

## GENERALIZED TOEPLITZ ALGEBRA OF A CERTAIN NON-AMENABLE SEMIGROUP

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ABSTRACT. We analyze a detailed picture of the algebraic structure of  $C^*$ -algebras generated by isometric representations of the non-amenable semigroup  $P = \{0, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots\}$ .

### 1. Introduction

Let  $S$  denote a countable discrete semigroup with unit  $e$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra. A map  $W : S \rightarrow \mathcal{B}, x \mapsto W_x$  is called an *isometric homomorphism* if  $W_e = 1$ ,  $W_x$  is an isometry and  $W_{xy} = W_x W_y$  for all  $x, y \in S$ . If  $\mathcal{B}$  is the  $C^*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{B}(H)$  of all bounded linear operators of a non-zero Hilbert space  $H$ , we call  $(H, W)$  an *isometric representation* of  $S$ .

If  $S$  is left-cancellative, then we can have a specific isometric representation of  $S$ , called the *left regular isometric representation* on the Hilbert space  $l^2(S)$ . The left regular isometric representation  $\mathcal{L} : S \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(l^2(S)), x \mapsto \mathcal{L}_x$  is defined by the equation

$$(\mathcal{L}_x f)(z) = \begin{cases} f(y), & \text{if } z = xy \text{ for some } y \in M, \\ 0, & \text{if } z \notin xM. \end{cases}$$

In fact, when  $\{\delta_x \mid x \in S\}$  is the canonical orthonormal basis of the Hilbert space  $l^2(S)$  defined by

$$\delta_x(y) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x = y, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

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we have that  $\mathcal{L}_x(\delta_y) = \delta_{xy}$  for all  $x, y \in S$ .

In order to make things explicit, let us consider the semigroup  $\mathbb{N}$  of all natural numbers. The isometry  $\mathcal{L}_1$  of the left regular isometric representation  $\mathcal{L} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(l^2(\mathbb{N}))$ ,  $x \mapsto \mathcal{L}_x$  is the unilateral shift of  $l^2(\mathbb{N})$  on the canonical orthonormal basis  $\{\delta_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ .

Among  $C^*$ -algebras generated by isometries, the  $C^*$ -algebra generated by the left regular isometric representation of a left cancellative semigroup can be considered as the appropriate analogue for the Toeplitz algebra. The  $C^*$ -algebra generated by the left regular isometric representation of a left cancellative semigroup  $S$  has several names. We shall call it the *reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra*, and denote it  $C_{red}^*(S)$  as in the paper [5].

Besides the reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra, we will consider the semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra introduced by G. J. Murphy [8]. The *semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra* is obtained by enveloping all isometric representations of  $S$ , and is denoted by  $C^*(S)$ . From the construction of  $C^*(S)$  we have naturally a canonical isometric homomorphism  $V$  from  $S$  to  $C^*(S)$ . It follows from the definition of the semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra it has the following universal property: If  $V$  is the canonical isometric homomorphism from  $S$  into the semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(S)$ , then for any isometric homomorphism  $W$  from  $S$  into a unital  $C^*$ -algebra  $B$  there exists a unique homomorphism from the semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(S)$  into the unital  $C^*$ -algebra  $B$  sending a canonical isometry  $V_x$  to an isometry  $W_x$  for each  $x \in S$ .

Ever since L. A. Coburn proved his well-known theorem, which asserts that the  $C^*$ -algebra generated by a non-unitary isometry on a separable infinite dimensional Hilbert space does not depend on the particular choice of the isometry [1], many authors have taken an interest in the generalization of Coburn's theorem. It is sometimes called the uniqueness property of the  $C^*$ -algebras generated by isometries. If the  $C^*$ -algebras generated by isometries have the uniqueness property, the structures of those  $C^*$ -algebras are to some extent independent of the choice of isometries on a Hilbert space. The uniqueness property of  $C^*$ -algebras generated by isometries describes when the reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C_{red}^*(S)$  and the semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(S)$  are isomorphic or when the reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C_{red}^*(S)$  has a universal property for certain kinds of isometric representations of  $S$  [2, 3, 4, 6, 7]. As good examples of the uniqueness property, we note that all the  $C^*$ -algebras generated by the isometric representations of the semigroup  $\mathbb{N}$  of all natural numbers are isomorphic to the Toeplitz algebra. The  $C^*$ -algebras generated by one parameter semigroup of isometries and

the Cuntz algebras are also remarkable examples of the  $C^*$ -algebras of isometries which have the uniqueness property.

A. Nica introduced the quasi-lattice group  $(G, S)$ , the covariant isometry representations of semigroups and the amenability problem of quasi lattice ordered groups in order to find the condition that the reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C_{red}^*(S)$  has a universal property for certain kinds of isometric representations of  $S$  [9]. The partially ordered group  $(G, S)$  is quasi-lattice ordered group if every finite subset of  $G$  with an upper bound in  $S$  has a least upper bound in  $S$ . The amenability problem, which asks when the left regular isometric representations have the universal property of the covariant isometric representations, was also investigated in [6]. The quasi-lattice ordered group is an appropriate concept for the universal property of the reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebras.

In this paper we show that the uniqueness property is much dependent on the order structure of the semigroup  $S$ , by analyzing the structure of the reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C_{red}^*(P)$  of  $P$  and the semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(P)$  of  $P$ , where  $P = \{0, 2, 3, \dots\}$ .

The semigroup  $P = \{0, 2, 3, \dots\}$  is a generating subsemigroup of the integer group  $\mathbb{Z}$ . By Coburn's result it is known that the reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(\mathbb{N})$  of  $\mathbb{N}$  is isomorphic to the semigroup  $C^*(\mathbb{N})$  which is isomorphic to the Toeplitz algebra. We show that the reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C_{red}^*(P)$  is isomorphic to the Toeplitz algebra  $C^*(\mathbb{N})$ , but we also show that  $C_{red}^*(P)$  is not isomorphic to  $C^*(P)$  by using the order structure of  $P$  in Proposition 2.7. Our semigroup  $P$  is abelian and really simple one, but not quasi lattice ordered.

## 2. Main result

Let  $G$  be a countable discrete group and  $S$  a subsemigroup of  $G$  with the unit  $e$ . We define an order on  $G$  as follows: Two elements  $x$  and  $y$  in  $S$  are comparable when  $x \in yS$  or  $y \in xS$ . If  $x$  is contained in  $yS$ , then  $x$  is larger than  $y$  and we denote it by  $y \leq x$ . This relation makes  $(G, S)$  a pre-ordered group. If the unit  $e$  of  $S$  is the only invertible element of  $S$ ,  $(G, S, \leq)$  is a partially ordered group.

We can identify a maximal and a minimal element in  $S$  in the following sense: an element  $x_0 \in S$  is maximal if and only if  $x_0 \leq x$  implies that  $x = x_0$  and an element  $x_1$  is minimal if and only if  $x \leq x_1$  implies that  $x_1 = x$  for  $x \in S$ .

The reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(S)$  is generated by  $\{\mathcal{L}_x \mid x \in$

$S$ }, where  $\mathcal{L}$  is the left regular isometric representation of  $S$ . In fact,  $C^*(S)$  is the closed linear span of  $\{\mathcal{L}_{x_1}\mathcal{L}_{x_2}^* \cdots \mathcal{L}_{x_{2k}}^* \mathcal{L}_{x_{2k+1}} \mid x_i \in S\}$ . If the semigroup  $S$  is the semigroup  $\mathbb{N}$  of natural numbers, then  $C^*(\mathbb{N})$  is the Toeplitz algebra. So sometimes the reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(S)$  is called a generalized Toeplitz algebra.

PROPOSITION 2.1. *If the unit of  $S$  is the only invertible element of  $S$ , then  $\{\mathcal{L}_x\mathcal{L}_y^* \mid x, y \in S\}$  is linearly independent.*

*Proof.* First, we can see that  $\mathcal{L}_x\mathcal{L}_y^*(\delta_y) = \delta_x$  for all  $x, y \in S$ , so  $\mathcal{L}_x\mathcal{L}_y^*$  never can be zero for any  $x, y \in S$ .

Suppose that there exist  $\{\lambda_i \mid \lambda_i \in \mathbb{C}, 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  and  $\{(x_i, y_i) \mid x_i, y_i \in S, (x_i, y_i) \neq (x_j, y_j) \text{ for } i \neq j, 1 \leq i, j \leq n\}$  such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \mathcal{L}_{x_i} \mathcal{L}_{y_i}^* = 0.$$

We can divide  $\{y_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  into two kinds of subsets; the one consists of elements which are comparable with any other element of  $\{y_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  and the other is the rest.

Let  $y_{i_0}$  be the element of  $\{y_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  which is not comparable with any other element of  $\{y_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ . Since  $\mathcal{L}_{x_i} \mathcal{L}_{y_i}^*(\delta_{y_{i_0}}) = \delta_{x_i}$  for  $y_i = y_{i_0}$ , we can have

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \mathcal{L}_{x_i} \mathcal{L}_{y_i}^*(\delta_{y_{i_0}}) = \lambda_{l_1} \delta_{x_{l_1}} + \cdots + \lambda_{l_k} \delta_{x_{l_k}} = 0,$$

if  $y_{l_j} = y_{i_0}$  for  $j = 1, \dots, k$  and  $\{l_1, \dots, l_k\} \subset \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Since  $x_{l_r} \neq x_{l_s}$  if  $l_r \neq l_s$  for  $1 \leq r, s \leq k$ , we have  $\lambda_{l_j} = 0$  for  $j = 1, \dots, k$ .

Next, since  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$  is finite, we can consider a minimal element  $y_{i_1}$  of some chain of  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$ . If we look at prudently the term  $\sum \lambda_i \mathcal{L}_{x_i} \mathcal{L}_{y_i}^*(\delta_{y_{i_1}})$ , we can see that only the terms with  $y_{i_1}$  may not be zero. So we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \mathcal{L}_{x_i} \mathcal{L}_{y_i}^*(\delta_{y_{i_1}}) = \lambda_{m_1} \delta_{x_{m_1}} + \cdots + \lambda_{m_p} \delta_{x_{m_p}} = 0,$$

if  $y_{m_j} = y_{i_1}$  for  $j = 1, \dots, p$  and  $\{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_p\} \subset \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

By the similar computation as the above, we can see that  $\lambda_{m_j} = 0$  for  $j = 1, \dots, p$ . So we can exclude those terms in the two cases and have a

reduced form of  $\sum_{j=1}^{<n} \lambda_j \mathcal{L}_{x_j} \mathcal{L}_{y_j}^*$ . Continuing this process in the reduced form, we obtain that all  $\lambda_i$ 's are zero because  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$  is finite.  $\square$

**PROPOSITION 2.2.** *If the unit  $e$  of  $S$  is the only invertible element, then  $C_{red}^*(S)$  acts irreducibly on  $l^2(S)$ .*

*Proof.* If the operator  $T$  in  $B(l^2(S))$  commutes with  $C_{red}^*(S)$  and  $[T_{x,y}]_{x,y \in S}$  denotes the matrix representation of  $T$  with respect to the canonical orthonormal basis  $\{\delta_x \mid x \in S\}$  of  $l^2(S)$ , then we have

$$T_{x,y} = \langle T(\delta_y), \delta_x \rangle = \langle T\mathcal{L}_x^*(\delta_y), \delta_e \rangle = \langle T(\delta_e), \mathcal{L}_y^*(\delta_x) \rangle.$$

So  $T_{x,y} \neq 0$  only when both  $x \in yS$  and  $y \in xS$ . Since the unit of  $S$  is the only invertible element, it happens that both  $x \in yS$  and  $y \in xS$  only when  $x = y$ . So  $T$  is a diagonal operator. Furthermore we have  $T_{x,x} = T_{e,e}$  for all  $x \in S$  since  $\mathcal{L}_x$  is an isometry. It follows that  $C_{red}^*(S)$  acts irreducibly on  $l^2(S)$ .  $\square$

If  $P = \{0, 2, 3, \dots\}$ , then the ordered group  $(\mathbb{Z}, P)$  is a partially ordered group, but the order structure of  $(\mathbb{Z}, P)$  is different from that of  $(\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{N})$ .

If we put  $p_n = \mathcal{L}_n \mathcal{L}_n^*$  and  $q_n = I - p_n$  for each  $n \in P$ , then the projection  $p_n$  is the orthogonal projection onto the closed linear span of  $\{\delta_n, \delta_{n+2}, \dots\}$  and  $q_n$  is the orthogonal projection onto the closed linear span of  $\{\delta_0, \delta_2, \delta_3, \dots, \delta_{n-1}\}$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the  $C^*$ -subalgebra of  $C_{red}^*(P)$  generated by  $\{p_n \mid n \in P\}$ . Then the strong closure of  $\mathcal{B}$  is a maximal abelian von-Neumann algebra of  $\mathcal{B}(l^2(P))$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $p_n$  and  $p_m$  commute for each  $n, m \in P$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  is abelian. Furthermore, if we put  $\delta = \delta_0 + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \delta_k / 2^k$ , then  $\delta$  is a cyclic vector for  $\mathcal{B}$ . If we put  $\mathcal{B}' = \{x \in \mathcal{B}(l^2(P)) \mid xy = yx \text{ for all } y \in \mathcal{B}\}$ , then  $\mathcal{B}$  is abelian. And we can see by an easy computation that  $\delta$  is a separating vector for  $\mathcal{B}$ . This implies that  $\mathcal{B}'$  is maximal abelian in  $\mathcal{B}(l^2(P))$ . Thus from the maximal abelianness of  $\mathcal{B}'$  we have that  $\mathcal{B}'$  is equal to the double commutant  $\mathcal{B}''$  of  $\mathcal{B}$ . Since  $\mathcal{B}$  has the identity operator of  $\mathcal{B}(l^2(P))$ ,  $\mathcal{B}''$  is the strong closure of  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\square$

The group  $C^*$ -algebra of an abelian group is, of course, itself abelian and so not very interesting from the point of view of  $C^*$ -theory. But the reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra and the semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra may not be abelian, and are moreover primitive for a large class of abelian semigroups.

PROPOSITION 2.4. *The commutator ideal  $\mathcal{Z}(C_{red}^*(P))$  of  $C_{red}^*(P)$  is the algebra  $\mathcal{K}(l^2(P))$  of compact operators on the Hilbert space  $l^2(P)$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $C_{red}^*(P)$  is generated by  $\mathcal{L}_2$  and  $\mathcal{L}_3$ , it is enough to see how these operators act on  $l^2(P)$ . The operator  $I - \mathcal{L}_2\mathcal{L}_2^*$  is of finite rank, and so is contained in  $\mathcal{K}(l^2(P))$ . Therefore,  $\mathcal{K}(l^2(P))$  and the commutator ideal  $\mathcal{Z}(C_{red}^*(P))$  have non-empty intersection. Since  $C_{red}^*(P)$  acts irreducibly on  $l^2(P)$ , the commutator ideal  $\mathcal{Z}(C_{red}^*(P))$  contains the algebra  $\mathcal{K}(l^2(P))$  of compact operators [10, 6.1.4].

Furthermore  $C_{red}^*(P)/\mathcal{K}(l^2(P))$  is abelian because  $I - \mathcal{L}_2\mathcal{L}_2^*$  and  $I - \mathcal{L}_3\mathcal{L}_3^*$  are contained in  $\mathcal{K}(l^2(P))$ . Hence  $\mathcal{Z}(C_{red}^*(P))$  is equal to  $\mathcal{K}(l^2(P))$ . □

Though there are many interesting simple group  $C^*$ -algebras, the reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebras are rarely simple for a large and natural class of semigroups. In fact, there are many prime reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebras and it is still open when the reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra is prime. We can see that  $C_{red}^*(P)$  is prime from the Proposition 2.4.

The semigroup  $P$  has two generators, so apparently  $C_{red}^*(P)$  is generated by two non-unitary isometries. However, the following theorem shows us that  $C_{red}^*(P)$  is generated by a non-unitary isometry.

THEOREM 2.5. *The  $C^*$ -algebra  $C_{red}^*(P)$  is generated by a single non-unitary isometry.*

*Proof.* The operator  $\mathcal{L}_2^*\mathcal{L}_3$  acts on  $l^2(P)$  as follows:

$$\mathcal{L}_2^*\mathcal{L}_3(\delta_n) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n = 0, \\ \delta_{n+1}, & \text{if } n \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

Hence  $\mathcal{L}_2^*\mathcal{L}_3$  translates every element of the orthonormal basis  $\{\delta_0, \delta_2, \delta_3, \dots\}$  of  $l^2(P)$  except  $\delta_0$ . Let  $K$  be the compact operator defined by

$$K(\delta_n) = \begin{cases} \delta_2, & \text{if } n = 0, \\ 0, & \text{if } n \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

Put  $U = \mathcal{L}_2^*\mathcal{L}_3 + K$ . By Proposition 2.3,  $U$  is contained in  $C_{red}^*(P)$ .  $U^*U$  is the identity operator on  $l^2(P)$  because  $\mathcal{L}_3^*\mathcal{L}_2\mathcal{L}_2^*\mathcal{L}_3$  is the projection onto the closed subspace spanned by  $\{\delta_n \mid n \in P, n \neq 0\}$ ,  $K^*K$  is the projection onto the closed subspace  $\mathbb{C}\delta_0$  and all other operators in the terms of  $U^*U$  are zero. Similarly, we see that  $UU^*$  is the projection onto the closed subspace spanned by  $\{\delta_2, \delta_3, \dots\}$ . In fact the operator

$U$  sends  $\delta_0$  to  $\delta_2$  and  $\delta_n$  to  $\delta_{n+1}$  for  $n \neq 0$ . So the operator  $U$  is the unilateral shift on  $l^2(P)$  with respect to the canonical orthonormal basis  $\{\delta_n \mid n \in P\}$ . Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be the  $C^*$ -subalgebra of  $C_{red}^*(P)$  generated by  $U$ . If we consider the compact operators  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  defined by

$$T_1(\delta_n) = \begin{cases} -\delta_3, & \text{if } n = 0, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad T_2(\delta_n) = \begin{cases} \delta_2, & \text{if } n = 0, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

then we can show that  $\mathcal{L}_2 = U^2 + T_1 + T_2$  because  $U^2 + T_1 + T_2(\delta_n) = \delta_{n+2}$  for each  $n \in P$ . Similarly we can show that  $\mathcal{L}_3 = U^3 + T_3 + T_4$  where

$$T_3(\delta_n) = \begin{cases} -\delta_4, & \text{if } n = 0, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad T_4(\delta_n) = \begin{cases} \delta_3, & \text{if } n = 0, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Since the algebra  $\mathcal{T}$  contains the compact operator algebra  $\mathcal{K}(l^2(P))$ , the elements  $U^2 + T_1 + T_2$  and  $U^3 + T_3 + T_4$  are contained in  $\mathcal{T}$ . Hence we conclude that  $C_{red}^*(P)$  is same as the algebra  $\mathcal{T}$  because  $C_{red}^*(P)$  is generated by  $\mathcal{L}_2$  and  $\mathcal{L}_3$ . □

**COROLLARY 2.6.**  *$C_{red}^*(P)$  is isomorphic to the Toeplitz algebra.*

From the point of view of  $C^*$ -algebras, amenability means that the canonical coincidence of two kinds  $C^*$ -algebras: One is the universal object obtained by enveloping a certain class of representation and the other is associated to a specific representations of the class.

A. Nica introduced the quasi-lattice ordered group  $(G, S)$ , the covariant isometric representations of semigroups and the amenability problem of quasi-lattice ordered groups for the universal property of the reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C_{red}^*(S)$ .

The partially ordered group  $(G, S)$  is said to be *quasi-lattice ordered* if the following is satisfied: If  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  in  $G$  which have common upper bounds in  $S$  for any  $n \geq 1$ , they also have a least common upper bound in  $S$ .

The above condition can be expressed in another form consisting of two conditions:

1. Any  $x$  in  $SS^{-1}$  has a least upper bound in  $S$ .
2. Any  $s, t$  in  $S$  with the common upper bound has a least common upper bound.

If  $(G, S)$  is a quasi-lattice ordered group and  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  in  $G$  have a common upper bound in  $S$ , then their least common upper bound in  $S$  will be denoted by  $\sigma(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ .

An isometric representation  $V$  of  $S$  on the Hilbert space  $H$  is said to be *covariant* if

$$V(s)V(t) = \begin{cases} V(\sigma(s, t)), & \text{if } s \text{ and } t \text{ have common upper bound} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

It is clear that for the semigroup  $S$  of the quasi-lattice ordered group  $(G, S)$  the left regular isometric representation  $\mathcal{L}$  of the semigroup  $S$  is a covariant representation. The reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C_{red}^*(S)$  naturally plays the role of reduced  $C^*$ -algebra in the class of  $C^*$ -algebras of covariance isometric representations. Nica also constructed the full  $C^*$ -algebra  $C_{cov}^*(G, S)$  of the  $C^*$ -algebras generated by enveloping convariant representations of  $(G, S)$  [9].

The quasi-lattice ordered group  $(G, S)$  is amenable if the reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C_{red}^*(S)$  is isomorphic to  $C_{cov}^*(G, S)$ .

It is known that every abelian quasi-lattice ordered group is amenable. Our semigroup  $P$  is very simple and abelian. But it is not quasi-lattice ordered, because 2 and 3 in the semigroup  $P = \{0, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$  have common upper bounds 5 and 6. Since 5 and 6 are not comparable, 2 and 3 does not have a least common upper bound.

**PROPOSITION 2.7.** *The reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C_{red}^*(P)$  is not isomorphic to the semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(P)$ .*

*Proof.* The left regular isometric representation  $\mathcal{L}$  satisfies the relation:

$$(1) \quad \mathcal{L}_2^* \mathcal{L}_3 (I - \mathcal{L}_2 \mathcal{L}_2^*) (I - \mathcal{L}_3 \mathcal{L}_3^*) = 0.$$

Let  $W$  be the isometric representation of  $P$  defined by  $W_n = \mathcal{S}^n$  for  $n = 0, 2, 3, \dots$ , where  $\mathcal{S}$  is the unilateral shift on  $l^2(\mathbb{N})$ . This representation does not satisfy the above relation, i.e.,

$$(2) \quad \mathcal{S}^{*2} \mathcal{S}^3 (I - \mathcal{S}^2 \mathcal{S}^{*2}) (I - \mathcal{S}^3 \mathcal{S}^{*3}) \neq 0.$$

Let  $\mathcal{W}$  be the  $C^*$ -algebra generated by the isometric representation  $W$  of  $P$ . Since  $C^*(P)$  has the universal property, there is a homomorphism from  $C^*(P)$  to  $\mathcal{W}$  sending  $V_n$  to  $W_n$  for each  $n \in P$ . But there does not exist a homomorphism from  $C_{red}^*(P)$  to  $\mathcal{W}$  sending  $\mathcal{L}_n$  to  $W_n$  for each  $n \in P$  because of equations (1) and (2). So the reduced semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C_{red}^*(P)$  is not isomorphic to the semigroup  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(P)$ .  $\square$



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