tensor algebra $\mathcal{T}_G^+ \equiv \mathcal{T}_{X_G}^+$ associated with G coincides with the quiver algebra of Muhly and Solel [15]. See [16] for further reading.

Given a topological graph $G = (G^0, G^1, r, s)$, we can describe the ideal \mathcal{J}_{X_G} as follows. Let

$$G_{\text{sce}}^0 = \{v \in G^0 \mid v \text{ has a neighborhood } V \text{ such that } r^{-1}(V) = \emptyset\}$$

$$G_{\text{fin}}^0 = \{v \in G^0 \mid v \text{ has a neighborhood } V \text{ such that } r^{-1}(V) \text{ is compact}\}$$

Both sets are easily seen to be open and in [12, Proposition 1.24] Katsura shows that

$$\ker \varphi_{X_G} = C_0(G_{\text{sce}}^0) \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi_{X_G}^{-1}(\mathcal{K}(X_G)) = C_0(G_{\text{fin}}^0).$$

From the above it is easy to see that $\mathcal{J}_{X_G} = C_0(G_{\text{reg}}^0)$, where

$$G_{\text{reg}}^0 := G_{\text{fin}}^0 \setminus \overline{G_{\text{sce}}^0}.$$

We need the following

Lemma 3.1. *Let $G = (G^0, G^1, r, s)$ be a topological graph. Then $r^{-1}(G_{\text{reg}}^0) = G^1$ if and only if $r : G^1 \rightarrow G^0$ is a proper map satisfying $r(G^1) \subseteq \overline{(r(G^1))^\circ}$.*

Proof. Notice that

$$r^{-1}(G_{\text{reg}}^0) = r^{-1}(G_{\text{fin}}^0) \cap r^{-1}(\overline{G_{\text{sce}}^0})^c$$

and so $r^{-1}(G_{\text{reg}}^0) = G^1$ is equivalent to $r^{-1}(G_{\text{fin}}^0) = r^{-1}(\overline{G_{\text{sce}}^0}) = G^1$

First we claim that $r^{-1}(G_{\text{fin}}^0) = G^1$ if and only if r is a proper map. Indeed, assume that $r^{-1}(G_{\text{fin}}^0) = G^1$ and let $K \subseteq r(G^1)$ compact in the relative topology. For every $x \in K$, let V_x be a compact neighborhood of x such that $r^{-1}(V_x)$ is compact and so $r^{-1}(V_x \cap K)$ is also compact. By compactness, there exist $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in K$ so that $K = \cup_{i=1}^n (V_{x_i} \cap K)$ and so

$$r^{-1}(K) = \cup_{i=1}^n r^{-1}(V_{x_i} \cap K)$$

and so $r^{-1}(K)$ is compact.

Conversely, if r is proper then any compact neighborhood V of any point in G^0 is inverted by r^{-1} to a compact set and so $r^{-1}(G_{\text{fin}}^0) = G^1$.

We now claim that $r^{-1}(\overline{G_{\text{sce}}^0}) = \emptyset$ if and only if $r(G^1) \subseteq \overline{(r(G^1))^\circ}$.

Indeed, $e \in r^{-1}(\overline{G_{\text{sce}}^0})$ is equivalent to $r(e) \in \overline{(r(G^1))^c}^\circ$ and so $r^{-1}(\overline{G_{\text{sce}}^0}) = \emptyset$ is equivalent to

$$r(G^1) \subseteq \left(\overline{(r(G^1))^c}^\circ \right)^c = \overline{(r(G^1))^\circ},$$

as desired. ■

If $G = (G^0, G^1, r, s)$ is a topological graph and $S \subseteq G^1$, then $N(S)$ denotes the collection of continuous functions $F \in X_G$ with $F|_S = 0$, i.e., vanishing at S . The following appears as Lemma 4.3(ii) in [6].

Lemma 3.2. *Let $G = (G^0, G^1, r, s)$ be a topological graph. If $S_1 \subseteq G^0$, $S_2 \subseteq G^1$ closed, then*

$$N(r^{-1}(S_1) \cup S_2) = \overline{\text{span}}\{(f \circ r)F \mid f|_{S_1} = 0, F|_{S_2} = 0\}$$

Theorem 3.3. *Let $G = (G^0, G^1, r, s)$ be a topological graph and let X_G the C^* -correspondence associated with G . Then the following are equivalent*

- (i) *the tensor algebra $\mathcal{T}_{X_G}^+$ is hyperrigid*
- (ii) *$\varphi(\mathcal{J}_{X_G})$ acts non-degenerately on X_G*
- (iii) *$r : G^1 \rightarrow G^0$ is a proper map satisfying $r(G^1) \subseteq \overline{(r(G^1))}^\circ$*

Proof. If $\varphi(\mathcal{J}_{X_G})$ acts non-degenerately on X_G , then Theorem 2.1 shows that $\mathcal{T}_{X_G}^+$ is hyperrigid. Thus (ii) implies (i).

For the converse, assume that $\varphi(\mathcal{J}_{X_G})$ acts degenerately on X_G . If we verify that $\varphi(\mathcal{J}_{X_G})$ acts σ -degenerately on X_G , then Theorem 2.7 shows that $\mathcal{T}_{X_G}^+$ is not hyperrigid and so (i) implies (ii).

Towards this end note that $\mathcal{J}_{X_G} = \mathcal{C}_0(\mathcal{U})$ for some proper open set $\mathcal{U} \subseteq G^0$. (Actually we know that $\mathcal{U} = G_{\text{reg}}^0$ but this is not really needed for this part of the proof!) Hence

$$(4) \quad \begin{aligned} \varphi(\mathcal{J}_{X_G})X_G &= \overline{\text{span}}\{(f \circ r)F \mid f|_{\mathcal{U}^c} = 0\} \\ &= N(r^{-1}(\mathcal{U}^c)), \end{aligned}$$

according to Lemma 3.2.

Since $\varphi(\mathcal{J}_{X_G})$ acts degenerately on X_G , (4) shows that $r^{-1}(\mathcal{U}^c) \neq \emptyset$. Let $e \in r^{-1}(\mathcal{U}^c)$ and let $F \in C_c(G^1) \subseteq X_G$ with $F(e) = 1$ and $F(e') = 0$, for any other $e' \in G^1$ with $s(e') = s(e)$. Consider the one dimensional representation $\sigma : C_0(G_0) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ coming from evaluation at $s(e)$. We claim that

$$\varphi_{X_G}(\mathcal{J}_{X_G})X_G \otimes_\sigma \mathbb{C} \neq X_G \otimes_\sigma \mathbb{C}.$$

Indeed for any $G \in \varphi(\mathcal{J}_{X_G})X_G = N(r^{-1}(\mathcal{U}^c))$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle F \otimes_\sigma 1, G \otimes_\sigma 1 \rangle &= \langle 1, \sigma(\langle F, G \rangle 1) \rangle = \langle F, G \rangle s(e) \\ &= \sum_{s(e')=s(e)} \overline{F(e')} G(e') \\ &= \overline{F(e)} G(e) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore,

$$\langle F \otimes_\sigma 1, F \otimes_\sigma 1 \rangle s(e) = |F(e)|^2 = 1$$

and so $0 \neq F \otimes_\sigma 1 \in (\varphi_{X_G}(\mathcal{J}_{X_G})X_G \otimes_\sigma \mathbb{C})^\perp$. This establishes the claim and finishes the proof of (i) implies (ii).

Finally we need to show that (ii) is equivalent to (iii). Notice that (4) implies that $\varphi(\mathcal{J}_{X_G})$ acts degenerately on X_G if and only if

$$r^{-1}(\mathcal{U})^c = r^{-1}(G_{\text{reg}}^0)^c = \emptyset.$$

The conclusion now follows from Lemma 3.1. ■

The statement of the previous Theorem takes its most pleasing form when G^0 is a compact space. In that case \mathcal{T}_X^+ is hyperrigid if and only if G^1 is compact and $r(G^1) \subseteq G^0$ is clopen.

Remark 3.4. In a recent preprint [14], the author claims a different condition than ours as equivalent to the hyperrigidity of the tensor algebra of a topological graph, namely the density of G_{fin}^0 in G^0 . (See [14, Theorem 3.6].) Apparently this is false as it implies that any semicrossed product on a compact Hausdorff space is hyperrigid. Examples to refute this have already appeared in [11, Example 3.4]

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY, GREENVILLE, NC 27858, USA

Email address: katsoulise@ecu.edu

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS, MACEWAN UNIVERSITY, EDMONTON, AB, CANADA

Email address: ramseyc5@macewan.ca