

# On the commutants of weighted shifts on directed trees

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Based on a joint work with Artur Płaneta and Piotr Dymek

# Unilateral shift

Let  $S: \ell^2 \rightarrow \ell^2$  be a **unilateral shift** given by

$$S(a_0, a_1, \dots) = (0, a_0, a_1, \dots).$$

## Unilateral shift

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$$S(a_0, a_1, \dots) = (0, a_0, a_1, \dots).$$

The  $\ell^2$  space and the Hardy space  $H^2$  are unitary equivalent.

### Definition

Let  $H^\infty = L^\infty \cap H^2$  and let  $\phi \in H^\infty$ . Define  $M_\phi: H^2 \rightarrow H^2$  by

$$(M_\phi f)(z) = \phi(z)f(z), \quad z \in \mathbb{D}.$$

### Theorem (Brown, Halmos)

Operator  $S$  is unitary equivalent to the multiplication operator  $M_z$  and commutant of  $M_z$  is equal to the space  $\{M_\phi: \phi \in H^\infty\}$ .

## Weighted shift

Let  $\lambda = \{\lambda_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty} \subset (0, +\infty)$  and let  $S_\lambda$  be a bounded **weighted shift** given by

$$S_\lambda(a_0, a_1, \dots) = (0, \lambda_0 a_0, \lambda_1 a_1, \dots).$$

### Definition

Let  $\beta = \{\beta(n)\}_{n=0}^{\infty} \subset (0, +\infty)$  such that  $\beta(0) = 1$  and let  $H^2(\beta)$  be a weighted Hardy space i.e.,

$$H^2(\beta) = \left\{ f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \hat{f}(n) z^n : \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |\hat{f}(n)|^2 \beta(n) < \infty \right\}.$$

# Weighted shift cd.

## Definition

- For a formal power series

$$\phi(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \hat{\phi}(n)z^n$$

and a function

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \hat{f}(n)z^n \in H^2(\beta)$$

we define its multiplication by

$$(\phi f)(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{k=0}^n \hat{\phi}(k)\hat{f}(n-k) \right) z^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\hat{\phi} * \hat{f})(n)z^n.$$

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- Let  $H^\infty(\beta) = \{ \phi(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \hat{\phi}(n)z^n : \phi H^2(\beta) \subset H^2(\beta) \}$ .

# Weighted shift

## Definition

For  $\phi \in H^\infty(\beta)$ ,  $f \in H^2(\beta)$  we define multiplication operator by

$$(M_\phi f)(z) = (\phi f)(z).$$

## Theorem (Gellar, Kelley, Shields)

Weighted shift  $S_\lambda$  is unitary equivalent with the multiplication operator  $M_z: H^2(\beta) \rightarrow H^2(\beta)$ , with

$$\beta(n) = \lambda_0 \cdot \dots \cdot \lambda_{n-1}.$$

For any  $\phi \in H^\infty(\beta)$  operator  $M_\phi$  is bounded and

$$\{M_z\}' = \{M_\phi: \phi \in H^\infty(\beta)\}.$$

## Shift of arbitrary multiplicity

For a Hilbert space  $K$  let  $\ell^2(K) = \{\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty} : \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \|x_n\|_K^2 < \infty\}$  and let  $\mathbf{S}_K$  be a shift on  $\ell^2(K)$  i.e.,

$$\mathbf{S}_K(x_0, x_1, \dots) = (0, x_0, x_1, \dots)$$



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Function space model of  $\mathbf{S}_K$ :

$$L^2(K) = \{f: \mathbb{T} \rightarrow K \text{ measurable} : \int_{\mathbb{T}} \|f(z)\|^2 dm\} < \infty\}.$$

Any  $f \in L^2(K)$  can be represented as

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^\infty \hat{f}(n)z^n, \quad \hat{f}(n) \in K.$$

Define Hilbert Hardy space as

$$H^2(K) = \{f \in L^2(K) : f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^\infty \hat{f}(n)z^n\}.$$

## Shift of arbitrary multiplicity

Function space model of  $\mathbf{S}_K$  cd.:

Let  $F: \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}(K)$  be measurable and essentially bounded. Define multiplication by  $F$  as the operator  $M_F: L^2(K) \rightarrow L^2(K)$

$$(M_F f)(z) = F(z)f(z), \quad z \in \mathbb{T}.$$

Theorem (Lax, Halmos, Helson, Lowdenslager)

Operator  $\mathbf{S}_K$  is unitary equivalent to the multiplication operator  $M_z$  and

$$\{M_z\}' = \{M_F|_{H^2(K)}: M_F H^2(K) \subset H^2(K)\}.$$

## Graphs and Directed trees

A pair  $\mathcal{G} = (V, \vec{E})$  is called a **directed graph** if  $V$  is a nonempty set and  $\vec{E}$  is a subset of a set  $(V \times V) \setminus \{(v, v) : v \in V\}$  (set  $V$  may be infinite).

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During the talk we will use the following notation:

- $\text{par}(u)$  – the parent of a vertex  $u$  (unique if exists),
- $\text{Chi}(u)$  – the set of children of a vertex  $u$ ,
- $\text{root}$  – a vertex which is not a child of any vertex,
- $V^\circ$  – the set of vertices excluding roots,
- $\text{par}^n(u)$  – the  $n$ -th parent of a vertex  $u$  (unique if exists),
- $\text{Chi}^{(n)}(W)$  – the set of descendants of the  $n$ -th order of a set  $W$ .

# Graphs and Directed trees

## Definition

A directed graph  $\mathcal{T}$  is called a **directed tree** if the following conditions are satisfied:

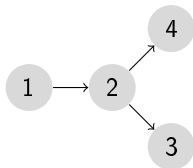
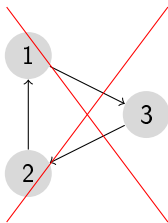
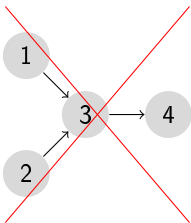
- there are no circuits in  $\mathcal{T}$ ,
- $\mathcal{T}$  is connected,
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$\ell^2(V)$  space

Let  $\mathcal{T} = (V, \vec{E})$  be a directed tree. We consider the Hilbert space  $\ell^2(V)$ , which consists of functions  $f: V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  such that

$$\sum_{u \in V} |f(u)|^2 < \infty.$$

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$$\langle f, g \rangle := \sum_{u \in V} f(u) \overline{g(u)}.$$



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For every vertex  $u$  we define the function  $e_u \in \ell^2(V)$  by formula

$$e_u(v) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } u = v \\ 0 & \text{if } u \neq v \end{cases}.$$

## Weighted shift on a directed tree

[JJS] Z. J. Jabłoński, I. B. Jung, J. Stochel, *Weighted shifts on directed trees*, Mem. Amer. Math. Soc. **216**, no. 1017, viii+107pp (2012).

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Assume that  $\sup_{u \in V} \sum_{v \in \text{Chi}(u)} |\lambda_v|^2 < \infty$ .

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$S_\lambda \in \mathbf{B}(\ell^2(V))$ , is called a **weighted shift on a directed tree**.

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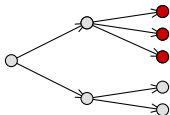
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$$S_\lambda(e_u) = \sum_{v \in \text{Chi}(u)} \lambda_v e_v.$$

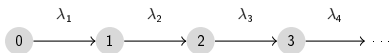


# Weighted shift on a directed tree

Classical unilateral weighted shift

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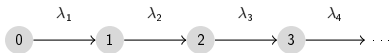
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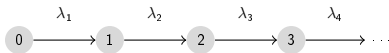
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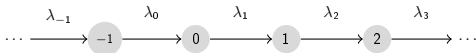
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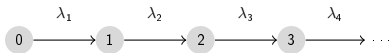


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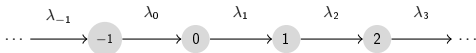


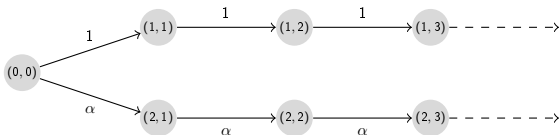
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## Example

Let  $\mathcal{T}_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$

$$V_2 = \{(0, 0)\} \cup \{(i, j) : i \in \{1, 2\}, j \in \mathbb{N}\},$$

$$E_2 = \left\{ ((0, 0), (i, 1)) : i \in \{1, 2\} \right\} \cup \left\{ ((i, j), (i, j+1)) : i \in \{1, 2\}, j \in \mathbb{N} \right\}.$$

Let  $S_\lambda$  be a weighted shift on  $\mathcal{T}_2$  with weights

$$\lambda_{(i,j)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } i = 1 \text{ and } j \in \mathbb{N}, \\ \alpha & \text{for } i = 2 \text{ and } j \in \mathbb{N}. \end{cases}$$

# Problem

Describe commutant of  $S_\lambda$ , i.e.  $\{S_\lambda\}' = ?$ .

## Left-invertible analytic operator

We say that  $T: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  is **left-invertible** if there exists an operator  $L \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  such that  $LT = I_{\mathcal{H}}$ .

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Let  $T \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . Operator  $T$  is said to be **analytic** if

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} T^n(\mathcal{H}) = \{0\}.$$



## Examples of left-invertible analytic operators

- Unilateral shift
- Weighted shifts on leafless and rooted directed trees which satisfy

$$\inf_{u \in V} \sum_{v \in \text{Chi}(u)} |\lambda_v|^2 > 0$$

( A directed tree  $\mathcal{T} = (V, E)$  is **rooted** iff it has a root;  
is **leafless** iff  $\text{Chi}(v) \neq \emptyset$  for all  $v \in V$ .)

- Shifts on generalized Dirichlet spaces
- Shifts on weighted Bergmann space with logarithmically subharmonic weights on the unit disc in the complex plane

## Model of left-invertible analytic operator

For  $T \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  which is left-invertible and analytic we define operators

$$T' := T(T^*T)^{-1} \text{ and } L := (T')^*.$$

Then

$$LT = I_{\mathcal{H}}.$$

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### Shimourin's Model

Denote by  $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{N}(T^*))$  the set of all  $\mathcal{N}(T^*)$ -valued analytic functions on  $\mathbb{D}_r$ , where  $r := \frac{1}{r(L)}$ .

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$f \in \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{N}(T^*))$  if there is a sequence  $\hat{f} = \{\hat{f}(n)\}_{n=0}^{\infty} \subset \mathcal{N}(T^*)$  such that

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \hat{f}(n)z^n, \quad \text{for every } z \in \mathbb{D}_r.$$

## Model of left-invertible analytic operator

Let us define a transformation  $U: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{N}(T^*))$  by the formula

$$(Uf)(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (P_{\mathcal{N}(T^*)} L^n f) z^n, \quad z \in \mathbb{D}_r.$$

is well-defined and analytic in  $\mathbb{D}_r$  for every  $f \in \mathcal{H}$ .

- Transformation  $U$  is injective.
- We define a new scalar product on the set  $U(\mathcal{H})$  such that  $U$  is an isometry.
- Let  $\mathcal{H}$  denote the set  $U(\mathcal{H})$ . It is a Hilbert space of  $\mathcal{N}(T^*)$ -valued analytic functions.

## Model of left-invertible analytic operator

- $T$  is unitary equivalent to the operator  $\mathcal{T}$  of multiplication by  $z$  on  $\mathcal{H}$ .
- $L$  is unitary equivalent to the operator  $\mathcal{L} \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  given by the formula

$$\mathcal{L}(f)(z) = \frac{f(z) - f(0)}{z}.$$

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where  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}(n) := P_{\mathcal{N}(T^*)} L^n U^* \mathbf{f}$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ .



## Cauchy-type multiplication

We define  $*$ :  $\mathbf{B}(\mathcal{N}(T^*))^{\mathbb{N}_0} \times \mathcal{N}(T^*)^{\mathbb{N}_0} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}(T^*)^{\mathbb{N}_0}$  given by

$$(\hat{\varphi} * \hat{f})(n) = \sum_{k=0}^n \hat{\varphi}(k) \hat{f}(n-k), \quad \hat{\varphi} \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{N}(T^*))^{\mathbb{N}_0}, \hat{f} \in \mathcal{N}(T^*)^{\mathbb{N}_0}.$$

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$$\mathcal{D}(M_{\hat{\varphi}}) = \{ \mathbf{f} \in \mathcal{H} : \text{there is } \mathbf{g} \in \mathcal{H} \text{ such that } \hat{\varphi} * \hat{\mathbf{f}} = \hat{\mathbf{g}} \}.$$

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For every  $\mathbf{f} \in \mathcal{D}(M_{\hat{\varphi}})$  there exists exactly one  $\mathbf{g} \in \mathcal{H}$  satisfying equality  $\hat{\varphi} * \hat{\mathbf{f}} = \hat{\mathbf{g}}$ . In this situation, we set

$$M_{\hat{\varphi}} \mathbf{f} = \mathbf{g}, \quad \mathbf{f} \in \mathcal{D}(M_{\hat{\varphi}}).$$

We call  $\hat{\varphi}: \mathbb{N}_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{N}(T^*))$  the **symbol** of  $M_{\hat{\varphi}}$ .

# Generalized multipliers

## Lemma

For every  $\mathbf{f} \in \mathcal{D}(M_{\hat{\varphi}})$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , we have the equality

$$\widehat{M_{\hat{\varphi}}\mathbf{f}}(n) = \sum_{k=0}^n \hat{\varphi}(k)\hat{\mathbf{f}}(n-k).$$

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## Lemma

For every  $\mathbf{f} \in \mathcal{D}(M_{\hat{\varphi}})$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , we have the equality

$$\widehat{M_{\hat{\varphi}}\mathbf{f}}(n) = \sum_{k=0}^n \hat{\varphi}(k)\hat{\mathbf{f}}(n-k).$$

If  $\mathcal{D}(M_{\hat{\varphi}}) = \mathcal{H}$ , then  $M_{\hat{\varphi}} \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . If so, we call

- $\hat{\varphi}$  a **generalized multiplier** of  $T$ ,
- $M_{\hat{\varphi}}$  a **generalized multiplication operator** by  $\hat{\varphi}$ ,
- $\mathcal{GM}(T)$  the set of all generalized multipliers of the operator  $T$ ,
- $\mathcal{M}(T)$  is the linear subspace of  $\mathcal{GM}(T)$  consisting of all generalized multipliers whose all coefficients are scalar multiples of  $1_{\mathcal{N}(T^*)}$ .

## Cauchy-type multiplication on $\mathcal{GM}(T)$

$\mathcal{GM}(T)$  is a linear subspace of  $\mathbf{B}(\mathcal{N}(T^*))^{\mathbb{N}_0}$  and the function  $\|\cdot\|: \mathcal{GM}(T) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  given by the formula

$$\|\hat{\varphi}\| := \|M_{\hat{\varphi}}\|, \quad \hat{\varphi} \in \mathcal{GM}(T)$$

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We endow space  $\mathcal{GM}(T)$  with the Cauchy-type multiplication

$$*: \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{N}(T^*))^{\mathbb{N}_0} \times \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{N}(T^*))^{\mathbb{N}_0} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{N}(T^*))^{\mathbb{N}_0}$$

given by

$$(\hat{\varphi} * \hat{\psi})(k) = \sum_{j=0}^k \hat{\varphi}(j) \hat{\psi}(k-j), \quad \hat{\varphi}, \hat{\psi} \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{N}(T^*))^{\mathbb{N}_0}.$$



# Banach algebra structure

## Theorem

Let  $T \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  be left-invertible and analytic. Then

- (i) For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , the sequence  $\chi_{\{n\}} I_{\mathcal{N}(T^*)}$  is a generalized multiplier and  $T^n = M_{\chi_{\{n\}} I_{\mathcal{N}(T^*)}}$ .
- (ii) If  $\hat{\varphi} \in \mathcal{GM}(T)$ , then  $M_{\hat{\varphi}}$  commutes with  $T$ .
- (iii) For all  $\hat{\varphi}, \hat{\psi} \in \mathcal{GM}(T)$ , the function  $\hat{\varphi} * \hat{\psi}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{GM}(T)$  and

$$M_{\hat{\varphi}} M_{\hat{\psi}} = M_{\hat{\varphi} * \hat{\psi}}.$$

- (iv) The spaces  $\mathcal{GM}(T)$ ,  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  endowed with the Cauchy-type multiplication are the Banach algebras with a unit  $\chi_{\{0\}} I_{\mathcal{N}(T^*)}$ .  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  is commutative.

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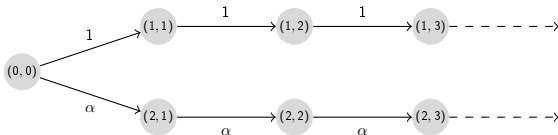
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## Remark

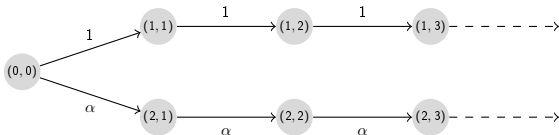
$\hat{\varphi}: \mathbb{N}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C} I_{\mathcal{N}(T^*)} \subset \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{N}(T^*))$  and  $\text{supp } \hat{\varphi}$  is finite then  $\hat{\varphi} \in \mathcal{M}(T)$ ,  
 $\hat{\varphi}: \mathbb{N}_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{N}(T^*))$  and  $\text{supp } \hat{\varphi}$  is finite  $\nRightarrow \hat{\varphi} \in \mathcal{GM}(T)$ ,

## Examples of General multipliers



Let  $\mathcal{T}_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$   
 $S_\lambda \in \mathbf{B}(\ell^2(V_2))$  left-invertible and analytic,  
 $\{e_{00}, \alpha e_{11} - e_{21}\}$  is a basis of  $\mathcal{N}(S_\lambda^*)$ ,

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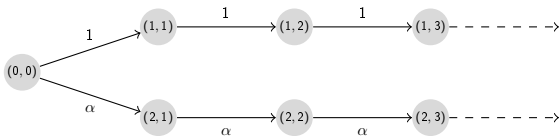
### Example

$\hat{\varphi}: \mathbb{N}_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{N}(S_\lambda^*))$ ,  $\hat{\varphi}(n) = \begin{cases} A_0 & \text{if } n = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } n > 0 \end{cases}$ , where

$$A_0 = \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{with respect to the basis } \{e_{00}, \alpha e_{11} - e_{21}\}$$

$\hat{\varphi} \in \mathcal{GM}(S_\lambda)$  if and only if  $b = c = 0$  and  $a = d$ .

## Examples of General multipliers



### Example

$\hat{\psi}: \mathbb{N}_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{N}(S_\lambda^*))$  be defined as  $\hat{\psi}(k) = \begin{cases} A_k & \text{if } k < 2 \\ 0 & \text{if } k \geq 2 \end{cases}$ , where

$$A_k = \begin{pmatrix} a_k & c_k \\ b_k & d_k \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{with respect to the basis } \{e_{00}, \alpha e_{11} - e_{21}\}$$

Then  $\hat{\psi}$  is a generalized multiplier if and only if

$$A_0 = \begin{pmatrix} a_0 & 0 \\ \frac{d_1 - a_1}{\alpha} & d_0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & (a_0 - d_0)\alpha \\ 0 & d_1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

# Commutant

## Definition

For a given operator  $A \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  let  $\hat{\varphi}_A: \mathbb{N}_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{N}(T^*))$  be the following sequence

$$\hat{\varphi}_A(m) = P_{\mathcal{N}(T^*)} L^m A|_{\mathcal{N}(T^*)}, \quad m \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

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## Theorem

Let  $T \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  be left-invertible and analytic. Assume that  $A \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  commutes with  $T$ . Then  $\hat{\varphi}_A \in \mathcal{GM}(T)$  and  $A = U^* M_{\hat{\varphi}_A} U$ .

## Balanced weighted shifts

A directed tree  $\mathcal{T} = (V, E)$   
is **leafless** iff  $\text{Chi}(v) \neq \emptyset$  for all  $v \in V$ ;  
is **rooted** iff it has a root;  
then define  $|v|$  is a **generation** of  $v \in V$  iff  $v \in \text{Chi}^{(|v|)}(\text{root})$  ;

### Definition

Let  $\mathcal{T} = (V, E)$  be a countably infinite rooted and leafless directed tree,  $\lambda = \{\lambda_v\}_{v \in V^0} \subseteq (0, \infty)$  and let  $S_\lambda$  be a bounded weighted shift on  $\mathcal{T}$  with weights  $\lambda$ . If

$$\|S_\lambda e_u\| = \|S_\lambda e_v\| \text{ for every } u, v \in V \text{ such that } |u| = |v|,$$

then we say that  $S_\lambda$  is **balanced**.



## Separated basis

Let us define the  $k$ -th generation of vertices as the set

$$V_k := \{v \in V : |v| = k\}, \text{ for some } k \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

Functions acting on  $k$ -th generation of vertices forms the set

$$\ell^2(V_k) = \{f \in \ell^2(V) : f(u) = 0 \text{ if } |u| \neq k\}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

### Lemma

Let  $\mathcal{T} = (V, E)$  be a countably infinite rooted and leafless directed tree, and  $\lambda = \{\lambda_v\}_{v \in V^0} \subseteq (0, \infty)$ . Let  $S_\lambda \in \mathbf{B}(\ell^2(V))$  be left-invertible. Then there exists an orthonormal basis  $\{e'_j\}_{j \in J}$  of  $\mathcal{N}(S_\lambda^*)$  such that for every  $j \in J$  vector  $e'_j$  belongs to the space  $\ell^2(V_{k_j})$  for some  $k_j \in \mathbb{N}_0$ .

# $H^\infty$ space

## Definition

For given  $\beta \in (0, +\infty)^{\mathbb{N}_0}$  we set

$$H^\infty(\beta) := \{a \in \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}_0} : a * b \in \ell^2(\beta) \text{ for every } b \in \ell^2(\beta)\},$$

where for any sequence  $\beta = \{\beta_n\}_{n=0}^\infty \subset (0, +\infty)$  the space  $\ell^2(\beta)$  is the weighted  $\ell^2$  space

$$\left\{ \{a_n\}_{n=0}^\infty \in \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{N}_0} : \sum_{n=0}^\infty |a_n|^2 \beta_n < \infty \right\}.$$

# Commutant of balanced weighted shift

## Theorem

Let  $\mathcal{T} = (V, E)$  be a countably infinite rooted and leafless directed tree, and  $\lambda = \{\lambda_v\}_{v \in V^\circ} \subseteq (0, \infty)$ . Assume that  $S_\lambda \in \mathbf{B}(\ell^2(V))$  is balanced and left-invertible. Assume also that  $\dim \mathcal{N}(S_\lambda^*) < \infty$  and  $\{e'_j\}_{j \in J}$  is a separated basis of  $\mathcal{N}(S_\lambda^*)$ . Then

$$\mathcal{GM}(S_\lambda) = \left\{ \hat{\varphi}: \mathbb{N}_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{N}(S_\lambda^*)) \mid \right. \\ \left. \langle \hat{\varphi}(n)e'_j, e'_i \rangle \}_{n=0}^\infty \in H^\infty(\{\|S^n e_{\text{root}}\|^2\}_{n=0}^\infty), i, j \in J \right\}.$$

# References



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Thank you for your attention!